



GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

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Great Milton Parish Council

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

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Jacqueline Wren
clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Representatives

Rec Ground Committee	James Cunningham (Chair) Michelle Block (Vice-Chair)
Old Field Charity	Andrew 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: The end of an era

Photo: Nick Belcher.

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	08453 101111	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.com
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 gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk
Great Milton Bulletin		
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	03448 004411	arrivabus.co.uk
Oxford Tube (Buses to London)	01865 772250	oxfordtube.com
Park and Ride		oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/parkandride
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	nationalrail.co.uk

Highlights from the Annual Meeting of the Great Milton Parish Council

19th May 2025

Internal Elections

Stephen Harrod was unanimously re-elected as Chair.

Bill Fox was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair.

Haseley Trading Estate

The Vice Chair outlined the proposed development of the Haseley Trading Estate as detailed at the public consultation meeting held on 28th April.

- 186 car parking spaces on the new site to accommodate all the staff (drivers and onsite workers)
- The site will provide a base for; 45 main waste collection vehicles, 15 food waste trucks, 9 street cleaners (over 7.5 tonnes) and 13 under 7.5 tonnes. There will also be 9 ancillary vehicles.
- The estimate is 10 - 16 staff will be onsite permanently
- All vehicles will leave once and return once daily (they will not make multiple journeys)
- Vehicles will be cleaned once before returning to the site to be cleaned again.

MH noted his objection to the proposal citing concerns about unpleasant smells and increased traffic in particular. There followed around 45 minutes of discussion with members of the public raising the following points and concerns:

- SODC and VoWHDC currently use a site in Culham for waste transfer and as a refuse vehicle hub – the lease on this site comes to an end in Summer 2026. The DCs have been aware of this timeline for some years and yet the purchase of the Haseley Site and subsequent application for planning allows less than a year for resolution.
- The DCs claim that hundreds of sites have been considered and the favoured site was ruled out due to a legal issue with a right of way across the site. Many sites were apparently ruled out, however it is unclear what the exact criteria were. There were 4 sites on the short list.
- There may be up to 90 vehicles (many HGVs) based at the site and leaving early in the morning between 6 and 7am (at 30sec intervals) towards locations in the two districts.
- The Haseley site is not a logical choice for servicing Vale of the White Horse as vehicles will be travelling long distances with the most direct route going through Little Milton which is already a bottle neck for traffic.
- A more central location between the two districts seems reasonable to prevent the

significant travel times and associated environmental impact, not only for vehicles from the site but personnel driving to work.

- There was concern from members of the public that at the current site in Culham there are problems with pollution, smells, noise, overflowing drains, flooding and rats. Apparently vehicles often leave the compound within the required times but wait on side roads with engines running for crew members to join them.
- While certain routes to and from the site can be encouraged, this is very difficult to enforce. If as yet unknown third party operators are to bear the penalty for contravening these rules then this is likely to lead to a poor decision-making process at this stage.
- If water from washing vehicles is to be taken offsite by tankers how many and at what times? The existing drainage at the site and in the local area is already inadequate.
- Many residents have already written to OCC, MP Freddie van Mierlo and the District Councillor expressing concerns primarily regarding pollution, environmental and ecological impact, health concerns, structural damage to roadside buildings (especially in Little Milton) and reduced amenity value.
- Increased traffic is a real concern, especially with regard to road safety at the A329 junction. This will be compounded by the relocation of Le Manoir's main entrance directly onto the A329 almost opposite the Trading Estate. There are likely to be up to 186 employees driving to and from the site every day.
- It might be helpful to get other interested parties involved in formulating an objection – Thames Water, Defra, OCC.
- Previous planning application for Countax details 125 parking spaces, 10 lorries, 100+ travelling to site every day. Although the number of parking spaces is similar the number of HGVs is much fewer than for the new proposals and therefore the impact on traffic on local roads is very different.
- The planning application for development and change of use of the site will have to meet the same criteria as for any other unrelated applicant. This will include ecological impact assessments, consultation with Highways etc.
- Objections will carry more weight in the planning process if they are objective and consider the planning policy, not just the emotive aspects.

MH noted that he hopes to speak with MP Freddie tomorrow to feedback information from this meeting.

DH noted Highways and traffic aspects detailed in Le Manoir planning application are significant and will be very relevant to this application, especially with regard to safety on the A329 junction.



The Vice Chair noted that a senior representative of Le Manoir has clarified that they are totally opposed to the proposals and will be meeting with the DCs to discuss it at the earliest opportunity.

The Chair of Great Haseley Parish Council noted a similar discussion at their last meeting. Since planning application not yet submitted unclear what it will include. GHPC and residents share concerns around drainage, traffic, landscaping, noise, smells. GHPC resolved that they could not discuss further until the planning application is submitted. He also noted that they will consider appointing a planning consultant to formulate their objection.

