

St Andrew's Hagbourne

PARISH MAGAZINE

JANUARY 2024



A Happy New Year to all our readers
Christingle at St Andrew's – 10.30am, 21st January
Epiphany Carols – 3pm, 28th January

News, Views and Information for everyone in the Hagbournes

**Thank you very much to the East and West Hagbourne Parish Councils
for giving the Parish Magazine a home on their websites.**

www.easthagbourne.net

www.westhagbourne.org

CALENDAR AND DIARY FOR JANUARY 2024

The Prayer Intentions this month are for all who live in West Hagbourne and The Moretons.

Prayer Focus:

1 Monday

2 Tuesday

3 Weds 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

4 Thursday

5 Friday

6 Saturday

8pm Online Compline resumes

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

7 +Sunday EPIPHANY

8am Holy Communion: St Michael's B

9am Parish Eucharist: All Saints' AU

9.15am Lay led Service: St Mary's U

10.30am Parish Eucharist: St Andrew's H

10.30am All Age Service: St Michael's B

10.30am Parish Eucharist: All Saints' NM

10.30am Online Benefice Service

6pm Evensong: St Andrew's H

No 4pm Parish Service at All Saints' NM

Baptism of Christ

8 Monday

9 Tuesday

10 Weds

11 Thursday

12 Friday

13 Saturday

10am Holy Communion: St Michael's B

10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H



*Children, our
village schools
and Sunday*

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

14 +Sunday THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

9.15am Parish Eucharist: St Mary's U

10.30am Parish Eucharist: St Michael's B

10.30am Online Benefice Service

4pm Parish Service: All Saints' NM

6pm Evensong: St Andrew's H



*Those recently
baptised and
baptism visitors.*

15 Monday

16 Tuesday

17 Weds

18 Thursday

19 Friday

20 Saturday

10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

10am MU Holy Communion: St Michael's B

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

21 +Sunday THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

9am Parish Eucharist: St Michael's AT

10.30am Taizé Service: St Michael's B

10.30am Christingle Service: St Andrew's H

10.30am Online Benefice Service

4pm Parish Service: All Saints' NM

6pm Evensong: St Andrew's H



*CYGnets group
and teenagers.*

22 Monday

23 Tuesday

24 Weds

25 Thursday

26 Friday

27 Saturday

10am Holy Communion: St Michael's B

10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

Conversion of Paul

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

8pm Online Compline

Continued on page 4 . . .

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, HAGBOURNE

The United Benefice of Blewbury, East and West Hagbourne and Upton together with Aston Tirrold, Aston Upthorpe, North Moreton and South Moreton.



Rector's Reflections

Lighting a Candle of Hope

I wonder if you are a fan of the longer Winter nights? Many people find them quite a challenge. In the northern hemisphere we have reached the Winter Solstice – the 24 hour period with the fewest hours of daylight. The good news is that from then on, the hours of daylight gradually get longer and longer. It can be hard to believe this on a cold evening in January, but by the beginning of February I think most of us feel that the days really are lengthening and that Spring can't be far behind.

The long Winter evenings remind us of the importance of light, and it is not surprising that festivals of light were held at this time of year. Light was particularly important in the days before artificial light was readily and cheaply available. Can you imagine what the winter must have been like if you were dependent on a candle or two, occasionally supplemented by the light coming from a fire in the hearth?

I think every culture would understand the symbolism of a light shining in the darkness: it is a universal image, speaking of hope and security. The imagery of light is found throughout the Bible. A passage from an Old Testament prophet called Isaiah reads as follows: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen among you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will shine upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn." In the New Testament, the imagery of light is often applied to Jesus, who is called the Light of the World.

Whatever your religious beliefs, I think that there can be something really helpful and hopeful in the simple act of lighting a candle and remembering loved ones. Churches often have candles available precisely for this purpose, and locally there are racks of such candles in Hagbourne and Blewbury churches. Do pop in and light a candle. As a Christian, I believe that a lighted candle can still speak powerfully of importance of hope. There is always hope, and sometimes we need to remind ourselves of this, especially when the world around us seems a dark and unwelcoming place. Father Jason.

Home Communion is available to anyone who is unable to get to church through sickness or frailty, either for a short time or on a long term basis. If you, or anyone you know, would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the office 01235 850267 and Elaine will arrange it for you.

Short Reflection and daily prayer During weekdays, Fr Jason writes a short reflection and prayer. If you would like to receive this, please contact the Benefice Office. (p.4)



The Churn Benefice's Churches are:

St Andrew's Hagbourne (H), St Mary's Upton (U),
St Michael's Blewbury (B), All Saints Aston Upthorpe (AU),
St Michael's Aston Tirrold (AT),
St John the Baptist South Moreton (SM),
All Saints' North Moreton (NM)

28 +Sunday PRESENTATION OF CHRIST/CANDLEMAS

9.15am Parish Eucharist: St Mary's U
10.30am Village Service: St Michael's B
10.30am Online Benefice Service
3pm Epiphany and Candlemas Choral Service: St Andrew's H
4pm Parish Service: All Saints' NM
No 6pm Service at St Andrew's



*Our worship,
musicians, organists
and choirs.*

29 Monday

8pm Online Compline

30 Tuesday

8pm Online Compline

31 Weds 10am Holy Communion: St Andrew's H

8pm Online Compline

How to contact the Churn Benefice:

BENEFICE OFFICE - 01235 850267

Churn Website: www.churnchurches.co.uk

The Benefice Operations Manager, Elaine de Ridder, is available from 9.00 am - 2.30pm Monday to Friday, contact on 01235 850267 or 07434 686044 during office hours.

