

The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



April 2016



FROM THE VICAR, REVD PAUL CAWTHORNE

Through the church's year we are encouraged to remember a variety of people who have changed our world and borne witness to particular Gospel truths. Some are recalled as saints, often recognised during their lifetimes as showing a special holiness in the way they followed the path of Jesus; some are martyrs who died in service of God's self-giving love; some are those whose particular contribution was only gradually realised long after their lifetimes. There is such a rich variety from social reformers to intrepid missionary bishop travellers to those of particular serenity and wisdom that it is an ongoing reminder of the sheer diversity of character types and gifts which have made up the body of Christ here on earth across the centuries and continue to do so.

One of my favourites while I was training for ministry after working abroad was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whom we remember on April 9th. He was a German Lutheran pastor, born into an academic family in 1906 and studying in America and Spain before returning to Berlin. He felt compelled to witness to the way he saw the society of his time being drawn towards destruction and when the Nazi party came to power, he made a famous radio address warning of what lay ahead in the cult of the leader (the Fuhrer), which was cut off midsentence. He set up a theological training seminary for students within the 'confessing church' which stood out against the social and theological drift and was increasingly harassed by the authorities and eventually banned from publishing as he tried to keep an alternative moral voice heard. After aiding the resistance through the early part of the war, he was arrested in 1943 and executed in the last year of the war. His book *The Cost of Discipleship* has become a modern classic.

That activist witness in the midst of dramatic events stands in stark contrast to divines such as Julian of Norwich whom we remember on May 9th. A series of sixteen religious visions that she experienced early in her life provided her with so much material to reflect on and try to make sense of that she decided to become an anchoress attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich, setting herself apart for God and living in a cell culminating in the first book written by a woman in English 'Revelations of Divine Love' which still speaks with such clarity to new generations of readers.

Later in May we are encouraged to celebrate the lives of the Wesley brothers, John and Charles, of whom it is written that "his thousands of hymns established a resource of lyrical piety which has enabled generations of Christians to rediscover the refining power of God's love." The annual remembrance goes on to include the contributions of St Francis to deepening our understanding of our place within the beauties of creation, the Desert Fathers questioning life back to its essentials through their ascetic endeavours, John Donne writing poetry which celebrates life's exuberance with such exquisite sensibility that we see how we all fall short.

In this Easter season let us thank God for such an amazing cloud of witnesses to guide his pilgrim people.

Paul

*The Revd Paul Cawthorne is Team vicar for The Baldons with Nuneham Courtenay, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard.
e-mail: bbdparishoffice@rocketmail.com and tel: 01865 340460.*

BALDONS VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Baldons Village Hall is for everyone's use: to book, please contact Ali or Darren on: 01865 340264 or dbaber@rm.com

If you have any issues to raise regarding the village hall, please let a committee member know or contact James Bufford (340091), John Barne (343624) or Natasha Eliot (343478).



Ladies Night

*Saturday 9th April
6.30 - 10.30pm
Baldons Village Hall*

Ladies night is nearly upon us! Tickets are available so don't miss out on a fab evening of shopping, pampering and fun! enjoy a drink and dance with friends and support the Baldons Village Hall in the process!

*Tickets £7 (including arrival drink and canapes)
for information and tickets please contact
Denice on 07955084693 or denice.cullen@yahoo.co.uk*



THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

The Harcourt Ensemble performs music for flute, harp and string trio



6.30pm. Sunday 24 April 2016
All Saints Church, Nuneham Park, Nuneham
Courtenay, Oxfordshire. OX44 9PQ.

The Harcourt Ensemble was so named to celebrate an association with Nuneham Park and its historic owners, the Harcourt family. This widely-acclaimed ensemble now returns to Nuneham to perform a very special concert of music for flute, harp and strings, with Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp as its centrepiece.

Tickets are free upon RSVP to emcgregor@thecct.org.uk 07872 502 118
Complementary drinks reception from 6.00pm at All Saint's church.
Parking is available in the Global Retreat Centre car park.



