



# From the **Horse's Mouth**

**The  
Horspath  
Magazine**

April  
May  
2024

Max Eason  
1947 - 2024

**Issue No. 9**



Fortnightly  
Wednesdays  
9-11am



**Chatter & Clatter  
meets in St Giles'  
Church every two  
weeks from 9 - 11.**

For the under 5's and their carers, it's a time for children to play together, while for adults it's time to catch up with news, socialise and have coffee and cake.

**ALL Wednesdays**

**Dates after Easter are:**

**17th April  
1st May  
15th May  
5th June  
19th June  
3rd July**

**C  
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CLATTER  
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R**

Maureen makes us all feel so welcome, it's a very friendly atmosphere. **Kelly**

My daughter is very happy here. It's a friendly group with brilliant snacks and drinks supplied by Maureen,. I would highly recommend. **Emily**

Maureen knows all the children's names and makes the effort to talk to all the adults too. We talk all about the community too. **Sophie**

Lyra loves coming here and playing with her friends. She reminded me on the way about cakes today! **Louise**



**FREE**



## Message from the Editor

We have had some very good feedback from the last magazine which spurs our team on to keep up the high standard we have maintained. It's all up to the quality of articles within it, which in turn is entirely up to all those who contribute. Our small amount of advertising and sponsorship together with a grant from The Stone Pit Trust, means we can continue to print more pages. John

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

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### **Max Eason 2047 - 2024**

It is with great sadness that the Cricket Club announces the death of Max Eason. Max passed away suddenly on Saturday 2 nd , aged 76 in the village of Brill, where he lived. Max had an association with the Club spanning nearly 60 years; he was a player, 1st and 2nd XI captain, chairman, secretary, fixture secretary, welfare officer, groundsman, youth cricket manager and bar manager. He lived and breathed Horspath cricket. He joined the club in the 1960s and was a key player in the Horspath side during its golden era in the 1970s and early 1980s. He went on to captain the 2 nd X1 in the 1990s when he focussed very much on integrating young players into senior cricket. Many junior players and their parents from Horspath would have known Max from his coaching and running youth cricket matches. He was also an almost permanent fixture working on the Recreation Ground or he was behind the bar where he was always happy to enjoy a drink with any villagers who popped in. Off the field, there wasn't an area of the club he wasn't involved in and there was no-one happier than Max when Horspath ended a 42-year wait to once again be crowned Oxfordshire Area champions in the Village Cup in 2021. He was a leading light in the development of the club's facilities and after a major redevelopment, the clubroom was named in his honour. In 2018, Max received a Coach of the Year; award from Graham Thorpe, the former England batsman during a one-day international at the Kia Oval. The award recognised exceptional work and contribution within the local community of coaching at a grassroots level. Only last September his work at Horspath was recognised again, by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board with a lifetime achiever award made to an individual who has given many years of service to their club or community group. A hugely generous character, Max embodied the friendly nature of the club and its social spirit, always giving visitors the warmest of welcomes. Some people are irreplaceable - Max was one of those people. His passing leaves a massive void at Horspath, but he also leaves a massive legacy.

**Farewell to Horspath's commander-in-chief.**



## Horspath's Postie

Sally, our very own Postie, has lived nearby for over thirty years. She began her working life as part of 'Care in the Community' team for 20 years covering Horspath and Wheatley and then worked for Yodel for six years before joining the Post Office. Sally works from Monday to Saturday starting each day at 7am in the Sorting Office. All the post needs sorting into 'frames' ready to be delivered.

Parcels are brought through on a large trolley called a 'York', and together they sort these into areas as well. They need scanning so that delivery can be monitored. Her round in Horspath does not include Gidley Way or Horspath Park, so at about 8.45am she begins to deliver. By about 2pm she arrives back at Wheatley Post Office. Sally is a very cheerful, caring person who enjoys her job which includes meeting many people who she then gets to know. Most of her spare time is taken up with her three young grandchildren or watching Arsenal!

