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**EDITORIAL**

**Birthdays** are always an excellent reason for a party, and we all like to celebrate but every now and then there’s a truly exceptional event that really does deserve a big mention.

On Saturday 3rd August, Elsie King who lives at Westgate House was 108. She’s Wallingford’s oldest resident and as far as anyone knows the oldest person in Oxfordshire. Elsie is a truly remarkable lady, who has lived most of her life in Wallingford through remarkable times. Her birthday party was a very festive occasion, attended by 20 of us who were lucky enough to be invited for a very rare and special event. The Mayor presented Elsie with a bouquet from the Town Council, and Sue and Iris, Elsie’s daughters, made sure that we were all treated to a fantastic tea.

As you can see from the picture below, of Sue, Elsie and Iris, a great time was had by all. Many congratulations Elsie – we are looking forward to August 3rd 2014!

Lynda Atkins 839120
Editor
Lynda.atkins@ntlworld.com

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**Music at St Peter’s**

Music at St Peter’s ends its 28th season with two concerts in September.

On Saturday 7th September, violinist Edgar Bailey and pianist Annie Yim play Beethoven’s “Kreutzer” Sonata and the wonderful sonata Elgar wrote near the end of the First World War. Edgar also plays Bach’s Partita in E major for solo violin, and they end their concert with a delightful, virtuosic display piece: Sarasate’s “Zapateado”.

On Saturday 28th September, as tradition demands, we end the season with a concert by the local ensemble, The Thames Consort, with Bach’s Concerto in C minor for Violin and Oboe (with the soloists Sharon Warnes and Hazel Todd, favourites of the St Peter’s audiences!), two Motets by Bach, and other music by Buxtehude, Schütz and Vivaldi. The Director is Jeremy Boughton.

Each concert starts at 8pm and tickets are on sale at the door at £13, or in advance from Just Trading in St Mary’s Street, Wallingford at £11. Those aged between 8 and 25 get free admission. For a brochure please ring 825421.

Patsy Perrin
A Message from the Town Clerk

Whilst a great many of the readers will know the role the Town Clerk plays I know there are many that may not, so I would like to begin my first contribution to the Window for Wallingford by introducing myself and the role I play; it might be that as a result of reading this I may be of some help or assistance to you at some point in the future, I hope so.

After 22 years managing large scale commercial theatres in the UK, theatres as well as music venues including the world famous London Hammersmith Apollo, and having spent some time touring a number of very well known acts like Stereophonics and Tracey Chapman across the country I was successful in my application for the role of Town Clerk which I began on June 3rd this year.

I’ve met so many new people to this point all of which have been so friendly and encouraging, conveyed their best wishes, but most have suggested that my prior work existence and my current must be so different? Well to be honest, not really, there are so many skills that have been transferable, for example, managing staff, buildings, finance, administrative responsibilities, working with people, multi-tasking a wide range of day-to-day challenges etc. I suppose others will be the judge but I have felt very comfortable and at ease in this new challenge. I suppose if I was pushed and asked do I prefer taking full advantage of a (working) access all areas Live 8 pass in Hyde Park, or organising the replacement of damaged paving stones in and around the market place then I might be pushed into an obvious answer but although it’s early days I am very much enjoying my new role.

So, what does a Town Clerk do? If you’re interested to learn then please read on, otherwise at this point I would like to say that whilst it is still very early days it has already become very obvious to me the energy, enthusiasm and genuine care the Councillors have for Wallingford and its community.

I began just as Councillor Ros Lester relinquished her duties as Mayor and Councillor Bernard Stone took over. The care I refer to above was (and is) epitomised by Councillor Lester and very much equalled by Councillor Stone. Their daily commitment and will to attend so many community engagements, to listen to the needs expressed and deliver a response for them I have found inspiring. That same enthusiasm is equally expressed by the 14 other Councillors I hasten to add!

What Does the Town Clerk do?

Strictly speaking I am the Town Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer. I work on behalf of sixteen good people, the Mayor & Councillors, to coordinate the myriad of responsibilities and tasks we have. I produce our budget for each year, and manage it carefully thereafter. I work with the Councillors to take care of our various properties, the Town Hall, the Tourist Information Centre, the Regal, the Bullcroft properties and the commercial and residential properties we let out. We take care of the Market Place, and a number of open spaces, the Castle Gardens, the Bullcroft, the Kinecroft, the north bank of the Thames, the Market Place and the allotments. We also look after the riverside moorings on the town side of the river. The Town Clerk serves the Councillors, facilitating various Committee and Sub Committee meetings throughout the year and generally putting into action the ideas and initiatives that stem from these meetings.

I also play a separate role alongside my day-to-day role, as Clerk to Trustees of the Town Charities. That is also a part financial, part administrative role, which includes responsibility for the six Almshouses on the Reading Road. I’ve had the pleasure of meeting the residents and being invited in and what a pleasure that was, genuinely lovely people who clearly take great pride in their homes.

I also work alongside the Councillors in their ongoing objectives such as, filling those empty retail units, aims and ambitions for the infrastructure and services Wallingford has to offer, being part of a large team of people shaping the ‘Site B’ development, the building of the new Community facility on Wigod Way, to name but a few things on our agenda currently. Its all very interesting and engaging stuff.

And if that wasn’t already enough I work with my colleagues (and our very special friends, volunteers and contractors) to host or manage the many events taking place in Wallingford throughout the year.

In next month’s edition I would like to focus on the Town Council’s role in Planning Applications, something that touches on a great number of people either directly or indirectly. So many people also seem so keen to learn more about my prior employment and find it interesting so I’ll touch on that as well. If you’ve have got this far reading my note then thank you for your time!

One last thing, thank you Julie, Barbara, Judy, Councillors and the entire Council team for making me feel so welcome!

Jamie Baskeyfield
Town Clerk
Wallingfordtc@btconnect.com
835373
Have Your Say – Playing in the Bullcroft

Wallingford Town Council is leading a project to redevelop some of the play and sports facilities in the Bullcroft Park. To help us with our design we’d really like to hear from you about what you use the Bullcroft for, and what facilities and equipment you would like to have there in the future.

