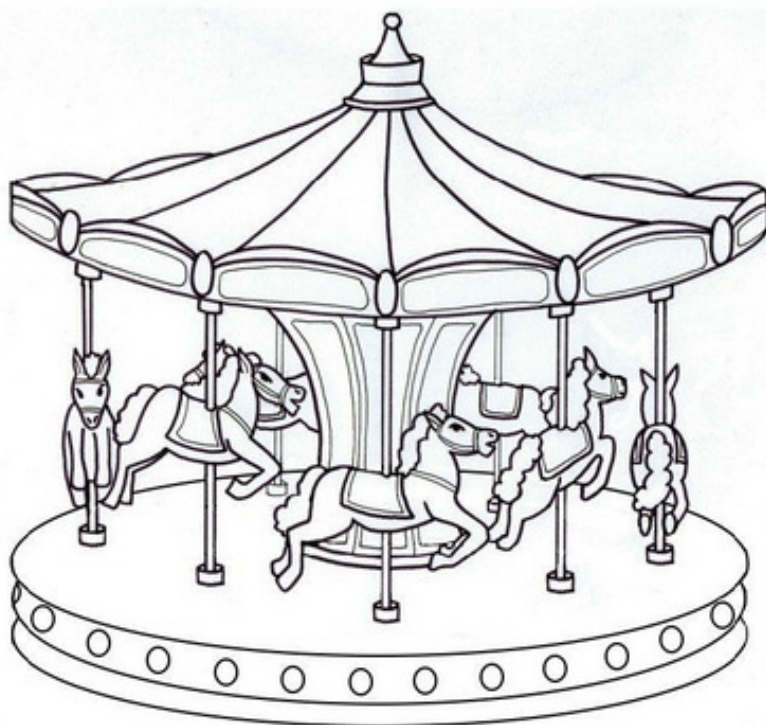


The Baldons and  
Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter

*Baldon Feast*



*Saturday 14 August*

July - August 2010

NOW  
DELIVERED  
FREE TO ALL  
HOUSEHOLDS  
IN THE  
BALDONS AND  
NUNEHAM



Dear Friends,

As I write, the World Cup is underway (and England are still in it!), Wimbledon is just around the corner, and the strawberries are starting to turn red. If the hot weather would just come back, it would really feel like summer was here.

I'm always pleased when it feels like summer is coming: even though it's quite a while since I had long holidays with nothing to do, the beginning of summer always seems to promise those weeks of school holiday, which we remember as sunny, warm and fun. We remember playing outside for ages, having weeks of freedom, and we forget the cold wet days, when we sat inside, complaining that we were bored, that there was nothing to do.

What are the things you feel nostalgic about, I wonder? Are they times in your life, or places you've lived, or to which you have been on holiday? And what are the things which trigger that nostalgia for you – is it a particular smell, or a piece of music? How does it make you feel – is it joyful, like my feeling of freedom at the promise of summer on its way? Or is it terribly sad – reminding you of a lost and much-missed world? Whichever it is, it is something for which to be thankful, and it is part of what makes us who we are today. But it is not something we should wallow in too much, stopping us appreciating the present.

At the heart of Christian faith is the belief that we should be thankful, praising God for all the good things that we enjoy. So enjoy your summer, whatever it brings, but take a moment to give thanks for each new day and all that it offers.

Best wishes,  
Hannah

The Revd Dr Hannah Cleugh,  
*Curate for The Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard*  
e-mail [hannah.cleugh@googlemail.com](mailto:hannah.cleugh@googlemail.com) and tel: 01865 341382

*Revd Ros Latham is Team vicar for The Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard*  
e-mail: [bbdparishoffice@googlemail.com](mailto:bbdparishoffice@googlemail.com) and tel: 01865 340460

## MARSH BALDON SCHOOL NEWS

Lots of things have been happening at the school over the last month or two and things seem to be even busier as we head towards the end of another academic year.

In May, the whole school went to Hill End Field Studies Centre for three days. All the children except the youngest stayed overnight and everyone had a great time camp building, orienteering, using the climbing wall and completing 'Forest School' activities. They also were able to spend time with their friends and look after themselves!

