

GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

July 2026

Published by the Parish Council

No. 620



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Great Milton Parish Council

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

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Andrew Webster
clerk@greatmilton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Representatives

Rec Ground Committee	Caroline Smith (Chair)
	Mike 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	Tricia Treanor, Sue Denham, Trudy Timbs
Sheppard Trust	John Catterall, Jane Willis
Neighbours' Hall	Mike Robinson (Chair), Christine Donnelly

Front Cover: Steve Harrod.

Photo: Nick Belcher.

Key Contacts

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Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Judith Edwards	—	judith.edwards@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor: Georgina Heritage	07951 477144	Georgina.Heritage@southoxon.gov.uk

Great Milton Parish Council

Malcolm Horsley (Chair)	07970 924194	
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: Trudy Timbs, Margaret Rogers		trudytimbs@yahoo.co.uk margaretrogers851@gmail.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		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	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

Steve Harrod - A Tribute

As many of you now know, Steve finally left us on Thursday, 11 June after a long, brave and typically stoic battle with illness. He seemed to have made a full recovery from his oesophageal cancer 5 years ago, but as so often happens, tragically, the wretched disease returned. He had been staying in Durban since last November with his son, Chris, and the family were at his bedside as he passed. We have to hope that the good Lord honours his dying wish – to be reunited with his beloved Cathy.



Steve, Cathy and their kids, Ally and Chris, moved to the Old Red Lion in 2001. Steve was one of the leading lights in establishing what is now the Great Milton Cycling Association, and he railed against anyone who dared turn up without a helmet. As he said repeatedly: “No dome; stay home!”

He joined the Parish Council in 2007, taking over the chairmanship from Graham Orriss. Unlike most present-day politicians, Steve was a man of clear conviction. He was bitterly opposed to speeding through the village, and cluttering up our precious green spaces and verges with cars. He strongly believed people should be allowed to do what they wanted with their own properties provided conservation rules were observed and neighbours weren't adversely affected. He was a passionate believer in Le Manoir and the benefits that accrued from having such a world-renowned establishment on our doorstep.

He led the charge against Harrington and Chalgrove Airfield, and was active in the area through his roles, first as District Councillor, and then as County Councillor. And then there was the pub!

No sooner had Greene King erected a For Sale sign outside it in December 2012 than Steve sprang into action. He quickly assembled a team to work with him to buy the pub, and then manage successive tenancies. Without the benefit of hindsight, he considered it essential that the village bought it in order to control its future use. It is no exaggeration to say that, without Steve's vision and drive, we probably wouldn't have succeeded.

But Steve's greatest triumph was yet to come. After we sold the pub to Bob H. in 2024, we were told by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) that, because of the way we'd structured the purchasing entity (as advised by the Plunkett Foundation), we were debarred from giving shareholders their money back. We were told that the

proceeds could only go to other community enterprises or charitable causes. Steve, and the rest of the Committee, were facing village ridicule.

So, in true Steve style, he contacted the FCA and asked for a meeting. Most unusually, they agreed to see us. Steve's performance at that meeting, and it was a performance, can only be described as inspired. Almost without precedent in its history, and as a direct result of the case Steve put, the FCA reversed its decision. It was a privilege to witness it. Every shareholder expecting their money back following the sale of the pub owes Steve a huge debt of gratitude.

In any small community, there are those who "do" (as we have recently seen so memorably at the Fete), those that moan about what's done, and those that just expect village life to go on so long as it doesn't involve them. Steve was emphatically in the first category. He loved this village, and his sole motivation in everything he did (which was a lot) was aimed at enhancing the lives of the people who live here.

He was a titan, he will be badly missed, and it was a privilege to have known and worked with him. As Steve constantly exhorted us: "Don't let apathy rule." You certainly didn't, dear friend. May you rest in peace.

