Kay Fox

I have never seen any of the building of the tower.

Copies of the photos would be available through English Heritage in Swindon.

In reply to Jon Mountayn, there are photos of the other things that are needed to ensure the Folly Tower and Woodland is a beautiful and safe place to visit, do contact us enquiries@faringdonfolly.org.uk

Folly Tower Open - 31/3/16
The Tower is open this Sunday, 11am-5pm.
Looks as if the weather will be pretty good. that day
Folly Friend

Wind turbines at Watchfield - 31/3/16
Please see the email below from Adam Twine, owner of the wind farm
Westmill Farm – Permitted Pedestrian Access to the Airfield
I am writing to inform you that I have recently erected signs on the Airfield asking all walkers to keep to the paths and to keep their dogs on a lead at all times.
Since creating the permitted access on the Airfield for local people almost 15 years ago the usage of the paths gradually increased and in the last two years very dramatically due no doubt in part to the development of Cowans Camp.

Two wildlife surveys over the last three years have shown a significant reduction in ground nesting birds, particularly Corn Bunting, on the site in the last few years. This correlates with general anecdotal evidence and is despite my employing various measures to try and support larger populations of wild birds on the site.

I suspect a major cause of the loss of birds to be the widespread roaming of dogs (and to a lesser degree people) in the areas that have been taken out of arable production and put down for birds for foraging and nesting.

I am keen to reverse this trend and as well as making more changes to my own farming systems I am asking for all walkers to keep to both walk only on the paths, not around the other margins and for dogs to be kept on leads at all times.

I would appreciate any support that the Parish Council can give to this move, as I believe that the permitted access is a valuable resource for the village.

If after a bedding in period to these changes I still need to ask people to keep their dogs on leads I will be inclined to ban dogs from the Airfield altogether. Any support the Parish Council is able to give to these changes will be much appreciated as I believe that there should be greater access to the countryside than there currently is and have no wish to reduce the permitted access currently in place at Westmill.

Yours sincerely
Adam Twine

Get a months unlimited swimming for £5 - 31/3/16
People throughout South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse wanting to get more active can take advantage of a month’s unlimited swimming at district council ‘Better’ leisure centres for just £5. Residents can take advantage of the offer at Abbey Sports Centre in Berinsfield, Didcot Wave, Faringdon Leisure Centre, Henley Leisure Centre, Thame Leisure Centre, Wantage Leisure Centre and at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre in Abingdon.

How to claim a month’s unlimited swimming for £5
Visit getoxfordshireactive.org/5swims2016 to register for this fantastic offer, or contact Hendriette Knouwds on 07717836750. Once you’ve signed up you’ll be sent an email containing a unique promotional code. Hand this in at your local leisure centre any time between Friday 1 April and Tuesday 31 May 2016 to activate your one month swim membership.

Reception staff will then give a one month swim membership card and two free guest passes for a friend to join you or for you to try out any of the other activities at ‘Better’ leisure centres.

You’ll also get a GO Active loyalty card - make sure reception staff stamp this each time you visit as you’ll get a free gift after your first six swims.

The unlimited swimming initiative is being provided by GO Active in partnership with ‘Better’ leisure centres managed by GLL in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse.

Building the Folly - 31/3/16
In reply to Jon Mountayn, there are photos of the opening of the tower on Nov 5th 1935. They were either in the Tatler or the Illustrated London News for that date.
Copies of the photos would be available through English Heritage in Swindon.
I have never seen any of the building of the tower.
Kay Fox
**Newsletter from White Horse Medical Practice - 30/3/16**

You can read the latest newsletter on the Patient Group (PPG) website [http://www.whitehorsepracticeppg.org.uk/news--your-views.html](http://www.whitehorsepracticeppg.org.uk/news--your-views.html)

A number of topics are included:
- National award: Dementia Group;
- Booking appointments: Braille, signing or hearing help;
- Buildings update; Online bookings;
- Parking;
- Recycling medicines;
- Text reminders;
- Antibiotics treatment;
- Appointments tips;
- Research – patients needed.