Bookings for Weddings, Baptisms etc. may be made by contacting the office via telephone or email office@churnchurches.co.uk

Father Jason St John Nicolle – 01235 850267 – rector@churnchurches.co.uk

Revd Louise Butler – 07837 009730 – revlouiseb@aol.com

Revd John Clarke – 01235 510073 – jphclarke@gmail.com

Revd Dr Mark Rhodes-Smith – 01235 850267 – mark.rhodes-smith@churnchurches.co.uk

Benefice Online Service Please help spread the word about our regular online service! This service became a necessity during Covid but has proved to be popular with those people who are unable to attend regular or in-person worship.

The technology is easy to master but Elaine is happy to assist with setting it up. Our online congregation is regularly the second-largest congregation in the Benefice! Every Sunday at 10.30 using this link:

Computer, tablet, smartphone <https://meet.goto.com/ChurnBenefice/sundayservice>

New user <https://meet.goto.com/install>

Thank You The family of the late Lesley James would like to say thank you to all who gave donations in memory of Lesley to the charity "Dogs for Good". They were able to send to the charity the sum of £1,300.

Edwin Abbott We are sad to report that Francis Belcher has sent a message to say that her Father, Edwin Abbott, died on 22nd December. Edwin has been attending St Andrew's recently with Francis and we send her and the family our heartfelt sympathies.

Baptism in the Benefice

27th December **Albert Axel Frederick Ellis** was baptised at St Michael's Blewbury

Funerals in the Benefice

5th December at South Oxfordshire Crematorium **William Charles Victor Pettis** aged 71

7th December at St Michael's Blewbury **Susan Fletcher Watts** aged 62

13th December at St Michael's Aston Tirrold **Anne Hyde-Parker** aged 90

May they rest in peace and rise in glory



2024

St Andrew's Events in Planning for 2024 These events to put in the Diary - more details to follow when events are finalised.

January 21st - **Christingle Service**
January 28th - **Epiphany Carol Service**
February 17th - **Lent Lunches start**
March 31st - **Easter Day**
April 13th - **Arts & Crafts day**
April 27th - **Glad Rags Sale**
June 9th - **Flower Festival**

July 13th - **Fete**
July 28th - **Summer Teas start**
September 15th - **Pet Service -York Farm**
October 6th - **Harvest Festival**
October 12th - **Mo's Autumn Concert**
October 20th - **Ringers Sunday**
Dec 6th - **Start of Christmas Tree Festival**



St Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival

A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in any way in order to make our Tree Festival so successful this year.

Congratulations to The Hagbourne and Wallingford Young Pianists whose tree was voted the favourite; the winner's trophy will have pride of place on the new piano in the music room at School. Second in the voting came **Hagbourne Pre-School** and third **The Powell Family**.

A Huge Thank You to all the tree sitters, cake makers, raffle ticket sellers and buyers, planners, entertainers and audiences, sponsors, publicity people, tree angels, washers up, everyone who bought and decorated a tree for their garden in East and West Hagbourne – they looked beautiful . . . **So many people to thank. . .**

We are pleased to say that the amazing amount of nearly £6,000 was taken and this will be divided between the Church and Helen and Douglas House.

A great result for a great Festival!!!

Just one big job left to do now. I'm looking for volunteers to remove all the trees and restore the church to it's former glory. **Friday January 5th** is the big day, starting at 10.30am. If you can help out at any time you will be most welcome. I look forward to seeing you then. Jill Garlick.



The Hagbourne and Wallingford Young Pianists winning tree

Table Tennis at the Pavilion: Join our friendly table-tennis group at the Pavilion for exercise and fun on Tuesday mornings. We play from 10am to 12noon, £2 per session. All ages, skills, welcome; bats available. More info from: Julian 01235 813599 jgallop@freeuk.com
Anthony 01235 511920 aannanjones@gmail.com

Football in East Hagbourne: Hagbourne United FC plays regularly at East Hagbourne and welcomes new men and youth players.

Contacts: John Symonds 07831 714076 jesymonds29@gmail.com
or Keith Davies 07810 504155 keith_davies4@hotmail.co.uk



Christingle Service at St Andrew's Sunday, 21st January at 10.30am

The word 'Christingle' actually means 'Christ Light' and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. The orange is round, like the world; the candle gives us light in the dark, like the love of God; the red ribbon goes round the 'world', as a symbol of Christ's blood, given for everyone; the four sticks point in all directions, and symbolise that God is over all: North, South, East and West; and the fruit and nuts remind us of God's blessings. We will assemble our Christingles in the Service.

