

Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News

JUNE 2025



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June Church Services

June 1 st	9.30 St Leonard's Waterstock
June 8 th	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton
June 15 th	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Leonard's Waterstock
June 22 nd	TBA
June 29 th	TBA
July 6 th	TBA
July 13 th	9.30 St Helen's Albury 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton 6.00pm St Mary's Waterperry

St Leonard's Waterstock

Flowers and cleaning rota

June 1st	W. Court
June 8th	W. Court
June 15th	J. Shipperley
June 22nd	G. Spencer
June 29th	G. Spencer
July 6th	R. Portman
July 13th	R. Portman

Mowing rota

G. Talbot
M. Wates
M. Wates
M. Spencer
M. Spencer
K. Ashby
K. Ashby

St Mary's Waterperry

Flower rota

June 1st	Zena
June 8th	Helen
June 15th	Jan
June 22nd	Jacqui
June 29th	Rebecca
July 6th	Susan Fonge
July 13th	Helen

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- Email: shona.arthur@gmail.com

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(<https://instagram.com/shonamarthur>)



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Letter from the Vicarage

Hello,

June is named after the Roman goddess Juno. Juno was considered the queen of the gods and was the goddess of marriage and childbirth. But her influence didn't stop there – as the wife of Jupiter and mother of the god Mars Juno herself was seen as a warrior figure and in particular the protector of the women of Rome. So given all that it's ironic that we will celebrate Father's Day on the 15th of this month. If our wives are OK with that.

In fact it is now generally agreed that the name Juno and hence June derives from the word *iuvēn* which is the root of the latin word for youth. *Iunior* means younger and we get our word junior from it. And so there is the implication of the vitality and energy of youth in the name of the month. And certainly June in the northern hemisphere is the month when the new rebirth in nature that May brings burgeons into the growth of the vital youth of summer. The colours of leaf and flower are vivid and the sky blue. June has the longest daylight hours of any month and nature knows how to make the most of them..

Last June was the hottest on record – the record previously having been held by the previous one – June 2023. Certainly if the weather in May is anything to go by our biggest challenge this June may well be water not sunshine. Given this expected heat it's good to know that the 19th is World Sauntering Day when we are all encouraged to slow down and relax. No second invitation needed here. Put that alongside the 11th which is the UN International Day of Play and June looks to be a laid back month.

As a counter to that, the occupation for June in Medieval Books of Hours was Haymaking. This was hard physical labour for the purpose of preparing fodder for the winter, a task which looked ahead, taking the present riches and storing them for needier times. This was in effect life saving work on behalf of animals who we depended on for food, drink and transport. It reminds us that nature is so ordered as to provide all the year for us if we are wise in our stewardship. It is an example of Gandhi's famous maxim that the earth provides enough for everyman's need not everyman's greed.

We are blessed in our villages with beauty and plenty. The apparent boundless fecundity of June burgeons all around us. We have a reminder in those of ages past who were more directly connected with the nature around them and whose relationship with it was one of hard work and constant vigilance that we cannot take what we have been given for granted. The Bible tells us that it is all a gift from God and that gift was given in trust and we are its stewards. The seeming robust youth of the June summer is the product of nature which is in a fragile balance which we have the power to either help maintain or help destroy.

We can and must rejoice in long days of June as a gift to be used to their fullest and whether it is the thwok of balls on racquets at Wimbledon or the thud of leather on willow on cricket grounds from Tiddington to Lords I wish you great joy. I myself am taking the opportunity of slipping away for a holiday hence the rather truncated service schedule.

Stay blessed,

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

Holton Village Hall Craft Fair

Saturday 28th of June
10am to 4pm

On show: wood and resin lights,
jewellery boxes, candle holders, clocks,
Holton honey and beeswax candles and
more to come.

Please check the Nextdoor website f
or further updates."

June Birthdays



A very Happy Birthday this month
to:



Henry who will be turning 7
Charlotte who will be turning 11
William who will be turning 12
Heidi who will be turning 13
Isabella who will be turning 13
Brody who will be turning 15
Caoimhe who will be turning 18

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

Holton Parish Council

Holton Parish Council Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Holton Parish Council was held on Monday 12th May 2025. Brian Pridmore was elected Chairman and Allan East Vice-Chairman for the year 2025/2026.