You can find out more about what the Patient Group does by reading the minutes on [http://www.whitehorsepracticeppg.org.uk/meetings--events.html](http://www.whitehorsepracticeppg.org.uk/meetings--events.html)

**WHMP PPG**

**Community Grants - 30/3/16**

We’ve just opened our next round of Comic Relief funding (see story below). However, don’t forget that Oxfordshire Community Foundation also distributes funds from private donors across the county via our own grants programme. The current round for our own grants closes on 29th April and you can apply for up to £5,000.

[http://oxfordshire.org/grants/](http://oxfordshire.org/grants/)

**VWHDC Residents Survey - 30/3/16**

Around three quarters of Vale of White Horse residents are satisfied with how the district council runs things. 75 per cent said also that the council offered good quality services, and seven out of ten agreed that they provided good value for money – the best result since surveys began in 2012.

The district council asked over 1,100 residents a variety of questions as part of their regular survey, including whether they thought the council offered good value for money and what they thought was the top performing council service. Like last year, waste and recycling services were voted top.

A full copy of the report can be downloaded at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/latestresidentsurvey](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/latestresidentsurvey).

**VWHDC**

**The Folly - 30/3/16**

Are there any photos of the folly being built?

Jon Mountayn

**Initiative for early diagnosis of Sarcoma - 29/3/16**

The first sign of sarcoma cancer is a lump on the leg, an arm or somewhere on the body.

If a GP correctly identifies the lump when it is smaller than a golf ball (5cm), it’s likely that the cancer can be treated successfully. However, most people are diagnosed with sarcoma when it is the size of a baked bean tin (10cm).


Click here to order your On the Ball pack

White Horse Medical Practice Patient participation group

**Funding for Community Groups - 28/3/16**

Community groups and parish councils in the Vale of White Horse can benefit from around £200,000 from the district council. One pot of funding is for areas that have experienced an increase in the number of houses. Recent projects funded by the council include redeveloping Harwell village hall and supporting carers in Wantage.

There’s also money available for areas who haven’t got extra houses, so for any local communities or parishes planning improvements like building new skate parks or play areas, upgrading sports pavilions, and purchasing defibrillators.

Applications for both rounds of funding close on Friday 6 May 2016.

Get in touch with our grants team, even if you just want to ask some questions – they can point you in the right direction and give you the help you need. *grants@southandvale.gov.uk* or on 01235 540525.

You can also visit our website [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants) to register and start an application for either scheme before 6 May 2016.

**VWHDC**

**Website updates - 27/3/16**

Have been away for a while. Updates now done - Whatson, For Sale, News and Views

Let me know if I’ve missed your post

Ed

**BRIGHTON COACH TRIP - 27/3/16**

Friday 27th May

9.00am Dep from Market Place

5.00pm Return from Brighton

£30 per person

Join us on a wonderful day out raising money for Faringdon Health Centre

Enjoy the sights of Brighton including Brighton Pavilion, Choccywoccydoodah, the beautiful shopping lanes in the old town plus cafes, pubs and restaurants...something for everyone!

BOOK NOW!

Contact Margot: 01367 244853

Email: lou@theadvertisermagazine.net
Yet again I am baffled about the petrol station! - 27/3/16

After seemingly random daily changes to the price of fuel at our delightful Esso station it seems to have fixed the price to a now daylight robbing 109.99. This is a staggering 10p more than the Heyford Hill Sainsburys in Oxford at 99.9. This Sunday they amazed me by reporting a special cut price fuel day. At what point is 103.99 cut price?

What is more crazy is that motorists continue to fill up there!

As far as I can tell the only real reason to stop there is to refuel yourself but not the car. The Subway and Greggs make for a tempting treat but the cost of the fuel may put you off your food.

Robert Perkins

Regent Cinema - 27/3/16

Tickets for our next Blockbuster film 'Carol' (15), showing on April 22nd are now on sale. Call 01367 242191 or visit us in the Information Centre, The Pump House, Market Place.

