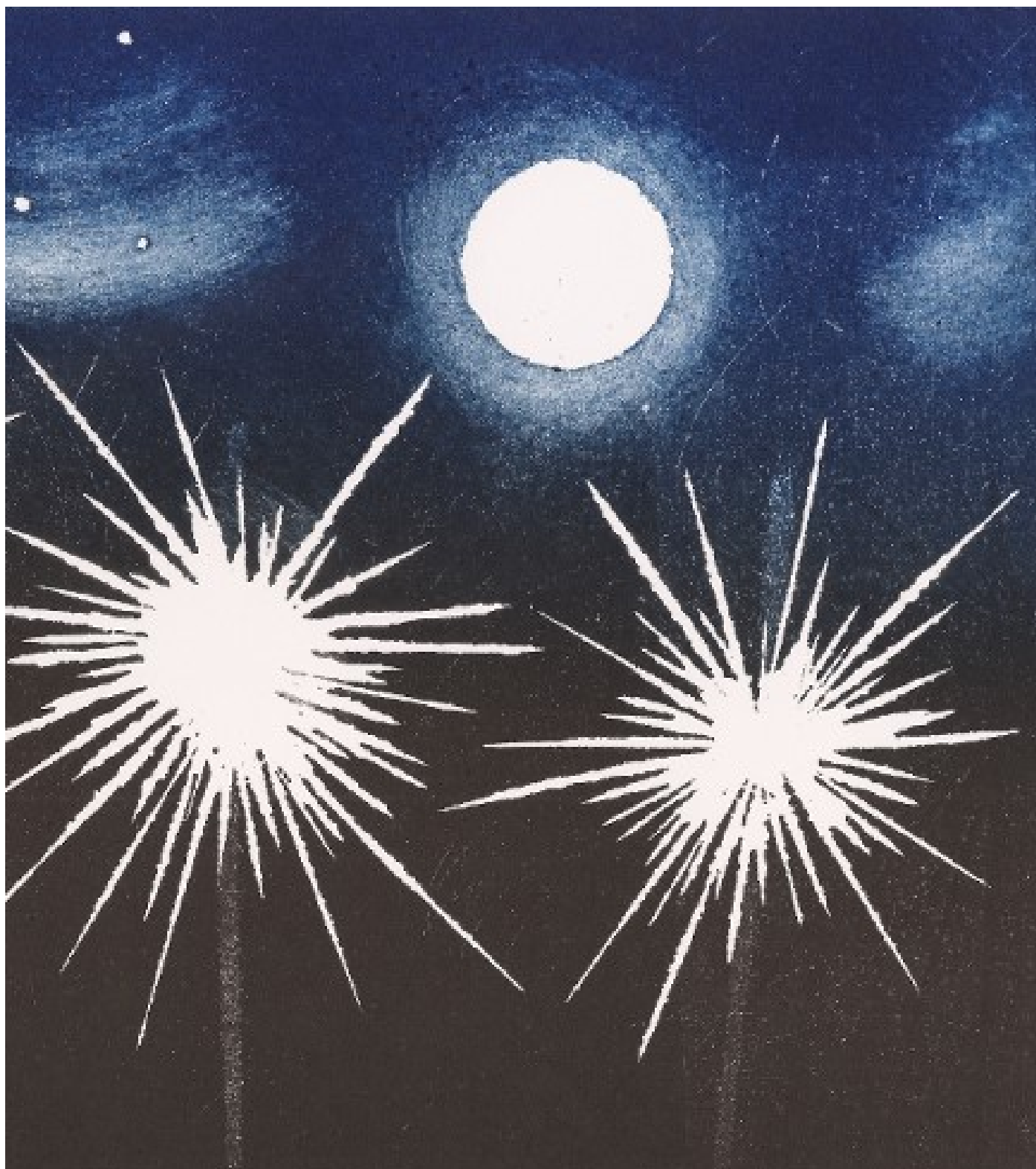


# Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News

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*NOVEMBER 2024*

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**Editor/Advertising**

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Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News is delivered monthly and free-of-charge to all households in the three parishes, with additional copies left in the parish churches.

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We welcome letters, articles and announcements from individuals and organisations, but reserve the right to edit or to publish or not.

**All copy must be received no later than the 18th of the month prior to publication and with its author's name attached - anonymous entries will not be considered.**

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor.