Parish Councillors are Robert Barter, Andy Murray and Andrew Mobbs.

Holton Parish Council Accounts 2024/2025 have been approved by the Internal Auditor and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is to be forwarded to the External Auditor for review.

The Notice of Public Rights to inspect Holton Parish Council Accounts runs from Tuesday 3rd June 2025 – Monday 14th July 2025.

Notices will be posted from Monday 2nd June 2025 on the two village notice boards and the Parish Council website. The Accounts will be available on the PC website.

Planning Applications:

P25/S1297/573. 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 the provision of a detached single storey garage.

P23/S1202?FUL. The Aviary, Holton. OX33 1PZ.

Demolition of existing detached house. Erection of two new 1 and ¾ storey four bed dwellings.

To be considered by the Planning Committee on 21st May 2025. The Planning Officer's recommendation to the Committee is to grant planning permission.

Planning Decisions SODC Planning: None

Annual Holton Parish Meeting

The HWW June News will have gone to press before the Parish Meeting due to be held on 22nd May 2025. A report on the meeting will be given in the July News.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 9th June 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.

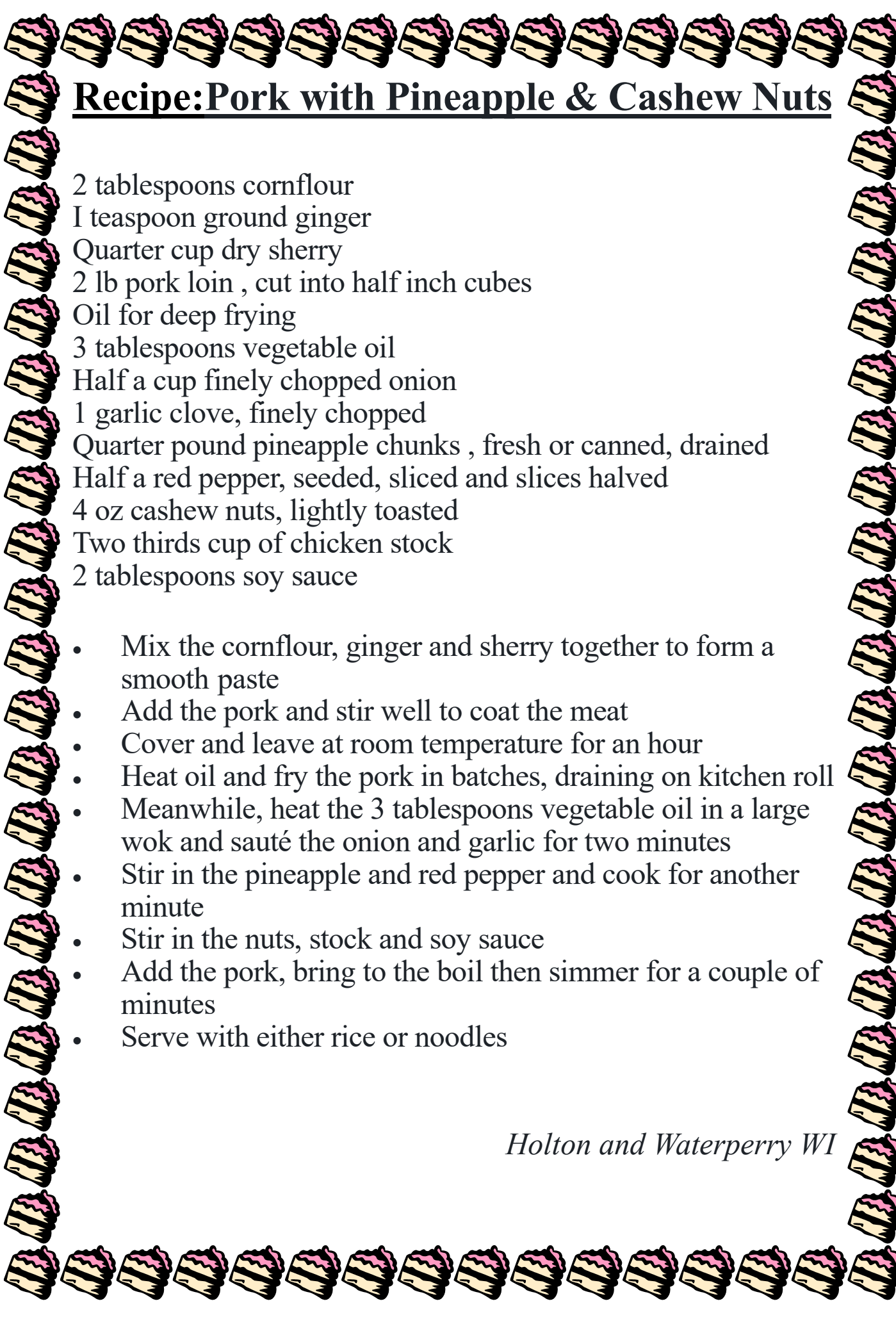
Clerk to Holton Parish Council (Sonja Barter)

