

## Village Association News

### Madge Trophy

The Madge Trophy was judged by Sue Quinton (Harwell Gardener's Club) on Wednesday 14th August. Sadly, it was a very wet day, but, despite the bleak conditions, some front gardens shone through with "well-manicured lawns, very tidy and neat borders and beds".

1 Manor Close: impressive with "vegetables growing and a very environmental compost area".

7a Manor Close: memorable with "a tree stump which had been made into a feature".

#### Commended:

1 Main Street. "Well kept garden and added kerb appeal with Begonias on the path edge".

3 Grove Terrace. "Kerb appeal with planting around the tree stumps, pretty pinks and mixed annuals".



Green Thatch

Rose Cottage. "Some raised beds with pretty annuals which gave a lot of colour".

#### Runner-up:

The Laurels. "Neatly trimmed lawns and an extremely well-tended garden".

#### Winner:

Green Thatch. "A splendid array of hanging baskets with abundant Petunias, giving plenty of bright colour amongst mature borders".

Well Done Lynne and Dave Carter!

### Outdoor Games Afternoon

The Garden Games event was held on Saturday 7th September at Manor Farm. We included old favourites like Table Tennis, Giant Jenga, child friendly Archery, Trampoline and Climbing Frame. New games this year included Badminton



Finalists Latina Nakongsee with Marion Allin



Cat enjoying a game of draughts

and Garden Chequers – this attracted an unexpected competitor, but our policy is "everyone is welcome" and after all, he dressed for the game (see photo).

Once again, the Boules Competition was the main attraction. Thirty people took part and after four exciting rounds of play, the final was fought by Latina Nakongsee (WINNER) and Marion Allin (RUNNER-UP). Congratulations!

What a wonderful afternoon watching the Boules, talking to neighbours and eating sandwiches/crisps washed down with the beverage of your choice. A splendid way to mark the end of Summer.

Thanks to Chris and Sue Lay for hosting this event.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

The Macmillan Coffee Morning was held on the 28th September, at York Farm. An



unexpectedly nice morning meant that attendees were able to linger over their coffees and cakes whilst catching up with news from their neighbours. Once again there was a wonderful selection of cakes to choose from - thanks to the generous donations of cakes, and of prizes for the raffle. The total money raised will be announced in the next newsletter.

Thank you all.

### Autumn Village Walk

The Autumn Walk is scheduled for the 3rd November this year. Walkers should meet at the bus shelter for a 2pm start. The route is not yet finalized, but, be assured, we will take into account how wet an autumn we are having to guarantee we walk on firm ground.

### Remembrance Sunday

A short ceremony will be held on the 10th November at the War Memorial (located in the bus shelter) to remember the West Hagbourne residents lost during WWI and WWII. The ceremony will start at 2pm. Everyone is welcome.

### West Hagbourne Village Association AGM

Our annual general will take place on Monday 18th November at Rowan, York Road, West Hagbourne. Please come along at 7pm and enjoy a complementary glass of wine before the meeting begins. All residents are welcome and any suggestions about future Village Association events will be enthusiastically received. This is your chance to get involved.

Rosey Gardiner (Chair)



# other news

## Village Lunch

The first village lunch at the newly refurbished George at Upton took place on Friday 27th

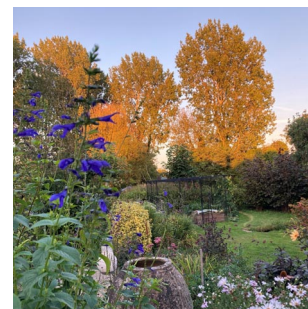
September, with 25 people signing up to try the new venue. Eating options were limited to cold platters as the kitchen facilities were unfinished but by the next lunch (25th

October) we are promised a full menu. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed their lunch, and the opportunity to check out a new venue. Still on the plans for the site are a shop and a cafe.



## Nature's Eye

Regular readers will note that we do not have a Nature's Eye column in this edition. Sadly Malcolm Brownsword, who has written this item for many years, has decided to put down his pen. If there is any enthusiast out there who would like to share their enthusiasm and knowledge with villagers, please get in touch (Editor).



Autumn in West Hagbourne

## Litter Pick



The village litter pick will be on 19th October meeting at 10.30 at the bus shelter.



Gloves, black plastic bags and litter pickers will be provided. All help appreciated.