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## **November Church Services**

November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 St Leonard's Waterstock
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.50 St Bartholomew's Holton (Remembrance) 10.50 War memorial Waterstock (Remembrance) 6.00pm St Mary's Waterperry (Remembrance)
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Leonard's Waterstock
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 St Mary's Waterperry 9.30 St Helen's Albury (Family Service) 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 St Leonard's Waterstock
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton 4.00pm St Helen's Albury (Christingle) 6.00pm St Mary's Waterperry

### **St Leonard's Waterstock**

#### **Flowers and cleaning rota**

November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	C. Tyce
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	R. Day
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	S. Godowski
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	S. Godowski
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	A. Abdo
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	A. Abdo

### **St Mary's Waterperry**

#### **Flower rota**

November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Susan Fonge
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Jan
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Rebecca
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Helen
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Zena
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Susan Fonge



## *Letter from the Vicarage*

Hello,

I am writing this from hospital. I tell you this not for sympathy, the reason I'm here is a simple knee replacement due to sporting abuse over many years – so self-inflicted! What you notice immediately on arrival in hospital is the loss of agency. The staff are great and it's all very efficient but it's clear from the first minute of your stay that you are now subject to procedures and processes and are now perceived simply as someone to be treated. For some people this is not a problem. In fact handing over control to the experts for a while for some can be relaxing.

I'm not one of those people! I struggle with being told what to do – even by people who are clearly hugely talented and experienced. I realise that this can be a character defect but I think it stems from the need I have to be fully informed and participating in the decisions being made about my life. And of course this is a universal experience, we all feel like that as 'consenting adults' – indeed society expects us to be in control and responsible for our choices and actions.

This experience of relative powerlessness, putting oneself in the hands of others, has set me thinking about the complex set of relationships I and many of us have through which we negotiate that necessary sense of personal agency. This set of relationships covers a huge range from the mundane – the parcelling out of chores in the home for instance, to the hugely significant – caring for children or indeed the necessity of having an operation. The fact is that while we all want to be in control and would like to think we are, we are constantly relinquishing control in many small or large ways.

And a lot of the time that giving up of control is done willingly and joyfully, after all loving someone is to offer up control, because we all know that it is through sharing our lives like this that we know what it is to be fully and wonderfully human. And now the God bit – the Bible tells us that we were created to be in relationship and so to share the control of our lives. And one of those relationships we are offered is with God and in it we are offered both a chance to share ourselves with him but also, crucially, to have him share his life with us.

Imagine that – the creator of the Universe offers himself to us to share in who we are and give us the 'keys' of his creative power and eternal presence. What he asks of us is a willingness give of ourselves to him. It's not us handing over control that he wants, it's the opportunity to expand our horizons and increase our potentials. So like my stay in hospital, putting myself in the hands of the surgeon in order that my physical horizons and potentials are increased, so God holds out his hand and says: 'Let me show you who you can be.' For God as he relates to us it's not really a power sharing deal or a handing over of control to him. In fact we gain more control of our lives as it's a free gift of himself, given to make us more fully human.

So as I'm being weighed and measured, prodded and poked here in hospital I know that God will always treat me as the unique and complex human being that I am and love me as his precious child. And of course you are loved as one as well.

Stay blessed,

*David*  
Rev David Bendor-Samuel  
01865 872102,  
dbendorsamuel@btinternet.com

## *Holton & Waterperry W.I.*

No gin this time but plentiful supplies of wine and soft drinks at our 75th birthday celebration on 1st October.

It was our 65th birthday last year so an explanation is due.....

Holton WI was formed in 1949 (75 years ago) and Waterperry WI was started in 1952.

Holton and Waterperry WI's joined together in 1958 - hence the 65th birthday! Any excuse for a party!

Everyone said how much they had enjoyed our 75th. The table was beautifully arranged, the cake had a picture of our WI banner on it and was cut by our longest-serving member, Joy Green, and the ploughmans was very tasty. All this doesn't just happen - food has to be purchased, prepared and crockery washed up afterwards. The committee did us all proud and were attentive hostesses. Warm thanks to them all.

We moved seats in order to socialise and were amused by some 'magic' and other games.

The July 4th reports (A Day in the Life of ...) were displayed. These are informative social documents.

The deluge on the 23rd September put paid to the walk but another, in Oxford this time, was rearranged for 8th October and that was rained off. Third time lucky!

As an outing, Chalgrove or other distillery tours will be considered and also a meal in February if there are enough numbers. Similarly there will be a trip to Oxford New Theatre to see Cinderella, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, on January 16th. Coach from Holton if sufficient numbers.