District Councillor Heritage addressed the meeting and explained that SODC looking for this site for some time since the contract in Culham expires summer 2026. Waste is a statutory service. Other sites were considered which were more central but there were legal barriers including a right of way issue which couldn't be overcome. This means the Haseley site is ultimately the only site which fitted the criteria. It is not an ideal location but there was not another option on the table. The current Haseley site has been acquired as an industrial site with all the relevant permissions, it would have been sold as an industrial site regardless of to whom. GH noted that of course there are concerns which she is taking onboard and working closely with everyone to consider mitigations. She also noted that she has experience of industrial landowners who are not respectful of local concerns and the DCs are potentially more considerate towards residents than others might be. GH noted that proposed activities onsite will be not be in contravention of the existing planning conditions. Some objections can be easily mitigated but her personal concern and the one she is fighting for is mitigation of the traffic on surrounding roads and through villages – in particular on the A329 through Little Milton. She has brought it to Cabinet Meeting, raised with Senior Officers as well as our MP. There is a lot of work to do but she emphasised that any correspondence she receives will be passed on and she will ensure a full response.

MH asked whether there is a contingency plan if planning not granted. GH replied that this was unclear as no other viable sites identified.

GH notes her main concern is logistics and she would like a traffic plan to be produced now but this is not possible without the Highways consultation. She would like to make it a requirement for vehicles leaving the site to join the motorway to reach VoWH rather than going through Little Milton. In response to questions from members of the public GH also noted that the planning application won't need to take into account all logistical or operational concerns but Highways will be consulted and the application needs to be compliant to be considered.

SODC are taking pre-planning advice from Highways but she does not have that

information yet.

MH noted Haseley Brook Action Group regarding Harrington development – would GH support a similar group? GH noted her priority is to support her residents. Trying to get a date together to discuss most critical points with Chief Exec, Senior Officers, and MP.

A member of the public asked how the DCs have purchased this site without the baseline studies? While another member of the public noted that this site is likely to have been purchased as available and more affordable than other options.

DH asked GH whether she, and MP Freddie van Mierlo support the proposed plans for Haseley Trading Estate. She was not to be drawn either way, but said the considerations are ‘nuanced’ and more conversation was needed.

DH asked whether SODC have consulted Le Manoir yet? – GH noted that she is due to meet with them soon. The Vice Chair reiterated that Le Manoir have stated they are ‘totally opposed’ while several members of the public confirmed that consultants representing the DCs at the information session had claimed that Le Manoir were supporting the proposals. GH agreed to investigate this misinformation and emphasised again that she wants to represent her ward and is committed to relaying all concerns and questions and ensuring they receive a full response. She also noted that the most effective way to object is to respond to planning application via portal with material objections which are then on the record as part of the planning process.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications were discussed:

P25/S1224/FUL

Mount Pleasant Farm, Thame Road, Great Milton, OX44 7HX

Erection of Two x 4 bedroom dwellings with x1 double garage and x1 single garage (resubmission of previously approved P19/S2605/FUL)

- The Council agreed they have no concerns regarding this application.

P25/S1268/LB

Le Manoir Aux Quat Saisons, Church Road, Great Milton OX44 7PD

Reroofing of the Flower House building with associated repair works.

- The Council agreed they have no concerns regarding this application.

The following planning appeal was discussed;

P24/S3699/FUL

Garages at Holloway Farm near Great Milton Oxfordshire OX33 1GX

Conversion of existing garages outbuilding into a 1-bedroom dwelling.

- The Council agreed that they have no comment to make on this appeal.



Donations

The Council considered the letter from Home Start Southern Oxfordshire – supporting parents to create better starts for children and resolved to donate £100.

Finance and Governance

The Council noted and approved the following documents for the financial year 2024-25

- The Internal Audit Report
- The Annual Governance Statement
- The Annual Accounting Statement

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 16th June starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.

Benefice Services for June

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 1st		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am
Sunday 8th <i>Whit Sunday</i>	Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am	
	Evensong at St. George's Chapel, Windsor 5:15pm		
Sunday 15th <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	Family Worship 10:30am		Holy Communion 9:00am
Sunday 22nd	Benefice Morning Worship 10:30am	Holy Communion BCP 9:00am	
Sunday 29th	Benefice Holy Communion 10:30		

Benefice Services for July

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 6th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am

The Rector's Pint

What would Jesus do? For some Christians, this is a question they may ask when facing a difficult situation. Although I understand (and applaud) the sentiment, I do find it a rather simplistic question. Jesus did not give us a blueprint for everything. We have to be grown up and work things out for ourselves. For instance, Jesus did not tell us how to split the atom, he did not declare to us what penicillin is, or provide us with modern anaesthetics. He did not show us the physics of how to build a medieval Cathedral, or a modern suspension bridge. These have been achieved through human enquiry, ingenuity, and invention. However, what lies behind that?