The Infants took part in the Infant music festival where they performed 'Honeybee' with other schools in the Partnership. The School Choir continues to go from strength to strength and the highlight this term will be when they take part in the Festival of Voices concert at Dorchester Abbey in June.

Our Year 6 children enjoyed a day trip to Boulogne in France. The trip was organised by Horspath School and they all had a great time. Children have also taken part very successfully in Tag Rugby and Swimming competitions. We have also had a poet in for the day, visited Chedworth Roman Villa and the School Council have sponsored a Guide Dog puppy called 'Gilbert'.

By the time you read this article, we will have held our Maypole Display, had Sports Day, and some of the children will have visited a Fairground and hopefully Heart FM, the local radio station.

At school, the pergola has now been added to the hall, the gardening area is now up and running and we have plans to create a wildlife garden in the school grounds.

It is an extremely busy time and there appears to be no letting up before we finish in the summer. I am extremely grateful to all the staff for all the work they put in for the benefit of the children. This school is certainly one the village can be proud of.

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to quite a few people at the end of term. We have a special group of Year 6's this year, who will be leaving us at the end of term and we wish them every success in the future but hope also that they will come back and tell us how they are doing. So good luck to Edward, Charlie, Rose, Becky, Savannah, Lydia, Jonty, Izak and Fin. We hope you have a great time at your next schools.

We will also be saying farewell to Miss Louise Stewart, our Class 1 teacher who has been with us for nearly three years. Louise is an excellent teacher and has worked tirelessly for the children of Marsh Baldon and I know she will be missed by everyone here. The children of Thameside School in Abingdon are very lucky!

Below are just some of the events we have lined up for the rest of term. If you are not busy, please come and visit and join in with the children as we head towards the Summer holidays. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us so we can continue to be 'out and about'.

Thur	1	July	Sports Day – on the green
Thur	8	July	Area Sports at Wheatley Primary
Fri	16	July	Achievers Assembly 9.00am
Wed	21	July	Leavers Assembly Church 9.00am

Please say hello to the children if you see us in and around the village. On behalf of everyone at the school, I hope everyone in the village has a great Summer. We reopen on Thursday September 2nd.

Nick Pitson – Headteacher

## **FIRST ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH PLAN!**

One of the issues that emerged from the Parish Plan questionnaire was the perceived "rat-running" through the Baldons. 87.5% of respondents supported the retention of our "Access Only" designation, and around 57% of respondents felt that clearer and more advance signs at the turnings into the villages would be helpful in preventing this problem.

This information was taken into account during recent discussions between the Parish Councils of the Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay and Oxfordshire County Council's Highways department, with the result that in the middle of June, new signage was installed on the A4074. This signage gives advance warning of and greater prominence to the "Access Only" designation: there are now advance signs in both directions, and a sign at the junction itself, in addition to the existing signs on either side of Baldon Lane.

The Parish Plan Steering Committee is working hard to pull the Action Plan together from results of the questionnaire and from our discussions with groups inside and outside the villages. This Action Plan, by reflecting the views of the residents of the Baldons, will help to shape the future of the villages, both in terms of lobbying service and funding providers, and in prompting us all into action for the benefit of our community.

Natasha Eliot  
Parish Plan Steering Committee

## **BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

### Bus service No 89

The new no 89 service has now started and initial reports indicate that it is a proper bus with a destination board and ticket machine and with a low floor to make for easier access for those with mobility problems, push chairs or shopping trolleys. The bus also seems to run to time. On the basis of use it or lose it, please try to use it and let parish councillors or Ralph Slaney have your feedback.

### New Thames Footpath at Shillingford

Of interest to walkers might be the recent announcement by Oxfordshire County Council of the opening up of a previously closed footpath near Shillingford following agreement with a landowner.

Countryside officers have reactivated a 14th Century riverside pathway by linking it up to a nearby bridleway with a new section of footpath. The riverside path used to connect with the other side of the river via a ferry service, but the ferry stopped in the 18th Century and the path became a dead end when the second Shillingford Bridge was built in 1827.