We will be hosting an open consultation session in the Bullcroft Park from 10am - 12noon on Saturday 7th September 2013. Please come along and tell us what equipment you would like us to have. We want to hear from as many users of the Bullcroft as possible, so if you like to run, climb, jump, swing, spin, kick or hit a ball, keep fit or just hang out and relax, please come along.

Councillor Jane Titchener

It’s Not Just Standing Behind the Till!

Until I started working as a volunteer at the Oxfam Books and Music Shop, I had no idea of the huge range of tasks, which need to be completed everyday. I didn’t even realise the shop has 3 floors, all full of busy activity – but we very much need more help!

For the Wallingford Shop, each week, large quantities of books and music are received, not just from donors (please keep it all coming!), but also on monthly rotation from other Oxfam shops. These all have to be sorted, priced, stored or put on the shelves.

For the On-line Shop (www.oxfam.org.uk), every day, items have to be packaged and despatched to customers, new items have to be researched, priced, photographed and entered onto the system. Oxfam also sells books through Amazon, so these all need to be scanned and entered on the site. In the shop itself, of course, we also need friendly helpful people to serve customers!

Each of the behind-the-scenes jobs needs only as much time as you can spare – maybe a couple of hours week? For serving in the shop, each shift is from 9 am to 1 pm or 1 pm to 5 pm. The afternoon shift also involves cashing up – so you do need to feel confident with dealing with money and adding-up!

The Oxfam Shops country-wide raised £82 million last year towards Oxfam’s work around the world, so if you’d like to help in any way, please contact Diana Chandler on 835831, or just pop in to the shop at 54 St Mary’s Street.

Sue Jeffs
Oxfam Volunteer
Starting at Ridgeway Community Church......

On Monday the 9th of September at 7pm, Ridgeway Community Church is hosting an introductory evening for Alpha. This amazing thirteen week course is presently run in venues ranging from coffee shops to prisons and from city centres to suburban churches in over 160 countries. The claim is that Alpha is for everyone who wants to explore ‘life’s big issues’. A typical evening consists of a two course meal, a short talk about the Christian faith followed by coffee and a discussion group.

Starting at 7pm, we guarantee to be finished at 9pm. The course is entirely free, with the guarantee of no hassle and no pressure. Rather than ask anyone to sign up for the whole course, Ridgeway Community Church would simply love to invite you to the introductory evening which will address the question ‘Is there more to life than this?’ For more information please check out www.alpha.org or www.ridgeway-church.org.uk. To register please ring 832718 or call in The Fountain Bookshop. (We will do our best to cater for those with specific food requirements)

Gareth Lloyd-Jones
Senior Pastor

Wallington U3A Dates for your Diary

On September 4th David Sheppard will speak on ‘My Life as a Racecourse Bookmaker’ then on October 2nd Dr Martin Holmes will speak about ‘Harold Wilson......A Reputation Restored’.

Our Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the Month in Crowmarsh Village Hall at 2pm. Visitors are always made welcome. For more information visit our website: google/sites/wallingtonu3a.co.uk, or phone Hermione on 01865 858024.

Deirdre Wilson

Vacancy at Angiers Almshouses in Reading Road

There is a vacancy at Angiers Almshouses. The Almshouse is unfurnished and is self-contained and has gas central heating. There is a kitchen and lounge on the ground floor and a bathroom and bedroom on the first floor. There is a pleasant communal garden to the rear. The Almshouses are not warden controlled but there is a security alarm system for emergencies. Residents pay a weekly maintenance contribution, which includes water charges. Residents are responsible for their own electricity, heating, council tax bills and general living expenses.

Applications will be considered by the Trustees from persons in receipt of the State Pension, of good health, who are capable of looking after themselves without the benefit of outside help and who have strong links with Wallington. The links may be a period of residency or a family connection. A medical certificate will be required too.

If you are interested in occupying an Almshouse and meet the criteria above please contact me and we‘ll send you an application form.

Jamie Baskeyfield
Town Clerk
Wallington@btconnect.com
835373

Wallingford Photographic Club

If you enjoy taking photographs, why not consider joining a friendly group of like-minded people at Wallington photo club and take your photography to the next level. The next season starts on September 19th with a welcome evening at Crowmarsh pavilion before launching into the full programme of presentations, practical evenings and member competitions. If you would like further information you can email the club secretary on wallingtonphotoclub@gmail.com or visit the club website www.wallington-photographic-club.org.uk

On Sept 26th, we welcome Richard Cooke, an action and location photographer who pioneered the first head-on, air-to-air images of the Red Arrows and now specialises in exciting and unusual images.

Pam Sandhu-Dickens

Wallingford Flower Club

Demonstration “Hidden Gems” by Kate Thomas at our meeting on Wednesday 11th September at 7.15 for 8pm. The meeting will be at Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors welcome £4. For more details phone 834303

Fay Crabbe
Help us to ring church bells!

The original six bells at St Mary’s were installed in 1680. These were recast and increased to eight bells in 1738. Two more bells were added in 2003 to provide a ring of ten. The current band has ten members, and has regular visitors from nearby towers.

To continue ringing the bells we need some more people to learn to ring them. This traditional activity is a very satisfying and challenging hobby and you do not need to attend church to be a ringer. As a bell ringer you can

- Get one-to-one tuition until you have mastered the basic technique and then continuing support
- Enjoy life-long learning by taking up a mental challenge at your own comfort level
- Ring regularly two or three times a week for service and practice ringing
- Join in celebratory ringing for special occasions such as weddings, Jubilee, Christmas etc.
- Get to know similar groups from surrounding communities or when you go on holiday
- Go to practices at other churches to meet other ringers and extend your skills
- Go on outings to groups of churches in other parts of the country

Suitable for any age or fitness level – there’s nothing like it!

Come up and meet the band in St Mary’s tower any Thursday evening at 8pm or call Christopher Tuckett on 659091 or email: christopher.tuckett@theology.ox.ac.uk

Jo Gamester

✧✧✧✧✧

Jumble Sale

Wallingford Methodist Church is holding a jumble sale on Saturday September 14th. Doors open at 2 pm for lots of bargains, and refreshments will also be available.

