



# NEWSLETTER

June 23rd deadline for July

June 9th Parish Council Meeting

Contact the editor: Jane Martin

stfilica@mail.com

As I write there has been some easing of Covid restrictions, and hopefully we may be back to 'normal' by the end of June, but 'a funny thing happened to me' a few days ago which makes me think it might take us a while to become reaccustomed. At a celebration (within the guidelines) of a friend's birthday I met with a dozen or so people I'd not seen for almost 2 years. We were all delighted to be together although reluctant to get too close and remained outside despite the weather but after the 'how are you's and what have you been up to's I realised that I hadn't been up to much. Whilst there were no reports of envy inducing holidays or wild weekends away it became obvious that those who had not been WFH had either done little or had busily been writing stories, painting furiously, taking drawing classes or exercising on Zoom. I feel I have rather wasted this opportunity; yes cupboards and garden got sorted, but that was LAST year. Had I known how long the pandemic would last, might I have undertaken an Open University degree or learned another language? Probably not, I have read lots of books, watched lots of films but taken little exercise, couldn't manage that on Zoom, ah well, of such omissions is life made up. After a couple of hours at the party I was exhausted... ..talking to more than one person for more than 10 minutes was so unusual....but I'm sure I'll get the hang of it again soon.

## Village Lottery Winner May: Jane & Martin MacLeod

We welcome all new people to our villages & wish you well....keep safe and hope to see you soon. Pauline Care 01367 860969 tickets still available



# THE CHURCHES OF ST PETER BROUGHTON POGGS CUM FILKINS

For our online and church services see: [www.svbb.org.uk](http://www.svbb.org.uk)

Due to Reverend Harry's ongoing serious illness we are still working on coverage for our June services. Please keep in touch via [www.svbb.org.uk](http://www.svbb.org.uk) or contact the PCC Secretary [sally.peach@mail.com](mailto:sally.peach@mail.com) or 07918 720610 and we will send on full details as soon as we have them via the usual email list

## Private Prayer

**Filkins Thursdays 9-12, Sundays 12 – Dusk**

**Broughton Poggs Tuesdays 9-12, Saturdays 12 – 6pm**

Despite the mixed weather it is lovely to see the signs of spring and summer bursting out around our villages. I especially appreciated the bluebells this year and now the first glimpses of poppies and daisies in the fields. Every year, spring seems like a small miracle with barren branches springing back in life and becoming clothed in fresh green foliage and sometime a mass of flowers. It is a sign of regeneration that, even though the winter left the landscape looking barren, life has the ability to renew itself and return in ever more abundance.

As we move into the middle part of this year, we can be hopeful that we will be able to return to something more like normality at some point. We may not be quite there yet, but the signs of newness are there and we can take strength from that. We have found over the last year that if we only hope for everything to get right again, we will struggle through the times when everything has been far from ok. Instead, our hope has been more subtle – our long-term hope that things will eventually be better has given us courage to be hopeful even when 'normality' has seemed very distant. The Christian faith shares this understanding of present and ultimate hope. There is a long-term hope that one day our broken world and lives will be restored and renewed completely. We are far from that hope at present! But this hope gives us courage to be hopeful now, knowing that these beautiful signs of spring and summer point towards a future hope for a wonderful restoration and life in

Love and Prayers, Revd Margot Hodson, Filkins Vicarage

**Rev'd Margot Hodson**

**01367 860555**

[margothodson@svbb.org.uk](mailto:margothodson@svbb.org.uk)

**Rev'd Harry MacInness**

**01993 845954**

[harrymacinnes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:harrymacinnes@yahoo.co.uk)

SHILL VALLEY & BROADSHIRE BENEFICE



Filkins &  
Broughton Poggs  
Gardening Club



I anticipate that by the time you read this, the gardens will all have looked wonderful for the NGS Open Day in the village and I hope that this current spell of rain, rain and more rain didn't spoil anything. A huge amount of hard work goes into the day and I hope the sun shone that afternoon.



I have been thinking about the beauty that there is for us to enjoy in our gardens, whatever the weather. I hope you enjoy these photographs to illustrate that. Whether in sunshine above or in rain below, our plants give us so much pleasure.



