

# GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

March 2025

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## Great Milton Parish Council

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Stephen Harrod</b>	<b>01844 278068</b>
Ward:	Church Road to Monckery Farm/The Priory	
<b>Vice Chairman:</b>	<b>Bill Fox</b>	<b>01844 279716</b>
Ward:	Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>David Harms</b>	
Ward:	The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood	
<b>Councillor:</b>	—	—
Ward:	The Old Garage to North End Cottage, Lower End	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Sarah MacMahon</b>	<b>07580 581655</b>
Ward:	Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Malcolm Horsley</b>	<b>07970 924194</b>
Ward:	Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Andrew Noble</b>	—
Ward:	Milton Common	

**Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Jacqueline Wren**  
[clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk)

## Parish Council Representatives

Rec Ground Committee:	James Cunningham (Chair), Michele Block (Vice-Chair)
Old Field Charity:	Adrian Buckmaster (Chair), David Mackrory (Treasurer)
Hard Surface Play Area:	Mark Nethercleft (Chair), Dan Bennett (Treasurer), Sarah MacMahon (Membership)
Neighbourhood Watch:	Rod Snowdon
Kent & Couling Charity:	Simon Cronk, Tricia Treanor, Sue Denham
Sheppard Trust:	Simon Cronk, Jane Willis
Neighbours' Hall:	Mike Robinson (Chair), Christine Donnelly

**Front Cover:** Marmalade at Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons.

**Photo:** Clare Blakeway-Phillips.

## Key Contacts:

### Local Governance

Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Freddie Van Mierlo	07944 492438	freddie.vanmierlo@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor: Georgina Heritage	07951 477144	Georgina.Heritage@southoxon.gov.uk
Great Milton Parish Council		
Stephen Harrod (Chair)	01844 278068	
Jacqueline Wren (Clerk)	—	clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk
Report potholes, fly-tipping, vandalism, broken paving		Fixmystreet.com
OCC Family Information Service	08452 262636	fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
OCC Highways	0845 310 1111	highway.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Missed Bin Collection	03000 610610	admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk
Bulky Household Waste Collection	01235 422406	waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Housing	01235 422422	housing@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Planning Applications	01235 422600	planning@southoxon.gov.uk

### Services

Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance	999	
Police non-emergency	101	thamesvalley.police.uk
GP Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448	morland-house.co.uk
NHS non-emergency	111	nhs.uk
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	nationalgrid.com/uk/safety/
Electricity Outage	0800 072 7282	sse.co.uk
Burst pipe or leak	0800 714 614	thameswater.co.uk
Floodline	0345 988 1188	gov.uk/check-flood-risk

### Local information

St. Mary's Church: Rev. Simon Cronk		simon.cronk@btinternet.com
Methodist Church: Rev. Stephen Spain	01865 763676	
Neighbourhood Watch: Rod Snowdon	07836 728919	bigsnodi@hotmail.co.uk
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	03444 111 444	caox.org.uk
The Maple Tree Children's Centre	01865 873916	mapletreecc@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Great Milton Neighbours Hall	07970 264667	
Great Milton Pavilion & Recreation Ground	01844 278116	
Great Milton Website		clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk www.greatmilton-pc.gov.uk
Great Milton Bulletin	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk
Great Milton Primary School	01844 279388	gmilton.org
Wheatley Park School	01865 872441	www.wheatleypark.org

### Transport

Comet - for people without access to suitable public transport	01865 323201	oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet
46 Bus Service	01865 785400	info@oxfordbus.co.uk
Arriva (280) Bus	0344 800 4411	arrivabus.co.uk
Oxford Tube (Buses to London)	01865 772250	oxfordtube.com
Park & Ride		oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/parkandride
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	nationalrail.co.uk

## Parish Council News

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of Great Milton Parish Council (GMPC) held at the Pavilion on Monday 17th February 2025, at 7.30pm

Present: B Fox (Vice Chair), Councillors M Horsley (MH), David Harms (DH), Sarah MacMahon (SM) and Andrew Noble (AN)

In attendance: Allison Leigh (Locum Clerk), Jacqueline Wren (Clerk), and the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

175/24 Apologies for Absence: Stephen Harrod (Chair), Georgina Heritage (District Councillor)

176/24 Variation of Order of Business: None 177/24 Declarations of members' interests: None 178/24 Reports:

South Oxfordshire District Council

A report was received from the District Councillor. See Attachment 1.

