News and Views  

Eagle coaches, Faringdon - 30/1/16  
I am writing the History of Red Bus Services (East Devon) and doing a slide show for the Devon General Society in Exeter on the 27th Feb.  
Before I ever started my Bus Business I was in the Royal Corps of Transport and finished my time at RAF Abingdon where 384 Air Despatch Troop were stationed who used the Drop Zone at Watchfield frequently.  
Just before I left the Forces I took, as part of my release, a Pre Release Course to get my PSV and this I did (in 1969) with Eagle Line at their Faringdon Depot – I don’t know whether Faringdon was Berkshire or Oxfordshire back then but COOMS (City of Oxford Motor Service) ran through there on the Swindon Service.  
I am anxious to acquire for the talk of any of the Fleet of Eagle Line that was in Faringdon – an image of their premises (I believe long gone) for the talk. I believe they may well have had Duplex Britannia bodied Coaches – possibly it was on one of these I took my test – it was probably a Bedford as it had a mechanical handbrake.  
Richard Holladay  
goldenhammerman@gmail.com  

Oxford Playhouse - volunteer ushers wanted - 28/1/16  
We will be advertising to recruit for more volunteer ushers. The application pack will be available for download online, with further information about the role.  
If you know anyone who is interested please do pass on the information.  
Information should go up on our website as of 1st February, and the deadline will be towards the end of March.  
Please go to www.oxfordplayhouse.com and click on ‘participate’.  

Volunteers wanted - 28/1/16  
I wonder if you could put a note out about a charity I have volunteered for: The Cinnamon Trust. The National Charity for elderly and terminally ill people and their pets. They organise someone to maybe walk your dog if you are finding that tricky.  
short term foster care if in hospital or long term care for pets if the owner has died or they are unable to take their pet to residential care.  
Please call 01736 757900 for more details or online www.cinnamon.org.uk  
Alison Parker  

Faringdon Artistic skating - 29/1/16  
I'm pleased to announce that Richard Whitlock has been selected to skate for Great Britain in Zaandam Holland 1st to 3rd May, also German Cup in Freiburg 24 to 28 May  
We are all very Proud of you Richard  
Dee England  

Online survey re GP online system - 27/1/16  
Two surveys - one for those who DO use online services and the other for those who do.. These are intended to be complete by individuals.  
The closing date for the surveys is Thursday 18th February 2016.  
Patient Online have created 2 surveys, for those aged 18 years and older, to collect information so that NHS England can get a better view about how patients feel about booking and cancelling appointments, ordering repeat prescriptions and viewing their medical records online. This is a follow up survey to the one that took place during Dec 2014-Jan 2015. The information will be used to shape and improve future online services.  
The survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete and your responses are anonymous and will remain confidential.  
Please complete Survey A if you DO NOT use any online services (access to records/appointment booking/online repeat prescriptions) currently at your GP Surgery.  
Survey A - https://www.engagedoctor.nhs.uk/survey/975b1718  
Please complete Survey B if you DO use any online services (access to records/appointment booking/online repeat prescriptions) currently at your GP Surgery.  
Survey B - https://www.engagedoctor.nhs.uk/survey/7a02aa19  
NAPP  
National Association for Patient Participation  
ED: You can register for online services with WHMP on http://www.whmp.co.uk/info.aspx?p=6  

Folly on BBC TV - 26/1/16  
If you missed the Folly on TV last evening, see BBC iplayer http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b06yrcdm/inside-out-south-25012016  
Minutes 19.38- 23.10  
Super pics  
Ed  

Faringdon Town Council newsletter - 26/1/16  
You can sign up for this on http://faringdonthowncouncil.gov.uk/section1  
No idea when there will be one. Maybe someone on or works for FTC will tell us  
Ed(GW)  

Faringdon Folly on BBC TV - 25/1/16  
A programme about follies and I think there may be something about our Folly Tower on this programme  
BBC One - Inside Out South, 25/01/2016  
http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06yrcdm  
Eddie Williams  