Faringdon Folly Tower and Woodland Open Meeting 17th March, 7pm - 16/3/16

Quad Tea Rooms, 7pm (Old Barclays Bank)

Come and hear about the wonderful progress we made last year, and to hear about the huge challenges facing us as we prepare to open the tower again from the beginning of April.

Please join us for a tea / coffee to hear about the progress we have made over the past year and our exciting plans for this year. www.faringdonfolly.org.uk

Volunteers Needed - 16/3/2016

We have secured funding for new play equipment in Tuckers Park so we need help removing the old equipment and the bark. We are planning to do this on the weekend of 3rd / 4th April and need lots of willing volunteers with spades and tools!

Please contact Sally Thurston Town Clerk on 01367 240281 sally@faringdontowncouncil.gov.uk if you can help.

There will also be lots of bark available for collection so please let me know if you are interested.

Sally Thurston

Faringdon Sports Park Litter Pick Saturday March 19th, 2.30pm - 15/3/16

Faringdon Litter Pickers are organising another 60 minute pick, this time up at Faringdon Sports Park - around the rugby pitch, cricket oval, tennis courts and skate park.

We would love to have as many people there as possible, (but children do need to be supervised by adults) and everyone needs gloves!

Meeting outside the Tennis Club at 2:30pm this Saturday.

Bethia Thomas, Town Team

Run for Eggstra Wishes 5km Fun Run, Badbury Clump, 9.30am, £5 - 15/3/16

Easter Bank Holiday Monday 5km Fun Run Event

Run through the snowdrops at Badbury Clump raising money for charity. All money raised will go to Make-a-Wish

Start point: Badbury Hill Entrance (on B4019 between Faringdon and Coleshill)

Time: 9:30am

Entry Cost: £5 with Medal and T-shirt

Formal booking not required, click attending on facebook event to join: http://on.fb.me/22hBYDc or

Contact Ashley Chapman

07717714477

ashley.chapman@southandvale.gov.uk

For Alan Hitchcock - 15/3/16

I would love the opportunity to talk to one of your contributors (Alan Hitchcock) who posted an article about New House School. The following is a link to the article.

http://www.faringdon.org/memories-of-faringdon.html

carl.benson@suffolklatchcompany.co.uk

Have you ever wondered what happens to your rubbish after its collected from your black bin? - 15/3/16

Come for a tour at Ardley ERF (that big building on the M40 by Banbury) and find out how your waste creates enough energy for 38,000 homes!

The tour is booked in at 10am 12 April 2016 for all South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse residents.

Please email Alexandra.Pyle@southandvale.gov.uk or call 01235 540566 to book a space or reserve a spot when more dates become available. Please forward on the details to anyone that maybe interested in coming along.

Alexandra Pyle

Waste Recycling Officer

Corporate Strategy

01235 540566

Text phone 18001 01235 540566

www.southoxon.gov.uk

Council Tax. - 14/3/16

What a surprise….not! Yet again the Faringdon Parish Council has imposed an increase in the precept in excess of all others.
The Vale who do a darn sight more than the "town" haven't increased the charge but the local "council" have. Why do they year on year increase for no appreciable gain to the town? The town is dying, facilities are poor compared to Wantage or Abingdon so why do they need the extra spending? Tis the same every year but no one listens. So Greater Faringdon Parish Council, what great plans do you have for the population of this little backwater town?

Colin Eddy

**Oxfordshire Charity and Volunteer awards** - 14/3/16
Nominate a charity of your choice for the Oxfordshire Charity and Volunteer Awards 2016. Anyone can nominate a charity for an award - whether you work for them, are a volunteer, or just think they are doing a great job.
http://ocva.org.uk/awards/

**Faringdon Library Junior Book Club** - 13/3/16
Our March meeting takes place next Saturday (19th) at the library from 10.30 to 11.15am. The theme is 'space' and all things extra-terrestrial. New members more than welcome.
Annette Farr

**Community awards. Vote by 21st March** - 12/3/16
Community Awards - voting closes March 21st. Please email your votes to beth@faringdontowncouncil.gov.uk or fill in the voting slip in the What's On paper and post it to us!