Gardening Club members are beginning to look forward to our first event since our Planning Meeting in January 2020. It will take place at the end of June and I will write more about it in the next St Filica Newsletter.

In the meantime, happy gardening

*Lucille*



## SWINFORD MUSEUM

2021 is a tremendous year for Swinford Museum Filkins as we celebrate 90 years of its formation. The Museum was opened on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 1931 by the then Minister of Transport, Mr Herbert Morrison. Since then George collected items of interest and people donated things, which we are continuing today. To celebrate the ninety years we are producing a book of some 90 objects from our collection which should be available later in the year.



The Ernest Cook Trust have allowed the Trustees to use the Old Cycle shop at Fox House opposite the Five Alls as an office which we are slowly moving into. With the Covid regulations we have been unable to finalise this but we are well on our way. This will enable us to allow visitors to carry out research of the village and hopefully to help us with the next step of Accreditation.

We are also hoping for the erection of a storage unit near the Village Centre. This would enable us to move our larger items in the collection from their present damp building where they are deteriorating, to a more secure environment. However, this would mean a great fundraising effort, the first of which was an exhibition of some of our objects in the Filkins Village Hall over the weekend of 22/23<sup>rd</sup> May.

**90 objects!** Well in theory that sounds a breeze, but believe me it has not been. To celebrate the 90 years of the museum one object to represent one year you would think would be easy, alas no! When delving into our records I found it difficult to prioritise on the objects. Although small, the rumbler bells held a lot of history, or shall I choose the large corn bin which hasn't been moved out of the museum in years? Eventually I whittled it down to 90 but sadly had to leave out many of my favourites.

Diane Blackett

A message from Mrs Elizabeth Gidman who is recovering from a nasty fall:

***May I through the Newsletter express my sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone for the many cards and kind messages I have received since my unfortunate accident. Each one was a joy and really lifted my spirits! Thank you all.***

***Meanwhile I am so fortunate to be here with my family and so far progressing well. Hoping to see you all soon, Elizabeth.***



We all wish her continuing recovery and hope to welcome her back to the village in the near future.

### **Correction**

Apologies for incorrect spelling and email address in the Filkins Theatre report last month. Anyone wishing to attend the monthly meetings or gain more information, please contact our Secretary

**Lynne Savege at [savegelynne@gmail.com](mailto:savegelynne@gmail.com)**

### **Good Home Needed**

I am about to dispose of a well used Ketcar Go Cart, once a favourite of my grandchildren. No Charge. Tony Woodford. 860319. Filkins Moor



## PC notes 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

If only I had bought Zoom shares a year ago – that was my over-riding thought as we settled down to our first virtual Annual Parish Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Five villagers braved the keyboard to join us. I did ask the Chair if she would like to submit her annual report for publication in St Filica but she felt it was rather too long and might entail cutting Debbie's must-do recipe or the essential shop opening times. But if you would like to read it (it's a great precis of the past year's events) do look online.

Very briefly, the highlights were that dog bins make up 3% of the precept (the latter being the monies from your council tax that WODC give to the Parish Council each year to run village affairs). And that 44% of our budget is spent on maintaining the village. So that the money is spent how you think it should be, why not get involved and make your voice heard. Just join in any of our monthly meetings – you don't have to stay to the end! Public participation is usually fairly early on.

Those five hardy villagers commented on the neighbourhood watch idea put forward by one resident after a spate of burglaries recently (it was felt the distance between houses would make it difficult to run effectively); on the playground and the concept of it also having equipment for older villagers; suggestions were requested for ideas on how to make the most of the village hall now that it has the benefit of nearly £30,000 of grants during lockdown; and the fact that villagers can help themselves to the fruit from the orchard in Hardcastle's Field.

The monthly parish meeting followed the APM when councillors were chosen to look after the various areas of responsibility so that you know who to contact. Councillors Jones, Ford and Robbins for planning and environment as well as property and the cemetery. Councillor Irwin-Singer, the swimming pool. Councillors Tridgell and Ford, finance, Councillors Walsh and Tridgell, communications and Councillor Walsh, village hall rep.