Wicklesham Quarry: Freedom of Information Request to OCC - 26/1/16  
A Freedom of Information request has been sent to Oxfordshire County Council asking for disclosure of all communications with Faringdon Council regarding Wicklesham Quarry. OCC’s statements that Wicklesham’s restoration was ‘of primary importance for the environment’ & ‘overriding public interest’ were legally correct & highly welcome- but OCC is ALSO saying: “If another application, determined on its merits, was granted permission and implemented, it would override the current permission whether restoration was achieved or not.”  
If this looks to you & me like a total contradiction - I think a court will agree with us. Clearly, it was only the many objections to ‘abuse of process’ by Grundon Ltd that finally prompted OCC’s attempt to APPEAR legally compliant - after six years of allowing repeated delays, I have written to Deputy Director Bev Hindle:  
“Years of officially- sanctioned delay in carrying out planning conditions in an attempt to avoid fulfilling them; contradictions between the County Council’s legal obligations, planning decisions and strategic policies; and the appearance of involvement with private landowners involving a neighbourhood plan that is legally flawed – constitute deeply troubling circumstances for local democratic accountability.”  
By granting SIX delay applications by Grundon since 2010 (each of which included a promise to restore the quarry within 12 months), the Co. Council has given explicit support and encouragement for a private project of which it was well aware, and which was totally contrary to Wicklesham’s existing planning conditions, Minerals & Waste Policy, the Local Plan, and the National Planning Policy Framework for the Sustainable Use of Minerals. Now, in its latest guise, this project is ALSO outside the legal remit of neighbourhood planning!  
As someone wrote to me recently this is a ‘can of worms’.  
Anna Hoare  

Radio 4, 2.15 today 25th - 25/1/16  
What England Owes’ By Christopher William Hill  
As WW2 nears its end, Lord Gerald Berners is sent to assess Faringdon House in Berkshire for the National Trust. Faringdon is home to the composer, artist and poet Gerald, Lord Berners, who has returned to England under a cloud, having spent most of the war in Rome. Lord Berners is determined that provision must be made for his beloved Robert through - a man given to dying his doves to co ordinate with the food he's serving and the once proud owner of a pet giraffe. Together with the handsome Robert Heber Percy and his wife, Jennifer, Lord Berners is part of an apparently successful ménage a trois.  
Lees-Milne finds it an inspirational relationship and is convinced it would be the perfect and most civilised lifestyle to lead. Berners is part of an apparently successful ménage a trois. Lees-Milne finds it an inspirational relationship and is convinced it would be the perfect and most civilised lifestyle to lead. Berners is determined that provision must be made for his beloved Robert if the house is acquired by the Trust. And as Lees-Milne contemplates mortality, he considers what his own legacy will be.  
Produced & directed by Marion Nancarrow  
Ed  

Re: Petrol Costs - 25/1/16  
I asked 'Man behind counter' why their prices were higher and:  
Man: Where are you a competing against?  
Me: Texaco at Lechlade.  
Man: We compare against the BP garage on the A420.  
Me: Its 1p cheaper there at the moment.  
Man: It won't be tomorrow.  
Me: I'll be in Lechlade on Saturday anyway so I'll fill up properly there. Its cheaper.  
E10.9 in Lechlade.  
Tony
RE: Petrol costs in Faringdon - 25/1/16

Sady I feel that there is still enough drivers still filling up there that they can get away with those prices. What they fail to get is that by reducing your price to a fair amount would significantly increase footfall to the shop and purchasers of their fuel. A case in point is a service station in Sutton Courtenay.

Oxford Mail 6 Jan ---

"Motors have flocked to Sutton Courtenay Tyres in the village's High Street to fill up on diesel, priced at just 96.9p.

Site manager Nigel Primrose said queues had been near-constant since he cut the cost on Saturday."

We can just hope that the greedy bunch that now run that station will eventually see the light and turn it back into an asset more fitting for Faringdon.

Rob Perkins.

