

The Haseleys



The monthly magazine of
Great Haseley Parish

Issue 493, September 2021
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Cover photograph by Colin Sheppard

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Also provide your name and address so we can instruct the delivery team to miss you out. This will have the dual advantage of allowing you to browse the magazine at your leisure on your chosen device whilst helping us reduce our print costs.

Foreword

This month we have:

- A centre fold of photos of the fun had by all at the wonderful Summer Garden Party at Haseley Court in July. Thanks again to the Swires for making Haseley Court availability and to the organisers and all the people who helped out on the day.
- Another article from Richard Sheehan on the natural history of Haseley – this one on the dreaded wasp.
- Another great book review from Victoria Barry.
- A letter from the district council Housing and Environment Waste and Recycling Officer.
- And much more

Please be aware that the the consolation on The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 has just been launched. Amongst other things, this describes 5 Spatial Strategy Options describing the potential sites of major housing developments in the next 30 years. The good news is that none of these 5 options include a development near J7 of the M40! To review the details of the plan and respond to the consultation request, go to www.oxfordshireopenthought.org

Colin and Gill

This Year's Pumpkin Show

Very recently it was decided to cancel Pumpkin Show. This was a hard decision to make but after talking to many villagers we will postpone until 2022 which will hopefully make up for the two lost years.

Many pumpkins have been grown but hopefully these will be on display outside the houses on Halloween.

A few small expenses have occurred which was inevitable with the current situation but the Pumpkin Show currently has £3000 which can be used for projects in Great Haseley if anyone had any ideas.

Elisabeth Spencer

Great Haseley Church Autumn Fair and Raffle

The Haseley Church Autumn Fair will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 18th September, from 2.00 pm. Stalls, teas, and raffle (many fantastic prizes, including dinner for 4 at Le Manoir!). All welcome.

Raffle tickets should have been distributed to every household by the time you read this. If you haven't had yours, contact Toby Garfitt on 01844 278746, or email toby.garfitt@magd.ox.ac.uk.

Ticket stubs and money should be returned to Jane Cannon at 1 Latchford Lane (200 metres along the lane, on the right), by 17th September.

JAZZ NIGHT at The Neighbours' Hall, Great Milton

Friday 17th September starting 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm).

Tickets £10 from Yvonne 07761675847

Events in September

- Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall. 7.30pm on 13th September at the Village Hall
- Bible Study House Group, Tuesdays at 7.30 pm: Contact Sally Ann Dennis on 01844 278029
- Haseley Coffee Club, Thursday 9th September 10.00 am to noon.
- Rubbish Collections: Black weeks: Wed 1st (after bank holiday), 14th, 28th Sep, Green weeks: 7th, 21st Sep

Fitness Activities

- Thursday 6-7pm: Interval training with Sharon on Gt Haseley recreation ground. Book via www.fitandtonic.co.uk or just turn up
- Monday and Fridays 9.15-10.15am: Yoga at Gt Milton Neighbours Hall with Yoga Lizard Hayley Bamford. Contact Hayley on 07825794662 / www.yogalizard.co.uk

Fixtures on the Cricket Pitch in September

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Sat 4 th : TCC v Long Marston | • Sun 5 th : GHCC v Sutton Courtney |
| • Sat 11 th : GHCC v Porth (Tour) | • Sun 12 th : GHCC v Porth (Tour) |
| • Sun 19 th : Holton Friendly | • Sun 26 th : Holton Friendly |

Tayler Blackall Fund

The charity, like many of its kind, was historically established for those in the parish who had particular need of help. Now, the focus of the charity is to benefit the whole of the parish of Great Haseley, by giving grants either to individuals or the community. Applications can be made to support any endeavour, sporting, artistic, cultural or horticultural. Requests can also be made by individuals for financial help as well. These of course will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If you would like to be considered, send your application to The Secretary, Jane Simcox, Christmas Cottage, Latchford Lane, Great Haseley, Oxford OX44 7LE by close of play on 15th October, providing your name and address and the reason you wish to be considered.

All applications will be treated in complete confidence.

The Trustees will be meeting in late October/November to discuss the applications. The Trustees have the authority to make the final decisions on whether to support applications and their decision is binding.

Haseley Coffee Club

We will be starting the Haseley Coffee Club again in September (government guidelines permitting). So, trumpet and fanfare, the Coffee morning will be on Thursday 9th September 10.00am to noon in the Village Hall. Everyone welcome, so please come along and have a chat. There will be tea or coffee and homemade cakes. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Jane Simcox

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 12th July

Five members of the public joined the PC meeting in July.