I believe that Christianity declares that our exploration of the universe and the world we inhabit, as we uncover its hidden mysteries, will point us back to God. In exploring in this way, we examine the claim that Jesus was, and is, uniquely, the incarnation of God as man. Following him must, therefore, bring with it a set of values with which to navigate the world. For instance, the Christian understanding is that humanity bears the image of God, and that image is to be seen in every single person, however twisted and corrupted that image might become because of human failing and sin (a misunderstood word, which basically means falling short of an ideal or missing a target). This means that in our dealings with others we must hold that truth in mind. Thus we use medical knowledge to heal and not to harm.

Another example is that of justice. A model of justice where we lock people up and throw away the key may be effective, but is it morally right? The punishment of crime might need to be severe, but can we also hold out the hope of redemption and restoration? Whilst I believe that waging war on a brutal and ideologically dangerous enemy may have a moral justification, withholding humanitarian aid, food and medicine from a population as a way of achieving one's aims, however complicated the circumstances, crosses a moral line.

I have no easy answers, but in seeking a way through, I will declare an interest in Jesus and what he points us to. This is not about asking a simplistic 'what would Jesus do?' question. Instead, by his light, and the values that come from following him, we might begin to find the way forward, and also discover that we belong to a common humanity, made in the image of God, and find a shared hope in a confused and fragmented world. I passionately believe that.

Simon

Methodist Church Services

For further information please contact Revd. Stephen Spain on 01865 763676 or visit the Oxford Methodist Circuit website: www.oxfordmethodists.org.uk

June 2025				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
1st	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Service at Wesley Memorial Church	Circuit Gathering in Oxford
8th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Ageela Tanveer	Pentecost
15th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Miriam Moul	Holy Communion
22nd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Graeme Thompson	Morning Service
29th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	David Harper	Morning Service

Free Coffee Morning – Wednesday 11th June at 10:30am to midday.

Loving God leads to loving others. Loving others leads to loving God.

St Mary's Church on a New App.

A brand-new app called ChurchExplorer (churchexplorer.co.uk) has just been launched and both Great Milton and Great Haseley churches are among the first twenty to be featured. Both have gained a complimentary insert by virtue that both have invested in the Info Point project. The extensive content of the latter can only be accessed in close proximity of the building and it is highly suitable for a building with no WiFi. The new app includes a short summary of the buildings' unique features but it means that the location is highlighted to anyone using their 'phone anywhere in the world. At present there are no other churches in Oxfordshire but, obviously, this is still early days for the developing project.

Thanks from Ian Melton

My thanks and good wishes from all in the village for your good wishes during my extended stay in hospitals and care homes in the last year.

Your thoughts and kindness are so much appreciated.

It is a privilege to live in such a caring community.

Ian Melton

Great Milton History



We are looking forward to seeing you all at this year's Fete. We will be back 'in the thick of it' in our tent. The History Room will also be available for browsing and checking records, including the Monumental Inscriptions Transcript containing details of the churchyard gravestones.

Neighbours' Hall Presents...

The Neighbours' Hall in Church Road, Great Milton has played host to a whole variety of entertainment and community events in its 100 years of existence. On Sunday September 21st there will be a chance for local youth to take to the stage to have an experience of public performance. Anyone aged 8 to 19 from Great Haseley, Great Milton and Little Milton are encouraged to come forward with their musical instruments or vocal talent in a new event.

The Hall Committee first need to assess the level of interest. Parents/Guardians are requested to provide children's name, age and musical activity (and their village name) with text to 07484 85616 or email gmneighbourhall@gmail.com heading 'Musical Youth' by 30th June at latest (please note an immediate acknowledgement may not arrive but everyone will be notified in early July). The Youth Showcase, planned for 16.00 to 18.00 on the 21st, will obviously only take place if sufficient interest is shown. The Hall has a keyboard but all other instruments need to be provided by the performer. Let's demonstrate the wealth of musical talent in the area!

Senior Citizens Annual Party

Following the recent Party, a number of individuals who had been organizing this event for many years decided to retire, the result being that help is urgently needed to keep the event going.

Janet Smith has kindly volunteered to lead a committee with the aim of 'saving the party'. She is in the throes of compiling a committee to do this. Anyone willing to assist Janet should contact her on 07970 264667.

I think it's safe to say that all those who attend the party would agree that it is an event which we do not want to lose.

Ann Price, Ex. Secretary

Great Milton Church Fete

We hope you are looking forward to the Church Fete on 14th June 2-4pm?

There will be our great stalls, local entertainers, games, Pimms and teas served in the Pavilion.

We are looking for helpers and donations, if you have time in advance, or on the day, we'd love to hear from you...

