

Friends of Iffley Village

<http://www.iffley-village.co.uk/>

CHAIR: Caroline Pond
12 Bay Tree Close

chair@iffley-village.co.uk

Winter Newsletter, January 2018

FOIV EVENTS

Winter Supper 2018: Sat. 3rd Feb, 7-9.30 p.m. Church Hall.

Film Nights

Tues. 9th Jan. 7 p.m. Church Hall. **Florence Foster Jenkins** (2016) An heiress dreams of becoming an opera singer, in spite of her terrible voice! Stars Meryl Streep & Hugh Grant, dir. Stephen Frears. Tickets £5 from the Shop or at the door.

Other dates: 27 Feb., 10 April, 8 May, 26 June, 31 July, 14-16 Sept. weekend of French films

Happy New Year 2018 to all of Iffley!

FOIV Winter Supper

Join us on Saturday **3rd February**, 7-9.30 p.m. for good food and entertainment that combines Iffley volunteers with Oxford-based professionals. Local chef Max whose creations were so popular last year will again provide the main course, served with salads and a vegetarian option, followed by a wide choice of home-cooked puddings plus two glasses of alcoholic or soft drinks. Then we will enjoy some musical entertainment.

All are welcome but numbers are limited by space in the Church Hall. Tickets are sold only at **Iffley Shop** between **9th January & 1st February**. Adults: **£15**; children aged 5-11: **£12**. So please buy your tickets soon.

Films in Iffley Church Hall

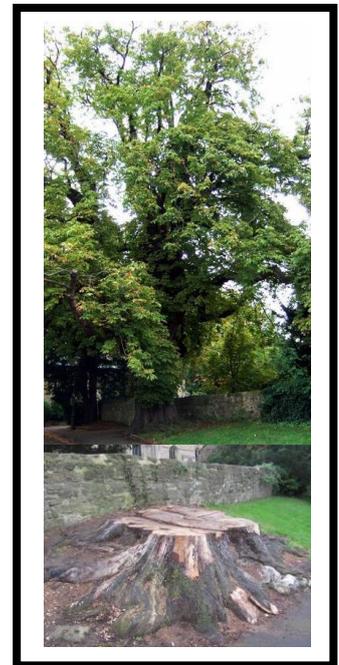
Large, appreciative audiences enjoyed five films during 2017, with six evenings and a weekend symposium planned for 2018. The Film Group led by Kathryn Wilkinson organises these events, choosing the varied topics, actors & styles from their extensive knowledge of cinema, with audience suggestions. Local American folk-singer Peggy Seeger chose *Hidden Figures* that raised £150 in December donated to Donnington Doorstep. We thank Kathryn, Laura Cope, Alan Dixon, Felicity Gray, Kate Griffin, Ged Guinness, Susie Seville and Mike Starks for all their hard work and expertise.

Emergency Access Route

We thank Oxford City Council for responding to FOIV's concern that emergency vehicles cannot reach much of Iffley if Church Way becomes impassable, by replacing the old barrier between East Church and Rose Hill with a padlocked gate (like the new barrier at the east end of Tree Lane). The route will never be a thoroughfare, but the emergency services, organisers of events in St Mary's Church & the Church Hall, the lock-keeper and residents of nearby homes have the codes to open the gate enabling large vehicles to reach the River, homes and businesses if Church Way is blocked, e.g. during road works or major traffic jams. The path to Lenthall Road has been widened and strengthened with grasscrete, with improved access for pedestrians and cyclists. For our part, we must keep the route passable to large vehicles at all times by trimming the East Church verges regularly and conscientiously avoiding obstructive parking near the narrow end of Church Way between the Churchyard and the Burial Ground.

Trees and hedges

The much-loved horse chestnut tree at the entrance to St Mary's Church was felled in September, ahead of winter's gales that have brought down several similar trees in Iffley and along the Thames towpath. Its owners, the Donnington Hospital Trust, intend to drill out the stump, a complex and delicate operation. Iffley has many magnificent old trees and but budget restrictions enable Oxford City Council's Tree Team to fell or lop trees only if they pose a safety hazard. Their Tree Management Policy does not include work on overgrown trees that obscure views or overshadow roadways, homes or gardens; staff shortages may delay dealing with branches bent or broken by wind, ice or snow. Local residents are expected to undertake such tasks that contribute so much to the appearance and amenity of Iffley. Please check outside as well as inside your garden for such storm-felled trees and branches that may be obstructing paths, pavements and roadways. For advice and help, please contact Richard Vernon on: jodi1066@yahoo.co.uk



FOIV news

Church Hall FOIV welcomes proposals for the Church Hall to be licensed to sell alcoholic drinks because wine & beer are served at its events and at the Films.