A letter from a resident who was unable to attend was read and several actions noted, including formally thanking the owners of Haseley Court who generously opened their ground for the Village Celebration event. Thanks was also extended to all the members of the organising committee. It was a wonderful day out with a warm, celebratory atmosphere.

It was agreed to get a quote to fix a broken post at the playing fields. Perhaps trees might replace these posts in the longer term. Later in the meeting it was noted that Thame Trees has made a generous offer to supply various sizes of oak trees, free of charge, for planting in Great Haseley. They also offered help with planting and grant fund applications to Woodland Trust, etc. It was agreed Millennium Wood did not need further trees but additional planting on the Recreation Ground may provide shade and could also replace the wooden posts.

An apology was made that the agenda for the July meeting was not published on the village notice boards with the required three days' notice. It was, however, published on the website and on the Haseley email update.

The Chairman welcomed Chris Groves to his first meeting following his Co-option onto the Council. Cllr Chris Groves signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The following payments over £100 were approved: £192.00 R Mead Skip Hire, £603.13 Parish Administration, £150.60 HMRC, £492.00 Ridgeway Rural Services, £355.00 Stuart Short.

The Chairman had circulated a report detailing the proposed next steps for the initial Engagement Plan, this was agreed. The Chairman will commence work on Step 1 – to produce the initial briefing document for sign off at the September meeting. Earlier in the year discussions had taken place with Thame Town Council as to whether Thame's revised Neighbourhood Plan should include the new industrial estate just inside Great Haseley Parish on Rycote Lane. This was agreed in principle. As part of this, Thame Town Council agreed to cover Great Haseley Parish Council's legal costs up to a limit of £500 and the Parish Council has engaged Sunnyhill Solicitors.

The Chairman further reported the District Council were inviting parishes to take part in a pilot scheme aimed to streamline the process of producing a neighbourhood development plan. District Councillor Newton and the Chairman had put forward Great Haseley for consideration.

The Clerk had circulated information related to CIL, including the results of the village survey undertaken in 2020 and a report on CIL funds received and spent to date. The majority of CIL funds (received and expected) had been allocated to the top five projects in the survey. However future development, such as that proposed at Haseley End, will generate further CIL funds. It was agreed to delay consideration of new CIL projects until late 2021 / early 2022.

The Clerk reported the contractor employed to empty the dog waste bins was no longer able to do so. Several smaller parishes had been left in the similar position by the same contractor and had contacted District Councillor Newton for help. SODC has agreed to empty dog waste bins for a period of three months at a cost of £6 per bin plus an administration charge. The Clerk will organise a further emergency collection by Pet Waste Solutions and pursue the possibility of a longer-term contract with them.

Cllr McGuirk had circulated the latest draft Village Emergency Plan and invited comment from Councillors. A further call for volunteers to offer help with skills and / or equipment related to the Plan will be made through The Haseleys. There are two versions of the Plan, one for internal circulation containing personal contact details and one for public circulation with personal details redacted. Permission will be sought from all those volunteering skills and / or equipment for their details to be included in the internal copy of the Plan. It was agreed Cllr McGuirk will update the Plan and moving forward will review the Plan annually.

Two applications were received for the Casual Vacancy. The candidates addressed the Council after which they answered questions. The Chairman thanked the candidates for putting themselves forward and their commitment to the village. On being put to the vote it was Resolved to Co-opt Jen Webster onto the Council.

Cllr Newton highlighted opportunities to apply for grant funding. Her Councillor Grant Scheme is open until 24 September, with a second round 15 November - 4 February with a total of £5,000 in grants for schemes across the ward. The Capital Grants scheme - for large, capital projects (improvements for village halls, playgrounds, etc.) will be distributing at total of £320,000 across South Oxfordshire district and will open in early October for 6-8 weeks.

Reports from Committees:

Allotments – Cllr Pickett reported she had met a representative from Thames Water on site regarding the allotment tap. It was a positive meeting and further communication from Thames Water is expected.

Footpaths – Correspondence was received from a resident reporting that the path between Stone Yard and Jasmine House driveway was overgrown and needed clearing. In the past this path had been one of the areas cleaned by SODC Deep Cleaning team, however, another clean is not due until 2022. A tree was down on the path by Sands, Cllr Pickett will ask Elisabeth Spencer if she will help to clear it.