The Children's Society first introduced the Christingle Service to The Church of England in 1968, and it has since become a popular event in the church calendar. This candlelit celebration is an ideal way to share the key messages of the Christian faith, while helping to raise vital funds to help vulnerable children across the country. Visit: www.childrenssociety.org.uk



Tower Talk

The Christmas Tree Festival was a great success this year with over 100 decorated trees appearing throughout East and West Hagbourne. There were also 30 trees in Church including one sponsored by the Bellringers and also a Memory Tree. The theme was 'All Creatures Great and Small' and the Ringers Tree was decorated with all the little creatures that we share the ringing chamber with like spiders, ladybirds, flies and bats but just in case anyone is worried we do NOT have tarantulas in the tower although there were two on our tree! Congratulations to Hagbourne and Wallingford Young Pianists for winning the most popular tree.

Our practices have been taking place as usual on a Tuesday evening and have been well attended. We have rung the bells for 2 Morning Services a month and also for 2 Evensongs each month. The bells were rung for the Christmas Services, and we rang the bells as usual from 11:30pm on New Year's Eve, it was a beautiful starlight night.

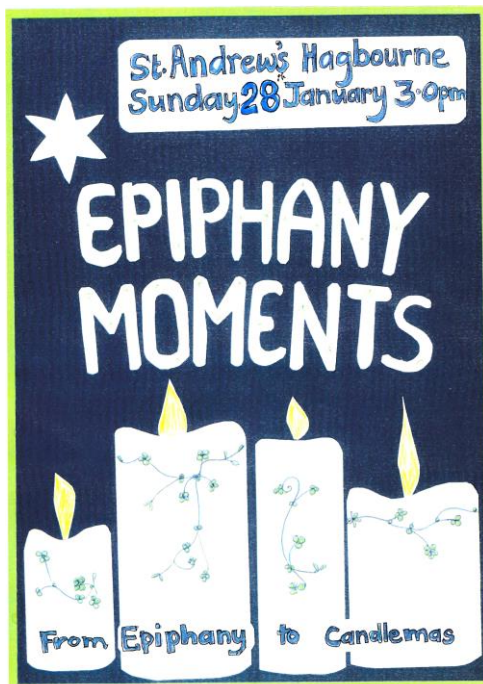
Birthdays – Mary Goy, 27th January.



The Bellringers would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year



JANUARY ROTAS	7th January EPIPHANY	21st January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany	General Notes:
Readers	Isaiah 60 vs 1-6 Mary Goy Ephesians 3. 1-12 Andrew Kaye	Genesis 14. vs 17-20 Daniel Dawson Revelation 19 vs 6-10 Trevor Goss	Help needed on 5th January to take down the Christmas Trees in Church.
Intercessions	Celebrant	Celebrant	Church cleaning should be done on the Friday afternoon or Saturday before your name is on the rota. Thank you.
Sidesmen	Chris Price Wendy Price	Robin Harries Sally Duncan	If unable to do duty, please let your organiser know or find a suitable replacement.
Coffee	Marian Powell Richard Powell	Myra Hardiman Gillian Harries	
Church Cleaning	Marian Powell Richard Powell	Viv Stocks Sally Barksfield	
Flowers Lady Chapel		Alison Davis	
Flowers High Altar	Mary Goy	Jenny Smith	



EPIPHANY MOMENTS: Carols and readings from Epiphany to Candlemas Sunday 28th January 3pm, St Andrew's Hagbourne

ALL WELCOME TO THE SERVICE!

Seasonal Music and Carols for Epiphany
with refreshments after the Service.

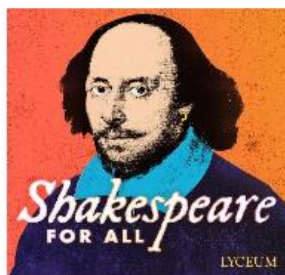
If you would like to join in the Benefice Choir for this
Service, rehearsals are on 12th and 19th and 26th
January, 7pm at St Andrew's Church, you would be
most welcome – just come along.

Sunday Club In the Parish Room at St Andrew's,
Hagbourne on the first Sunday of the month at 10.30am,
joining parents in the Church Service later. Bible stories, circle
time, drawing, colouring, painting, crafts and more. Ages 4 -
11. Encourages children to interact with each other and adults,
make friends, be creative. A gentle introduction to Christian
values. **Next date: Sunday 7th January. ALL WELCOME.**



HAMS – *HAMS FEST tickets on sale next month*

Question: What links the following people?



Answer:

They will all appear in **HAMS FEST** on 8th/9th March 2024.
During rehearsals, the show has been described as sensational,
inspirational and celebrational, but then we are theatrical!