Bill Fox

Highlights from the meeting of the Great Milton Parish Council on 23rd June 2026

A Tribute to Steve Harrod

The Council opened the meeting by paying tribute to Steve Harrod, who passed away on 11th June. Steve served our community with dedication as both a district, county and parish councillor. He was also instrumental in ensuring that Great Milton retained its last remaining village pub. His contribution to village life was warmly acknowledged. The Council resolved to mark his memory with a memorial plaque on the same bench commemorating his beloved late wife Cathy in the garden of The Bull Inn.

Welcome to New Councillors

The Council co-opted two new members at this meeting: David Mainon and Darren Timms. Both were proposed by the Chair and unanimously welcomed. David takes over responsibility as councillor for the Thame Road, Fullers Field and Green Hitchings ward. Darren has responsibility for The Old Garage to North End Cottage, Lower End.

An Update from Le Manoir

Niall Kingston attended the meeting to give an update on the ongoing 

redevelopment of Le Manoir Aux Quat Saisons. Enabling works are currently underway, preparing the infrastructure for the interior and construction work to follow. The topsoil and subsoil mound currently visible on site is material in storage which will be returned later as part of the landscaping.

The Manoir team is working through options relating to the flat roof area immediately behind the churchyard wall, where they are exploring alternatives to the previously roof-mounted air conditioning units. The aim is to find a solution acceptable to planning authorities that reduces noise for neighbours through repositioning at a lower level, additional screening, and the use of newer plant.

The project remains on schedule to reopen in September 2027. There are currently around 50 builders on site, rising to 60-80 as works progress. Staff recruitment begins from September 2026, with the main recruitment drive starting in January 2027.

A new entrance road to the staff car park, providing direct access from the A329, is planned to be in place by July to ease traffic around the current entrance during the remaining construction period.

Traffic and Speeding in the Village

The Chair reported back on the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) in the village. Data collected from the Thame Road SID shows that the average speed recorded is 22mph. The SIDs have helped raise awareness of speeding and have enabled the Council to engage directly with the operators of service vehicles seen travelling too fast, with positive results.

The Council also agreed to ask Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to improve the visibility of the national speed limit sign at the lower end of the village, to ensure drivers are clearly aware of where the speed limit changes when leaving the village. The issue of speeding in the Forties was also raised, and the Council noted a range of potential future actions that might be explored, including additional SIDs, traffic calming measures, or changes to signage.

Haseley Trading Estate — Traffic Plan

The Council discussed a response to South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) regarding the Haseley Trading Estate site. The District Councillor's update indicated that a traffic plan is expected to be produced in July. The Council resolved to add this as a standing item on future agendas to monitor progress and maintain accountability from SODC.

Planning Applications

Ref: P26/S0993/FUL — Stanley House, Edon Business Park, Thame Road, Wheatley. Proposal: Ground floor extension, additional car parking spaces, cycle storage and a surface water attenuation pond. The Council noted this application and

had no strong view for or against the development.

Ref: P26/S1073/LDP — The Sands, Stadhampton Road, Great Milton. Proposal: Side extension and alterations to fenestration to the western elevation.

The Council expressed no objections to this lawful development application.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 20th July 2026 starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.

Complete minutes and supporting documents can be found on the Parish Council website — www.greatmilton-pc.gov.uk

Benefice Services for July

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 5th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am
Sunday 12th	Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am	
Sunday 19th	Family Worship 10:30am		Holy Communion 9:00am
Sunday 26th	Benefice Morning Worship 10:30am	Holy Communion BCP 9:00am	

Benefice Services for August

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 2nd		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am

Food for Thought

What are your favourite World Cup memories? I was a young teenager on my French exchange when England won in 1966, and there was no television in the house, so I think I only found out about it afterwards. In 1990, Cameroon (where I once spent a year on VSO) famously beat the defending champions Argentina in their opening match, went on to reach the last 16, and only lost to England in the quarter-finals after extra time. Cameroon are sadly absent from this year's competition, but there are plenty of other potential giant-killers from Africa and elsewhere to watch out for.