JPU

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**The POST Office in the Horspath Hub is open on**

**Fridays from 10am to 1pm**

**Royal Mail are increasing the cost of postage stamps  
from 1st April 2024**

<b>1st Class Stamp</b>	<b>£1.35</b>	<b>(from £1.25)</b>
<b>2nd Class Stamp</b>	<b>.85p</b>	<b>(from 75p)</b>
<b>Stamps for abroad</b>	<b>£2.50</b>	<b>(from £2.20)</b>



## **We are a Village of Volunteers**

Volunteering, and doing the right thing by our fellows, is at the heart of the British National Identity. During the pandemic, The New York Times ran a headline, “To fight Coronavirus, UK asked for some volunteers. It got an Army and felt immense pride.” The government appealed for 250,000 people to help the National Health Service and got 750,000 willing people, ready to fight for their country not with arms but with kindness. **Village life in Horspath** depends greatly on this volunteering spirit and what better example is there than the success of The Horspath Hub. Over ten years ago, when the Methodist Church wanted to sell their building, a group of Horspath villagers decided to fundraise and borrow money to buy it. Ten years on, it is a thriving centre, but only because there is a small army of volunteers to ensure its success. A visit to the Coffee morning on any Friday morning shows the community spirit in action. Neil, our local taxi driver and total star, collects older residents so that they can enjoy a social morning; ladies (and very occasionally gentlemen) make cakes and serve tea and coffee, people put out the chairs and put them away whilst others drift about making conversation. **All activities at The Hub** are made possible by the hard-working Trustees who run the timetable, open and close the building, clean the floors and think up new ideas for fundraising. Somehow, they find time to fit this in alongside their daily lives. It is said that if you want something done, ask a busy person! They are always on the look-out for “new blood” so when I arrived in Horspath in 2021 as a newbie (and I’m told that I will still be “new” after 10 years), I clearly had volunteer written across my forehead and my skills were quickly seized upon – cake making, flower arranging and the rest. A sure way of making new friends and becoming part of village life. **There are many ways in which one can volunteer in the village.** For example, a new family came to St Giles’ Church one Sunday last year and it didn’t take very long to find out that Shalom played piano. He was quickly recruited to play the hymns at our services which has greatly enhanced everyone’s enjoyment. The Church wardens and the PCC work very hard to include children in Church activities running Chatter and Clatter, Sunday Fun-time at The Hub and Family Time services. These children are our volunteers of the future! **There are an astounding number of opportunities** and activities in Horspath and so many rely on volunteers to keep them going. To name a few –The Scarecrow Festival, The Nature Reserve, The Village Hall, The Park Run, The Allotments, The Litter Pick and, of course, The Parish Council and The Stone Pit Charity Trustees. This magazine is also written and edited by people giving their time for free. **A VERY BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who helps in every small way and if you aren’t volunteering already there’s a wealth of opportunity !!

**Sue Rowell**

**Art Matters** is a group that meets in the Hub once a fortnight on a Tuesday from 1pm - 2pm. It is aimed at young adults with moderate learning needs who have the opportunity to work in a small group having fun with art. They use a range of materials including paper, felt tips, paints, pastels and wood. While having fun they create cards, gifts and craft items that show real imagination. It is free to join, thanks to the generosity



of the Hub Trustees. So why not drop by one day, socialize while making things and bring your carer with you. To find out the dates or more info, please email: [sculptureforyou@gmail.com](mailto:sculptureforyou@gmail.com) We'd love you to join our group! Thanks John

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## **PILATES**



We are the early morning Pilates group, on Wednesdays from 8:15 to 9:15. I am continually amazed that everyone shows up, even before 8:15, ready to go. We have a wonderful teacher. Keilee brings different sorts of

equipment every week. There are never two Wednesday mornings exactly the same. She keeps us on our toes, literally. It's a super way to wake up and begin a new day. Sally

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**ABC Gas & Plumbing Ltd.** are proud to sponsor the Horspath Magazine.

We are a local Gas Safe and plumbing engineering company based in Garsington. Please contact us for a free quote:

Aaron - 07894466025 or Lucy - 07849116805

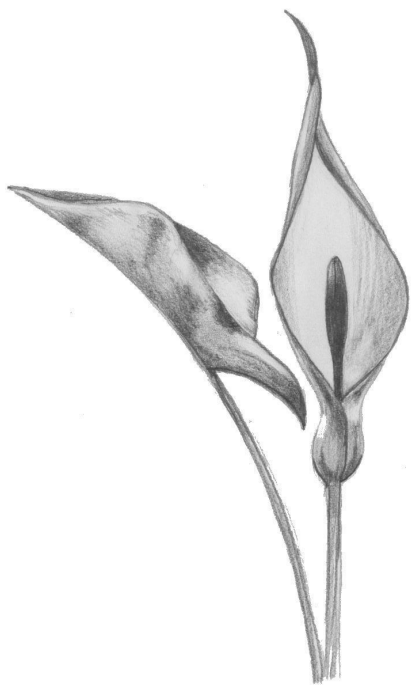
[abcgasandpm@gmail.com](mailto:abcgasandpm@gmail.com)

Based at 40 Elm Drive, Garsington, Oxford, OX44 9AQ

We are lucky to live close to Shotover County Park, where the seasons reward us with an ever-changing spectacle of sights and sounds. In April and May, the lengthening days bring light to the woodland floor.