Village Hall – Cllr Woodrow reported the busiest month ever with successful pop-up pubs for all England's Euro games. This had been a huge success for the

community and raised funds for the hall. More pop-up pubs are planned for the future.

Millennium Wood – Cllr Pickett reported the contractor had cut the paths and she had asked him to continue to cut as per the contract agreed for 2021.

The following planning applications were discussed or noted:

P21/S1369/HH – Warren Barn, Standhill Lane, Little Haseley - Amendment No. 1 – addition of arboricultural report: Erection of a new outbuilding on the property to serve as parking and storage space. Some shallow ground work will be undertaken further away from the boundary line to accommodate the total footprint of building. Furthermore, the driveway will be levelled, broken up and replaced with self-draining gravel. It was noted the amendment would not alter the previous recommendation to support the application.

P21/S2372/HH – 40 Thame Road, Great Haseley - To convert the existing garage (thatcher's room) to a dining room by changing the existing bi fold timber doors to a white painted timber window to match the existing windows. To replace the existing rear single storey tin chicken shed with a new single storey timber clad 'garden room' including a study and gym. The smaller existing timber shed will also be demolished. To convert the existing attic to a single bedroom and bathroom with storage. To include a West facing dormer window and two number conservation roof lights. Resolved to object on the grounds of design, residential amenity and impact on the conservation area. A full response has been sent to the District Planning Authority.

P21/S2009/HH – 21 Little Haseley - New vehicular access to residential property. Resolved to support the application subject to the County Council Highways team not raising any objections.

P21/S2592/HH & P21/S2595/LB – Haseley Court, Little Haseley - Extensive refurbishment of the main house, chapel wing and existing staff flat. To include Amendment No. 1 - dated 23 & 24 June 2021 show radiator information. Resolved to support the application.

It was noted the District Planning Authority has granted permission for the following application:

P21/S1164/FUL - The White House Moreton Road Moreton - Erection of a building for equestrian use and associated parking.

The minutes of this meeting will be available on the Parish Council website (www.greathaseley.pc.uk) after they have been approved at the next meeting which is to be held at 7.30pm on 13th September 2021 in the Village Hall.

Your Parish Council:

- Chairman: Tim Suter: 07850 208304, chairman@thehaseleys.co.uk
- Vice Chairman and Planning: David Lyndsay, 07590 270642, davidl.ghpc@gmail.com
- The Rec: Chris Groves, 07970 405369, email TBC
- Communications: Caroline McGuirk, 07791 867281, carolinem.ghpc@gmail.com
- Allotments, Footpaths: Caroline Pickett, 07825 334104, carolinep.ghpc@gmail.com
- Village Hall: Paul Woodrow, 07778 311045, paulw.ghpc@gmail.com
- Jen Webster: jenw.ghpc@gmail.com

- Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: Andrea Oughton, 875635, 07715 361137, clerk@thehaseleys.co.uk, 30 Rectory Meadow, Chinnor OX39 4PJ
- District Councillor: Caroline Newton, 07951 477144, caroline.newton@southoxon.gov.uk
- County Councillor: Freddie van Mierlo, Freddie.vanmierlo@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The Natural History of Haseley: Black and Yellow Bandits

September is one of my favorite months of the year, with its autumn colours and scents, the abundance of free food in the garden and hedgerows and the cozy feeling of the shortening days. That said, it has one major drawback - as anyone who has picnicked, made jam or dealt with anything sweet and sticky at this time of year will testify, gangs of



wasps start to become increasingly bold and troublesome as they search for sugary treats. As a beekeeper I find wasps a particular nuisance as, if not caught and prevented, they can easily over-run a weak colony of bees in pursuit of the stored honey - I have lost two hives to wasps in the past and I'm determined that this year it won't happen again! This loutish behavior has given wasps a bad reputation and, in an attempt to better understand my enemy, I thought that this month I would do some digging into their lifecycle.

The common wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*) is one of seven species of social wasp found in Britain and is one of the countries' most familiar and easily recognizable insects. Its characteristic black and yellow colour is a warning to potential predators to keep clear (this meal comes with a sting in the tail!) - a seemingly effective warning since few birds will touch them. This is no idle threat as a wasp's sting is a potent weapon; it releases a chemically complex, allergy provoking venom and can be used repeatedly as it has no barb (unlike a bee's sting). Happily for humans, wasp stings generally only result in a bit of painful swelling - easily treated with a dose of oral antihistamine - although some people do have bad reactions, particularly if stung multiple times - especially around the head and neck - or if they have pre-existing allergies, but fortunately these cases are rare.