Petrol costs in Faringdon - 25/1/16

Euro garages who own the franchise in Faringdon and at 350 other filling stations are basically rip off merchants.

They have a lot of filling stations I pass on the way to work and leisure pursuits and they are expensive for fuel. All of them are more expensive than any other I see. Why are Euro Garages so dear? I guess because they can get away with it.

What shall WE do about it? Not use them for anything and let others know. It's 99.7 or even less now in Carterton at the ASDA station.

Go there.

Colin Eddy

Farlingdon's Health Centre - 23/1/16

Down in Devon at the moment with my father who is in his nineties, and isn't too well and the contrast between the Health Centre in Modbury and Farlingdon is enormous!

They don't usually do home visits during surgery time but do when needed. My father had some tests done and needed a prescription which I could pick up in an hour or so. If I missed the dispensary opening time, it would be held on reception!

What marvellous service. Never experienced anything like this in Farlingdon and considering my father lives in a tiny village in very rural Devon, I am astonished.

Any problems and I can ring in and seek further advice. The service I have received has been a lot better than what is on offer or what I have received at the expanded White Horse practice. The Fernhill was a good practice but alas no more. Pity!

Get ill, come to Devon!

Name withheld

Shout out to all cooks, chefs, cake bakers or anyone in hospitality or catering! - 23/1/16

La Bobina are extremely pleased to be hosting the one day course for 'Level 2 Award for Food Safety in Catering' for Farlingdon and the surrounding areas, this is being held for all cooks, chefs and anyone in the catering / hospitality industry who either requires their certification to be updated (needs to be done every 3 years) or requires to be qualified for their kitchen or business.

The course is being held on Tuesday 16th February 2016 at La Bobina, it will start at 09.30 and finish at 14.30. The price of the course is just £20 which includes course booklet, test paper, certificate and two breaks with refreshments, although you may want to bring your own lunch.

A network of off-road cycling routes and way marked routes for walking ( mountain bike trail and Cycling Hub mentioned- see attached)

extension to the car park and improved vehicular access

Mobile Facilities Kiosk and cycle parking

Signage and interpretation

In response to an objection the National Trust respond:

- I do appreciate your concerns around walkers and bikers using the same site and indeed this was one of the main motivations for planning designated cycle trails. When we consulted visitors about what they want from the site, one of the main requests was to improve safety. Currently, mountain bikers and walkers are using the same criss-crossing footpaths and riders roam the woodland in a completely unregulated way. Walkers cannot predict when a mountain biker might appear in front of them.

- With clear, designated cycle routes drawing bikers away from the footpaths, walking at Badbury Hill will be a more safe and tranquil experience. In the proposals, cycle and walking routes do cross each other at certain points, but these will be flagged up to users (using signage that is sympathetic to the natural site) and pedestrians will have the right of way.

- Intesections will be avoided where cyclists are going downhill and the route will be designed so that there are clear sightlines at these points. Bends or natural features such as large rocks or logs can be used to slow down riders.

- Walking routes will not be affected – walkers will be able to follow all the same routes they currently enjoy, but their walk will become more peaceful as the cycles will be diverted to different parts of the woodland.

- Another of your concerns was around the natural environment at Badbury Hill. The National Trust's remit is to look after special places for ever, for everyone. It has conservation at its core. Designated cycle trails at Badbury Hill will discourage cyclists from using the whole site, reducing erosion and damage to the woodland floor.

- The project also offers opportunities to enhance the biodiversity of the site. Badbury Hill was created as a conifer plantation, which has limited wildlife value. The National Trust plans to gradually restore the plantation to native British broad-leaved woodland, which offers a much richer and more diverse habitat for wildlife.

- Finally, we want to play our part in helping the next generation to grow up loving and caring for the British countryside. The only way to do that is to encourage them to enjoy spending time outdoors by providing facilities that appeal to them. Providing cycle trails gives families a reason to go out into the countryside and will help them grow to love it, rather than feeling it's not relevant and therefore not important to them.