DH noted that new calculations show South Oxfordshire has a land supply of 4.5yrs and that OCC have set the budget to include a 4.99% increase in council tax.

Oxfordshire County Council

A report was received from the County Councillor. See Attachment 2.

The Vice Chair advised that the Police Report should be removed from future agendas as Thames Valley Police have advised they will no longer be providing reports.

179/24 Correspondence and Public Discussion

Updates from Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) were noted.

An invitation to the Community Currents Workshop from River Thames Conservation Trust was received.

180/24 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the 20th January 2025 were approved and signed.

181/24 Actions from the previous meeting: The council reviewed the actions from the previous meetings:

- Vice Chair to review moss on pavement in Oxen Piece
- Photographs for the website needed from DH, SM, AN
- Clerk to complete the mandate changes on Unity account to enable the account switchover

182/24 Training: It was agreed that the council will fund two upcoming training courses with OALC:

New Clerks' Finance – 30th April

New Clerk's Training – 8th May

Clerk to book training and advise council of the costs. It was noted that any funds

remaining in the 24/25 budget should be used for these courses.

183/24 Planning Applications: The council discussed the following application:  
P25/S0336/HH and P25/S0337/LB

Tanners Cottage Lower End Great Milton OX44 7NF

Single-storey glazed extension to side/rear. Infill existing covered bay to rear.

It was agreed that there is likely to be limited impact as the extension is already a covered area. This property falls within a ward which does not currently have a Councillor, therefore SM was allocated to discuss with the property's immediate neighbours to understand any concerns they may have. The council resolved to ask for an extension to the consultation deadline to allow for a decision to be made at next month's meeting.

184/24 Finance

A Payments authorised:

Jacqueline Wren - Clerk's expenses - £33.56

Staff - Staff costs - £172.40

Staff - Staff costs - £540.48

Allison Leigh - Locum Clerk - expenses - £58.65

Allison Leigh - Locum Clerk - February - £600.00

Bibby Financial Services

Tactical Facilities Management – Dec 24 + Jan 25 - £1163.20

Jonathan Dudley - Bulletin – Layout and printing February 2025 - £287.60

Receipts – There were no receipts.

B Bank Reconciliation and Accounts: The bank reconciliation and statement of accounts were agreed and signed.

185/24: Asset inspection: The Locum Clerk noted that the Asset Register required updating with details of the routine inspection of assets for internal audit. The Asset Register was updated accordingly and the Clerk will review in preparation for the forthcoming audit.

186/24 Security in the village: The Neighbourhood Watch coordinator advised that it had been a quiet December and January for security concerns but that he was notified of a break-in on Lower End on 2nd February where a car and cash was stolen. This was reported to Thames Valley Police.

The Neighbourhood Watch coordinator emphasised the importance of timely reporting in these instances.

187/24 Items for next agenda or information only

- It was noted that the correspondence address for the council needs to be updated with SODC Planning.



- DH noted another Litter Pick needed before spring growth makes it impractical. Litter on village roads to be added to the agenda for next month.

- The Vice Chair advised that the meeting with Highways has been rearranged for 9th April at 10am.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 17th March starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.

Agenda items for the March meeting are due to the Clerk by Wednesday, 6th March 2025

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## The Rector's Pint

Every Wednesday morning, I meet with our two lay ministers, Toby Garfitt and Tony Jefferis to pray together and plan ahead for our work in our churches and schools, (Toby and I share in collective worship in both schools, Great Milton and Little Milton, taking turns week by week). We read from scripture, often choosing the Psalms, using the daily selection from the Church of England cycle of readings.

I have written about this before, but over the years the Psalms have been a tremendous resource, particularly when I have found the going tough. The Psalms are a repository of the full range of human experience and emotion, a reminder that life can throw many surprises at us, joys and sorrows, elation and rejoicing, but also times of dark despair. They don't pull any punches, and what I love about them is that we find in these verses honesty about the human experience. For instance, as I write, it is a Wednesday, and this morning, Toby, Tony and I read from Psalm 13:

*How long will you forget me O Lord; for ever?  
How long will you hide your face from me?  
How long shall I have anguish in my soul  
And grief in my heart, day after day?*

The Psalm goes on for a few verses and ends:

*But I put my trust in your steadfast love;  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord,  
For he has dealt so bountifully with me.*