The path runs between North Farm and Shillingford Bridge. Details and a map are on the OCC website.

### Garden Waste

Please can we again remind villagers, particularly those living round the green, not to use the village green for the disposal of garden waste and grass cuttings. Now that SODC provide garden waste bins this is the most environmentally friendly way of disposing of waste that cannot be composted in gardens.

Bank Holiday refuse collections: Revised date Tuesday 31st August. (Green bins)

Date of next meeting: 14th September 7.30 pm Village hall

## **REPORT ON THE GRENOBLE ROAD DEVELOPMENT**

I am delighted to say that our Core Strategy has been held back for the present whilst we await clarification from Eric Pickles on the way forward. The very large housing numbers which had been imposed by the Labour government in the district through the South East Plan are now likely to be lowered to meet the realistic needs of our villages and towns; future developments in villages will only be permitted when they are considered sustainable in the long term and our rural areas will not now be over run by urban sprawl.

We have been assured absolutely that the Grenoble Road Development is finally confined to the past. I will continue to do all that I can to enhance the quality of the environment and the sustainability of our villages. I feel passionately that we should be community needs led rather than led by housing needs dictated by central government.

Elizabeth Gillespie – District Councillor

## **NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7 pm on Thursday 8 July 2010 at Marsh Baldon Village Hall. The agenda is in the process of being set, but is expected to include discussion of gravel extraction issues and the County Council's consultation process on the same. Meeting agendas and minutes are also held on the website as and when produced.

The meeting is open to the public and there is an open session towards the start of the meeting at which queries or issues can be raised. Alternatively you can contact the Parish Clerk in advance.

News about the Parish and other contact information is available on the website: [www.nunehampc.webs.com](http://www.nunehampc.webs.com).

Parish Clerk: Jane Dymock; e-mail: [nunehampc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nunehampc@yahoo.co.uk); tel.: 01865 863709; address: 73 Eaton Road, Appleton, OX13 5JJ

## **NUNEHAM COURTENAY 250TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

The planning is in hand for a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the village being moved to its current location. (There is no truth in the rumour that we are planning to move it back again!).

A traditional garden party is planned for 3 pm on Saturday 4 September on the Old Recreation Ground. We hope to have a picnic, games, tractor rides etc. - an afternoon of fun for all the family, and all the villagers.

If you would like to get involved in planning or helping then please contact Lauren Lister; tel.: 01865 340234; e-mail: [lauren.lister@spacelabs.com](mailto:lauren.lister@spacelabs.com).

## **NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE**

We patiently await the full details from the various assessors as to the full extent of the damage, cost and timescale of repair work. A big thank you to all those who have pledged donations towards the repair fund. We hope to use this opportunity to make additional improvements to the hall, so our focus turns now to fund raising. We welcome your support and any suggestions for events that may appeal to the wider community! [oldtowncottage@uwclub.net](mailto:oldtowncottage@uwclub.net)

### **Date for the Diary**

Friday 23rd July, Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall Committee will be hosting a 'Pub' Quiz Night at Baldon Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Prizes and hot refreshments available. All proceeds going to the repair fund! Details to follow.

## **NEWSLETTER NOW DELIVERED FREE TO ALL!**

As some of you may already know, there have been recent discussions regarding the future funding of this newsletter. This has followed the responses to the Baldons Parish Plan Questionnaire, and the discussions have involved the PCC and the Parish Councils of both the Baldons and Nuneham.

Starting from this issue, the annual cost the newsletter will be divided between the Baldons and Nuneham Parish Councils and the PCC, and supported by advertising, so that the Newsletter can now be delivered FREE to EVERY household in the Baldons and Nuneham.

I would like to thank our gallant distribution team for the tremendous work they do – in particular all the hard work which has gone into collecting subscriptions over many years. Without their support, the newsletter could not survive.

Natasha Eliot - Editor

### **BALDON PLAYERS**

The Baldon Players are in the early stages of planning their next show – a ‘revue’. We plan to hold this on 24/25 September. The aim is to raise funds for Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall.