A wasp's sting is not just a defensive weapon, it is a vital tool for their existence; whereas bees feed their larvae on pollen and nectar, wasps feed their young on animal matter and the sting is used to kill insects such as sawfly, caterpillars, aphids and flies in order to provide food for their young. Many of these prey insects are themselves damaging garden and farmland 'pests', and so during spring and early summer, wasps act as valuable, free and underappreciated

biological control agents. Their lifecycle is fascinating. Large mated females emerge from sheltered hibernation sites in spring and seek out suitable nest sites - usually an abandoned burrow or similar hole in the ground. Wasps, unlike bees, are unable to make wax but, instead, build their nests out of papery material made of chewed up wood fragments. Once a queen has built a small nest she lays eggs and raises a small number of workers; these take over the task of enlarging the nest and bringing food for the increasing number of larvae which, in exchange for their diet of insects, in return produce a sweet saliva on which the adult wasps feed. At the height of the season a colony can reach between 2,000 - 20,000 insects until, in late summer, the queen stops laying eggs. No more eggs means no more larvae and no more sugary food for the large quantities of adult wasps...so they start to raid gardens and orchards for ripe fruit and any other sugary food they can find. Workers and drones will eventually die off, as the weather turns colder, whilst future queens retreat back to cozy hibernation sites to await the following spring.

It seems that wasps are much maligned and, for a large part of the year are an underappreciated gift for gardeners, despite the risk of the odd sting. However, in September they remain the beekeepers bane and I'll still be putting up a few wasp traps around my hives - that honey is not for them.

Richard Sheehan

Dark Skies to Save The Planet

As the nights start to draw in it can be tempting to eek out the day by flooding the outdoors with light. Unfortunately, our propensity to rage against the dying of the light means that its getting harder and harder to find a genuinely dark night sky. Light pollution causes all sorts of ill effects; it badly affects important pollinating nocturnal insects; it disturbs the natural feeding patterns, migrations and reproduction of all sorts of wild creatures, from birds to hedgehogs; it affects our own health, since numerous studies show that exposure to artificial light - even security lights - can affect our sleep patterns. Here are two easy changes we make to prevent this problem and embrace the dark.

- **REDUCE RELIANCE ON OUTDOOR LIGHTING.** Many people keep lights on outside for security, but research has shown little correlation between permanent lighting and reduced crime. Switch to an equally effective, but less polluting, motion sensitive system instead.
- **DITCH GARDEN LIGHTS.** Trendy nighttime garden lights may look pretty but they have a measurably negative impact on wildlife. Use outdoor lights only to light what you need, when you need it, keep the brightness as low as possible and make sure any lights point downwards, or are hooded, to reduce glare into the sky.

For more information, tips and ideas visit the International Dark Sky Association website - www.darksky.org **Richard Sheehan**

The Haseley Bookshelf: Little Misunderstandings of No Importance

By Antonio Tabucchi.

Publisher: Penguin Modern Classics

Being able to order a book online through the post is one of the few pleasures which endured throughout the long days of the pandemic. But the joy of being able to wander into a bookshop, unannounced and unplanned once again, is unconfined. And so I ventured into Blackwells in Oxford for the first time in oh, so long, and remembered. Remembered what it was like to see books everywhere, smell them, taste them (metaphorically. Even I don't actually eat books). And I remembered the thrill of seeing the table just inside the door to the left, which was, as ever, laden with treasure. There is always something here just waiting to be discovered, and so it was last week. In a display of beautiful Penguin Classics (pale blue spines the colour of Tiffany boxes, beautifully designed white covers, slight volumes of elegant type), I found a

hitherto-unread Russell Hoban, a new imprint of one of my favourite books of all time, (Carrington's *The Hearing Trumpet*), and this. I'm not always in the mood for short stories, but inspired by renewed opportunity, I bought it.

I'm ashamed to say I had never heard of Tabucchi, a much-admired post-war Italian writer, who shared a translator with the tremendous Italo Calvino. These eleven stories are linked by uncertainties, misunderstandings and strange twists of fate. A beautiful elderly widow deflects offers from people who want to buy her late husband's diaries at his funeral, a motor mechanic helps a beautiful woman to escape in a vintage Bugatti, two childhood friends meet again across a courtroom. Each one shows how a single moment can change the whole of human experience.