Home Farm House, Holton, Oxford OX33 1QA

Email: clerk@holtonoxford-pc.gov.uk

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



Recipe: Pork with Pineapple & Cashew Nuts

2 tablespoons cornflour
1 teaspoon ground ginger
Quarter cup dry sherry
2 lb pork loin , cut into half inch cubes
Oil for deep frying
3 tablespoons vegetable oil
Half a cup finely chopped onion
1 garlic clove, finely chopped
Quarter pound pineapple chunks , fresh or canned, drained
Half a red pepper, seeded, sliced and slices halved
4 oz cashew nuts, lightly toasted
Two thirds cup of chicken stock
2 tablespoons soy sauce

- Mix the cornflour, ginger and sherry together to form a smooth paste
- Add the pork and stir well to coat the meat
- Cover and leave at room temperature for an hour
- Heat oil and fry the pork in batches, draining on kitchen roll
- Meanwhile, heat the 3 tablespoons vegetable oil in a large wok and sauté the onion and garlic for two minutes
- Stir in the pineapple and red pepper and cook for another minute
- Stir in the nuts, stock and soy sauce
- Add the pork, bring to the boil then simmer for a couple of minutes
- Serve with either rice or noodles

Holton and Waterperry WI

From your County Councillor

Local Election Results

Cllr Tim Bearder has been re-elected for a third term as County Councillor for the Wheatley Division and continues to represent our villages at district level. Tim secured 45.7% of the vote, with the Conservative candidate in second on 21.9% and Reform UK close behind on 20.3%. Cllr Bearder said: *"Many who voted for other parties did so out of frustration, not extremism. I'll work hard to understand their concerns and deliver results for everyone in our community."*

Waterstock Golf Course – Still No News

At the time of writing, there is still no update on the proposed development at Waterstock Golf Course. The delay may be due to the Planning Inspectorate's ongoing review of South Oxfordshire District Council's Joint Local Plan, but this remains speculation. Your local councillors and MP continue to stand firmly against the development.

Conservation Efforts on the River Thames

Freddie van Mierlo, MP for Henley and Thame, has joined forces with the River Thames Conservation Trust to combat the threat of invasive non-native species in our rivers. Councillor Tim Bearder, who has provided funding to support the charity's work in and around Waterstock, said: *"Non-native Signal crayfish cause massive ecological damage to our rivers, and it's fantastic to see Freddie raising awareness of the urgent need to take action."*

Flooding Update

The Section 19 Flood Report for Wheatley has now been published, identifying the primary cause as extremely heavy rainfall. The report makes several recommendations to help prevent similar events in the future.

Local councillors and your MP are continuing to press stakeholders to complete the long-awaited Section 19 report for those effected by flooding in this area. Their goal is to ensure proper flood mitigation work is carried out for the village and surrounding area.

Bus Service Update

Cllr Bearder is delighted at the success of the 49 service he was able to fund at the end of the last administration, however he is aware of the overcrowding issues on the service and is actively exploring solutions. One suggestion—asking Holton residents to change onto the 400 service at Wheatley—has been ruled out due to concerns over unreliable connections.