Wildflowers respond, brightening the borders of Shotover's tracks and paths. Before the advent of the motor car, Horspath residents walked this network of paths a lot, and were familiar with all its wild flowers.

If you're walking on Shotover this spring, look out for: **Lords and Ladies**



**What to look for:** The magnificent creamy lily flower, called a “spath” wraps round a dusky purple sheath called a “spadix”. The leaves are arrowhead-shaped and shiny, sometimes with black blotches.

**Did you know?** The mildly toxic flower has been associated with fertility (as an aphrodisiac) but also ill health (as something that strikes dumb those who taste it). It has over 100 regional names including Devil's Angel, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Cuckoo Pint, Adder's Meat, Adam and Eve, Willy Lilly, Fairy Lamps, Shiners

**Where to look:** in hedgerows and woodland under the shady trees of Shotover and Brasenose Wood.

Compiled by Shotover Wildlife, an independent community organisation, founded to research and communicate the importance of Shotover's wildlife. Illustrated by **Jacqueline Wright**, artist, botanist and co-founder of Shotover Wildlife

## From the Vicar

**Dear Friends,** I'd like to begin by wishing you a very Happy Easter. I hope that you enjoy the long Bank Holiday weekend, and that children, teachers and other staff enjoy the school holidays. The build-up to Easter, and Easter itself, is one of my favourite times of the church year. At Easter, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection – his rising from the tomb – which gives us hope that, for us too, death will not be the end. Hope that we, too, will share in Jesus' resurrection, and will enjoy life after death. For many of us, that means a heavenly home, where we will enjoy eternal, abundant life, with Jesus and, perhaps, reunited with our loved ones – with husbands, wives, partners, children, parents, grandparents, neighbours, friends. One of the most quoted verses from the Bible is found in John's Gospel, Chapter 3, verse 16, 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.' In school, recently, I was asked, "Why didn't God save Jesus from the cross?" I replied that I don't know for certain, but maybe Jesus had to die on the cross, so that we would know just how much God loves us. Christians believe that Jesus' death and resurrection saves us from sin and death, and restores our relationship with the God who loves us so much that he suffered, and died, and rose again, for us. For me, being a Christian – being a follower or disciple of Jesus – is about being loved unconditionally by a God who made me in God's image, for relationship, and for joy, and for abundant life, in this world and the next. It is about a love that will not let me go. A God who searches for me and finds me when I am lost, or when I wander from the right path. During Lent, I have been reading the daily 'Come and See' reflections written by Bishop Steven Croft, our Diocesan Bishop, encouraging us to "walk the way of love." Each day, we reflect on the greatest commandment: **"... You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." ... "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."** There is no other commandment greater than these.' *Mark 28-31 (NRSVA)* These daily reflections, on love, tie in very well with St Giles' Church vision, "To know God's love and share it with everyone." Our hope is that everyone who lives, works, or attends school in Horspath will have the opportunity to hear the good news, and to discover for themselves, that God loves them, unconditionally, just as they are. We were delighted to see so many children and families in church on Mothering Sunday, just a few weeks' ago, as we gave thanks for all who "mother" or care for us. Our 'Chatter and Clatter' pre-school group and 'Sunday Fun Time,' are also growing. Our intention has always been that our children's worship, and children's groups, should be free of charge, reflecting the generosity of the God who loves the world so much that he gave his only Son. However, St Giles' Church will soon have some very difficult decisions to make regarding our income and expenditure, and how we can fund our work with children, young people and families, while still paying other essential costs. If you would like to help fund our work with children and young people, or other work, please speak to a churchwarden or myself. **Thank you. God Bless, Happy Easter The Revd Karen**





## Services at St Giles' Church April and May 2024

### 31st March **Easter Day**

11am All-age Parish Communion and Easter Egg Hunt

### 7th April **The Second Sunday of Easter**

10am Benefice Service in St Mary's Garsington  
(No service at St Giles' Church)

