The future shape of the Wolvercote ward is in your hands.

This affects YOU, YOUR CHILDREN & FUTURE GENERATIONS………read on!

HOORAY — after nearly 2 years of work by the Steering Group, the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Forum has now been recognized by Oxford City Council. Volunteer representatives from all parts of the Ward have been working to achieve this.

What does this mean?
The Forum is a legally recognized body, with powers to help shape your local area in relation to planning issues, according to your needs and wishes.

What does the Forum do?
The Forum exists to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan after consulting both those who live and those who work in the Ward.

What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)?
In 2011 the Localism Act was passed to give power to local communities to influence development in their area by constructing a Neighbourhood Development Plan enabling grass-roots ideas to be fed into planning policies. The Plan has to be approved by a referendum. This should take place as soon as possible within the next two years.

What does it do?
What happens now is that planning applications are judged against what it says – provided it does not contradict Council policies. The NDP will add important detail about what we would like to see around us in the Ward.

What has the Forum done so far?
Local public meetings and workshops have helped us to gather your views. Future discussions are to be encouraged so that by the time the Referendum is held we hope the NDP will reflect your desires so that you will be able to vote for it.

- The Steering Group has been in dialogue with City/County Council representatives, and other interested parties, to encourage them to take local views into consideration; in particular, in relation to proposed developments: Northern Gateway, Elsfield Hall, Chiltern Railway plans, Wolvercote Paper Mill, and especially transport, flooding and pollution.

- Members of the Steering Group encouraged the City and County Councils to organize joint public meetings, in the Oxford Hotel, about the Northern Gateway.

- Training sessions have been arranged for volunteers with CPRE and Planning Aid England.

- A Transport Report has been written as a draft for part of the NDP. It is part of the evidence base to support the Plan and has already been useful to inform our response to current developments in the area.

- The NDP requires evidence and needs to take on local views, at all stages – hence the time scale before the referendum can take place. Members of the Steering Group are busy researching and putting together parts of the plan.

In conclusion, this is an investment in all of our futures. It is important for everyone in the Ward.

Anyone interested in helping should contact: John Bleach, 47, Rosamund Road, Wolvercote, OX2 8NU or wolvercoteneighbourhoodforum@gmail.com

Please come to our first AGM at 7:30pm on Wednesday 15th October at Wolvercote Village Hall. Put it in your diaries!
A Miner’s Child Comes to Wolvercote
‘It’s a magic place’

At the time of the General Strike in May 1926 the Daily Herald, then a newspaper owned by the Trades Union Congress ran an appeal for the children of miners. One of the ways in which they suggested that people might help was by taking in a miner’s child for the duration of the strike.

Miners’ families were said to be suffering untold hardship and it was often the mothers who gave up their own food for their children. There was obviously a considerable amount of interest in more well-off parts of the country and homes were offered to those children. Brighton, for instance, took in 57 and Oxford 15.

One of the people who went to Oxford railway station, one day in the first week of August 1926 to pick up a miner’s child was Sylvia Saunders from Wolvercote. She described later how she found seven-year old ‘Topsy’ from Nottingham. She was called Topsy because of her dark curly hair.

Most of the children carried a parcel but Topsy did not have one and her only clothes were what she was wearing. She also wore a pair of her brother’s shoes with cardboard inside to make them the right size for her and nails in the soles.

Sylvia took Topsy into Oxford to buy some shoes and later made her a dress out of a white sheet, trimmed with red. Topsy soon settled in, became friends with Wolvercote children and went to school after the holidays. Topsy called Sylvia ‘Auntie’ and called her husband George, who was Station Master at Didcot, ‘Uncle’. Sylvia’s brother, Bob, was a train driver and when he came home at night he used to blow the whistle to let them know he was coming.

Instead of staying a few weeks Topsy stayed for seven years. She did go back home once to see her baby brother but soon returned to Wolvercote. Her daughter Ann tells me that her mother, Topsy, did not like girls but preferred her six sons. Topsy was baptised at Wolvercote Church on her eighth birthday. Her daughter Ann says that Sylvia was funny and kind and gave her mother a childhood she never regretted.

It was only when Topsy was 14 years old that she needed to return to Nottingham to start work that she left her Auntie and Uncle in Wolvercote. From 1936 they had been living at 29 Wolvercote Green, a house which looks much the same today.

Sylvia Saunders (known as Sylvia by her family) nee Ody, was born in 1888 and windowed in 1978, when she was still going strong. Her nephew Michael Collins, son of her sister Irene lives in Botley. I am indebted to Michael Stockford, who knew Sylvia and Topsy, for identifying some of the photographs which were recently sent to the Chairman of Wolvercote Local History Society by Ann. There is also a pile of letters which were written by Sylvia to Topsy when she was grown up and had children of her own.

Unfortunately, none of Topsy’s letters to Sylvia survive. However the Daily Herald did print some of those from whom they called the ‘the adopted bairns’. A girl who had stayed in a ‘beautiful home’in Wales, for instance, thanked the newspaper and explained that if she had not been sent there she would have been robbing her parents for food.