Volunteers will be at the Church Centre, in St Leonard’s Square, from 10 am until noon on the 14th to receive donations of clothes, bedding, bric-a-brac, toys, games and small items of furniture. If collection of items is required, please call 836649. Proceeds will be going towards the church building fund.

Nicky Lidstone
Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers

**Tues** 3rd 10:00 SU682902 Moderate 6.5 miles. Meet at Swyncombe. Please park tidily opposite church wall for a walk in Chiltem Hills. Registered Assistance Dogs only. Contact Keith Tibbs 838689 / 07976 302136

Sun 8th 14.00 SU526882 Moderate 7 miles. Meet at Upper Cross, near the church, East Hagbourne. This is a monthly village ramble that varies from 5 to 9 miles at a quick pace. Contact Paul Chambers on 01235 816365

Tues 10th 10:00 SU715933 Moderate 8.5 miles. Meet at Christmas Common. Please park on side of road just after turning on road from Christmas Common to Northend. Walk to Ibstone Common & Turville Heath. Please bring a packed lunch. Registered Assistance Dogs only. Contact Kate Hart 838689 / 07966 756770


*Sue White

Macmillan Coffee Morning

If you are not too busy on this morning do pop into the Methodist Church between 10.30 and 12.30 pm on Thursday 26th September. You will find freshly made filter coffee and tea to drink and lots of lovely homemade cakes and biscuits to go with it. We are collecting up good quality donations of handbags, scarves and jewellery to sell and asking for a modest sum of £2.50 for refreshments.

We have excellent disabled and baby changing facilities.

Anne Baudry

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Hedges and Bushes – and Pathways!

Do you have a hedge or perhaps some bushes or shrubs at the edge of your garden which grow alongside a pathway or pavement? After the wonderful growing weather we have had in recent months, have you had a look to see whether your plants may have gone a bit berserk and are now making life a bit difficult for passers-by?

We have lots of pathways around the town which are bordered by lovely gardens, but just occasionally the growth gets a bit excessive and can cause obstructions. That can be the odd leaf flicking drips on pedestrians after a shower of rain, but it can also be branches which effectively block a footpath. Please do have a quick look at your shrubs and hedges and make sure that they won’t cause a problem for those walking past, especially those who find it difficult to step around obstructions.

If there’s a particular problem, the County Council will write to property-owners to ask them to cut back obstructive plants, but it’s much easier all round if we all check our own gardens and sort them out before they become a problem.

Lynda Atkins
County Councillor

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A

“Travels with Auntie” is the title of the talk to be given by Alastair Lack at our speaker meeting, and it’s not the rather homespun topic some might imagine, as it is based on his life at the BBC World Service, where he worked for almost 30 years as a writer and producer. So if you are a member of U3A and want to tune in to this, we’ll see you on 18th September at the Baptist Church Hall.

Other events over the next month:

- 6th September: Coffee Morning at Centre 70 starting at 10.30am
- 28th September: Olympic Park Legacy Tour and trip on the Cable Car across the Thames for some fantastic aerial views of the city.
- 4th October: MacMillan Coffee morning at Centre 70, 10.30am

You don’t need to be a U3A member to come to our MacMillan coffee morning, so it’s a great opportunity to see what U3A offers and support a great cause, should be some great cakes too!

If you are interested in joining the U3A new members are always welcome, and you can find out more from our website www.wallingford-thamesideu3a.org.uk or call Milli Eaton on 835689.

Jan Menzies

Wallingford Methodist Church
St Leonard’s Square
www.wallingfordmethodistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Worship 10.30 am and 6.30 pm.
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Everyone Welcome

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PLEASE MENTION WINDOW FOR WALLINGFORD IF YOU RESPOND TO ANY OF OUR ADVERTISEMENTS
The Autumn Show will be held in Centre 70 on Saturday 14th September and is open to the public from 2pm. The show allows is a great opportunity for you to demonstrate your skills in growing, cooking and many other crafts, and have a bit of fun too. Children can enter their own competitions – this year’s theme is Recycling. There are many prizes to be won; the trophies will be presented by the Mayor of Wallingford, Bernard Stone.

The last date for entries to be received for the Show is Wednesday 11th September 2013. For more information, see the full Schedule and download an entry form at: www.wags-wallingford.com

WAGS is run by volunteers, and the show is no exception: it’s not too late to contact the Show Secretary, Sandra Halstead (B36527) if you can spare an hour or so to help make this event as successful as last year’s. There are plenty of ways to get involved—baking a cake; food preparation; or assisting with stewarding at the Show. It is a great opportunity to get to know other people, get hints and tips from other gardeners and get involved in your local community.

Reminder: WAGS Store is now closed for the Summer and re-opens on Saturday 7 September at 10am.

Frances Watkins

Benson Choral Society – thinking big!

Calling choral singers! After our summer recess we are back in action from Tuesday 10th September. We’ve had a couple of great seasons expanding our numbers (we’re around the 120 mark) and our repertoire. Now our Musical Director Chris Walker thinks we’re ready for his long cherished ambition of performing Walton’s Belshazzar’s Feast in March 2014. We’ll be working on that straight away, while also taking in Handel’s Messiah along the way in November. If this is your kind of thing, come and give us a try – it’s at St Mary’s Church in the middle of Wallingford every Tuesday with a 7.30 start. There are more details on our website www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk or call me for a chat. Men are especially welcome.

Roger Morgan
Chairman
837494

Community Matters

Community Matters Scheme in Waitrose Wallingford has been supporting many different charities and good causes during 2013. Each year we raise £12,000 to share between 36 local good causes. During the first 6 months of this year we have supported 18 different good causes ranging from supporting Wallingford Carnival, to helping local primary school purchase equipment for their cooking clubs.