Tickets will be on sale early in February, details will follow.

www.thehams.co.uk

email: info@thehams.co.uk



East Hagbourne Community Shop

For 20 years, East Hagbourne Community Shop has been proudly run entirely by volunteers. We are seeking new Committee members and volunteers to help keep it going and growing! To learn how you can help in 1 or 2 hours a month: email Alice at alice.w.smith@gmail.com or easthagbourneshop@gmail.com or pop in and chat with the Volunteer on duty.

Visit us on FB or on the village website at:
easthagbourne.net/our-village/shop-post-office

***East Hagbourne Community Shop and Post Office
wish you a peaceful 2024!***



JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING THE 2023 WINNERS OF OUR COMMUNITY AWARDS

We are pleased to announce the winners sharing in our £500 Community Award, 3 worthy local charities or projects nominated by our volunteers and voted by our customers: tied for first place, **Didcot Emergency Food Bank** and **Northbourne Gateway Club**; and in third, **StyleAcre T2 Didcot Hub**.

ARTISANAL MARCOPOLO BAKERY ORDERS RESUME 3rd JAN FOR DELIVERY 6th JAN

Pre-order Marcopolo breads and pastries by 4pm Wednesday for pick up the following Saturday!

Order in Shop or by email to easthagbourneshop@gmail.com. See a list of available products and detailed allergen info in the Shop or at easthagbourne.net. Pre-order to avoid disappointment, those Chelsea buns and pain au chocolat get snapped up quickly!



THURSDAY IS CAKE DAY!

Mid-week pick-me-up or a weekend treat, stop in for one of our scrumptious homemade cakes every Thursday—but hurry, they don't last long!

And don't forget dinner from our freezer – high quality fish, homemade pies, chips or pizza.

JANUARY 2024 OPERATING HOURS

Regular hours resume Tuesday 2nd January.

CLOSED: Bank Holiday Monday 1st January

Post Office: Mon to Sat: 9am – 12:30pm and Mon & Thurs 1:15 – 4:45pm

Shop: Mon, Thurs: 9am– 5pm; Tue/Wed/Fri: 9am– 4pm; Sat: 9am– 12:30pm

Hagbourne Bridge Club If you can play bridge but haven't done so for a while – **give us a go!** If you have never learnt to play bridge but would like to give it a try – why not come and see us? We meet every Thursday in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. We have a break around 8.30pm for light refreshments and usually finish playing cards by 10pm. It will cost you £3 We look forward to seeing you.

Please save the date:
Monday 6th May 2024



Run ... Walk ... Support ... Eat Cake!

Whether or not you relish covering 4 ½ miles of glorious South Oxfordshire countryside by foot on your bank holiday, please do join us for one of the biggest events in our village calendar and help us raise money for good causes.

The East and West Hagbourne Village Fund

Every year the Fun Run raises money for cancer charities and the Village Fund. This fund is for individuals or organisations in the parishes of East and West Hagbourne in need of support.

In the past we have been able to give grants to causes as diverse as the defibrillators, the village hall extension, an educational course, posters for a local campaign, and family support for medical treatment.

So, if you are an individual or part of a local group looking for support please do get in touch by sending an email to: hagbournevillagefund@gmail.com

Hagbourne Garden Club Wish you all a Happy New Year and hope to see you at our first meeting of the New Year on **Thursday, 25th January** in the East Hagbourne Pavilion. The talk will be on **Designing and Planting a Small Garden** by Cathy Cornish. Doors will be open at 7pm for refreshments The talk will start at 7.30pm. Visitors most welcome at £5 per person. For further information call Sally on 01235 352275

HUGS January News

Hagbournes and Upton Group for Sustainability



WHERE HAVE ALL THE BIRDS GONE? THE SHOCKING DECLINE OF BRITISH WILD BIRDS and how we can help them fight back in 2024.

Britain has lost almost a third of all its wild birds, down by 73 million since 1970. Declines in favourite garden birds include the song thrush, skylark, lapwing, and house sparrow, according to the 2023 report from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and the RSPB (*). A shocking 30 million house sparrows, 20 million starlings, 4 million skylarks, 2 million blackbirds and 1 million chaffinches have gone from British skies. The most serious decline is among farmland birds. The 63% fall in their numbers is linked by the report primarily to agricultural intensification as well as climate change and habitat loss. But it is not all pure gloom - conservation actions have helped to drive the recovery of some of the UK's birds, and this work can help address some of the drivers of wildlife decline. How we can help ...

In winter:

- Birds need **high-energy, high-fat foods** during cold weather. Many birds, especially small ones, die of starvation in long periods of low temperatures.
- Keep **bird feeders topped up with good quality bird foods**, especially when natural food is in short supply from October to April.
- **Measure the difference** and help record how garden birds are doing in the **RSPB Big Bird Count: 26-28th January**. Half a million people joined the Big Garden Birdwatch in 2023 and counted 9.1 million birds!. Please take part!

In summer:

- **Low ground cover planting**, flowering plants and shrubs, areas of uncut grass and wildflowers, climbers, bushes and trees - all provide shelter and nesting sites for birds and mammals. Remember that baby chick survival depends on food availability in May and June.
- **Provide clean water** for drinking and bathing - a pond or just a large bowl – remember there is no moisture in many birds' natural food or in seed mixes.