A more promising option being considered is the introduction of an additional service on another day, possibly starting in Cuddesdon to ensure space for passengers further along the route. However, this would require extra funding on top of the money already being spent supporting the route.

Discussions are ongoing, and officer and councillor Bearder hope to meet up soon now the elections are over and the make up of the council is clear.

Tim Bearder
tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk



A great place to grow

Hello from The Maple Tree!

We have a new session called Mums' Circle at 2:00-3:00pm. It is designed especially for new mothers and offers you a safe space to come and chat to other mums and mums-to-be. It is a place to make friends and share your experiences, whether good or challenging.

We will be holding our popular Village Outreach Sessions again this summer. These sessions are designed for 0-5s, but older siblings are welcome too. We will also be holding several Ready for School sessions, which will be very helpful if you have children starting school in September.

Dates for your diary! We are holding our Spring Draw on the afternoon of Wednesday 18th June. You do not have to be present to win, but you do have to have raffle tickets – available at The Maple Tree! £1.00 each, with fabulous prizes - £150.00, hampers, goodie baskets, wines and lots of other lovely prizes!

We need a volunteer on Monday mornings from 10:00–11:30 and on Monday afternoon from 2:00-4:00. Do you have any spare time and enjoy working with children and families? If so, please email 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

Website: www.mapletree.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley

Instagram: @themapletreecentre

Laura Spencer
The Maple Tree Centre Manager



'Spud Bud'

coming to Holton Village Hall for
an easy, tasty family supper!

Friday 4th July 5pm-9pm

Come along & enjoy delicious baked potatoes
with a variety of mouth-watering toppings,
from classic cheese and beans to gourmet
fillings.

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a friendly vibe, it's perfect for potato
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Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0LU**

Holton News

The weather at the end of April and through May warmed up and all rain stopped. A mini-heatwave developed and headlines were made as it has been the driest spring for a long time. This has worried everybody from water companies to growers and gardeners, however, this didn't stop my lawn growing to jungle-like proportions. We had been away on holiday and when we left many trees were bare. On our return the village was a picture of green growth with all the trees in leaf and the sun dappling through the foliage. Wonderful weather, but how long will it last?

VE Celebration Tea

The regular teas in the Village Hall have been a great success. To celebrate the anniversary of VE day, a special cream tea was laid on. Jan Marlowe has taken some very nice pictures of the decorated Village Hall and the strawberry and cream scones, plus a few of the attendees. Take a look on FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10161372470012285&set=pcb.1932695010818262>

The birdsong at the moment is amazing. How the birds manage to keep this up while nesting and feeding young is beyond me. However, it is rather beautiful and very loud at times. Have they all got little amplifiers?

Village Hall Spring Clean

Thanks to all who attended and all the hard work they put in. Thanks also to all those who organised it. The Hall is now fresh as a daisy.

Arts Week Bus Shelter

The bus shelter has been pressed into good use during arts week. The works on display are really amazing and demonstrate the talent in the village. Have you taken a peek?

Annual meetings

At this time of the year, there are a number of AGMs due to various societies terms of reference. These meetings are important as the people involved represent you and shape the way our village life works. Please attend these meetings and let the committees know what you think. The Village Hall committee AGM has recently taken place (look out for it next year), but the Parish Council AGM is on May 22nd at 5.30pm. You can attend their regular meetings as well if you have a point to make. Don't be shy.

Hope you enjoyed those bank Hols.

Take care

Mel Ault
mel_ault39@outlook.com

Holton Village Hall

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. Please contact us if you are interested.

Please contact admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk

Afternoon teas.

The coffee mornings and afternoon teas at the Village Hall continue to be a great success. Many thanks to everyone who helps for all their hard work. There will be afternoon teas in June on 12th and the 26th. They will be from 2.30pm until 4.00pm. These events are really well attended so come along for Tea, Coffee, Cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

The Next Film Night

Will be Friday 20th June and in line with current events will be conclave starring Ralph Feinnes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow and Isabella Rossellini. This film concerns the process of selecting a new Pope and is based on the book by Robert Harris. The Holton book group are reading this book so there should be a good audience as they compare and contrast. The evening starts at 7.00 for 7.30 pm, Adults £5, under 18s £3. Coffee and cake will be provided and the bar will be open.