The reserves at the end of 2020/21 are £4,9930.80, due to some street-lights being less expensive than expected and the cemetery tree budget being taken forward. Under-spend this year will be put in earmarked reserves which will include a new strimmer, the cemetery refurbishment and replacement trees at Bulls Close (although see below) which would cost £1500 per tree to include being maintained for three years

Part one of the Village Centre refurbishment is now complete and a new cleaner has been appointed who will do a daily clean of the toilets and changing room in compliance with covid protocols during the swimming season and for National Gardens Open Day on 30<sup>th</sup> May. The PC had applied for a Restart Grant from WODC but we haven't heard anything yet, while other grants which don't require match funding for the playground specifically are also being applied for.

If you remember, there was anxiety about the danger to less agile residents posed by fruit droppings from the trees by the Gassons/telephone box and it was suggested that these trees be replaced by trees which didn't drop fruit. After several months of communicating with OCC Highways and them agreeing to take down the trees as long as we replaced them a new member of staff there took over and the decision was reversed. We are now back to negotiating with them as how to proceed.

The playground wall needs work before the pool opens up at the end of June – a quote for £1228 for restoring it and £360 for extra stone was accepted and the work will start quickly. Upgraded street lighting for the whole village is well on track – the PC will now tackle four more lights which will cost £361 each. After which there will only be three remaining lights and the whole village will have been done.

If you remember, there was anxiety about the danger to less agile residents posed by fruit droppings from the trees by the Gassons/telephone box and it was suggested that these trees be replaced by trees which didn't drop fruit. After some time and work was spent on this, with the agreement of WODC, a new member of staff there took over and WODC have now been decided that they won't agree to the existing trees being cut down. So the trees won't be replaced and meanwhile the usual crowning work which should have taken place hasn't, so they may well be more prolific this year. You have been warned!

Some of you may have noticed the replacement for the Filkins sign at the Burford end of the village near Clarks Barn. Interestingly, this denotes the boundary of the Parish and-conservation area which may be why OCC were keen it was replaced in exactly the same spot.

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is brewing nicely with lots of consultation planned in the summer months. The PC will be commenting.

The next meeting is on 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 in the village hall when we look forward to seeing you in person.

Noelle Walsh



## **Volunteer Doctor & Hospital Runs**

In the first instance those requiring a lift should call Theo Hodges on 07711 066155 and she will put you in touch with a driver. If Theo is for any reason unavailable, then please call either Freda Shrouder on 07557 048667 or 01367 860053 or else Charlie Payne on 07810 158558 or 01367 860529.

## Filkins Bowls Club



**A few members have been out on the green for a bit of practice and although matches are still some way off, we hope to have some club competitions next month, roll ups continue on Monday nights from 6pm. All welcome**

If you would like more information about the Bowls Club, please contact one of officers:

Captain	Robert Robbins	01367 860977
Vice Captain	Terry Essam	01285 851734
Secretary	Janet Young	01367 850332
Support secretary	Sheila Gould	01367 860386



But it looks like we've got two new members!!



**Watch out!  
He's on  
his way...**



*... or is he?*

# **The Government Inspector**

Filkins Theatre present *"An outdoor rehearsed reading in costume"* of Gogol's satirical masterpiece on the paddock opposite Filkins Village Hall at **6pm** on **Saturday 17th July**.

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**Tickets (£5), are available from Filkins Shop, Cotswold Woollen Weavers, and on the gate (if space.)**

*Further information and booking line: 0771 3636415.*

*There will be refreshments.*

*If wet, the show will go on... In the Village Hall.*





LANGFORD ARTS FESTIVAL  
31st July - 1st August 2021

## Arts Festival Returns to Langford

Following the huge success of its launch event, The Langford Arts Festival is returning from Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

The Festival will feature the work of over 40 amateur and professional artists, ranging from water colour, acrylic and oil paintings, prints and photography through to sculpture, glass and pottery. There will be something to suit any budget; works from sought after artists for collectors, through to pieces for people who just want to find something special for their home.

The event is the idea of Ginny Bushell, who lives in Langford and is herself a keen amateur artist.

“When we ran our first Festival two years ago, we thought it might prove quite popular but nothing prepared us for the volumes of people and artists who wanted to get involved. We had hundreds of visitors and sold over £13,500 of art.