When Topsy was older she and the village Bobby were courting. One evening when they were together under the canal bridge a fire broke out and people who were on top of the bridge were looking for the policeman to report the fire.

Ann, Topsy’s daughter, tells me that Wolvercote is a magic place for all her family.

Ann Spokes Symonds

29 Wolvercote Green, March 2014
The 200/100 Club
Building on ambition

Aside from awarding lucky winners with cash prizes totally £300 each month, the St Peter’s 200 Club has contributed over £15,000 to the church’s Development Fund since it started over four years ago. The Club was just one of many local fund-raising projects which enabled the parish to achieve its remarkably ambitious aims to create St Peter’s Rooms, new facilities for the whole Wolvercote community. With these projects now essentially completed, we’ve re-launched the 200 Club as a 100 Club with a monthly top cash prize of £100 and four £25 prizes. Any cash surplus will go the St Peter’s Organ Appeal.

It’s a simple scheme. Members buy one or more monthly stakes at a cost of £5.00 per stake. Draws take place on the fourth Sunday of each month. The St Peter’s Organ Appeal Committee would like to invite you to take part, have a chance to win a monthly cash prize, and help us fund a new community project.

To join, further details and the application form can be found in the Development Fund section of St Peter’s website: www.stpeterswolvercote.org. Alternatively, write to Julia Goddard % The Parish Office, St Peter’s Church, Wolvercote, Oxford OX2 8AQ, email: juliegoddard@aol.com, or pick up a form from the back of St Peter’s church. The first 100 Club draw takes place in the new Parish Room after the 10.00am service on Sunday 22 June. Good luck! Val Tate

Pulling out the stops
with help from Verter Trio

Our parish church of St Peter’s has been transformed. St Peter’s Rooms now offer impressive community facilities. Redecoration, new furniture and (very soon) new lighting have made the church more beautiful and flexible for different services and events without compromising our cherished traditional atmosphere. We are grateful to everyone in the village for their support in making this possible.

So have we finished? Well … not quite! We had to remove our huge, elderly, dysfunctional organ to link St Peter’s Rooms with the church. Some of the pipework from the 1904 instrument will be recycled into the new organ. We have outline plans for a more modest new organ which will look wonderful and provide a versatile range of music – for worship, teaching and concerts.

Fundraising activities have already started. Read about the “100 Club” in the article above. A concert by the Verter Trio takes place in St Michael’s Church, Summertown on Saturday 26 July at 7.30pm. This dynamic trio combines individual virtuosity and flair with a passionate commitment to the beauty of chamber music, and features cellist Jiaxin Cheng, wife of recently retired Julian Lloyd-Weber.

Anna Steven, a nationally recognised floral artist, and cookery teacher Carrie O’Reagan, have together arranged a Flowers and Food event at Denman College, Marcham on Thursday 14 August 7.00pm. For further details, visit St Peter’s website (www.stpeterswolvercote.org), or contact Charlotte Fenton (01865 557326) or Val Tate (01865 559316).

Val Tate on behalf of the St Peter’s Organ Appeal Committee
What’s being introduced to the Fete?
Read on and find out …..

Firstly there will be a magnificent opportunity to see your teddy on a zip wire from up the church tower down to the bench in the corner of the graveyard closest to the shop.

If your cuddly toy is not a bear, but is the right size you can still bring it along, dressed up too if you like. This opportunity is open to all, Children and adults too, so mention it to your friends and invite them along.

The Bellringers are organising this unique opportunity, we hope everyone will come out with a cuddly toy to join in. Naturally there will be a Teddy Bears Picnic afterwards but it is for max 10 year old participants.

Secondly, we are planning a Great Vicarage “Bring and Share” Bake. We invite all children and bakers in the village to participate, entries should be brought to the Old School Room between 10am – 11am on Saturday 28 June.

Every entrant will get a certificate, all the baking will be available for everyone to purchase with teas in the afternoon, so download your application form from the Wolvercote.org website. It will be great to see how many scones and cakes we can produce for the benefit of everyone who attends the fete.

Thirdly, the Wolvercote Local History Society have invited John Leighfield to be at their table with his unique Russian Map of Wolvercote, if you missed his talk earlier in the year, this is your chance to see what the Russians knew about us as a village at the height of Communism in 1968. They prepared a detailed map of gas, electric and water services in Oxford and Wolvercote, what had they in mind?

Look forward to seeing you at St Peter’s Fete on Saturday 28 June? (2-4pm).

Charlotte Fenton

Is there satisfaction in Cutteslowe Park?

There is an on-going customer satisfaction survey where people can have a say by completing an on-line survey at www.oxford.gov.uk/consultation

Councillor Mark Lygo, Board Member for Parks, Sports and Event, says: “By taking a short amount of time to complete these surveys you can directly shape the future of your favourite areas.

“Your previous responses have led to £3.1m spent on improving play areas, new toilet facilities and £2.6m is currently being spent on new and improved sports pavilions.”

