

The Sandford Link

Autumn 2024 Issue 173

www.sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk

The Sandford Arts Crafts and Skills group is a community group to be launched with a drinks reception at the Photographic Competition prizegiving at 5pm on 26th September in the Village Hall.

Anybody who might be interested in attending any of the sessions do come and join us and hear about plans for later events.

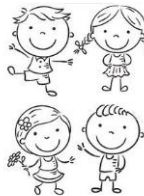
See page 5 for more information.

Calling all toddlers . . .

You are warmly invited to a party from 10.0 – 11.30 on Monday 14th October in the Village Hall.

Feel free to bring along your parents, grandparents, carers etc. for

Food – fun – play – make friends



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

www.sandfordchurch.org.uk

John Findon (*associate priest*) 01865 434256

john.findon@jesus.ox.ac.uk

Bob Morgan (*associate priest*) 01865 748848

robert.morgan@theology.ox.ac.uk

Teresa Morgan (*associate priest*)

Church Wardens: Christian Bradley; Clive Tasker

Director of Music: Christian Bradley



Sunday services

Every Sunday: 10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer

Every Wednesday: 11.0 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

Last Sunday of the month:

10.0 a.m. a more informal Westward Communion service



meets at 10.0 a.m.

each Sunday

in the Harris Room, next to the church.

More info from Jo or the clergy.

Looking ahead . . .

6th October	10.0 a.m.	Harvest Communion and Brunch
3rd November	6.30 p.m.	Sandford Memorial Evensong
10th November	10.0 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday
15th December	6.30 p.m.	Carol Service
24th December	11.30 p.m.	Midnight Mass
25th December	10.0 a.m.	Christmas communion

Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 6th October

10.0 Parish Communion
followed by
Harvest Brunch in church

Gifts for the Food Bank
may be brought to church any
Sunday or left in the church porch.



Agnostics Anonymous

There is no good reason why an agnostic should feel obliged to stay anonymous, though I think that many do. Those of us who profess a faith probably feel from time to time that we are hanging on to it by our fingernails; Bob likes to tell people that Thomas the Doubter was the first theologian. Yet I remember feeling as a boy at Sunday School that doubting was wicked, and occasionally I hear the same thought from parishioners. Yet it must be nonsense; for if our religion wasn't honest it couldn't be worth having.

With this in mind, I should like to introduce this Autumn some relaxed sessions when people can explore difficulties and ask questions that matter to them. It is not so negative a suggestion as it may sound. At the very least it is no bad thing to recognize fellow-travellers; somebody else's perspective – doubts and all – can be just what we have been looking for to make our own progress. Most faith lives on the other side of doubt.

I shall approach some possible recruits in the coming month. And I hope some whom I should not have anticipated may also be interested. Let me know – john.findon@jesus.ox.ac.uk.

John

The St Birinus Festival in wonderful Dorchester Abbey takes place on 31st October – 2nd November, and has a variety of free services with beautiful music, as well as concerts. See www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk (events)

John Findon writes: One of the things that make me grateful to minister in Sandford, during these years after my official retirement, is that there is a strong sense of local identity here. To say that you come from Sandford means something, and not only to the 'old Sandford' ones who were born and brought up here. This was a fact that you couldn't miss at the Fête on 20 July, when the whole village, or so it seemed, was keen to participate in a variety of opportunities to be silly together, all for the simple pleasure of belonging.

It pleases me that the Gospels are careful to tell us that local roots were also a significant part of the life into which Jesus was born. He went down from Jerusalem and was subject to his parents in Nazareth after the famous episode in the Temple (Luke 2.51). Being a Nazarene brought its share of local prejudice: 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' asked Nathanael (John 1.46), who came from up-market Cana. Like most local communities Nazareth also had its share of low expectation: 'Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? Whence then hath this man all these things?' (Matthew 13.55-6). A former Churchwarden of mine, hearing that a local man had done something to get his name into the papers, commented 'There's nothing so special about him; his father went to school with my uncle'. Jesus's mind was formed by such realities: he taught in parables that drew their content from the facts of commonly shared local experience. And nowhere is there a hint that he found that narrow world, or the demands of its humble people, at all irksome.