“With us now gradually coming out of lockdown, it seemed the perfect moment to welcome people back to our fabulous Festival. What could be better than to be in the fresh Cotswold air, in a picturesque village, looking at and hopefully buying some lovely original art.”

St Matthew’s Church in Langford, which dates back to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, is the atmospheric setting where the bulk of the artists’ work will be displayed and sold. There will also be art on show at a number of other locations in the village, enabling visitors to experience all that the village has to offer.

If people want to watch and try as well as buy, there will be plenty of live art-based activities taking place in Langford during the Festival. These include artists sketching and painting about the village, art installations, and arts and crafts for visitors to try such as a blacksmith offering a metalwork experience, plaster plaque making, pottery and more!

The Festival will also auction off for charity a signed limited-edition print by Jake Chapman, the celebrated British artist, who together with his brother Dinos forms the famous, and often shocking, art duo, the Chapman Brothers.

With homemade cakes, light lunches and refreshments served throughout, plus a bar serving wine and local beers, Langford Arts Festival will provide the perfect day out for both families and serious art enthusiasts.

Adult entry costs £2 while children (under 16) are FREE. The Festival runs from 11am-5pm throughout the weekend, finishing on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

To find out more visit [www.langfordartsfestival.co.uk](http://www.langfordartsfestival.co.uk)

or contact Ginny Bushell on 07585 703254 [virginia.bushell@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.bushell@gmail.com)

## **Beetroot and Berry Cake**

With the easing of restrictions and the excitement of having friends and family to visit again I have dug out one of my favourite cake recipes in preparation. There are a lot of ingredients in this cake, but the method is easy (apart from you need 4 bowls!!) and it is very morish and gluten free!

### **Ingredients**

500g raw beetroot peeled and finely grated\*  
120ml olive oil  
60ml smooth orange juice  
80g fresh root ginger, grated  
150g raisins  
6 tbsp clear honey  
1 ½ tsp vanilla extract  
Zest of 2 lemons  
½ tsp ground cinnamon  
1tsp grated nutmeg  
4 eggs separated  
50g light brown soft sugar  
2 tsp baking powder  
360g polenta



### **Topping:**

100g icing sugar sifted  
400g mascarpone  
Fresh berries for decoration

\*if you save some of the beetroot juice when grating, this can be used in the topping

Pre-heat oven to 180 degrees C (Gas 4). Grease and line with greaseproof paper, two 20cm cake tins.

Put the beetroot, oil, orange juice, ginger, raisins, honey, vanilla, lemon zest and spices in a bowl and mix together.

In a separate bowl, beat the egg yolks with the brown sugar until creamy (3-4 mins) then stir into the beetroot mix. Combine the baking powder and polenta then add to the beetroot mix.

In a separate bowl whisk the egg whites to stiff peaks then carefully fold into the beetroot mix.

Divide the mixture between the two cake tins and shake to level. Bake for 30-35 mins or until a skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean. Leave the cakes to cool completely on a wire rack. When cool, turn both cakes out and place one on the serving plate.

Beat the icing sugar into the mascarpone (add a little beetroot juice if you want) Spread half the mixture onto one cake, sprinkle a few berries and top. Put the other cake on top and repeat with the remainder of the mascarpone mixture and berries. Eat.

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	10 -11	3 - 4
Tuesday	10 -11	3 -4
Wednesday		3 -4
Thursday	10 -12	3 -4
Friday	10 -11	3 -4
Saturday	10 -11	3 -4
Sunday	10 -11	
01367 860 239		



**Grey week**



Rubbish



Food waste

**Green week**



Recycling



Garden waste



Food waste

**News....new....news**

Mustard Foods are selling very well, why not try some?

**Remember Veg Box Thursday.**

Let Lynne know what you require by 5pm on Tuesday evening, veg, fish and bread from the market and we can deliver. [savegelynne@gmail.com](mailto:savegelynne@gmail.com)

This is not just a lockdown service, anyone can join your village shop is here to serve



Green/recycling	grey/household
<b>SATURDAY 5 Jun *</b>	Friday 11 Jun
Friday 18 Jun	Friday 25 Jun