Surveys will be available until the end of December and the results will be used in future management plans, business plans and to support future grant applications. Go on have your say! Caroline Chanides
There is never a typical day for me, which on reflection is not a bad thing. I share my time between two music-based jobs - music has always been the theme of my life. The more sedentary job is acting as a personal assistant to a classical musician - an international conductor and harpsichordist. If I am dedicating a day to this then I will either be at home in Rosamund Road with my computer doing anything from emailing or phoning on his behalf, to updating his online diary, arranging travel plans, ordering copies of music or doing his accounts etc. - the list goes on and is always growing. Once a week I travel down to his house in London for personal meetings and to open and answer his post. The tasks here seem to defy rationalisation too – anything from one-time rat-catcher to IT specialist, both of which I'm no expert at!

The other side of my life revolves around early keyboard instruments – I provide harpsichords and early pianos for concerts, recordings and the like. As a harpsichord needs to be acclimatised and completely tuned before it is used I am usually the first to arrive at the rehearsal or concert venue. Given that rehearsals often start at 10am in London, I am generally loaded up and on the road by 6am so the alarm is often set for the time known in the music business as oh-Christ-hundred-hours! After a concert I will be home around midnight, so they tend to be long days. Once the rehearsal starts I often go off to tune a harpsichord for a client who might live nearby, if I can co-ordinate that, or do a bit of office work on the computer, or simply catch up on a bit of dozing after the short night - I seem to have a reputation for snoring along to the music!

Concert venues can be varied and needn't be in London – they range from Oxford (I love a local gig!) to anywhere in the UK, in buildings such as stately homes, cathedrals and concert halls. On occasion you'll find me driving a soloist's own instrument to places like Berlin, Rome or other European cities for recitals. My longest trip was to take a fortepiano for a concert tour in Japan (flying not driving!) but that's another story . . .

Coming back to home, on my occasional free Sundays you might find me helping out playing the organ at St Michael's Church in Summertown. I can't seem to get away from keyboard instruments!

Simon Neal


there have been schools in Wolvercote for nearly two hundred years. Various locations were used until in 1898 an infants’ school was officially opened by the Duchess of Marlborough; this school remains, albeit with significant additions to comprise the Primary School we have today—see aerial view below.

Over 250 pupils now attend Wolvercote Primary School. We have been oversubscribed for a number of years, not least due to more children living within our catchment area. As a result, we will be gradually expanding from the current 30 children per year group to 45 children per year. In September 2014, we will welcome the first larger cohort, all from our catchment area, to become our new Reception year group.

As part of the increase in numbers, we will be undertaking an expansion project to build a new Early Years Foundation Unit, new classrooms and improvements to our existing buildings. Architects have produced a design which will blend in well with the current school, which will be completed during the next academic year. You can see the plans on our school website www.wolvercote.oxon.sch.uk or in person at the school, as well as on the planning permission pages of the Oxfordshire website. A major initiative will take place to highlight sustainable methods of travel to school, which we hope will reduce traffic to and from school, despite an increase in numbers over the coming years. We are also very keen to minimise disruption for the local community during the building works, and look forward to maintaining the excellent relations we have.

Matthew Coatsworth, Headteacher
The Commoners’ AGM was buzzing with around 100 people

A summary of committee activity during the past year included:

- challenging the legality of grazing rights sold through St John's
- application for permissions to plant a row of willows by the railway fence on Wolvercote Common (permission from Secretary of State on its way)
- WCC is becoming a shareholder in the Low Carbon Hub which is working on the idea of hydro-electricity generation near Godstow Lock
- planting fruit trees, courtesy of the yoga group
- planting a sweet chestnut coppice; provision of a fire pit on Goose Green
- scything (instead of using machinery) of the triangle between the line ditch and the railway resulting in many more wild flowers and new orchids (Goatsbeard, and Twagblades and Bee orchids)
- ongoing maintenance of common land: clearing of ditches and undergrowth, willow pollarding, rushtopping, fence mending, cattle roundup etc. with continued Village Work days as well as welcome help from FarmAbility and Green Gym volunteers
- support for the Neighbourhood Forum in raising concerns over density of housing and traffic due to Northern Gateway and Mill Site developments
- feeding of a flood marooned cow and removal of a frisky colt from Port Meadow
- research around ownership of the commons: this has turned out to be so complex that we are not yet ready to make a recommendation either way

As to the future, attendees were divided up so that small discussions could take place on particular issues: the future of Goose Green, the need for a better barrier between Wolvercote Green and the railway, the idea of extending the allotments as far as the old tree stumps which used to be the border, and the idea of Wolvercote becoming a pesticide free zone. We will report on outcomes in future newsletters which will also list members of the present committee.

New committee members Zeb Johnson, David Howlett and Michael Ayers were elected to replace Mike Buck, Jonathan Gittos and Simon Kenton. Jane Wilkinson is our new Chairman, and Simon Lowry Vice Chairman.

