

# Village News

## Minster Lovell Historic Village

The Community newsletter for Minster Lovell  
and surrounding area

Issue 169  
Oct/Nov/Dec 2021



### Mac's Garage (Witney) Ltd.

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Dealing with your own affairs and getting them in order can appear daunting. We're here to make life easier. Do pick up the phone or email us and we would be happy to have a free, no-obligation initial chat with you. We can meet on video call or in person when safe to do so.



**Anna Burnside** PARTNER  
[anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com)



**Jacqui Birks** TAX DIRECTOR  
[jacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:jacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com)



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## Message from the Editor

The Village News is back and with support from you, the Residents, and our valued advertisers, we hope it will once again be well received by everyone. So many of us have missed the Village News: not all of us have the Internet and it has become a vital link to what is going on in the locality.

I am sure you will join me in thanking John Rose for producing the Village News for the past 30 years, single handed and wish him well for the future. John is doing all he can to help relaunch the magazine.

I remember the 1st issue Aug/Sept coming out in 1976 and being asked if I would supply drawings for the front cover. Those concerned in getting "Charterville" (Minster Lovell Village News as it was known then) launched were; Brenda Bennett, Pat Bryant, Marlene Collett, Dot Ebsworth, Dawn Haley, Sheila Hunt, Kathleen Johnson and Janet Lock. It was 20 pages packed with club news, church services, reports from the Parish Council, meetings, sports fixtures, entertainments and even congratulations and best wishes to families celebrating the birth of a new baby!

In October 1979 issue 20 Oct/Nov there was a change of editors and it was edited and produced by Donald Holloway, supported by the previous Management Committee. Its format remained the same but by now, Residents were sending in poems, several of which were by Tom Smith who eventually published his own book of poems. Other Residents were writing about their personal experiences, for example, Sybil and Bill Williams invitation to Buckingham Palace to a Royal Garden Party as a thank-you for service to the community as a District Councillor.

Donald Holloway was one of Minster Lovell's finest cricketers but was tragically struck down at an early age with Multiple Sclerosis. There wasn't then a village publication until 1992 when John Rose took up the reins. He also introduced the advertising features.

Our new publication has taken advantage of modern techniques in digital printing and we have gone into colour. We will continue to print information on local charities and organisations. We shall endeavour to cover local stories and events and to produce features on local businesses. My Picture Framing Company will administer the publication from 130, Burford Road, Minster Lovell. The team comprises myself, Vicki Ashby and Roger Coggins.

As the editor I shall work to maintain and develop the magazine's profile and reputation. Any help with distribution and reporting on events will be most welcome! So your support and input is absolutely vital to the success of the publication!

Thank You. Graham Kew (Editor)

**Thank you to ALL the deliverers for making this issue possible**

### **Editor and Publisher**

Graham Kew  
130 Burford Road  
Minster Lovell  
OX29 0RB  
01993 775262  
grahamkewprints@gmail.com

### **Printer**

Instantprint

### **Artwork:**

Roger Coggins

### **Copy and Production:**

Vicki Ashby  
Deadline for next issue 22nd December  
Please email copy to  
grahamkewprints@gmail.com  
or contact the Editor



## The Village Library

The library will open in line with current regulations. We open every other Tuesday 2-4pm. The dates for the rest of the year are:-

**October 12th, 26th**

**November 9th, 23rd**

**December 7th, 21st**

You are welcome to come along for a drink biscuit and chat. There are plenty of books to choose from but this is also a time to get together with others for a social time of chat and laughter.

*Wendy Atkinson Tel. 776059*

## MINSTER LOVELL VILLAGE TRUST

The Trust exists to manage the sale of the Village Guide books. All profits are available to local voluntary organisations for any project being planned.

For further advice or if we can contribute towards a project for your organisation.

**please send your application to our new Secretary**

Mrs Sue Thomas

[suethomas120752@gmail.com](mailto:suethomas120752@gmail.com)

*Christine Donohue* (Chair)

## WASP WINDRUSH AGAINST SEWAGE POLLUTION



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CHECK NOTICE BOARDS FOR UPDATES

St Kenelm's Hall, Minster Lovell starting at 7.30 pm

## ST KENELM'S HALL

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**HIRE OF HALL - tel 01993 775567**

**£10 p/hr before 6.00pm £15 p/h after 6.00pm**

contact Secretary: Mrs Cynthia Diver



## MINSTER LOVELL PLAYGROUP

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Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am - 3pm

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*please ring Vicki Wright on 01993 705645, email [minsterlovellplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:minsterlovellplaygroup@gmail.com)*

**British Legion Poppy Appeal.** The Poppy Appeal this year runs from Saturday 30th October to Saturday 13th November with Remembrance Sunday falling on Sunday 14th November. There will be boxes in our local businesses and a house to house collection. If anyone is interested in becoming a collector please let me know. I have a small number of special pins commemorating the 100 years of the Royal British Legion. These are available now from me for a suggested donation of £4. I have ordered the wreaths for the village organisations as usual and will be contacting the representatives shortly. Wendy Atkinson 776059



## Minster Lovell Sports & Social Club

The Pavilion, Wash Meadow, Old Minster Lovell

For details of events and bookings  
and all other enquiries:

Please call Ed Dunn on 07792132215

## Coffee and Chat

A new monthly gathering at St Kenelm's Hall  
run by village volunteers.