Sponsorship to cover expenses like the inflatable slide, publicity, expenses.

Donation of a Raffle Prize (big or small)

Help to set up from 10am and set down on the day

We have some stalls and games that still need helpers

Games – aunt sally, whelly whanging, beat the goalie, inflatable slide, just 30min on the day will be of help.

Kids Toy Tombola – someone to organise this, collecting donations and setting up the tombola,

Kids 2nd hand clothes – someone to collect donations, or accept any on the day and set up the stall

Air-rifle shooting, we are looking for experienced people to help run this on the day

Face painting or glitter tattoos

We are looking for donations to the stalls, ideally please drop these off on the day, or get in touch with the stall holder, Alex or Clare:

Accessories, jewellery, scarves... Dee Nunan

Gifts and toiletries... Sarah McMahan and Georgia Turner

Tombola ... Wendy Shearsby-Bateman

Hoopla... Michelle Block,

Bric a brac including children's toys (not electricals)... Alan Pickett

Books: paperbacks and children's books.. Sue Barratt

Cakes/tray bakes etc... Margaret Rogers (teas) and Amy Hutton (cakes)

Please start preparing for the following:

Dog Show - 3:15pm,

Categories: Loveliest Lady, Handsomest dog, Waggiest tail, Best Trick

Children's Tug of War

Raffle - We have great prizes with the top prize of a meal for two at Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons. Tickets are available from the committee or on the day

Vintage Car display

Let us hope the sun comes out and we look forward to seeing you.

Alex (alexkirkman@gmail.com) and the committee

Great Milton Neighbours' Club

If the Neighbours' Club had a cricket team they would need several days extra time in order to end play with five of their membership reaching the achievement of '90 not out'. This remarkable landmark was celebrated at a special party at their normal meeting place of the Neighbours' Hall in May where chairman Tony D'Anger, Janet Earl and Shirley Leach all commemorated this special occasion with their fellow Club members.



Save the Date

Saturday September 13th, 2025

A concert at St Peter's Church Great Haseley to celebrate the installation of the new pipe organ with a programme including local singers, instrumentalists and other performers. Tickets will be available online and on the night. More details in the July issue.

Great Milton School Governor News Bites

Pupil Council

In March school's pupil council visited the Neighbours' Club for a board game session. Some of the members taught the children to play games from their childhood. Members of the Club get invited as 'special guests' to school events, such as the Y3/4 Easter production and the recent Maypole /VE 80th Anniversary picnic.

Leaving a Legacy

You are all, in one way or another cherished members of our village school community, your support has helped shape countless young lives by fostering a nurturing environment where our young students thrive. By including the school in your will, you can leave a lasting legacy that ensures future generations continue to benefit from the same opportunities our children enjoyed. Your thoughtful contribution, no matter the size, will help maintain facilities and enrich learning experiences for years to come. Including the school in your estate is a simple yet profound way to honour your connection to this



special place and sustain its role as a cornerstone of our community. Together we can ensure its light keeps shining brightly. Please consider speaking with your lawyer or legal advisor today to make this enduring impact possible, in the way that recent benefactors have, including the late vicar, Victor Storey.

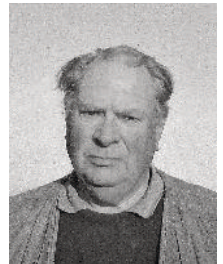
Congratulations to the Hooters!

The Moonwalk London is an iconic nighttime charity walk that raises funds and awareness for breast cancer through Walk the Walk. 12 members of staff, The Great Milton Hooters, completed this to symbolise solidarity with a colleague and to date have raised almost £6000. If you have access to the online version of the Bulletin here is the link to make a donation: <https://giving.give-star.com/microsite/walkthewalk/themoonwalklondon2025/team/862d621d-8d3d-4d6f-b515-fae08f346877>.



View from Views

One Swallow doesn't make a summer however late the first confirmed at Views farm was 6th May which to my mind is late. Perhaps this is because there are no puddles for them to pick up mud to make their nests, rather strange as everything else nature wise seems to have made up for lost time and, suddenly come to life, wherever you walk you are serenaded by sky larks' way up in the sky. In first week of May some bushes were covered by the web of the Ermine Moth, I think mainly the Spindle, devouring their leaves, once they have pupated most affected plants completely recover within a month.



On the 23rd of April 13 mm rain fell, but that was it for the rest of the month, (April's total being only 16.5mm), this made us worried would we ever get any more or, when it did start to rain, would know when to stop, as it happens there is none

forecast till the end of May. After this little rain we planted our Poppies, grown for the seed to sprinkle on bread, in ideal conditions but, now probably too dry for them to germinate. That bit of rain certainly helped the freshly sown crops of Beans and Barley, as up to then beans had not even chitted, however by 1st May were showing a row, and the barley that was looking decidedly thirsty had recovered. Nature has a wonderful capacity to compensate, as by the end of April most plants and creatures were appearing on cue.