Summer BBQ - Friday 1st August 2025

Arrangements are ongoing to organise the summer barbeque this year. If you can help in any way please contact admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk.

50th Anniversary

It will be fifty years since the Village Hall was opened and the Village Hall Committee are looking to organise an event to mark the occasion. Does anyone have specific ideas about the event and /or would be willing to volunteer to help please?

Contact admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk

Future Events

For up to date information on all events at the Village Hall please access the website at 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

Take care

Mel Ault
mel_ault39@outlook.com

Holton Bus Shelter Bring and Take

Every year spring brings with it a surprise. Last year April was one long, continuous spell of rain that only brightened up in time for the Bring and Take. This year it was one long, continuous spell of warm, unbroken sunshine as the event neared. Fearing the worst, the new village gazebos (purchased with a very kind grant from our local councillor, Tim Bearder) were ready. They were not needed as the sky remained blue and the sun shone bright in the sky. As always.

It was spring in all its glory. The sweet smell of blossom hung in the air, swallows circled overhead, birdsong echoed from the trees and the good folk of Holton arrived in anticipation of finding plants, puzzles and a good read. It was great to see a display of open-toed sandals with obligatory socks, mixed with an array of aggressive floral prints and cut-off jeans. Perhaps the next Bring and Take could have clothing items? Or maybe not!

There was a really good turn out and your generosity glowed like the sunshine. We raised a fabulous £230 for The Maple Tree Children's Centre. Thank you so much.

You may have heard the exciting news that we have a bus service in Holton. It runs to

Oxford twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This means we are still able to run the Bring and Take from our adopted home. The next one is scheduled for Sunday July 13th from 10 am until 1 pm. Sunshine and fashion faux pas guaranteed. I will book the gazebos though. Our luck will surely run out at some point.

Art Week: Many thanks to all who contributed to the Art Week display. There are lots of talented people in the village (both young and old). I hope you have had a chance to enjoy the works on show. It certainly has cheered up the shelter and helps pass the time while waiting for the bus.

Upcoming Bus Shelter dates:

Bus Shelter Summer Bring and Take: **Sunday 13th July**

Book Week: **Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th August**

Allan East, Holton Parish Council



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?

Do you...

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

We provide...

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

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

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

**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



Holton Cock and Bull

With road & traffic issues never far below the surface a couple of reports revealing a “jobsworth” approach have reached us.

A Manchester traffic warden took his duties a little too enthusiastically when he issued a parking ticket to bus when it halted at a bus stop. Passengers were dumbstruck as the bus driver, Chris Mahoney, repeatedly tried to point out to the warden that the vehicle he was driving had every right to be stopped there. Council officials subsequently scrapped the fine stating that the warden would be “retrained”.

Not to be outdone, council workmen in Southampton painted a disabled bay around a parked car which was then promptly ticketed by a traffic warden. The car’s owner, Sue Thatcher, had parked when no such restriction was in place, but on her return she found her car splashed with paint and a fixed-penalty notice on the windscreen.

Name and address supplied

Holton & Waterperry W.I.