The 3rd Wednesday of each month, 10am - 12 noon

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

*The future dates are;*

Wednesday 20th October    Wednesday 17th November

Wednesday 15th December    Wednesday 19th January

*Ann Williams 01993 704013/0734617208*

**Fishing in Minster Lovell.** To fish at Wash Meadow is available only to residents of Minster Lovell who must hold a permit. If you wish to obtain a permit contact the **Fishing Bailiff - Mr Paul Woodley** in the village 01993 704137

# Bats, but not necessarily in the Belfry!

***Mark Satinet***

St Kenelm's Church is a beautiful building dating from 1450 and lying next to the Minster Lovell

Ruins and river Windrush. This has been the focal point of the village for many years, but it is not just important for the people of Minster Lovell, but provides a residency for many species, including bats.



Some bats roost in the church all year round but during summer there are a number of maternity roosts there where bats breed, producing a single young female every year and nurturing them, in a similar way to us, to ensure the young survivors to live out their lifetime of 20-30 years.

I was born in Minster, but moved to Wiltshire for a decade or so where I worked as a Wildlife Conservationist at the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, specifically the Otters and Rivers Project Officer there, but becoming the Wiltshire County Mammal Recorder for fifteen years. During this time I became interested in bats, which stood me in good stead when I left Wildlife Trust to become Consultant Ecologist, shortly after I moved back to the village with my new family.

I now run my own ecological consultancy from the village (not just covering bats, but many other species of wildlife) and a few years ago had to undertake a number of bat surveys around the church, finding there are maternity roosts of Natterer's and Brown Long-eared bats, with Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle and Serotine also roost there. Only the Long-eared bats were in the bell tower, the rest were in the roof. I also carried out a number of guided bat walks around the church and the ruins, during which we saw Daubenton's bats foraging over the river Windrush in addition to the species above.

As a side note, I went to St Kenelm's School a couple of years ago to move a Serotine bat out of a classroom and return it to its roost in the roof. These are one of the largest bats in the country and relatively rare, so it is good to have them roosting in the village and not just the church.

Hopefully in the near future we will be able to conduct another guided walk or two around the church to see which bats are there, although the pond in the ruins contains Great Crested Newts, but that's another story entirely.

[marksatinet@4acreecology.co.uk](mailto:marksatinet@4acreecology.co.uk)

**St Kenelm's Church**  
**Minster Lovell**  
(adjoining Minster Lovell Ruins)

Rev'd Toby Wright  
wtparish@btinternet.com  
www.witneyparish.org.uk  
01993 779492



Please email the Witney Parish for information on Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Parish Priest: The Rev'd Toby Wright, The Rectory, Station Lane, Witney, Oxon

St Kenelms's Church at Minster Lovell welcomes you.

The Church is generally open every day during daylight hours. Please do drop in to say a prayer or spend some time in quiet of the place.

Our Sunday services are currently at 9.15 am every week. We are reviewing this, however, so please check service times at [high@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:high@witneyparish.org.uk). Please also let us know (at that address) what you would like to happen at the Church on Sundays and otherwise.

We have a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month at 10.00 am.

For special services, for instance, over the Christmas period, please go to [www.witneyparish.org.uk](http://www.witneyparish.org.uk)

Hugh White: Vicar

Churchwardens: Kirsty Strange, [kirsty@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:kirsty@witneyparish.org.uk);  
Judith Warwick, [judithwarwick@outlook.com](mailto:judithwarwick@outlook.com)

### **English Heritage**

We are looking to organise a Volunteer's programme for Minster Lovell Hall,

Anyone interested in becoming an English Heritage Volunteer for the site please contact Ginny Slade on 0117 9751322 or email [ginny.slade@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:ginny.slade@english-heritage.org.uk)



## **Minster Lovell Methodist Church**

### **Minister Rev'd Fred Ireland**

The Manse, 25 Berryfield Way, Carterton, OX18 1GS

Tel: 01993 867301 email: ireland.fred@gmail.com

**Lay Pastoral Worker: Mrs Dawn Haley**

85 Brize Norton Rd. Minster Lovell Tel: 775675

email: dawn.haley8@gmail.com

We are there for you and welcome you to join us when ever you are able

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all new residents happiness in your new home and in the village. It is hoped by us and village organisations that you will soon be regulars to village activities.