Michael Buck was thanked for his hard work, commitment and vision during his time on the committee, and he also thanked Jonathan who is moving out of the area and Simon who we hope will return in the future. We all go forward with optimism, enthusiasm and open minds. Please keep a lookout for news on the noticeboards and on the website and contact us with ideas in person or by email wolvercote.commoners@yahoo.co.uk

Jane Muir
The Oxford Roof Climber’s Rebellion

This April, Wolvercote was treated to a national premiere: the first British presentation of a recent play by Canadian author Stephen Massicote about T. E. Lawrence – and much else besides. The opportunity came when Andrew Wright, a Lawrence enthusiast, was looking for a local company to put on the play at the Lawrence Society’s biennial meeting in Oxford, and asked St Peter’s Players if they would be interested. It is much to the credit of the group that instead of fending off this proposal out of the blue, they snapped up the chance to put on a well-written, serious drama with strong local connections – and rose to the opportunity magnificently.

The action takes place in 1920 in Oxford, where T. E. Lawrence, fresh from his triumphs as leader of the Arab Revolt, meets the poet Robert Graves, like himself a veteran of the First World War. The two contrasting characters, their inner torments and their ambiguous developing relationship, are examined subtly and thoughtfully against the background of the efforts of the university’s Chancellor, former Viceroy of India Lord Curzon, to institute a day of remembrance for those fallen in the war.

Andrew Churchill Stone effectively portrayed Lawrence’s curious whimsicality, his utter self-absorption but also rare self-awareness – a curiously Peter-Pan-like figure, as if locked permanently in rebellion against authorities implicit as well as real. Both he and Steve Davis, who played the shell-shocked, writing-blocked Graves with moving impact, made full use of the power of minimal movement and gesture, allowing the feelings and the words to speak for themselves.

Sara Davis gave a tour de force as Graves’s wife Nancy Nicholson, trying with desperate courage to hold on to her marriage, her principles and her livelihood in the face of this enigmatic intruder in their lives.

Derek Skipper’s Lord Curzon hinted at the vulnerability and sadness of the man whose time has passed in the old-school imperialist who could so easily have come across as a caricature, and Tony Bywaters as Lawrence’s servant Jack was genuinely shocking in his crazed grief at the loss of his son.

Great credit must go to Clare Winterbottom’s direction, not least in so arranging the frequent scene changes that they became pauses in the action for contemplation rather than rude interruptions in the narrative.

And the roof-climbing? Well, if you didn’t catch the play in Wolvercote, you’ll get another chance to find out in September, when it’s being performed for the T. E. Lawrence Society in St John’s College. For details phone Clare Winterbottom on 01865 556120. I’ll be there. I want to see it again.

Gillian Somerscales
**News**

**St Peter’s Wolvercote and All Saints’ Wytham**

### St Peter’s Wolvercote

**Sunday:**
- 8 am Holy Communion
- 10 am Parish Communion (with Children’s Church in term-time)
- 12 midday Holy Communion (1662)

**Midweek:**
- Wednesdays, 7 pm Holy Communion
  - Monday to Friday, 9 am Morning Prayer

St Peter’s Church is open for visits or prayers from 2-4 pm every Saturday and Sunday. For full details of services and events visit our website [www.stpeterswolvercote.org](http://www.stpeterswolvercote.org) or ring Revd Dr Mark Butchers on 01865 519640. St Peter’s is part of the Summertown-Wolvercote Church Partnership, working with Summertown United Reformed Church, St Michael’s Summertown and Wolvercote Baptist Church [www.summertown-wolvercotechurchpartnership.org](http://www.summertown-wolvercotechurchpartnership.org)

### All Saints’ Wytham

**1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays:** 9.30 am Parish Communion (1662)

**2nd & 4th Sundays:** 9.30 am Morning Prayer (1662)

**Cutteslows**

Do come and join us for our monthly Sunday afternoon service in Cutteslows. It starts at 3.30 pm and lasts 30 minutes, with delicious homemade cake and tea to follow. The services are organised by Summertown URC, St Michael’s Summertown and St Peter’s Wolvercote for the Cutteslows Church Partnership.

- **Sunday & July in Cutteslows Pavilion:** ‘Summertime’
- **Sunday 7 September in Cutteslows Pavilion:** ‘Songs of Praise’
- **Sunday 5 October in Cutteslows Pavilion:** ‘Harvest’

### Overseas Projects Fund

As well as raising money for the church development project the congregation at St Peter’s have been raising a parallel fund for three overseas projects – our link parish in Taung, South Africa; Sightavers in Bangladesh and various projects in Sri Lanka. We set ourselves a target of raising £25,000 a few years ago. At the beginning of Lent this year we were £3000 short of our target, so we had a Lent appeal. In the end we raised a further £3,630, taking the final total to £25,630. Thank you to everyone who has supported this fund.

### St Peter’s Development Project

The final major task in Phase 4 of the Development Project is to renew the lighting in church. The existing lighting is reaching the end of its useful life and the lighting units are beginning to fail. So the time has come to replace it all, a job which we hope will take place in June.

### St Peter’s Patronal Weekend

St Peter’s Fete takes place on Saturday 28 June, 2-4pm in the churchyard and Vicarage garden. This year you can send your teddies down a zipwire and enter the Great Vicarage Bake. And on Sunday 29 June we welcome Bishop Michael Marshall as our preacher at our Patronal Festival Service (note the later start time of 11am). All are welcome.

### WWI Anniversary

On Sunday 3 August, our services will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. The 9.30am service at All Saints’ Wytham will include the laying of a wreath and the 10am service at St Peter’s Wolvercote will include the parade of the British Legion standard. Both services will involve prayers and reflections to mark the anniversary.