Our November meeting is on the 5th when Dee O'Brien will give talk about A Career in the Police Force. We will also have a book stall.

*Barbara Martin*

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# **Holton Parish Council**

## **Planning Applications:**

Public Inquiry – APP/Q3115/W/24/3343775. Greystoke CB Ltd.

Land east of Junction 8a M40 Waterstock.

15-18 October, 29 October-1 November, 5-8 November 2024, 14-17 January and 23 January 2025. At The Great Hall, Fair Mile, Cholsey, OX10 9GW

## **Holton Road Safety Week - 17<sup>th</sup> November – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024**

Time to put out the scarecrows again! National Road Safety Week from 17<sup>th</sup> November to raise road safety awareness – drive within the village speed limit of 20 mph, pedestrians be aware of how difficult it is for drivers to see walkers especially at night and wearing dark clothes, please invest and wear your hi vis, it makes such a difference. Scarecrows wearing hi vis to be put out on the verges or garden boundaries from 17<sup>th</sup> November. Let's beat our previous record of 17 scarecrows in Holton.

The Challenge Cup will be awarded to the winner and judging will take place during the week. Results will be published on Holton Facebook, Next Door, Notice Boards and HWW News.

**The Road Safety Group** thank everyone for their responses and will be collecting all the suggestions together and report on their findings and then engage with the relevant authorities to implements improvements.

## **Vacancy for Holton Parish Councillor**

Regretfully Charlotte Keely has resigned as a Parish Councillor and there is a vacancy for a new Councillor on Holton Parish Council. Charlotte is to be thanked for her contribution to the Parish Council over the past year and we wish her well for her future endeavours. Anyone interested in taking on the role as a Parish Councillor in Holton and join the four existing Parish Councillors should make contact with the Clerk or any Parish Councillor to express their interest and find out about the role.

The Parish Council meets once a month on the second Monday in Holton Village Hall Committee Room. If interested please attend a meeting and see what is involved.

## **The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 11<sup>h</sup> November 2024 starting 7.00 pm** In Holton Village Hall Committee Room.

Agendas will be on the village notice boards and Parish Council website.

Contact details below.

Clerk to Holton Parish Council (Sonja Barter) Home Farm House, Holton, Oxford OX33 1QA

Email: [clerk@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk) Tel: 01865 872334

Copies of Holton Parish Council Meeting Agendas and Approved Minutes can be viewed on the Holton Parish Council website [www.holtonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.holtonparishcouncil.org.uk)

## The Village at War

Come along & enjoy an interesting collection of memories of life in Holton during the War. Personal stories, facts pictures presented by Holton Archive's Jan Marlowe.

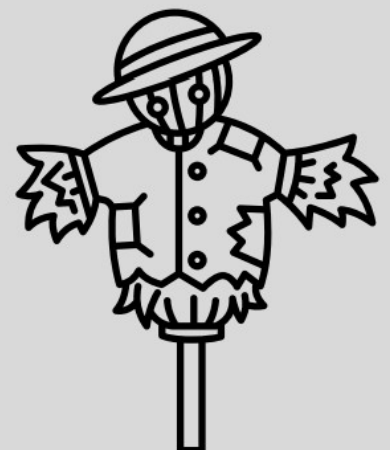
All welcome to come along & learn the history of your village and share memories.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 8pm**  
**Holton Village Hall**  
Bar Open from 7.30pm  
With tea / coffee available

# HOLTON ROAD SAFETY WEEK

17th - 23rd Nov 2024

Time for scarecrows in high vis!



*National Road Safety Week 2024*





## Christmas at Holton Bus Shelter

What do a crab apple tree, six cabbages, a jar of jam, an owl garden ornament and a leaf blower have in common? Well, they were all exchanged at the autumn Bus Shelter Bring and Take at the end of September. Despite it being the wettest month since Noah took to his boat the rain once again relented for a few hours to allow everyone the opportunity to meet up outside without the need for a pair of wellies and an umbrella. The charity collection was for the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Nature Recovery Fund (BBOWT). If you want to find out more they have information on their website: <https://www.bbowt.org.uk/nature-recovery-fund>.

Thank you all for your generosity which raised £120 for the cause. Local wildlife populations are in steep decline and the money will be used locally to help create and maintain better habitats.

### Christmas Bring and Take Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 1 pm

This year Christmas at the Bus Shelter will not involve anyone dancing shirtless on a table whilst surrounded by people wearing red stetsons and holding reindeer shaped balloons and a variety of elf accessories.

