



Issue No 570 July 2026

All the fun of the Fete



Stonesfield School Fete 2026: More photos on page 29

The school community came together for its annual fete in June, holding it on an overcast but very warm day which did wonders for the bar and ice cream sales.

There were stalls selling candles, children's gifts and beads, with St James Church group offering the chance to decorate a biscuit. Year 6 manned their own stalls selling lovely colourful jewellery, showing business know-how to rival the adults.

The children were kept busy with a huge bouncy slide (as well as a smaller castle) on which they could have a 5-minute session, which proved to be excellent exercise.

If they had any energy left, there was tug of war, welly wanging and football to be competed at.

On the food front, the dads ran their usual tasty barbecue, there were cream teas and cake in the Scout's marquee and the old favourite candy floss proved very popular.

Chrissie Gaines brought along four of her gorgeous owls, who were happy to be held by brave children wanting to put on the leather glove.

Entertainment was by the Charlbury Ukulele Disaster, who started their set with, at the time, the very appropriate *Singin' in the Rain*, but the 'excess humidity' didn't come to much and the sun later came out.

It was nice to see our local MP Calum Miller pay a visit, dropping in before going on to catch up with the village cricket team.

Diane Bates

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Dates for your Diary

June

25	Visiting bellringers	St James the Great Church	2-4pm
25-27	Stonesfield Players: <i>Mercy of Sisters</i>	The Hub in Combe	7 for 7.30pm
27	Men's Walk and Talk	outside St James' Centre	10am
28	Stonesfield Open Gardens	tickets: St James' Centre	2-5pm

July

1-12	Pics @ Pub: <i>Landscapes & Portraits</i>	The White Horse	pub hours
1	Stonesfield Parish Council meeting	Village Hall	7-8.30pm
1,8,15,22,29	Pilates	Village Hall	9.30-10.45am
1,8,15,29	Hannah Bathe Strength & Condition	Village Hall	7-7.45pm
2	WODC planning Cmtee site visit	Combe Road	9.30am
2	Botanical walk (p10)	meet: Brook Lane	6.30pm
2,6,9,13	Taekwondo	Village Hall	5.30-6.30pm
2,9,16	Book Break	Stonesfield Library	12.30-2pm
2,9,16,23,30	Hannah Bathe Strength & Condition	Village Hall	7-7.45pm
2,9,16,30	Upholstery	Village Hall	9.30am-12.30pm
3,4	<i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i>	Sarsden Glebe	see p14
3,10,24	Baby & Toddler Group	Village Hall	10am-12noon
4	<i>Call My Wine Bluff</i>	Combe School Hall	7.30pm
4	<i>Music for a Summer Evening</i>	St James the Great Church	5pm
5	Tennis Open Morning (p25)	Tennis Courts	10.30am/12noon
5	Open mic night	The White Horse	5-8pm
5,12,19,26	Cream Teas	Combe Reading room	2.30-5pm
6,13,20,27	Monday Coffee	St James' Centre	10-11.30am
6,13,27	Baby & Me Postnatal Yoga	Village Hall	10-11.15am
6,13,27	Bump & Me Antenatal Yoga	Village Hall	7.30-8.30pm
6,13,27	Stonesfield Pickleball Superstars	Village Hall	2-3.30pm
6,13,27	Hannah Bathe HIIT	Village Hall	7-7.45pm

Continued on p4

Dates for your Diary

July (cont)

7	Morris Dancing	The White Horse	7.30pm
7	Folk Night	The White Horse	9pm
7,14	Stonesfield Social	Village Hall	5-6.30pm
7,14,21,28	Seniors' Café	The White Horse	3-4pm
7,14,21,28	Zumba	Village Hall	7-8pm
7,14,21,28	Zumba Strong	Village Hall	8-9pm
7,14,28	Stonesfield Pickleball Superstars	Village Hall	12.30-2.30pm
8,22	Folk Dancing	Village Hall	7.45-10pm
9	<i>Bubbles & Blooms</i> garden party (p15)	Oxfordshire Museum	6.30-8pm
9	MegSoc: <i>Stonesfield's Slate Mines</i>	St James' Centre (p27)	7.30pm
11	Scout's Duck Race & BBQ	Evenlode Bridge	from 5pm
11,12	Duke Fest	Duke of Marlborough	12noon
12	<i>Wildlife by the Evenlode</i>	Combe Mill	10.30am-4.30pm
13	Gardening Club visit (p26)	Chippy Flower Farm	6pm
14,28	Quiz night	The White Horse	8pm
15-31	Pics @ Pub: Photography Group	The White Horse	pub hours
16,27	Taekwondo	Village Hall	5.30-6.30pm
25	Men's Walk and Talk	outside St James' Centre	10am



Manor Field from Akeman Street

Notices & news

Manor Field development

On Monday 8 June the WODC Planning Committee convened at their offices in Witney to review the planning application to build 20 houses in the Manor Field, which for years has been in the ownership of the Manor House. The hearing lasted 75 minutes, during which one supporter and objector each had the opportunity to briefly explain to the Committee the rationale behind their views on the development. The Parish Council, which had voted unanimously against this application, also spoke. At the end, the Planning Committee deferred a decision until after carrying out their own site visit.

The site visit will take place on **Thursday 2 July at 9.30am**. SUSTO (Sustainable Stonesfield) opposes this development on the grounds that the Manor Field falls within the protected Cotswolds National Landscape (CNL), also known as the



Manor Field from Rectory Lane

Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

This beautiful field – including the line of mature trees on the east-facing side of the road – is enjoyed by village residents, who both walk their dogs and drive up and down the Combe Road – and will be changed forever by such a major housing development. A number of the trees will be felled to give access, resulting in a significant negative biodiversity impact, as flora and fauna in this space will be affected. Over 600 village residents completed the Village Neighbourhood Plan survey; 76% of respondents said they wished the Manor Field to be a designated Local Green Space, which protects the site from development.

SUSTO supports building development projects which will provide for genuine housing needs in Stonesfield, which do not adversely affect the environment and biodiversity and which, where possible, fall within the natural envelope of the village. This development meets none of these criteria.



Mature trees in Combe Road

Detailed and evidence-based housing needs were included in the comprehensive Village Neighbourhood Plan which has been produced and currently sits with WODC, awaiting final approval. This showed the need for four to five social houses in the village; an application has recently been made for four social houses in Glover's Yard, which goes a long way to meeting this need. There is most certainly no need for additional market housing in the village.

If planning permission for the Manor Field is granted, this will set a precedent for further green-field housing development in Stonesfield, changing the nature of our beautiful village forever.

