

### **Managing Type 2 diabetes**- 31/10/20

My name is Becky and I work at Leicester Diabetes Centre. We have been working with staff at your local GP Practice to find out how we can get more people (patients, not staff!) to do training about how to manage their Type 2 Diabetes. We'd like to invite you to join us online for a cup of tea, a brief presentation and a chat about what the research involved and why we did it. We'd be really happy to meet you and find out what you think about research and diabetes education in your local area!

The talk will take place on the 12th November at 11am. If you'd like to join us, please drop me an email at [rp237@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:rp237@leicester.ac.uk) and I'll send you the link for the meeting.

We have lots of other activity taking place too, including an upcoming talk about vaccine research on the 17th November ("I took a research vaccine: ask me anything"), so do also feel free to express your interest in our work generally if you're excited about research.

With kind regards and hoping to 'meet' you on the 12th November.

Becky Pritchard

07887 753553 (please leave a message if I don't answer - so many zoom meetings!)

[rp237@le.ac.uk](mailto:rp237@le.ac.uk)

### **Hannah Westall Script writing award** - 31/10/20

Faringdon's Hannah Westall has won the 2020 Sir Peter Ustinov Television Scriptwriting Award, awarded by the International Emmys Foundation for her television drama script 'Mind The Gap'.

Hannah Westall, 26, grew up in Faringdon and attended Faringdon Community College before attending Cardiff University to study BA Journalism, Media and Cultural studies achieving a First Class Honours. After realising her passion lay in writing for television, she completed an MA in Screenwriting at the London College of Communication, achieving a Merit.

The competition, run by the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, is open to novice script writers all over the world. It aims to spotlight undiscovered writers outside of the US under the age of 30, and offer them the recognition and encouragement that can lead to a successful career in television scriptwriting.

The annually chosen winner is awarded \$2,500 and would normally be flown to New York to pick up the Sir Peter Ustinov Television Scriptwriting Award at the International Emmy Awards Festival. However, due to travel restrictions during COVID-19, Hannah is celebrating her success with housemates in her rented house in Tooting, London, which is currently under Tier 2 lockdown restrictions.

'I can't wait to go back to Faringdon to celebrate with my family as soon as we come out of Tier 2 restrictions. I video called all of my family and friends when I found out and everyone was so happy.'

Mind the Gap is a crime-drama about the aftermath of a young interracial couple being found dead in South London.

'I've been working on the script for Mind the Gap for two years, so it's incredible to get this recognition. We perceive the UK as being tolerant and integrated, but there is still such a gulf of understanding between some communities, and I think we need to spend time interrogating that. Through the complex relationship of the two main female characters, we explore this notion.

Hannah said that winning the award has given her a new lease of motivation in what has been a hard year for her career. Faringdon raised Hannah was made redundant from her Researcher role at a London-based Marketing Agency at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, and was not offered the government furlough scheme.

'In March I was feeling very stressed and unmotivated after having to sign on to Universal Credit after being let go from my job due to COVID. I was worrying about London rent payments and had to move back home to Faringdon over the summer to save money.'

Talented writer Hannah has now found another role, and is currently freelancing as a Production Assistant for a female run production company based in Notting Hill, London. Hannah hopes her award win will help her with her next goal of getting an agent and pursuing a career in writing for the screen; focusing on stories that elevate diverse voices and tackle topics such as mental health.

'I still can't wrap my head around it all. Winning the Scriptwriting Award on top of managing to find another role during this pandemic has given me the validation I needed to push myself to continue my dream of writing a series for Television. It feels incredible to be taking a leap forward in my career during a year of so many setbacks. I've been working on Mind the Gap for 2 years and to get this recognition is incredible'

### **Wasps at the Folly** - 29/10/20

My daughter and I both were stung by wasps at the Folly. Only after did we see a small paper note in the floor warning of a bee hive. Surely that area should be cordoned off.

Gisella Kerek

### **Confidence Bike Rides for Adults Sunday 1st November** - 27/10/20

Do you know someone who needs confidence to get back to cycling?

Starting this Sunday 1st November and continuing for 6 weeks, Lyn and David are leading 'Confidence Rides'.

These are designed to give participants a refresher in basic bike skills in a protected environment, then move on to quiet residential roads, progressing to cycling on other roads.

We aim for you to recover confidence to start making those small journeys to the shops or work by bike, and enjoy all the benefits to your health of regular cycling.

You can see feedback from our first course and more information on the [Farcycles website](#) under Cycle Teaching. You can book onto any of the sessions there, and they are entirely FREE, or email: [cycle@farcycles.org.uk](mailto:cycle@farcycles.org.uk)

So if you need confidence yourself, or know someone who needs a little help to get back to cycling, we'd love to see you on a Sunday morning.