There will, however, be an opportunity to bring along and swap any good quality Christmas items, plants, produce, toys, games, puzzles, books and DVDs. If you have nothing to swap that will be absolutely fine and you are very welcome to just pop down for a browse and a chat. We will have warm drinks and seasonal goodies on offer.

Any cash donations will go to Shelter. We will also have a box for donations to Thame Foodbank.

### Decorating the bus shelter for Christmas

After the Bring and Take we will be decorating the bus shelter for Christmas. Can you help us make it look festive? From mid-November there will be star and bauble cut outs available for decorating in any way you'd like ready to hang from the bus shelter ceiling. Dominique will distribute some, there will be some in the bus shelter or if you drop me an email we will pop some round to you. If you prefer to freestyle your own hanging decoration that is welcomed too. You can drop finished decorations to Treetops, take them to an afternoon tea or bring along to the Bring and Take. Thank you!

*Allan East, Holton Parish Council*  
*[allaneast@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:allaneast@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk)*

# Holton Village Hall

[www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk)

## Afternoon Teas at the Village Hall.

The coffee mornings and afternoon teas at the Village Hall continue to be a great success. Many thanks to everyone who helps for all their hard work. The dates in November will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, these will be from 2.30pm until 4.00pm as normal. These events are really well attended so come along for Tea, Coffee, Cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

## The Village at War – 15<sup>th</sup> November 8pm

Personal stories, facts, and pictures presented by Holton Archive's Jan Marlowe. All welcome to come along & learn the history of your village and share memories. Bar Open from 7.30pm. Tea /coffee available.

## Film Night 29<sup>th</sup> November 7pm for 7:30

The next Film will be the Top Gun Maverick starring Tom Cruise, Miles Teller and Jennifer Connelly on 29<sup>th</sup> November from 7pm for 7:30. Entrance is £5 for adults and £3 for under 18s - cash only. Tea, coffee and cake are available (£2) and the bar will be open.

## Road Safety Week 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Revised Dates!

There will be a Road Safety week this year in the Village with scarecrows in high vis! Please display your scarecrow prominently and with pride. See elsewhere in the mag for full details.

## Booking the Village Hall

If you would like to book the Village Hall please call **07873 857063** or please E-mail [bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk)

Mel Ault

## November Birthdays



A very Happy Birthday this month to:

Aimee who will be turning 14

Albert Wootten who will be turning 18

Jack Fonge who will be turning 12

Joe who will be turning 18

Tryston who will be turning 7

(to have a birthday included in the magazine, please email Dominique - [domisqueak@gmail.com](mailto:domisqueak@gmail.com))



# Quiz Night

At Holton Village Hall

## Fri 6<sup>th</sup> December

7.30 for 8pm start

**£10 per head including  
'Ploughmans supper'**

**Bar Open from 7.30pm**

**Tickets in advance only - by  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

Book your team of up to 8 in advance – If you don't have a team, just contact us and we can slot you in with another team.

**Contact; Brian Dobson at  
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or [bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk)  
or phone Brian Dobson 01865 873038**

## *Holton News*

We now move into that season where Christmas looms large and many of us are already thinking about what friends and relatives want in their stockings. Naturally, this has to be balanced against trying for some sort of surprise effect and at the same time balancing a budget. By the time you read this, you will probably have your presents and Christmas card lists ready so that Christmas runs smoothly. Anyway, that's the way it's supposed to be and all the best for next month.

The weather was fine once again for the Apple Pressing day. There was a good turnout and turnover of village people getting apples chopped and pressed for juice. Altogether, it was a fun event, and it looked like everyone was enjoying themselves. Behind the scenes Dominique & Kieron worked incredibly hard to provide and set up all the required equipment and all the associated clearing away at the end. There was a lot of homemade cake available made by the 'Friends' with tea and coffee, so many thanks to them and all others that helped.

The recent downpours and floods have damaged the village roads in places. In the past, this sort of damage was reported and fixed pretty quickly. We need the 'potholers' to take action but they are otherwise occupied at present with projects like finishing a home extension and half term visits to see grandchildren. Watch this space though, they will return.

The recent weather has been pretty wet and sometimes extremely wet, just look at the floods in Wheatley. The video of the flood was just scary and the after effects are still evident. In our village there was an inundation near the village hall and several streams have appeared again where least expected. Damage was limited but it's still a worry. Let's hope that we don't get one month's rain in one day again for some time!