**Litter pick on Sat 12th** - 11/3/16
Zoe Bruce and her colleagues will be meeting in the square at 2.30pm. Not sure who else is involved with this- but just turn up with gloves/bagas and pickers if poss
Ed

**Cycle Ride for charity** - 11/3/16
I am entering a cycle ride from London to Paris to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis. If you could help me raise funds I would appreciate your donations my giving page is:- http://www.doitforcharity.com/trevornye
Trevor Nye

**Faringdon Free Food** - 11/3/16
This Sunday afternoon (13th March) we'll plant raspberry canes, lay down a weed-suppressing membrane, and cover this with bark chips in the raised beds opposite the Swan Inn. We'll meet at 2 pm by the raised beds in the small park opposite the Swan. All adults and children are welcome.

**Continental Board and Card Games Evening Friday 11th March** - 10/3/16
Pump House Project (Old Theatre), Swan Lane, Faringdon
6:30 PM - 9 PM
FREE!
Some of the games on offer - Spendour, Jaipur, Jamaice, Qwirkle, Carcassonne. Never heard of them? Fancy finding out what they're all about? Then come and join us for an exciting and fun filled evening! We'll provide the games and explain all the rules, so all you need to do is turn up and play, and stay as long as you like.
Refreshments available.
All ages, individuals, and family groups welcome.
Under 16s to be accompanied by an adult.

**Paving drive** - 9/3/16
We have just had our drive relayed with block paving by a local man Darryl Curtis and his crew. We are so pleased with the results, and they have exceeded our expectations. They worked so hard, and really had an eye for detail. I can highly recommend them, and it's so nice to be able to give local trades the business.
Well done Darryl.
Jacqui Massey

**New Faringdon Business Directory** - 9/3/16
I am in the process of creating a Faringdon Business Directory for all local business to help promote and tell the members of our town that different businesses exist. If you would like to be part of the directory please contact me at julie@mypavirtualservices.com or check out the website www.mypavirtualservices.com. Entry in the directory is only £10. The directory will be given away free of charge during the Faringdon Business Expo on the 25 June 2016. After that we are hoping to sell the directory for £0.50. Please support this fantastic project and local businesses.
Julie Farmer
The second round of funding for the Tesco Bags of Help scheme will open for applications on 18 April 2016.

- 9/3/16

Bags of Help is administered by Groundwork and funded by Tesco customers from the proceeds of the 5p charge for plastic carrier bags.

The scheme is open to community groups across England, Wales and Scotland to apply for grants of £8,000, £10,000 and £12,000 to improve local green space.

Projects that will get the green light as a result of the funding will include new pocket parks, sports facilities, schools, wildlife areas, seafront improvements and community gardens.

Tesco customers will be able to cast their vote on which shortlisted project in their area they would like to see receive the top grant from 1 October 2016.

Find out more about the application process here.

The first round of Bags of Help funding is already set to award £11.5m to over 1,000 groups.

Read more

**Litter Picking** - 8/3/16

I would like to congratulate the Lower Faringdon Litter Picking team which did such a great job last Saturday. Who do I contact please?

Conrad Jenkin

**Faringdon Folly, Hidden Britain by drone** - 8/3/16

Channel 4 programme will include the Folly and Faringdon House, and I think the Market Square. Don't know when it will be scheduled yet.

Have a look at [https://www.facebook.com/FaringdonFolly](https://www.facebook.com/FaringdonFolly) to see the drone and the Folly Team of marshalls

Gene Webb

**Vote for The Folly - last chance today.** - 6/3/16

The Tesco vote ends today. (grants from 5p bag sales).

The Folly is doing really well in the Faringdon store (THANKYOU THANKYOU to all who supported us) No idea what's happening in the other stores (Abingdon/Grove) but my guess is the Folly will be voted for fewer times than the other projects.

