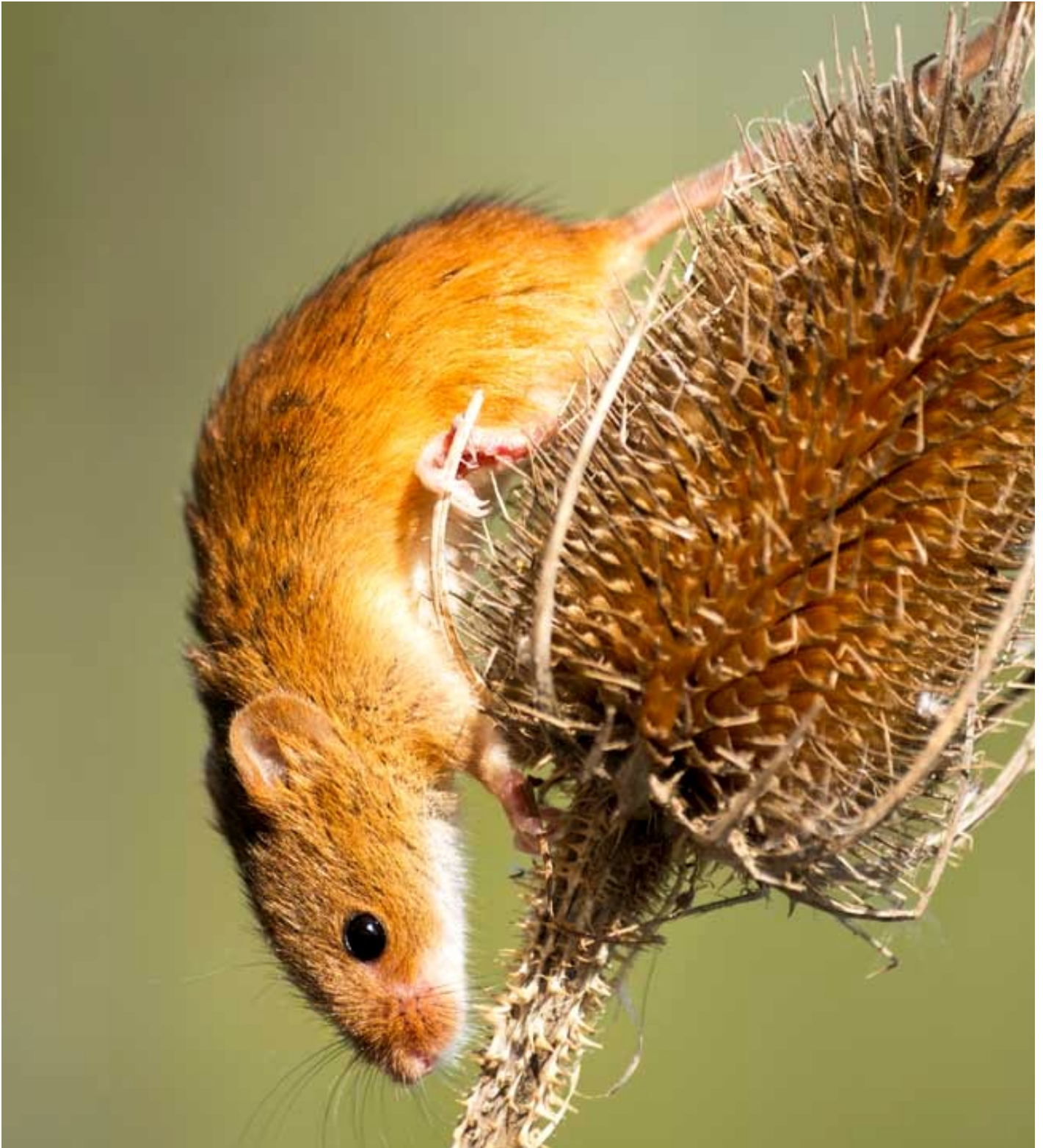


# Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News

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*AUGUST 2025*

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**Editor/Advertising** - Lawrence Wootten

*lawrencewootten@aol.com or clerk@waterperrywiththomley-pc.gov.uk 07808 761710*

Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News is delivered monthly and free-of-charge to all households in the three parishes. The magazine is run on a not-for-profit basis, and paid for largely through advertising revenue along with financial support from the three parishes. Its finances are overseen by Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council. We welcome letters, articles and announcements from individuals and organisations, but reserve the right to edit or to publish or not. All copy must be received no later than the 18th of the month prior to publication and with its author's name attached.