## Benefice Services for March

	<b>St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton</b>	<b>St. James's Little Milton</b>	<b>St. Peter's Great Haseley</b>
Sunday 2nd		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am
Wednesday 5th <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Holy Communion 7:00pm	Family Worship 10:30am	
Sunday 9th	Holy Communion 9:00am		
Wednesday 12th			Compline 6:00pm
Sunday 16th	Holy Communion 9:00am Family Worship 10:30am		
Wednesday 19th		Family Worship 10:30am	
Sunday 23rd	Benefice Family Worship 10:30am	Holy Communion BCP 9:00am	
Wednesday 26th	Family Worship 10:30am		
Sunday 30th <i>Mothering Sunday</i>		Benefice Holy Communion 10:30am	

## Benefice Services for April

	<b>St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton</b>	<b>St. James's Little Milton</b>	<b>St. Peter's Great Haseley</b>
Wednesday 2nd			Compline 6:00pm
Sunday 7th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am

It's an act of defiance, a statement that declares that the present situation is not the whole picture, that we can bring everything to God, and in doing so we can learn to trust, and be held in God's strength, even (or especially) in times of weakness. I have known many challenges in my faith journey as a Christian, I am so thankful for the Psalms which have helped me through.

I have also written before, that when I read the Psalms, I also read alongside from a wonderful book called David's Crown, by Malcolm Guite, which mirrors the Psalms. His poems are not interpretations, they are responses to each Psalm. So for instance, for the same Psalm 13, he begins:

*Come down to free us, come as our true friend,  
How long, how long? Oh do not hide your face  
Or let me sleep in death, but light my end*

*Till it becomes a bright beginning. Place  
Your wounded hands in mine and raise me up  
That even grief may turn to grace.*

Honesty about the human condition brings us, of course, into Lent. Used well, it's so much more than giving up chocolate! It is a journey of honest self-reflection, which leads us to God's grace, forgiveness and renewal. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year it falls on March 5th, and we will have a simple and reflective Holy Communion service at 7.00pm at St. Mary's Great Milton. I hope you will want to join us.

May you have a blessed Lent.

*Simon*

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## Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Stephen Spain on 01865 763676

March 2025				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
2nd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Stephen Spain	Communion
9th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	G. Thompson	
16th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Kocak Arrangement	
23rd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	David Harper	
30th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Stephen Spain	Mothering Sunday

## Shop Closure

As many of our regular customers are already aware we will be closing the shop at the end of May. The Post Office will close too, the exact timing for that is dependent on the availability of auditors and Post Office change managers.

We have had 27 very happy years here and love the community and the area. We intend staying in our home.

The decision has been precipitated by Christine's fall and injury, but changing lifestyles and retail patterns have made it increasingly difficult to run a viable business in recent years.

Thank you everyone for your support and good wishes, especially this last month.

*Patrick and Christine*

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## Great Milton History



The Old School was built in 1854. In 1971 the New School opened and was at once over subscribed.

It was designed for 90 pupils but on day one a hundred turned up!

It took several years of argy bargy before the Upper Juniors (10 – 11 year olds) transferred over to the Old and now very delapidated School.

After much refurbishment and gifts of posters and books from Richard Balkwell and Brian Pattinson, all was ready for a good learning experience.

The return of the Upper Juniors to a newly spruced up school room was marked by the ringing of the bell – the same that had called young mid Victorian Miltonians to their desks when school opened in 1854.



## Lent Lunches

These are held in each of the different villages within the Benefice during Lent for folk to get together over a bowl of soup with bread and cheese and to raise money for Christian Aid... Last year just under £600 was raised. Essentially, we gather to chat and meet each other in four different houses on the dates below...each lunch is held on a Wednesday between 12.30 and 2.00pm. All are welcome!

The dates and venues for this year are:

Wednesday 5th March

Orpwoods Cottage, Thame Road, OX44 7HZ, Trudy's home in Great Milton, Tel. 01844 279380

Wednesday 12th March

Church Farm (next to Great Haseley Church) Judy Alexander's home, OX44 7JZ, Tel. 07702345195

Wednesday 19th March

Spring Cottage, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7PP c/o Sally Ann Dennis, Tel. 01844 278029

Wednesday 26th March

Northend Cottage, Great Milton, OX44 7NF c/o Jane Jefferis, Tel. 01844 278743

Please do telephone any of the hosts if you need further directions...