It seems odd at the time of writing how well our crops are looking, apart from the bare patches due to the wet during winter. This takes a little explaining as before his little rain everything was looking thirsty could it mean that that little moisture got them going enough to find the moisture still from the previous 2 wet years? So, the prospect for the coming harvest now seems to be promising, what will happen if this dry weather continues for any length of time remains to be seen. However now we are faced with a government statement that would be closing their proposed schemes, as they have run out of money. This has forced us to destroy some of the environmental initiatives we had created, being a real blow as we have put so much in to preserving nature, unfortunately, due to very lean years we just have to make up our income somehow. Now today we learn that the statement closing schemes was made in error, and that anyone who were in the process of applying could still apply, bit late for those of us who had already taken the action to destroy.

The much voiced “Biodiversity Net Gain” (BNG), where a developer will have to pay a landowner to initiate some scheme to enhance the biodiversity, which sounds great, but it ties both parties to a 30-year agreement, how this will affect the recent government tax grab remains to be seen, suddenly it does not sound so brilliant.

Now we have the trade deals made with India and US being hailed as game changing, I cannot see how that now we can export 15,000 tonnes of beef and import 15,00 tonnes of the same product is really a game changer, at least it appears that our standards are to be protected which is important.

We were recently invited to look at the work of the “River Thame Conservation Trust” in Stadhampton, where they have altered the flow of what was the mill stream strategically inserting rocks to form whirlpools and other areas to enhance the area for fish and have already recorded some Trout, it was a mind blowing experience, and good to see something tangible being done by one of these little charitable organisations, for the real good of the environment.

Our Deputy/Vice PM is insisting that we build build, and I believe has more or less said at all costs, we cannot carry on as we are the flooding gets worse, not just agricultural land but, more important people’s houses, our rivers continue to be

polluted with sewage and far worse it is now getting into the sea, when will our lords and masters listen to those that reason and do something about it, as I hate to think what it will be like in 50 years' time, I won't see it but it is serious. Perhaps our new councillors will be in a place to do something, I somehow doubt it or, at least they won't be allowed to. We went to the poll on the 1st May like dutiful citizens not having any idea who was standing with the clear thought that if there was no one on the ballot paper that we knew of we would not vote however there was one they had our vote The point I am making that for us that live in the sticks there is no way of knowing who is standing we buy the local weekly but, not a mention in that, which really is not good enough I hope the editor sees, or is shown this and another time give us this vital news, otherwise what is the point of a local paper, and no some of us don't want to look it up on a website.

Tons Together (Little Milton) WI

Simon Booker was a truly inspiring speaker, showing us what it took to be a dedicated wildlife photographer. He even dressed up in his camouflage gear for full effect. Thank you to Lyndell for the lovely teas and to Alison for the wonderful homemade flower bouquets.

On Thursday 12th June 7.30pm, Vicki Gamble will be showing us Ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Everyone always welcome, men too! Visitors £6 or become a member for £51.

Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton, The Haseleys, Stadhampton or surrounding villages, new to the area, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Tons Together WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group.

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month in the Pine Lodge OX44 7PZ at 7.30pm.

Too shy to come by yourself or need a lift? Contact us & we'll find you a WI buddy.

Like us at www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

Pine Lodge website: www.lmvh.org.uk

Kath Stacey 01844-279438 tonstogetherwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

Wild Oxfordshire

Happy Swift Awareness Week!

To celebrate swift awareness week, here's some interesting facts about swifts.

These birds are the TopGun "Mavrics" of the bird world as they can do almost everything in the air! Swift's feet and legs aren't designed for sitting on the floor or a perch. They can perch vertically but they can't sit like a Robin or pigeon for example, as their wings are far too long. They are perfectly designed for flight and this means they do everything whilst flying - drinking, eating and even mating! True acrobatic flyers.

Swifts have one of the longest migration journeys in the world! Our swifts migrate approximately 14,000 miles to return to our swift boxes in Oxfordshire every year! What a journey - really makes us think of 'Home sweet home'.

The swifts we see in our towns and villages have overwintered in Africa and come back each summer to nest and raise their chicks. Once the chick(s) leave the nest, they're off - they will never return to the family nest again.

Sadly swifts are endangered and need swift boxes on buildings to nest. Find out more about how you can help them on either the Cherwell swift project website <http://www.cherwell-swifts.org/>

World Conservation Day – 28th July

Annual World Conservation Day is a great reason to join your local nature group and see how you could help create space for nature in your area. Check out our map to find the group closest to you <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/community-groups>

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.