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## **August Church Services**

August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 St Leonard's Waterstock
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton 6.00pm St Mary's Waterperry
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Leonard's Waterstock
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 St Mary's Waterperry 9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Cluster service TBA
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Services at St Mary's Wheatley
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton

## **St Leonard's Waterstock**

### **Flowers and cleaning rota**

August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	L. Arthur
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	L. Arthur
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	C. Tyce
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	C. Tyce
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	J. Shipperley
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	J. Harper
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	J. Harper

### **Mowing rota**

R. Arthur
R. Arthur
J. Wilkinson
J. Wilkinson
P. Beaven
P. Beaven
S. Shipperley

## **St Mary's Waterperry**

### **Flower rota**

August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rebecca
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	Helen
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jacqui/Jacks
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Jan
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Zena
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sue F.
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Rebecca



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## *Letter from the Vicarage*

If you could have a month named after you which one would it be? Which month would most reflect who you think you are? I think for me the month of David would have to be what we now call April. I see myself as essentially optimistic and a glass half full kind of person and someone who loves the new and revels in change and adventure. So to my mind April is the month that reflects that – nature's optimistic month that brings in the new year of growth and renewal. So I fully expect that next year we will go March, David, May. How about you, what month are you going to claim?

The reason I mention this as we start August is that August is one of only two months that is actually named after someone – in this case the Emperor Augustus. As I mentioned last year in this newsletter he chose this month because it was the month in which he celebrated his most famous military victories and the Roman Senate were happy to bow to his vanity. If Trump carries on as he is no doubt the US Senate will vote to change the name of November to Trump or Trumpember or Trumply to celebrate his election triumph before too long.

There can be few greater demonstrations of power than the power to change the calendar. Augustus's immediate predecessor Julius Caesar reorganised the whole year and gave his name to the subsequent 'Julian' calendar (and the month of July) that then defined 'time' for much of the world for over 1600 years. It was the church, Pope Gregory XIII in fact, that adjusted it in 1582 to account for the fact that the Julian calendar had the year length very slightly out so there had been 'drift' in the seasons such as Easter and the equinoxes were clearly out of whack. While this 'new' Gregorian calendar has been adopted globally in civil society there are still parts of the Orthodox Church that use the Julian calendar for religious purposes.

So both Julius and Augustus held power over the way we name and count time. Four years after Augustus renamed his month a baby was born in Bethlehem that held the ultimate power over time because he was the creator of it in the first place. Jesus didn't change months or calendars but he changed humanity's relationship with God and so with time itself. The power that Jesus displayed broke down the gap between the temporal and the eternal – between the mortal and immortal. In his death and resurrection Jesus offered us the gift of stepping outside time and activating an eternal relationship with God. That's power that Julius and Augustus could not even have dreamed of having.

And it's a power that is offered to each and every one of us. Having months named after us is a mere bagatelle compared with having God name you as one of his own and give you the power of not being bound by time, that is to become a timeless creature.

Stay blessed,

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

## *Holton & Waterperry W.I.*

After two wet garden meetings, we were blessed, at last, with a summer (even hot) evening in the Holton orchard on July 1st. We started with our bring and share supper, all magnificently produced and followed up with Pimms and fruit skewers. Homespun entertainment was the theme of the evening and much enjoyed for all that. An entertaining quiz based on WI archives, an amusing follow up recitation, news and great camaraderie. It was so pleasant to sit out in the orchard on a warm summer's evening.

We have been busy too and new events are planned. We helped serve teas at the recent craft fair and will provide desserts again at the Holton BBQ on 1st August. We have had another walk and a new one planned for 30th July. We are off to the Playhouse to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' and have our outing to Rycote house, park and chapel, specially opened for us, on 18th August, plus lunches at the Lambert Arms. We have visited other WI's and have a Warwickshire WI coming to visit us. Also enjoyed a morning at a fused glass craft course.

Our own craft course, making fabric and beaded cards proved popular in the village hall, plus splendid tea and cake of course. Another craft afternoon is planned for the 29th July. So we are participating in other activities as well as our meetings.