Defibrillator Update

We have recently heard from SODC that our application for a grant for the final funds for the defibrillator have been approved. This means we now have enough in the fund to go ahead with the purchase of the defibrillator which is very exciting.

We have also had an immensely kind donation of paint and lettering for the phone box, which is from the Little Green paint company.

So the next step is to renovate the box and we have had a very kind offer from a nearby villager to remake the phone box door, which is rather warped. Once this is done the phone box will need a bit of elbow grease to rub it down and get it repainted. All offers of help with this very gladly received! We will probably try and pick a weekend where the weather is forecast to be dry and let everyone know by email.

Once the defibrillator is installed we will book a training session for anyone who wants to attend; there will also be basic life support training the same day as a drop in session. This will include mannikins and proper Resus officers to teach you.

It is very exciting that we are about to embark on the final stage of this project; thanks to all those who helped get it this far and please contact me on sara@mcdouall.co.uk if you are willing to help with the phone box restoration.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE – HAVE YOUR SAY

Police Community Support Officer Ryan Dollery will be available to discuss any local policing concerns at the Baldons Village Hall car park on Thursday 28th April between 11:00AM and 12:00PM.

CENTAUR TREE SERVICES LTD
PROFESSIONAL WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH

Fully insured tree surgery company that undertakes all aspects of tree care throughout Oxfordshire and surrounding counties. We take pride and pleasure in our work and can provide services or advice no matter how big or small.



**CONTACT BEN
FOR
FREE QUOTE**

M: 07545347114

E:centaurtrees@outlook.com

Or visit us on Facebook

Long Wittenham School Fair 7th May 12-3pm

Come along and join in the May celebrations with Maypole Dancing and the crowning of the May Queen. Lots of fun and games for the children as well as Cream Teas, Cakes, BBQ, Craft stalls, Plant Sale, Dog Show and much much more!

PLANTS, BORDERS AND GARDENS



At the April meeting of the Wallingford Gardening Club, Timothy Walker will talk about '**Plants, Borders and Gardens**'. This is the Club's prestigious annual 'Bill Baker Memorial Lecture'.

Timothy Walker is a British botanist, and has been the Director of the University of Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum since 1988. He studied for his degree in Botany at University College Oxford, and became a trainee gardener at the Oxford Botanic Garden. Subsequently, he gained experience at the Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park, and Kew Gardens, and won four gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Timothy presents a very personal view of modern English gardening and gardens. His talk starts by looking at some plants from all over the World that deserve to be more widely grown in our gardens. This is followed by a look at some ways of putting plants together to create borders and finishes with a consideration of what makes plants & borders into a garden.

The talk will be held at Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th April.

Visitors very welcome £3.

Isabelle Darby
01491-836867

Have you ever wondered what happens to your rubbish after it's collected from your black bin?

Come for a tour at Ardley ERF (that big building on the M40 by Banbury) and find out how your waste creates enough energy for 38,000 homes!

The tour is booked in at 10am 12 April 2016 for all South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse residents.

Please email Alexandra.Pyle@southandvale.gov.uk or call [01235 540566](tel:01235540566) to book a space or reserve a spot when more dates become available.

1066: WILLIAM COMES TO WALLINGFORD



The exhibition at Wallingford Museum reveals the importance of what happened here in 1066, when the army pitched camp at Wallingford and crossed the river here. It not only changed Wallingford's history but also England's history!

After the Norman Conquest William ordered the building of the great royal castle at Wallingford, which became one of the most important in England. The Museum's exhibition continues with detailed glimpses into the life of the castle, using newly discovered evidence from the surviving medieval documents.

More details at www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

CORONATION STREET: WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR AND WALLINGFORD 1066



Katharine Keats-Rohan returns to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) with a talk describing the strong connections of William the Conqueror with Wallingford.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 13th April, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford**. Visitors (£4) are most welcome. www.twhas.org.uk

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council's March meeting was held after the deadline for item's for the newsletter. The update from that meeting will be in the next newsletter.