Sustainable Stonesfield (SUSTO)

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Village Hall news

July is here already! That means summer breaks for some of our groups, so please check with your group leader to confirm dates for over the summer. We also have lots of parties and a week-long training group.

Pickleball has 'paddled off' well with lots of people enjoying the sessions. **We are looking into starting an evening youth session.** If you are between 11 and 20 years old and interested, please let us know on info@stonesfieldvillagehall.com.

Are you interested in some Pickleball coaching, or playing open games? We are lucky enough to have secured Miles, who will be running some extra sessions. Do get in touch if you are interested: miles@12pp.com or 07765 894945.

Don't forget that the hall and clubroom are also a great hire for parties, events, training and meetings, with a well-stocked

kitchen to cater for up to 100 people, and an alcohol licence. It's all available for hire from £9.20 per hour, so please see our website; the calendar and easy booking is all online.

Don't forget that Community Café slots for 2026-27 are available for the first Saturday of each month, for local groups to fundraise.

Claire Renshaw, Stonesfield Village Hall

info@stonesfieldvillagehall.com

www.stonesfieldvillagehall.com

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Stonesfield Playing Field

As some of you will already know, Stonesfield Playing Field CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) is a registered charity; managed by a small team of eight committee members who meet quarterly to discuss the maintenance, use and funding of one of Stonesfield's biggest assets.

At Field Close, the playing field provides Stonesfield with facilities including men's and youth football pitches, cricket pitches, tennis courts, a multi-use games area and a children's play park.

Funding for the maintenance of these facilities comes mainly from the individual sports clubs, which pay to use them. These funds are then directed towards the maintenance and upkeep of the areas which they use. The one area of our facility where we have no current funding is the play park.

Back in 2015, three Stonesfield mums set about raising the money required to re-develop the play park. They did a fantastic job, from raising the funds to arranging the supplier and installation of the equipment still in use at the park today. Now, 11 years after its installation, some of the

equipment needs repair and the playing field committee is looking for some enthusiastic parents, locals or just people who wish to help, to raise the funds necessary to bring the equipment back to its original standard.

Annually, the play park is subject to a RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) inspection. This focuses on protecting children in play areas while helping operators manage risks effectively. The report for 2025 highlighted a number of 'Amber' issues which the committee have monitored, but with this year's inspection imminent, it's feared that these may be reported as red by the RoSPA inspector. This would mean that the play park would fall below the standard required by our insurance company and would therefore have to be secured and closed to public use. If you feel that you could help with this in any way, please email the address below; any help would be greatly appreciated.

The committee is also looking to fill the vacant position of a secretary. The role would include attending quarterly meetings, taking and distributing of the meeting minutes and identifying and applying for funding grants. This role is imperative to the continued improvement and upkeep of the playing field facility.

Again, if you would like to take up this role, please email.

Mark Hatton

Chair, Stonesfield Playing Field

Stonesfieldplayingfield@outlook.com

White Horse news

On 14 June it was the two-year anniversary of when I took over the pub and I would just like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has supported us and has been enjoying what we are creating at the pub. It means so much to see so many regular faces, and so many new faces, as we continue to grow and give you all the best pub we can. We are always trying to put on new events, food and ideas to support our community in every way we can. A big thank you also to the committee for your continued support. A massive thank you to Barbara for being my rock, and to all my staff for all the hard work and effort you put in alongside me. You are all amazing!

With summer approaching we are working on multiple events throughout the season, which will hopefully include live music, a big summer quiz, rock'n'roll bingo, open mic night, the return of our summer/autumn fair & fun day and maybe even a one-day only dinosaur hunt around the village with lots of prizes on offer. Keep an eye on our socials and posters around the pub for full details and updates.

The quiz is back at the pub every other week through July, so why not come down and put a team together and see if you can become quiz champions? No need to book; just turn up and grab a table or contact us if you want to reserve one. Teams are a maximum of six and there's a chance to win a cash prize if you get the correct key to open the box. Next dates are 14 and 28 July.

Morris dancing will return to the pub on Tuesday 7 July from 7.30pm, with a performance from Wychwayz Border Morris, so come on down and show your support.

Our final folk session of the summer will also take place on Tuesday 7 July with a **later start time of 9pm**, so why not come and join the fun.

Open mic night will be returning on Sunday 5 July from 5pm till 8pm, with some great local musicians performing in the garden. The pub will remain open after the event until 9pm.

Last month we also hosted an inaugural Stonesfield inter-promotional Aunt Sally match, with a mix of players from the pub and the sports and social club. It was a fun night: thank you to those who came to play and congratulations to Jane Rust and her team for picking up the trophy.

Keep an eye on our socials and the NextDoor app for more upcoming deals and events.

Facebook – The White Horse pub
Stonesfield

Instagram – thewhitehorsestonesfield14

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Craig Tipper (01993 672059)

The White Horse

info@thewhitehorsestonesfield.com

www.thewhitehorsestonesfield.com

Best wishes Barbara

The team at the Slate would like to wish Barbara at the pub all the best as she recovers from her car accident the other week. Her car was written off for her, so a very upsetting time.

Well done to her team in the kitchen who have stepped up to fill the void, but we still hope that she will feel fit enough to rejoin us soon.

The Slate team

War Memorial update



Planting at war memorial

It is brilliant that the Gardening Club continues to financially support our work on the war memorial to keep this area of our village looking tidy and attractive. Whenever any of us are out there working on it, we invariably receive compliments from passers-by on the appearance of the whole war memorial triangle.

Over the years, the borders had become uneven and rather wide. We decided to reduce the width of the borders, so we bought and laid some turf. The new turf is growing well and has meant that we need fewer plants to fill the borders and they will all require less watering. Watering was quite an undertaking at times last year, and is, we fear, likely to be the case in future, due to climate change.

We have also refreshed the summer pots with new peat-free compost and plants.

War Memorial Gardening Group

Pictures @ The Pub

Our *Landscapes and Portraits* exhibition of work by Sophie Shearer and Rachael Sherlaw-Johnson has been very well received, with several paintings being sold during the first week! If you have not yet had a look there is plenty of time to do so – the show continues until Sunday 12 July.

From 15 July until the end of August there will be a group exhibition of photography by Diane Bates, Linda Bull and Skye Drew. Our intrepid band of happy snappers will be showing some of their favourite images which they have captured at home and further afield.

If you would like to show your ‘wall art’ at the Horse, we would love to hear from you; please get in touch with us via the email address below.

Trisha Williams for Pictures @ The Pub
(trwynwil003@gmail.com)

Team: Kerry Burniston, Jenny Lines, Ann Lowe and Trisha Williams

Claire Renshaw for The White Horse
Community Pub

Powerchair football – funding for Laurie Steele: last push!