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**From our Registers**

**Funerals**

- 3 March Nellie Fawdrey
  - (at Oxford Crematorium)
- 11 March Liz Richardson
  - (at Oxford Crematorium)
- 24 March Monica Killoran-Tansey
- 1 April Amy O’Dell
- 23 April Mick Aust
- 15 May Elizabeth Stewart

**Interring/scattering of ashes**

- 14 March Joan Beale
- 30 March Joan Wheare
  - (at St Giles’ Church)
- 30 March Ernest Nicholson
- 11 April Barbara Bush

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**News from All Saints’ Wytham**

All Saints’ has got through to the second round of the application process for a grant from the English Heritage Lottery Fund. That is an important step, though it doesn’t guarantee a grant...just a lot of work! Do visit All Saints during the Wolvercote and Wytham Festival week – there is a concert in church on Tuesday 24 June and an Art and Crafts exhibition over the weekend of Saturday 28 - Sunday 29 June. The Friends of All Saints AGM will be in the White Hart at 7pm on Tuesday 15 July, followed by a talk about the history of the White Hart.

### A Grand Day Out

On Saturday 20 September, the Oxford Diocese is organising A Grand Day Out, when parishes from all over the Diocese are invited to come to Oxford for services, workshops and picnics. It will also be a chance to say goodbye to Bishop John who is retiring at the end of October. More details nearer the time.
Parish Pump

Local chat and news about what’s going on....

Wolvercote Festival Events

Saturday 21 June   CHILDREN’S VISIT TO FAI FARM ~ 10-12.00 noon. To book contact Jo on 556422
FUN ON THE GREEN ~ 1 - 4.30 pm - including Dog show, Archery, and stalls
MUSIC NIGHT ~ 7.30 pm Village Hall
Tickets from The Post Box
Sunday22   WOLVERCOTE FESTIVAL SERVICE ~ 10 am in St Peter’s Church
COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 - 12 at Wolvercote Farmers Market
CLASSICAL CONCERT ~ 12 noon in Baptist Church
HORTICULTURAL SUMMER ROSE AND SWEET PEA SHOW ~2.00 pm Village Hall. Enquires contact Bill 510109
FAMILY CONCERT ~ 2.15 pm in St Peter’s Church
QUIZ NIGHT in The Plough Inn – to enter a team contact John 556120
Monday 23   MONDAY LUNCH CLUB – 12.30 pm Tickets from Lorna Logan 556486
GUIDED FORAGE in Wytham Woods with Wildnerness Pioneers. Contact Jo 556422
HISTORY TALK ~ 7.30 pm with Ann Spokes Symonds on Food and Farming in St Peter’s Old School Room
Tuesday 24   CONCERT ~ 7.30 pm in All Saints’ Wytham (drinks from 7pm)COOKERY WORKSHOPS – with Sophie Grigson’s Cooker School – for children and adults. Contact Sue on 526229
Wednesday 25   WYTHAM walk and talk ~ 10 am on Past Farming Methods in Wytham by Tony Probbits.(Meet at Wytham White Hart.)
VISIT TO ST JOHN’S COLLEGE ~ 3 pm Wolvercote Local History Society
MIDSUMMER NIGHT DREAM ~ 5.30 for drinks, 6.30 start in Wytham Woods performed by Wolvercote Primary School. Tickets from The Post Box and First Turn Stores
WOLVERCOTE AND WYTHAM ASHES CRICKET MATCH ~ 6 pm Wytham– bring your picnic and support your team
Thursday 26   SAUSAGE SIZZLER SUPPER ~ 6 pm at Wolvercote Young People’s Club pm
A LITERARY FEAST ~ 7.30 pm talk by Colin Tudge in Wolvercote Primary Sch
Friday 27   THEATRE EVENING with St Peter’s Players in Village Hall. Time to be confirmed.
Saturday 28   CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP for parade ~10 am in Baptist Church Hall, Morris dancing at 12.30 and parade through village to Fete
ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION ~ 12 - 6 pm in All Saints’ Wytham
ST PETER’S CHURCH FÊTE ~ 2 – 4 pm in the churchyard and Vicarage

Thames Pilgrim Walk

The Bishop of Oxford and fellow pilgrims are walking the Thames Path in September 2014. They will be stopping in Wolvercote on Friday 19 September.

We have been asked to give them tea (cakes required please) in the Parish Rooms, which will be preceded by a short service at Godstow Nunnery. The walkers hope to stay for dinner in Wolvercote/Wytham and will join us for our parish communion on Sunday 21 September at St. Peter’s Church. There will be, of course, an opportunity to join them walking for some of the way.