There will be a special planning meeting at 3pm on Monday April 4th in the village hall. This is to consider the following planning and listed building consent applications:

P16/S0786/HH and P16/S0787/LB: 31 Nuneham Courtenay OX44 9NY: two storey rear extension garage and bedroom with bathroom granny annexe, ancillary addition.

The AGM will be on 16th May at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

For any further information, all our minutes are available on our website: <http://www.ncpc.uk/minutes.html>

Happy Easter to all.

Cllr Love (Chair)

For items and photos to be sent, please contact the Clerk:
Karen Dodd nunehamcourtenay.clerk@gmail.com

NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Jumble Sale

Our spring jumble sale will be held on Saturday the 9th of April at 1:00pm. Have a spring clean and clear! Contact Jenny on 01865 343459 (jenny@datadaysolutions.com) to book a table for £6. Or donate unwanted goods to the village hall. All proceeds go to benefit the Village Hall funds.

Film Night

It's back! Film night will be held on Saturday the 23rd of April. Doors open at 8 pm for a prompt 8:30 start. We will be screening *Suite Française*.



Tickets are £4 each or get a group of four together for £14. Refreshments will be available for sale.

Suite Française is a 2015 romantic World War II drama film. It is based on part of Irène Némirovsky's novel. The film depicts the

second part of the novel, *Dolce*. The film stars Michelle Williams, Kristin Scott Thomas, Matthias Schoenaerts, Sam Riley, Ruth Wilson, Lambert Wilson and Margot Robbie. It centers on a romance between a French villager and a German soldier during the early years of the German occupation of France. *Suite Française* was filmed on location in France and Belgium. Certificate 15.

Queen's Birthday Tea

We will be holding a Bake Off style tea party to celebrate the Queen's birthday. Enter your best cake for a chance to win a small prize and big bragging rights. Afterwards, all the cakes will be sold (and eaten!). Details on how to enter in the next newsletter. We would like to organise this along the lines of the Jubilee, as a street party. Volunteers are always welcome. Date TBC

Yoga

Yoga meets every Monday at 7:30. This is a self-lead practice. Come along and have a try. It's only two pounds a session.

And finally....

The village hall belongs to the people of Nuneham Courtenay. If there is an activity you would like to see happen, let us know! New volunteers are always welcome.

Jane Eyre



Would you like to act or be involved in an independent play production in Garsington church in early November?

You are very warmly invited to a

Welcome Meeting & Auditions

8pm, 26 April, St Mary's Church Garsington

Any questions: garsosh@yahoo.com

Private **CLEANING**
OXFORDSHIRE

We are local, family run CLEANING business,
based in Wheatley

Domestic CLEANING, One Off CLEANING
Deep CLEANING, Carpet CLEANING,
Hard Floor CLEANING

Ironing services with free collection and delivery

We have been offering CLEANING services in
the area since 2010 and we can provide
excellent references

Contact us today:

www.privatecleaningoxfordshire.co.uk

Privatecleaning_oxfordshire@yahoo.co.uk

01865 580879 / 07411 606 609

LONG WITTENHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Nearly New Sale, Saturday 23rd April 2016, 10am-12noon, Village Hall, Long Wittenham

We are holding a Nearly New Sale of top quality baby and children's clothes (0-7 years), toys, games, equipment and maternity clothes on Saturday 23rd April 2016, from 10am-12noon at Long Wittenham Village Hall. £1 entry. There will also be a cake sale of delicious homemade cakes and biscuits. Please remember that early birds always get the best bargains! We regret that buggies and pushchairs will not be allowed in the hall during the sale due to limited space, so please leave them at home.