In the fields: Farming accounts for 69% of land in England. Agricultural intensification, destruction of habitats to make larger fields, loss of hedgerows, use of pesticides and herbicides, shifts to lower plant diversity - have all played a role in bird decline. The way farmers produce food is key to helping nature recover - and they need increased funding and incentives to help them. The UK government has committed to take urgent action to restore nature and halt wildlife decline – it needs to be held to its commitments.

"Everyone should be concerned that UK bird populations are continuing to decline... this is a crucial indicator of the condition of our environment and health of our natural world."

Dr Richard Griffiths, Head of Science (RSPB).

EVERY LITTLE HELPS! Let's make 2024 the year that we all work together to help bird populations and keep the Dawn Chorus for future generations.

*<https://stateofnature.org.uk/>

<https://www.hugsustainability.org/>

Obituary - Brenda Clare

12th June 1929 – 4th September 2023

It's with great sadness that I write to let you know that former much loved East Hagbourne resident Brenda Clare sadly passed away in September this year, aged 94, following a short illness.

Brenda moved to East Hagbourne in 1957 following her marriage to Arnold who commenced his career as a Nuclear Physicist at Harwell Atomic Research Centre. They resided at Sundial Cottage, Main Road and were well known residents of the village, where they had made many friends. They would often be seen driving around the village in their vintage open top MG sports car or walking their beloved Labrador dog, Cider.



Sadly, Arnold passed away suddenly in 1979. Brenda continued to live in the village and was supported by her many friends and neighbours and also Margaret, her lifelong friend from Liverpool College of Art. Brenda kept herself busy with village life and together with her friend Monica Lawson organised many events and activities in the village over the years, including village fetes and events. With her love of amateur dramatics, she also wrote, produced and performed in a number of amateur plays, musicals and variety performances, with Margaret assisting with costumes, raising money for Cancer Research. Brenda was also involved in a lot of voluntary work and once won an award for best window display at the Cancer Research shop in Didcot where she regularly volunteered. She arranged a new window display every Sunday and locals would comment that it looked more like a fashion shop than a charity shop. Brenda was also a school governor and used to visit the local primary school where the children would look forward to her reading to them. In 1995 East Hagbourne Parish Council published "East Hagbourne Times" a history of the village compiled by Brenda and her friends and neighbours Monica Lawson and Willie Pereira.

Brenda had a love of reading and was also a keen artist and poet, having attended Liverpool College of Art in the 1950's, and later became a fashion designer. She painted many abstract paintings which she proudly displayed in her apartment. Brenda also volunteered to read every week to a blind clergyman, Canon Edgar Walmsley who encouraged her to start writing poetry which she began writing on scraps of paper, often using her own life experiences or observations on local village life in East Hagbourne as inspiration. Some of her poems were published in local newspapers and magazines. Much later, in 2015, Brenda achieved her lifetime ambition of publishing them as a complete collection in her book "I was Just Thinking... A collection of Poems by Brenda Clare" which raised over £1,000 for Cancer Research. Brenda went on to record her poems, read by herself, on to CD which raised over £500 for the RNIB.

In 2000, Brenda who had recently turned 70, decided it was time to move back to Lancashire to live nearer her lifelong friend from Art College, Margaret. Brenda moved to an apartment at Rufford New Hall in Rufford, Lancashire, a former stately home, where she made many new friends and helped redesign the formal walled gardens on the estate which had once belonged to the Hesketh family. Brenda never forget her many friends and neighbours from East Hagbourne, who she spoke fondly of and regularly kept in touch with many of them over the years but sadly many have since passed away. She often recalled stories of the many happy times she had spent in East Hagbourne over the years, including organising events, the filming of Dr Who and once appearing with her dog Cider on a jigsaw picture of the village, to mention a few.

Brenda continued to have good health in later life and had an active lifestyle with her daily walks, short breaks to the lake district, she was still driving at 90 and up until lockdown attended weekly pilates classes. Brenda who is sadly missed by all who knew her, is survived by her lifelong friend from Art College, Margaret Barlow. Brenda's Service for the Celebration of her Life took place on 29th September at the West Lancashire Crematorium.

Thank you to Brian Leonard for kindly sending this Obituary.

A Happy New Year to all the magazine readers and contributors.

We hope that as many people as possible in East and West Hagbourne are seeing and enjoying the parish magazine which is online on both of the East and West Hagbourne Parish Council websites which are printed on the front of the magazine. Thank you to the Parish Councils for enabling this. We are also emailing copies of the magazine to individuals on request and are also printing some magazines for those without a computer and those who find it easier to have a printed copy. Let us know if you would like to be on our email list or would appreciate a printed copy.