If you've anything you need to buy, please go to Tesco today. One last opportunity to vote. Thankyou

Gene Webb

**Ploughing at the Folly** - 6/3/16

The footpath which goes from the Stanford Road to Pusey, i.e. across the top of Folly hill, Past Wadley Manor and Buckland Warren is a public right of way and is clearly marked on the Ordnance Survey.

Unless they have been changed recently, the rules governing public rights of way are as follows:

"Public rights of way FAQs

- Where a crop (other than grass) has been planted or sown on land crossed by a public right of way, the occupier has a duty to ensure that the line on the ground of the public right of way is indicated. Field edge (or "headland" footpaths and bridleways) should never be ploughed. Additionally, the occupier has a duty to prevent the crop from encroaching within that width throughout the growing season. Failure to fulfill this duty is a criminal offence. (Rights of Way Act 1990 section 137A)

- Each public right of way may have a legal width recorded for part or all of the route, and in these cases this width should always be available. Where paths cross cultivated (arable) land and a width is not specified in the Definitive Statement, a guide to the minimum width that the path should be re-instated to is available below:

  - cross-field footpath - one metre
  - field-edge footpath - 1.5 metres
  - cross-field bridleway - two metres
  - field-edge bridleway - three metres
  - cross-field byway - three metres
  - field-edge byway - five metres

Please be aware that these minimum widths apply to arable land only and only where no other width for the path is recorded. It is the farmers' or landowners' responsibility to ensure that all public rights of way that pass over land they occupy and cultivate (under their care) are maintained to the standards required by law. If you are in any doubt about the width of paths, please contact the Public Rights of Way Officer."

Hilary Taylor

**Ploughing on the Folly** - 4/3/16

The Folly is a beautiful place!!

I am grateful I can walk my dog on the folly everyday, and I am always in possession of the 'dog walkers handbag'.

Some people feel that it is inconsiderate that the farmer has ploughed up to the hedges, I think it is far less inconsiderate than those dog owners who view the the Folly as a dog toilet.

The farmer has ploughed the land as he sees fit, there are plenty of other walks, the paths will return, just have a bit of patience. Inconsiderate dog owners pick up your dogs mess and bin it!

Mark Mills
We are seeking members of the public to participate in focus groups for a research project run by CASMI, a research institute within the University of Oxford. The research explores people’s attitudes towards different illnesses, and the characteristics that people associate with each illness. The focus groups will be held at a central Oxford location in March or April, and will last an hour and a half; travel expenses will be paid, plus a small contribution for your time. The research is focused on general public views rather than specific patient groups, so we will not be able to include you if you or a member of your immediate family has a current diagnosis or recent experience of: cancer, HIV/AIDS, dementia, stroke, mental illness, or heart disease. If you are interested in participating, please contact elizabeth.morrell@rdm.ox.ac.uk. We will arrange a specific date and location when we have sufficient participants. Thank you.


Ed

I did Sandshill, but it was so bad I only got as far as the first telegraph pole and filled 3 black sacks. The worst thing was the number of dog poo bags dumped at the bottom of the hill. I can't see the point of picking it up, only to chuck it in the hedge. We could do with a dog poo bin at the bottom of the hill, not just for this person but for all the other people who take their dog for a walk there.

Name Supplied

I've just learned that the 5ps are currently being given to Faringdon Pre School. No idea how long the school will be the chosen recipient or how other organisations in the town can apply.

Does anyone know?

Name Supplied

The Town Council Offices & Information Centre are relocating to the Pump House in the Market Square. We will close at 1pm on Saturday 5th March and re-open in The Pump House on Wednesday 9th March at 9am. Access is via the big green door or press the buzzer on the outside lift and we will happily help you inside!

Any questions, please call us on 01367 242191.

Please do pop in and see us!