If you want to make some extra cash, support the Pre-School, and your house is full of baby and children's things (0-7 years) that are good as new, contact us for details about selling at the sale. Sellers will keep 70% of the sale price of all items sold. If you would like to donate items to be sold at the Nearly New Sale, please do get in touch and we may even be able to arrange collection!

For more information, please contact Claire by emailing nearlynew@longwittenhampreschool.co.uk. All proceeds to Long Wittenham Preschool (registered charity #1158950).

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Bridleway signage Pebble Hill

Councillors discussed the concerns being expressed by villagers at the number of vehicles being directed by Sat Nav up Pebble Hill and along the bridleway to access Toot Baldon and consequently causing some damage to the track. Councillors have referred the problem to OCC Highways and Countryside services to consider improvements to road signage. Councillors have also agreed to get estimates to replace the wooden frame on the sides of the track near the drainage ditch, which has been broken.

Neighbourhood Plan

Hopefully many of you will have seen the analysis of responses to the recent questionnaire at the open evening in the pub on 22nd March.

One broad conclusion of the recent Residents' Consultation was that concerning housing: a large majority (80%) would either accept or welcome a modest amount of appropriate new housing in the Baldons and a similar large majority would favour some form of social housing. In order to take these ideas forward in the Neighbourhood Plan we must carry out a Housing Needs Survey to quantify exactly what the community housing need is. This will necessitate another questionnaire - we're sorry about this but please please respond when you receive the forms as it's really important. The Survey is being carried out by an organisation called Community First Oxfordshire (www.communityfirstoxon.org), with funds provided by SODC.

The neighbourhood plan and progress will also be on the agenda for the Annual Parish meeting, see below.

Planning Applications

There have been no new planning applications coming to the council for comment in recent weeks.

SODC Report

Sue Lawson, our District Councillor, briefed the parish council on the recent proposals put forward by all the district councils for reorganisation of local government into 4 new Unitary Councils. It was stressed this will be subject to considerable discussion and consultation both in Oxfordshire and with government, who have the final decision. The proposals appear not to have the support of Oxfordshire County Council.

Village clear up Sunday April 3rd - Don't Forget!

Please come out and help in either Marsh Baldon or Toot **Baldon**. All the info was in last month's newsletter, but meet on the Green near the 7 Stars at 10.30 am and for Toot Baldon contact John Maskell (tel 343203) about time and meeting point.

Mobile Library Service Change of Day

We have been informed by Oxfordshire County Council that due to reorganisation the Mobile Library will visit the village on a Wednesday from 14.00 -14 30hrs from Week commencing 11th April. The last Friday visit will be on 1st April.

Subsidised Bus services

Oxfordshire County Council have confirmed that in order to implement the previously announced savings targets, they have agreed to withdraw all rural bus service subsidies from 20th July. This means that the bus service through the Baldons, which is wholly subsidised, will cease.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday April 12th Annual Parish Meeting for Marsh Baldon and Toot Baldon residents. Village Hall 7, 30 pm

This is the open meeting for villagers to attend and raise issues for discussion with councillors. The Council also gives its annual report and its accounts for the financial year. The Neighbourhood Plan will also be on the agenda and an update on progress given and the results of the questionnaire will be on display, which may be of interest if you didn't make it to the pub session.

Future meetings of the Parish Council

Due to a change in circumstances for our clerk the council has agreed to change the day of our meetings from the second Tuesday of alternate months to the second Monday. This will apply from May 2016: New meeting dates are as follows

Annual General Meeting of the Council Monday 9th May, 7.30pm Village Hall

Other dates: Mondays 11th July, 12th September, 7th November.

FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LINDSAY-GALE

BUDGET

Prior to Christmas, Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) went out to consultation on possible additional budget cuts totalling £51m, at the time believed to be the worst-case scenario. However, due to a change in the funding formula, which penalised shire counties, the settlement was even worse than expected and the additional savings required now total £69m. In response to protests from shire counties, on 11th February the Government announced transitional funding and OCC will receive £9m across two financial years in respect of this.