The first official World Cup tournament was played in Uruguay in 1930. The modern Olympic Games started in Athens in 1896, at a time when “the whole 

world” was often seen in terms of empires. British classroom maps showed much of the world coloured pink. But when I was growing up, the best way to learn about the world was by collecting stamps. I still have the pages from my first album, with one headed “Italian States, Post Offices and Colonies” (including San Marino and Libya), and another for “Indian Native States”. I was very proud of my set of stamps from Travancore (today’s Kerala and part of Tamil Nadu), with denominations including “six cash”, “three-quarter chuckram”, and “fourteen chuckrams” (there being sixteen cash to the chuckram, and twenty-eight chuckrams to the rupee).

Today’s children are learning about the world through national football teams, noticing their flags, and maybe finding out about their food and other cultural elements. They will also notice how some footballers express their religious faith in public, often Christian or Muslim. Some point to the sky after scoring, or make the sign of the cross; others have prominent religious tattoos or messages on their vests; many will speak of their faith in interviews.

It was no accident that the Christian faith spread across the whole world. Jesus specifically told his disciples to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28.19), saying “you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1.8). This was not something these rough Galilean fishermen and their friends could do in their own strength. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would empower them, and that’s what began to happen on the Day of Pentecost. It is still happening today.

In St John’s Gospel we read that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life” (John 3.16). The message of eternal life through Jesus is still good news, the very best news, for our world in which so many people are weighed down, anxious and fearful.

The World Cup gives us an opportunity to broaden our horizons, appreciate other cultures, and perhaps pray imaginatively for people, places and situations that we hadn’t been aware of before. “God so loved the world.”

Toby Garfitt

This month we welcome Lucie Spiers as our new Rector, and we extend a very warm welcome to her and her husband Paul as they settle into the Rectory in Great Milton. Lucie’s official institution, induction and licensing will take place at a special service in St Mary’s, Great Milton, on Wednesday 22 July at 7.30 pm, and the first services that she will herself conduct will be on Sunday 26 July (9.00 am Prayer Book Communion (said) at Little Milton, 10.30 Benefice Morning Worship at Great Milton).

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

July			
Date	Time	Preacher	Comments
5th	11:00am	Revd Stephen Spain	Holy Communion Service
12th	11:00am	Ms Charlotte Stonehouse	Morning Service
19th	11:00am	Local Arrangement	Morning Service
26th	11:00am	David Harper	Morning Service

Free Coffee Morning – Wednesday 8th July at 10:30am to midday.

A vignette from a book by Amor Towles

‘To serve the ones we love and receive their approval in return, need life be any more complicated than that?’

Christian Aid Week 2026

WOW... once again you smashed it!! In spite of very limited (but extremely successful) house-to-house collecting this year the total raised within the Benefice is £2,135.45 .. made up of:

Five lent lunches	£800.40
Three church collections	£446.25
House -to-house collections in Little Milton	£888.80
Total:	£2135.45

£897 of the money given was gift aided and the above total therefore includes an extra £224.25. So thank you to everyone who filled in your gift aid slip – it really does make a difference– of £224.25 this year!

THANK YOU to all those involved this year; Lent lunch hosts, including, ecumenically, our Methodist friends in Great Milton; Deliverers and collectors and the church reps for supporting the three church collections.

Above all, thank you to each of you who gave money this year enabling us to raise such a wonderful total. We have been collecting for Christian aid now for over 25 years within the three villages and have raised about £60,000 over the years...AMAZING!

S.A.Dennis

Bible Study Group(known as the BSG)

After a break, we have reinstated the Bible study group and are currently studying the sermon on the Mount ... As suggested by Tony Jefferies early last year...

We have a new meeting pattern which comprises six weeks meeting every week on Tuesday evenings at 7 o'clock followed by four weeks break followed by another six week block... We meet in different houses and would love to welcome you if you're interested. Please do contact Ian or myself on (01844) 278029 to learn more about us..!