I hope this answers some of your concerns and I attach a Question & Answers document which gives more information about the scheme, but please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any more questions.

Death of my cat - 21/1/16

Cats wander and I accept that. They are individual, they are affectionate, they are curious and they are playful.

At around 2220 this evening my cat was witnessed to be hit by a silver Ford Focus on park road between the new flats and the old furniture shop. The driver did not stop. Instead, luckily there were two lovely people who had the respect to lay my much loved cat Dotty on the side of the road and wrap her in a picnic blanket.

To the driver, I hope that you can sleep tonight knowing that you did not have the guts to stop your car and do the right thing by taking responsibility of your actions and that in around 7 hours time I will have to break the hearts of two young girls, 2 and 5, that their beloved cat is in cat heaven.

To the people that looked after Dotty and posted on Facebook, I wholeheartedly thank you!

Andrew Dunbar

Adult Mental Health Services in Oxfordshire- Whats New - 21/1/16

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) in partnership with Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust would like to invite you to an event that they are holding on Tuesday, 23rd February in Oxford, which will showcase a range of new mental health services across Oxfordshire.

They are keen to show you how our new services are already improving the lives of people with mental health illness.

The event will bring together Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust with Connection Floating Support, Elmore Community Services, Oxfordshire Mind, Response and Restore and Thames Valley
Police and South Central Ambulance Service and will showcase how these partnerships are already helping individuals to focus on their personal journey towards recovery by identifying the goals that are important to them. People attending will have the opportunity to explore how they can be involved in and benefit from the continuing development of mental health services across the county. There will be short talks and information available about services such as the new Recovery College, the psychological and wellbeing service (TalkingSpace Plus) and crisis services. If you would like to attend the event or have any queries about the venue and timings of this event, please contact: Julia Stackhouse on 01865 334638 or by email to ccsus.talkinghealth@hhs.net. The organisers would be grateful if you could share this invitation with service users and/or carers For more information click this link

Here in the Woods has been nominated for the BBC Food and Farming Awards - 21/1/16
If you wish to support them go to:
BBC Food and Farming awards. http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2CnpRdnkyQ2cVpl/V7g29K3FR/bbc-food-and-farming-awards-nominations-are-open

Monica Graham
ED(GW) Can't yet see where to vote. If anyone knows, please let me know

Notes: Town Precept Open meeting, 18th January 21/1/16

- Precept increase either 5p or 7p a week. Council to meet and vote next week
  Grants fund to be increased to £15k
  Meeting voted for 7p- extra 2p to be spent on funding additional hours for FTC employee for Tidier Faringdon project
- Council offices and Tourist Information to move to Pump House, so that Corn Exchange offices can be let to Businesses. (Under terms of the lease Pump rooms cannot be let to Businesses)
- Faze, Youth building Highworth Road deemed not to be fit for purpose. Youth activities will take place in existing Town buildings - Corn Exchange, Pump House. Services to Youth in Faringdon are increasing.
- Council not yet decided to go ahead with purchase of the Faze site(under negotiation) from Oxfordshire County Council (could only be used for Community activities) Bloor have agreed that £50k (part of Folly Park View monies), originally for allotments can now be spent on purchase of Faze building.
- Maybe Corn Exchange floor will be renewed. Payment from Council Reserves
- Oxfordshire County Council are withdrawing many maintenance activities- verge cutting, pothole identification, weed spraying, sign cleaning, roundabout maintenance ++. They want Town and Parish councils to take on these tasks. Little/no ££ being offered.
- FTC to consider when more information is known. Findings and recommendations to be presented at May Town Meeting.
- FTC have produced a 3 to 5 year strategic plan. To be made available on the FTC website. http://faringdontowncouncil.gov.uk/ Not there yet
- Town Sign project (Celebrate identity of Faringdon through Public Art) - next steps explained

FTC Projects for 2016/2017

- Neighbourhood Plan referendum
- Move offices and TIC to Pump Rooms
- Faze development
- Renew Tucker Park play area
- Resurface all/some Oakwood Park
- Queens 90th birthday events
- Shed to be erected for FTC equipment (can’t remember where)