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and to sharing wonderful conversation, delicious soup and Manoir rolls etc.

*S.A. Dennis*

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## Great Milton Neighbours' Club

The Club commences its year in a traditional way with a return outing to the Thames River-side Ferryman Inn, Bablock Hythe for lunch and skittles on Thursday 13th March. Steeped in history, The Ferryman Inn is one of the oldest ferry crossing points and made famous by the Matthew Arnold poem "The Scholar Gypsy". The venue has become a firm favourite with the Club over the years with its choice of four

classic pub lunches.

An invitation has been extended to anyone (over the age of 55) to share this early year excursion. A choice of four main meals plus a selection of deserts and tea/coffee and coach journey costs £40 for non-Club members. Various coach pick-up points in the Village and surrounding area. Bookings must be made by 6th March at the latest. For details, please contact Fred Cubbage on 01844 279683 or via [fred.cubbage@btinternet.com](mailto:fred.cubbage@btinternet.com).

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## **We Hope You Like Marmalade!**

As part of our village Church Fete planning, a group of us wished to make a batch of marmalade. Le Manoir cookery school very kindly offered us its kitchen so we upped our game and decided to make about 100 jars. It was hard work but what fun we had! Special thanks go to Ian Bingham for funding the ingredients, Evelyn Joslin and Linda Lee-Wright for leading the cooking and Claire Maclean for her baked cakes to keep us going. Special thanks must be given to Mark, Mikey and Cindy from the cookery school for their fun, help and kindness. It was a brilliant day.

Our Fete is on June 14 so make a note in your diary. If you can help in any way, please get in touch.

*Clare Blakeway-Phillips*



## Great Milton School

Welcome to the first of this year's Primary School News Bites, issued on behalf of Great Milton School by the Board of Governors. So that you in the community get to know more about your village school, and find out how to get more involved.

Our headteacher is now well into her role of Executive Headteacher of both Great and Little Milton schools. A role she will pursue until the newly appointed co-headteachers of Little Milton school begin their headship next term. As a Governing Body we thought it was important to support a neighbouring school whilst providing development opportunities to our staff. Whilst Mrs Frost divides her time equally between the two schools her deputy, Mrs Green, as well as Mrs Bennett, will deputise for her and in so doing develop their own leadership skills.

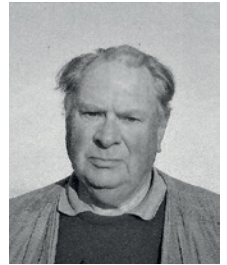
At the time of writing there are two vacancies for a parent governor. Parent governors are a vital part of the school's governing board. If you would like to know a little more about becoming one please get in touch with Chris Matthews or Nicky Noake who both have experience of this role. We need committed parent governors to make the governing board as effective as it can be. All governors receive training to help us carry out our roles. Spring Term (67 days long) ends on 4 April.

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### View from Views

After what I would call a rather depressing winter at last not only can we look forward to the coming of spring and more cheerful weather but, I think the birds feel the same as suddenly they seem to be more vocal. Although we have probably had the same amount of rain as usual it has been in first and starts heavy downpours and then a lull, having said that the ground is saturated, evidenced by pools of water in most fields when it rains. Also the flooding on the river has not been so bad, we have seen the fields now and again, I think that the levels have been higher than in the past. However every time the floods disappear it is noticeable flocks of Egrets appear in every increasing numbers, up to 20 I reckon, I am sure some of them are the Cattle Egrets which are I believe somewhat rare. The winter on the whole has been mild, in spite of being miserable of late, I am though concerned that there is enough feed for the small birds, in spite of the fact we feed them at this time of year, the Government are supposed to be helping finance this but, at the moment have paused the payments, as they are short of money, I guess they do not understand that the birds




don't understand Government finances, not sure that I do either, regard less of this we will continue our annual feeding regime, we can't allow them to starve. Doesn't matter to the Government as they can blame the farmers.

I mention above how dull the weather has been really depressing cold dank dull miserable let's hope things will look up once spring comes, (although the third week in Feb things looked better) or when this gets to you. By the time of writing most of the crops were beginning to look as if they had had enough of this weather too, we only need a few days sunshine and a little warm for these few days and all would look so different we will wonder what our fears were all about. Having said that Partridges have started to pair up, Hares acting out their normal March Hare episodes, and birdsong increasing by the day, so it is really looking as if Spring could be just round the corner.