S.A.Dennis

Great Milton History



Our apologies if you looked for us at the Fete. Due to things beyond our control, we were unable to set up on the Rec. as normal – instead we were moved into the Pavilion – we had some visitors but of course, on Fete Day, the Pavilion is a busy, noisy tearoom!

Our special thanks go to Les Preston who stayed with us throughout the day. His knowledge of the Village, and his unstinting kindness helped us through a tough afternoon.

We meet regularly every Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00 in the History Cabin (behind the Old Garage), so come and see us if we can help in any way. Otherwise look forward to the Fete in 2027!!

GMH

An Enchanting Musical Evening

There will have been a whole variety of instruments played at the Neighbours' Hall over the decades, but it is thought that it is highly unlikely that the sound of the Shakuhachi will have been heard before! The Japanese bamboo flute was played by Richard Stagg (brother of Jane Jefferis) on May 16th and the audience was enthralled. Richard is a professional flute-player who retired recently after 33 years of service in the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He has been playing the shakuhachi since 1982. The unique, atmospheric, sound was heard with seven individual pieces played on different sizes of the flute. For those who missed this special event, Richard's music can be heard on YouTube Music

Dear Villagers and Friends,

As ever, thank you all so much for supporting our church fete. The scores are in... and we have made over £8000. This is made up of takings, grants, sponsorship and after costs of nearly £2000 have been deducted. This is a brilliant total and another record. Thank you to the Shepard Trust, The Co-Op and villagers for their sponsorship/grants. This money goes towards maintenance and running of the Church.

It was a joy to see Mrs Rogers opening the fete. The children from the school doing their ballroom and country dancing were adorable. Thank you to the organiser of the tug of war and Illinois agility test and to the children who gave it a go. Thanks to our announcer who was entertaining and informative. The whole event was beautifully accompanied by MusicLand, The SaxPack and Jazz Antidote.

We are extremely grateful to those of you who sponsored the fete and/or made/donated items to sell on the stalls or for the raffle. Well done to those who won any of the amazing raffle prizes or the prizes on the tombola, hoopla and games. A congratulatory “woof” to all our canine friends (and their owners) who entered the ever popular dog show. Thank you also to those who displayed their amazing cars and tractors, didn't they look fabulous?

Special thanks must be given to our hard working stall holders who collected and sold their goods, made teas and cakes, grew and nurtured an amazing array of plants (have you planted yours out yet?), pots and hanging baskets, cooked the bbq, served drinks, to the organisers and helpers of the games arena (did you win a coconut or beat the goalie? – thanks to him too!). We thank our friends in the History Society for being flexible with the last minute change of venue due to the broken gazebos.

A HUGE thanks go to the men and women who collected and returned the furniture/infrastructure and to the helpers who helped set up in the morning, and then took everything down and put it all away at the end; also to the various friends who lent us the equipment, to the friends who put up and then took down the noticeboards and posters. Thank you too to the friends who helped collect, return and set up the loudspeaker systems and to the friend who ensured the recreation ground's grass was cut! Thanks also to wonderful church treasurer who organised all the QR codes and sumup apps to ensure everyone could pay for things easily and to our friends who stayed behind afterwards to count our takings. The fete would not be possible without all these brilliant people who continue to support it every year.

As well as our wonderful volunteers and villagers, we thank the following for their support, in no particular order: Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons, Nick Belcher Photography, Roald Dahl Museum, The Co-op, Great Milton School, 

Tiggywinkles, Monkey Puzzle Cafe, The Recreation Ground Committee, Le Secret Garden, Jules Yoga, Sisters Edge Hairdressers, Blenheim Palace, Sandy Lane Farm, Lopemedede Farm, The Peers Centre, Chloe Lodge Photography, Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society, Joes Teas, Cornfields Bakery, Hickman's Butchers, PetCare, Asda, The Neighbours Hall Committee, The Explorer Scouts, Widow Tree and The Bull.