But they're also linked by humour, the accurate observance of life's absurdities, and a lightness of touch, through which rooms, flowers, cities, drinks, lights, grief, and love, are all perfectly captured. Reading one of these is like the first glass of champagne on a sunlit evening, just lovely enough to ensure you'll remember it, and exciting enough to make you crave more.

There was quite a big pile of these in Blackwells on the Broad last week. I'll leave that with you.

Victoria Barry



Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society

I recently read an article in The Guardian by James Wong who some of you will have seen on television. It struck a chord with me as it was entitled 'Break the rules and you'll be a happier gardener'. The previous day my daughter had shown me a plant and asked me if it was a weed. I have long subscribed to the idea that a weed is simply a plant in the wrong place. It may also be a plant you dislike but would usually be considered an ornamental plant. It was a pretty little wild Geranium with a relatively large pink flower so I asked her if she liked it and she said she did. Therefore, we agreed it should stay where it was as it was doing no harm.

There are a number of plants in my garden which I hate, but can't get rid of, and top of the list is *Acanthus mollis* which is a rather statuesque plant and is normally very well-behaved staying in one clump. In my garden it has spread and seeds freely so I now have multiple plants. It is unresponsive to weed killers and cannot be dug out. All I can do is make sure I catch all the seed or new seedlings. Never plant this unless you are going to love it forever!

The discussion of breaking rules reminded me of my early gardening days when I learned a huge amount from a neighbour who was very knowledgeable and very definite about what she did and didn't like. I used to worry about whether she would approve of my planting, particularly as I had a garden centre habit.

Another neighbour consoled my husband saying that he ought to be glad I didn't have a Bond Street habit! One day I saw on TV an interview with the late Christopher Lloyd who owned the famous garden, Great Dixter. The interview concerned his digging up of the rose garden which had been planted by his parents many decades before. This was clearly considered a very bad thing by the great and good. The roses had been replaced by a tropical garden which included many plants which might have been tender, but in the courtyard setting did very well. When asked why he had done this, he simply said "I don't like roses".

This interview changed completely the way I gardened. From that day on I chose and planted the plants I liked because it is our garden and I don't need to consider what anyone else thinks other than my husband. It felt like freedom not worrying whether I was doing the right thing. Of course, I often suffered casualties for all sorts of reasons. Sometimes it was my inexperience or lack of knowledge and sometimes choosing the wrong place. Probably the only rule I follow is not to plant acid loving plants in my alkaline soil and even that is broken with a raised bed which contains sentimental plants from my previous garden and those which came from my mum's garden. I'm fond of Phlox which do not do well in our sandy soil and have to be watered, but most other plants just have to get by with little additional water.

So, go ahead and break the rules, and grow what you like even if other people might consider them are weeds; it's your garden.

Liz Moyses

Antique Clock from a Great Haseley Clock Maker

Thomas Holloway was a blacksmith and clock maker in Great Haseley from around 1736 to 1764. He was the repairer of the church clock from 1736 to 1761, and made a new clock for the church in 1760, at the cost to the parish of £8.15.0

This pine-cased 30-hour longcase clock with brass dial featuring Roman and Arabic numerals was owned by Miss Ella Hurst, of Great Milton. The Hursts had also been blacksmiths in Great Haseley and then later had moved to Great Milton to carry on the same trade. Born in 1884, Ella was the last of the family living locally.

It is likely that this clock had been in the Hurst family since new, being made not more than around 150 years before Ella was born.

The clock shown here is in good working order and stands around 6½ feet in height: a typical 18th century country cottage clock. The then-fashionable stripped-pine finish was created in the 1970s after ownership changed hands following Miss Hurst's death in 1972. Originally the clock would have been painted, as was the original style for such clocks. It would not be difficult to return it to a more original finish.

The clock is available to purchase for £500 and can be viewed by arrangement at its present location near Abingdon if required.

For further details, please contact
richard_astell@hotmail.com or telephone 01367 710677.



What's happening at The Pine Lodge

The village hall is now open without restrictions so if you have plans for a gathering or celebration, please contact us.

On Saturday 25th September at 7.00 pm we will finally be restarting our program of very popular Quiz Nights. The evening includes a 2 course dinner very kindly prepared by volunteers in the village. If you would like to help, we specifically need some new volunteers to help in preparing the deserts. Tickets are for sale as usual in the Village Shop.