Having said that, I often discover going about the parish that there are many (mostly but not only recent arrivals) who are curious about how the village came to be as it is. I should want everybody who lives here to love the place, and part of that vocation surely involves understanding its past. So we plan to mount in the middle of November an exhibition in Church of 'Sandford in the Making'. Liz Shatford, as many of you will know, has worked hard on this subject for years, and she and others will provide material for the exhibition. There will also, we hope, be opportunity to visit places – even some homes – of local significance. November of course is the right time for such a scheme: the solemn reflection of Remembrance Sunday, with surnames woven into Sandford's history, preceded by All Saints and All Souls when we give thanks that our lives are set in community, and for the people who have shared them.

With every good wish to you all.

John

Sandford-on-Thames Village Hall

Community events

Young People's Photographic Competition 2024

Exhibition of winners' work and prizegiving

Thursday 26th September at 5pm in the Village Hall

to coincide with the launch of

Sandford Arts Crafts and Skills (SACaS)

The Sandford Arts Crafts and Skills group will be launched with a drinks reception at the Photographic Competition prizegiving.

Anybody interested in attending any of the events is warmly invited to attend the launch and to hear about later events.

SACaS Events confirmed for the Autumn:

**Thursday September 26th 5 – 6 pm Launch event, followed by
6 -7.30 pm Me and my computer: solving basic IT problems:**
(bring along your phone, laptop or tablet)

Thursday October 17th 6 -7.30 pm:
Car maintenance and problem solving
with James Hall of TJ Hall and Son

Thursday November 21st 6 - 7.30 pm
Wines for Christmas: a tutored tasting
(There will be a charge for this event: £15 per head)

**We are hoping to put together an email group to be able
to inform those interested about future events**

which will take place on the third Thursday of the month 6 –7.30.

Please sign up either at the launch event or by emailing Etain
on sandfordhallevents@gmail.com

Sandford Remembrance Evensong

The annual Sunday evening 6.30 sung service, at which many departed friends and family are remembered with candles, will be on Sunday 3rd November.

Those who would like people to be remembered by name and/or plan to light a candle are asked to tell John beforehand (contact details on p.2).



Book of Remembrance

As announced in the last *Link*, we have now taken delivery of our Book of Remembrance. Names may be entered in it from now on, and we shall begin to use it in November. If you have friends or relatives whom you would want to be remembered in this way please leave their names in Church, or hand them to John. We need to know the name you would like to be used and the date of their death. They will then be remembered in Church on that day each year. We have secured the services of a professional calligrapher, and entries will cost £5 each.



SANDFORD COMMUNITY LUNCH

A delicious meal using perfectly good food that would otherwise go to waste – a family friendly event, with children's play area, to which all are welcome, no need to book! Turn up and pay what you can.

**Held on the second Wednesday of each month –
see [facebook.com/TalkingShopSandford](https://www.facebook.com/TalkingShopSandford)**

Calling all local artists

We are planning an exhibition in the Village Hall of the work of local artists, probably in February or March 2025; please email sandfordhallevents@gmail.com with details of the type of work you would wish to display.

A future date for your diary

Saturday January 25th 2pm - 4pm in the Village Hall

Children's Theatre Afternoon

Whatnot Theatre will perform their show

Flotsam and Jetsam . . .

Bottle top treasure, sea shanties and a mischievous giant plastic bag Squid – join us for an interactive, relaxed and accessible experience for all the family about recycling with a piratey twist . . .

*'Whether you're four, forty or a few months old,
Whatnot theatre's Flotsam and Jetsam Journey
into the Trash Vortex' is a full-throttle family adventure
guaranteed to get you in a good mood.
Innovative, visionary and valuable, it is something for the kids
that doesn't impel you to inanity.'*

Tandem Befriending.

a local charity, is particularly looking to recruit mature volunteers with life experience and skills, to give an hour or so a week befriending someone struggling to get back on their feet after a period of mental ill-health.

Full training and support, and great satisfaction – our next volunteer training is on **September 28th** – if you'd like to know more phone Prue on 07775 918533.

Welcome

to **Chip Johnson** to his newly refurbished home on Church Road, to **Luke and Yovella** to Henley Road, and to **Blain** as the new landlord of the Catherine Wheel.