The show will feature a series of sketches, songs and music – some from shows we have performed over the last ten years and others new. The performances will be from both the younger and more senior members of the Players.

If you would like to get involved (and new performers and backstage helpers are always welcome) then please contact Colin George; tel.: 01865 343767; e-mail: colin.george@virgin.net. Otherwise we hope to see you at the show.....

### **BALDONS VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting takes place on 30th September at 8pm – all are welcome. This is the opportunity to elect a new committee, find out what is happening about extending the hall and ask questions

#### Other events for your diary

15 October – Quiz Night

26 November – Bingo

#### Car park

We have had some trouble with joy riders parking and using the car park late at night. Unfortunately, the only way to deal with this seems to be to lock the car park – so we are going to try locking the car park at night in July to see if this solves the problem.



## RON AND SONIA HEWITT

Would be delighted to see ALL their friends in the Baldons  
(Marsh, Toot and Little) and Nuneham Courtenay  
to share a drink with them on the event of their  
60th Wedding Anniversary  
on Sunday 22nd August from 12.0pm to 2.0pm  
at the Manor House Toot Baldon.

No presents please, just your presence.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

I am afraid the financial picture is pretty gloomy for all of local government, including Oxfordshire County Council. I need to report to you on four aspects of our finances.

1. Over the five years from 2010/11 to 2014/15, we will have to make a bit over £35 million in real cuts, while still investing in services where we expect the highest pressure.
2. Of the national savings of £6.5 billion, £1.2 billion was cuts in funding to local government. It looks as if a little under £11 million of this is coming our way. We are working hard to identify how we will deliver those cuts and make them work.
3. The County Council has been spending a little more than £100 million per year on capital schemes for schools, highways, libraries, museums, day centres and a whole host of other service areas. However, it is very clear that we are going to have a lot less over the next five to ten years. We have therefore instituted a comprehensive review of all of our capital spending, with final decisions to be taken when we set the capital programme in February 2011.
4. The government will conduct a Comprehensive Spending Review later this year, reporting in the Autumn. This will determine our financial allocations for the next three years. As I said above, we have already made a lot of savings but we have no idea whether they will be enough. My best guess is that they will not be and we will be scouring our service areas to see what more we can do.

It is quite worrying but I do need to reassure you that the County Council is much stronger than many because we took early decisions to get ahead and stay ahead. There will be considerable public consultation and I will keep you posted.

Lorraine Lindsay Gale

The Grand Summer Festival  
**BALDON FEAST 2010**

*2pm Saturday 14th August*

This is a great time for all the family as all who attended last year will agree. We have something that drew hundreds of people from the surrounding area, something that is special to our villages. A full programme of stalls and events from Nuneham Courtenay and The Baldons will make this year an exceptional occasion. Rain or shine let's make it happen!

*Who will win this year's Hamper? It will be stuffed full of goodies.  
There will be raffle prizes just waiting to be won.*

There will be plenty of seating and a magnificent new band, all to be enjoyed with a cup of tea and cakes or a pint or perhaps a glass of wine. What a way to enjoy an afternoon. And why not have a go at the 'Aunt Sally' or try 'Bowling for the Pig' or one of the other games available.

Also there will be various stalls including a 'Trash & Treasure', craft, 'Bottle Tombola' and cakes just to mention some. Bertie will be there! And there will be plenty of food; 'Pig Roast', 'Burger Van', cakes and an 'Ice Cream Van'

*Mason's Funfair will be in full swing with their roundabouts, dodgem cars and stalls.  
Special Event will be the 'Dog Show' starting at 3pm*

Every household in Nuneham Courtenay and The Baldons will receive a programme at the beginning of August and it will contain vouchers and the special ticket to enter for the Hamper. (Should you not receive your programme please phone me). The event starts sharp at 2pm with the draws being made at 4.30pm and the Band and Bar continuing on after along with the Funfair.

- \* -

The marquees are to be erected Thursday 6.30pm and dismantled Sunday 11am.

Your help will be most appreciated.