Our September 2nd talk is called 'Can Onions Cure Earache?' - medical advice from the 1700's. More details later. Visitors and potential new members welcome.

*Barbara Martin*

And here is the WI Report from July, which the editor apologises for missing out in the last edition!

The title '*Witches, Scolds and Mouldy Jades*' belied a fascinating and well-researched talk from Amy Moore who packed in so much information in for us to digest. The talk was based on her PhD thesis studied over four years as a mature student. Such thorough research was undertaken at the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies in Cowley (always worth a visit) and in the Bodleian library. Amy delved into the lives of women between 1575 and 1640. Oxford's population of 5,000 in 1575 rose to 10,000 by 1640 when freemen, churchwardens and the judiciary presided over local business. Whilst as children we all read in history books about the scold's bridle and the ducking stool (which often rotted) it seems there was only one instance of this taking place in Oxford in this timeframe '*Mouldy Jades*' refers to old horses or nags - gossiping women! Such thorough research was much-appreciated.

We also had a flourishing produce table and a flower raffle.

Not only do we have interesting talks but we have had two delightful walks - Tiddington to Waterperry with tea and Great Milton and Great Haseley with lunch. Another walk is proposed for the 23rd June. Our outing is planned for 18th August and names were taken. Our new venture, craft afternoons, was well supported on the 10th June. A theatre visit is also to look forward to. We will also hold a stall at the village BBQ on 1st August. So, WI is not just about meetings - spin offs are also varied and of interest.

*Barbara Martin*

# **Holton Parish Council**

## **Planning Applications:**

P25/S1920/NBA Permitted Development Holton Village Hall, Holton.  
OX33 1PR

To fit 20 460-Watt Solar PV Panels to the roof of Holton Village Hall – 13 to be attached to the south facing roof and 7 to be fitted to the east-facing roof.

## **Planning Decisions SODC Planning:**

P25/S1297/S73 Holton Park Cottage, Holton. OX33 1PR

Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application P23/S3296/FUL.

Replacement dwelling, formation of new access and associated operations – to allow for provision of a detached single storey garage. As clarified by revised block plan showing location of electric vehicle charging point.

**Granted**

P24/S3892/HH Slaymaker, Holton. OX33 1PR

Retention of detached garage/workshop building and proposed alteration to the width by 2 metres to 8 metres and repositioning of rooflights (As amended by plans received 12 June 2025)

**Granted**

P24/S3828/FUL Slaymaker, Holton, OX33 1PR

Retrospective application for the relocation of barn from position approved by consent P05/W0463. As amended by plan received 02 February 2025.

**Refused**

**The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 starting at 7.00 pm In Holton Village Hall Committee Room.  
Agendas will be on the village notice boards and Parish Council website.**

Contact details below:

Clerk to Holton Parish Council (Sonja Barter)

Home Farm House, Holton, Oxford OX33 1QA

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

Tel: 01865 872334

Copies of Holton Parish Council Meeting Agendas and Approved Minutes can be viewed on the Holton Parish Council website:-

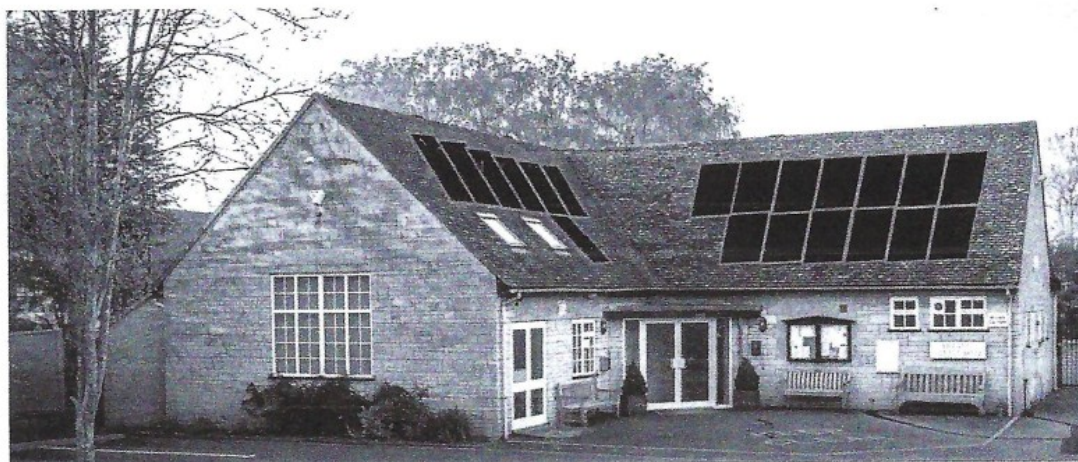
[www.holtonoxford-pc.gov.uk](http://www.holtonoxford-pc.gov.uk)