The farmer who is ploughing the fields around the folly has ploughed up the public footpath that runs from the folly down the hill toward Wadley Manor. This footpath has been there for as long as I can remember and I am 69 years old. I have spoken to the tractor driver who is ploughing the field, but he did not seem to care two hoots about this. I have since spoken to a Mr. Arthur McEwan-James who is responsible for the public footpaths in the Faringdon area, who tells that if a farmer ploughs a public footpath up then that farmer is responsible for replacing the footpath within 14 days. Well, we all should watch that space and make sure that this is done. Mr. McEwan-James telephone number is 01865 810257, so for all of you who are concerned about that footpath, please give him a call.

Ray Wood.

Do come and join in the quiz night on Friday 4th March at the Catholic Church Hall (entry from behind Budgen's car park). Challenging questions, friendly fun, prizes, raffle, refreshments and rolls.

All funds raised go towards supporting the Youth Twinning Exchanges in July.

Teams of 4 for £10, but don't worry if you are a single or couple we can make you up to a four.

The event normally sells out, so let us know by email to: faringdontwinning@gmail.com or phone Hazel on 01367 241893 straight away to make your booking (pay on the night)

Look forward to seeing you there. Doors open at 7 for a 7.30 start.
I have filmed some nice aerial footage of Faringdon. - 2/3/16
The Folly, Badbury Clump and the beautiful surrounding countryside. Take a look at the link below :) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFw4oEIE0c
Mark Langley-Smith
Sliceofskyvideo@gmail.com

Faringdon- Destination or Dormitory? - 2/3/16
The theme for our AGM is the above question. We know that there are plenty of great reasons for people and businesses to stop, stay and ultimately pay for goods and services in Faringdon. But we need to work hard to promote them in today's crowded marketplace. We also face the challenge of creating and supporting sustainable jobs right here in our town against the stark fact that the planning process makes it much easier to build and sell houses than it is to safeguard and market land for employment.

So please come and join us to celebrate some of the things which are great about our town and also hear about some of the changes and challenges that we face. It all takes place on Tuesday 8th March at The Sudbury House. The meeting will be open to all from 7pm, with the AGM itself being open to Chamber members only from 6:30pm. Why not bring a friend or colleague?

Amongst others, we will be hearing from retail expert Keith Slater who will speak about an innovative way that Faringdon could evaluate itself in these ever changing times and we will also be hearing from award winning businesses Geo-4D and The Sudbury House about why they were attracted to Faringdon and what their future plans are.

Drinks and nibbles will be provided and further details will follow, but please can you confirm that you will be attending by replying to secretary@faringdonchamberofcommerce.co.uk
Paul Brame

Banking in Faringdon - 2/3/16
What a great shame that Barclays has left Faringdon.
The remaining bank service seems not very good and great improvements are needed. Faringdon deserves much better.
Name supplied

Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 - 2/3/16
Temporary Footpath Closure – Faringdon, Footpath 207/16 (from Park Road to Southampton Street) on 29 February 2016 for 5 days
In the interests of public safety it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to close the road as detailed above in order to facilitate footpath resurfacing works.
A temporary Notice is being made to implement the temporary closure and will operate on the days shown above. Access will not be maintained, an alternative route will need to be found.
A copy of the drawing showing the extent of the closure and also the alternative route for pedestrians is attached.
Further information regarding the works may be obtained by contacting Tim Wilde, OCC Highways & Transport on 0845 310 1111.
ED(GW) Sounds like the Hobble path

Mia the cat has been found - 1/3/16
I'm very pleased to report that our missing cat 'Mia' has returned home safely to Marlborough Gardens after 2 weeks.
Thank you to the kind people of Faringdon for their good wishes for her safe return.
Sarah

Big Clean up last Sunday - 1/3/16
About 25 people turned up, including around 8 children (stars!)
I didn't count the number of bags we filled- but it was a lot. We did London Road, up to the A420, Southampton St towards Volunteer Way, Sandshill, Fernham Road.
The Clean for the Queen weekend is coming up. No collective litter pick is planned, but maybe some people will do a bit anyway. Just imagine if 10% of Faringdon's population spent 15mins picking litter, what a difference it would make. See https://www.facebook.com/faringdonlitterpickers/
Name Supplied