Watch out for all the other events in the village on the village website

<https://www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk/events/> or in the magazine under Holton Village Hall. Do let me know if you have any village news that you wish to appear in these notes in future, especially if you are new to the village.

*Mel Ault*

## *Holton Cock and Bull*

Superstitions about the sea are never far below the surface, as this tale demonstrates.

The launch of Robert Whittaker's yacht on the Solent took an unexpected turn, just as the champagne bottle was about to be broken over the bow. His wife, Alice, after whom the vessel was to be named, had just said 'I name this ship' when the bottle slipped from her grasp and smashed.

The pair had a hurried conversation and decided it might prove unlucky to change Alice's announcement. The shipyard painter was summoned and, after a short delay, the boat was duly launched. It is now named 'Oh bugger, I've dropped the champers'.

*Name and address supplied*





## Take part in Holton's Living Advent Calendar 2024

We will be running Holton's popular annual Living Advent Calendar again this year and do hope you will take part, either by decorating a window or simply by coming along to enjoy some of the illuminations and refreshments.

This year maybe you'd like to just decorate a small window in a very simple manner?

Window displays can be as simple as a single star silhouette.

Similarly, please do not feel obliged to offer refreshments.

We do not necessarily need to have refreshments every night.

Another option is if you'd like to combine with some neighbours to share a date to illuminate your windows together and arrange some refreshments?

The idea is just to have some festive fun and create a friendly way of bringing the village together in Holton during Advent.

We will create a map of which houses will reveal their windows on which days, so that everyone can enjoy taking a tour of the decorated houses. Going along to the different displays is the best bit! Walk through the village to gather outside a display at 6.30pm with neighbours and take in the beautiful windows.


If you'd like to volunteer to decorate a window, please email Clare to find out how to sign up for your preferred date.

It would be helpful to know whether you want to decorate a simple window only, or to decorate a window and offer food, or whether you have a group of neighbours who'd like to get together on a single date to host.

I do hope you will join in.

Thank you.

*Clare Wright*  
Clare99wright@gmail.com



# FILM NIGHT

## Holton Village Hall

Friday 29th November 2024

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

### **Top Gun: Maverick (12)**

**Starring**

**Tom Cruise & Jennifer Connelly**

**Run time approx. 2 hours 10 minutes**

The sequel to the original 1980s movie, Top Gun: Maverick is “The perfect adrenaline rush.” After more than thirty years of service as a top naval aviator, Pete “Maverick” Mitchell (Tom Cruise) is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot. Yet, Maverick must confront the ghosts of his past when he returns to TOP GUN to train a group of elite graduates and comes face-to-face with Lt. Bradshaw (Miles Teller), the son of his former wingman, “Goose.” Bitter rivalries ignite as the pilots prepare for a specialised mission, which will require the ultimate sacrifice from those chosen to fly it.

**ENTRANCE - cash only**

**Adults £5**

**Under 18s £3**

**TEA / COFFEE & CAKE £2 - cash only**

**BAR OPEN**

Get into the *festive spirit* this November and December 2024 at Waterperry Gardens



Waterperry  
Gardens

#### **CHRISTMAS AT WATERPERRY GARDENS**

Get into the Christmas spirit at Waterperry Gardens with Christmas shopping from our Gallery, Gift Barn and Christmas Shop, along with British grown Christmas trees and hand-finished wreaths. *A shopper's delight with great gift ideas for all the family!*

#### **CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

**Sat 23 & Sun 24 Nov and Sat 7 & Sun 8 Dec – 10am till 4pm.**

Join us for our Christmas Markets - Arts and Craft Stalls with gorgeous handmade gift ideas and festive food and drink (*free entry to markets*).

**COME & MEET REAL REINDEER Sat 23 & Sun 24 Nov – 11.30am - 2.30pm**

A little taste of the North Pole will arrive right here in the Walled Garden at Waterperry Gardens! You'll get the chance to learn all about these unique creatures and their natural habitats (*normal garden entrance fee applies*).

#### **FIND SANTA'S REINDEER TRAIL!**

**Sat 23 Nov till Tues 24 Dec – 10am till 5pm**

Help Rudolph find his friends lost all around the gardens and win a prize!