Laurie Steele from Stonesfield is raising money for a specialist Bullet Powerchair wheelchair, so he can take part in powerchair football. Laurie has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, which means his opportunities to take part in physical activities are extremely limited. Powerchair football is one of the few sports that is fully accessible to him, but he needs a specially adapted Bullet Powerchair to be able to play.

Taking part in this fantastic team sport would open the door to a whole new world for Laurie, helping him make new friends, stay active and be part of a team. Many of you have already donated generously to Laurie's gofundme campaign, and so far we have raised 75% of the money needed. Please help us make it to 100%! Any support will make a huge difference.

Link to Laurie's campaign:
www.gofundme.com/f/help-laurie-to-get-a-bullet-wheelchair, or call me on 898889 for more information.

If you'd like to know more about the amazing sport of powerchair football, here's a link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=be0jDWjKE1g.

Georgie Steele, Laurie's Mum.

Music for a Summer Evening: Reminder

On Saturday 4 July at 5pm in St James the Great Church, JARISEL presents *Music for a Summer Evening* – a chance to bask in the sunshine of music from Greece, Ukraine, Latin America, Eastern Europe, Ireland, and more!

This will be vibrant feast of songs and music from the renowned Oxford-based group JARISEL. In addition to vocals, they will use a variety of instruments including ukulele, cello, accordion, keyboard, violin, Hardanger fiddle and bodhran.

Refreshments after the concert will be in St James' Centre garden, at about 6pm. Tickets are £10, payable on the door (cash if possible).

For further information, email stonesfield@stonesfieldparishchurch.org

Botanical walk

Thursday 2 July

We'll take a short walk from the village of Stonesfield to Stonesfield Common, via Brook Lane and the banks of the River Evenlode, taking in a handful of species we encounter along the way.

Meeting point: Brook Lane: OX29 8PR at 6.30pm

Grid ref: SP39338 16767

What3words:///scatters.mimics.forever

Please contact me (address below) if you are planning to come.

In the event the walk can't go ahead because of bad weather, I'll do my best to reschedule later in July.

Expected terrain: We won't walk far (c. 1.5km circuit), but there's a steep lane down from the village, and back up the other side to the Common.

Expected required fitness level: Moderate - there will be plenty of opportunity for rest, but a short ascent/ descent on steepish ground.

Joe Grainger-Hull

joe.graingerhull@gmail.com

Stonesfield Players' Safari Supper

The Stonesfield Players are holding another Safari Supper, on Saturday 18 July, starting at 7pm at the Old Bakery, Boot Street. Do join us for an evening of gastronomic delights and lots of fun, all mingled with a wander around the village to a different venue for each course. Come along and enjoy a four-course meal, ending together for cheese and biscuits. All are welcome.

Attendance is by booking only. Tickets are £19.50 per person and can be booked with Ros Mengech by Friday 10 July.

If anyone is interested in hosting, please contact me.

Ros Mengech

07852 584688

ros_mengech@yahoo.co.uk

Save the date for Macmillan Coffee Morning

Add a note to your calendar for this year's Stonesfield's MacMillan Coffee Morning, taking place on Friday 25 September at St James' Centre, 9.30-11.30am. Come along for delicious cake, warm sausage rolls, a cuppa and to try your luck on our ever-popular bottle stall, where everyone's a winner!

Please join us to help raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, helping Macmillan to be there for people living with a cancer diagnosis.

Donations for the bottle stall can be dropped off at Wellwood, Churchfields. Bottles can be anything in a bottle (or jar), from body lotion to Baileys, nail varnish to Negroni, perfume to Prosecco, jam to Jägermeister – all bottles (or jars) are welcome!

Jane O'Gorman & Stonesfield Macmillan Coffee Morning Team

When is a *Megalosaurus* not a *Megalosaurus*?

When it's a *Megawattasaurus*. Made entirely of recycled materials, the *Megawattasaurus*, a life-size model dinosaur, greeted us on our arrival at Viridor's Energy from Waste visitor centre in Ardley.



Us with *Megawattasaurus*

Four of us from Stonesfield, led by the Learning and Visitor Centre Manager, Jessica Baker-Pike, were there to find out what happens to general waste in Oxfordshire and to learn about reducing it.

A key concern on a tour like this is for the safety of visitors, so our first task was to struggle into the high-vis boiler suits, helmets and steel toe-capped boots provided for us. We were then put to the test to see how well we knew what is currently recyclable and what is not. There were some surprises for us here, as we argued the issue of 'fly-away plastic' and whether this could be included in our waste collection from home. (You can look up the answer at www.westoxon.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling, and www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/repair-reuse.)

We were then taken to the Control Room to see the entire plant at work, then on to the Waste Bunker where huge mechanical grabs lift and mix waste before dropping it

into a furnace. This was a visually startling experience. You stand behind glass, looking down at grabs the size of a small car, moving mountains of rubbish rhythmically into a gigantic, dimly-lit pit. It was like watching a slow-motion monster at play and revealed the scale of our waste in Oxfordshire.

By the end of our tour, we understood that, instead of sending non-recyclable rubbish to landfill, here, it is burned in a controlled, high-temperature furnace to create heat. That heat makes steam, which drives a turbine, which generates electricity. The gases are cleaned before they leave the chimney. The whole aim, as Viridor states, is 'to build a world where nothing goes to waste.'

This had been a most educational and engaging experience for us all. But it wasn't all over. As a final treat, we were taken by Jessica to see some of the classic three-toed theropod shaped footprints, which have confirmed the presence of a large meat-eater in the area - *Megalosaurus* – a well-known visitor to Stonesfield!

It really isn't easy to convey the experience – you need to be there. So, why not make the trip? Go to www.viridor.co.uk/book-a-visit.

Wendy Lynch

Local Private Carer available

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kind-hearted

Victoria 07930 342087

Simon Hadland and Katharine House Hospice

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported and attended the charity bingo in memory of Simon Hadland to raise funds to give back to KHH – it was a huge success. Simon lived most of his life in Stonesfield and played football for the youth's/men's teams and also played cricket, so to have this event in the village Sports and Social club was quite fitting.

Thanks to Steph Brooks and family for organising and getting raffle prizes, Gill Tritton and family, Stonesfield Sports and Social club staff, Sam for providing bingo/ raffle tickets, Ben Tomlin our caller and to all who generously donated. Sorry if I haven't named everyone; there are too many to mention.

The total amount raised on the night was £760.00, plus a further £150.00 from the sale of KHH T-shirts that went directly to the hospice. We hope to do another bingo in the near future.