Rhiannon Young – Wild Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Engagement Officer
<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>

**14th June
2-4pm**

Great Milton Church Fete

**Dog show
Children's tug-o-war
Punch & Judy
BYO vintage car
GRAND RAFFLE**

PLUS
Musical entertainment,
refreshments, plants,
tombolas, games,
books, crafts, toiletries
& gifts, bric-a-brac,
homemade cakes and
more...



**Recreation
Ground**

QUIZ NIGHT AT THE NEIGHBOURS' HALL

FRIDAY 4th JULY @ 7:30pm

Our next quiz is scheduled as above and all are welcome. Do come along and enjoy an evening's testing of your knowledge in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

Tickets are £5pp and are available from Alan Pickett at The Old Forge in Thame Road or you can pre-order on the village WhatsApp or by email at alan.pickett@outlook.com
Tables of up to 6 people please.

All funds raised will be shared by the Village Hall and the Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch.

There will be a prize for the winning table.
Look forward to seeing you there.



Wheatley Library

Welcome to spring! Joining the library is free, allows you access to all 44 county libraries, and everyone is welcome. 😊 We offer more than just books!

We also provide free digital support every Thursday 2:30 – 3:30pm. Book yourself in for guidance from our Digital Helper for a variety of needs including using your mobile phone, laptop, or tablet. You can

also learn to access our free audiobooks or e-books on BorrowBox, Libby and PressReader, as well as Which?, Ancestry, Find My Past, Naxos, & Playlist for Life, among other online resources.

Please join us for the following regular events in the library:

- NEW Storytime from 22 March: every Saturday, 10–10:45am, kids 4-8yrs old
- Rhymetime: every Friday, 10:30–11am, kids 0-5 yrs old
- Digital Help: every Thursday, 2:30–3:30pm
- Jigsaw Puzzle Swap: 1st Saturday each month, 9:30am–12pm (5 April, 3 May, 7 June)
- Textile Fibre Group: 1st & 3rd Monday each month, 2–4pm

For news and updates, follow the 'Friends of Wheatley Library' Facebook page or visit wheatleylibrary.org. For library queries, phone us or email wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk. Access our library website directly at bit.ly/WheatleyLibrary.

Opening Hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	2 - 7pm
Wednesday	9.30am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm
Thursday	2 - 5pm
Friday	9.30am - 1pm & 2 - 6pm
Saturday	9.30am - 1pm
Sunday	Closed

We have a new phone number!
Call 01865 815204

Wheatley Library
The Merry Bells
High St., Wheatley
Oxford, OX33 1XP



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

A new Morland House Surgery **Facebook Page** has been created. This is to keep patients up to date with surgery news and health issues. Please like and follow.

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.

Online Resources for Clinical Help Did you know that there are many local services to which you can make self-referrals without speaking to your GP? The Morland House Surgery website lists the various options. Visit [Self-Referral – Morland House](#)

The NHS App is no longer accessible as a mobile app for anybody using older devices. Patients using the following operating systems will no longer be able to access the NHS App via the mobile app: iOS 12, 13 & 14 (*iOS 13 & 14 can be updated to iOS15*), Android 6 & 7. But you can still log in through the NHS website.

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 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.
- **Breast screening** to detect the most common cancer in woman
- **Whooping Cough** infections, symptoms and treatment
- **Drink Coaches** – take the quick and confidential text
- **Travelling abroad** – what MHS can and cannot do for you



**SOBELL
HOUSE**
HOSPICE



Palliative care bereavement support service

We are looking to recruit volunteers for our bereavement service to provide support to family and friends who have lost someone close to them.

Are you...

- warm, empathic and a good listener?
- able to support other people's expression of grief and distress?

We do not recommend this work for those who have experienced a significant bereavement in the last two years.

Do you...

- have 16 hours a month to spare?
- have your own transport?
- want to make a difference?

Training will take place from September to December 2025 and it is essential that all training is attended.

We provide...

- foundation level training (apx. 60 hrs).
- ongoing training, supervision and support.
- travel and phone expenses.
- online mandatory training (apx. 8 hrs).

**Closing date
for applications:
30 June 2025**

**If you are interested in finding out more
or applying, please contact us on:**

W: sobellhouse.org/bereavement-volunteer
E: pallcarevolunteerservices@ouh.nhs.uk
T: 01865 225944/01865 225868



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WANT TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

If you are passionate about your local community, we need you. Councillors can make a big difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect our community.

Great Milton Parish Council have a VACANCY - Are you interested in becoming a Councillor?

We are inviting applications from local people to join Great Milton Parish Council since we have a vacancy for one Councillor. This Councillor will be appointed by a process called co-option.

In terms of eligibility, you must be a British, Commonwealth or European Union citizen, over 18 years old and are registered to vote in the area; or have lived, worked, or owned property here for at least 12 months.