**£3.95 per child.** Children must be accompanied by an adult paying garden entrance fee.

**Christmas Closure:** We will be closed between Christmas and the New Year.

For more details on all our events please visit [www.waterperrygardens.co.uk](http://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk)



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[msmelectrical61@gmail.com](mailto:msmelectrical61@gmail.com)

# Waterperry News

I'm sure I don't need to make any comment about the weather over the last month – we've all seen the photos, read the reports, splashed up the road and lanes and paddled around our own gardens. So all I'll say is that I really REALLY hope that's our rain allocation done & dusted now and that winter will be kinder to us all. I realise that might be a wish too far! As I write, this last week has felt positively summery – the sun is shining and it's actually warm! Summer flowers and roses are still in fresh bloom and it's been fun to get a cheery wave from a bunch of village children as we get home in the afternoons. Bombing around on their bikes enjoying the late summer sunshine and not bent over their phones – so refreshing!

**Parish Council** – our next meeting is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> November: please come along to be part of what deciding what goes on in the village. Here are some recent discussions we've had: Driving to and from work through Oakley and Brill, we've seen several times the roadside drains being cleared by a truck with a large hose 'sucking' up the water and muck, leaving a free-flowing drain and clearing persistent roadside puddles. Of course, these are in our neighbouring county and heaven forbid that they'd venture onto Oxfordshire roads but I've been onto Highways at OCC to ask why they can't provide the same service for our village surface water drains. As far as I've seen this year all we've had is a road sweeper lorry that seemed to brush more gravel and earth *into* the road and drains than it actually cleared. I'm sure it's not only the drains near us that are so blocked with mud that they aren't even visible now so of course water just sits on the road. So far all I've had is a reply to say this is now handled by "Area Operations, Cyclical Maintenance team" and my query has been forwarded on for them to consider and respond. I'm waiting.....

**The Waterstock golf course development:** the fight against this continues. As I drive around I see every week that business, science park and warehousing developments in the area have lots of long-term vacant units so it's hard to understand how this development can be justified, but the agent is very determined to make his money from pushing through for permission. This isn't just Waterstock's battle, we'll all be affected by the detriment to wildlife and the environment, so please do what you can to support the cause when the appeals go out. The parish council voted to make a donation to the fund towards the legal work that is needed, but individual support and donations are very much appreciated by Waterstock please see their mailings and posters for information.

**Village biodiversity:** at our last meeting the parish council discussed the possibility of uniting as a village to help wildlife and nature conservation. It is several years since we had hedgehogs in our garden – I was told by Tiggywinkles that our badgers in close proximity preclude us from rehoming any hedgehogs that have been injured or orphaned. Does anyone else still have them? We have also noticed a definite decline in the bat population over the last few summers. We discussed that perhaps a 'working group' could be set up to take action on this – it would be informal, as in not requiring any committee or things like Agendas and Minutes, but the group could put ideas to the parish council to request funding and support for any projects. Our initial ideas were for the PC to perhaps buy a number of bat boxes or owl boxes to be placed in volunteers' trees; or perhaps for children to carry out a survey of wildflowers and small wildlife in the graveyard which is already a largely undisturbed sanctuary habitat. We'll have a noticeboard that could be used to make a village nature board, so Come on, get together with your neighbours to come up with ideas – Caroline is happy to be the 'go-between' and we'd love to hear from you.



**Finally** – as you will have heard, Mary Harrison sadly died at the end of September. Mary and her family have been part of village life for around 60 years, coming here originally when her late husband, Oliver, worked on the estate, particularly growing vegetables in the South and West Fields as well as in their own garden – Mary was proud to show me photos of the impeccably straight rows of veg in the garden at Spinney Cottage. After Oliver died Mary took great pleasure in her garden, turned over now to lawn with specimen trees and several clumps of her favourite pampas grass. An oak tree in the middle of the garden was presented by the then steward and staff at Waterperry House, dedicated to Oliver. Mary loved watching the birds at her bird table and also the comings and goings to the garden centre past her front windows and at 96 years old, until a few weeks ago she would still be out there every day, filling bird baths, topping up bird feeders and pulling out weeds. Her great love through all her years here was for her various cats - I remember her showing me a book about cats that her husband gave her, with the inscription “for Mary, who loves cats more than she loves me” (a story also mentioned in a dedication at her memorial service)! Her last little puss, Dusty, died just a few months earlier this year. Mary missed her companion hugely and it seems fitting that neither of them have to face this coming winter alone. I shall miss Mary as cheerful neighbour, always happy to invite me in for a natter. There was a memorial service for Mary after a family funeral service on the 11<sup>th</sup> October, full of warm memories and family love. Shirley, Michael and Sara asked me to thank everyone that came along to remember their Mum and that helped decorate the church with beautiful flowers. It’s rather lovely that the family connection continues, as Michael has now come to work part-time on the estate.