Welcome to the world

to **Bertie**, born to Alex and Dot of Church Road to **Torben William John**, born to Ian and Lizzie of River View to **Eliyanah Violet**, born to Itaya and Ilans of Heyford Hill Lane and to **Adam**, born to Sam and Isabella of Janaway.

and best wishes to **Phyll Lewis**, shortly to move from Janaway to be nearer her daughter; she leaves with our affectionate wishes for her new life and we welcome **Joy Smith** to make her home among us.

and congratulations

to **Sian Riley-Phillips** and **Jack Self**, married in St Andrew's church on 24th August

and to **David Douglass**, dancer and dance judge, on his receiving the Carl Alan Lifetime Achievement Award

SANDFORD TODDLERS GROUP

meets every Monday 10 -12 in the Village Hall,

including most weeks in school holidays but excluding bank holidays.

We welcome families from Sandford, Littlemore and further afield.

We use a large hall, some outdoor space and toys to suit ages 0-5 years.

£2 per family (first session free) with free tea/coffee for parents and snacks like fruit, biscuits and toast for children.

At the end of the session, there is storytelling and/or singing.

**On Monday 14th October we are having a party
from 10.0 – 11.30 in the Village Hall
to which all are welcome –
come and join us!**

TALKING SHOP NEWS

Our new website address:

<https://sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk/ts-home/>



CHANGING FACES

Two of our managers are moving on to new challenges: Abi Reynolds, a Saturday Market Manager since 2022, and Kylie Mackown who has been managing the market, shop and café since 2020. They will both be sadly missed and we wish them all the best.

Do drop in and meet our new staff! Maria will be our new Market and Events Manager, and Luke is our new top-class barista for Saturdays.

REMINDER: TALKING SHOP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Thursday 19th September at 7pm in the Village Hall

ALL ARE WELCOME to this year's AGM. If you wish to vote at the AGM you will need to have signed up as a member. Your membership fees will help support our vital work at the heart of the community. Members will also receive a six-monthly members-only newsletter, covering developments in the Talking Shop and giving the opportunity for feedback.

- Annual membership costs £10
- Lifetime membership is offered at a one-off cost of £100

Please contact the Chair, Clare Wakeham, on secretary.talkingshop@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERING AT TALKING SHOP

Talking Shop is run for the community by the community, and there are many ways to get involved. Volunteering offers opportunity to meet more people, learn new skills while helping to support a much loved and valued resource.



Do as much or as little as you want, in the shop or kitchen or other roles behind the scenes. Different shifts are available and there's a wide variety of things to do.

- Help in the shop: arrange displays, check stock, price merchandise; or work on the till and serve customers.
- Do a shift in the café – make baps or our lovely cooked lunches, or serve fabulous barista coffee (we'll show you how)
- Help at the Saturday market - a very friendly way to start the weekend
- Be part of our ad hoc catering group, making sandwiches, teas for when there are training groups in the village hall
- Be on the emergency rota for the shop
- Do the shop's laundry (aprons and tea towels).

Cooks wanted:

if you are a keen cook, we would love to hear from you! In particular we are always on the lookout for volunteers to help to organise and cook at our community events (such as our monthly afternoon lunches and teas) as well as daily help in the café.

Love to bake?

You could make cakes for us to sell - in our kitchen, with our great ovens, or at home: all ingredients provided.

Drop into the shop for a warm welcome and to find out more, or contact us at volunteering.talkingshop@gmail.com

Talking Shop
 Invites you to
APPLE PRESSING
SAT 28TH SEPT 9AM-12PM

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You are welcome to come and use the apple press to make your own delicious apple juice. Please bring along sterilised bottles and apples- if you have extra apples to spare please bring them too!




Spoke Shop

Does your bike need some TLC?

Our volunteer team offer a free check over and can do minor repairs and adjustments for a small fee (plus payments for parts). No need to book!

at Talking Shop from 9.0 – 12.0 on
Saturday 14th September
and Saturday 5th October

Sandford-On-Thames Women's Institute "Inspiring Women"

Autumn 2024 report.

Meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 2nd Thursday in the month (not August), social events for members occur in August and at other times during the year, some just for members and others to include family and friends.

This has been another year of pageantry and sorrow. Toward this end our members created decorations in keeping with the 80th Anniversary of the D Day Landings, 6th of June 1944, in an effort to remind us all of the sacrifice which was given by the young men who gave their lives for our Freedom. Prior to the 6th of June our Vice President Sharon Fenn kept us abreast of happenings in Normandy, France through our, encrypted WhatsApp. It did mean that we were aware of the events when mentioned by the media and felt more involved.

We were unable to have our social in August, but a get together has been arranged for members in early September at the King's Arms.

Thank you to members who worked hard to make the Sandford-on-Thames Summer Festival another success and of course the tireless efforts of that committee, who seeks to make the Festival a not to be missed event.

Continuing programme for the Year 2024

12th September - Talk by Jane Finnerty "*Empowering Women*"

10th October - *Poured Candle Making*. Please bring a container no bigger than a tea cup. Wax and wicks will be provided . Also a small lidded container for body scrub or scrub, if time allows. Organised by Jane Shepherd (raffle and refreshments)

14th November - Talk by Ann and John Ford "*The Morris Minor in the Media*" (raffle and refreshments)

12th December - Members only Christmas Celebrations and Christmas Wreath Making. (arrangements will be made nearer the time)

December and January's meetings are for members only. From February until November you are welcome to come and sample a meeting. We are a friendly group of ladies of a variety of ages and interests. You do not have to live in the village and you may belong to more than one WI. You are invited to join us for 2 meetings and on the 2nd occasion please join or a donation of £5 will be appreciated, charges will be explained by our treasurer. You do not have to have special skills, but a willingness to participate in activities is an advantage, sometimes it might take a person time to become confident. You just might like the company of other ladies without the pressure of daily life. It's your time for you.

Communication is very important and this is achieved with our members by face to face, by phone, email and or WhatsApp, we only occasionally use post. When messages are sent by members of your committee, we do expect a response. This means that you are aware of what is happening. Uncertainty will activate a call or a visit to make sure that you are fine. The local Federation magazine is available for members to see, although we no longer provide one for each member, the money saved is used on more expensive speakers and providing materials for activities instead of charging. All fully paid up members receive the National magazine "WI Life".

We are presently celebrating 70 years of Keep Britain Tidy 1954 - 2024. Although not a WI member, we should like to give our heartfelt thanks to Judith Godsland for her marvellous litter collection that she carries out very frequently along the river, in Sandford and on her journey home to Littlemore.

President Jill Love, Sandford-On-Thames WI

01865 716557/ jpappslove@hotmail.com/ 07900 907477 (text is best as signal poor)

Annual Festival Sandford on Thames – 20th July 2024

The truly remarkable aspect this year was the way in which so many people helped make the arrangements, put the whole event together and worked on the Friday and then Saturday of the event, running all the activities, stalls and refreshment venues. It is true to say that this made the event so special and was the main reason for its success. That and of course everyone who came and enjoyed themselves. There seemed to be lots of families and the mood was friendly and fun. Throughout the day the weather was warm, breezy and easy – so everybody seemed relaxed.

Starting the day at 1pm 'our own' Jubilee Oxford Brass Band played from the main stage with both traditional and popular tunes looking splendid in their uniforms. They were followed closely by the Strawberry Fayre Majorettes performing a range of routines in the grass arena – lovely.

We saw the return of the Dog Show, so limited by the weather last year but now in proper shape and well attended. All dogs were amazingly well behaved. Well done to the class winners and organisers and judge. The annual Tug-of-War' went ahead with boys, girls, mums and dads (plus two of the festival committee and the reverend Bob Morgan- all of whom managed to survive!) Lots of energy expended. Throughout the day the Aunt Sally was as popular as ever as were the Coconut Shy and goal shoot. The popular Tombola and Water to Wine stalls sold out as usual. A few classic cars managed to



Wilson-Blackwell Photography

make it with two local classics – a marvellous Austin 3000 and a lovely old Morgan - and a fabulous 1960's MG Roadster courtesy of the President of The Abingdon MG Club. Splendid to see.

We had an abundance of different stalls selling or promoting a range of crafts, jewellery, perfumes, scents, pictures, plants, books, therapies etc – and bubbles for kids and grown-ups along with the Splat-the Rat game and others. As usual, to eat and drink we had the lovely variety of fresh cakes in the Tea & Cakes marquee (all home-made, donated and sold out) with many people resting whilst enjoying the festival activities and the later 'music in the park'. The BBQ was hugely popular (extremely hot work!) as were the ice creams. The Pimm's stall together with 'The Thirsty Queen Pub on The Green' kept many festival goers sustained, open all day keeping everyone in good spirits! And a special mention for Allah and his super Syrian cuisine of sweet cakes and savoury hot foods.

For the evening live music on stage we featured just one band, 'What4', based in Abingdon. They played a range of popular classics through to past 7pm to an appreciative audience, some listening and some dancing along. When the show ended there was some disappointment because in previous years it has been a 9pm finish.

So another 'annual' day for the village and surrounding areas to enjoy, with the main goal as always to raise money for St. Andrew's church, local charities and good causes - including our chosen charity 'Home-Start. The wonderful amount of around £3,500 was raised. A big thank you to all the sponsors of the raffle, which included 19 prizes all of which have been claimed by the lucky ticket winners, providing more needed funds for St. Andrew's church. A great big thanks to all the hundreds who came simply to enjoy it and we hope you had a lovely day. A special thanks to all the volunteers and to our compere Nigel, for a wonderful job, and to our main sponsors T J Hall & Son Ltd.

The Fete Committee

Making the Fete happen

takes a fair amount of organisation. The small but amazing Fete committee are always keen to include new committee members and new ideas – do get in touch with Emma if you could help with the planning: foxe299@gmail.com



The poster features a header with a crest and the text 'ST MARY & ST NICHOLAS IN THE HEART OF LITTLEMORE'. Below this, the word 'HARVEST' is written in large, stylized letters on a black banner. Underneath, 'OF TALENTS' is written in a simple, outlined font. The text 'COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION - a celebration of creation & togetherness -' follows. A dark grey box contains the dates '14th Sep - 19th Oct 2024' and the times: 'Saturdays: 10am - 3pm' and 'Mondays & Wednesdays: 10am - 12noon'. At the bottom, it says 'A celebration of local creativity. Free entry, everyone welcome!'.

Littlemore church's excellent Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday November 23rd this year. See their website for more information: <http://www.littlemorechurch.org/>

Rest in peace

Frederick William Cork, of Heyford Hill Lane died in July after a long struggle with emphysema. Judith writes:

Fred was born in 1944 and brought up in Carlisle, Cumbria. From the age of about eight he helped his Dad on the farm and this led him into farm work for a good many years, learning how to lay hedges and build dry-stone walls. In 1974 he met Judith, and they married in 1977. He left the farm and worked at the Pirelli tyre factory in Cumberland. In 1979 they welcomed Michael, the first of their three sons. Peter and Ben followed. In 1988 they moved to Oxford to be nearer family. Fred started work at Littlemore Hospital as a hospital porter, making many new friends. He loved country music and would always wear his country outfits to the pub at the week-end.

May he rest in peace.

As the nights grow colder . . . Overdress (Jill's Fluffies)

A new concept of keeping warm whatever the time of day or season with minimal cost. The unisex overdress I discovered in our nearby supermarket with no zips or buttons, ensures all the warm air from your body is trapped. Wear what you would normally wear at that time of day and just put on the overdress on top. Buy larger than you need. As you start to feel cold, put it on and the warmth from your body will be trapped warming you up quickly.

I now possess five and wear them for any occasion - bed, watching television, reading, driving, concerts, church, work (you would need to check), parties, food preparation etc. Wearing one reduces the need to use electricity or gas. I have met people who can now cook food with the energy saving from wearing one.

Clever needle people can make and design their own. I have sent many now to friends and relations in UK and abroad, my grandchildren love theirs. A friend wore hers on train journeys which hopefully triggered conversations and purchases. An overdress is wonderful, when you are too hot remove it, when you are getting cold put it on.

Enjoy, from Jill Love



Current regular activities at your Village Hall

For further information see www.sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk
or contact Robert 07759 890696
or sandfordvillagehallbookings@yahoo.com

- Monday* **Sandford Toddler Group** 10am to noon
 Sandford Table Tennis Club 7-9pm
- Tuesday:* **Junior Tae Kwon-Do** 5.30-6.30pm
- Wednesday:* **Pilates** 10-11am
 Afternoon Tea 1st Wednesday – 2-4pm
 Sandford Community Lunch
 2nd Wednesday 12.30-2pm
- Thursday:* **Junior Tae Kwon-Do** 5.30-6.30pm
 Sandford Womens' Institute 2nd Thursday of
 the month (not August) – 7.30pm
- Saturday:* **Saturday Market** 9am-noon
- Sunday:* **Oxford Guitar Society** 2nd Sunday, 7-10pm

AFTERNOON TEAS

in the Village Hall on first Wednesday of the month
2.0– 4.0. A community project for over 18s –
homemade cakes and teas, and a raffle on the day.
Cost £4. Join us by booking
with Prue Reynolds on prue.reynolds96@gmail.com





Thanks to Jill Love for the reminder that some things don't change . . .

**Get FREE support to stop smoking,
including FREE vape kits & NRT!**

Stop for Life Oxon is a smoking cessation service available to all residents of Sandford-on-Thames and surrounding areas. We offer tailored support for each client and will work with you to give you the best chance of stopping smoking!

Did you know... You can save more than £365 per month* just by stopping smoking, and that you're 3x more likely to successfully quit by working with us?

Sign up today and start saving!

Visit <https://www.stopforlifeoxon.org/>

Call 0800 122 3790

Text STOPOXON to 60777

Email info@stopforlife.co.uk

**Aged 40-74 and living in Oxfordshire?
You could be eligible for a
FREE NHS Health Check!**

Checks take just 30 minutes and are carried out by our qualified, professional health coaches. They will take your height, weight, waist measurement, blood pressure & cholesterol levels to give you a clear snapshot of what's going on inside your body.

The best part is, you'll get the results there and then and we can pass them straight to your GP or refer you to a specialist service if required!

Book today and get on top of your health!

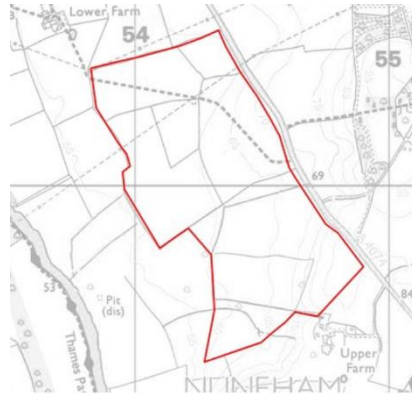
Visit www.healthchecksoxfordshire.org/

Call 0800 122 3790

Email information@healthchecksoxfordshire.co.uk

Nuneham Solar Farm

The proposed solar farm at Nuneham Courtenay is now in its planning consultation stage, and comments can be made on the SODC website at planning application P24/S1336/FUL. Nuneham Parish Council are strongly opposed – our own Council have creatively suggested a cycle path from Sandford on Thames to Nuneham Courtney to link the villages and provide better access for each community.
www.nuneham-solarfarm.co.uk



a chiropractic health centre in Nuneham Courtenay
www.continuum-chiropractic.co.uk
at The Old Smithy, Yew Tree Courtyard.
Online booking available.

SOMETHING THAT NEEDS FIXING?

Clive Shorter can help with painting and decorating/
Gardening/DIY and more
07765 666625 commius@hotmail.com

VOCO[®] Oxford Thames



For a while the Voco Leisure club was only available with hotel bookings, but it is now open to anyone who would like to take out membership - with access to swimming pool, gym, sauna and steam room, and use of tennis courts. Contact

Citizens Advice: Make an Impact!

Volunteer with Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale.

Are you looking for a new challenge, and want to contribute something to your community? Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice is looking for volunteer advisers and IT specialists to work in our friendly offices in Abingdon, Didcot, Henley or Thame, giving people the knowledge and confidence they need to find their way forward - whoever they are and whatever their problem. In a typical year our 111 volunteers support around 10,000 people. We are currently looking for advisers and IT specialists.
A new training course begins in early October 2024, so apply now!

We would like you to be available for two sessions per week, if possible, either mornings or afternoons or for a whole day. We also welcome volunteer receptionists, fund raisers, communication workers and HR administration.

To apply, please use this link:

<https://citizensadviceosav.org.uk/volunteering/>

Or, if you would like to discuss these volunteering roles, please email: recruitment@citizensadviceosav.org.uk and we will contact you.

Sandford websites

<https://sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk/> is our village website, managed by the Parish Council. Lots of information about council-type things and news

www.sandfordchurch.org.uk St Andrew's website, with village and church history, information for newcomers to the village, links to music and other sites, as well as church news and services.

<https://sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk/ts-home/> is the new link for Talking Shop

www.facebook.com/TalkingShopSandford/

WI news on www.facebook.com/sandfordonthamesWI

The Link facebook page is www.facebook.com/Sandford.on.Thames/

Another valuable source of local information is

<https://littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk/littlemore-local/>

Age UK Oxfordshire's Homeshare Service

Age UK Oxfordshire's Homeshare service carefully brings together an older person (or couple) who would benefit from companionship or practical support at home, with another person (usually a professional, a keyworker or a mature student) who is happy to lend a helping hand and who is seeking affordable accommodation.

In this safe and mutually beneficial living arrangement, the Householder provides a spare room in a welcoming home and, in return, can expect around 10 hours of help each week as a combination of companionship and practical support. The reassuring presence of another person in the house overnight also brings peace of mind.

Each Homeshare match is individual and carefully agreed and may include any of the following - cooking, shopping, gardening, help with technology and mobile phones, along with time spent together over a cup of tea or a maybe an evening meal. The occasional lift, trip or excursion might also form part of the agreement. A Homeshare arrangement does not involve personal care but can sometimes sit quite comfortably alongside care provision from elsewhere.

Monthly fees are payable to Age UK Oxfordshire by both Householder and Sharer and cover the costs of the safety checks, the setting up and facilitation of the match, and the provision of regular, ongoing in-person support. provides ongoing contact and support for the duration of the arrangement.

To find out more please contact: Homeshare Oxfordshire on 01865 410670 or homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk
www.homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk/



We are a family-run garage in Henley Road, Sandford on Thames

MOT testing ♦ Servicing all makes and models ♦ General repair ♦

Cambelt replacements ♦ Air con regas/Servicing ♦

Precise diagnostics ♦ Suspension repair/Tracking

www.tjhallandson.co.uk

[facebook.com/tjhallandson/](https://www.facebook.com/tjhallandson/)

Digital switchover

The UK's telephone network is being upgraded, which means that landline services are changing. People can still have a landline in their homes, but the technology that powers it will be different. For most, switching over will be straightforward, but some people may need new equipment or support to make the changes.

AgeUK have a useful information sheet about the switchover.

Recycling – helping you to get it right. *SODC advises:*

The good news is that South Oxfordshire is consistently among the top recyclers in the country. But, even so, every week thousands of the wrong items still end up in our recycling bins by mistake.

When this happens it can be very difficult to remove them and, if it's food waste or other messy items then it could result in whole truck loads of recycling being rejected.

Here are just some of the things people wrongly put in their recycling:

Problem item	Where they should go
food waste	always in your food waste bin
soft plastic packaging (such as film lids from food cartons, salad bags and cling film)	your local supermarket may have a collection point, if not then please put them in your general waste bin
used sanitary products	general waste bin
used tissues	general waste bin
old unwearable clothes	in a tied carrier bag next to your green recycling bin
batteries	in a clear bag on top of your green recycling bin
small electricals (including disposable vapes)	in a tied carrier bag next to your black bin
empty crisp packets	your local supermarket may have a collection point, if not then please put them in your general waste bin

Our Parish Councillors:

Peter Addyman (Chair)

Michael Whitlock (Vice-chair)

Mark Baseby; Daniel Tarzey; Lewis Barrett; Nicky Fenton.

Notes on the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 1 July 2024 at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall (Full minutes can be found on the website sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk)

Public participation: one member of the public attended. Repeat request for footpath clearance on Sandford Road

Reports from District and County Councillors: none provided.

Village maintenance Overhanging Tree: Resident request about tree, LMB to remind that all overhanging boundary branches and stems can be cut down
Highways walk and talk requested for 15th August

Deep cleansing/gutter cleaning: Significant overgrowth on Sandford Road pavement means pedestrians walking in the road. LMB to chase District Council again, and instruct private contractor if District Council do not clear. Consider including this area in regular contract in the future.

Grass cutting & tree maintenance: LMB to ask mowing contractors Lee Collins to mow adjacent Broadhurst Gardens right into the nettles/brambles

General maintenance i. Improvements to recreation ground steps on Henley Road: LMB to get additional quotes for steps and handrail
ii. Wall outside Talking Shop: LMB to get quotes for railings that are compliant following advice from MB

Reports to FixMyStreet:

Blocked gully at Henley Road/A4074 slip road

Heyford Hill Lane/Pheasant Walk/Fox Furlong per resident request

Flytipping at Heyford Hill bus stop reported (457330)

Gulley adjacent Kings Arms blocked

Bushes obscuring the splay at Heyford Hill Lane

Vegetation overgrowth at Heyford Hill bus stop

Progress report on orchard (PA): Maintenance carried out

Progress on orchard/burial ground/recreation ground paths & gates: TOE application submitted.

Upgrade to speed sensors (PA): Recommendation to use SIDS in between the existing VAS which are at the start and end of the village. Potential sites are opposite the Vale House by the group of trees, and the grass triangle adjacent the Henley Road, opposite Church Road. PA to liaise with OCC to get approval for these sites to have posts mounted.

Ecological management of PC lands: DT has arranged an ecological walk on 5th July with a member of OPT.

Planning 1B Church Road: No Comment

SODC's CIL Grant Fund (MW): discussion about solar panels, electricity meter, trimming trees back. Grants available may only cover 20% of capital costs.

Template for charitable groups to request support from the PC: Discussed amendments, represent at next meeting.

Heyford Hill address change: discussed

Policy for making grants: discussed

Notes on the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th August 2024 at 6.45 pm in the Village Hall

In attendance: The Clerk, Lynne Bustin (LMB) and 1 member of the public

1. Reports from District and County Councillors: Oxfordshire County Councillor report received and read

a. Playground inspection results:

- i. LMB to request Kompan reviews and revises the inspection results this year.
- ii. LMB to get a quote for broken swing seat.
- iii. LMB to look for grant for replacing items
- iv. LMB to review playground insurance

b. Highways walk and talk 15th August booked at 2.30pm meet at hall carpark
LMB to collate issues

- i. Pheasant Walk and Church Road rights of way
- ii. Parking spaces and cycle lane on main through road
- iii. Bus stop maintenance
- iv. Heyford Hill Lane parking
- v. Church Road parking / bollards
- vi. Henley Road into Church Road
- vii. Connect cycle paths from village to Science Park
- viii. Pathway on Heyford Hill Lane
- ix. Church Road pavement

c. *Grass cutting & tree maintenance*

- i. Mowing adjacent Broadhurst Gardens right into the nettles/brambles
- ii. Wharf area brambles – Charlie Draper asked to clear this
LMB to contact contractors to tender for future parish maintenance works

d. *Improvements to recreation ground steps on Henley Road*: RESOLVED to accept quote from SWR and Sean Cooke to reset stone steps and install new handrail. LMB to order new handrail and organise works

e. *Wall outside Talking Shop handrail*: RESOLVED to accept quote from SWR and Sean Cooke to reset bricks and install new handrails. LMB to order new handrail, including a mid rail, and organise works

f. *Reports to FixMyStreet*

- . i. Broken Bollards on Henley Road (current)
- . ii. Potholes on Henley Road (June)
- . iii. Road surface uneven at bridge (May)

g. *Progress report on orchard*

h. *Progress on orchard/burial ground/recreation ground paths & gates*: TOE in support of application, PA requested a grant for £5000. Recommendation that ground levelled for path at burial ground

i. *Upgrade to speed sensors* 22nd August 10 am onsite meeting with OCC

j. *Ecological management of PC lands* – Linked to parish maintenance

- . i. Cut more brambles/nettles on all the public areas, and keep cutting to get it to revert to grass
- . ii. Cut back overly large trees
- . iii. Use a grass collecting mower and remove trimmings
- . iv. Cut back the trees adjacent Fox Furlong and A4074 to the fence, remove goal posts
- . v. Oak tree at River View – RESOLVED to leave the tree in place

8. Village Hall

a. RESOLVED to assist the Village Hall committee with a charitable donation to support local community groups. The parish council will determine an amount at the next meeting.

9. Governance and consultations

- . a. Councillor vacancies – expression of interest received
- . b. Review grants policy - RESOLVED to remove the monetary limit
- . c. Review template for charitable groups to request support from PC
- . d. Bus stop data capture exercise (deadline December)



The Catherine Wheel pre WW2. The building between the pub and no 24 Henley Road was a shop



Herring's shop

This Link magazine is published by the Link Committee and this issue is edited by Prue Sykes, Lower Farm, Sandford-on-Thames (748848). Anything for inclusion should be sent to Lower Farm or e-mailed to robert.morgan@theology.ox.ac.uk.

Printed by Parchment Print, <https://parchmentuk.com/>