

## Village Association News

### Dragons

Between 14 and 28 April, dragons were once again found menacing the good people of West Hagbourne. But never fear! This time St George was much in evidence, defending us all. The judge, Mrs. Shirley Rouse, from Didcot, was very impressed with the effort that so many people had made to produce interesting dragons and a St. George.

First prize went to 5, Manor Close, and second prize to Blissetts, where an amusing dragon pop-up shop could be seen. The displays at Meadow's Edge and Witchhaven were Highly Commended. The all-important Children's Prize was won by the

Nursery School, with the display at Broomsticks also Highly Commended.

The prizes were awarded on 28th April at Woodleys, Main Street, where delicious cakes and teas were served. Many thanks to Robert and Hazel who kindly hosted this event. Thanks also go to Malcolm Brownsword who produced amazing audio-visual accounts of the dragons and information about St. George (supplied by Eva Pinkava). If you would like a copy of either or both of the audio visuals please contact Malcolm at [malcolm.brownsword@outlook.com](mailto:malcolm.brownsword@outlook.com)

Thanks to everyone who supported the St George's Day events.



First prize: 5 Manor Close



Runner up: Dragon Shop, Blissetts



Children's prize: Little Acorns Nursery

### Village History Walk

The summer walk will be held on Sunday 7th July and led by Sheila Taylor who has kindly offered to take us around the village to reveal some of West Hagbourne's historical secrets.

We will then walk across the fields to St Andrew's Church, where Sheila will talk about the influences that West Hagbourne residents have had on the history of the church over the centuries. Please meet at 2pm

under the horse chestnut tree near the bus shelter. All welcome!

### The Madge Trophy

The judging of the front gardens has now taken place. Our judge this year was Pam Evans who enjoyed her walk around our village on a lovely sunny afternoon which showed all the gardens off to their best advantage. Congratulations go to this year's winner, 10, Manor Close.

Pam reported - "The relaxed style of borders and variety of shape, texture and colour, attracted me to this garden. I particularly liked the informal design which also drew the eye through to the rear garden."

Highly commended gardens were, Tall Trees in Foxglove Lane and no. 1 Main Street. Pam also commented on the many gardens that were carefully planted and tended.



10 Manor Close

## Parish Council

### Council elections

The new Council was returned without contest, with only four people prepared to be nominated. Valerie Brownsword, who was a member for several years, decided not to stand again. We shall miss her, and I want to thank her for all her help over the years.

The Council are pleased to report that Louise Beaumont has agreed to be the fifth councillor and she will be formally co-opted in the next Council meeting at the start of July.

### Highways

The extension of the footpath along Main Street, currently from the pond to Green Thatch, did not take place as exploratory work found that tree roots were a problem.

Some long-overdue signs have now been installed but they do not state that this part of Main Street is a single-track road. We are taking this up with Highways.

We are hoping to install a 20-mph speed limit in York Road and arrangements have been

made for a traffic survey to be carried out by Highways. Provided the current average speed is under 24 mph, we should be able to have the limit changed. Although the limit would probably not affect speeds very much, it will remind drivers that this is a residential street and they should be careful.

We still have up to £25,000 in the Section 106 kitty to spend and are looking into projects. If any villager have suggestions for Highways projects, please let us know.

Michael Butler

## Bike race

The OVO Energy women's bike tour will be in our area on Wednesday June 12, when stage 3 will see the riders setting out from Henley on Thames on their way to Blenheim Palace, via the roads of South Oxfordshire. They will be in the Didcot/Harwell area around midday, and local roads may be disrupted by rolling roadblocks as they pass. A good place to watch them on this 145 km stage would be along the Wantage Road in Didcot. You could get into the spirit and cycle there.



# Annual Parish Meeting Report

## Cemetery Committee

The balance of the Cemetery fund is reported as £7,597.04

The Lych Gate has moved very slightly but is not a danger at present.

OCC have been asked to paint white lines between the road and the lay-by and put up signs to indicate that it is for cemetery parking only.

A database for registering graves has been purchased from Epitaph and data are currently being entered into the database.

Due to problems with the use and emptying of Cemetery waste bins, Grundon has been employed to supply, on hire, a large bin which they will empty fortnightly. It will be positioned just inside the double gates.