11.30 to 1pm, meeting in Southampton St car park behind the Red Lion, Faringdon - by the bike repair station - SN7 7HG

David Williamson

### **Join in with The TEARFUND BIG QUIZ NIGHT**- 27/10/20

on Saturday 14th November at 7pm

A Family friendly Quiz On the Zoom platform

Entry by donation to Tear Fund <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/paul-gray32>

(Suggested donation £1 per person)

[See Poster](#)

Tickets FREE from:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tear-fund-big-quiz-night-tickets-126702000093>

Or contact Paul Gray at [pauloffazza@gmail.com](mailto:pauloffazza@gmail.com)

### **SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT**- 21/10/20

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated raffle prizes to our fundraising for the John Radcliffe Neuro ICU last December/January. We were blown away by the generosity.

We have had a tough year with fundraising, given the restrictions that we have all experienced due to Covid 19, but have been able to hold a few modified events, and are extremely grateful to many generous donations. However, we had to delay our plans for a licenced raffle.

The raffle will now take place live on our fundraising Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/BrockieJRNeuroICU> Saturday, 28th November at 3 pm. We need it to go ahead, as we require our spare bedroom back!!

Excitingly, we are now really close to our £15,000 target, and if we can sell 450 books of raffle tickets (£5/book) we will be able to give the hospital the go ahead to purchase the tilt table that patients so desperately need this side of Christmas.

- Would you be prepared to take a some books of raffle tickets and sell them our behalf?

- We have set up ways for you to BACS transfer or pay for tickets via our JustGiving

page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rachel-brockie4>(not eligible for gift aid) and receive a photograph of your tickets – PM me for more details.

- Tickets are also for sale in Faringdon (Stay Grounded, The Barbers), and from Rachel Brockie and Hazel Heaseman Prizes: Miele Cordless Vacuum Cleaner, Basket of booze, Whisky & Brandy Selection, plus many more hampers and prizes.

Thank you

Rachel Brockie

### **Poppy Appeal** - 17/10/2020

This year's Poppy Appeal will officially run from 24 October 2020 - 11 November 2020. Due to the current circumstances there will be no door to door or street sellers as in previous years. Poppies will be available in shops and pubs around town and there will be a manned stall in Tesco and Aldi periodically over the two weeks. These stalls will be holding the traditional paper poppy alongside the small enamel pins and crosses.

In addition there will be a stall under the Old Town Hall on Saturday 24 October and Saturday 31 October from 9am - 1pm, and in the square on market day on Saturday 07 November 2020. In addition to the traditional paper poppy these stalls will hold enamel poppy pins, crosses, wristbands and poppy facemasks.

The British Legion have also developed an A4 posters one which is in full colour and one which can be coloured in to display in windows.

These can be downloaded from <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

Mary van Andel

### **Old Town Hall in need of refurbishment**- 17/10/20

We are applying for funding to refurbish the Old Town Hall inside and out. We need to demonstrate community support and evidence how people use the building.

We would be very grateful if you could send me an email saying what the Old Town Hall means to you and why you would like to see it refurbished.

Many thanks

[sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

### **Faringdon Town Centre** - 15/10/20

I think that the clock is the least of the bad impressions that visitors will have of our town centre.

What about all the pigeon droppings on either side of the entry, directly opposite the offending clock.

What about all of the boarded up shops, with graffiti and weeds. What about all the inconsiderate parking, all over the town. There are plenty of car park space available, which nobody seems to use any longer.

There is simply no reason for anybody to stay in Faringdon, as there is nothing to do after the first 30 minutes. No shops, when there used to be several small speciality shops, but the lack of footfall, thanks to Tesco, have seen these off. There isn't even a cash machine or bank in the centre. The nearest machine being, yes Tesco.

It's a terrible shame, because it is an attractive centre, but is in need of some serious financial investment, and more proactive councillors and chamber of commerce.

You would think with the massive house building programme, that some investment would be put into the town itself.....or am I being naive.

Name supplied.

### **Cornmarket Clock** - 14/10/20

Is it known who is responsible for the Cornmarket clock?

There is an interesting piece here from 2015: <http://www.faringdon.org/cornmarket-clock.html>

The clock is again in need of at least some external repair and has also been running about 15 minutes slow for nearly 2 years. It is a fairly prominent feature in the town and gives a poor impression to visitors. Without attention it will of course get worse.

Name Supplied

Ed: *It belongs to the owner of the building*

### **Lloyds Bank** - 9/10/20

I understand that the Lloyds Bank mobile unit has been re-instated now, but on a fortnightly basis only. It's in the car park of the United Church, as before.