Regular activities include:

- Yoga & Fitness Mondays at 10.30 am with Yvonne
(y.cartwright@btinternet.com)

- Keep Fit on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and Thursdays at 6.30pm with Alyce (alycefwf@gmail.com)
- Advanced Textile on Wednesday 9:30 am workshop with Amargeet (amarjeetnandhra@virginmedia.com)
- Yoga and Pilates Friday 9:30 am with Lee (lee@grahamcaulfield.co.uk)

We are very happy to welcome a new member to the Village Hall Committee, Victoria Barry who has recently moved into the village.

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at www.littlemilton.org.uk

Giles Denby 07484 187852

Linda Lovegrove 27953 - linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com

Update from Morland House Surgery

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update: Please note that this update has been prepared on 12th August 2021, events, particularly those involving Covid will have moved on by the time you get to read this.

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update: If you are aged 18 or over or are within three months of your 18th birthday and you have not yet been contacted for your first vaccination, you may book your vaccine online through this website www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or by phoning 119. Morland House is currently calling in 16 to 18 year olds for their vaccine. For up-to-date information please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

COVID-19 Vaccination Card: Patients with online access to their medical record (through the Patient Access app) can now view their COVID-19 vaccination record from the home screen of the app. This new feature will automatically be visible for patients who have already had access to their detailed care record and immunisations enabled by their practice. For information on how to gain online access to your medical record, please go to www.morland-house.co.uk and search 'Online Access'.

Important Information to keep you safe while isolating at home: If you have suspected coronavirus and have not been admitted to hospital, you may be isolating at home. Please see this leaflet for important information on how you can manage: <https://tinyurl.com/dpuf8wbs>. This leaflet can also be accessed on our website.

Visit Morland House Website: For up-to-date information about our services, please visit www.morland-house.co.uk.

Don't Miss Out: 200 people have subscribed to the email information service that gives people in our community frequent updates on what's going on. To join the group receiving these updates, simply email haseleyupdates@gmail.com asking to be included.

Little Milton WI

In August, a few of us visited Greys Court in Henley-on-Thames and had a lovely tour of the National Trust house and gardens. Thank you to LMWI for buying us tea and cake.

Our next meeting on Thursday 9th September is back in the Pine Lodge at 7.30pm with a Talk & Sale by Project Linus Quilts UK (www.projectlinusuk.org.uk). They give new homemade patchwork quilts and knitted blankets to sick and traumatised babies, children and teenagers. You can also see their work at the Quilt Exhibition on 17-18 September 10am-4pm at Witney Methodist Church OX28 6HG.

Come and find out about their work, everyone welcome. Visitors £5.

We are also running the tea and cake stall at the 3-village Tug of War day on Saturday 4 September 1-3pm. Any offers of helpers on the day and/or donations of cakes - please let me or Clare BP know. All in aid of the three churches of Little Milton, Great Milton and Great Haseley. Come along and support this three village event.

If you live in The Miltons or Haseleys and want to meet new people, join Little Milton WI. We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Details on the Pine Lodge page at www.littlemilton.org.uk.



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The Rector's Pint

We celebrate the 6th Anniversary of our move to the Rectory on September the 23rd. Anyone who has ever been to the Rectory will know that the first to greet you will have been our beautiful Labrador, Dylan. Like it or not, he was there for you with his welcome bark and rather less welcome deposit of fur on your clothes, particularly if you made the mistake of wearing anything dark. It is said of Labradors that they moult only twice a year, once for the first six months and then again for the next six months!

Dylan was very much at the heart of our home; He was a part of the 'package' that we brought here with us when we moved.

Very sadly, he is no longer with us. He was taken ill very suddenly, early one morning at the beginning of August, and had to be rushed to the emergency vet in Woodstock. This was made harder as only the day before I had been diagnosed with a very damaged Achilles tendon and my leg was in plaster pending the fitting of a leg brace the following day. Dylan had a ruptured tumour on his spleen and the only option we had was to have him put to sleep. The whole thing from start to finish took three hours and so it was a huge shock. I am so grateful to the vet that he put all covid caution aside and allowed us to be with Dylan as he left us.