We're not sure who organised the amazing sunshine... thank you to them too as it made the day!

Now with a thought to next year... none of us are getting any younger. Please join us. Either to help run a stall on the day or to be on the committee. It does not require any special skills and you can take on as much or as little as you have time for/feel capable of. The committee meet for 30min - 1hr every 4-6 weeks from Feb - May (you don't even have to come to the meetings!) there are tasks to suit all abilities and ages... some quotes from some of our younger helpers... "Haven't been since primary School!; impressive team of organisers; definitely a case of the more the merrier with helpers of our age!" Claudia aged 19 "It was nice to have a laugh with the people having a shot at goal. Was an amazing day !!" Reece aged 20. "Felt good to give back to the Village and hang out with my mates at the same time!" Erica aged 17

Please get in touch if you would like to join us:

alexlkirkman@gmail.com – 0775 9441006

Thank you all again!

The fete committee, Alan, Alex, Celina, Clare, Dee, Ian, Jo, Linda, Peter and Rachel





Photos by Chloë Lodge





Photos by Chloë Lodge



Great Milton May School Governor News Bites

Extra-curricular activities

We can look forward to a demonstration of ballroom dancing by Years 1 & 2 at Great Milton Church village fete next month.

The school places a high value on learning beyond the classroom, and pupils are offered opportunities to learn and represent the school in different ways throughout the year. One such activity is a dance club, run by Miss Warne, Mrs Sansom and Mrs Frost, where children learn Latin and American Ballroom dances. They then perform in a competition against other Oxfordshire schools in their age group. The top three schools in each county go through to the Grand Final.

Sport is another important extra-curricular opportunity. The school takes part in various sporting events and tournaments organised by Wheatley Park School (WPS) and also the School Games initiative. These sports include archery, netball, football, cross country, tag rugby and athletics. Last month the Y5/6 team won the Quad Kids event held at Wheatley Park School – always a great opportunity for children to compete. Charlie Powell was named the ‘highest performing boy’ across the whole event. Congratulations Charlie!

Friends of Great Milton School (FOGMS)

The Spring Fair last month raised over £3000 for the school – a whopping sum. Thank you to all parents and friends of FOGMS who put so much into the event, and to those who came to support it. The next fun fundraiser on 20 June is the Big Bash at Views Farm Barns. Get ready to party in a huge barn with amazing local bands and incredible award-winning DJ. Early bird tickets on sale now.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/the-big-summer-bash--2026>

Diary Dates

Church Fete: 13 June (Great Milton Recreation Ground)

Big Bash: 20 June (Views Farm Barns OX44 7NW)

Sports Day: 26 June (Great Milton Recreation Ground)

End of Term: Friday 17th July at 1.30pm

Great Milton Athletic Club at the Oxon County T&F Championships

Ten GMAC athletes from school years 7 to 10 competed over two days in the Oxfordshire County Track & Field Championships over the bitterly cold weekend of 9/10th May. Between them they recorded 28 personal bests (pb), won 14 medals, and

One of many highlights was the trio of Grace Mosely, Flo Jones and Abby Kirkman taking gold, silver and bronze in that order in the U16 girls 300m hurdles. The first time GMAC ever made a clean sweep of medals in one event.



On other days, the under-12s (school Y4 to Y6) have been competing in Quad-kid type events. Each child participates in a 75m sprint, long jump, vortex howler throw, and a 600m long distance run.

 RUNNING 2 TIME		
T40	Oxon 300m Hurdles G	U16 - Final
1	G Mosley	Great Milton AC 52.08
2	F Jones	Great Milton AC 54.03
3	A Kirkman	Great Milton AC 57.10

Find out more from the village website, or come along and try an agility-speed test at the Church Fete on 13th June, and meet children and parents who can tell you more.