*Sue Parker*

*Busy Baskets Nursery trading as:*



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## *Waterstock News*

As I write the weather has turned warmer and we have seen some sunny days. A vast improvement on the awful wet weather and flooding that we have experienced recently with some villagers driven from their homes due to flood damage, in some cases for up to 6 months. Sincere sympathies to those that have been affected.

Never have I seen the road flooded so badly outside our house with such a strong current it was running like a river. Some cars managed to get through with water coming over the top of their front bumpers. I hope that the engines survived! While a van nearly ended up in the ditch as the driver completely miscalculated where the edge of the road was. We got off quite lightly compared to some, 2 of our stables flooded, but fortunately not our house. Many thanks to all those that helped clear the ditches opposite Home Farm after the flooding. It has definitely made a difference. Further works are being discussed to alleviate the problem.

Rosalind reports that the "Harvest Festival service in the church this year was made particularly special as it was combined with the Christening of Robert Alexander Heron, otherwise known as Bobby, son of Shona and Tom, his older brother Joss also enjoyed the service and took an interested part. It was a great service; the church decorated with fruit and produce and lots of young families and friends gathered for this combined celebration. David manged a very successful juggling act of this unusual blending of festivities.

The Harvest produce was taken a few days later to Wheatley Church, now newly restored and reopened, where they hold a weekly open house "Larder" session for people to come in and help themselves to food and contribute something or not, as they wish. The donated food is beautifully presented by helpers and provides a good social afternoon for many."

The Planning Inquiry into the proposed development of the Western section of the golf club, finally got underway on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at the Great Hall Cholsey. Henry has provided a report of the first week's activities;

"The first topics selected for review were Landscape and Green Belt where Henry Manisty (Landscape) and Michael Tyce (Green Belt) represented Waterstock, and where the (always impressive) Michelle Bolger, who had previously been engaged by Waterstock, represented SODC as their landscape witness. Then it was the turn of Arabella Whelan, with a barnstorming performance, to set out the horse-riding concerns. Greystoke's expert was mercilessly taken apart by SODC's and our barrister.

Thursday morning was set aside for individuals to make representations to the Planning Inspector. The range and quality of the representations was impressive. Freddie de Mierlo, our MP, and Tim Bearder, our Councillor, made strong supporting contributions, as did Chris Hill (on behalf of Tiddington PC) and David Mancey (Wheatley Society). Wendy Walker and Margaret Allen flew the flag for Waterstock Golf Club members, in particular female members, stressing physical and mental benefits. Troth Wells from Oxford put the case for the equestrian community, as did Tamsin Woods from Ickford, speaking in her capacity as a coach for the Riding for the Disabled Association and also representing those from Ickford who enjoy the Ickford, Waterstock, Waterperry, circular work. Waterstock was well represented with excellent contributions from Susie Edmondson, Sarah Godowski, John Wilkinson, Rosalind Portman, Michael Haffey and Jane Harper.

Thursday afternoon was the Inspector's Site visit, which comprised a long walk that took in visits to the Golf Club, walking the Oxfordshire Way to Waterperry, the two footpaths on the Site and Waterstock Lane. Arabella showed the Inspector around the Riding School. Thankfully, it was a fine afternoon, and it all seemed to go well. One high spot