11am Sunday Fun Time at The Horspath Hub

### 14th April **The Third Sunday of Easter**

11am Parish Communion

### 21st April **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

11.15am Family Time (refreshments served from 11am)

### 28th April **The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Parish Communion

### 5th May **The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

11am Morning Worship

11am Sunday Fun Time in the Horspath Hub

### 9th May **Ascension Day**

Benefice Eucharist To be confirmed

### 12th May **The Seventh Sunday of Easter / Sunday after Ascension**

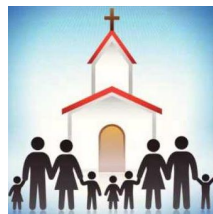
11am Parish Communion, followed by APCM

### 19th May **Pentecost**

11.15am Family Time (Refreshments served from 11am)

### 26th May **Trinity Sunday**

11am Parish Communion



## **SLADE CAMP – YET MORE WARTIME HORSPATH !**

Many Horspath people enjoy walking around Brasenose Wood, a short distance by footpath across the fields to the west of our village - and then discovering mysterious tarmac roads and long-forgotten bases of strange buildings.... they are back in WW2 Britain ! The wartime military camp known as Slade Camp was established in 1938-9 and opened in March 1940 for use by the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry. The lands known as Wood Farm and Open Magdalen were leased by Richard Pether (William Morris's grandfather) from Magdalen College, and this land was sold to Lord Nuffield for £26,000 in 1934. The parish boundaries at that time meant that over 50% of the entire camp was within the parish of Horspath. The aerial photograph below well illustrates the L-shaped layout of the camp. With the growing prospect of war in the late 1930s the expanding Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry required additional facilities to their Barracks on Hollow Way, and land was made available for the construction of a large hutted camp, firing range and training area. (It might be that Lord Nuffield gave this land for that purpose- he was known for his connections with Lord Beaverbrook in the context of offering the Morris factory for aircraft repair work and Tiger Moth production long before war broke out). Once the huts, garages, workshops, roads and other infrastructure were established, the camp was opened in March 1940, as No.15 Infantry Training Unit, and early on some 1,500 soldiers were in occupation. The Ox & Bucks initially occupied the camp, and it was used throughout the war by other military organisations such as the A.T.S., R.A.M.C. and Home Guard, but with victory on the horizon in 1945, the government turned its attention to the coming problem of discharging thousands of military personnel once peace had been won. Towards the end of the war, with peace at last a reality, the camp was turned over for the enormous task of demobilising thousands of troops returning to the U.K. from abroad. Redesignated No. 2 Military Disembarkation Camp Unit (one of six such camps), all Southern Command soldiers began to arrive at Slade Camp to prepare for leaving the armed forces and returning to civilian life. This involved being given a grant of money, shirts, underclothes, a raincoat and hat, shoes – and the famous “demob” suit! Thus equipped, after about three days all moved on to No.6 Military Dispersal Unit at Taunton and then to civilian

life. But this was by no means the end for Slade Camp, and it quickly assumed a completely different function in early postwar Britain – ready-made, if albeit temporary, housing. Camps like this were used everywhere to house the thousands who had been displaced, evacuated or simply bombed out, until the planned council house building and estate programmes were begun in the 1950s. The many huts lining the roads – such as First Avenue & Fourth Avenue, were converted to family housing, and many of those who lived there in the rural peace surrounded by Brasenose and Magdalen Woods described it as “the best time of their lives”! The first family moved in in November, 1948, and Slade Camp was thus occupied until the demolition of the huts began from 1961; but with the construction of the Eastern Bypass in 1959, which sliced the camp in two, families began to leave for the new estates such as nearby Blackbird Leys; but the very last to go were actually around 1970. The Kelly’s Directory for 1969 listed no less than 80 families still in residence.... It is still possible to walk around the eastern half of the camp using the wartime roads which were laid down, and in many places can be seen the brick and concrete foundations of several buildings, but much of what was the open area below is now covered by undergrowth, bushes and trees. At the eastern end of The Ridings there survives a crude wartime “Norcon” pillbox, a cross-section cut from a concrete sewer pipe and furnished with rifle holes..... but on the opposite Wood Farm side of the bypass, nearly all the site has been covered by new building, and just a very few of the original wartime buildings remain occupied. Just another feature of Horspath’s varied contributions to victory !!