Look forward to seeing you there.  
Ralph Slaney  
Clerk to The Baldons Parish Council  
01865 343275  
Clerk@BaldonsPC.org.uk

**Cakes! Bottles! Children's Clothes and toys! Books for all ages!**

**Do you have any of the above that are cluttering up your house?**

**Can you bake a cake?**

**Now is your chance to cleanse and de clutter, by bringing the above items to the Village Hall on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August between 4 and 7 pm.**

**Alternatively contact Sara on 343567 to arrange another more convenient time.**

**All items very gratefully received for the Baldons Feast.**



The Youth Club met again in June and had a lot of fun with a sports-themed evening.

There is just one more meeting before the holidays:

July 9 - BBQ

Youth Club get together every two weeks from 7.30 - 9.30 in the Marsh Baldon village hall. If you are 11 - 18 then you are welcome to come along.

Visit our Facebook page for further details.

We would like to thank all the parents and adults who come every week and in doing so allow us to get to know more people and have fun every fortnight.

### **Fund Raiser**

#### **OPEN GARDEN and COFFEE MORNING**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July

10.30 – 1.00pm

At 12 Toot Baldon

In aid of the Day Centre for the Elderly

Entrance : Adults £1 Children free

Coffee, Cake, Raffle, Garden Hunt for the Under 5's

Look forward to seeing you, so come and join in

**LOOK FOR THE BUNTING !**

Carole: 01865 343344

## **NB GROUP**

Members of the NB Group are invited to join us for tea at 17 Courtiers Green, Clifton Hampden on Thursday July 22nd at 2.30 p.m.

Mary and Marcus Braybrooke (01865 407566)

## **EXPLORER BACKPACKS AT THE HARCOURT ARBORETUM**

Available from now until November 2010

Are you a new visitor to the Harcourt Arboretum, who would like a few suggestions for exploring our beautiful site with your family? Or perhaps you visit regularly and would like a new experience?

Come and borrow one of our family-friendly Explorer Backpacks from the ticket office, and a world of exploration and investigation will open up to you. Use the activities inside to help focus your walk around our 130 acre site.

This year we have two new backpacks available: "Use Your Senses", for visitors aged 3 – 5 years, and "Native Plants and Trees", suitable for children aged 6 – 11 years. Our backpacks are full of ideas to help you get the most from your visit to the Arboretum.

So come and borrow a backpack, and let the exploration begin!

Available to borrow from the ticket office on a first-come first-served basis

FREE with Arboretum entry (adults £3.50, children free, concessions and season tickets available)

Arboretum opening hours 10.00 am – 5.00 pm (last admission 4.15 pm)

## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 9TH – 15TH MAY 2010**

A big 'THANK YOU' from the PCC to all those in our villages who gave so generously over Christian Aid Week. With the house-to-house envelope collections, we raised a total of £578.30 and CA will also be able to reclaim income tax on the Gift Aid element. A fantastic result and thanks also to those who did all the footwork.

Marcus and Mary Braybrooke's Christian Aid Coffee Morning also raised £260. Thank you to all who supported it. It was good to see people from most of the parishes in the Team. A video about Christian aid's work showed how helping to bring clean water can dramatically change the lives of people who live in appalling conditions of a shanty town near Nairobi in Kenya.

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tel. 01865 343218; mobile. 07813 100993  
[www.la-vigna.co.uk](http://www.la-vigna.co.uk)

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Items for September 2010 newsletter **by 16<sup>th</sup> August 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.

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

Natasha Eliot: [tashaandjames@btopenworld.com](mailto:tashaandjames@btopenworld.com). Alternatively I can be contacted on 340562 or at The Barn House, Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.

For advertising queries, please contact Sheila Harris on: [s.harris886@btinternet.com](mailto:s.harris886@btinternet.com) or on 340403.

## BIRD MIGRATION IN THE BALDONS

This spring, at the beginning of April, I started a 'project' to look at migrant birds using farmland. We know a fair amount about coastal migration, but away from the coast the use of habitat by migrants is less understood. The farmland in the Baldon area is as good as and perhaps better than any in the vicinity to look at this.