Here is a list of the causes that we have helped so far during the first 6 months of the year:

- St John’s School cookery club £260
- Cholsey Community Library £229
- Macular Disease Society Goring Group £511
- Footsteps Foundation £538
- Wallingford Rugby Club £219
- St Mary’s toddler Group £243
- St Nicholas Infant School £231
- Didcot Devils Basketball Club £131
- Oxfordshire Prostate Cancer Support £638
- Benson U9’s football Club £187
- Oxfordshire Association for the Blind £624
- Goring and District Community Centre £189
- Wallingford Carnival £358
- South and Vale Carers Centre £247
- Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary £395
- Home Start Southern Oxfordshire £393
- 4the Wallingford Brownies £287
- Young at Heart Club £320
- Haxbourne Primary School £233
- Goring Primary School £277
- Rainbow Pre-School £490

Julia Biddell
We Love Macmillan

Even if you have never had the misfortune of suffering from cancer, I want you to know how wonderful Macmillan is and why they need your financial support. My mother-in-law's husband passed away from cancer in 2010. If it was not for Macmillan, he would not have had the luxury to pass away in his own home under the care of his wife and family. Macmillan made that possible in their greatest time of need by bringing in a nurse, free of charge, to care for their loved one while they were able to rest. This was a great relief to a family who had no previous experience with this type of care before and dealing with the suffering of a loved one.

Please help Macmillan carry on this and other great services that they provide to those plagued by cancer by attending a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday September 27th. There will be one at my home at Flint Cottage, 53 High Street, from 10am to 2pm. There will be coffee, tea, juices, as well as cakes and treats. They will also have a tombola with donated prizes from many of Wallingford's and surrounding area's businesses.

Lucinda Offer

125-Mile Source to Sea River Relay

Just one year on from the Olympic Torch success, Wallingford is set to celebrate a relay of a different kind. Instead of the Olympic torch, a bottle of water drawn from the source of the Thames will be carried from the start of the river to the sea. The first Source to Sea River Relay will pass through the town on September 7th ahead of the Thames Festival in London.

Starting on September 1st the bottle will be carried by ramblers, swimmers, kayaks, gondolas, rowers, narrow boats, duck tours, skiffs, community groups and even whaling boats. On September 7th the relay will pass from Benson Lock to Goring Lock between 9am and 6pm. It is set to pass Wallingford at lunchtime. The bottle will reach London's Tower Bridge on the afternoon of September 15th, the final day of the Thames Festival.

The Source to Sea River Relay is a unique event that links communities and the entire length of the Thames and is a chance for anyone who feels a connection with the river to get involved.

Wallingford Town council would love to hear about ideas for the event. Email Kate Rayner at kate.rayner@southandvale.gov.uk or call 823144.

Jamie Baskeyfield
Town Clerk

Wallingford Day Centre:

The Friends of Wallingford Day Centre will be hosting a quiz night and AGM on Friday 4th October at the Day Centre. The evening will start with a short AGM at 6.30pm followed by the quiz. Tickets are available from the day centre Westgate House, Millington Road, Wallingford. Tickets will cost £5 in advance and £6 on the door. Ticket price includes supper.

The Friends of Wallingford Day Centre are a small group that helps to fund raise for the centre. The money raised provides a wide range of activities including art equipment, trips out, puzzles and games, cooking and sewing activities to name but a few. We are raising funds at the moment to redesign the garden, providing new fencing, garden furniture, awning and new planters. If you would like to join us you would be made very welcome. We meet once a month normally in the day time at the day centre.

The day centre is also looking for volunteers to help out within the centre. Our volunteers serve drinks and lunches to clients, help with small group activities including cooking, gardening, arts and crafts, knitting, puzzles, games and quizzes or just talking to clients. If you have a spare hour or two and feel you would like to become a volunteer, please contact Isabella to arrange an informal visit.

For more information or to contact us about any of these points, please phone 836467.

Carol Harrison

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PLEASE MENTION WINDOW FOR WALLINGFORD IF YOU RESPOND TO ANY OF OUR ADVERTISEMENTS
Wallingford Floral Displays

Firstly a huge “thank you” to Bryan, Scott and Sean for another wonderful display in and around Wallingford town centre this year. The Town Council have been in receipt of numerous messages from the community conveying how impressed they have been. As always thanks too to Derek Hoare and all those on the board of the Wallingford Partnership who worked so hard to secure the funding to improve our town centre displays a couple of years ago.

Grants

At the end of June just over a thousand pounds of grants were issued to a number of applicants in our community. The Town Council works to support so many people in a number of different ways and that will continue through 2013/14.

New Community Building Provision on Wigod Way

As I type demolition of the old Pentecostal Church is nearing completion. The demolition has taken place now to make the site safe. When funding streams are secured, and we hope that will be achieved very soon, work will commence on the new building and when completed will be home to Action For Children and an office for Martin Thompson, Youth Worker for the Beacon Youth Project which the Town Council part-funds. This will not be a replacement for the old Youth Club on Clapcot Way, the services being offered will be very different.

Morrisons Proposal

I’m afraid there’s not much to contribute to that covered in the press; we anticipate that Morrisons will respond to the planning decision again soon, perhaps early September, indicating their response to the new criteria applied at the committee hearing.

Site B

The developers continue to meet with a range of people and organisations, including the Town Council, to discuss and seek agreement in their vision for the development of new homes.

The empty Cooperative unit on St Martin’s Street – the Old Waitrose

External communication from the Co-op has been limited. It’s a guess but the view is they may be awaiting the outcome of the Morrisons application before deciding what to do with the site.

Closing Times of the Castle Gardens

The Town Council have received some correspondence requesting the gardens be kept open longer, specifically during the warmer weather. These recommendations have been heeded and are being actively considered.

Outdoor Swimming Pool and Splash Park

Whilst South Oxfordshire District Council and their appointed contractor manage this facility, should users have anything to say about this service then the Town Council are happy to hear those views, and will of course convey them to the appropriate SODC personnel.

Armed Forces Day 2013 and 2014

Working in conjunction with RAF Benson the Town Council coordinated events on the Kinecroft on the 26th June and it appeared that the good weather helped attract a large family crowd who all appeared to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. The various military representatives were all delighted with how the day went, and the Town Council are currently working on confirming the date and making the arrangements for Armed Forces Day in 2014. Thank you all for your support!
Costa Coffee on the Market Place
The Town Council entered into an agreement with Costa to permit them to site five tables and chairs on the Market Place. This agreement was for a 2-month trial and a decision will be reached in August as to whether this arrangement will be allowed to continue. The community views that have been expressed will of course be taken into consideration.