Simon spent his last few months in Katharine House and we found that the care and dedication given by all of the staff and volunteers made it more comfortable for him. They became our friends and extended family: personally I think they should wear capes as they are all superheroes to me.

It costs £5.9 million every year to run the hospice and they rely on the support of the community to ensure they can carry on providing their vital services free of charge.

Katharine House Hospice provides a wide range of services to support adults with a life-limiting illness, as well as their family

and friends, from the point of diagnosis onwards.

Katharine House has lots of events throughout the year: Golf Day, Skydive, Snowdon Sunrise, Open Gardens and the Banbury Christmas Tractor Run just to name a few. Find out more about their events and what's on:

www.khh.org.uk/What's on

fundraising @khh.org.uk

01295 816484

Nikki Steele and Courtney Hadland

Combe Connect

Combe Connect is the local magazine for your neighbouring village. You can read the latest issue at

www.combeconnect.co.uk.

Editor@combeconnect.co.uk



The poster features a green background. At the top center is the Scouts logo (a fleur-de-lis) above the text "Scouts" and "1st Stonesfield". Below this, the text "duck race 2026" is written in large, white, bold letters. Underneath the text are three cartoon ducks, each with a different colored beak (orange, red, and yellow). At the bottom, the text "Sat 11th July from 5pm" is written in white, followed by "bbq, bar, fun and races" in a smaller font. At the very bottom, it says "buy your ducks from a scout, outside the shop or online" and "search stonesfield duck race".

Combe cream teas

You are invited to enjoy Cream Teas in the delightful garden of Combe Reading Room. These will be held every Sunday from 5 July until 30 August, 2:30-5pm. Each Sunday is hosted by a different organisation from the village, which share the proceeds at the end of the summer for their fundraising. Any questions? Call 07732 112557.

We look forward to seeing you.

Elaine Sherrott

Combe Mill



For our *In Steam* event on 12 July, we have invited exhibitors concerned with local wildlife, including the Berks Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust, Oxford Beekeepers Association with some bees and also some children's activities.

Combe Mill is a late 19th century Grade II listed watermill on the River Evenlode which was the workshop for the Blenheim Palace estate. It has a steam beam engine and restored water wheel; all machinery will be running in steam and volunteers will be on hand with lots of interesting information.

The Tea Room will be open for refreshments to enjoy in the picnic area by the river, with a barbeque and gift shop.

Have you ever thought of volunteering at Combe Mill? Come to a steaming event to see where you have an interest and discuss it with the team.

Dogs on leads are most welcome and parking is free.

Adults £9.50, Seniors £8.50; accompanied children are free. Open 10.30am to 4.30pm (last entry 3.30pm).

We are also open every Wednesday at the same times for self-guided tours, with volunteers available for questions. Adults £6.00, seniors £5.00 and children free.

Margaret Gruber (01993 358694)

Combe Mill Society

Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills,

Combe OX29 8ET

www.combemill.org

Carer required to support 19 year old man

I need a carer to support me through summer holidays when I am back home from college. Duties include:

- Help with all aspects of personal care throughout the day, including getting in and out of bed
- Support with going out on trips
- Potentially 'waking night' support

Full training can be given. Pay: £17 per hour

Matt Steele 07880 724708

The Two Gentlemen of Verona

Tickets for the production at Sarsden Glebe, OX7 6PH on 3-4 July are going fast so you are urged to book quickly.

The Two Gentlemen of Verona is performed by students from the Oxford School of Drama. Tickets are £25.00 with all proceeds going to the Oxford School of Drama's Hardship Fund.

Please RSVP to glebeevents@hotmail.com with your name, ticket requests and the day you would like to attend. Confirmation of tickets and payment details will be sent to you via email.

The performance on Friday 3 July is 5pm for 5.45pm prompt, with apple juice and drinks beforehand. On Saturday 4 July scheduled start is to be 4pm for 4.45pm prompt with tea, apple juice and biscuits. There is no interval and the play is about 90 minutes long. Do wear warm clothes for the outdoor performance and picnics afterwards.

Further information is available from the Oxford School of Drama, 01993 812883 or www.oxforddrama.ac.uk.



STONESFIELD VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SCHEME

Our volunteer drivers are available to take you to local medical appointments or to the hospitals in Oxford and Banbury. We make no charge but welcome a donation towards expenses.

**Please call or email to book transport
in July: Viv Kendall
01993 891803 or stonesfieldvts@gmail.com**

Botanical Remedies and Lives Lost in the Trenches

The museum will also be running a campaign across its social media channels and in-house during the show, allowing people to donate in memory of their military loved ones or armed forces ancestors and have their name featured in a special *In Memoriam* flower display.

Those who wish to have an individual remembered in the flower show can submit names and details now by going to the museum website: www.sofa.org.uk/battlefieldstoblooms.

Visitors will get the opportunity to experience the flower show, the museum's Lee Miller exhibition and live performances by The Waterloo Band and Bugles of The Rifles during the Bubbles & Blooms garden party, a collaborative fundraiser for SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, and Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust. The event takes place from 6.30pm to 8pm, Thursday 9 July 2026, with tickets available from the museum website, www.sofa.org.uk/product/bubbles-blooms-sofa-x-ssafa-celebratory-garden-party/.

Contacting *The Stonesfield Slate*

Do you have a story to share?

We hope you have enjoyed the news, history, nature, other articles and photographs which have appeared in *The Slate*.

We're hoping to find more Stonesfield residents who will contribute their own articles, poems, drawings or photographs to publish throughout the year.

If you have a story to tell, or anything to share, please send it to us.

A reminder of *The Slate* email addresses.

To submit an **article**, please email **editor@stonesfieldslate.uk**. – deadline 15th of the month for the next month's issue.

To **advertise** – deadline 10th of the month for the next month's issue, or for general enquiries please email **publisher@stonesfieldslate.uk**

No email?

The editorial team and publishers are conscious that not everyone has access to email and/or a computer. If you are in this situation and would like to submit something for publication, please get in touch with the Editor in order to make alternative arrangements. We are happy to collect something handwritten from you or to take it down over the phone. The Editor's name and contact number appears on page 2 of each issue.

Paul & Diane Bates, Publishers
publisher@stonesfieldslate.uk
The Editor
editor@stonesfieldslate.uk

Politics & local affairs

Stonesfield Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 3 June 2026 at Stonesfield Village Hall. The minutes of the May meeting were approved, subject to two amendments relating to attendance and an update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group's response to the Examiner's clarification queries.

The Council noted that no applications had been received for the current councillor vacancy and the position remains open.