View from Views

Up to the 1st June all our crops seemed to have recovered from being drowned during the winter and frazzled during May. I could not believe how well they looked at the end of May, all stood up and seemingly disease and pest free, thick with large heads full of grain, looking like one of the best Harvests for some time. At the time the great worry was that all our optimism for a good harvest would be dashed if the predicted rain did not materialise, however as we all know now the torrential rain of the night of 1st June where we had 26mm (just over an inch and only 4mm less than the whole of April and May), so we are now optimistic for once, just as long as it does not become a wet and cluttery harvest!



During last autumn and winter, we transplanted many trees, thinning some plantations and making some new areas. These trees are really struggling with the dry and we have had to spend some time watering them, just how many will survive remains to be seen, they still are looking very stressed. The same applies to the wild bird covers we plant at this time of year, just hope what rain we have had or, will have, will give them a chance, luckily some of last year's we left to go to seed, which will/has given birds something to feed on at the present and, some cover during the winter to come. The Lapwings that seemed to have taken up residence, and were very much in evidence at the beginning of June were not so obvious by the 15th, just the odd one flying around. What happened to them in that fortnight I guess we will never know, luckily we did have not had to do much work on the crop, I marked a small area where I thought they were nesting, so that they could be missed, I don't think we could have done much more to save them and nature does not always play ball, we can only hope they have flown the nest. We noticed one day them doing a dance with Kites obviously trying to distract them away from any nests, I assume that was what was going on, which would indicate they had something they wish to preserve, hopefully their young will have flown away.

We had a wonderful day for our Tractor run, thanks one again all those who supported us, I think we raised £1,300. Anyone could be excused to thinking this is just a jolly for tractor fanatics I can assure everyone that to sit of a machine without any springs or attempt at cushioning against, potholes or rough terrain, sore backside are a real side effect. Although most of the course was through woods which kept us out of the heat most of the time, the controls, steering wheel, and hand throttle, (no accelerator pedal), got extremely hot literally we needed oven gloves, so it was not just a jolly quite hard work. As we covered some 50-60 miles in all we were very glad to be home, although by that time the day had cooled off and it was a pleasant drive home, with no flies in the eyes, a common occurrence in the evenings.

Fly Tipping is something that is of great concern to us farmers as if it is tipped on private land, The landowner is responsible for its removal. This problem is not helped by the excessive landfill tax, when introduced at about £7 per tonne, now it is around £130 per tonne, plus if an individual house holder wishes to take waste to a tip, he/she, has to have an appointment, which may well not be convenient. Barriers like these do not encourage proper waste disposal, and we are now seeing the benefits of this misguided Government directive, why those who make these laws never seem to think of the effects of their legislation, I cannot think.

In her excellent monthly notes, our District Councillor keeps us well informed on current district matters. Recently she made comments with reference to the 

problems the council has in dealing with this waste, of particular concern over the non-recycling materials, costing the council a lot of money, which as far as I knew from us here all goes for incineration which, then generates electricity, so why does it cost so much. I think the reason is that those leaving waste at the incinerator have to pay for disposal seems odd when the incinerator generates electricity and sells it into the grid, so why have to pay them to take their raw material. I guess that this is again legislators not thinking things through when encouraging the set-up of incinerators, with set up grants with no end once the system became profitable. I was also staggered to learn how much still ends up in Landfill, this I thought was a problem solved through incineration and recycling. It seems to me completely bonkers that each local authority has it's own way of dealing with waste, surely the Government should make it mandatory that all councils have the same system and this be modelled on the best performing council, same coloured bins for the same materials in South Oxon as in say Shropshire, or anywhere else, all leads to confusion.

Charles Peers

Tons Together (Little Milton) WI

Thank you to Sue from The Floral Fuse for a wonderful fused glass workshop. Also thank you to Angela, Helen & Jane for doing the teas, and to Jane for the lovely birthday posies.

Our next meeting on Thursday 9 July at 7.30pm is a Scottish country dance workshop with Chris Jeffery. Please wear clothes & shoes suitable for dancing. Everyone always welcome. Visitors £6, or join up - £40.50 for 2026/27.