We would be grateful for any donations towards the production of the magazine and suggest maybe a donation of £6 for the year if you receive it online, or £12 for the year if you are receiving a printed copy. It is possible to pay donations or subscriptions by Bank Transfer using the following details:

**Hagbourne Parochial Church Council, Account Number: 30438952
Sort Code: 20-01-09 and please use this reference: "Magazine".**

If you would prefer to pay by cash or cheque, payable to **Hagbourne Parochial Church Council** this can be safely left in the wall box safe in Church (to the left of the door as you enter) or to 22 Blewbury Road, East Hagbourne or Little Ash, York Road, West Hagbourne. Please put the money or a cheque in an envelope marked "magazine" and if you are paying for a printed copy please add your name and address on the envelope. Thank you.

Many thanks to all the contributors who send in their varied and interesting articles month by month and many thanks also to our advertisers who continue to support the magazine.

The Parish Magazine Committee – magtemp5@gmail.com

Poets' Trail update . . . Early this year the words and illustrations for the Green Theme anthology will be ready for the printer. Most of the 'green' poems have been written by people in the village.

With this project well under way we want you to be thinking about the next one. The Poets' Trail will be funding the publication of a book of poems inspired by Didcot Oaks (and other notable trees). We will be encouraging writers from the whole Didcot area to Google the Didcot Oaks website, visit some of the magnificent, ancient trees, and be moved to write something poetic. Whether it's first kisses under the leaves over a period of 400 years, how they withstood the wars, or the animals who live among the branches, let your imagination branch out! What have the trees witnessed over the years, how have some of our historical trees already met their ends, and what has the wood been used for since? Poems up to 36 lines. **Submissions by 14th February 2024** to linda.benton@live.co.uk Linda will be illustrating the book.

Full details are on the Didcot Writers website. The link is: bit.ly/didcotoaks

Didcot Emergency Foodbank

The Didcot Emergency Food Bank is at The Didcot Baptist Church, 43 Wantage Road, Didcot. OX11 0BS Telephone 01235 813187. Email: office@didcotbaptist.org.uk

An Emergency Foodbank is a practical, community-based project aimed at providing short term relief by giving food to people in crisis in our local area. The Didcot Emergency Foodbank serves Didcot and the immediate surrounding villages.

There is very high demand on the Foodbank at the moment. You can leave items in the supermarkets in Didcot, at Blewbury Post Office or make a money donation via the Foodbank.

Contact details if you need to use the Foodbank or you would like to make a donation:

You can leave a message on the Baptist Church Office answering machine on 01235 813 187 or you can email the Foodbank: foodbank@didcotbaptist.org.uk or use the [contact form](#) on the website.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Didcot and District U3A Our first meeting in the New Year is on **16th January** with a talk **The Joys and Perils of being an Author** with speaker Colin Wade. U3a Thames Valley network offer a wide range of talks, study days and quizzes. **Visit the website to discover more and join in: www.u3asites.org/didcot**

Local Bus Service 94 and 94A between Didcot, the Hagbournes and Upton via Blewbury, Aston Upthorpe and the Moretons. Starting 7th January