Planning

Councillors considered planning application 26/01003/FUL for the redevelopment of Glovers Yard, including the demolition of the former pre-school building and the construction of three terraced dwellings together with alterations to an existing property. Comments will be submitted to West Oxfordshire District Council.

Councillors also discussed the recently published Planning Officer's report relating to application 25/01897/OUT (Land West of Combe Road). Concerns were raised regarding the limited time available to review the report before it is considered by the District Council's Development Management Sub-Committee. The matter was later discussed under the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group item due to its potential implications for the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

County Council Report

Oxfordshire County Councillor Andy Graham attended the meeting and provided an update on county matters, including recent changes to the County Council leadership, road safety statistics, Park & Ride initiatives, proposals for improved transport links to hospitals and progress with highway maintenance and pothole repairs. He also advised that a further inspection of highways issues within Stonesfield would be undertaken.

Neighbourhood Plan

Although no working group meetings had been held since the previous Parish Council meeting, councillors discussed planning application 25/01897/OUT and its potential implications for the Neighbourhood Plan. Concerns were expressed regarding the Planning Officer's report and the timetable for consideration of the application by West Oxfordshire District Council.

Finance and Governance

Councillors approved the Council's payments and expenditure and approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the financial year ending 31 March 2026, including the Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements. The Council also considered the Internal Auditor's recommendations and noted the requirement to undertake an intermediate review.

New Parish Council Logo

The Council approved a new Parish Council logo and recorded its thanks to local resident Richard Morris for producing a range of design options.

Governance Documents

The Terms of Reference for the Council's Working Groups and HR Committee were reviewed and approved without amendment.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Stonesfield Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 1 July 2026 at 7.00pm in Stonesfield Village Hall.

Kay Linnington

Clerk, Stonesfield Parish Council

clerk@stonesfieldpc.uk

More from West Oxfordshire

WODC performance 2025-26

Reporting on its performance in the financial year 2025-26, West Oxfordshire District Council has stated that it delivered services under budget, thanks to strong investment performance, income from services and contract refunds. As a result the Council has been able to re-invest in local priorities, delivering services and preparing for coming changes to local government.

This includes £342,000 invested into the West Oxfordshire Environmental Services Partnership (WESP) which will deliver significant savings and service improvements for residents, an additional £200,000 to support the provision of social housing, as well as £440,000 allocated to a Hardship Fund to support

residents receiving Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support.

The Council has exceeded its affordable housing target, delivering 352 affordable homes during the year compared with a target of 274. Reliable waste and recycling services also continued, with more than 99.9% of scheduled bin collections completed successfully.

Residents facing financial hardship were supported through £60,000 of Household Support Fund payments, while major projects continued to move forward, including the creation of a new West Oxfordshire Youth Partnership.

Getting Oxfordshire Online

WODC has donated its end-of-life laptops to a partnership of local charities which will refurbish them and distribute them to local people who need support in accessing online services. The Council intends that donating the equipment to Getting Oxfordshire Online will contribute to tackling the exclusion that can result from lack of access to the internet. This is increasingly necessary for education, finding employment and many other aspects of communication.

The donated laptops are at end of life for commercial use but remain in good working condition. All donated equipment has been wiped of all data and refurbished before being distributed to those in need.

From our MP



Calum Miller at school fete

If you need help or have a query, please feel free to email me at calum.miller.mp@parliament.uk and we will be in touch.alum

Calum Miller

Neighbourhood Watch

Information on Neighbourhood Watch is available at: www.ourwatch.org.uk/
Anyone interested in joining the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme may find details and register at: www.member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/30/Join. Clicking on 'Join a scheme' and selecting 'Stonesfield' will complete the request.

Police and community support: For information or advice on security concerns, please call 101 or contact woodstockNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

Deanna Asplundh

Stonesfield Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinator

STONESFIELD LUNCH CLUB

Stonesfield Lunch Club meets every Weds 11 till 2 (for members) at the St James' Centre.

Lunch Club provides a social occasion, friendship and support for our more mature residents along with refreshments, activities and a freshly cooked 2-course meal each week.

Volunteers are always welcomed for many roles and this is a lovely way to be involved in village life. Contact me if you would like more information on becoming a member or in volunteering.

Kate Harris 01993 898781 or kateharris58@yahoo.co.uk

Education, culture & more

Stonesfield Library

Note our new phone number:
01865 815181

Opening hours:

Monday	2.30-7pm
Wednesday	10am-12 noon
Thursday	2.30-5pm
Saturday	10am-12 noon

Val Phillips (891455)

Friends of Stonesfield Library


Home Library Service

The Home Library Service is free and there is no charge for requests or late returns. To register for this service or for further information, telephone your local library or the Home Library Service on 01865 810259, or email to: homelibraryservice@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Deborah Wilson (01865 815181)

Library Manager

YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!



Time to spare?
Looking for a new opportunity?
Friends of Stonesfield Library would like to meet you!
We support the library service by sharing the opening hours with the professional manager.
If you enjoy reading and helping people, this is the volunteering opportunity for you!
We work in pairs and carry out a variety of tasks during a session (usually one session of 2-3 hours per month).

Interested?
Come along to Stonesfield Library to find out more or contact Mike Pollitt on 01993 891856.



Library

READ to the BEAT



...with a **FREE** children's reading challenge at your local Oxfordshire library!

4 July to 5 September 2026

The Summer Reading Challenge 2026: **Read to the Beat** celebrates the joy of reading with a theme inspired by music. Children can discover how books spark creativity and imagination.



Finish the challenge and get your own medal and certificate!

Look out for fantastic new books and activities at your library!

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries
www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



Stonesfield Primary School

At Stonesfield Primary School, our vision – *Working together to achieve our best* – sits at the heart of everything we do. This year, we have refined and strengthened this with our shared values statement:

‘Rooted in our village community, we create a nurturing and ambitious environment where every child is empowered to thrive with resilience, kindness and joy.’

We are particularly proud that this vision and these values were shaped collaboratively, with contributions from pupils, staff, governors and families. We hope they truly reflect not only our school, but the wider community we serve.

As the end of the school year approaches, it is a wonderful time to reflect on our many successes. Our school has grown and we have had incredible music teaching from Jenny Larsen who brings such joy into the school each Thursday. Kindness runs throughout our playtimes as the children enjoy our amazing grounds. Visitors to the school comment on the ambition they see in our classes and the sense of ambition and drive the children have in their learning.

Our Friday assemblies are a true celebration of our learning as children share their work, often asking if they can read out a story they have written or talk about their learning in history or science. We continue to be ambitious with our PE and have joined other local schools at events in Marlborough this year; we hope to grow our own sports clubs in the next year. Our children continue to show pride in their school, demonstrating resilience, kindness and joy in all that they do. It has

been a year of growth, achievement and memorable experiences, made possible through strong partnerships with our community.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome new families in September as our school continues to grow. If you would like to support us, please consider attending school events such as the Summer Fete or volunteering at Forest School – please speak to the school office for more details.