Just recently I attended some very interesting and informative seminars, instigated by our Thame Catchment Farm Cluster, on Hedge Row Management and, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), both exceptionally good and informative. The one on Hedges showed up what was both good and bad in how we are managing our own hedges, but the IPM illustrates that although we are following some of the principals there is still a lot more we can do. The principal of IPM is actually fairly obvious in that one predator is usually predated by something else, so if you kill the predator chemically then its predator may starve so as time goes on it can all be self-defeating, that by encouraging the predators predator, with some plant that it likes, you could solve your problems without the use of chemicals and expense. Obviously, it is not as simple as that but it shows there are other ways of controlling pests other than using something out of a can, and basically this is what is behind IPM.

As part of this story, it has been announced that the ban on the use of a certain chemical on sugar beet, that has been allowed in the past will now stand, this ban also includes many other crops, Rape in particular, that is why we now many have stopped growing this crop, so we now have to import similar oil, which will be produced using these banned chemicals. Although, I am not against this ban as the said chemical has an effect on bees, the problem is that what food we have to import to replace that which we cannot grow, will almost certainly have been treated with chemicals banned in the UK, so what has been gained.

On the issue of the IHT we are now faced with, it is good to learn that, we are being supported not only a majority of the public, by our suppliers as they fear we will lack the ability or, the inclination to invest and, by the retailers who buy our products, as they will have to look further afield to get their goods to sell, not to mention that farmers are threatening to blockade their warehouses'. This of course will not help our food security which in the present global situation is a little worrying to say the 

least. Not to labour the point it will not have escaped anyone we are still demonstrating against as many farmers are really worried which way to turn. The Environmental Minister has the cheek to say we must look to other streams of income, what the hell have we been talking about for the last 30 or so years, and now I gather he has stated that he knows that farming is not profitable, that he will do all he can to help, he needs to talk to the supermarkets, wish him luck on that one. The trouble with diversification is that this will inevitably mean setting up a separate enterprise and, how will that then be taxed when it is handed on, at the higher rate I shouldn't wonder.

*Charles Peers*

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## **E. H. Shepard Exhibition**

### **Inspires talk on Shepard's War and series of Winnie-the-Pooh workshops during school holidays**

A series of events will be running alongside the popular E. H. Shepard: Before and Beyond Winnie-the-Pooh exhibition which opened at Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock earlier this year, including a talk by James Campbell; Chairman of the Shepard Trust and author of Shepard's War and the upcoming The Men Who Created Winnie-the-Pooh.

The talk, also titled Shepard's War, will take place at 2pm, Saturday 29 March 2025, and will see Campbell detail the life of Ernest Howard Shepard before he drew Winnie-the-Pooh, and explore the illustrator's experiences in the Great War.

E. H. Shepard has delighted generations of children with his charming drawings of Winnie-the-Pooh and friends. However, before the bear, he used his artistic talent to document his time in the trenches during the First World War, through a series of humorous caricatures, cartoons, and sketches.

Serving as an officer in the Royal Artillery, he fought both on the Western Front and in Italy during the First World War. Shepard was initially considered too old to join up at the outset of the war, but would cover the events of the war as it unfolded through his regular work for Punch and other publications as a political cartoonist.

However, by 1915, as the expanding conflict saw recruitment soar, he was in uniform and undertaking officer training. From his early training he illustrated comical scenes and observations from around camps and barracks, and continued to make quick sketches wherever there was time when at the frontlines.

James Campbell will expand on the artist's story in this talk supporting the Before & Beyond exhibition at the museum this March.

Shepard's work will continue to delight children visiting the museum starting this

half term, as a series of Winnie-the-Pooh inspired activities and workshops will also take place alongside the new exhibition.

Starting on 20 February, during half-term, and continuing throughout school holidays up to the end of the summer, the museum will host Teddy Bear Tea Parties for young children alongside family craft workshops, including kite-making, crafting simple puppets, and animal-ear headbands themed around the characters from Hundred Acre Wood.

More information about each of the activities on offer is available on the museum website, as well as the ability to book spaces in advance. See [www.soho.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.soho.org.uk/whats-on) for the full calendar of these events and more.

E. H. Shepard: Before & Beyond Winnie-the-Pooh and its supporting events programme comes to Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum in collaboration with The Shepard Trust and the Archives and Special Collections, University of Surrey.