Email addresses collected for those interested in receiving an FTC newsletter
WHDC and OCC councillors were not present
Papers presented at the meeting are not on FTC website
ED(GW)

BIGGER GYM COMING TO FARINGDON! - 21/1/16
Mission Fitness UK would like to share some exciting news with you all. We are moving to bigger premises in March-April 16 which will have newly fitted showers, changing rooms, massage room, and fitness studio as well as a huge space for gym equipment and more. If anyone is interested in hiring our studio for classes or interested in membership, then please get in touch missionfitnessuk@gmail.com

Best Regards
Hayley Old and Graham Pardeew
CO-Owners

OCC admits: Wicklesham’s restoration is of ‘overriding public interest’ - 21/1/16
In October 2015, leading environmentalist Jonathon Porritt added his objection to those of many local people who protested against Grundon Ltd’s latest application to delay restoring Wicklesham Quarry. Quarrying finished around five years ago, and objectors argued that the repeated applications were an abuse of process.

Although Oxfordshire County Council HAS granted a further 12 months extension to the quarry operator, this time, they say, restoration MUST be carried out. Deputy Director for Strategy and Infrastructure Planning, Bevere Hindle, states: “There is local concern that the activity on the site continues to go on and on without restoration being achieved.” “The County Council as Mineral Planning Authority has a clear responsibility to seek to ensure that in granting any mineral permission, it is of primary importance for the environment that provision is made for the satisfactory restoration of the site. A number of extensions of time have already been granted for the final restoration. The mineral has all been worked and I therefore consider that the need to see the site restored satisfactorily and expeditiously is now of primary importance for the environment and constitutes an imperative reason of overriding public interest.”

Oxfordshire County Council affirms its obligations to “protect the landscape of the area,” and “restore and enhance biodiversity” in accordance with the Local Plan. The County Council also reaffirms the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework, to “provide for restoration and aftercare at the earliest opportunity to be carried out to high environmental standards, through the application of appropriate conditions, where necessary.”

This time we shall be holding them to their word, and objectors are determined that any further delay tactics by Grundon will meet a legal challenge and enforcement action.

Supporters of the campaign to PROTECT WICKLESHAM QUARRY FROM DEVELOPMENT thank Oxfordshire County Council for its clear statement of the environmental responsibilities of quarry owners and operators under the law, and we expect the Independent Examiner of Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan to recognize their legal weight.

Anna Hoare

Astronomy in Faringdon - 15/1/16
If you have an interest in Astronomy and have a facebook account, I have setup a group named Faringdon Astronomy. https://www.facebook.com/groups/1689988277911972/
You do not need to have a Telescope to enjoy the night sky (when there are no clouds). Raoul
Town Meeting Monday 18th January - 15/1/16
Corn Exchange 7.30pm
The meeting will include a presentation by the Town Council of its proposed Budget for 2016/17 following which residents will have an opportunity to put forward their suggestions for projects they wish to be considered.
This is a meeting of the electors of Faringdon, not a meeting of the Town Council.
All electors are welcome and may speak and vote on any matter in the detailed agenda.

VOLUNTEER at The Pump House Project - 15/1/16
The Pump House Project is a community project based in Faringdon. We run workshops, projects and events for our local community. All our activities are low cost or free and encourage positive community engagement for all ages. We rely solely on kind donations, grants and enthusiastic volunteers.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the following sessions:

- Disco Dots - Monthly on Mondays 9.00am - 12.00pm
- Community Cafe - Weekly on Wednesdays 9.00am - 11.45am
- Community Singing - Weekly on Wednesdays 11.30am - 1.00pm
- RotaKids - Weekly (term time) on Fridays 3.00pm - 5.30pm

We are currently looking for new Trustees to join our board in the following roles:
- Treasurer, Fundraising, HP
All volunteers will be required to undertake a DBS check, a short induction and safeguard training.