		Mondays to Fridays (except Public Holidays)														This journey starts at St Birinus School on school days only.	
route number		94	94A	94A	94	94	94A	94	94A	94	94A	94A	94	94	94A	94	
Didcot St Birinus School																1530	
Didcot Girls' School																1538	
Didcot Parkway Railway Station ➡ R4		0720	0735	0840		1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1545	1700		1820	1920		
Didcot Orchard Centre		0724	0739	0844		1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1549	1704		1824	1924		
Didcot Sandringham Road, Saxons Way		▼	▼	0848		1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1553	1708		1828	1928		
East Hagbourne War Memorial		0730	0745	0851		1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1556	1711		1831	1931		
Blewbury The Blueberry		▼	▼	0858		1128	▼	1328	▼	▼	▼	1718		▼	1938		
Upton Village Hall				0903		▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1723		▼	▼		
West Hagbourne The Horse & Harrow				0905		▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1725		▼	▼		
Harwell Campus Bequerel Avenue				0916	0922	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1735	1740	▼	▼		
West Hagbourne Moor Lane	0645	0738	0751	▼	1027	▼	1227	▼	1427	1602	▼	1837	▼	▼	▼		
West Hagbourne The Horse & Harrow	0646	0739	0752		0931	1028	▼	1228	▼	1428	1603	1749	1838	▼	▼		
Upton Village Hall	0648	0741	0754		0933	1030	1133	1230	1333	1430	1605	1751	1840	1943			
Blewbury The Blueberry	0653	0746	0759		0938	1035	1138	1235	1338	1435	1610	1756	1845	1948			
Aston Upthorpe The Chequers		0755	0808		1044	▼	1244	▼	1444	1619	▼	1854	▼	▼			
South Moreton The Crown		0801	0814		1050	▼	1250	▼	1450	1625	▼	1900	▼	▼			
North Moreton Bus Shelter		0805	0818		1054	▼	1254	▼	1454	1629	▼	1904	▼	▼			
East Hagbourne War Memorial	0700	▼	▼		0945	▼	1145	▼	1345	▼	▼	1803	▼	1955			
Didcot Sandringham Road, Saxons Way	0704	▼	▼		0948	▼	1148	▼	1348	▼	▼	1806	▼	1958			
Didcot Orchard Centre	0710	0812	0826		0954	1102	1154	1302	1354	1502	1637	1812	1912	2004			
Didcot Parkway Railway Station ➡	0715	▼	0831		0959	1107	1159	1307	1359	1507	1642	1817	1917	2009			
Didcot Girls' School		0820															
Didcot St Birinus School		0828															
		This journey operates during school holidays only.															
		This journey operates on school days only.															
		Buses set down for the Orchard Centre on Broadway.															
		Saturdays															
route number		94A	94	94	94A	94	94A	94	94A	94	94A	94	94A	94	94A	94	
Didcot Parkway Railway Station ➡ R4		0735		0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1610	1710	1810	1910			
Didcot Orchard Centre		0739		0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1514	1614	1714	1814	1914			
Didcot Sandringham Road, Saxons Way		▼		0918	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718	1818	1918			
East Hagbourne War Memorial		0745		0921	1021	1121	1221	1321	1421	1521	1621	1721	1821	1921			
Blewbury The Blueberry		▼		0928	▼	1128	▼	1328	▼	1528	▼	1728	▼	1928			
West Hagbourne Moor Lane	0751		▼	1027	▼	1227	▼	1427	▼	1627	▼	1827	▼	▼			
West Hagbourne The Horse & Harrow	0752		▼	1028	▼	1228	▼	1428	▼	1628	▼	1828	▼	▼			
Upton Village Hall	0754		0933	1030	1133	1230	1333	1430	1533	1630	1733	1830	1933				
Blewbury The Blueberry	0759		0938	1035	1138	1235	1338	1435	1538	1635	1738	1835	1938				
Aston Upthorpe The Chequers	0808		▼	1044	▼	1244	▼	1444	▼	1644	▼	1844	▼	▼			
South Moreton The Crown	0814		▼	1050	▼	1250	▼	1450	▼	1650	▼	1850	▼	▼			
North Moreton Bus Shelter	0818		▼	1054	▼	1254	▼	1454	▼	1654	▼	1854	▼	▼			
East Hagbourne War Memorial	▼	0845	0945	▼	1145	▼	1345	▼	1545	▼	1745	▼	1945				
Didcot Sandringham Road, Saxons Way	▼	0848	0948	▼	1148	▼	1348	▼	1548	▼	1748	▼	1948				
Didcot Orchard Centre	0826	0854	0954	1102	1154	1302	1354	1502	1554	1702	1754	1902	1954				
Didcot Parkway Railway Station ➡	0831	0859	0959	1107	1159	1307	1359	1507	1559	1707	1759	1907	1959				
		No service on Sundays or Public Holidays															

Thames Travel bus service to the JR Hospital from Didcot – X32

This X32 service starts at Cockcroft Road, Didcot, which might be a convenient point for some people to catch it - still every half hour. It then goes to GWP and down Wantage Road, past the Hospital, to the Orchard Centre, Station, and on to Oxford and JR. **The service from Didcot to Wantage is now the X35 and we also have a service to Newbury, the X34. These all start from the Orchard Centre in Didcot.**

To look up timetables for all these services please visit:

www.oxfordbus.co.uk.

We will also put some printed timetables in the Community Shop.

Comments from the East Hagbourne Parish Council Chairman

A Very Happy New Year to one and all

Fix My Street It is good to start with something that is more positive than it often gets credit for. This is the County Council mechanism for reporting issues with highways, footways, channels (the edge of the road bordering the footway or verge) and some footpaths. It is called Fix My Street and is referenced in every Parish Council page in this magazine, viz <https://www.fixmystreet.com/> I really do encourage you to report any issues through this means. This includes potholes, non-functioning street lights, fly tipping, blocked drains, and obstructions on footpaths. The site is monitored on a daily basis and, after checking whether the request is appropriate and is not already being actioned (a response will be sent if this is the case), a team from OCC will visit the site within a couple of days to assess what action is needed. Many of our village footpaths are not covered by Fix My Street so, if the issue concerns them, the appropriate web site is <https://publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx> On potholes, action should be taken soon if the hole is 40mm or more deep on a road, or 20mm or more deep on a footway but otherwise nothing will normally happen except for a notification to this effect on the web page. Fix My Street really does work and I recommend that people use this as soon as they notice something is amiss. I appreciate that not everybody is web savvy although the interface is quite accessible. If this is still daunting then hopefully a friend could help, with a default friend of our Parish Clerk!

Joint Local Plan We are in South Oxfordshire and our district councillors represent us for South Oxfordshire (SODC). However, for some time, the people working for the district are recorded as being for South and Vale, which includes the neighbouring district of Vale of the White Horse (VWHDC). For the first time we will have a local plan covering both SODC and VWHDC and the Preferred Options for this plan will be open for comment in January for responses by 21st February. An important aspect of this joint local plan in the Didcot area is that much of the new building within Harwell Parish (Valley Park for example) is in VWHDC whereas Didcot is in SODC. Although the Parish Council will scrutinise this plan carefully to see how this might affect our village and will submit comments on it, comments are welcome and encouraged from everyone. The claim is that the interactive web site will be very user friendly.