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## Wild Oxfordshire


### April News – Curlew

The Curlew's wonderful 'bubbling' call is one of the most evocative sounds of springtime in meadows and pastures across Oxfordshire. Something we cherish, but which is sadly under threat. The Curlew is arguably the most pressing bird conservation priority in the UK, where nearly half the breeding population has been lost over the last 25 years and where range contraction has seen Curlews disappear from many traditional sites.

Watch our 'Curlew River' film which explores the work of farmers and volunteers to help our wonderful Curlews as well as highlighting the fabulous ancient meadows and wet grassland habitats that they inhabit in our area. <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/projects/curlew>

### National Allotment Week

Allotments can provide wonderful spaces for nature and people. Allotments and gardens are now a vital refuge for much of our local wildlife, with many species now relying on our gardens to survive, such as the greenfinch, stag beetle and hedgehog. It's easy to forget that our gardens join up with other gardens as well as the local greenspaces to make one big patchwork of foraging, drinking, and nesting sites. Together we can help nature bounce back, garden by garden.

Thank you so much for all you have done for nature's recovery in the last year. Together we have brought people together, created more space for nature, and 

inspired more people to act for nature. Many people contribute to Wild Oxfordshire, and this support enables us to create a more natural, resilient, and biodiverse Oxfordshire for the benefit of all. If you would like to join in and are able to, we would greatly appreciate a contribution towards our work, either through a one-off contribution, or a monthly contribution. Check out our website to find out more about the many ways you can support us and our recent achievements.

Mike Pollard, Wild Oxfordshire Curlew Recovery Project

<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>

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## **Morland House Surgery**

**Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP**

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm

Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends) 8am to 10.30am, for prebooked consultations only. Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by phoning 111

Ordering Repeat Prescriptions: Please use the NHS App or log into your account on the NHS website. For more information on ordering, visit the 'prescriptions' page on our website.

Check and Cancel – you may now check and/or cancel an upcoming appointment via our telephone system. From the main menu, just press 1.

RSV vaccine (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) - invitations have been sent out to those aged 75 to 79 years old.

Visit Morland House Surgery Website for a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment: [www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk) For example:

- Medical Records and Test Results - guidance on how to access this information.
- Pharmacy First Service (PFS), whereby pharmacies can treat directly seven common health conditions.
- Group Consultation Clinics – Group clinics are currently being offered for the menopause and hypertension. Eligible patients are being invited to attend, but if you would like to know more, please do contact us.
- Whooping Cough infections, symptoms and treatment
- Drink Coaches – take the quick and confidential text
- Travelling abroad – what MHS can and cannot do for you



**SATURDAY 29TH MARCH**

**MAIN DOORS OPEN 10:00 AM  
TO TAKE STUFF AWAY & CAFE!**

# **GREAT MILTON FREECYCLE LIVE**

**DROP OFF 9:15-10:00 AM ONLY**

**THE PAVILION  
GREAT MILTON RECREATIONAL  
GROUND**

**FEATURING  
POP UP CAFE IN AID OF WHEATLEY SCOUTS**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK  
@GREATMILTONFREECYCLE**





## ***GREAT MILTON IN CONVERSATION***

on

**SATURDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH, at 6.30 pm**

**Neighbours' Hall, Great Milton**

# **Charlie Lee-Potter**

**will be in conversation with Jon Devitt,  
discussing her life as a writer, artist,  
broadcaster and academic.**

*Tickets are £10 from the village shop or on the door.  
Refreshments will be served from 6 pm.*

*This is another event in the Great Milton in  
Conversation series in aid of a new kitchen and  
toilet in the Church.*

*Please do join us.*



man|choir



Sat 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – St Katherine's church  
Chiselhampton (6.30 for) 7.00 pm start

- Fundraising concert
- £15 (including drink & light refreshments  
– cash only please)
- Parking – follow signs on day



"Man Choir offers something substantially different for those who love singing that's harmonic, heartfelt and of real quality. Created from a diverse group of Oxfordshire men in 2013, Man Choir sings a wide range of classic pop, folk and even polyphonic Georgian material unaccompanied but with a vulnerability and openness that shares their enjoyment of singing with the audience.

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<http://manchoir.co.uk/>

RSVP : Moyna de Sélincourt  
[moynades@hotmail.com](mailto:moynades@hotmail.com)  
07710074015 txt/"WhAp"

# GREAT MILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## LION “MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE” SCHEME

These bottles are designed to hold important information about you and your medical needs. In case of an emergency, ambulance crews know where to find your bottle and ensure you get the care you need.