Cemetery regulations do not currently include a front to back measurement for a stone, only that their height does not exceed 3 foot 6 inches. All workmanship must adhere to BS8145. Stone masons have been reminded they must include the plot number on a memorial. In response to requests for memorials, EHPC's written policy states that the council will consider only non-living memorials such as a bench. It has been established that, while the burial ground is not consecrated, it was blessed by the Bishop of Reading when it opened.

## Village Hall

Income increased by 5.7% during 2018 mainly through casual bookings. The main users

continue to be the pre-school. Higher expenditure for the year was largely due to architects' fees for the new storage facility to be built off the small hall but additional catering items were also bought and the village hall sign has been illuminated.

A review of buildings and contents insurance, using a new insurer, resulted in a small rebate. A safety risk assessment found no cause for concern: a fire risk assessment led to improved fire and safety signage. An electrical safety check and asbestos survey were also carried out and will be acted upon. A roof condition survey is to be carried out.

Detailed plans have been drawn up and planning permission obtained to build a permanent storage area accessible from within the small hall. The work is scheduled for the summer holidays in 2019 and grants are being sought.

The land adjacent to the Village hall car park has been bought by Mactaggart & Mickel. They held discussions at the village hall with all interested parties and seem to have taken account of comments made. In their planning applications for Reserved Matters and Discharge of Conditions the village hall car park is being allocated an additional 20 spaces (more than the 14 specified in the planning approval). In addition, they hope to provide the maximum number of parking spaces allowed by the district council rules and 22 garages on their site.

## Village Association

Unfortunately, our Summer walk was cancelled due to very hot weather. However, the Autumn walk, the longest attempted by the Village Association, was enjoyed by eleven keen walkers. The Winter walk consisted of a smaller group who walked three miles in spite of the cold weather. In July 2019 Sheila Taylor will lead a history trail around the village and a visit to St. Andrew's Church in East Hagbourne - see front page for further details.

The Coffee Morning on Saturday, 15 September 2018 raised £989 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Our thanks go to Mr and Mrs Richard Allen for their help and use of their facilities at York Farm and all who contributed to make this event such a success.

At the AGM, held in the Horse and Harrow on 12 November 2018, the following were elected: Chairperson: Val Walton, Vice Chairman: Ian Leishman, Treasurer: June Little, Secretary: Margaret Leishman.

The Executive Committee are Bridget Pickup, Rob Griffiths, Hazel Rack, Betty Kendrick, Pierre Aller, Eva Pinkava, Emma Rickard and Rob Rickard.

Rob Griffiths is responsible for the hire of the marquees and tables and chairs.

Over the festive period, WHVA again sponsored a tree at the St Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival whilst on a wet December night dedicated singers revived the custom of serenading villagers with traditional carols. A sum of

£200 was sent to Crisis UK, a charity which helps the homeless. Thanks to Margaret Leishman for organising the event.

The Village Association welcome new members and ideas for the enjoyment of our villagers. Please contact Val Walton 851089 or Ian Leishman 851707

## Open Forum

Several issues were raised at the open forum, part of the Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk will raise the issue of hemlock (a poisonous weed) growing on the footpath at the back of the Drew's farm with the appropriate authority and highlight fly tipping in the ditch in Moor Lane with SODC once photographic evidence and its precise location has been received

The Clerk is to write to Cllr. Murphy about the closure by Taylor Wimpey of the footpath that runs from the village to Didcot to ensure that it is re-opened when the development is finished in 2021. He will also contact Highways to enquire about the maintenance of the roundabout at the A417/Hagbourne Hill junction which is situated half in West Hagbourne Parish and half in Upton Parish.

A request was made for the Parish Transport representative to ensure that, if there are planned changes to the bus route or timetable, these are communicated not only via email, and the website but also by a notice at the bus stop for the non-connected villagers.

## other news

### Marion Judd

Many of you will be aware that Marion Judd is leaving West Hagbourne (is it something we said?). She first came to live in the village in 2000 but had been a regular visitor for many years prior to this, visiting her aunt

and uncle in Broomsticks. During her residence in West Hagbourne Marion spent eight years as a parish councillor, was active on the Village Association, regularly lent her garden at Broomsticks as a venue for village events, and was co-editor of this newsletter. She has also campaigned

widely for the preservation of the National Health Service. We will miss her and hope that she continues to find her way back here in the years to come. We wish her the best of luck with the move.