Annual Parish Meeting The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Hagbourne Village Hall on Thursday 28th March. Please "Save the Date" as the main agenda item will be a discussion of how best to spend the significant sums of money from the Deanfield development for the betterment of our village.

Housing development by the Village Hall As you might have seen, the access from the site onto the railway embankment is still not open. This is because of safety concerns. The site manager has this as a priority and hopefully access will be available in the near future. There are now 14 homes occupied with a very varied and interesting range of residents. So far, there are only two school age children so the pressure for places at our primary school is not yet as severe as we might have thought although it is still early days.

Parish Surgeries I will recommence the Parish Surgeries in the Fleur starting on Friday 12th January from 5.00 to 6.30 pm. You can still call in even if you are having a dry January. However, feel free to contact me (iain.duff@easthagbourne.net), the clerk or any other councillor should you have urgent concerns.

Parish Council meetings Parish Council meetings are held in the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground. Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting and the agenda is posted on village notice boards and the village web pages at least three clear days before the meeting. The next meeting will be held starting at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th January. Let me remind you that this is not a formal or even approved article from the Parish Council but is rather a few words from me. Thus, anything in this article should not be construed as coming from or endorsed by the Parish Council. Iain Duff.



**East
Hagbourne
Parish
Council**

NEWSLETTER No.258 – January 2024

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Clerk, Laura Lloyd

Telephone: 07891 551 851

Email: easthagbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Happy New Year



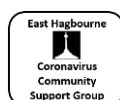
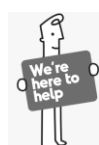
MAIN ROAD TO COSCOTE – POTHOLES

The Parish Council is working with county councillor, Jane Murphy, to request that the recurring potholes between the cemetery and Coscote are filled in again. Please do continue to report issues on www.fixmystreet.com as these reports are also sent directly to OCC to investigate.



CHAIRMAN'S SURGERY – FRIDAY 12th JANUARY

Iain Duff will be at the Fleur de Lys from 5.00 to 6.30pm to welcome any residents with concerns or queries relating to matters in the parish.



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Winter Warm Spaces are available at Didcot Library and the Didcot Wave, see further info [here](#) for opening times and other nearby venues.

Oxfordshire Age UK's online Winter Hub is accessible [here](#) with advice on Oxfordshire County Council's Resident Support Scheme and other useful guidance.

SOFEA Didcot Community Larder is open on Thursdays see [here](#) for information.

Didcot Emergency Foodbank is open on Tuesdays and Fridays, see [here](#) for information.

Cost of Living Crisis An SODC page with a range of advice and support can be found [here](#)

The Community Hub can assist with isolation and financial help. Details can be found [here](#)

Hagbourne Charities – hagbourne.charities@gmail.com or 01235 814024

East and West Hagbourne Fund – Contact David Stainthorp on 07711 802887 or email hagbournevillagefund@gmail.com

East Hagbourne (Coronavirus) Community Support Group - easthagbournecovid19@gmail.com or 07568 395228



DEFIBRILLATORS

The village defibrillators are available 24/7 at the following locations:

Outside the Village Shop at 114 New Road

Hagbourne Village Hall (next to the main entrance)

Hagbourne Bowls Club on The Croft (defibrillator is wall mounted outside the gate)

In an emergency, call 999 – they will give you the access code.



USEFUL INFORMATION

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/> for reporting a wide variety of issues from potholes to fly tipping.

<https://publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx> can be used to report an issue with a countryside path or public right of way.

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/recycling-rubbish-and-waste> for information on waste services and reporting missed bin collections.

Get the **Binzone** app on your mobile to receive notifications of bin services in East Hagbourne

<https://one.network/> for checking roadworks in the area.

Planning applications received since the last newsletter:

P23/S4023/HH Captain's Cottage, Fieldside, East Hagbourne – Demolition of existing conservatory. Construction of replacement, single storey garden room/conservatory.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 11th January 2024 at The Pavilion, Great Mead.

All Council meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.

Agendas and Minutes of previous meetings are published at www.easthagbourne.net



FEBRUARY 2024 PARISH MAGAZINE

Please let us have copy for the February 2024 parish magazine by
Friday, 19th January to magtemp5@gmail.com
Thank you, the parish magazine committee.

Brass Band

BLEWBURY BRASS BAND Rehearsals are held in the Band Room, Bohams Road, Blewbury, 7.30 – 9.30pm every Wednesday. All ages/levels welcome. Instruments supplied. Very friendly group. **Band Room available for Hire** £8 per hour (min.2hrs). Large practice room. Toilet but no kitchen or storage facilities. Suit pop groups, theatrical rehearsals, group meetings, etc. **Enquiries - secretary@blewburybrassband.org**

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sarah@frenchbeanies.co.uk **www.frenchbeanies.co.uk**

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