## Breaking News

### Holton Village Hall is: *'Going Solar'*

As part of the Village Hall's Environmental Strategy 'Fit<sup>4</sup>50' we are planning to be self-sufficient for electrical energy in 2026 by installing Solar Panels.



The Key Features will be:

- 20** Solar Panels (13 on the South Elevation, 7 on the East Elevation)
- 8 MW** of Electrical Power generated per year
- 95%** independence from the electricity grid
- 70%** Electricity export to grid to provide an income stream
- £1000** saving in electricity costs each year
- 2000kg** reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

**Implementation Cost: £13,000**

A Planning Application was submitted to South Oxfordshire on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and a grant application to cover **50%** of the cost will be submitted on the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

**Watch out for more updates on this exciting new chapter for our Village Hall**



# ***Holton Village Hall***

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

## **Village Hall Committee — New Committee Members**

We are always on the lookout for new committee members to bring fresh perspectives and ideas forward, especially for fundraising. If you are interested, please contact us on [admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk)

## **Afternoon teas.**

The Afternoon teas at the Village Hall continue to be a great success. Many thanks to everyone that helps, for all their hard work. There will be afternoon teas on August 7th and August 21st -from 2.30pm until 4.00pm. Come along for Tea, Coffee, Cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

## **Summer BBQ Friday 1st August 2025**

The Village Hall will once again be holding a Summer BBQ on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August starting at 6.00pm the Orchard. There will be a BBQ (including vegetarian options), live music from local band "Hunter 101" and the Bar will also be moved temporarily to the Orchard. Holton W.I. will be once again selling desserts. If you can help in any way then please contact [admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk).

## **Film Night**

The next Film Night at the Village Hall will be on Friday 26th September 7.00 for 7.30 pm. The film will be Marvellous (15) Starring Toby Jones, Gemma Jones, Tony Curran and Nicholas Gleaves. Marvellous tells the funny, moving and surprising true story of Neil Baldwin (Toby Jones), who refused to accept the label of learning difficulties and carved out an extraordinary life.

ENTRANCE - cash only Adults £5, under 18s £3

Tea, coffee & cake - cash only. Bar open

## **Solar Panels**

The Village Hall is planning to install Solar Panels in order to make us self-sufficient for electrical energy. A planning application has been submitted, so watch out for developments.

## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

It will be fifty years in October since the Village Hall was opened. The Village Hall Committee have decided to commemorate the occasion by having a special extended tea. Look out for details in the next mag.

## **Quiz Night**

There will be a special 50th anniversary quiz night on November 7th.

## **Future Events**

For up to date information on all events at the Village Hall please access the website at [www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk)

## **Booking the Village Hall**

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

Take care

*Mel Ault*

## *Holton Bus Shelter Bring and Take*

I have put on quite a bit of weight these last few months. This has been brought about, in no small part, by having to eat so many of my words. Of course there will never be a bus service in Holton. Keir Starmer can't win the election. Home-working is here for good. Arsenal will win the Premier League... the list is endless!

If you haven't used the new bus service yet, then why not give it a go? I rushed there in its first week, bus-pass in hand. My photo is not very flattering. I look like I have just been arrested after crawling out of a bin following a night out on the town. It is so bad I had decided that I might just pay for my ticket instead. Imagine my delight when I was told the service is free. You should try it.

The summer edition of the Bring and Take took place in baking heat and bright sunshine. It was well attended but there were not quite as many people as usual. I imagine many were sheltering in their living rooms with the curtains drawn or lying on the kitchen floor next to a fridge with an open door. Despite this lots of bringing and a more moderate taking was evident. I am pleased to report that green fingers are in evidence. For instance, two garden kneelers were brought along and disappeared to new homes in seconds.