### **The bottles are free and could save your life**

All you need to do is complete the enclosed form, with details of your next of kin and any information about diagnoses, medication, allergies etc. Then pop the bottle in the shelf of your fridge door. You'll also find two green self-adhesive labels in the bottle. Put one on the inside of your front door and the other on the outside of your fridge.

### **Ambulance crews are trained to look for the green stickers**

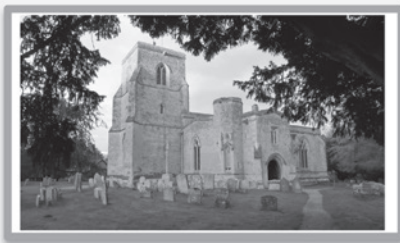
#### **You can pick up your free bottle from:**

Morland House Surgery  
Health centres  
Pharmacies

Or contact Rod Snowdon (Neighbourhood Watch)  
on 07836 728919 or via the Village WhatsApp group.

It would be useful if you could let Rod know if you're using this scheme or if you find anywhere else that distributes the bottles.

Thank you.



**St Mary's Church**, an intrinsic part of the local community for over 900 years, invites *you* to discover more about its history and its unique features by connecting with the Info-Point inside the building. Anyone with a device containing a modern web browser can use Info-Point's Wi-Fi hotspot to gain free access to the content.

- ❖ Take the 11-point interactive tour around the building.
  - Learn about the unique organ.
  - Listen to the church bells.
  - Discover the mystery of the empty external niches.
  - Find out about the musical instruments which were once displayed (and now illustrated) near the south door.
- ❖ See a bird's-eye video of the historic building.
- ❖ The early 17<sup>th</sup> Century Dormer Monument, regarded as one of the most important monuments of its period in the county, has just been extensively restored.
  - Find out about the professional conservation work.
  - See photographs of the monument both before and after restoration.
  - Learn about the Dormer Family.

St Mary's Church is open every day with access via the North Door. Purchase a copy of the 'St Mary's and Great Milton' booklet (available in the church) for more comprehensive information about the Church and the Village.

How to connect to the Info-Point is clearly displayed inside the Church.



**"NOT THE JANUARY PARTY..."**  
**GREAT MILTON DADS & DJ NIV**  
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**SAT 29TH MARCH 2025, 7.30 'TILL LATE**  
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## **The Three Villages Car Service**

The Three Villages Car service exists to help people who are having difficulty in getting to their doctors' appointments.

If you have to get to your GP surgery or Thame Hospital for an appointment and need help getting there, give us a call and we will help if we can.

**Jane Jefferis – 01844 278743 or  
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[carolinesmith@2redroofs.com](mailto:carolinesmith@2redroofs.com)**

## Book and Jigsaw Library

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
11am – 12 noon  
Neighbours' Hall



Come and take, swap or donate a book or two; we also have a good choice of jigsaw puzzles.

Tea, coffee and cakes are provided in the Orchard Room to enjoy whilst you browse on the third or fourth Friday of the month. Please feel free to make use of the Library any time you visit the Neighbours' Hall, Great Milton

Due to your great generosity, the library has now reached full capacity. We are therefore unable to accept bulk donations.

## Neighbours' Hall

A large recently refurbished community Hall with Wifi, central heating, new lighting and well-equipped kitchen. The Hall benefits from a bar, stage and smaller room opening on to an enclosed patio garden area overlooking Le Manoir orchard. The Hall has good car parking facilities. It is ideal for community groups, children's parties, family get togethers, company functions, weddings and special celebrations.

Available for hire by the hour or the day.

Cost for hiring

£15 per hour, £120 for the full day

Please contact our Booking Secretary

Janet Smith on 07970 264667



### Morland House Surgery, Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm  
Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends) 8am to 10.30am, for **prebooked** consultations only

We also offer Enhanced Access hours outside of these times, please speak to one of our reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

#### Ordering Repeat Prescriptions:

Please use the NHS App or log into your account on the NHS website. For more information on ordering, please visit the 'prescriptions' page on our website.