It was a joyous occasion on Sunday September 19th, when we welcomed forty family and friends of Louise and Fred Gomm to the Christening of their baby "Mollie Grace Elizabeth". As a child Louise came to Sunday School with her sister Sarah, and her parents still live on Brize Norton Road.

At the time of writing we are planning our Harvest Festival Lunch which follows the service on September 26th. We do hope those of you who came along enjoyed yourselves.

For the past two years we have tried unsuccessfully to replace our old and tired Notice Board. If there is anyone out there who can help or knows of someone who can please let me know (01993 775675).

Everyone is welcome to all our events; our Sunday services begin at 11.00 am and last (under normal circumstances) no longer than one hour. Children can go to their own activities if they wish for a period during the service. All our children's workers are DBA checked.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

The **Christmas Bazaar** in the Village Hall will be held on Saturday 27th from 2 pm.

There will be various stalls and games including a large Christmas stall.

We hope that, as in previous years, the Junior School children are able to come and entertain us at our Community Christmas Lunch. Date and time to be advised later.

We look forward to the pre-school children joining us for Christmas activities. We have really missed them during the lockdown.

**The Carol Service** will be at 6.00 pm on Sunday 19th December.

### **COMMUNITY COUNTS**

We know how important care and contact in the community can be, as it establishes friendships and can help those who may feel isolated or lonely to know they are valued. Volunteers from the community as well as church members run the events.

Currently we are running the **Saturday Café** where everyone is welcome to hot or cold drinks or home-made cakes. There is no charge, just a donation. Later in the year we may restart some of the Wednesday activities.

For further information please contact me on 01993 7756 Dawn Haley



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# Minster Lovell

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Councillors: Mr David Haley (Chairman), Mrs Sue Bicker, Mr Chris Jones, Mrs Jean King, Mr Brian Layte, Mr Jonathan Stowell and Ms Ann Williams

District Councillors: Mr Colin Dingwall and Miss Gill Hill

County Councillor: Liam Walker

Parish Clerk: Ms Sharon Palmer, 2 Charterville Close, Minster Lovell,

Witney, Oxon OX29 0SL    [info@minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk)

As the summer draws to a close and some of the coronavirus restrictions have been lifted the Parish Council hopes that you have been able to enjoy time outside in the warmer weather, spent time with family and friends and that you continue to stay in good health. We welcome new residents to Minster Lovell and hope they will soon feel settled and part of Village life.

## **New Parish Clerk**

The Parish Council welcomed Sharon Palmer as the new Parish Clerk at the September Parish Council Meeting. Sharon took over the role from Alex Molton with effect from the meeting. The Council thanked Alex Molton for her service as Parish Clerk for the past four years and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a day out for all her family. Sharon has lived in the village for four years and is looking forward to meeting more parishioners in her new role.

## **Bus Shelters**

You will be pleased to notice that the bus shelters on the Brize Norton Road have now been replaced and repaired. It is unfortunate that the bus shelter at the end of Charterville Close is being repeatedly vandalised. The Police are aware and if you see or have any information about this please, please contact the Parish Clerk or the Police directly on 101. You may have noticed that a seat has been installed in the stone bus shelter on the Burford Road and is already being well used by passengers as they wait for the bus. Thanks to the landlord of the White Hart for keeping the bus shelter clean and tidy.

## **Parking Issues**

A number of residents attended the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 20th September to raise their concerns about parking and speeding issues in the village, particularly along the B4047, Witney to Burford Road and where parking on grass verges and on the corner of Upper Crescent is causing a danger for other motorists.

The Council agreed to raise these issues again with Cllr. Liam Walker, Oxfordshire County Council and the Police. The Council will be organising a meeting with the police and Parishioners were reminded that the contact number for the Police is 101 if individual residents want to report incidents at the time.

The Council agreed to take forward a proposal to see if we can get the speed limit on the B4047 reduced to 30 mph. It was noted that the white entrance gates and speed signs will be moved towards Burford so that they are before Dovecote Park on entrance to the Village from Burford

# Parish Council



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

## Allotments

The Council would like to thank allotment holders who are working hard to maintain their plots and keep the area tidy and safe. Some of the allotment holders are going to have a bountiful harvest! There is a waiting list for allotments for which residents of the village are given a priority. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to take up an allotment.

## Ripley Avenue Path

As part of the housing development at Dovecot Park, it was agreed to install a path from the rear of the development to the Village through Ripley Avenue Park. Final decisions are being taken on the design and lighting of the path by Bovis and the Parish Council and we expect it to be installed during the autumn.