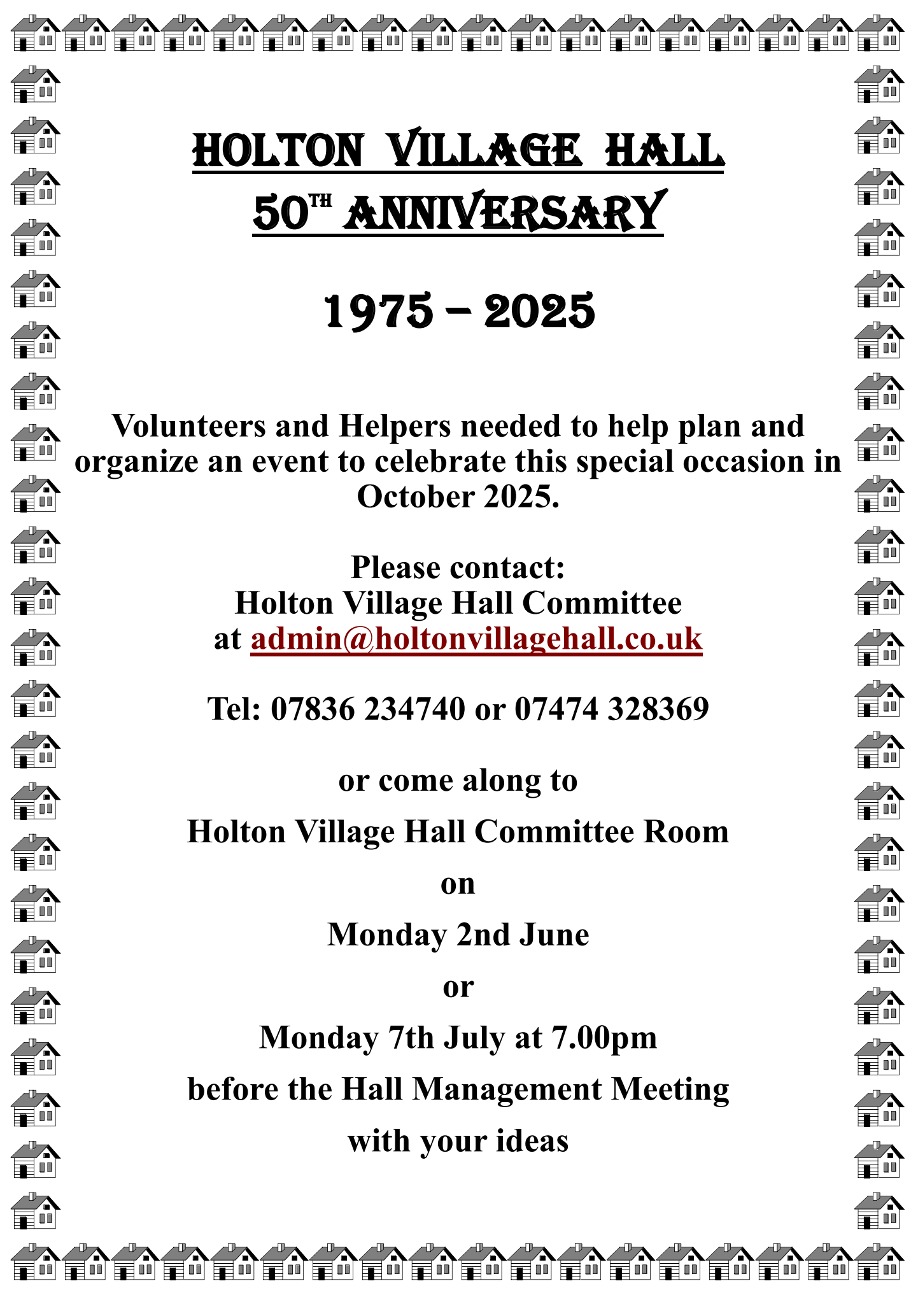
There is no excuse now why Holton and Waterperry shouldn't look florally stunning this summer after Carol Parker from Wheatley Farm shop passed on her invaluable tips for growing productive and beautiful hanging baskets and containers.

Carol (nee Boater) and her husband Dave use only products from their shop, all trialled and tested by them. Carol uses well formed, strong plants in her baskets, using water - retaining coir liners and placing all the flowers into good compost and choosing varieties and colours carefully, Indeed they try to find and introduce new varieties each year. They were warmly thanked for their friendly demonstration.

Business included a vote on the resolution, 'Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers' to be taken forward to the national meeting. Indeed one of our members illustrated this point from an experience within her family. In a crisis all help is needed. Following on from this we will try and arrange first aid and resuscitation training in the village and also indicate how a defibrillator can help in an emergency.

Our next meeting is on the June 3rd when the speaker will be Amy Moore with a talk entitled 'Witches, Scolds and Mouldy Jades - Oxford Women's Words on Trial'. Sounds unusual. Visitors always welcome. Come and find out more.