Mrs Aisling Hill
Head of School

Nature notes

A year of moths around the Brook Lane meadow

With the loan of a moth trap in the spring of 2025, preparations are done and June is a great month to start finding out what is flying at night while we sleep. Moths are attracted to light and early morning reveals, with some excitement, which moths have been attracted to the light and the identification begins. June has several large colourful moths, which is a real help for a complete amateur.



– Elephant Hawk moth

Elephant Hawk moths are a great start, settled in the egg box inside the trap.

Moths have about 2,500 species in the UK, while butterflies have 59 species; but both numbers are changing with the effects of global warming. As a teenager I remember driving at night and having to stop in summer evenings to clear the windscreen from moths. The southern UK has had a 40% reduction in moth numbers from 1968 and we no longer have to clear our windscreens. There are many reasons for the fall in numbers: habitat loss in fields and gardens, use of herbicides and pesticides, and light pollution are key concerns.

Moths are considered as keystone species, due to the disproportionately large effect they have on their environment, compared to their abundance. Moths and their caterpillars have a vital role supporting food webs (getting eaten) as well as in night time pollination. They are food for birds, spiders, frogs, lizards, shrews, hedgehogs, slow worms and essential for bats. Over the last year we have so far recorded 243 species of moths in and around the meadow, with support from the Upper Thames Moths (UTM) group. This gives us an invaluable record and insight into the plants (lichens, grasses, herbaceous plants, shrubs, trees and what are often referred to as weeds) which are essential for the caterpillars. All records are recorded on the national database (i-record).

Moths are divided into two groups, the Macro moths (larger) number about 900 species. They are a help to get started with as they are easier to identify and see, until you get to the brown ones that vary in shades and can be hard for a novice. They

tend to stay still in a trap and hang about for a photo. The Micro moths (much smaller) with about 1500 species are a real challenge. They tend to fly off at the first opportunity. After a year, with very patient support from UTM, a novice has been improving.

We have had several rare moths; two of which will feature in colour photos on the village website www.stonesfield.online/category/sustain/ for 'A year of moths', with one moth for each month of the year. There will also be a test for you to see if you can spot a micro moth.

This is November's Moth:



This is a male Winter moth, a (slightly out of focus) photo inside the moth trap last November 2025; a crucial moth for blue tits. The male moths track the females, which can't fly, using pheromone scent. Then the eggs are laid on trees to hatch into caterpillars when the trees become flush with new growth in spring – the time that blue tits start to feed their young. One blue tit brood can eat up to 10,000 winter moth caterpillars! Interestingly, the female winter moth has compounds that act as anti-freeze for the winter.

John Sampson

Improving your home Part 4.

Conservatories and garden rooms

Conservatory extensions offer a cost-effective way to add bright, versatile living space without the full expense of a traditional extension. They create a seamless connection between indoors and outdoors, flooding interiors with natural light and allowing year-round enjoyment of garden views. Conservatories can serve as dining rooms, lounges, home offices or hobby spaces with the abundant natural light providing mood and wellbeing benefits, particularly during winter months. Modern high-insulated designs, with high-performance glazing, allow comfortable use throughout the year, increasing floor area for dining, relaxation or home working. They are usually quicker to build than brick extensions and often fall under permitted development, adding value and appeal with less disruption and paperwork.

Thermal efficiency has improved significantly, thanks to double and triple glazing, low-emissivity coatings and thermal breaks which help maintain stable temperatures and reduce energy costs.

Material choices affect price: uPVC is cheapest, then aluminium, then timber with bespoke detailing. Polycarbonate roofs are least expensive; glass or tiled roofs and triple glazing cost more. Construction timelines are significantly shorter than for traditional extensions, and they are often completed within weeks rather than months. Although conservatories are generally cheaper upfront, they may cost more to heat if not well insulated.

Garden buildings provide extra space without the disruption of an extension. Ideal for home offices, studios or guest accommodation, they offer clear separation between work and home life, and most fall under permitted development. Prefabricated modules can be installed in days with minimal mess. Many manufacturers deliver prefabricated modules, enabling completion in days rather than months with minimal disruption. Environmental impact is typically lower than brick extensions, with timber-framed systems and screw-pile foundations reducing embodied carbon and soil disturbance.

Allow for utilities such as electricity, plumbing and drainage. Well-designed, fully insulated garden buildings enhance property appeal. Rightmove reports listings mentioning 'garden office' attract more buyer interest, with agents noting a premium for quality outbuildings.

In short, conservatory extensions add light and space, while garden buildings deliver flexible, lower-cost accommodation, with both potentially boosting resale value when buyers value extra space.

Jan Liberadzki BA Arch (Hons), MSc
www.jlda.co.uk

Clubs, societies & sport

Ist Stonesfield Scout Group

The summer is always busy in our group, with young people outside as much as possible, making use of the beautiful woods and meadows around the hut.

The Duck Race will soon be upon us – 11 July from 5pm, ducks will be released around 6pm. We hope to see as many of you as possible down at the river for the race! Make sure to buy your ducks from a Beaver, Cub or Scout, outside the shop or online (search Stonesfield Duck Race). Before then, you will have seen our big white marquee at the school fete!

Have you ever wondered what it takes to volunteer with a scout group? We are in particular need of volunteers for our youngest section, Beavers, at the moment, and any help you can offer would be gratefully received. You don't need any connection to the scout group to volunteer, please get in touch with our chair (Ben Whitworth) for an initial chat, on chair@stonesfield-scouts.org.uk.

Huge thanks as always to all the volunteers who make our Scout Group the fantastic place it is!

Hannah Crowe on behalf of The Trustees,
Ist Stonesfield Scout Group

Beavers

Beavers is really, really fun. It's on Friday and I go with all my friends. There are four lodges, red, green, blue and orange. I am lodge leader for green which means I help the leaders. I have an assistant lodge leader who helps me and the leaders too.

We do loads of fun things like decorating a space rocket and seeing how high it would fly. Last week we learnt how to build fires, sang campfire songs and cooked s'mores. They were really yummy. This week we're learning how to put up tents so we can go to a camp.

There are activity and challenge badges and you can get the Chief Bronze Award if you get all the challenge badges. We learn lots of things and the leaders are lots of fun.