Showing how the bypass  
cuts diagonally across the site

## **Gunner West**



In early February this year I had the privilege to chat to John West (who lives in Blenheim Way), about his naval career. At the time of writing John is 97, but he remembers events, names and ships he served on since he left school at 14 as if they were yesterday. He went first to Liverpool in 1940 and then to North Wales to train as a leading boy seaman. When he then applied to join the navy he failed the medical due to an eye problem so instead he joined the Merchant Navy at 15 as a deck boy. Aboard the SS Demosthenes he found himself travelling as

far away as South America and Canada, to the West Indies and New York. But convoy duties got progressively dangerous as one by one the other ships were torpedoed by German U-boats, and lost at sea. Each subsequent convey saw more and more ships go down, he wondered if his ship would be next. At 16 he tried to join the Royal Navy again, and this time he was successful, ending up after lots more training on board HMS Glendour. At Chatham, now as a Boy Seaman he was issued with a 'foreign draft chit', so he was soon off to Malta and Gibraltar.

In 1943 Gunner West was serving on board HMS Tumult East of the Azores. Being chased by a German U-boat, John and his ship mates began dropping depth charges before the U-boat had a chance to torpedo them. This went on for quite a while until finally after dropping more than 30 depth charges they hit the sub and it sank with its captain remaining on board.

On the 12th January 1945, his ship HMS Regulus, hit a mine and sank quite quickly. As the Petty Officer and John walked together along the deck he said "we better go for a walk John" and with that they found themselves in the Mediterranean sea . Luckily he was picked up and returned to Corfu. After 'leave' and requesting to go back to sea, he went by train to Lebanon to the naval HQ, and back to Malta where he joined HMS Cardigan Bay and then

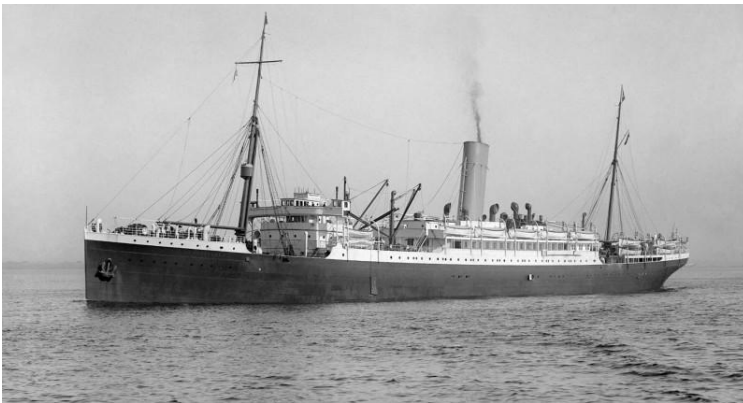


HMS Brigand. Finally to Chatham and to HMS Cochrane where he became the Captain's Driver.

In Portsmouth in 1947 aged just 21, he was de-mobbed, and as such was given £36 18s 3d and a suit! He then worked with his father who owned a Butcher's Shop and later took over the business finally with his own butcher's shop in Horspath.

In November 2023, John received a personal letter from the Mayor of Mont-Royal. Referring to John as "one of our unsung and now highly honoured heroes." He went on to say: ".... I would like to officially acknowledge and thank you for your courageous and unselfish service on behalf of the free world and humanity."

**His medals include:** The Atlantic Star, The Italian Star, the 1939-45 medal, The Victory Medal, the Burma Star and the French Companion of Honour.