For further information please contact us at info@thepumphouseproject.co.uk or visit www.thepumphouseproject.co.uk to find out more about us.

Keely Wherry

KS14+ is 6 years old! 14/1/16
KS14+ is a youth group for teenagers in school years 8 and above, up to the age of 18. We open every Friday during term time, 7.30-9.30 pm
We meet at the village hall in Southmoor and always have a minimum of 3 DBS checked adults on duty.
We run trips, themed nights and activities. We also have a wi with a wide screen TV, music, table tennis table, 2 pool tables, table football and a tuck shop
We are run by a very capable committee and the rota of volunteers.
Have you got what it takes to be our main contact for this group? We urgently need someone to hold things together, with the help and support of the committee – not run the show, but to be the main contact. We cannot run without the help of people in this community.
We are looking for other adults to join our committee which meets 3 times a year. Or maybe you would like to join the rota of adults who offer 2-3 evenings per term.
If you would like to know more, please contact Delphy on 01865 821167 / delphythg@gmail.com

Faringdon Council’s policy for Wicklesham Quarry faces dozens of challenges. 14/1/16
A collective submission opposing Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan’s proposal to turn Wicklesham Quarry into a 20 acre industrial estate has been submitted this week to the Vale of White Horse District Council, together with hundreds of signatures of supporters of the campaign to PROTECT WICKLESHAM QUARRY FROM DEVELOPMENT.

The submission states that FNP fails to meet the ‘Basic Conditions’ by:

- seeking to make provisions on county matters which are ‘excluded development’;
- failing to be in general conformity with Local Plan strategic policies;
- failing to have regard to national policies and guidelines, including the National Planning Policy Framework and ODPM Circular 06/05;
- being in breach of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act; and
- failing to show any justification or necessity for a policy which would harm a Site of Special Scientific Interest of international importance as a unique type site, as well as being a Conservation Area with both European Protected Species and Priority Habitat.

The submission demonstrates that the neighbourhood plan ‘data’ are inaccurate and misleading, and objects to the inclusion of material that Faringdon Council has failed to make available for public scrutiny, privately commissioned by the landowner.

I have informed the Inspector that Faringdon Council and the FNP Steering Group have failed to correct the many glaring inaccuracies and misleading statements brought to their attention in the last public consultation, & ignored complaints already made on all these grounds. They have also omitted crucial information about Wicklesham Quarry’s importance for biodiversity, its CTA status, and continue to claim – wrongly – that it is a ‘brownfield site.’

Observers find all these omissions & deceptions disgraceful, but not altogether surprising. The FNP Steering Group’s key members are owners of Wicklesham Estate, Farm & Quarry, together with their land agent. These same individuals are also the producers of the unreliable, grossly misleading, as well as unpublished data which are cited in the Evidence Base.

For all these reasons and more, the neighbourhood plan fails to meet the basic conditions, and supporters of the campaign to PROTECT WICKLESHAM QUARRY FROM DEVELOPMENT look forward to a positive outcome from the independent inspection.

Anna Hoare

Lost - silver crucifix - 12/1/16
...... on Monday 11 January in Faringdon between Harding Close & Market Square. Not valuable but great sentimental value. If found please call 242085.
Thank you
Sally Fox

Chinese Lanterns - 11/1/16
While out on Church Farm path today I picked up a "Chinese Lantern" that had come down Saturday night not far from a large straw stack. These lanterns may look pretty when they go up but can be quite dangerous when they come down, both to livestock which may eat them and, if still burning, to combustible materials like thatched roofs and stacked hay / straw. Folk should consider the risks of where they come down before setting them off.
Rachel Kenward

Wicklesham Quarry - 11/1/16
So many people care about this and we must carry on caring until Wicklesham Quarry is SAFE!
TODAY- Sunday 16th Jan. - is your LAST CHANCE to add YOUR name to a planning submission to Protect Wicklesham Quarry from Development! Or to submit your own objection to Faringdon Council’s aim to turn Wicklesham quarry into a 20 acre industrial estate. Don’t let it pass you by. The deadline is 4.00pm on 11th January. http://www.whitehorserdc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/faringdon-neighbourhood/