Barbara Martin



HOLTON VILLAGE HALL

50TH ANNIVERSARY

1975 – 2025

**Volunteers and Helpers needed to help plan and
organize an event to celebrate this special occasion in
October 2025.**

**Please contact:
Holton Village Hall Committee
at admin@holtonvillagehall.co.uk**

Tel: 07836 234740 or 07474 328369

**or come along to
Holton Village Hall Committee Room
on
Monday 2nd June
or
Monday 7th July at 7.00pm
before the Hall Management Meeting
with your ideas**



FILM NIGHT

Holton Village Hall

Friday 20 June 2025

7.00 for 7.30 pm

Conclave (12)

Starring

***Ralph Fiennes *Stanley Tucci *John Lithgow
and Isabella Rossellini**

Run time approx. 1 hour 59 minutes

Conclave is a 2024 political thriller based on the 2016
novel by Robert Harris.

When Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with leading one of the world's most
secretive and ancient events, selecting a new Pope, he finds himself at the
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Under 18s £3

TEA, COFFEE & CAKE - *cash only*

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Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council

www.waterperrywiththomley-pc.gov.uk

As I write this, we are still in the grip of the warmest, driest May since the year dot and I can't help but feel that a hosepipe ban is inevitable this summer. I was reminded of the first Covid lockdown, when so many people were furloughed in Spring and spent a few weeks starting their summer tans at the government's expense! Although with a change forecast for the bank holiday weekend, we might be splashing about in puddles again in June.

First – and hopefully obvious! – things first:

I hope you have noticed the smart newly painted telephone box in its full approved British Telecom livery. With that starting to look so shiny and bright the PC made enquiries about getting the post box repainted too.

It turns out that repainting post boxes is quite regulated and can only be carried out by approved agents, so after a couple of emails to the delightfully named 'Postbox Appearance' team at Royal Mail, they responded amazingly quickly, sending along a 'painting engineer' to tackle this obviously highly specialised job!

It was apparently completed in a single day, with liberal splashing about of red paint on nearby ivy and grass, but it seems to be a thick coat of paint that should last a few years.

The main thing is that we now have what are probably our two most prominent pieces of street furniture looking their very best.

You can see from the photograph, but please look properly next time you're passing, that the phone box and post box both lean at jaunty angles – each in a different direction. The telegraph pole between them appears to be upright, which only accentuates its two tipsy neighbours.

Maybe I'll pop out there with a spirit level to see if any of them is at 90 degrees!



We had a lively Annual Parish Meeting at the beginning of May and we were really pleased to see everyone that attended. We started the meeting with an exclusive viewing of the beautiful film made by Henry Manisty to support the Waterstock planning appeal, featuring the very special wildlife found along the River Thame. Unfortunately Henry was unable to give us his talk on the subject and at time of writing there is still no news on the success of the appeal, but he will certainly share that as soon as there is anything to report.

Caroline and Dawn updated on their projects to enhance the wildlife diversity of the village. The trough by the village white gate is planted and everything seems to be thriving in the warm weather and I'm sure it is already attracting lots of pollinating insects as the flowers develop. Dawn's suggestions and ideas boards for repurposing the old 'millennium' noticeboard were very well received and it seems that a rather superior bug hotel might be taking shape in the Rec this summer.

Other matters discussed were the ongoing road problems: the verges, the potholes, blocked drains and the traffic speed. It was great to have a couple of our younger residents at the meeting – thank you Chloe and Erin – and we hope we can continue to involve village children in new projects. It was lovely too to have representation from our neighbours up on the Common as a reminder that we don't only concentrate on strictly 'in the village' issues. We made notes on all the ideas that were put forward and the parish council will look at ways of taking some of these forward over the next few months.

Finally, there were suggestions to hold a village 'event' this summer, especially as we have a few new families in the village and it would be a great way to meet up. A popular suggestion seemed to be an informal picnic gathering in the Rec – something that could be fairly impromptu, depending on weather and would not involve too much formal organisation. It's something that was very successful in past years, so maybe it's time to reinstate it? Definitely something for further discussion and plans.

So, possibly till we all meet up for this we wish you all a happy, warm and sunny summer!