Some might not understand this, but to lose an animal who has been at the heart of the family home is not a lesser grief, it is very real and very raw. We were helped a little on the Thursday he died, because Cath drove us to Wiltshire to stay overnight so that I could take the wedding of my Goddaughter in Bathampton on Friday. I did this in my leg brace and crutches! It was good to be able to go, a real distraction and a joy and also to be in a place not associated with Dylan. Returning home to the silence of an empty house on Saturday was a horrible experience for us.

Our human relationships with animals are a profound part of who we are. I don't think that you have to be a keeper or guardian of a beloved pet to know this, but those who have had this privilege (and it is a profound privilege) will understand that in that relationship we discover something about unconditional love, acceptance and trust. I think I am the bigger for that and I thank God deeply for the experience, the joy, the fun, and the hope that Dylan brought (as well as the exercise!) Dylan came to us as a gift at a particularly difficult time and he has been with us through some subsequent difficulties as well as good times. Learning to continue without him will be, for a time anyway, a bit tough.

This is a prayer we can use for our animal companions who have died (the author is unknown):

Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, thank you for having entrusted us with such a loyal friend. Thank you for letting this beautiful animal teach us unselfish love. Thank you for the memories we can recall to brighten our days for the rest of our lives. Finally, in gratitude, we return our cherished companion to you. Amen.

Simon

Services for September and Harvest Festivals

Because of my ankle injury I have been confined to taking only one 'live' service a week. Unfortunately, we do not feel that we can sustain three services every Sunday and so, for September, the 8.00 am service has been cancelled.

Two of our Harvest Festival services will be taking place, in September. The St Mary's service will be on the 19th September and St James' will celebrate the Harvest on the 26th. Please see the details below. St Peter's Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 3rd October.

Services in September:

- Sunday 5th September
 - 9.30 am - Common Worship Holy Communion: St James', Little Milton
 - 11.00 am - Family Service: St Peter's, Great Haseley
- Sunday 12th September
 - 9.30 am - Common Worship Holy Communion: St Mary's, Great Milton
 - 11.00 am - Family Service: St James', Little Milton
- Sunday 19th September
 - 9.30 am - Common Worship Holy Communion: St Peter's, Great Haseley
 - 11.00 am Harvest Festival Service: St Mary's, Great Milton
- Sunday 26th September
 - 9.00 am - Zoom service and reflection (A short reflective service for those who cannot come to the Benefice service)
 - 10.00 am - 5th Sunday Benefice service: St Peter's, Great Haseley
 - 5.00pm - Harvest Festival service - Little Milton. There will be Harvest tea refreshments after this service.

Family Services at St Peter's

These are on the 1st Sunday of the month at 11 o'clock, for half an hour, followed by coffee, squash & biscuits. A warm welcome to all ages - choose the colour of your candle when you arrive

- 11 am Sunday 5th September.
 - Fresh starts! Back to school, back to our regular pattern of Family Services.
- 11 am Sunday 3rd October.
 - Family Harvest Festival. Children are encouraged to bring some jars/tins of produce to pass on to our local old people's home, Meadowcroft, in Thame.

If you wish to hire the playing fields or pavilion call Margaret or Mike Howlett on 01844 279409 or email howlett690@btinternet.com



September 2021

Visit our gardens to see our famous herbaceous border in all its late summer glory as it bursts back into life with a beautiful display of Michaelmas Daisies (Asters). The plant centre, housed within the ancient walled garden offers plant connoisseurs and budding amateurs alike the chance to buy unusual varieties of shrubs and herbaceous plants whilst our friendly and knowledgeable staff are always available to provide advice, information and inspiration.

Waterperry Fairy Tale Trails: 9th Jul – 5th Sep Curiouser and curiouser! Take a tumble into a magical adventure at Waterperry Gardens throughout the summer holidays. £3.00 per child includes a prize! (Children must be accompanied by an adult paying normal garden entrance fee of £8.95)

Theatre - Richard II: 10th & 11th Sep, 7.30pm This fearless adaptation blends Shakespeare's text with visceral movement and live electronic music.

The gardens are open in aid of the National Garden Scheme on Sun 19th Sep.