'Ornithologically' Marsh Baldon is best known for a Red-necked Phalarope, a female was seen on the school pond in 1960, first seen by farm workers early morning on the 25th June, it stayed to the 7th July. One pupil who saw it told me in the Seven Stars that he remembered it. The most notable species I'd seen (or heard) before this year was a Whimbrel, flying over one night (1990s).

My first morning visit was on April 7th, my aim being to be out every morning in the spring, through to mid June. Perhaps the most interesting thing was the number of birds moving through the area - some birds using the area as a staging post like a coastal location, thus the number of singing birds recorded on a day not necessarily being a reflection on the number of pairs breeding. 87 species were recorded.

**Hoopoe:** the highlight of the spring was a bird that flew up from the track near the Parsonage barns, it flew over the farm and was seen later in a horse paddock towards Toot Baldon by two people, before heading towards Toot Baldon. It wasn't seen again. There were also records in London and Cambridgeshire that day of this scarce UK 'vagrant'.

**Ring Ouzel:** 2 recorded, 1 24/4, 1 26/4.

**Chiffchaff:** several pairs (20+).

**Blackcap:** several pairs (25+).

**Garden Warbler:** first recorded 3/5, 2+ pairs, several singing birds moved through.

**Lesser Whitethroat:** first recorded 14/4, 3+ pairs, several singing birds moved through.

**Whitethroat:** first recorded 13/4, 91 singing males on 15/5 (the number of breeding pairs though is less than this).

**Sedge Warbler:** first recorded 28/4, around 5 pairs ditches north of Toot.

**Willow Warbler,** 4 pairs in small willow area north of Toot, several singing birds moved through.

**Grasshopper Warbler:** 1 20/4, 2 24/4, 1 4/5, 1 16/5.

**Swallow:** several pairs particularly in the vicinity of farm buildings.

**House Martin:** first recorded 27/4.

**Swift:** first recorded 2/5.

**Cuckoo:** first recorded 22/4 with several moving through (the longest a bird stayed was 2 days), the last 4/6.

**Hobby:** one seen 23/4 and a few other dates.

**Yellow Wagtail:** about 8 pairs on the farmland below Toot church, particularly favouring the wheat and also the nearby bean field. This is one of the most beautiful summer migrants and singing males provide superb views on hedgerows, horses no doubt having a positive effect with manure benefiting prey items.

**Wheatear:** peak count was of 15 on 21/4, birds seen on several dates, last a male seen on the track below the Parsonage farm barns 15/5.

**Whinchat:** males on 21/4 and 4/5, a female on 9/5.

**Redstart:** males seen on 7/4, 19/4 (showing well on a fence near Marsh Baldon church, by one of the horse paddocks), 21/4 (2 seen), 2/5.

Other birds of note. **Fieldfares** were last seen on 23/4 and **Meadow Pipits** on 29/4 (a winter visitor in this area of the county). A **Green Sandpiper** was seen on a couple of occasions in early April, a pair of **Peregrines** were seen on 22/5 north of Toot Baldon, where these had come from (or went to) is unclear.

A pair of **Tree Sparrows** turned up on 21/5 in a hedge below Toot Baldon church with one bird at least still present on 27/5 (they may have attempted breeding or perhaps could still be in the area). This species has undergone a large decline in the UK and is now a scarce breeding bird in Oxfordshire.

Other declining 'farmland' birds include several pairs of **Skylark**, a few pairs of **Yellowhammer** and **Reed Bunting** and 2+ pairs of **Grey Partridge**. Singing **Corn Buntings** recorded on 9/4, 30/5, 5/5 11/6 (all by the barley field below Parsonage farm, where poppies have brightened up the margin), 16/6 (this one by the bean field).

A **Curlew** flew north 4/6, a pair of **Lapwings** were recorded on a couple of dates in May but moved on (perhaps having failed elsewhere). Young **Rooks** were seen on two occasions having fallen out the nest near the rookery near Baldon House in May and two young **Jackdaws** had fallen out the nest and were residing in Toot Baldon church in June.

Notable absences were **Spotted Flycatchers** (still breeding in the area around 3 years ago), **Turtle Doves** presumably disappeared from the area long before this.