## Parish Council

The following matters were addressed at the Parish Council meeting on 4 September.

### Flood alleviation strategy

You may have seen the PC having a number of meetings with Oxfordshire County Council representatives in the village over the summer, assessing village drainage and considering options. Many thanks to those residents who have shared their thoughts in this area. We are discussing with OCC the most effective and urgent work which needs to be undertaken and we hope that this work will commence soon.

### Litter picking

A village tidy is planned to help to reduce the amount of leaf litter and other debris from entering the village drainage system, and generally to "spruce up" our village. The PC has organised for BIFFA to clean some pavements on October 9th, following which the village litter-pick will take place on October 19th.

### Tree and shrubs by the bus stop

Many thanks to Dave and Sue Totterdell for their continued efforts to maintain this small garden area in the centre of the village. We are discussing with OCC Highways (who we believe own this area) about some necessary pruning/pollarding work which is required to be undertaken on the large tree.

### Moor lane

The byway remains closed with concrete barriers preventing 4WD access. Since the PC meeting, we have been informed by OCC that they will be looking to undertake scrub clearance works to the byway this winter, following which they will monitor the drainage issues over the winter period and make the assessment of works that will be required spring/early summer next year. We will remain in touch with OCC about the repair work and re-opening arrangements.

### Planning appeal

The appeal is for six houses on the land opposite the Horse and

Harrow. The PC submitted its objection to the appeal before the relevant deadline. We await a decision.

### Village newsletter

We have agreed to continue supporting the production of the West Hagbourne News in hard copy format, rather than moving to a solely online option. Many thanks to those who give up their time to help to produce and distribute the newsletter.

Contributions from advertisers do help to reduce the costs so please do contact the editors if you would like to place an advertisement. Please also let the editors know if you would prefer not to receive a hard copy newsletter in future.

The parish council has purchased a supply of sandbags for use by villagers facing flood problems. Please get in touch with Robin Wilkes if you need help.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th November at 7.30pm at Hagbourne Village Hall.

Dan Tozer (Chair)

## Art & Crafts Fair

Start preparing for Christmas by visiting the Arts and Crafts fair at St Andrews Church East Hagbourne on Saturday 26 October. Admission is free and there will be an opportunity to meet local crafts people, writers and artists. Admission is free and refreshments will be available to buy throughout the day from 10.30 until 4.30. Lots of parking at the Village Hall.

## WaterAid Concert

On Saturday 12 October at 7pm in St Andrew's Church there will be a concert featuring local musicians and artists to support the charity WaterAid. If you want to participate, rehearsals are in the church at 7pm on 4th and 11th October.



**WaterAid**



## HUGS Update

### **Bringing hedgehogs home to the Hagbournes! How you can help!**

Good news! Hedgehogs are being spotted in the Hagbournes again - but sadly not the numbers we used to see in our gardens. Catastrophic population decline has led to the loss of at least half the UK's hedgehog population over the past two decades, especially in rural areas. Possible factors are intensification of agriculture, fewer earthworms, fewer hedges, pesticides which reduce prey availability and climate change.

In fact, hedgehog populations are doing better in urban areas, city wastelands, cemeteries and railway land.

Hedgehogs like dry spaces to live and hibernate: under garden sheds, near compost heaps, hedges or even an untidy patch of garden.

They are voracious predators - eating worms, beetles, slugs, caterpillars, earwigs and millipedes, - and need lots of gardens to forage in.

### **Cute hedgehog facts**

- Baby hedgehogs are called a hoglets
- Hedgehogs have surprisingly long legs,
- They walk on average a mile every night to find food
- Hedgehogs are nocturnal - they have poor eyesight but good hearing - and they snore!
- They have between 5000 and 7000 spikes



- They are lactose intolerant
- Their body temperatures fall to under 10°C when hibernating
- Much of their life is spent asleep. They hibernate from November to March

### **Top tips to help hedgehog**

- Make hedgehog highways between gardens and paths. Put at least one hole at the bottom of your fence (13cm x 13cm).
- Go pesticide free - slug pellets in particular are directly toxic to hedgehogs - and also if they eat animals which have consumed them.
- Make your garden hedgehog friendly- they love making a warm, secure home in piles of leaves, a compost heap, or in a hibernation box.
- Leave out shallow dishes of water.
- Watch out for hedgehogs when mowing/strimming longer grass and check before lighting bonfires.
- Drive slowly at night - watch out for hedgehogs on the road.