The collection was for Dementia UK and we raised £135 for this worthy cause. Thanks to you all for your continued generosity.

The next event at the bus shelter, apart from the bus, will be the second installment of Book Week. A selection of fiction books for all ages will be on the shelves from **Saturday 16<sup>h</sup> August until lunchtime on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August**. Please do come along and help yourself to anything that you'd like to read. If you are bringing along books to swap please restrict them to paperback fiction as my back and the car's suspension are struggling with some of the mighty tomes we receive.

The next Bus Shelter Bring and Take will be on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September. Hope to see you there. I am the one who looks like the kind of person you might meet down a dark alley. And if you don't believe it then just ask to see my bus pass.  
Allan East, Holton Parish Council

*Allan East, Holton Parish Council*

## *Holton News*

It seems to have been a busy month in Holton, despite being hunkered down against the high temperatures. The village teas have continued throughout the heatwave and have remained popular events. The stalwarts who keep these events going are just incredible and all deserve medals, long may they continue.

The good weather persisted for the Craft Fair and there were a good number of stalls, ranging from paintings to jewellery via local honey. There were lovely things to see and buy. These days I don't carry much cash but it was all gone very quickly. Others remarked that the wood turning displays were excellent and very useful. I missed the tea and cake but was told they were up to the usual high standard, so well received as it was warm.

An interesting variation to our usual round of events was a visit from Spud Bud. You may have seen his 'emporium' parked outside the Sun Pub in Wheatley. The pub has given up the unequal struggle with a very small kitchen and relies on vendors selling eg pizzas etc to feed the hungry drinkers. The Spud Bud is basically a baked potato van and his wares are tasty and very welcome as they are mostly gluten-free and hot. There were a good number of takers, including those who took their dinners away to eat at home rather than in the orchard or the village hall. We may see him again in the not too distant future.

Don't forget that the Village Barbeque is almost upon us so let's hope the weather stays good for the 1 August. There will be the usual entertainments and entrance is free. See the adverts elsewhere on the telegraph poles and in the Village Mag.

As the price of everything goes up so does the price of water as Thames Water are going bust. Just to rub salt in the wound of massive bonuses paid to managers and significant price rises we are now getting a hosepipe ban. Whose idea was it to privatise the water companies?

Another area that defies gravity is the price of petrol. Asda is now selling petrol at higher prices than Shell who are always on the high side. It's cheaper to slog your way up to Headington or even better to fill up a Tesco in Cowley where you can save 7p per litre and get your shopping at the same time. Every little helps.

Take care

*Mel Ault*  
[mel\\_ault39@outlook.com](mailto:mel_ault39@outlook.com)