The Council met on Tuesday 16th February to debate the budget measures necessary to achieve the savings. Although most of the savings will still go ahead, a cross-party agreement was made on the day incorporating the following changes:

- A total of £2m of savings relating to Early Intervention Hubs and Children's Centres will now not take place. An original £6m saving on Early Intervention Hubs and Children's Centres - agreed by the council at its annual budget meeting in February 2015 - will still take place. No decisions have been taken at this stage on how this £2m will be spent.
- A total of £3m of savings relating to day centres (including transport to day centres) will now not take place. Instead they will be replaced by a saving of £1m from 2017/18 resulting from a full review of all day services for older people.
- There will be a further £300,000 contribution to the budget from reserves.

The net result of this is that the council will be able to set a balanced budget in 2016/17 but over the medium term now has £15.2m of unidentified savings to make as opposed to the previous figure of £11.2m. The new £4m of unidentified savings all fall in 2017/18.

A number of other important decisions were made during the debate:

- A cross-party board of county councillors will be created to consider how best to use the transitional funds.
- The council will consider workplace parking with a view to early implementation.
- There will be a review of the number of Cabinet members.
- The benefits of a Unitary Council will be discussed on a cross-party basis and full and timetabled consultation will be prepared. This will be subject a free vote for all councillors.

PROPOSALS FOR DISTRICT UNITARY COUNCILS

On Thursday 25th February a surprise announcement was made by Oxfordshire's District Councils and Oxford City Council. (This may have been in response to OCC's call for a debate on a single Unitary Council for the county.) It called for the abolition of OCC and the establishment of four district unitaries:

- A new Southern Oxfordshire Unitary Authority would cover the area currently administered by Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils.
- An Oxford City Unitary Authority would be formed in the centre of the county, covering the area currently administered by Oxford City Council.
- A West Oxfordshire-Cotswold Unitary Authority covering the area currently administered by West Oxfordshire District Council and Cotswold District Council.
- A Cherwell-South Northants Unitary Authority covering the area currently administered by Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council.

OCC welcomes the District Councils' engagement in the Unitary debate and will shortly be putting forward its own proposals.



Wednesday 6th April
7.30pm
Marsh Baldon Village Hall

Our monthly mid-week Christian celebration is open to all. Come and join us for tea/coffee and home-made cakes, worshipping together, a Bible-based talk, sharing our experience of God, and prayer.

[For more information: Liam 07738 004176]

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the **May 2016** newsletter
by 16th April please

Any villager is welcome to send items for publication in the newsletter - this can be anything from articles, poems or pictures, to publicising your event. In addition, if you have an image you would like us to consider for the cover, do send it in!

If you would like to receive a reminder e-mail each month for newsletter contributions please let me know.

Natasha Eliot: tashaandjames@btopenworld.com. Alternatively I can be contacted on 343478 or at Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.

For advertising queries, please contact Sheila Harris on:
s.harris886@btinternet.com or on 340403.

SERVICES FOR APRIL 2016

3 rd April	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
	2.30pm	Baptism	Toot Baldon
10 th April	6.00pm	Evening Worship	Toot Baldon
17 th April	9.30am	Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
24 th April	8.30am	Said Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	One4All	Marsh Baldon
1 st May	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
Thursday	7.30pm	Ascension Day	Toot Baldon
5 th May		Holy Communion	

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Jennifer Morton and Jon Roberts will be ordained priest on 26 June at 10.30am at Dorchester Abbey. More details about this will follow in the May newsletter.

SIDESDUTY

	Marsh	Toot
3 rd April		9.30am Ann Druce
10 th April	6 pm Graham Hobbins	
17 th April	9.30 am Stephen Dance	
24 th April	9.30 am John Mason	

FLOWERS

	Marsh	Toot
10 th & 17 th April	F Ardern	S Hobbins & J van Dijk
24 th April & 1 st May	C Attewill & V Sandilands	H Maskell & J Knight