Kinacroft Fences and Benches
New fences have been installed at the High Street end and in the South West corner. There is also quite a lot of discussion taking place about the number, and positioning of, the park benches. Should you have any views then do get in touch with the Town Council.

The Market Place
“Wallingford” is not the Market Place. The Town Council wish to use this opportunity to assure those traders outside the town centre that we consider everyone’s needs in equal importance. Nevertheless, the town centre is a heavily populated area and the Town Council continue to strive for the highest standards of presentation in this area specifically. We continue to work with SODC and their contractor BIFFA to address street cleaning standards, as well as working with Oxford County Council Highways Department to address paving and street lighting. We are determined to raise the standards higher and keep them that way.

Vision For Wallingford
The Town Council are currently revisiting the vision, or plan, for Wallingford and shortly we anticipate community consultation to determine again the community’s needs. More information will be shared in due course.

Jamie Baskeyfield
Town Clerk
Wallingfordtc@btconnect.com
835373

Reasons to be Proud of Wallingford
I would like to say a huge thank you to all those people in Wallingford, Cholsey and Benson who gave so generously to our Royal National Lifeboat Institution collection at the end of June.

We raised the wonderful sum of £2061.34. Special thanks must go to the army of collectors who stood in the street or collected in the Oakdale, Mariot, and Meriden Courts and Sotwell Hill house, The Day Centre in Benson and outside the Riverside Waterfront cafe Benson. My very grateful thanks to Sue our treasurer who counted everything and to Betty and Jan who helped me out with the organising. Thank you all so much.

Janet Evans
Flag day Organiser

There is no doubt that this year’s attendance at the biannual Walk Against Cancer was affected by the extreme heat. Nevertheless, people did participate and we raised over £1300 for our local Cancer Unit at the Churchill Hospital which we are very pleased with. We are very grateful to the many people who could not take part because of the heat or for other reasons, but still made donations.

The Committee would like to thank all those tough souls who took part, Centre 70 for providing refreshments, The George Hotel for the use of their facilities, Wallingford Town Council and Earth Trust for allowing us to use the Castle Gardens and Meadows, Andrew Townsend for minding the bull and cattle on site, and Thames Water for providing water bottles.

We look forward to seeing you in 2015.

Theresa Jordan
THE PARISH OF WALLINGFORD

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10 a.m. St. Mary-le-More
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Thursday 10am -11.30am

For more information contact:
Wallingford Christian Assembly,
Goope Hall
Atwell Close,
Wallingford,
OX10 0LJ
Tel: 01401 641026
www.w-c-a.org.uk

“So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God” Romans 10:17 (The Bible)
Swap Shop and Apple Day

The next Sustainable Wallingford Swap Shop is on Saturday 5th October at the Regal Centre 10am – 12. The Swap Shop is held four times a year and is free to everyone providing the opportunity to pass on unwanted items to a good home, and/or pick up something useful, instead of adding to the waste mountain – no clothes, shoes or paint please. Do bring items early (by 11am) to give more people a chance to take them. For large items, bring a photo or description to display. You can swap small portable electrical items after testing to show that they work – they must have a “CE” mark – no TVs or computers. Items for recycling are fluorescent light tubes, low energy light bulbs, CDs, video & audio cassettes and mobile phones.

Also, remember you can use Freecycle online [groups.freecycle.org/Wallingford-UK-Freecycle/description] to offer or re-use items at any time.

With a bumper apple harvest expected – get the most from this year’s crop and come to the Sustainable Wallingford Apple Day to get apple juice from your excess apples or learn more about apple recipes, storage and identification. The apple press and expert advice will be available 10am to 3pm on Saturday 12th October at Centre 70. Start collecting glass screw-top bottles for your apple juice now!

Starting to think about those winter bills and want to learn more about how you use your energy then join the Energy Neighbourhood Challenge. This is a national competition for groups to better understand their domestic energy consumption, then monitor it from December to March with an objective of reducing usage. For more information check out the website: www.energyneighbourhoods.eu/en_uk?selcountry=15 or contact me on 201316.

Lorna Bonthorne

West Hanney, Lowbury, and Anglo-Saxon Oxfordshire:
The fifth to eighth centuries in the Upper Thames Valley

This month’s talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be by Dr Christopher Ferguson. He will present ‘West Hanney, Lowbury, and Anglo-Saxon Oxfordshire: the fifth to eighth centuries in the Upper Thames Valley’.

Chris has ten years experience as an archaeologist and museum curator. He is now Head Curator of Auckland Castle (County Durham), and was formerly the Curator of Archaeology at the Oxfordshire Museums Service. His talk will focus on Anglo-Saxon Oxfordshire. The Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex is popularly assumed to have originated around its later capital, Winchester. In fact, its origins lie in the Upper Thames Valley (stretching roughly from Lechlade to Reading), with the emergence of a people referred to in early sources as the Gewisse.

This talk will be held on Friday 13th Sept, 7.45 for 8pm at Wallingford Town Hall. Visitors (£3) are most welcome.

Stu Darby

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The above premiums are based on a 3 bedroom house of standard construction located in the OX10 post code and are correct as at the 20/03/2013. Cover is on a standard basis. Other terms and conditions apply and insurances are subject to acceptance.

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Henley Philatelic Society

We are about to start our new season and we would be delighted to see any newcomers who are interested in collecting anything that is to do with The Post – stamps, postcards etc. Do make a note in your diary to come and see what you can do with them, rather than hiding them away in a drawer.

September 11 – Latest Acquisitions when members and visitors can display their ‘latest find’. Anything goes from a single card or stamp to 3 or 4 pages. An interesting evening!

September 25 – Members of Amersham Philatelic Society show some of their displays.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.45 from September to June inclusive. Visitors and new members are welcome. Details 681739 or on our website: - www.henleyphilatelic.co.uk

Penny Black

Wallingford Day Centre
Casual Care Assistants Required.