Caroline Pepys

200 Club

The 200 Club prizewinners (in aid of the St Peter’s Development Fund) were:

January - £200 ~ Andrew Hudspith  £25 ~ Bob Jones, Mary Easton, Ian Ross, Steve Goddard
February - £200 ~ Betty Butchers  £25 ~ Margaret Williams, Margaret Broadbent, Andrew Hudspith, Kay Bicknell
March - £200 ~ Margaret Broadbent  £25 ~ Gay Sypel, Philip Morton, Valerie Barnish, John Harper
April - £200 ~ Diane Edwarde  £25 ~ Margaret Broadbent, Michael Winiarski, Rodney Eatock Taylor, David Humphrey

Poetry and Music: WWI

Bill Clarke is hoping to hold an evening of poetry and music on Friday 21 November 2014 to commemorate the First World War. If anyone would like to read poetry from that War, would they please contact him on 01865 510109.

Edited reply to the front page article in the March 2014 Flying Goose from Lorna Logan. “Mike Lewis writes of North Oxford Golf Course “In the early days the fields had very few trees and the course must have looked fairly bleak”. In the 1950’s I grew up in the house whose long garden adjoins it on the far corner of Linkside Avenue. Far from being treeless, there was a group of magnificent elm trees, amongst a line of many lesser trees, on the top of the rise that leads down to the railway. They were a landmark, growing as part of an ancient hedge which had once been the boundary of the historical “Blindwell “ field, and possibly Wolvercote parish.

(See Victoria County Histories Vol. 12 p. 306 and compare with a Google earth map.)
**Directory**

Please notify John Brown on 515857 or john.brown@admin.ox.ac.uk with any changes or additions. Any changes or new entries will be marked with an *.

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**All Saints Church, Wytham**
Contact Kathy Day 247697 or David Humphrey 316870

**Wolvercote Baptist Church**
Sunday Services – 6.00pm (BST) and 3.00pm (Winter). Ladies Fellowship Meetings – Tuesdays at 2.30 pm. Secretary: John Harper 445262

**Bellringing at St Peter’s Church**
We practice Handbells on Thursdays from 7.00—8.00 pm and Tower Bells from 8.00—9.00 pm. Contact John Beale 559600

**Wolvercote Brownies, Guides and Ranges**
1st Wolvercote Brownies (girls 7-10) (Mondays) Iais Rangers (girls and women 14-25) (Mondays) 10th North Oxford Guides (girls 10-14) (Tuesdays) 1st Wolvercote Guides (girls 10-14) (Fridays) Contact Miss Lesley Dentre 077765 418067

**Choir, St Peter’s Church**
Meets on Fridays at 6.45 pm and Sundays at 9.00 am to provide music for the Church’s main Sunday service at 10.00. am. Enquiries to the Director of Music, David Bannister djbannister@gmail.com

**Wolvercote Commoners Committee**
Chair: Jane Wilkinson 315046 email: wolvercote.commoners@yahoo.co.uk www.wolvercotecommoners.co.uk

**Cutteslowe Community Centre**
Cutteslowe Community Association 31 Wren Road, Oxford, OX2 7SX 01865 311 172 Opening hours: 9.00 -13.00, Mondays to Fridays

**Computer Skills for Older People**
Drop-in sessions every Wed, 1 – 3 pm, in Cutteslowe Community Centre, All welcome. Tel 07827 235454 www.connectingcommunities.net

**Cutteslowe Primary School**
Wren Road, Oxford OX2 7SX
Head Teacher: Jon Gray, 01865 558944 or office.2522@cutteslowe.oxon.sch.uk

**Wolvercote Horticultural Society**
Contact Ann Munro (activities) 558090; Membership sm.clarke@hotmail.com; Shows Barbara 316737 or www.wolvercote.org for general information

**Wolvercote Information Desk**
1 Rowland Head School, OX2 8PW wolvercoteinfo@yahoo.co.uk

**Kidlington Aicadets**
Cadets Wanted: Are you between 13 and 16.5 years of age? Meet on Tues + Thurs 19.00 – 21.30hrs Please contact us on 01865-379950 Email: oc.1315@aicadets.org

**Wolvercote Local History Society**
Secretary: Barbara Dennis 554616 abischolar@yahoo.com

**Low Carbon Wolvercote**
If you have an issue you would like to air. Contact maddly@meadow28.free-online.co.uk, www.wolvercote.org/LowCarbonWolvercote/LCW.htm

**Lower Wolvercote Allotments**
(Wolvercote Common). A few half and quarter plots available. Enquiries to Linda Proud Smith 556215

**Monday Lunch Opportunity**
All are welcome to come into the Baptist Chapel Hall for a ‘Surprise’ lunch! every Monday 12.30 to 2 pm.

**Ex and non servicemen**

**North Oxford Folk Dance Group**
This friendly group meets every Thursday at Cutteslowe Pavilion from 7.45 pm to 9.45 pm. Ann 552715 or Colin 779417

**North Oxford Youth Theatre**
Ages 10 – 17. Contact Ruth Banfield, Youth Leader 07872 665135 ruth.banfield@ntfworld.com

**Oxford Yoga, Hatha Yoga Classes**
Calm the Mind; Strengthen the Body; Deepen the Breath: all levels welcome. Christina Sage 07809 438539 www.oxfordyoga.com

**Open Door Coffee Mornings**
welcome at the United Reformed Church in Summertown. Every Wednesday 10.30-12 noon

**Upper Wolvercote Allotments**
For parents and carers of 0-5 year olds. Waiting list in operation. Friday 9.30 – 11.30 am (Term time).