The Lloyds website does not tell us how these fortnightly visits are spread through the calendar month, though. Can anyone help? It seems to have been in Highworth this morning, so is it safe to assume it came on here to F'don this afternoon? Thanks to anyone who can clarify.

Dorothy Garrett

### **FLU VACCINATION UPDATE**:- 9/10/20

Dear Patients of White Horse Medical Practice

As many of you will be aware, we have commenced our 2020 Flu Vaccination Campaign.

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT UPDATE ON BOOKING YOUR APPOINTMENT: PUBLISHED 09-10-2020**

If you are 65 or Over:

Due to not receiving our vaccines until the early hours of the first day of vaccinating, and even then, only a partial supply, we had advised all patients Over-65 that we would contact them to arrange an appointment. This was to avoid a rush that we could not meet and to minimise patient risk by attendance but no vaccine availability.

We now have our full quota of vaccines, and we invite all Over-65s, not yet vaccinated or already booked-in for an appointment, to contact us to arrange for this. If you need to contact the Practice to arrange for any other medical appointment, please advise our staff if you have NOT already had (or booked) your vaccination this year, and we can do it during your visit. This will avoid the necessity for you to visit the Practice twice, as we seek to protect all patients from risk to exposure in the face of Covid case increases.

Our Patient Services Team will advise you of the available Flu Clinic dates when you contact us.

18-65 At Risk Patients:

For patients UNDER the age of 65 and OVER 18, with specific long-term conditions and/or in the 'at risk group' :

These include chronic respiratory disease or asthma, heart disease, renal disease, liver disease, diabetes, neurological disease, BMI > 40 or you are immune-suppressed, or a carer for an elderly or disabled person, please use our Engage-Consult online service, if at all possible, to contact us and make a vaccination booking. If you already have a future date appointment for vaccination booked, please do not book again.

Pregnant, Babies and Children:

All pregnant women are recommended to have the vaccination.

For babies of 6 months +, with an existing condition, please consult your GP

Vaccinations for pre-school aged children: These have started, and we urge you to get this done as soon as possible for all children aged 2 or 3 years old on August 31st, 2020.

NB: School children from reception to yr7 will be vaccinated at school this year.

### **Government Planning Reforms – have your say!**

The Government is currently consulting on a major shake up to the planning system that would see:

- The introduction of nationally-imposed housing targets
- An increase in housing numbers in the south-east, but a fall in other parts of the country

- A significant reduction in local involvement - Community engagement would be largely restricted to the Local Plan making stage (as it stands, just one six-week consultation), with the public thereafter losing their ability to scrutinise most individual planning applications.
- Countryside campaigners CPRE Oxfordshire are concerned about the impact these changes will have on our rural county. You can read more about the issues on their website at [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)
- The Government's White Paper – Planning for the Future – is out for consultation until 29th October 2020, but the debate will continue thereafter so there is still time to share your views with your local MP.

### **CPRE Oxfordshire – Trustees Wanted**

- Do you care about your local countryside? Want to make a difference?
- CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. We fight for the right development in the right place and work to protect, promote and enhance our amazing local landscapes and rural character.
- Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for a number of new trustees, including a treasurer, to join the team.
- By volunteering with us you will be helping to find positive solutions for the issues facing the countryside and the environment. By applying your skills and experience you can make a real difference and be a central part of our friendly and passionate charity

### **To find out more...**

- Please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier: E: [dorian.cpre@gmail.com](mailto:dorian.cpre@gmail.com) or leave a message on our office phone: T: 01491 612079.
- Role descriptions can be downloaded from the CPRE Oxfordshire website [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)
- Application deadline is **31st October 2020** in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis

CPRE Oxfordshire, 20 High Street, Watlington, Oxon OX49 5PY

Tel: 01491 612079 [director@cpreoxon.org.uk](mailto:director@cpreoxon.org.uk)

[www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk) [facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire) | [Twitter@CPREOxfordshire](https://twitter.com/CPREOxfordshire)

### **Flu jabs- information from WHMP** - 29/9/20

[Read this](#)

### **Library re opening** - 25/9/20

We are reopening the Library on Tuesday 29th September.

Our temporary new hours will be:-

TUESDAY 10.00-1.00 2.00-5.00

FRIDAY 10.00-1.00 2.00-5.00

### **David Johnston MP Newsletter** - 25/9/20

Here [is the Word document](#)

### **Volunteer to gain Administration and Retail experience-** 18/9/20

Wantage British Heart Foundation Furniture store is looking for volunteers for flexible shifts Wed – Saturday to help with phone/administration/shop floor sales roles. If you want to gain experience and confidence, meet new people and are keen to learn, come and join Manager Deb's friendly team. By volunteering a few hours when you can, you'll help us save lives and the planet. Please contact Jack on 07741 906 852 or [burrowsj@bhf.org.uk](mailto:burrowsj@bhf.org.uk) for more information.