We are looking for enthusiastic Care Assistants who have previous experience of working with older and physically disabled adults (although full training can be provided) to help us out on a casual basis.

Our Health and Wellbeing Centres provide a social atmosphere, promote independence and at the same time provide vital care services to the elderly and support adults with physical disabilities, mental health problems and dementia.

As a Care Assistant you will provide day care tailored to the individual needs of older and disabled people living in the community.

You will have experience of working with individuals with dementia in a care setting, have empathy and an understanding of service user needs and able to carry out personal care tasks.

Self-motivated, good communication skills, ability to write care plans and reports, and to work on your own and as part of a team are also an essential part of the role.

Casual workers are used to cover staff sickness etc. They work on an “as and when required” basis and have the option to turn down offers of work and the Council is not obliged to offer work.

Should you have any queries please contact Kerry Coleman, Manager on 01491 836467 or email Kerry.coleman@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Ref no: CCA193V

Wallingford Town Information Centre

The school holidays will be over on the 4th September but there will still be plenty to keep us all occupied in Wallingford. There is a Town and Castle History walk from the Museum and Morris dancing in the Market Place, it’s the last Band Concert in the Castle Gardens for the season, plus many more events.

Just a reminder, our opening times are Mondays to Fridays 10am to 4pm and Saturdays 10am to 2pm. We hold information on events that are going on during the year in Wallingford and surrounding areas, leaflets of walks and places to visit, bus timetables and we also hold Waste Food bags at 20 for £1.50, very good value.

If you would like a function, event or fundraiser that is organised for Wallingford and surrounding areas advertised, please bring your poster along for display in our window.

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Please mention The Window for Wallingford if you respond to any of our advertisements.
Enjoy the abundant harvest of locally grown vegetables

September is the perfect time to enjoy the lovely vegetables and fruits in season, and there will be plenty of them at Wallingford Local Producers’ Market in the Regal Centre from 10am to 1pm every Saturday morning this month.

Freshly pulled carrots, glossy tomatoes, plump summer squashes and the tastiest salad leaves are all available from our three vegetable growers.

Each week the veg stall, located just inside the north door of the Regal Centre, is full of good fresh food, straight from the field to you – thanks to the hard work of our regular stallholders:

- Clare Ferguson from Close to the Veg at the Earth Trust in Little Wittenham on the first Saturday of the month
- Lin Tolhurst from Tolhurst Organic from the Hardwick Estate near Goring on the second and fourth Saturdays
- Mark Powell from Ashtrees Farm at Benson who now attends on the third Saturday only.

You might be surprised by the sizes and shapes of the colourful summer squashes – those Turkish turbans, mini-spaceships and custard marrows – so please ask the stallholders for the best ways of cooking these unusual vegetables.

Sign up for weekly news of the market

Wallingford Local Producers’ Market has a wide range of products including eggs, bread and cakes, ready to eat food, chocolates and preserves, jewellery, ceramics, glass and soft furnishings. It’s a great place for gifts as well as your weekly shop.

When you sign up to the weekly Market Newsletter you’ll keep up to date with market news, special offers and new products. Every Thursday evening WLPM sends out an email Market Newsletter with a list of all that week’s stalls, so you know who will be at the Market on Saturday.

It’s easy to receive the Market Newsletter; just email Kate Spence at newsletter@wlpm.org.uk. We promise that your email address will only be used for the newsletter and other WLPM alerts; and if you no longer wish to receive our Newsletter, you can let us know and we will remove you from the mailing list.

PS. We’re celebrating our 6th birthday on 21st September, so come and enjoy our Birthday Cake!

News From PiP - Patients in Partnership with Wallingford Medical Practice

Newsletter We have been publishing a PiP newsletter every quarter for three years and now feel it is time for a new approach. Although copies have been available in the surgery they were seldom taken home. Our main concern is how to reach people who don’t have access to internet and since the Window for Wallingford is delivered to every home in the town, we will now be producing a regular column. Copy will also be on the PiP website (www.pipwallingford.org).

NHS Budgeting. 60% of the NHS’ annual budget is controlled by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) made up largely of GP representatives. Oxfordshire CCG (OCCG) has six localities which oversee healthcare provision for 650,000 residents. Together they control an annual budget of £650 million. The south-east locality stretches from Thame to Sonning Common, Wallingford to Henley, overseeing health care for 90,000 residents.

In Oxfordshire the number of people over 85 is growing by more than 5% per year. This places a huge burden on health and social care budgets, which has to be addressed. Demand for health care will exceed supply, as people live longer. In a culture where people demand health care 24 hours a day, it can be difficult to supply all the services that they expect, particularly in a rural area. So we must make sure care is provided more efficiently.

Dr Burnett, Director of the south-east locality, suggests ways that we, the patients, can help to save wastage - sometimes people go to Accident & Emergency when their ailment could be dealt with by a local GP; Minor Injuries unit or a pharmacist; in non-emergency cases to dial 111 - incidentally. Oxfordshire has one of the best 111 services. He says “Every time a person is admitted to hospital as an emergency case, it costs £2,500. An emergency ambulance £300, and an outpatient’s appointment £100”. Quite a thought!

PiP Carers’ Support Group will meet on Tuesday 10th September in St Mary’s Church from 2 – 3.30 pm. This month, Makyla Greaves from the Red Cross will be joining our usual team to talk with Carers. Everyone is welcome.

Val Wolsey
info@pipwallingford.co.uk
836820

Wendy Tobitt
Wallingford Bridge Club Open Weekend

On Saturday September 21st and Sunday September 22nd Wallingford Bridge Club is open from 1.30 to 5pm at Roke & Berrick Salome Village Hall for anyone interested in Bridge to come to find out more about the game and the way that it is played in clubs.

Many people who can play Bridge have a mistaken view that clubs are for highly competitive experts. Among those that have never played Bridge there is often a belief that it is a highly complicated and difficult game. Hopefully after meeting us you will recognise that these are mistaken views.