On 13 August, we have our annual day trip, this year to Friars Court for a tour of the garden and cream tea. Let me know if you'd like to join us, £15 each.

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

QUIZ NIGHT AT THE HARVESTER, WHEATLEY

Our next quiz is booked for
Thursday 9th July at 7:30pm at
the Harvester, starting at 7:30pm.

Tickets of up to 6. Tickets are £10pp
and can be obtained by contacting
alan.pickett@outlook.com

Funds raised will be to support
Florence Nightingale Hospice and there
will be a cash prize for the winning team.

Do join us for a fun-filled evening in a
warm and friendly atmosphere to
support this very worthy cause.

Look forward to seeing you there.



Haseley Brook Action Group (HBAG) continues to work in the interests of our local communities in South Oxfordshire by **campaigning to prevent poorly considered new housing proposals.**



Over the past decade, we've made significant progress. However, there are still several, poorly thought-out, proposed developments for South Oxfordshire that are of real concern. We are a volunteer group of local residents campaigning to protect our unique area, and we may need your help from time to time.

Stay informed and help protect our community by **subscribing to our updates via this QR code.**

We promise to contact you infrequently and only with relevant information.



Our website: www.HaseleyBrookActionGroup.com
Email us: HaseleyBrookActionGroup@gmail.com

Our much loved village playground needs your help...



As many of you may have seen, we have sadly had to temporarily close some parts of the playground. Following a recent safety inspection, two of the main pieces of equipment were found to be unsafe due to age-related deterioration. We know this is a real loss for our local children and families.

After exploring all options, we've been advised that these items can't be repaired and must be fully replaced. The cost of doing so is significant, estimated at £30,000-£40,000.

Great Milton Recreation Ground Management Committee, which oversees the playground, is a charity that is run by volunteers. We're actively applying for funding from local and national organisations.

We will also be running community fundraising events, with more details to follow. But we know that not everyone has the time to volunteer or attend events though, so we have also set up a 'GoFundMe' page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-us-make-urgent-repairs-to-our-village-playground>

If you or your family have enjoyed the playground in the past, use it now, or hope to in the future. Even if you simply value having a safe, welcoming play space at the heart of our village - we'd be incredibly grateful for anyone's support. Every donation, no matter the size, will really help to make a difference.

Our community is a special one and we know how much people enjoy the playground. We are exploring every avenue into how we can raise the funds to help bring it back to life and make it better than ever!

Thank You

The GMRGMC



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 care navigators in reception on 01865 872448 for more information.

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

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:

How to Stay Well and Enjoy the Summer Months

Free Global Health Insurance Card - planning to travel overseas then ensure you have your UK GHIC card

Meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning) – symptoms and protection

Are you a Carer? – find help and support if you are looking after someone unable to care for themselves

- **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.
- **Measles** – what to look for and treatment
- **Easy read newsletters** about how the NHS is helping people with a learning disability and autism.
- **Expansion of RSV vaccine** to those aged 80 and over
- **Online Resources for Clinical Help** via self-referrals
- **Faster Access to Help for Joint and Back Pain**
- **Group Consultation Clinics** – successful group clinics for menopause and hypertension
- **Breast + Cervical Cancer Screening**
- **Weight Loss Medication**
- **Childhood Immunisation**
- **You and Your General Practice** – a guide downloadable from MHS website

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.

Medicine waste costs the NHS around £300 million/year. Only order the medicines you need. Once medicine leaves a pharmacy it can no longer be re-used even if unopened.

AN EVENING CONCERT PERFORMED BY THE

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Saturday 3rd October 2026

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ENTRY £15.00 (Cash only) LIGHT REFRRESHMENTS

www.oxfordfiddle.co.uk

Contact Moyra de Selincourt moyrades@btinternet.com
M 077100576015

Book and Jigsaw Library

Friday 17th July 2026

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 on 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.