Butterflies included Orange Tip seen on sunny days from 17/4, and a few records of Painted Ladies (an early one on 29/4) and Red Admirals.

If anyone has any additions I would be interested - philbarnettox@yahoo.com.

Phil Barnett

## **GOACTIVE (GET OXFORDSHIRE ACTIVE)**

Are you looking for fun sports and activities to do locally? Try GOActive! Activities include:

- Badminton
- Nordic Walking
- Netball
- Tai Chi
- Free swimming for over 50s
- Salsa Dancing
- And lots more

For more details see the GOActive website: <http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/> or contact Hendriette Thorn on 01491 823175 or [Hendriette.Thorn@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Hendriette.Thorn@southoxon.gov.uk)

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# LOCAL BUS TIMETABLE

*Week Commencing 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

## 89 The Baldons – Kings Copse – Cowley Centre

### Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays Only

Marsh Baldon, Baldon Lane	0935
Toot Baldon, Wilmots	0939
Kings Copse	0945
Watlington Road, Bobby Fryer Close	0947
Cowley Centre, The Nelson	0954
Cowley Centre, The Nelson	1325
Watlington Road, Bobby Fryer Close	1331
Kings Copse	1334
Toot Baldon, Wilmots	1340
Marsh Baldon, Baldon Lane	1344

### HELLO FROM ALL AT THE MAPLE TREE CHILDREN'S CENTRE!

We have had a fantastic time full of fun and exciting groups for our families including....

National Family Week: On 3rd June we ran a Family Picnic at the Garsington Sports & Social Club, which was a great success and 34 parents/carers and 61 children came along! The sun was shining and everyone had great fun getting involved in many activities including playing in the water and sand and doing creative paintings with their hands and feet making lots of mess!!!!!! Thank you to everyone who attended!

Stay Safe Sessions: We ran a First Aid workshop at Great Milton School this month which was very well attended and we will be running more over the coming months. Please look out for further information.

Children's Centres are a one stop shop for all young children, their parents, grandparents, childminders and other carers. As well as running free and low cost play events for families, we also provide a range of information and advice about local children's services, including health and education and outreach home support. Please contact Sarah Lowman for a Programme or further information on 07988 159041 or email [sarah.lowman@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.lowman@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

The Maple Tree Children's Centre  
Tel. 07988 149041



Children's Centres  
for families in Oxfordshire

**CHORAL EVENSONG, DORCHESTER ABBEY  
SUNDAY 18TH JULY AT 6.00PM; TEA AT 4.30PM**

**Speaker Sister Martha; Bethany School for Girls**

Sister Martha is from the Bethany School for Girls, an Orthodox school in the Holy Land which is sponsored by Biblelands. She was born in Kazakhstan of German parents but returned to her homeland when she was eleven. At twenty one she was baptised into the Russian Orthodox Church. Then after training to be a teacher she entered monastic life and was sent to Saint Mary Magdalene Convent in Gethsemane, then to moved to Bethany. For the past five years Sister Martha has been the director of the school.

The school has been run by The Russian Orthodox Monastery since 1936 when it was established by Abbess Mary and Mother Martha who were both former Anglicans from Scotland who later converted to Orthodoxy.

Please come and hear of the work of the School and meet Sister Martha over tea before the Service.

**SUNDAY 4TH JULY ST BIRINUS PILGRIMAGE**

Come and join the St Birinus Pilgrimage walk from Churn Knob near Blewbury to Dorchester Abbey. The walk is about 12 miles along foot paths and tracks. If you wish you can stop for refreshments at Brightwell cum Sotwell village hall before your final leg up Wittenham Clumps to Dorchester. Tea is available for everyone at the end of the walk in the Presbytery garden in Dorchester (a donation in payment would be appreciated). The walk is not regimented in any way; you can walk at your own pace, and if you want, meet and chat with other walkers. If you would prefer to do a shorter walk then you can start at Brightwell village hall.

On the walk, if you wish, you can visit the five churches on the route; Blewbury, South Moreton, Brightwell, Little Wittenham, and St Birinus Catholic Church in Dorchester and have a pilgrimage passport stamped in each church.