The Saturday is for those who can already play Bridge to come and meet some club members, play some Bridge (in a format that is designed to be relaxed and largely social) and discover if Bridge at a club is something you can enjoy. If you have never played Bridge (or have forgotten what you learnt in your youth) the Club’s teachers will be around to give you an introduction to the basics of the game with an opportunity to try playing Mini-Bridge, a simplified version of the game that is playable after a quick 10 minute introduction.

On Sunday afternoon we will be organising events for children and teenagers who can already play. Many local primary schools provide Bridge as an after-school activity. In addition many Secondary Schools have pupils who play Bridge informally in their leisure time. While the children and teenagers are immersed in playing Bridge we will provide introductory lessons for parents, relatives and neighbours. In addition associated adults who can already play will be welcome to try our social Bridge format (which we call ‘pre-scored Chicago’) which we believe is an innovation developed by this club.

Francis Glassborow

News from Our MP

The Wantage and Didcot Constituency is a fascinating place! I’ve recently been reviewing some of the statistics which are provided to MPs and have seen that we are one of the most prosperous areas in the UK. 83% of people locally between the ages of 16 and 64 are employed and nearly 89% are economically active, with around 7% running their own businesses. That compares with an employment rate of 74% across the South East and 71% nationally. Of those working in the constituency, 83% work full time compared with 74% nationally, meaning our workforce has more stable and often more rewarding employment, with average local incomes 10% above the national level. That’s due, in some part, to the fact that 34% of local residents have a degree or higher qualification and just 3% have no qualifications at all. Businesses set up locally do better over their first five years than in other places too. We are home to some of the most exciting and innovative scientific enterprises in the world.

What that string of statistics actually means is that the Constituency is not only a very attractive area in which to live, but also a vibrant and successful one. We do have some real challenges, such as the fact that house prices are very high in relation to our incomes, and finding a decent home in the area can be a real challenge. Helping people with housing problems is one of the areas where I am kept busy, and identifying suitable places to build the new homes we need is a real challenge. On that last point, I am continuing to lobby ministers nationally to try to have planning laws and guidance made really fit for purpose so we can build the homes we need without imposing inappropriate growth on rural communities. The Minister who leads on planning, Nick Boles, will be visiting the Constituency at my invitation in September to hear directly from constituents about the problems we have here with the current system.

And one final note! I was astonished to hear about the plans being put forward by a developer for an international airport south of Marcham. There are many reasons why this is a very daft idea, most of which have been reported widely. Please rest assured that if the concept doesn’t disappear of its own accord very swiftly, I will do all that I can to ensure that it never gets beyond the drawing board.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

Ed Vaizey MP

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The first Gift-Fest is to be held here in Wallingford on the 5th of October. You'll find all the fun in Centre 70 between 9am and 6pm. Come along and see what we have to offer, we're sure you won't be disappointed.

Traders include a personalised accessory company who make while you wait (or continue shopping), as well as a one-of-a-kind homeware creator, who specialises in bunting, cushions and other fabric items, and a trader who makers Handmade Natural Bath Bombs, Soaps and other bath time goodies. Other traders will include an Exquisite Cake Maker, a Dazzling Jewellery Maker and some Wowing Artwork!

All of our Gift-Fest events will be free for customers to attend and we'll always have refreshments at hand should you need to sit down mid-shop for a little rest, after all, who can say no to a cuppa and cake?

If you’re a trader interested in coming along, drop us an email info@gift-fest.com, we’d love to hear from you.

Too excited? Want to know more now? Find us on Facebook or go to Gift-Fest.com

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**Footsteps takes over the Abbey Tea Room**

On Saturday 7th September, Footsteps Foundation have been given the opportunity to take over the Abbey Tea Room between 3-5pm.

The local charity welcome any donation of cakes and biscuits and any help on the day would be much appreciated. If you would like to donate a cake or offer your help, please contact Clare on 01865 343851 or email claire@footstepsfoundation.com to make arrangements. Otherwise, please join us for some tea and cake on the day; we hope to see you there!

All proceeds from the tea room on Saturday 7th September will be donated to Footsteps Foundation, helping children with neurological disorders to access the unique Footsteps therapy programme.

Footsteps Foundation is also the local charity set to benefit from the Cholsey Beer Festival on Saturday 28th September so come along and enjoy a family day with the team. To buy your tickets in advance or for further information about the event, please visit www.chokobeerfestival.org.uk

Clare Morley

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Historic Guided Walks

By popular demand on Saturday 21st Sept, two historic guided walks have been arranged, which will be led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator). At 11 am there will be a Castle history walk, followed by a Town history walk at 2.30 pm. Both walks, lasting about 2 hours, start at the Museum with a charge of £5 for each walk. (unsuitable for dogs!)

So, why not immerse yourself in the town’s fascinating local history for the whole day and also visit the new ‘A Monk’s Tale: the hidden habits of Wallingford Priory’, and ‘At Home with the Queen of Crime’ exhibitions at the Museum.

Just come along or contact Judy Dewey for details tel. 651127

Stu Darby

† † † † † †

Wallingford Carnival AGM

Members of the public are invited to the Carnival Annual General Meeting which will take place on Wednesday the 18th September, 7 pm, at the Town Council Offices. An election will take place for Committee Members for the next year, accounts agreed, and a theme for the procession will be chosen. If you would like to become a member of the Committee or help to organise next year’s Carnival in any way, then we would be made very welcome.

Would any organisation or charity interested in raising funds for their cause by managing next year’s procession please apply in writing to the Committee by the end of October.

Theresa Jordan
836240

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

At the July meeting we had an informal discussion regarding the lack of new people joining the Branch. Sadly, there was only one reply to the article in the Wallingford Herald, and we are in contact with him. But we are determined to carry on.

Sunday September 8th we hold the annual short, informal service at the Cairn, at the junctions of Wilding and Andrew Roads, starting at 3pm. It is open to all.

At the September meeting we will be having a speaker, giving us details of his career in the music industry.

The order for Poppy Appeal material has been sent in. Anyone who is unable to do their house to house or street collections, please let us know so that we can arrange cover, especially for the house to house. The final total for 2012/2013 is showing an increase on the previous year. Considering the economic climate that is good news.