### Food boxes

A reminder that you can put donations (non-perishable items only please) for the Didcot Food

bank in the local collection box, in the porch at 3 Manor Close. All contributions will be very gratefully received.



## Planning

Three houses are being built in the old garden of the Horse & Harrow public house. Two of these have been clad in grey panels, rather than the stained weatherboards originally specified. The Parish Council objected to the planners, seeking enforcement of conditions of the planning consent. The Planning Department followed up their comments and uncovered, in a series of interactions with the developers, that a misunderstanding had arisen. The developers had submitted a sample of cladding material in a different colour, but clearly stated that the colour they planned to use was cream/grey. Although the planning officer and conservation officers accept that they approved the colour submitted, rather than the one described in the application, they feel that no material harm

is done by allowing the present colour, acknowledging that this was the one proposed by the developers all along.

An overflow car park with a grass base is being constructed on the piece of land across the road from the pub. The publican has applied for planning consent for a further house on the other side of the overflow car park. The Parish Council objected and the application was refused. The plot between the pub's site and Scotland's Ash garage, has planning consent, granted when SODC could not demonstrate a three-year housing supply, which it now has. We shall see what happens if those are built, as it may affect the prospects of success for a house next to the overflow car park. There have been no further developments regarding a green gap for West Hagbourne.

### Ongoing planning application:

Park Road: P19/S1370/FUL

## Ivor Glyn Jones ('Glyn')

25 August 1933 – 23 March 2019

Glyn Jones passed away peacefully on 23 March, aged 88, after a brave battle with cancer. Glyn and wife Daphne, a former member of Didcot Choral Society, were married for 66 years, moving to the Didcot area in 1977. Glyn was a much-loved member of Didcot Bowls club, representing the club at county level, and serving as both Treasurer and Green-Keeper for more than 20 years. Speaking at the funeral service at East Hagbourne church on 4 April, the club's Secretary, Gordon Evans, described him as the club's greatest single contributor.

Glyn grew up on the Gower Peninsula, South Wales, the son of a farmer, and retained a lifetime love of the countryside, enjoying especially walks along the old railway embankment near Upton and beyond. He was both inventive and practical, contributing new techniques and building equipment as part of his work as an analytical chemist at the AERE at Harwell. His former colleagues

remember him as an exemplary public servant, always approachable and supportive, and ready to smile and pass on his knowledge.

He had many interests beyond science, bowls and the countryside. He played and watched competitive sport all his life, and as a fan of rugby, relished Wales' victory at the 2019 Six Nations Cup. He was a season ticket holder at Reading Football Club, attending with his son and grandson. Despite his many accomplishments, Glyn was always quietly spoken, patient and modest, with a lively sense of humour – a gentleman in every sense. A loving husband to Daphne, father to David and Philip, grandfather to Melanie, Kerry, Laura, Daniel and Simon, and a great-grandfather six times over, he will be greatly missed.

*Ruth Garland,  
daughter-in-law  
Philip Jones, son*

6.4.2019

## Parish Council

### Clerk

Andrew Wise  
[parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

### Councillors

Mike Butler (Chair) 850523  
[mike.butler@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.butler@westhagbourne.org)  
Hugh Lewis 851113  
[hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org](mailto:hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org)  
Mike Telford 851236  
[mike.telford@westhagbourne.org](mailto:mike.telford@westhagbourne.org)  
Oliver Doogue 851156  
[oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org](mailto:oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org)

### District Councillors

Jane Murphy 07970 932054  
[jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk)  
Anne-Marie Simpson  
07770 781233  
[Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk)

### County Councillor

Simon Clarke  
[simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### Council Meetings

These are held in Hagbourne Village Hall - see website for future dates. Minutes of meetings of the Parish Council are available online. If you cannot find them, contact the clerk. If you do not have access to the internet, call the clerk and a printed copy will be sent to you.  
[www.westhagbourne.org/pc\\_minutes.htm](http://www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm)

From now on, shortly before the meeting of the Parish Council, the agenda will be circulated to all those on the list. To comply with legal requirements, a copy of the agenda will also be posted on the PC noticeboard.

### Planning updates

If you wish to be notified about planning applications that affect West Hagbourne you can sign up for email alerts.

Contact Andrew Wise:  
[parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

### Parish email list

If you wish to be placed on this list, or wish to check that your entry is correct, please send an email to the Clerk at [parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

### HGVs and Potholes

HGVs and potholes are a persistent issue on the roads in the village and beyond. If you can supply a photograph that gives some idea of the extent of a pothole this will help assess the urgency if its repair.

