

Shilton Old School Committee Newsletter

March 2024

(see also www.shiltonparishoxon.co.uk
or the Shilton Community Hub on Facebook)

With the demise of the (*much-missed in my case*) *Parish Pump*, this newsletter is the only place you'll find out what's being organised by the Old School Committee and what else is happening in the village, or possibly on the village Facebook hub. Therefore, if you're at all interested in what goes on, and taking part, **please read it**. It's delivered to every house in the village, or emailed, so there's no reason for anyone not to know what's going on. For those who won't get past the first page, here's a list of memorable dates for the first six months of this year, and the church services:

Friday 15 th March	Kinghams Valuation Day 11-3pm Old School
Thursday 28 th March	Parish Council meeting 7.30 Old School
Saturday 30 th March	Easter egg rolling and all the other lovely things
Friday 19 th April	Kinghams Valuation Day 11-3pm Old School
Friday 17 th May	Ditto
Thursday 30 th May	Parish Council annual village meeting
Sunday 9 th June	Open Gardens
Friday 21 st June	Kinghams Valuation Day 11-3pm Old School

For details of the above, please read on.

And for the churchgoers, Church services are as follows:

17th March	10.30am Holy Communion
29th March	Good Friday 2pm Benefice Good Friday Hour at the Cross
31st March	Easter Day 10.30am Holy Communion
7th April	9am Holy Communion
21st April	10.30am Holy Communion

Easter egg and boat races, hat competition, egg hunt and Easter tea – Saturday 30th March at 2.30pm

This very popular event starts at 2.30pm at the Old School with the purchase of your race entries.



*There are a huge amount of eggs to be hard boiled and painted beforehand. **Please would you let me know if you can help with cooking and/or painting the egg?***

*We will also need as many helpers as possible on Saturday 30th March for race entry selling and generally helping out, as well as contributions of cakes, sandwiches or whatever for the tea. And if you could let me or Jean know **in advance** that you are able*

to provide something for the tea it would be very helpful indeed so that we know whether or not we'll have enough ... and stop us worrying that we don't, until masses of unexpected goodies arrive on the day! Thank you.

And reports on previous events ...

The Carol Service and supper in the Old School on 17th December were both very well attended and enjoyed. We had more guests than ever for the Carol Service supper, which we estimate at around 40 people. It was a joyous evening and we are very grateful to everyone who provided a supper dish, which were plentiful and delicious. Thank you.

The Quiz on 10th February – it was another full house of 8 teams of 4, and Andrew & Sarah again put together a very good quiz indeed, with yet another fiendish last round.

Thanks to some generous overpayments, we raised £93.00 for Old School funds while having a splendid time. Perhaps the winners should arrange the next one ... ?



Andrew & Sarah are happy to do a couple of quizzes a year, but is anyone else willing and able to set the questions and be question master please? If other people are willing to do this we could perhaps have a Quarterly Quiz.

Fundraising

In addition to the hopefully weekly car boot sales on Sundays, if it ever stops raining and the season commences, in an effort to raise as much money as possible from your wonderful donations of unwanted goods we* have booked the following Saturdays at the Tolsey market space in Burford High Street to do more sales: 6th April, 29th June and 2nd November. We usually 'man' it from 10.00-16.00. If anyone can spare the time to do a shift to help us it would be much appreciated. And it's great fun!

**usually me, Jean, Diana and Penny*

Spotlight on Dawn Pearse of Friesland Farm

Friesland Farm Flowers was an idea that took off during lockdown and seemed a natural progression to our self-sufficient lifestyle, a 35 year passion for growing things, a love of nature and a desire to tread lightly on the planet. I now grow and sell lots of different types of flowers and foliage, a mix of perennials (including herbs) and annuals and use them to create gorgeous, seasonal, fragrant bunches of flowers, with a garden gathered look.

As a member of Flowers from the Farm, 'the award-winning membership association championing artisan growers of seasonal UK grown cut flowers' and alongside the 'slow flower movement' and 'grown not flown' I believe we can make a positive change to our planet one stem at a time.

Pop by the farm gate during the main growing season April - September and you will find 'Friday flowers' available. Flowers can also be ordered for regular orders or one off occasions.

Flowery workshops are held regularly through the year including wreath making at Christmas.

Stay in the loop! Follow Friesland Farm Flowers on Facebook and Instagram. I will keep you posted on what's blooming, upcoming workshops, and all the floral wonders that unfold on our farm, which you can find along Hen 'n Chick Lane, Shilton.

WhatsApp: 07775556659 Email: flowers@frieslandfarm.com

The downside to Social Media!

Yes, believe it or not...there is one. We all use it to some degree, be it Meta (Facebook), Twitter or TiTok, but whatever your chosen platform, there could be trouble ahead....

With the advent of better weather, our thoughts will be turning to long-awaited holidays. We might pop on a post about how we are looking forward to leaving on a particular date, or meeting up with friends for a specific activity, or even giving the day of our return.

STOP! Any photos or posts that let people know your home is unoccupied could be creating a potential opportunity for thieves, especially if your profile isn't set to private. And if the worst does happen, you could invalidate your home insurance and have your claim refused.

Posting a few images of your time away may not be enough on its own to lead to an invalidated claim, but oversharing online could make the insurer call into question the 'reasonable care' of the property— making it wise to be cautious, turn off location settings when posting, or the best option - wait until you get home

Sarah Royle, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator ... (if you're not a member of the village Neighbourhood Watch group and would like to be, please contact Sarah).

Shirley Cuthbertson, 842404. Email: shirleycuthbertsonox18@gmail.com

The Old School Management Committee consists of: Sarah Royle, Chairman, Jean Roberts, Helena Wright, Treasurer, Penny Pearce, Trudie Fox, Guy Richmond, Paula Talford, Catherine Berisford, Shirley Cuthbertson, Secretary.