John's very first  
ship  
**SS Demosthenes**  
As a Deck Boy  
aged 15

**HMS Regulus**  
which sank with John  
on board aged 19  
12th January 1945



## **Mona Burgess (23-7-25 - 26-12-23)**

Before living in her beautiful bungalow on Blenheim Way, Mona and her husband John had lived in Horspath many years before (1960s) on Blenheim Road. I remember this, as I often left primary school in the afternoon with instructions on where to find my Mum- who was inevitably having tea at a special person's house. I say special person, but this should say special people, as I recall not only visiting Mona's house but also the Pickford, Mullins, Newman and Walker residences for tea and of course cake! This would always be a highlight of my week as I was included in a "grown-up" conversation!! In 1964 John's job was moved to London and Mona and John moved away to the Reading area for many years before returning in their retirement to Horspath. The social life resumed, and they were to be seen at the Coach and Horses certainly once a month for lunch with the crowd, which now also included Dr Lettice Bowen. This would be followed by tea at someone's house to put the world to rights!! Mona was always appreciated for her quiet charm, wit, and thoughtfulness. Her wisdom and wise counsel were also valued by her many friends. I too came to realise this as gradually the numbers in this most wonderful group of friends started to dwindle. Latterly, my Dad, John Llewelyn and Mona were the only two left and I know that whilst she was always so grateful to her family and friends for their love and support of her in her own home, she did really miss the company of her peer group. I was fortunate to enjoy a coffee and a long chat with her at the end of November 2023, where she talked at length about her very happy childhood near Caversham, where her love and fascination with flowers and the natural world started. This love of her garden and wildlife in general, was to be her lifelong passion, her horticultural knowledge was astonishing. Mona was a lady in the truest sense of the word, I admired her and I will miss her friendship; her wise words and life advice were always highly valued. At 98 years of age, she was finding life in her bungalow difficult but leaving her garden was always going to be a challenge. Mona moved to family in Wales for a while in early December and died peacefully at home at Christmas after a happy and fulfilled life.

Rest in peace Mona, with all the other very special Horspath folk who have gone before you.

Catherine Tebb (Llewelyn)



**During terms 3 & 4** the children enjoyed taking part in our Zoolab experience, learning about exotic animals and the Chinese New Year. We also enjoyed exploring Giant Snails, Morio worms and Locusts.

We dressed up as traditional tale characters for World Book Day.

**During term 4** we will be starting the chick hatching programme with chicks rather than ducklings as well as hosting Parents Evening and Moving On Up Sessions for parents of children that are due to start school in September.

**During terms 4 & 5** we will be looking at Science, Bugs/Insects, Story Telling, Colours, Spring, At the Farm, Road Safety and Shapes.

Our fundraising event for term 4 is a sponsored bike/trike ride. We will be at the Horspath Hub for their Spring Market on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024.



Horspath Nursery, Blenheim  
Road, Horspath,  
Oxford, OX33 1RY  
**Tel: 01865 876750**  
**[staff@horspathnursery.org.uk](mailto:staff@horspathnursery.org.uk)**

## Special Award

Recently Vipin received a '**Spirit of the Community Award**' alongside other brave Post Masters. Working very hard all his life, and now running our shop, he has shown great perseverance and continues to make a real difference to the lives of all those in our community with the shop playing a central role.

Thank you very much Vipin & Jayshree Patel

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## Walking with Wombats



Congratulations goes to Ross Gurden (22) of Spring Lane, who was commissioned by the BBC Wildlife Magazine to write an article about his visit to the small island of Maria off Tasmania. It was published in the April edition and forms 7 pages of information and photographs about his adventure there. Ross is a zookeeper at Berkshire College of Agriculture. See more of his work: @rossgurdenphotography

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## Late Spring Market at The Horspath Hub

Saturday 8th June 2024

10am - 12.30pm

Applications for a stall at the  
market welcomed

Please contact

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

Garage	873349
Gurkha Palace	634534
Horspath nursery	876750
Horspath school	872702
Hub	07951933964
Prospect - Bob	07786115516
Queen's Head	875567
Sheps Cycle Shack	876771
St Giles'	07856456363
Sunnyhill Vineyard	361535
Tap Room	604620
Village Hall	07939410762
Village Shop	872903

(The prefix for Horspath is 01865)



## Horspath Parish Council

**HPC** has accepted a quotation to carry out repairs to the brickwork on the pillars of the bus shelter on the Village Green. Quotations are also being sought to install a new bus shelter by the bus stop by the bridge. The footpath from Manor Farm Road to the Church has now been tarmacked. **HPC** would like to remind dog owners that it is an offence to not clear up after your dog and it can lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued. If you see a dog owner allowing their dog to foul and not picking it up please report this to South Oxfordshire District Council who will commence an investigation. Please include the following information: date and time of the incident, location, description of the owner, description of the dog, name & address of the person in charge of the dog. Urgent tree work has recently been carried out in the Wildlife Conservation Area. **HPC** would like to thank Mr Bob Hamlet for his work in the Conservation Area creating a walkway through. Maintenance on the trees on the Village Green will be carried out during March 2024. **HPC** would also like to thank Mrs Bennett and family for putting up the Christmas tree. Representatives from **HPC** attended the Northfield Stakeholders Forum to discuss the planning application for houses from Unipart all the way up to Garsington. The application will be for 1800 houses, some of which will be owned by Brasenose College and some owned by Oxfordshire County Council. More information is expected to be available in March 2024. **HPC** are looking to move forward with a new Village Hall for the village. A questionnaire will be produced in the near future and circulated to all households for views on what residents would like to see included in a new Village Hall. **HPC** has received a request from a resident to relocate the Fun Fair held in September. Councillors agreed that this will be an Agenda item at the APM in April 2024 to seek the views of other residents. For the safety of pedestrians, **HPC** would like to remind home owners to ensure that all trees/bushes on their property are cut back if they are encroaching a public footpath. **HPC** is still looking for volunteers to assist with maintenance and repair work required in the Conservation Area. Please see the website for details and contact the Clerk if you are able to assist. Horspath Parish Council currently has two vacancies for Parish Councillors. Applications should be sent to the Clerk, Mrs Hayley Kogel.