Sue Parker
Chairman, Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council

F.J.WILSON

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Waterstock News

On the 28 April, Sarah Godowski became a grandmother for the first time. Her son Tommy and his partner Cat, who live just outside Barcelona, had a little boy called Oliver. On the very same day Sara Manisty became a Great Aunt (again), when her niece Clare had a baby boy too.

Gill Spencer was approached in March by Tiddlywinks the animal sanctuary in Haddenham, to release 5 adult male and female hedgehogs in the garden at Park Farm House. The aim is for them to spread, breed and populate Waterstock, which Tiddlywinks considers is a safe environment for them. Fingers crossed! So, if you would like to help them all to survive, Gill asks if you could put some food out for them at night, especially in the autumn when they need to reach a certain weight to get through the long winter. They especially like cat food or hedgehog pellets which can be bought at most pet shops and garden centres. Don't forget water too during the hot weather. Gill is sure they'll love their new home in Waterstock.

Speaking of cat food, for a couple of days, we had an unknown black cat with a pink collar at the Mill, hiding under any cars that happened to be parked there. Although we left food out, it quite naturally left us for the vastly more cat-savvy Edward de Rivera, who welcomed her in, naming her Miss Whitesox. There she stayed for 3 weeks in Edward's kitchen before Edward and Gill Spencer took her to Medivet, which found that Miss Whitesox had been micro-chipped. They contacted the family, who were overjoyed and came and collected her. She had been missing a month. All ended happily.

Despite the presence of cats, Edward's efforts to attract more unusual birds to his garden are going from strength to strength. He reports having between 10 and 20 goldfinches and 8 green finches visiting each day. He feeds them on nyger seeds and sunflower seeds. He also has two great spotted woodpeckers and a plethora of robins, blackbirds male and female, long tailed tits, wrens, collared doves and pied wagtails.

We have had a tragic wagtail incident recently at the Mill. Grey Wagtails nest each year in cracks in the mill walls, and so it has been this year, in a crack in the river wall close to the wooden footbridge to our front door. All was going well, with 5 chicks being regularly fed by mum and dad, when a magpie raided the nest making several visits, each time flying away with a poor chick, and finally pulling the nest out of the crack to double-check there was nothing left to pillage. The poor parents kept on coming back to the nest for two days. However, there should be time for a second try. Let's hope.

Andy Peters, Waterstock's figurehead carver in residence, has published his new book, "*Ships Figureheads: Famous Carving Families*" and held a book launch at Waterperry. Andy has done a massive amount of research, and the result is a fabulous book, full of illustrations, which I can thoroughly recommend. Alas, Andy and Lilian Shaw are soon to leave us, moving into a house in Ickford - located conveniently close to *The Rising Sun*. We wish them all the best.

Waterperry Opera Festival returns this year with performances from August 8th -17th .(see [2025 Festival Schedule — Waterperry Opera Festival](#)). For adults there will be ravishing performances including Mozart's Don Giovanni, Handel's *Semele* and the *Diary of Ann Frank* by Juliana Hall. For children, there will be two events: (1) *The Hundred Acre Craft Workshops: Craft magical moments with Winnie-the-Pooh* and (2) *Winnie-The-Pooh's Songbook*-- both are perfect for grandparents with grandchildren to entertain. Do go if you can.

Still no white smoke from the Planning Inspectorate on its Decision on the Greystoke Appeal!

Henry Manisty

What's On this June



Waterperry
Gardens

MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES: 7th June
– 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*

*Please see our website for more information or to book.

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

OPEN DAILY
10:00AM - 5:30PM



Since closing the farm shop in January 2025, Will & Lois are now focussing on the farm & our home grown produce at Waterperry.

We have lamb & beef boxes available to order at certain times throughout the year.

To keep in touch with upcoming boxes, please put your email in the contact form on our website.

www.waterperryfarmshop.co.uk

Boxes are also available to order by phone:

Lois 07894514143

We supply beef & lamb boxes quarterly.

Local free range chicken, eggs & selected local seasonal produce are available with each box.

Look out for an email out & update social media when each beef or lamb box is available.

Many thanks,

Will & Lois Selmes at Waterperry

HOME GROWN WATERPERRY LAMB & BEEF