Responsibilities of the Parish Council

The Parish Council is responsible for maintaining our green spaces, considering the impact of planning applications in the village, representing our community and advocating for their best interests to local authorities and supporting projects which would benefit our community; among many other things! It also determines how much money to raise through the council precept to deliver these services to the residents of the parish.

What kind of person do we need?

You should have an active interest in local issues and things that affect local people and a willingness to represent the views of the community. You should be able to commit the time and effort to the role and to attend as many monthly Council meetings as possible.

How to apply

To apply, please send a letter of application to Jacqueline Wren, Parish Clerk at clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk or deliver to 1 Close Cottages, Lower End, Great Milton. In your letter you may wish to include your connection to the parish, why you want to be a parish councillor and what skills / experience you can bring to the Council. Applications will be looked at by Councillors and voted on at the next meeting of the Council. You will be invited to attend and say a few words to the Councillors.

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 17th 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.

Library Volunteers Wanted

The Library at Ripon College, Cuddesdon is seeking volunteers to assist with shelving, tidying and general library housekeeping duties. There has been a college in Cuddesdon (a village 6 miles outside Oxford) since 1854, training ministers for ordination in the Church of England. The historical collections require working at height, and there is no lift currently to the first floor library space. A contribution towards travel expenses and free lunches during term time are available to those able to make a regular commitment. Any availability (from 2 hours per week or more) would be very welcome and please contact the Librarian/Archivist, Annabel Haycraft on annabel.haycraft@rcc.ac.uk or phone 01865 877411 if you would like to discuss the possibility further.



Widow Tree

Widow Tree offers online monthly peer support meetings for widows of all ages in Oxfordshire.

The meetings aim to create a welcoming community where hope, connection, and personal growth can flourish.



For more info, see the Widow Tree Facebook page or email contact@widowtree.co.uk

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
Wendy Richardson – 07763 800467.**

Need a venue? The Pavilion & Recreation Ground

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**Table and chair hire also
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**For booking and more info,
call 01844 278116**

Book and Jigsaw Library

Friday 27th June 2025

11.00 - 12 noon

Neighbours' Hall

Great Milton



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

Tea, coffee and cakes are provided in the Orchard Room to enjoy whilst you browse or either 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

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



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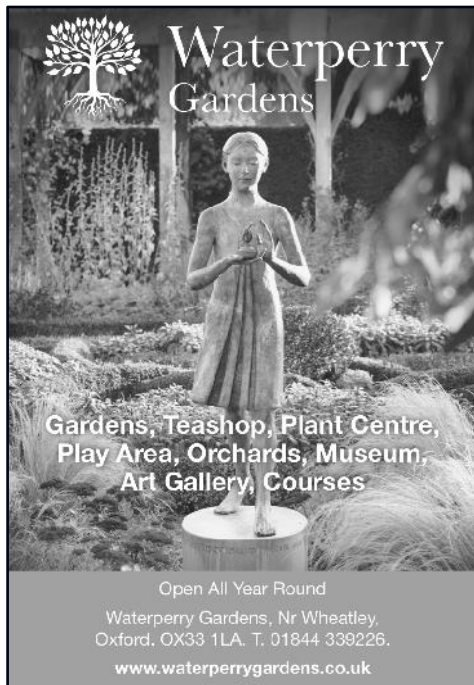
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What's On this June

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- JUBILEE BRASS BAND, AMPHITHEATRE

EVENT: 8th June
- RARE PLANT FAIR

FREE EXHIBITION: (12th June until 1st Sept)
- BUG, BIRD, BEAST, GALLERY

EVENT: 12th-14th June
- HANDMADE OXFORD

COURSE: 13th June
- HERBACEOUS BORDERS OLD AND NEW*

THEATRE: 29th June
- TWELFTH NIGHT,
THE LORD
CHAMBERLAIN'S
MEN, ON THE LAWN

OPEN DAILY
10:00AM - 5:30PM

*Please see our website for more information or to book

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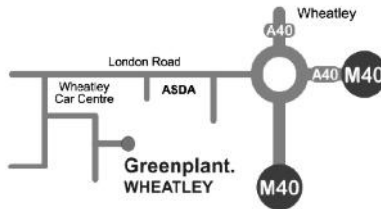
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Please call us to book an appointment, or discuss your requirements, and we will be more than happy to help you in any way possible.