Holly Dunne, Beaver,
Ist Stonesfield Scout Group



Stonesfield Tennis Club

Tennis Open Morning is on Sunday 5 July, 10.30am-12 noon for juniors, and 12 noon-13.30 for adults. Whether you are new to the game, rusty or otherwise, all are welcome to come and enjoy tennis and our lovely courts.



Attending the Tacon bench presentation

On Saturday 6 June tennis friends gathered on the courts for the presentation of two beautiful wooden benches in memory of Andy Tacon. Rob Suriano (chairman) and Miles Barrington-Ward spoke with fondness about Andy's huge enthusiasm for the tennis club and the enormous amount he contributed to it. We are all very grateful. Thank you to all who contributed towards the benches. Refreshments were enjoyed and although the weather stopped us playing tennis on the day, Tacon tennis continues.

Wychwood League: we narrowly lost to both Moreton-in-Marsh (34 games to 32) and Chipping Campden (36:30). Every game counts, so it's all close at the moment and we enjoyed delicious teas. Thanks to Lindsey, Jane, Rob, Paul and Jim for playing.



Lindsey, Jane, Rob & Paul

Alex Dillon continues to provide coaching as follows:

Stonesfield Junior Tennis Programme:

Monday:

Orange ball 4.30-5.30pm, ages 8-10

Green ball 5.30-6.30pm, ages 10-12

Tuesday:

Red ball 3.35-4.20pm (£7.50 per 45min session), ages 6-8

Orange ball 4.20-5.20pm, ages 8-10

Green ball 5.20-6.20pm, ages 10-12

Yellow ball 6.20-7.20pm, ages 13 upwards

No commitment is necessary; everyone is welcome to come and try a session. Rackets are available to borrow. Ages are approximate, depending on experience. Unless otherwise stated, sessions are £10.

Adult coaching:

Tuesday 1-2 pm - all welcome, particularly those playing tennis for the first time, and improvers. There is availability for private sessions if this is of interest.

Please contact Alex directly on 07876 194008 for any further questions or enquiries.

Jane Rust (07812 332654)

The Megalosaurus Society

In June a group of members attended a walk-and-talk on *Historic Woodstock* led by Dr Elizabeth Poskitt. To set the scene, the Bayeux-style wall-hangings in the Town Hall's Assembly Room showed key moments in Woodstock's history over the centuries; many of them related to royalty. Those are well worth a visit if you have an opportunity.



One of the Woodstock embroideries

This was followed by a (rather wet!) walk around the town where we learned about the history of its significant buildings and saw some interesting architectural details which had in many cases gone unnoticed before they were pointed out to us.

We finished the day with a visit to the Oxfordshire Museum, where Elizabeth guided us to see some of its most important treasures. As well as a look at the local glove-making and cut-steel industries, these included the Stonesfield embroidery, which documents the mosaic floor of our very own Roman Villa; now lost forever because it was ploughed into the ground in the 19th century.

The evening of Thursday 9 July will be devoted to a talk and display on Stonesfield's slate mines by Nina Morgan, research associate at Oxford University

Museum of Natural History, and Vivienne Kendall. This event is open to non-members at a cost of £5; please note that places must be booked in advance via the email address below.

We'd also like to bring your attention to a new exhibition at Oxford University Museum of Natural History – *Life as we know it* – which opens to the public this month. The exhibition marks the



completion of the Museum's four-year 'redisplay project' and incorporates nearly 50 new exhibition cabinets and interactive displays. We are especially delighted that one cabinet is devoted entirely to *Megalosaurus* and other important fossils from Stonesfield. (OUMNH, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PW; www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk/life-as-we-know-it)

For more information about the Society and its activities, please get in touch with us at megsoc25@gmail.com.

Trisha Williams, Co-Chair

.....

Mr Megalosaur roars back

After viewing the Dinosaur Garden at The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock:

What big teeth you have, Mr Meg
I hope you've already had a meal -
perhaps the tearoom cafe doesn't cater
for your taste, judging by your bar & grill
smile. Juicy red steaks aren't on the menu,
last time I looked. And I hate to say this,
your Poundland Edward scissor-hands
won't cope with the cutlery. Still,
there's plenty to tempt vegetarians here;
Ginkgo biloba, wollemi pine, horsetail
No no! Please don't get excited -
horse won't appear on the menu
until the French discover...

Roar! I will, in time, blow your Creationist minds!
[He roars a Cosmic proportioned prophesy]:
My sharp toothy jaw's prodded free from the deep
sleeping Jurassic seabed. Stonesfield slate miners
unaware unearth my old bones, raise me out
from my Great Oolite grave -
sold on to a churchman, Reverend William Buckland.
You will know the story... Like Adam he names me
He names me *Megalosaurus*.
I toyed with thoughts of fame and fortune -
Megalosaur 'R' Us
Your Poet Laureate with fanfare shapes me into life -
Simon says I shimmy and slink. You think me extinct...
I'm here, in this garden, in Oxfordshire
About to eat you ALIVE!
Lindsey Thornton

Stonesfield Food Group

Emergency Food help

One of the aims of the Food Group is to support Stonesfield residents who are struggling to afford nourishing food. We are able to do this using the funds raised by the Community Cafés run alongside the Repair Café, and through other generous donations.

We are currently able to offer food parcels or emergency supermarket vouchers. If you, or someone you know, could benefit, contact Kate Harris, on 01993 898781 or via email at kateharris58@yahoo.co.uk.

If you are able to, you can support the food parcel initiative by donating tinned meat pies, hotdogs, meatballs, chicken, or ham. They can be left in the brown box on the doorstep of 6 Brook Lane.

Julie Curran (07973 730907)

Stonesfield Gardening Club

June saw our biennial Open Gardens event, when a few of our members (and some non-members) let the general public in through the garden gate, to see what they have created in the private space around their houses. These events are very popular throughout the country as we discover what 'lies behind', and get to satisfy our curiosity about our neighbours and fellow villagers. The Gardening Club also makes a useful profit from selling teas as well as tickets, which we will be distributing to local good causes.

In July our meeting will be a visit to Chippy Flower Farm, where we will be taken behind the scenes to see what it takes to grow flowers commercially. There are a limited number of places for this, so please let me know if you wish to come along. Guests are welcome at £9 per head.