The collective submission will be delivered to the Vale tomorrow and will go forward to the independent planning inspection. If you want some planning points showing how Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan’s proposal to turn Wicklesham into a 20 acre industrial estate FAILS TO MEET THE BASIC CONDITIONS I can send you a boiled down version today- message me ASAP.
Email: protectwicklesham@gmail.com.
To everyone who came along yesterday to show your support! So many people care about this, and we must carry on caring until Wicklesham Quarry is SAFE!
Anna Hoare

Library: Children’s Book Club - 11/1/16
A reminder that Faringdon's Library children's book club for 8 - 12 year olds kicks off the New Year next Saturday, 16th Jan at 10.30 to 11.15. All young readers welcome! We'll be taking a special look at your favourite illustrators and doing some drawing ourselves!
Annette Farr

Lost phone?? - 11/1/16
I have found an iPhone near the market square in Faringdon. For safe return please ring me on 07522 834410

Faringdon Twinning - 8/1/15
The Twinning Association have created their own website.
Have a look at it - there's still more to do - a great start http://faringdontwinningassociation.weebly.com/

Used Christmas cards and stamps - 7/1/16
Does anyone know if there is a collection point in Faringdon?
Ed

Local newspaper office - 7/1/16
In answer to Trevor Noyes request for the address of Charles Luker Printers, I always understood he operated from what is now SandwichPhillers between The Gifted Magpie and Davis DIY in London Street. Whether that was in 1865 I don't know. Perhaps some older Faringdonian may have the answer.

Dennis Haynes
New Bus stops on Coleshill Drive - 7/1/16

"Find out when your bus will arrive. Text 87287 or visit tfl.gov.uk/buses" I know that TFL covers a wide area, but I didn't realise they have expanded into deepest Oxfordshire. It's a mystery why anyone would think it relevant at this pair of stops. Could you possibly find out through through the Faringdon grapevine?

The only reason I can think is that these are put up by a national based company who cover the country then I am wondering if the wires got crossed and they have confused Faringdon with the Faringdon in London?

Anyone any other thoughts?

Name supplied

Egypt Statue - 7/1/16

Lightening explanation about the history of this figure, thanks. For more information on the Crystal Palace see: http://www.crystalpalacefoundation.org.uk/crystal-palace-history/

Name supplied

Blankets for refugees - 7/1/16

Can anyone tell me please if there is a fairly local group collecting blankets etc for refugees.

Key

Please Donate Blood - 7/1/16

We have a blood donation session at The Corn Exchange, Faringdon on the Tuesday 12th January.

With the weather getting worse, people finding themselves busy with the festive break and the rise in colds and bugs, giving blood and plateleters slips off the nation's to-do lists. Last year we saw 24,000 missed appointments over the holiday period. To help overcome this, NHS Blood and Transplant is launching a campaign to encourage our donors to 'make and keep their date to donate.'

- Please can you show your support on your social media channels by sharing the poster attached with the suggested tweet/posts below:-

Suggested tweets are:

- Will you #GiveBlood this winter? Help save or improve up to 3 lives over the festive period #GiveBloodNHS
- Make a date to donate and #GiveBlood this winter. It'll help those who rely on your donations to stay healthy
- Busy this festive period? Help out @GiveBloodNHS while you take a break & put your feet up to #GiveBlood
- Add details to the events section on your website
- Put up posters around your building where people can see them
- Put them in the reception, canteen area and anywhere that they can be seen!