For more information, please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

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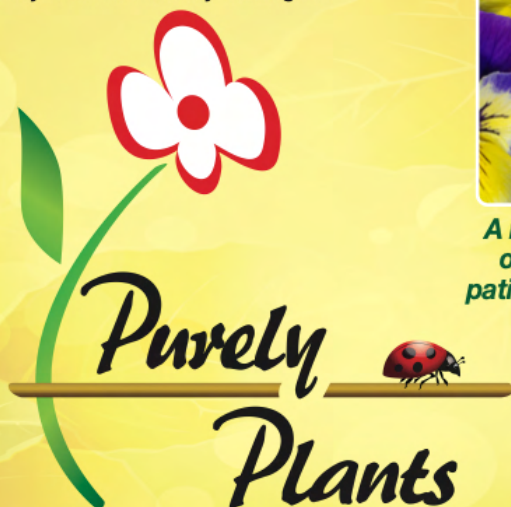








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John Howell writes

As we learn to live with COVID19 some of life's most important opportunities and pleasures are likely to be increasingly dependent on vaccination. This is true in relation to both activities at home and abroad. Already other countries have a requirement that people must have had two doses of a vaccine as a condition of quarantine free travel. At home there are activities in crowded venues that people are keen to get back to. Being able to go to a nightclub is one that has been very much in the media spotlight.

I know that some people question why others are so keen to go to such venues, but I appreciate that those who enjoy clubbing and have been denied the opportunity for so long want to do so. It is generally younger people who like to go to such places, and I think that they have suffered greatly with lockdown and restrictions. I do not want to see nightclubs and other venues closed again but it does mean that measures need to be in place to help ensure that they are as safe as possible. A NHS Covid Pass which shows proof of vaccination, a recent negative test or natural immunity – as a means of entry is therefore sensible. I fully appreciate concerns being raised over this being reduced to proof of vaccination and expect that this particular debate will be an important one in coming weeks. Similarly I appreciate concern at extending the vaccination to younger people especially when it was previously not advised. However research into vaccines is ongoing and all new data is used to inform the Government on various aspects of immunisation strategy.

Another key issue is of course climate change and with COP26 drawing ever closer our minds are rightly drawn to focus on this. The report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) just published leaves us in no doubt of the urgency of this. As Alok Sharma, the government's climate co-ordinator said the report is a stark warning about the need to cut emissions. I agree that this is a priority and am pleased that the UK was the first country in the G7 to legislate to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. I share the desire to get to net zero sooner and Government has to ensure that what is put into regulation is achievable for everyone. It has already announced the interim target of reducing emissions by 68 per cent from 1990 levels by 2030. This target is faster than any other major economy. A cross-community consensus will be required to ensure the UK achieves a transition that works for all. As well as Government measures on this we all need to do what we can to make our own contribution by making what changes we can to our own lifestyles.

Although Parliament is currently in recess my office remains open. If you have an issue that you would like to raise with me, if possible, please email me at john.howell.mp@parliament.uk. If you cannot email you can still write to me at the House of Commons, London, SW1 0AA or PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD.

Printed and promoted by John Howell MP House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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26 July 2021

Dear residents,

The parish council has reported to us that there is a growing dog fouling issue across our districts.

Although there are many benefits that come with owning a dog (especially during lockdown), there are also responsibilities which include cleaning up after your dog. Please be aware that it is an offence to not clean up after your dog or leave used dog waste bags anywhere other than an appropriate bin. Under the Dog Fouling of Land Act 1996, allowing your dog to foul can result in an on-the-spot fixed penalty notice of £50 and incorrect disposal of dog waste bags e.g. not putting them in the bin can result in an £80 fixed penalty notice. If fines are not paid, cases can be escalated to court resulting in fines of up to £1,000.

There are some council owned litter bins within your parish. These can be used for both litter and dog waste bags – you do not need to find a specialist dog waste bin. You can also put dog waste bags in your black general waste wheelie bin so if you cannot find a bin or bins are full, please take it home.

We know that most residents take a lot of pride in their local area and we encourage everybody to take extra steps in keeping your parish clean and tidy. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the waste team at waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk

Best wishes,

Waste Team

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To contact the editors, email editors.thehaseleys@gmail.com or send a letter to "Keepers Cottage, Little Haseley Road, Great Haseley OX44 7LQ".

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The editors reserve the right not to print items submitted for publication should they consider the material to be not appropriate, and to edit items which are published should this be necessary to fit the advert in the space available.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editors or the Great Haseley Parish Council.



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- Local News: Thame.net, Thametoday.co.uk, Oxfordmail.co.uk
- Thame Market, Upper High Street, Tuesdays 8.30-4.30, Farmers Market 2nd week of month
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- Member of Parliament, John Howell: 01491 613088
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