You can do this online at:  
[fixmystreet.com](http://fixmystreet.com)

Or:  
[highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Telephone: 08453101111

Web site:  
[www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes](http://www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes)

HGVs not delivering to an address in the village should be reported to Trading Standards. If possible, you should take a photograph but definitely write down a description and registration number as soon as possible. Reports can be made to:  
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/trading-standards/weight-restriction-enforcement>

**Keep up to date**

**[www.westhagbourne.org](http://www.westhagbourne.org)**

The website carries information, news and contact details as well as copies of the minutes of all village organisations



## local events

### Friday Lunch Club

The monthly village lunch takes place on the third Friday of the month at 12h30 at the Horse and Harrow. It is open to all residents, and friends.

Join us for this social event - just let Sue (850080) or Helen (850223) know if you are planning to come along.

The next two dates are 21st June & 19th July.

### Playday

Saturday 22 June, 11h00-15h00: Play day, celebrating Playday and Armed Forces Day. Free activities and free entrance to Edmonds Park, Didcot for children and young people of all ages and their families.

No parking available but bring your picnic or buy refreshments on site.

[www.oxonplay.org.uk](http://www.oxonplay.org.uk)



**Didcot  
Film  
Club**

### A Private War (2018)

Wednesday 26th June

One of the most celebrated war correspondents of our time, Marie Colvin is a fearless and rebellious spirit, driven to the conflicts across the globe to give voice to the voiceless.

Films start at 8pm and are shown on the big screen in the main theatre at Cornerstone. Tickets and membership are available from the box office in advance or on the night.

For more details see [www.didcotfilmclub.org.uk](http://www.didcotfilmclub.org.uk)

## can you help?

We are always keen to hear from you about news you have or events you think might interest other residents.

If you would like to contribute, help to distribute the newsletter or if you could find other advertisers, we would love to hear from you.

[editors@westhagbourne.org](mailto:editors@westhagbourne.org)

## wanted

### Solid wood worktop offcut

63.5 cm (D) x 63 cm (W) ideally in maple, suitable for a single kitchen unit. If you have something suitable please contact Mandy on 851631.

## wanted

### Gazebo loan.

Do you have a gazebo that you would be prepared to lend for the day on Saturday 20 July? If so, please contact Dave at Meadows Edge (850080).



## Little Acorns Nursery

Happy, family run day nursery and out of school care.

Including drop off & pick up to some local schools. Flexible sessions - am, pm, term time, school day. For further information, to request a brochure or to arrange a visit please contact us

**01235 851423** or email

[littleacornsnursery1@gmail.com](mailto:littleacornsnursery1@gmail.com)

Main Street, West Hagbourne, Didcot



## Mary Ann Le May GARDEN DESIGNS

Blissetts Main Street West Hagbourne  
Oxfordshire OX11 0ND  
**01235 850523**

[www.maryannndesign.co.uk](http://www.maryannndesign.co.uk)

## Marquees

The Village Association has two Marquees available for hire:

**12 x 5 metres & 11 x 4 metres**

at a cost of £50 each plus a returnable deposit of £75

Tables and/or chairs are also available

at £50 plus a returnable deposit of £75

*Please note that the Association will not be responsible for any claims for accidents that may occur during the rental.*

For advance booking and details please contact **Robert Griffiths** (Woodleys)  
[rob.griffith@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rob.griffith@yahoo.co.uk)

**All donations go towards our village funds**

## Next Edition



This newsletter is written and edited by Sue Totterdell every two months. Contributions are especially welcomed for local events. The deadline is the 15th of the month before publication. Please submit any contributions on line if possible.

*If you have items you are prepared to give away, send us the details for inclusion (free of charge) in the next edition of the newsletter.*



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The West Hagbourne Emergency Defibrillator is located in the Telephone Box in the Square

**In the event of an emergency call 999**

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[www.bare-essentials.info](http://www.bare-essentials.info)

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## house to rent in France

**Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7**

Just minutes from a quiet family beach, great biking and sailing, two bedrooms, dishwasher, washing machine, TV

600€/week June + Sept

750€/week July

for more information and photos



contact [totterdells@btinternet.com](mailto:totterdells@btinternet.com) 01235 850080