### **Autumn Newsletter from Faringdon Town Council** - 15/9/20

The town council newsletter informs resident about what we're doing and are planning to achieve to look after our community ,and also provides an opportunity for residents to engage with the town council and tell us about their views and ideas for future services in Faringdon.

<https://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/council/news/newsletters/>

### **Buscot Park gardens extended opening** - 14/9/20

Buscot Park gardens will stay open to the public for an extra month.

We normally close at the end of September, but this year the season will be extended until October in order to give people an inspirational place to visit when they might feel they need it.

Check Buscot Park website for opening times.

### **Wedding on 19th- Give us a wave** - 14/9/20

not so much news as such, but i just wanted to share that my fiance and i ( who live in faringdon) are getting married at all saints church on Saturday 19th September, i'm told its the first wedding at the church since the Pandemic so i wanted to share some good and exciting news for us - and anyone on the streets of faringdon on saturday 19th September from 2.30 pm please give us a wave!

Tina

### **2020 Poppy Appeal - 14/9/20**

This will go ahead this year but with restrictions and changes to the normal appeal activities

### **Budgens site- planning permission approved- 13/9/20**

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/java/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P20/V0013/FUL>

Hooray

### **Leisure centres next phase of opening - 11/9/20**

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news/2020/2020-09/leisure-facilities-southern-oxfordshire-ready-next-phase-reopening>

### **Illegal parking in Faringdon - 11/9/20**

The amount of illegal parking in Faringdon has become very Dangerous for other drivers trying to get around and pedestrians who are forced onto roads.

Who should this be reported to and why are our local councillors not doing anything about it?

Name supplied

*Ed: The police are currently responsible for onstreet parking enforcement. VWHDC has a project to consider taking on the responsibility. Don't hold your breath*

### **Mid Vale Ridge - NOT the 'the edge of' the Cotswolds - 11/9/20**

Who decided that Faringdon was on 'the edge of the Cotswolds'? It isn't. It is a good 10 miles from the Cotswolds.

Faringdon occupies an important location on the Mid Vale Ridge, a National Character Area with a distinctive character of its own, a unique geology, and a completely different landscape from the Cotswolds. It seems as though someone with no geological knowledge thought the Mid Vale Ridge wasn't important enough.

Describing Faringdon as being 'on the edge of' the Cotswolds is inaccurate and makes the town sound totally inconsequential and apologetic.

Anna Hoare

### **For those responsible for the Non Conformist Cemetery.- 8/9/20**

My great grandparents James and Elizabeth Brown are buried in the Non Conformist Cemetery. He died in 1949 and she in 1946. We visited the cemetery this morning hoping to find the grave but could not.

The grave is mentioned in the excel file list, but it says that the stone surround was removed in 1993. Does this mean that no grave stone exists or did we somehow miss it?

Grateful for any help you can give in locating it.

And to say it was wonderful to see how well the cemetery is being kept up.

David Birch

07967 665430

### **Grants available from VWHDC - 4/9/20**

Voluntary and community sector groups in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse can apply for a share of nearly £90,000 to help people affected by Covid-19 in the districts.

South Oxfordshire District Council has £45,373 to distribute and the Vale of White Horse District Council has £43,077 to provide funds for voluntary and community sector projects that are delivering essential services to vulnerable residents in the districts who are struggling to afford food and other essential provisions as a result of COVID-19.

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news/2020/2020-09/nearly-%C2%A390000-funding-available-volunteer-groups-and-organisations-help-vulnerable>

### **Country Market on Fridays - 3/9/20**

The Country Market will be under the Old Town hall on Fridays 9am - 11am.

Selling all our usual, home bakes, fruit and veg, plants and crafts.

### **The Eagle Inn, Coxwell St - 3/9/20**

I have come across this old photo of The Eagle Inn Coxwell Street (where I now live) on the OCC photo website and am wondering if anybody can date the photo or tell me anymore about the pub and its history.

Photo

[hlbarter@btinternet.com](mailto:hlbarter@btinternet.com)

### **Health Walk at the White Horse Medical Practice- 1/9/20**

Walks will restart on Tuesday September 15th at 10am.

Walk is pre-bookable only now so please contact Ashley Chapman

07717714477 [ashley.chapman@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:ashley.chapman@southandvale.gov.uk) to join.