We are available for anyone who needs help, please do contact us.

Linda Shoebridge
598479
linmayshoe@hotmail.com

Frank Hames
01865 858393
frank.hames@btinternet.com

What’s On at The Corn Exchange in September

The Corn Exchange welcomes everyone back after its summer break to a plethora of films this September. We open the month on Sunday 1st till Wednesday 4th September with Disney’s ‘Planes’ [U] ‘above the world of Cars’ where Dusty a crop-dusting Plane dreams of competing in a famous aerial race. But he has one problem… he’s afraid of heights! This is followed by a one night showing of ‘Blancanieves’ [12A] on Thursday 5th September, set in 1920s Seville, a Snow White Fairy Tale with a twist centred on a female bullfighter. Hilarity follows with ‘The World’s End’ [15] showing on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th September, the third in the trilogy of action comedy films starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, where five friends reunite attempting to top their epic pub crawl from 20 years earlier unknowingly becoming the only hope for humankind’s survival. On Saturday 7th showing at 10.30am is Pixar’s latest family fun film ‘Monsters University’ [U] where we see Sally and Mike in their University days and how they became the best of friends.

Then on Sunday 8th September is ‘Looking for Hortense (Cherchee Hortense)’ in French with subtitles [12A], shown this year at the ‘my French film festival’. It follows Damien a Chinese Civilization professor, whose life is turned upside down when his wife Iva asks for his help in preventing Zorica from being deported. Following this is ‘Frances Ha’ [15] about Frances, an apprentice for a dance company, however she’s not really a dancer, but despite this she throws herself headlong into her dreams even as reality dwindles showing on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th September. A groundbreaking film follows on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th September: ‘Wadjda’ [PG] a heart warming story about Wadjda an enterprising Saudi girl who finds the courage and ways to raise funds with which to buy her very own bike, despite her parent’s rules. Then on Friday 13th to Monday 16th September we see the return of Alan Partridge in ‘Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa’ [15] were he finds himself the siege negotiator after North Norfolk Digital is taken over by a multinational conglomerate and his fellow DJ who is fired holds the station hostage.

The National Theatre Live is broadcasting its production of ‘Othello’ live on Thursday 26th September at 7pm, tickets £12.50. We have more films in the pipeline this month so keep your eyes peeled on our website for more information soon to be announced.

All evening performances commence at 7.30 unless other wise stated. Bookings can be made in person at the Box Office (open 10am-2pm every Friday and Saturday and 7pm-8pm every evening), online at www.corndexchange.org.uk as well as by telephone on 825000 and post. Published events may change from time to time, please consult our website for the most current listings.

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WHAT’S ON

Every Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday
Coffee at St Mary’s Church 10 – 12

First Monday The Music Club for children with disabilities and additional needs call Sophia Nicholls 07768 298 297 or Julie Hinton 01189 722322

Every Monday Optimists over 50 Badminton, Regal Centre 2.15 – 4

Every Monday Table Tennis at the Regal Centre, 7.15 – 10.00pm

Every Tuesday Lunches at Methodist Church Centre 12.30 pm

Every Tuesday Wallingford and District Art Club, Centre 70 at 7.30

Every Tuesday, 2 – 4 Age UK Games Afternoon at Millington House

Second Tuesday PiPs Carers’ Support Group, St Mary’s Church, 2pm

2nd/4th Wednesdays Henley Philatelic Society Bix Village Hall at 7.45 (not July/August)

Every Wednesday 6pm at The Methodist Church - Boys’ Brigade ages 5 to 18

Every Thursday Coffee Morning, Methodist Church Centre 10.30 to 12

Every Thursday Wallingford Photographic Club 7.45 Crowmarsh Pavilion (not July/August)

Every Friday Wallingford Country Market 8.30 – 11.15 in the Regal Centre.

Every Friday and Saturday, Coffee at the Corn Exchange, 10 – 2 with soup from 11am

Every Friday and Saturday Coffee at St Mary’s Church 10 – 12

Every Friday - Charter Market in the Market Place

Every Friday No Strings Drop in for young people at the Methodist Hall, 8 – 10pm

Every Saturday WAGS Store open at Centre 70, 10-12

Most Saturdays Local Producers’ Market, Regal Centre 10 – 1

Every Sunday Wallingford Runners meet for a run, Contact number is now 07720 204783 or 07919 692532

Second Sunday Wallingford Model Club meet at the Fire Station 10 till 5. All welcome. Tel George Clark 200841

1st BunkFest

4th Wallingford WI Swimming with Dolphins – 7.30 at Ridgeway Community Centre. Kate, 201273 for details

4th Wallingford U3A My Life as a Racecourse Bookmaker

5th Wallingford Gardening Club: Visit to Chalkhouse Farm call 837429 for info

7th Source to the Sea at the Riverside

7th Have your Say – Playing in the Bullcroft 10 – 12 in the Bullcroft!

7th Junior Choir open rehearsal at St Mary’s Church

7th Music at St Peter’s: Violin and Piano

7th Messy Church at the Methodist Church

8th Andrew Wilding Memorial Service at the Cairn, 3pm

9th Deadline for copy for the Window for Wallingford

9th Alpha Course begins at Ridgeway Church

10th Friendship Group William George Armstrong tel 835074

11th Flower Club – Hidden Gems. 7.15 at Crowmarsh Village Hall

13th TWHAS Talk, 7.45 at the Town Hall

14th WAGS Show at Centre 70

14th Jumble Sale at the Methodist Church Centre

15th Band Concert in the Castle Gardens

17th Farmers’ Market

18th Thameside U3A: Travels with Auntie

18th Carnival AGM

21st Historic Guided Walks

21st Old Speckled Hen Morris Dancing in the Market Place

24th Friendship Group The Forgotten Railway Lines of Oxon tel 835074

26th Collection and Distribution day for The Window for Wallingford

26th Macmillan Coffee Morning – Methodist Church

26th RBL Branch Meeting 7pm, Masonic Centre

27th Macmillan Coffee Morning – Flint Cottage

28th Music at St Peter’s – the Thames Consort

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