If any resident wishes to raise issues with Horspath village please contact Hayley Kogel Clerk to **HPC** @ [clerk@horspathparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@horspathparishcouncil.org)

## **Report from Horspath Parish Council**

There have been a few comments relating to the Parish Council on social media platforms of late some of which contained criticisms and unhelpful accusations. In one case the clerk to the Council and the chairman received written representations making unfounded allegations. It may be helpful to the residents of the village to receive some clarification as to the operating procedures of the Council. The members of the Council are elected on a regular basis by the residents of the village on the electoral register. The names and addresses of those seeking election or re-election are published on the two notice boards situated outside the village store and the bus shelter at the top of Gidley Way prior to the elections. The Councillors are unpaid and must declare any conflicts of interest at each council meeting. They must also recuse themselves from any discussions where a conflict of interest has been declared. Individual members of the Council also devote a considerable amount of time contributing to the overall well-being of the village and its inhabitants on an unpaid basis. Contrary to some local opinion, no member of the current Council has submitted any planning application to South Oxfordshire District Council whilst in situ as a Councillor. The Council meets at least once a month, normally on the first Tuesday, in the Village Hall. Any member of the public may attend and may speak at the end of the meeting. The Agenda for each meeting is published prior to the meeting as are the minutes of every meeting following its conclusion. The members of the Parish Council are also the Trustees of the Horspath Stone Pit Charity. The Trustees usually meet once a quarter and as with meetings of the Parish Council the Agendas and Minutes are published. Any member of the public may attend and make representations. The accounts of the Trust are scrutinised by an independent firm of accountants and freely available on the web site of the Charity Commission. There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council and have been available for some time. If you believe you can offer something to the work of the Parish Council and are willing to sacrifice the time and

effort required, why not apply to the Clerk whose details are available on the website. <https://horspathparishcouncil.org>

**Horspath Stone Pit Charity**

Organisations and individuals may use the website application form to apply for a grant from **HSPC**. The closing date for applications to be considered at the next meeting in June 2024 is 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

The feedback received on the meal voucher scheme for elderly residents in the village is excellent and is still proving to be popular. Vouchers can be obtained from Mrs Beverley Oakley, Chair of **HPC** and **HSPC**.

In November 2023, Trustees agreed to invest £700,000 into a Treasury Account for six months. This will mature in May 2024 and will earn 3.24% interest. Trustees also agreed to transfer £135,000 into an instant access account which will earn a small interest.

The next Horspath Stone Pit Charity meeting will take place Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at 7.30pm at Horspath Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend.

**HSPC Grants paid out in December 2023**

Individual Grants	
School Uniform Grants	£255.00
Swimming Lesson Grants	£400.00
Residential School Trip	£200.00
Organisation Grants	
Senior Citizens Meal Voucher Grant	£5,000.00
Horspath Senior Residents Club	£3996.00
Horspath Hub Creative Club	£300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,151.00</b>

## **Busby Bakes 07769221674**

My name is Cara Busby and I am the owner of Busby Bakes. We specialise in Wedding Cakes, Celebration Cakes, Cupcakes and our famous signature brownies. We believe that every occasion should be perfect which is why all our love & attention goes into every bake. We can offer a delivery service in Oxfordshire with free local delivery covering a radius of 5 miles. [busbybakes@yahoo.com](mailto:busbybakes@yahoo.com)

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### **Job opportunity in Horspath**

Join our friendly enthusiastic team supporting a young man with learning disabilities, moving to his own home soon so we need to increase our team.