At 6.15 a procession leaves the Catholic Church to go to Abbey for the pilgrimage service in the Abbey at 6.30. The service is always a stimulating and enjoyable experience. After the service there is delicious food and drink for sale in the cloister garden, this makes a lovely end to a most enjoyable day.

You are most welcome to join in any part, or in all the parts of these St Birinus pilgrimage festivities.

Transport to Churn Knob: There will be a coach leaving Dorchester Abbey, rose walk exit, at 11.45 to take walkers to Churn Knob, a charge of £5 per adult, £2.50 per child and £1 per dog will be taken as you get on the coach.

For more information, please phone Susan Jupp on 01865 341066

## **CLERGY**

### **Revd Ros Latham**

Ros is from rural North Yorkshire, having been a farmer's wife and an RE teacher before becoming a vicar. She joined the Dorchester team as team vicar for the Baldons, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard in October 2007, living in Berinsfield. She is married to Peter and between them they have six children.

### **Revd Hannah Cleugh**

Hannah is our curate. She grew up in the north-east, and came to Oxford as a student to read Theology. After graduating, she stayed on to do research into the English Reformation. She trained for ordination at Ripon College, Cuddesdon and she and her husband David (who is curate in Dorchester and Stadhampton) joined the Dorchester Team in July 2009. Hannah was ordained priest by Bishop Colin in Dorchester Abbey on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

### **Revd Toddy Hoare**

Toddy is a priest and sculptor who retired from parish ministry in North Yorkshire in 2007 in order to focus on "Sculpture, Prayer and Scripture". He says that in his work he tries "to express something of biblical truth or beg theological reflection by the beholder." He lives near Wheatley.

## **FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

Tuesday 13th July 7.30pm: A musical journey of faith with Jonathan Arnold.  
East Wing Baldon House

Tuesday 27th July 7.30pm: Pause for refreshment.  
2 Potland Cottages

There will be a break for the summer and we plan to reconvene on 21st September

## **CONFIRMATION**

The Bishop of Dorchester will conduct a service of Confirmation in the Abbey on Sunday 26 September at 10.30 am for the Dorchester Team. A number of people already plan to be confirmed and others are invited to join them. If you would like to be confirmed, please contact Revd Ros Latham or Revd Hannah Cleugh.

For young people aged about 10 or older there will be an opportunity to meet up in the summer holidays for a mixture of discussion, learning and fun aimed at helping you to understand the faith that we share and what it will mean to make promises about it. We look forward to hearing from you.

## SERVICES FOR JULY AND AUGUST

4 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
11 <sup>th</sup> July	11.00am	Aircrash Memorial Service	Toot Baldon
18 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30am	Holy Communion Toddy Hoare	Marsh Baldon
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong Preacher: Sister Martha of Bethany Girls School	Dorchester
25 <sup>th</sup> July	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	One4All	Marsh Baldon
	7.00pm	Praise@7	Dorchester
1 <sup>st</sup> August	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
8 <sup>th</sup> August	6.00pm	Songs of Praise	Toot Baldon
15 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am	Baldon Feast Service on the Green	Marsh Baldon
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	One4All	Marsh Baldon
29 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30am	Team Service	Warborough
5 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon

**Morning Prayer in St Peters:** Every Thursday at 8.00am

### SIDESDUTY

	Marsh	Toot
4 <sup>th</sup> July		9.30 am J & H Maskell
11 <sup>th</sup> July		11.00 am G & S Hobbins
18 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30 am Stephen Dance	
25 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30 am John Mason	
1 <sup>st</sup> August		9.30 am Jenny van Dijk
8 <sup>th</sup> August		6.00 pm Tom Saw
15 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30 am Erik Anggard	
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	9.30 am Richard Barnett	

### FLOWERS

	Marsh	Toot
4 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> July	V Sandilands	N Wells & V Bowler
18 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> July	C Attewill & L Barnett	Marcia Trinder
1 <sup>st</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> August	E Gillespie & A Lyall	J Brook & Yasmin
15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	G Baker	H Maskell & J Knight