Tel: 01844279503 or 07760252486

Email: sistersedge@btinternet.com

Web Page: sisters-edge.co.uk or sistersedge.co.uk

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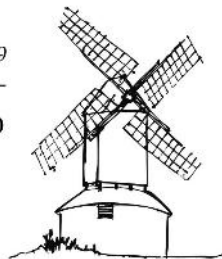
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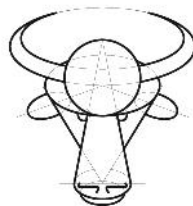


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Diary

- 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
- 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 Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269. www.sandylanefarm.net
- 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 Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269. www.sandylanefarm.net

June

- | | | |
|----------|---|---------|
| 14th Sat | Great Milton Church Fete at The Recreation Ground | 2:00pm |
| 16th Mon | Parish Council Meeting in The Pavilion | 7:30pm |
| 27th Fri | Book and Jigsaw Library at The Neighbours' Hall | 11:00am |

July

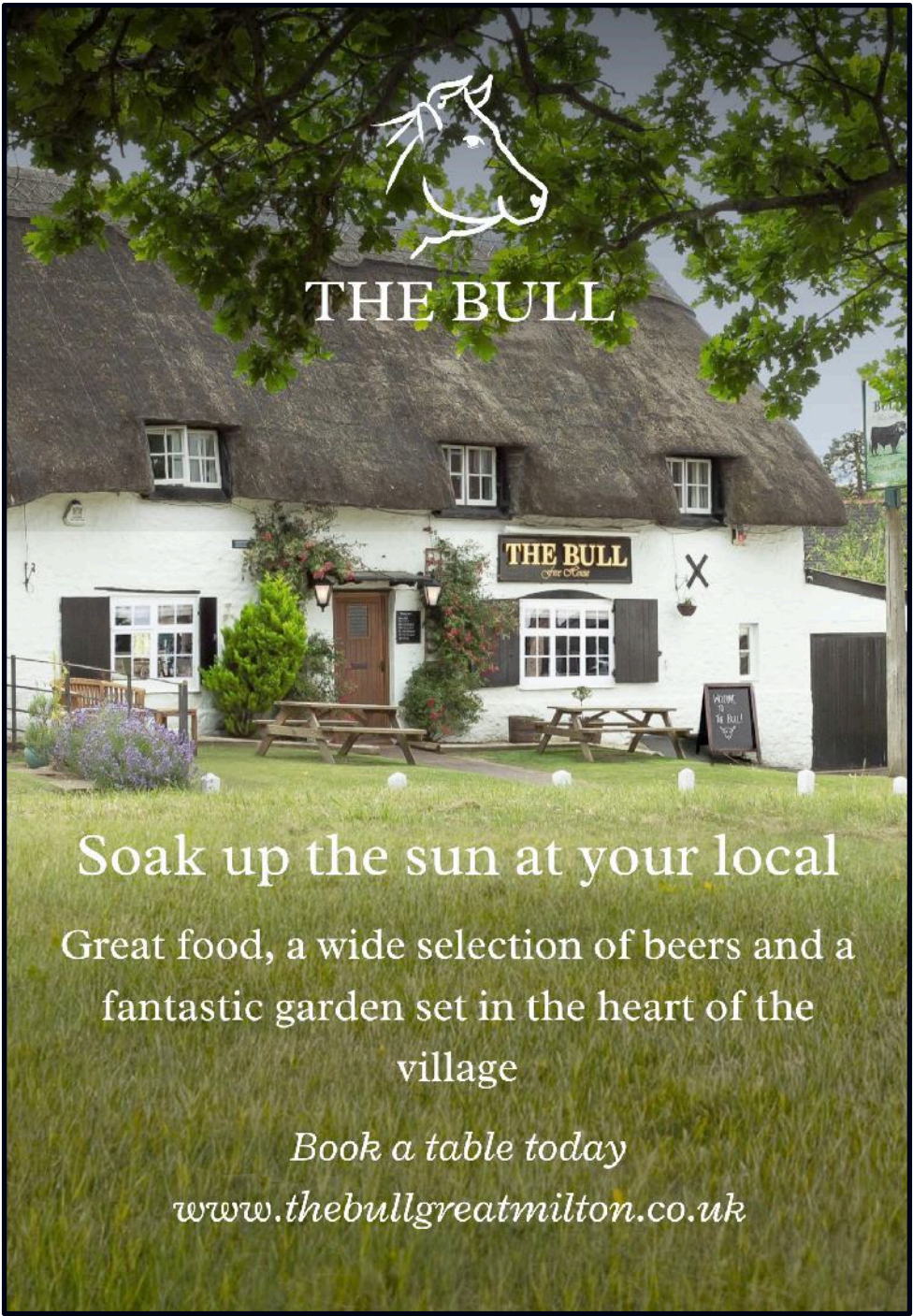
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| 4th Fri | Quiz Night at The Neighbours' Hall | 7:30pm |
| 26th Sat | Freecycle Live at The Pavilion | 10:00am |

All copy (except adverts) to gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk by **20th June 2025**
Sheppard Cottage, Lychgate Lane, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PD
Adverts to the Clerk, Jacqueline Wren
clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk

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The Editor reserves the right to not print items submitted for publication, and to edit those which are published.



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