Need a venue? The Pavilion & Recreation Ground

**Ideal for children's parties,
meetings, family get
togethers, classes and
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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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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

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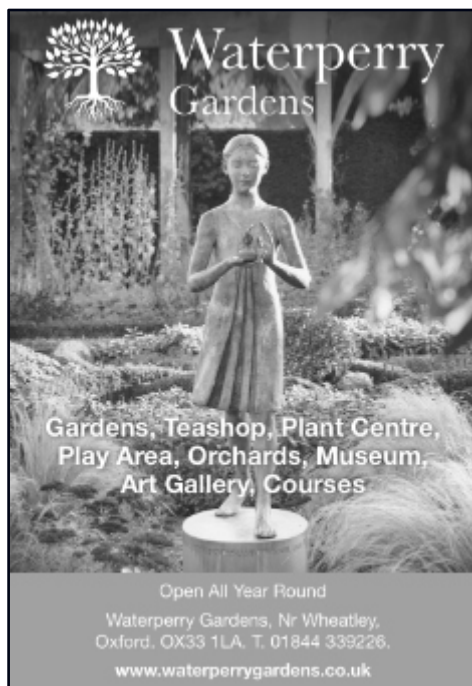
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What's On this July



**CONCERT: 4th July - FLAMENCO FUSION,
DUO DESTINO, AMPHITHEATRE**

**GALLERY EXHIBITION: 11th July-6th Sept
- A BRIGHTER VIEW (FREE TO ENTER)**

**EVENT: 10th-12th July - CELEBRATING CERAMICS
AND DESIRE JEWELLERY & SILVERSMITHING FAIR**

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS: 11th July until 6th Sept
- BUTTERFLY TRAIL, ORIENTEERING IN THE GARDENS**

CONCERT: 26th July - MOONRAKERS, AMPHITHEATRE



EXCITING NEWS: Oxford Bus Company partners with
Waterperry Gardens to provide New Shuttle Bus.

Operating on weekends and bank holidays between Thornhill Park & Ride,
Wheatley and Waterperry Gardens from 13th June to 30th August 2020.

Buses will call at all local bus stops on the line of route.
For the timetable visit: www.oxfordbus.co.uk/waterperry-gardens-shuttle-bus

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

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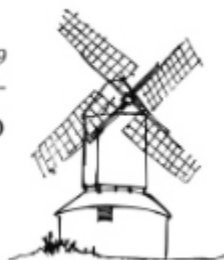
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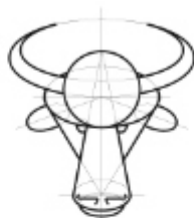


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Diary

Monday	Spark Yoga – ‘The Neighbours’ Hall. 9:15am <i>contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details</i>
Tuesday	Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00 – 7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground. <i>enquiries.gmac@gmail.com</i>
Wednesday	2nd Wed. Coffee Morning at The Methodist Chapel. 10:00am – Midday.
Thursday	The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. <i>contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432</i> Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm. <i>contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269. www.sandylanefarm.net</i> Athletics Club. Year 4–7. 6:00 – 7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground. <i>enquiries.gmac@gmail.com</i> Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm. <i>contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198</i>
Friday	Vinyasa Flow Yoga – ‘The Neighbours’ Hall. 9:15am <i>contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details</i> Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm. <i>contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269. www.sandylanefarm.net</i>
Saturday	Old Field. 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm. <i>contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090</i> Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 2:00pm. <i>contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269. www.sandylanefarm.net</i>

July

Thurs 9th	Quiz Night at The Harvester, Wheatley	7:30pm
Fri 17th	Book & Jigsaw Library at The Neighbours’ Hall	11:00am
Mon 20th	Parish Council Meeting at The Pavilion	7:30pm
Wed 22nd	The induction of Rev Lucie Spiers at St. Mary’s Church	7:30pm

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th July 2026**
 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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