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If you or someone you know might be interested or curious please call:

Tina on 07484274916

or email Nick at [NickJP@workmail.com](mailto:NickJP@workmail.com)

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**Morland House Surgery,  
Morland Close, Wheatley  
OX33 1DP**

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm  
Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends) 8am to  
10.30am, for **prebooked** consultations only

Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak  
to one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by  
phoning 111

The NHS launched the **Pharmacy First Service (PFS)** on 31<sup>st</sup> January (see [NHS Pharmacy First Service \(PFS\) | NHSBSA](#) ) Appointments can be booked directly with participating pharmacies for the treatment of 7 common health conditions namely sinusitis, sore throat, earache, infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles, uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

Pharmacists can offer advice to patients and supply NHS medicines where clinically appropriate. This will help reduce the pressure on Morland House Surgery. As an example, appointments with Wheatley Pharmacy can be booked (often the same day) by phoning 01865 874047  
or via the website [www.wheatleypharmacy.com/book](http://www.wheatleypharmacy.com/book)

**Group Consultation Clinics** – We are excited to offer group clinics for certain health conditions, currently menopause and diabetes. The benefits are many including a more thorough examination of your condition, having your questions answered, sharing issues with others going through the same issues, and spending longer with a GP. For a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment, please visit  
[www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk)

Also on the website are details of the new rules relating to accessing your medical records - see <https://tinyurl.com/3879mz6p>

# Roads in Horspath (Have we missed any?)

B	X	Y	E	L	D	I	G	A	D	E	B	J	N	I	N	A	F	U	J
U	N	E	E	F	E	O	Q	C	K	C	C	B	V	Y	H	B	V	L	O
C	J	H	O	H	Z	T	M	Y	F	U	A	G	L	T	D	A	R	R	O
N	O	D	S	E	D	D	U	C	O	Y	M	K	A	E	S	N	J	I	Y
L	S	T	R	J	T	C	E	P	S	O	R	P	V	G	N	X	A	V	B
Y	K	G	B	U	T	T	S	W	E	W	S	W	Q	G	O	H	Y	S	F
E	A	T	S	Y	S	F	A	R	M	R	A	F	F	X	Z	K	E	O	G
L	O	H	O	L	N	T	Z	A	O	G	E	Y	F	G	R	J	R	I	Q
E	N	F	K	C	E	N	F	H	O	G	N	O	V	C	U	D	H	N	M
T	D	F	D	R	P	M	U	X	S	E	R	G	O	H	S	N	E	Z	S
A	I	V	O	X	Q	O	H	S	G	D	M	P	A	F	D	E	I	S	X
G	L	H	C	R	U	H	C	E	S	B	Z	B	G	Y	R	V	S	P	A
S	C	X	D	H	I	L	L	P	F	J	U	W	S	G	O	L	F	J	F
R	G	Z	O	A	B	L	R	I	L	G	H	T	Z	U	J	B	R	L	U
M	I	U	M	T	O	I	Y	B	X	Y	E	L	L	A	V	E	M	M	R
U	W	Z	R	C	N	I	K	D	C	E	N	T	R	E	K	L	N	D	P
M	W	R	I	G	H	T	S	O	N	L	M	A	N	O	R	Y	A	H	K
M	E	A	Y	U	Z	L	C	S	E	V	O	K	V	T	K	O	N	N	S
G	W	J	J	U	N	C	Z	Z	S	D	G	S	Q	Z	R	A	V	R	E
D	R	I	V	E	A	C	B	G	L	R	I	S	E	Z	K	R	A	P	M

BAYSWATER  
 BUTTS  
 CLOSE  
 CUDDSDON  
 FORDS  
 GREEN  
 LANE  
 PARK  
 ROAD  
 SUNNY  
 WRIGHTSON

BLENHEIM  
 CENTRE  
 COLLEGE  
 DRIVE  
 GATELEY  
 HILL  
 MANOR  
 PROSPECT  
 SANDY  
 VALLEY

BUTLER  
 CHURCH  
 COPCOT  
 FARM  
 GIDLEY  
 HORSPATH  
 OXFORD  
 RISE  
 SPRING  
 WAY



## FULL STEAM AHEAD at Horspath Primary School



At the beginning of February, children in Beech and Lime Classes visited STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway (GWR) in Swindon - to support their learning about Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Here are some of the pupils in front of a replica of North Star. The original locomotive, built by Robert Stephenson and Company, made its first journey for GWR in 1837 from Paddington Station in London to Maidenhead.

#####

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