Please visit [www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk) for lots more information

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by phoning 111

## BULLETIN ADVERTISING

The Bulletin is produced 11 times per year and 360 copies are distributed. Advertising rates are as follows:

**1/4 page (w62mm x h90mm) £5 or £50 per year**

**1/2 page (w128mm x h90mm) £10 or £100 per year**

**Full page (w128mm x h185mm) £20 or £200 per year**

**• Full back page colour £35 or £350 per year •**

Adverts for community or fund-raising events can have quarter page free. Larger sizes are charged at half the normal rate.

**Please contact the Clerk**

**Email: [clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk)**

**All payments must be settled in advance. Please make cheques payable to "Great Milton Parish Council"**



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**Winter at Waterperry Gardens**

Enjoy winter walks and see the gardens turn into a spectacular vision as the frost spreads across the grasses and trees, the mist winds around the garden and the Riverside Walk.

The garden is at its most dramatic state in January as it is cut back for the winter and prepares to burst into new life with Snowdrops in February.

Waterperry is not just for garden lovers, with the fantastic Gift Barn and Gallery it's a true shopper's delight. With handmade pieces of art from British artists and unusual gifts for all the family.

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**Please call us to book an appointment, or discuss your requirements, and we will be more than happy to help you in any way possible.**

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**Email: [sistersedge@btinternet.com](mailto:sistersedge@btinternet.com)**

**Web Page: [sisters-edge.co.uk](http://sisters-edge.co.uk) or [sistersedge.co.uk](http://sistersedge.co.uk)**

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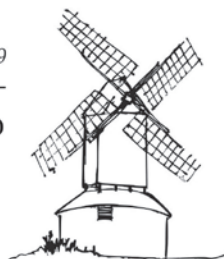
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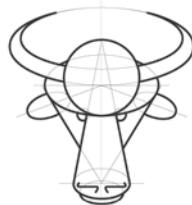


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# Diary

- Monday Spark Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
*contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details*  
Arts & Crafts Club – The Pavilion. 1st Monday of each month. 6:30 – 9:00pm  
*contact carina.martin@gmail.com*
- Tuesday Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.  
*enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*
- Wednesday 2nd Wed: Coffee Morning at The Methodist Chapel. 10:00am – Midday  
Thursday The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. *contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432*  
Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm.  
*contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net*  
Athletics Club. Year 4–7. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.  
*enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*  
Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm  
*contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198*  
Bellringers – St. Mary’s Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm  
*contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com*
- Friday Vinyasa Flow Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
*contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details*  
Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm. *contact: see Thursday*
- Saturday Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm.  
*Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090*  
Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 2:00pm. *contact: see Thursday*

## March

- |          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| 5th Wed  | Lent Lunch at Orpwoods Cottage, Gt. Milton                          | 12:30pm |
| 12th Wed | Lent Lunch at Church Farm, Gt. Haseley                              | 12:30pm |
| 15th Sat | In Conversation with Dr. Charlie Lee Potter at The Neighbours’ Hall | 6:30pm  |
| 17th Mon | Parish Council Meeting at The Pavilion                              | 7:30pm  |
| 19th Wed | Lent Lunch at Spring Cottage, Little Milton                         | 12:30pm |
| 26th Wed | Lent Lunch at Northend Cottage, Gt. Milton                          | 12:30pm |
| 29th Sat | Frecycle Live at The Pavilion                                       | 10:00am |
|          | Not the January Party at The Neighbours’ Hall                       | 7:30pm  |

## April

- |          |  |        |
|----------|--|--------|
| 26th Sat | Man Choir at St. Katherine’s Church, Chiselhampton | 7:00pm |
|----------|--|--------|

All copy (except adverts) to [gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk) by **20th March 2025**.

Sheppard Cottage, Lychgate Lane, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PB.

Adverts to the Clerk, Jacqueline Wren

[clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk)

The views expressed in this bulletin are not necessarily those of the Editor nor of the Parish Council.  
The Editor reserves the right not to print items submitted for publication, and to edit those which are published.



## **Volunteers Needed to Spread the Joy of Reading in Oxfordshire**

Children's literacy charity **Schoolreaders** is looking for more volunteers who can help spread the joy of reading to children in primary schools across Oxfordshire.

Every year, 1 in 4 children leave primary school unable to read to the expected standard.

Schoolreaders recruits volunteers to listen to children read one-to-one in primary schools, focusing on schools where children require the most support. Volunteers are asked to listen to children read once a week in term time and to commit to a minimum of a year.

**Please visit the website [www.schoolreaders.org](http://www.schoolreaders.org) to join or call 01234 924111 for further information.**