If you are lucky enough to find one of these wonderful animals in your garden, **DON'T GIVE THEM MILK!** Wet cat food or hedgehog food is best.

If you see a hedgehog in distress, call Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue's 24-Hour Wildlife Helpline 07549 322464 or Tiggy Winkles 24 hour emergency helpline 01844 292292.

*Caroline Hunt & Ian Leishman*

## Planning

As part of the further expansion of Didcot, there are plans for up to 200 houses off Sires Hill and the consultation ends 16th October.

**Planning Application P24/S2764/O (southoxon.gov.uk)**

## Parish Council

### Clerk

Andrew Wise  
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org



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.  
[www.westhagbourne.org/pc\\_minutes.htm](http://www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm)

### Councillors

Chair:

Dan Tozer  
daniel.tozer@westhagbourne.org



Vice chair

Margaret Leishman  
margaret.leishman@westhagbourne.org



Andy Wimshurst  
andy.wimshurst@westhagbourne.org



Julie Freeland  
julie.freeland@westhagbourne.org



Robin Wilkes  
robin.wilkes@westhagbourne.org



### 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

### Parish email list

If you wish to be placed on this list, or to check that your entry is correct, please send an email to the Clerk at  
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)

### District Councillors

Ben Manning  
ben.manning@southoxon.gov.uk

Anne-Marie Simpson  
Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk

### County Councillor

Jane Murphy  
jane.murphy@southoxon.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. Shortly before the

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>

## other news

### Lunch Club

On the last Friday of the month a group of villagers (and friends) get together for lunch. In the early years this was at the Horse and Harrow in the village. Sadly that closed and we now meet at the George in Upton - newly refurbished. All are welcome to join us. If you want to know more, there is a mailing list and a WhatsApp group. Contact the editor to be added to either/both of these.

We hope to see you soon.

Sue Totterdell,  
Meadow's Edge



### Coach trip to Winchester Christmas Market

Thursday 12th December £25 per person.

Monthly Meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday in the month at Didcot Civic Hall, starting at 2:30 pm

15 October: Morris Minors in the Media - Ann and John Ford

19 November: The Ridgeway; the Oldest Road - Russell Cherry

If this is something you have been looking for in retirement we look forward to seeing you there, and remember the Didcot & District u3a enables you to . . . 'Learn, Laugh,

# ADMS

### Music in Abingdon

Abingdon & District Music Society present:

Saturday 16 November at 19h30

St Helen's Church Abingdon, OX14 5BS

Puccini - Messa di Gloria

Coleridge Taylor - Hiawatha's Wedding Feast

Elgar - Enigma Variations

## other news

### WhatsApp Group

If you would like to join the group, get in touch with Lillie Jamieson (07712 429811). To be added to the Village email list, contact the Clerk.

### Marquees for hire

If you are planning a party the Association has 2 marquees, tables and chairs that are available to hire. In addition to the village marquees, the Village Association can now rent out gazebos - £25 to hire, size: 3m x 3m. For further details please contact Robin Wilkes at [va@westhagbourne.org](mailto:va@westhagbourne.org)

## other news



### Village Shop & PO

Shop:

Mon - Thurs: 9am - 4.30pm

Fri: 9am - 4pm

Sat: 9am - 12.30pm

PO:

Temporary hours - check

[easthagbourne.net](http://easthagbourne.net)

for updates

Mon, Wed, Sat:

9am - 12.00pm

Closed in the afternoons and on Tuesday

## other news

### Newsletter delivery

Thank you to volunteers who responded to my request for people to deliver newsletters. Maybe you too could deliver between 10 and 20 newsletters, every two months. New volunteers are always welcome so that some of the current team can 'retire'. Please get in touch with me via [editors@westhagbourne.org](mailto:editors@westhagbourne.org)

If you have any news or photos or know of events you think might interest other residents, please contact the editor.

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

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**Mental Health Concerns?**  
**I AM DONNA, a Senior Mental Health Practitioner** offering a range of bespoke mental health services designed to help improve your mental health and overall well-being. My consultations are held either on Zoom or at clinics at West Hagbourne or Headington, whichever you prefer. **If you have any mental health concerns, call me on 07541 556039 or visit [mentalhealthrelease.com](http://mentalhealthrelease.com).**

**AED**  
**Emergency defibrillator**

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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