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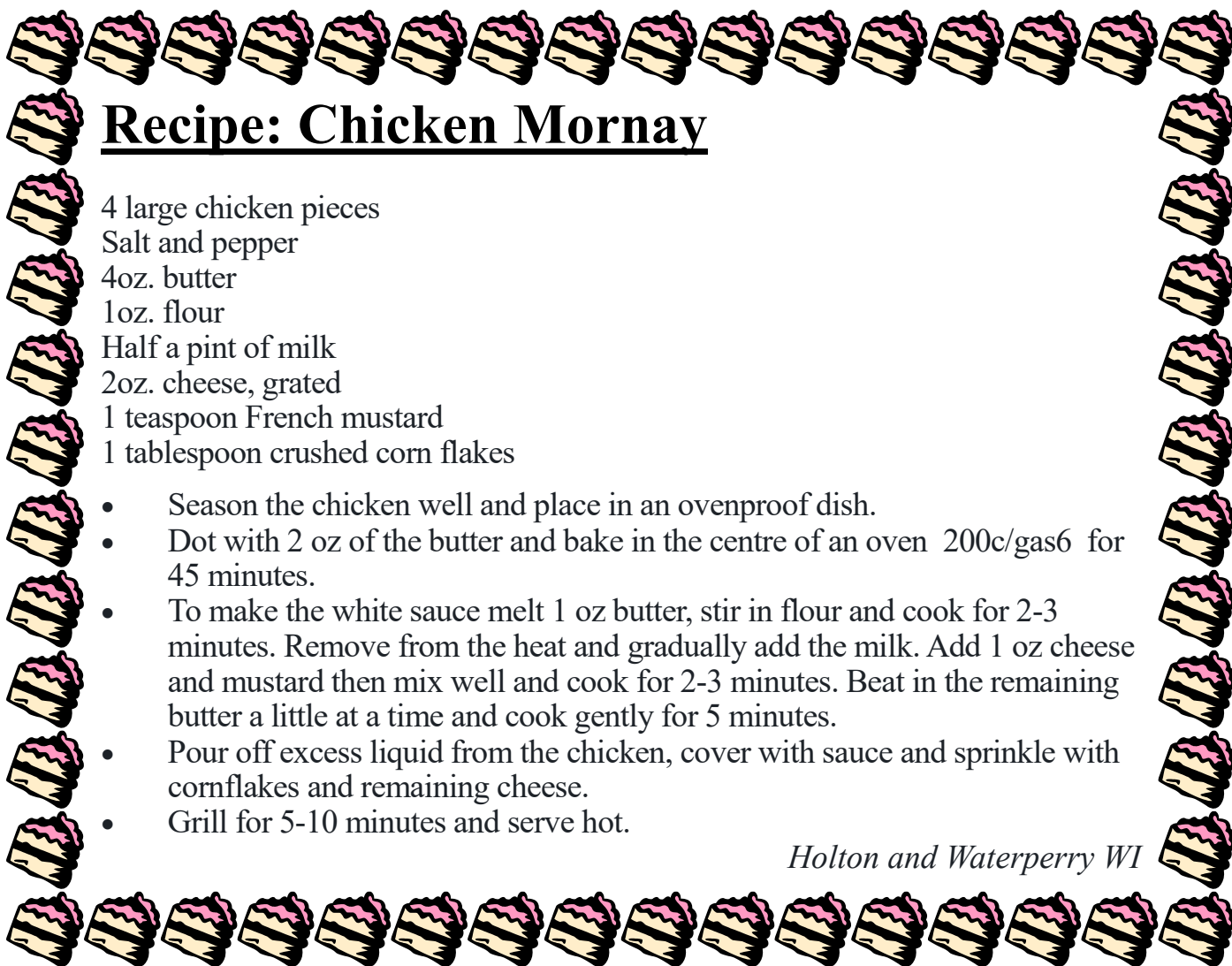
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## Recipe: Chicken Mornay

4 large chicken pieces

Salt and pepper

4oz. butter

1oz. flour

Half a pint of milk

2oz. cheese, grated

1 teaspoon French mustard

1 tablespoon crushed corn flakes

- Season the chicken well and place in an ovenproof dish.
- Dot with 2 oz of the butter and bake in the centre of an oven 200c/gas6 for 45 minutes.
- To make the white sauce melt 1 oz butter, stir in flour and cook for 2-3 minutes. Remove from the heat and gradually add the milk. Add 1 oz cheese and mustard then mix well and cook for 2-3 minutes. Beat in the remaining butter a little at a time and cook gently for 5 minutes.
- Pour off excess liquid from the chicken, cover with sauce and sprinkle with cornflakes and remaining cheese.
- Grill for 5-10 minutes and serve hot.

*Holton and Waterperry WI*

## *Holton Cock and Bull*

A man who was stopped for drink-driving in the German city of Bochum was no doubt inflicted with a touch of guilty conscience when he decided to pose as a friend.

However, he had overlooked one particularly relevant factor. Police records indicated that, while all the details seemed to be correct, the man whose name had been given was registered as having a glass eye. A torch beam shone in the face demonstrated that this driver's eyes were all too real. Police were sceptical of the man's claim that he used to have a glass eye, but did not any more.

No information was available regarding the friend's reaction to the incident, but one might expect that it pushed the bounds of the relationship a little too far.

*Name and address supplied*

# *Waterperry News*

**Save The Date!**

## ***Waterperry Autumn Village Meal***

**Friday 19th September 7-10pm**

**A Bring-and-Share Get-Together**

**All villagers, including children, are invited to  
the Waterperry House Classrooms**

Jacqui Connelly and Helen Marshall will be  
hand-delivering invitations later in the summer  
with more details



## **August Birthdays**



**A very Happy Birthday this  
month to:**

Thomas who will be turning 9  
Roman who will be turning 10  
Saijayani who will be turning 16  
Freya who will be turning 17  
Florence Wootten who will be turning 17

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



*A great place to grow*

The Maple Tree is open all summer!