Diane Bates

Secretary Stonesfield Gardening Club

www.stonesfieldgardening.info



A fun sport for all the family!
Charlbury Bowls Club welcomes new members from aged 7 and upwards - taster sessions available by arrangement.
Great facilities: all bowls equipment provided to play on a well-maintained green in the summer and our two short mats in the clubroom all year.
Registered Bowls England coaches.
We have a well-stocked bar too!
Contact: enquiries@charlburybowls.co.uk
Ian Lever: 07585328171
Or Jackie Hague: 07714642302
74 Ticknell Piece Road OX7 3TW
What3words address: [spillage.curly.farms](https://www.what3words.com/spillage.curly.farms)
www.charlburybowls.co.uk



Church news

Church of England Worship at St James the Great, Stonesfield

(Benefice of Stonesfield with Combe Longa)

www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org

Rector: Revd Ralph Williamson,
rector@scbenefice.org, 01993 891872

Churchwarden: Lindsey Sellar
stonesfield@stonesfieldparishchurch.org

St James' Centre bookings:
sjcsbookings@gmail.com

For any enquiries or help, including pastoral support, please do contact us.

From the Rector: What really matters?

One of the joys of human life is our experience of things which move or please us, things which matter to us. We probably all have favourite places, favourite views, favourite music, favourite food and so on. Special people are precious to us. The smell of the sea may bring sweet childhood memories back to us. Special mugs or tea towels may recall a particular holiday, and a treasured photograph may mean so much, especially as we get older and look back with thankfulness or longing. If we are fortunate enough to have religious faith, there may be churches or other sites which stir deep passions for us. Lovers of poetry or literature will know by heart the passages which inspire them.

As a Christian there are parts of the Bible which carry great meaning for me, which

are able to express in just a few words a sense of what is truly important for me about my faith. The passage to which I return most often is from St Paul's letter to the Galatians (Chapter 3:28) where he says,

'There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.'

When Paul wrote this around 50AD, it was a revolutionary statement. In his time, men and women were not considered equal, and there was a world of difference in the way slaves were treated compared to freemen in the Roman Empire. Jews were separated from Greeks by a great number of rules and barriers. All this was washed away in the early church, and it is no wonder that thousands of people quickly joined the first Christians, who had such love for one another despite apparent differences.

Today there are deep divisions between people in our communities, and in our world, deep fears and barriers which separate us from one another in all kinds of ways. Vested interests stir up mistrust. There has been violence on our streets and some people live in fear of the aggression and hatred of others.

Although Paul's words were written specifically about the church community, for me they are also a prophetic vision of what the world could be like if we put away our fear, overcome our divisions and accept other people as they are. For me,

this inclusiveness and openness of heart to other people is what really matters, both in the church and in the world at large.

Overcoming the things which separate us from others may not be easy, but treasuring our shared and richly varied humanity opens for us the beautiful possibility of new relationships, a better understanding of ourselves and a joy we never knew before.

Revd Ralph Williamson - Rector

Church services:

Sunday 5 July [Trinity 5]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe	All Age Worship
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

Sunday 12 July [Trinity 6]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe	Parish Communion
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion

Sunday 19 July [Trinity 7]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe	Parish Communion
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion

Sunday 26 July [Trinity 8]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe	Parish Communion
11am	Stonesfield	St James' Festival Parish Communion

Wednesdays

9.30am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion (every week)
11am	Combe	Morning Prayer (1, 29), Holy Communion (15)

Stonesfield Methodist Church

Sunday Services for July

5	11am	Ms Moyo
12	11am	The Reverend Stephen Bywaters
19	11am	The Reverend Andrew Biggs Holy Communion Service
26	11am	Locally Arranged Service

Summer days stretch ahead and I wonder what they will bring: scorching sunbeams or squally downpours. How blessed we are to have such a rich variety.

St. Swithin's Day is celebrated on 15 July. Saint Swithin was a much-loved Bishop of Winchester in the 9th century and he died in 862. Just a few years later he was given a new resting place, and this gave rise to forty whole days of heavy rain. What a story!

Apple lovers like me are sure to pray for raindrops on St Swithin's Day: tradition says the apple crop will then taste better than ever.

That you may be children of your Father in heaven,

He causes His Sun to rise on the evil and the good,

and He sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Matthew 5:45

Come to a Service soon.

Kathleen (891733)

k.m.albert14@gmail.com

Roman Catholic Worship

Corpus Christi (Body of Christ)

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body'. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'

Matthew 26:26-29

The Feast of Corpus Christi, established in 1317, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, is a Catholic celebration of the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist – and thus a sacred reminder that, in every Mass, Jesus' one sacrifice of Calvary is sacramentally made present and offered anew for 'the forgiveness of the sins we daily commit' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1366).

The significance of the location of the date for Corpus Christi (60 days after Easter; 4 June 2026) is that Maundy Thursday sees the institution of the Holy Eucharist, and Corpus Christi is the joyful remembrance. Catholics celebrate Corpus Christi to profess and adore our Eucharistic Lord. Jesus is truly present body, blood, soul, and divinity in the Eucharist. At every Mass we partake of the Lamb of God, the New Covenant Passover sacrifice. Not only that, this feast highlights the sacramental and sacrificial reality of Christ's presence. Additionally, it affirms the Church's teaching on transubstantiation, and invites the faithful into deeper Eucharistic devotion.

Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.'

John 6:35-41

Holy Mass at St Theresa's, Charlbury

Sunday Mass 9.15 am

Wednesdays and Fridays 9.15 am

For Parish updates, more information and further support, please go to www.stteresaschurch-charlbury.com/ or contact Fr. Clive Dytor, Parish Priest: fr.clive.dytor@rcaob.org.uk

Roman Catholic Community in Stonesfield



Bespoke massage treatment and products using essential oils for women and children from my relaxing aromatherapy room in Stonesfield

- Parking
- evening appointment
- personal service
- loyalty scheme

For help with anxiety/depression/sleep problems and hormonal issues

Contact Lucy Martin 07552 653000

Lavenderend8@gmail.com

ITEC qualified, CThA insured

Looking for First Aid?

Are you looking for a first aid course that's practical, engaging, nationally accredited and meets industry and workplace standards? Then look no further!

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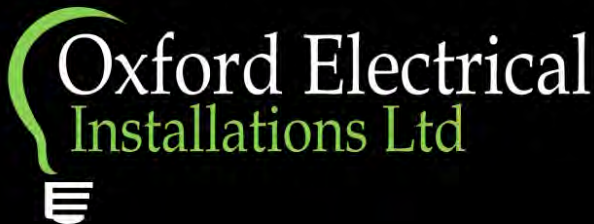


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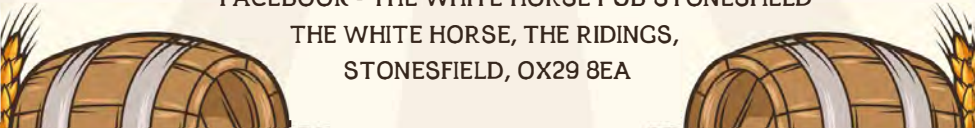
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