**Wolvercote Morris**
Beginners or experienced dancers (men or women) and new musicians welcome. Meet Wednesdays in Parish room 8 - 9pm. Also available for weddings, special events etc. Contact: Jane Ivimey 556151 or email avril.alexander@hotmail.com

**Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan and Forum**
Contact Chair: John Bleach 521114 info@wolvercote-ap.org.uk

**Wolvercote Tree Group & Community Orchard**
Booking contact: Rosemary Williams, 436866 or email mcb.williams@ntlworld.com

**Wolvercote W I**
Contact Ken Bampton, 557852.

**Wytham Wildlife Explorers Group**
Regular activities for children 7—13 years Membership secretaryleader June Williams 511770

**Wolvercote W I**
Contact Clare Winterbottom 556120 clarenwintertop@gmail.com

**Wytham Road Windmills**
Contact (Chairman) Nick Malden 556422 n.malden@gmail.com

**Friends of Cutteslowe and Sunnymead Park**
Contact Graham Jones on 513243 www.cutteslowesunnymead.org

**Gentle Yoga Classes with Robin Lipsey (dipBYW)**
 Held in Wolvercote in a delightful setting. Contact Robin 552811. www.oxfordyoga.org.uk

**Wolvercote Young Peoples Centre**
Contact Jo 07892 795018 www.wolvercoteypc.org.uk

**Scouts – 3rd Oxford Scout Group**
Cubs for boys and girls from 8 to 11 yrs. Wednesdays 6.30 to 8.00 pm. Contact Sue Robins 01869 244620

**St Peter’s Church**
Vicar: Revd Dr Mark Butchers 515640 www.stpeterswolvercote.org

**St Peter’s Fair Trade Stall**
St Peter’s Fair Trade Stall joins the Farmers’ Market in Wolvercote School on the first Sunday of the month Contact Lorna Logan 556486

**St Peter’s Parent and Toddler Group**
For parents and carers of 0-5 year olds. Waiting list in operation. Friday 9.30 – 11.30 am (Term time).

**St Peter’s Players**
Booking contact: Rosemary Williams, 436866 or email mcb.williams@ntlworld.com

**St Peter’s Under 5 Play Group, Church Rooms**
Quality, affordable pre-school care and education for children from 2 1/2 - 5 years. 5 mornings Mon-Fri. Term time 9am – 12 noon. Email: playgroupwolvercote@ntlworld.com or phone 07581582230

**Summerstow Youth Football Club**
To play fun or competitive football for boys, girls or visually impaired from ages 6-18.

**Traidcraft Fair-Traders**
David & Susan Smith 554933 david@sharetoo.co.uk

**Wolvercote Tree Group & Community Orchard**
Contact Peter Adams 552321

**Uffgar Community & Education Trust**
Cutteslowe Wolvercote Wytham Community Minibus Project Contact: Christopher Gowers 512047

**United Reformed Church, Summertown**
Sunday Worship -10.30 am. Junior Church for children. Minister Revd Pauline Main 513581 Secretary Beryl Knotts 510055.

**Upper Wolvercote Allotments**
Situated along the canal in Upper Wolvercote. Contact Waill, 07734277875 — 1st wait@zoo.ox.ac.uk

**Wolvercote Textile Group**
Meets Tuesdays from 1.30 - 3.30 pm in the Old School Room

**Wolvercote Village Hall Committee**
Contact: wolvercotevillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

**Wolvercote Wildlife Explorers Group**
Regular activities for children 7—13 years Membership secretary/leader June Williams 51770

**Wolvercote W I**
Meet in the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7.30 pm. Do join us and see what we have to offer. Contact Elaine Chaston (President) on 423898

**What’s on in Wolvercote, Wytham & Cutteslowe**
www.wolvercote.org. For information on What’s on? or to publicise events in and around Wolvercote, Wytham or Cutteslowe contact events@wolvercote.org

**Wolvercote Young Peoples Centre**
Open Tues and Thurs evenings for Junior and Senior sessions. We also run sessions in Cutteslowe on Wed and Fri evenings. Ring Hannah Kinross, Youth Leader on 559374 www.wolvercoteypc.org.uk
The Fabulous Fifties and where Yarnton fits in ....

I remember an age of hula hoops, beehive hairstyles and Wimpy bars, walking to school without risk of harm, an age of Rock and Roll which changed the music world and the songs we sang. All boys used Brylcream in their hair and the Teddy Boy craze was born. There were smart suits and lace ties, holidays at home by the seaside when the only traffic hold-ups were at Bank Holiday weekends. Anthony Eden the Prime Minister who’d been disgraced by Suez was succeeded by Harold Macmillan who said “We’ve never had it so good”, how right he was! Rationing finally came to an end after 14 years in 1954 when meat, butter and cheese followed by bread, jam, sugar and sweets and to the joy of all bananas and oranges which we had not seen since before the war started in 1939.