## Dog Fouling

Unfortunately, we are hearing that dog fouling remains an issue in some parts of the Village, particularly Upper Crescent and Wenrisc Drive. Please make sure that you pick up after your dog and dispose of the waste safely. As part of the scheme across West Oxfordshire, separate litter bins and dog litter bins are being replaced by one bin both for general litter and dog waste. Some of the bins have been replaced and they will all be replaced over the next 12 - 18 months.

## Audit

The Parish Council has now received the annual external audit report and the results of the audit will be published on the Council website shortly. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to view the annual accounts for 2020-21.

## Remembrance Service

This year's Remembrance Service will take place on Sunday 14th November at 10.30 am at the War Memorial, everyone is welcome. Please let the Parish Clerk know if you would like to help or contribute to the service.

## Future meeting dates

Parish Council Meetings have now returned to St Kenelm's Hall on the third Monday of each month starting at 7.00 pm. The agenda published on the Council's website and Village Noticeboards at least 3 working days before the meeting. Extra Parish Council meetings which are sometimes called between monthly meetings are advertised in the same way.

## Meeting for the next quarter are:

18-October, 15-November, 20-December 2021 at 7.00 pm in St Kenelm's Hall

## Useful numbers

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks - Electricity Outages - 105

Report Highway Problems - [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)

West Oxfordshire District Council Main Reception 01993 861000

Missed waste collection - 01993 861025 Thames Water - Leakline - 0800 714614

# Minster Lovell History Club

## 30th Anniversary Celebrations

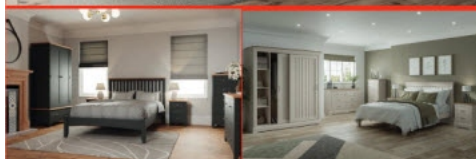
The Committee have decided to hold a get together on October 25th at the Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm.

We are delighted to tell you that as part of this Olympic Year, Peter Radford, World Record Holder in the 1960 Olympics in Rome and Gold medallist in Australia in the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games will be speaking on his life experiences and the Sports Academy - and of course, you will all want to see his medals and he will be blowing out our the candles on our celebration cake!

It was 30 years ago in the same week in October 1990, the 29th to be exact, that this Club was formed. Barry Rogers was elected Chairman and David Haley (Chairman of the Parish Council) was elected Secretary. Some of the early speakers included Tony Broom, our local amateur archaeologist talking about local archaeology followed by Chris Walker talking about his local Farming Family.

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## Christmas at Denshams 2021

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Tues 21st Dec	7.00am - 5.00pm	Tue 28th Dec	CLOSED
Wed 22nd Dec	7.00am - 5.00pm	Wed 29th Dec	7.00am - 5.00pm
Thurs 23rd Dec	6.00am - 6.30pm	Thur 30th Dec	7.00am - 5.00pm
Fri 24th Dec	6.00am - 6.30pm	Fri 31st Dec	7.00 am - 2.00pm
Sat 25th Dec	CLOSED	Sat 1st Jan	CLOSED
Sun 26th Dec	CLOSED	Sun 2nd Jan	CLOSED

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### Alternatively why not try:

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 Geese  
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 Free Range Blythburgh  
 Pork  
 Locally sourced Lamb

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### **Beers and wines**

Did you know we also stock the full range of Wychwood Brewery beers and some lovely wines? Just ask if you would like something added to your order.

### **Hampers**

Stuck for a gift for neighbours, friends or family? Someone you would like to thank for their help this year with a treat? Our bespoke hampers, made with all our products make a great gift! Our creative team will make your hamper to order, delivered in time for Christmas with a hand-written card with a message of your choice. You set the amount you would like to spend and you can choose from all our meats and cheeses and chutneys as well as beers and wine or even a drop of fizz. Alternatively we can put together a selection for you.

### **Saving for Christmas**

Why not spread the cost of Christmas? We've been offering a Christmas Savers Club for over 30 years, but we realise many of our newer customers may not know that! Some savers just put in £1 a week, while other customers pop a few pounds on whenever they come in to the shop - that way they know Christmas is covered. Its not too late to start off this year! If you start at the beginning of October and put £5.00 a week in your Christmas bird will be paid for!

Pull out these pages and keep our number handy.....its not long to go now!

### **Thank you**

And finally ....Clint, Abi and all the Denshams staff would like to thank you all for your support this year, it is very much appreciated, and we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### **Village Myths and Legends - Fact or Fiction**

Did you know that the National Trust has the original oak chest that the Lovell Bride climbed into on her Wedding Night? The chest is at Grey's Court, near Henley and I have asked for it back to be displayed in St Kenelm's Church for all to see.

For more information refer to "Stories of Minster Lovell" by Graham Kew



# *The White Hart Minster Lovell 01993 778629*

We look forward to welcoming you to the White Hart.  
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