Thank you and best wishes

Jennifer Hobbs
Session Marketing Coordinator (South Midlands)
Tel: 0117 921 7445 (Internal: 27445)
Mobile: 07823 351 862

Facebook: NHSblood and OrganDonationUK

Public submission to the Planning Inspection on Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan - come and sign on Saturday 9th January, between 12.00 and 2.00pm - 7/1/16

A submission will be available to sign this Saturday between 12.00 and 2.00pm at Little Coxwell Village Hall. It concerns Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan's policy 4.5B to turn Wicklesham quarry into a 20 acre industrial warehousing site. This Policy breaches the Basic Conditions in numerous ways. 2 examples:

1. Wicklesham Quarry has existing planning conditions & a Restoration Plan, both of which are "County matters": neighbourhood plans are not allowed to make provisions on county matters. This breaches the Localism Act.
2. The Quarry is a 'European site' and neighbourhood plans are not allowed to do anything likely to have "significant effects" on a European Site.

There are numerous ways in which this policy does not conform with the Local Plan, the National Planning Policy Framework and EU obligations such as the SEA Directive - all clearly set out in the submission. Come along on Saturday and lend your support to protect this unique site for Faringdon. WE MUST ACT NOW!


Anna Hoare

EGYPT STATUE – RADCOT ROAD - 5/1/16

No - it wasn't ever part of the Great Exhibition of 1851, but it's easy to see where the confusion arises.

The 1851 Great Exhibition was housed in the first "Crystal Palace", built in Hyde Park for a budget of just £150,000 (£14mil in today's money). The Great Exhibition was scheduled to run for just six months, but it was such a commercial success (it also housed the first public lavatories – costing a penny – hence the phrase "spending a penny") – as well as more than 100,000 objects from 15,000 exhibitors) that the decision was made to build an entirely new Crystal Palace at Sydenham. This was significantly bigger, with a new design for the main building, and substantial gardens.

The cost for the new building (they did re-use the old Hyde Park components where possible) was a much chunkier £1,300,000 (£120million today)

They then had to fill the new Palace and the new gardens! Over a thousand copies of the best of the world's statuary were constructed, and new works were commissioned. A series of 26 statues along the Upper Garden Terrace (running along the entire front of the new Palace) represented countries and cities. One of these, Egypt, was sculpted by the Italian-born French sculptor Baron Carlo Marochetti. Another, by Antoine Etex (also French), represented Marseilles. Both are now in the g

https://archive.org/details/officialcatalog06unkngoog

For 1854 plan of New Crystal Palace and park: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/71/Crystal_Palace_Park_-_1857.jpg

Back from hol - 5/1/16

Watson, News and Views, Jobs, For Sale, Guestbook updated

ED

Local paper address in 19th century - 5/1/16

Does anyone know where the "Faringdon Advertiser and Vale of White Horse Gazette" was located in London Street about 1885, please. It was "owned" by a Charles Luker. The present address would be useful.

Thanks.

Trevor Noyes

Statue on Stanford Road - 5/1/16

Could anyone please supply any information about the statue on the left leaving Faringdon on the Radcot road.

Have driven past it lots of times and wondered if it had any reason for being there.

thanks

Dave

Ed: Egyptian statue thought to be from the 1851 Great Exhibition. Put there by either Robert Heber-Percy or Lord Berners- both of whom were just a little eccentric!

Laser Combat - 5/1/16

Great fun even for us oldies. I took part in a laser combat match as part of my Godsons birthday. It was held in an old derelict warehouse in Slough and was great fun. Although not cheap, you do get what you pay for and everyone was tired but beaming from ear to ear at the end.

PS. Sorry Douglas - cannot participate in your poll as we don't do "social media". Hope your venture comes to fruition.

Regards Mark
Stanford Tip Petition - 5/1/16
As many of us visit the tip over the festivities, please don't forget that the tip is still under threat (along with other essential services like the subsidy for the 67 bus etc etc). If you use the tip, and haven't signed the petition, please keep the pressure on OCC to keep this site open.
Name Supplied

Access to Wicklesham Quarry - 5/1/16
Anyone who may be interested in reading my response to 'Anna Hoare is wrong' by the 'Green Witch' can find it on the Facebook public page 'Protect Wicklesham Quarry from Development' and/or the FB group page 'I live in the town of Faringdon.'
Anna Hoare