On a personal note my life changed completely having met Rita, the girl of my dreams, in 1946, we became engaged in 1950 and the following year we were married. The day my six year apprenticeship ended as a Carpenter & Joiner I took my final trade and building exams and to complete the day received my calling up papers. Two days later I started 2 years National Service as a R.A.F. Policeman. To end the year I was granted special leave to be presented with my Higher National Certificate, a nce end to the eventful year.

I was demobbed in 1953 a week after the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, returning to civilian life in my trade at £7-12-3d a week. In 1954 sheltering from a downpour of rain in Ford’s garage South Parade, having never driven a car and with no driving licence, we were talked into buying a Ford Popular for £390-14-2d.

In 1955 our first child, Jane was born, we needed more space. With building restrictions lifted and land for sale in Blandford Avenue at £10 per foot frontage we decided to build our own home but had to settle for Yarnton where it was £3 a foot. We bought a plot for £210. I drew up plans which were accepted and on Maundy Thursday 1956 we hand dug the foundations. Our only help was our dog Susie who we taught to fetch and carry materials up the ladder. We moved in on Maundy Thursday 1957. Total cost was £1,750. In 1958 our second child Michael Jr arrived, by working hours of overtime we kept our financial head above water. 1959 saw me promoted to general foreman with Kingerlee & Sons on a salaried wage. Life was more comfortable, a nice end to the Fabulous Fifties. We could enjoy more time with our young family during the 'Swinging Sixties'.

At St Peter’s Michael Ottaway said “Now you have more time on your hands Michael I think its about time you became a sidesman—oh and while you are at it there are quite a few jobs that need doing, and I could do with Rita on the church council.”

Michael H Stockford
## Events Calendar

What’s happening between up until 30 September 2014

### JUNE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20</td>
<td>WOLVERCOTE AND WYTHAM MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL</td>
<td>For information on all events see page 9 – Free programmes are available from local, shops, pubs, St Peter’s, All Saints’ and Baptist Churches and on line at: <a href="http://www.wolvercote.org">www.wolvercote.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20</td>
<td>WOLVERCOTE HORTICULTURAL VISIT - to FAI farm and Somerford Mead – contact Bill 510109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 29</td>
<td>ST PETER'S PATRIONAL FESTIVAL COMMUNION ~ 11 am Preacher: The Rt Revd Michael Marshall, formerly Bishop of Woolwich. (No 12 noon Holy Communion)</td>
<td>ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION ~ 12 – 7 pm in All W Wytham (end of exhibition reception with drinks and music from 5-7pm)</td>
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### JULY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>CUTTESLOWE SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR ~ 3 – 5.30 pm Visit our school &amp; have some family fun in the Sun Contact 535944</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 6</td>
<td>FAMILY COMMUNION ~ 10 am in St Peter’s Church – a service planned with children in mind</td>
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<td>CUTTESLOWE/TEMPLAR RD SERVICE ~ 3.30 pm ‘Summertime’ in Cutteslowe Pavilion followed by tea</td>
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<td>Tues 8</td>
<td>HANDS ON QUILLING ~ 7.30 pm with Liz Colyer. Wolvercote WI in the Village Hall</td>
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<td>KIDLINGTON AIRCADETS OPEN EVENING ~ 7.30 – 9 pm</td>
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<td>Contact us via <a href="http://www.kidlingtonaircadets.org.uk">www.kidlingtonaircadets.org.uk</a> for info</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>ANNUAL SUPPER SHOW ~7.30 pm by St Peter's Players (with fish &amp; chip supper) at Wolvercote Village Hall. Tickets 725186/556120</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; Sat 12</td>
<td>VILLAGE WORK MORNING ~ 10 am Meet outside village hall. Bring wellies, All welcome. Info from Jane Carey 559556</td>
<td>COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 – 12 at Kendall Crescent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 20</td>
<td>COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 – 12 at Wolvercote Farmers Market</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 21</td>
<td>COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 – 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 22</td>
<td>FOUR FAITHS – ONE CHALLENGE ~ 7.30 pm first of two evenings exploring religious perspectives on suffering and evil. Venue: St Edward’s School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 27</td>
<td>ST PETER’S NET TEA ~ 3 pm with entertainments in St Peter’s Church</td>
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### AUGUST

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<tr>
<td>Sun 3</td>
<td>Services at ALL SAINTS’ WYTHAM ~ 9.30 &amp; ST PETER’S ~ 10 am will mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 9</td>
<td>VILLAGE WORK MORNING ~ 10 am Meet outside village hall. Bring wellies, All welcome. Info from Jane Carey 559556</td>
<td>COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 – 12 at Kendall Crescent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 10</td>
<td>CREAM TEA ~ 2.30 – 5 pm in Wytham Village Stores organised by the Friends of All Saints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 17</td>
<td>COUNCILLORS’ SURGERY ~ 10.30 – 12 at Wolvercote Farmers Market</td>
<td>MESSY CHURCH ~ 3.30 pm in Cutteslowe Community Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 31</td>
<td>WOLVERCOTE BIG LUNCH at the Plough Inn and adjacent Green</td>
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### SEPTEMBER

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 7</td>
<td>SONGS OF PRAISE ~ 3.30 pm Cutteslowe/TEMPLAR RD service in Cutteslowe Pavilion followed by tea</td>
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