We have the dates for our popular Village Outreach Sessions in local villages, such as Holton and Great Milton, every Friday from 10:00-11:30am. These sessions are designed for 0-5-year-olds, but older siblings are welcome too. There are some lovely parks at our venues, so save these dates; 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> August. Drop in and join us for some fun activities!

Our wonderful teacher Helen will be hosting four Ready for School sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00-4:00pm. These sessions will help prepare your 4- and 5-year-olds get ready for school this September, covering topics like eating and using the bathroom at school, uniforms, using scissors and sitting in circle time. These sessions are also drop-in and will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, and 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August.

Messy Mondays, Twinnies, Once Upon a Rhyme-Time, Baby Cafe, Little Explorers, The Maple Tree at Forest Hill, Little Chatterboxes and Family Fun are on at the regular times – check our website or social media for exact days.

We are in need volunteers on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 and on Monday and Tuesday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 this summer and beyond! Do you have any spare time and enjoy working with children and families? If so, please email [Laura@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:Laura@mapletree.org.uk)

Check out our website and Facebook page for details about our programme and special events, including our popular Emergency Paediatric First Aid for parents and carers.

We are here to help if you need advice or support: 01865 236700.

Email: [info@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:info@mapletree.org.uk)

Website: [www.mapletree.org.uk](http://www.mapletree.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley](https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley)

Instagram: @themapletreecentre

*Laura Spencer*

*The Maple Tree Centre Manager*



# *Waterstock News*

Hear ye! Hear ye!

It has been a month of much changing weather, and Waterstock has looked resplendent.

We are still waiting to hear about the development proposal for the golf course, the decision for which has been pushed back into the Autumn.

If you would like to join the Ride and Stride on Saturday September 13th, in support of Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, please contact Michael Tyce at Camilla Cottage.

At the moment, Gill reports hedgehogs and kindly requests that you put water out for them in this heat. Michael reports the opposite phenomenon, in an abundance of badgers elsewhere in the village.

Thank you to Sarah for kindly hosting the village at her 4th July gathering this past month. It was great to see so many of you in fine form!

I have moved home for the summer and am learning the drums, so if anyone is interested in a jam/making some music (drum related or otherwise), please contact me on:-  
cbglmacfarlane@gmail.com.

Additionally I feel there is a wealth of natural music to be sampled and created with around the village, which I would be happy to talk more about with any interested parties. I will leave you with this poem (mainly written by Lewis Carroll), and enjoy your August!

In Waterstock,  
Where the slithy toves did gyre and gimble in the ditch,  
The moorhen cries reach a fever pitch.

Beware the kingfisher my son!  
The wings that flap, the beak that spears,  
Beware the yapping daschund (tammy) lest it brings you to tears. (Like this poem.)

The badgers take their vorpal sword,  
And do battle with the manxome hedgehog,  
And all above the egrets soar, and come to rest upon the summer fog.

Hast thou slain the development?  
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!  
Oh frabjous day! callooh! Callay!  
I chortle in my joy.

Laurie Macfarlane

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

## What's On this August



Waterperry  
Gardens

### EXHIBITION: until 1st September

– BUG, BIRD, BEAST, FREE TO ENTER IN GALLERY

### SUMMER HOLIDAYS: until 1st September

– FAMILY ORIENTEERING TRAIL, GARDENS

### OPERA: 8th-17th August

– WATERPERRY OPERA FESTIVAL

**THEATRE: 23rd August** – CINDERELLA,  
IK PRODUCTIONS, AMPHITHEATRE

**THEATRE: 30th August** – AS YOU LIKE IT,  
WHAT YOU WILL THEATRE, AMPHITHEATRE

Please see our website  
for more information  
or to book.



## SUMMER ORIENTEERING TRAIL ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Put on your maddest laughing hat and follow the clues and compass directions to find the 9 hidden Alice in Wonderland characters, who are ready to be discovered by intrepid young adventurers throughout the gardens. See our 'What's On' website page for more details.

12<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
– 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPT