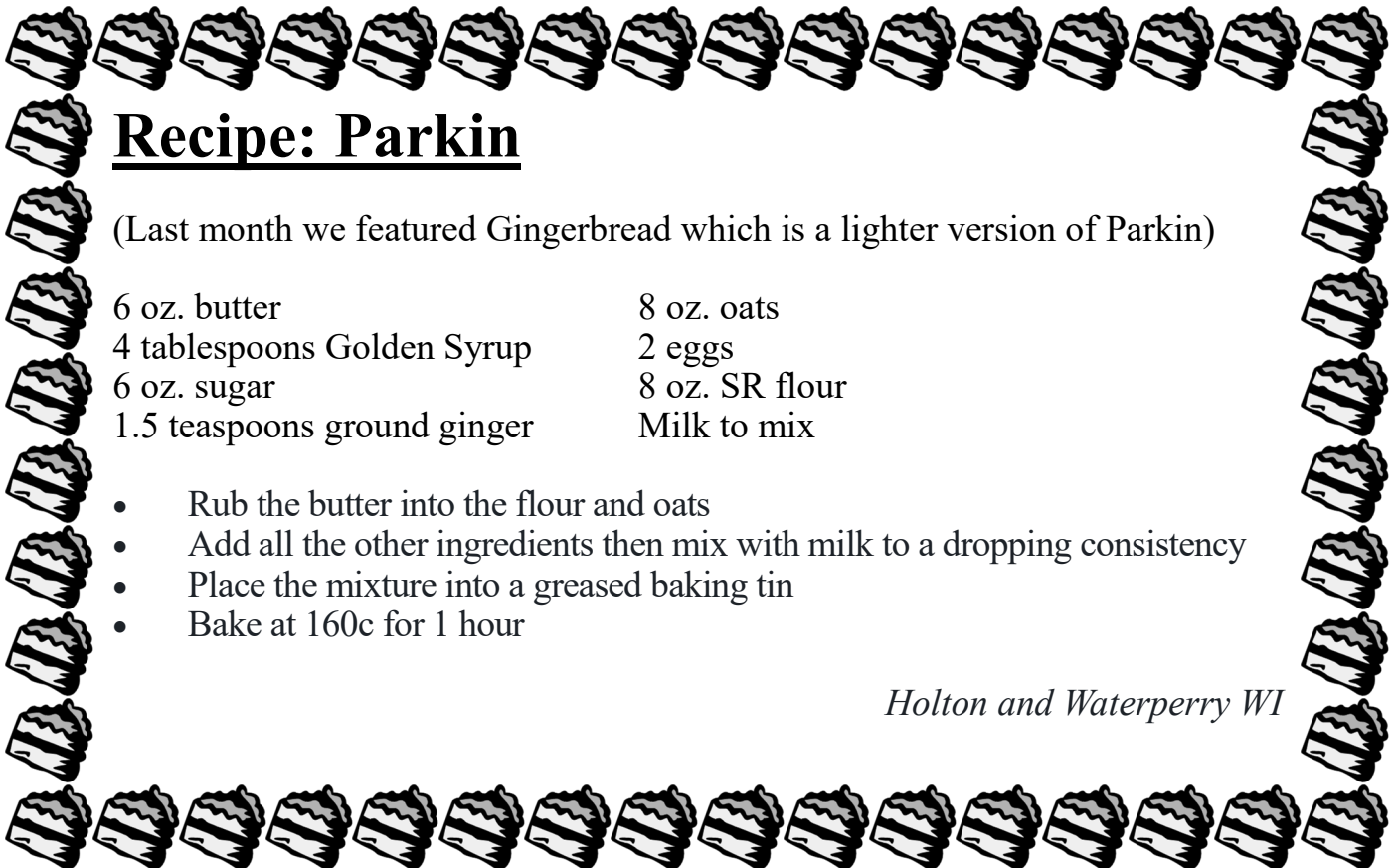
was guest appearances by roe deer on the golf course while we were walking. On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> it was the turn of the botanist Professor Roger Heath-Brown to give evidence on behalf of Waterstock. Roger was quietly effective in pointing to important mistakes and omissions in the Greystoke case. We expect Nick Marriner to further undermine Greystoke's ecology case, by similarly pointing to numerous mistakes and omissions, when he gives his evidence on birds on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

It was great that so many Waterstockians made it to Cholsey - NOT a convenient location - to support witnesses. All in all, things got off to a good start."

A big thank you to everyone who has spent so much of their time on fighting this development from both inside and outside the village. An incredible amount of time has been given to the preparations for fighting the original application and now this appeal. We are so lucky to have people in the village who have the right skill set and are prepared to give so generously of their time to carry out the important work required to fight a case such as this. A big thank you also to all those that have donated funds either directly or through crowd funding to pay our legal costs.

Finally, please make a note on your calendar of the village Carol Service and Supper. This year it will be at 5.00pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December followed by the normal bring and share village supper at Home Farm afterwards at 6.30pm. This will be the usual buffet style supper so please email me with your suggested food and drink contribution for the evening at the following email address [janet.shipperley@gmail.com](mailto:janet.shipperley@gmail.com) or call me on 07808 403166.

*Janet Shipperley*



## Recipe: Parkin

(Last month we featured Gingerbread which is a lighter version of Parkin)

6 oz. butter	8 oz. oats
4 tablespoons Golden Syrup	2 eggs
6 oz. sugar	8 oz. SR flour
1.5 teaspoons ground ginger	Milk to mix

- Rub the butter into the flour and oats
- Add all the other ingredients then mix with milk to a dropping consistency
- Place the mixture into a greased baking tin
- Bake at 160c for 1 hour

*Holton and Waterperry WI*



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