Subscriptions for 2018 are being collected, £3 per person (£2.50 for concessions).

Anyone living in Iffley (even briefly) is welcome to join FOIV: a note of your contact details sent to member@iffley-village.co.uk will reach the member for your 'patch'.

Iffley News

All events will be in the Church Hall with tickets sold in Iffley Shop

Iffley Music Society has concerts on Sat. 27th Jan at 7.30 p.m., violin and piano duets, and Sun. 11th March at 3 p.m. by the Pelleas Ensemble (flute, harp & viola).

Iffley History Society meets on 20th Feb. 7.30 p.m. to hear about *J.M.W. Turner in Oxfordshire* and on 20th March 7.30 p.m. for *Scientific & Medical Oxford*.

FoSM Brains of Iffley Tues, 16 Jan. 7.30 p.m. Quizmaster: local poet Fran Deacon.

Poetry and Puddings Tues. 6 March at 7.30 p.m.; 5-7 min readings of poems on the theme of **Relationships**, a topic chosen to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Marriage Guidance Council, renamed *Relate* in 1988.

Les White died 16th Sept. aged 88, following several years of ill-health. Les worked on the railways & at Morris motors, but his real passion was tending farm livestock – he kept sheep in local fields until a few years ago. He & his wife Maureen raised three children in Iffley, and they were always ready to help locals with repairs and improvements to their gardens, or just to have fun. We offer condolences to Zillah & Sharon and their families.

Penny Birdseye died of lung cancer on 25th Oct., aged 70. Born in Tynemouth, Penny read Physics at St Hilda's College, married Greg, also a physicist, and embarked on a varied and productive career that included university administration and the CBI. They retired to Iffley in 2011 and enjoyed many long holidays in exotic places until Penny, who served as chairman of FoSM, became ill in 2015. We offer condolences to Greg and to Penny's sister, who plan a celebration of her life on 10th March 3 p.m., in the Church Hall.

The next FOIV Committee meeting will be on Monday 12th March 2018. This newsletter and previous ones are available in .pdf form on the Archives menu of the FOIV website.

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Spring Newsletter, April 2018

FOIV EVENTS

2018 AGM Sunday 20th May, 3 pm followed by **Summer Party 5-7 pm** in the Church Hall.

Film Nights

Tues. 10th April, 7 for 7.30.

***Some Like It Hot* (1959)**
Directed by Billy Wilder. A hilarious comedy, starring Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon & Tony Curtis. Tickets £5 from the Shop or at the door.

Other 2018 Tuesdays: 8th May, 26th June, 31st July
Weekend of French films: 14th -16th Sept.

Thank you! to FOIV committee members who organised & served at FOIV's Winter Supper, and especially to Alex Marshall, who volunteered to entertain us. Everyone enjoyed the event.

Combined AGM & Summer Party 2018

For the first time, FOIV's Annual General Meeting will be combined with its annual Summer Party both in the Church Hall on **Sunday 20th May**. The AGM, which is free, starts at **3 pm**. The agenda, reports accounts and other papers will be on the FOIV website the day before and tabled as paper copies. After business is finished, around 4.30 pm, Fran Gardner of the GreenSquare Group will speak about the work of Rose Hill Junior Youth Club.

From about 5 pm, families and friends are invited to join AGM participants for the Party, using the Church Hall's garden, weather permitting. Tea, coffee or soft drinks will be served with sweet and savoury snacks including home-made cakes and fresh summer fruits.

Tickets: adults, £5 at the Shop (until 18th May), £7 on the day; all children aged 5-11, £3.

Anyone is welcome to attend the AGM but only FOIV members vote (non-members may join at the door). The AGM elects members of the FOIV Committee. More candidates are needed, so if you would enjoy contributing to FOIV's long tradition of service to Iffley and its residents, please contact: chair@iffley-village.co.uk.

FOIV produces four newsletters a year, now distributed to 660 homes and available on the website, organises films, parties & suppers and, during 2016, compiled the FOIV archives that record a century of Iffley history. Committee members review planning applications, help local residents upload their comments to OCC websites, and prompt repairs and improvements to roads, fields and other amenities.

Welcome! Paul Pemberton, whose family come from East Oxford, took charge of Iffley Lock at the New Year after Aidan Mahon & his family moved to Sandford Lock.

Congratulations! Rose Hill & Iffley Low Carbon Group led by Eleanor Watts won the 2018 National Climate Coalition's first Green Heart Hero Community Inspiration award, for its work to improve energy efficiency and renewable energy generation in Rose Hill.

Parking and Access

FOIV has for many years received complaints about parking problems, particularly in Iffley's only 'main roads', Church Way & Iffley Turn, both centuries older than motor traffic. There are no easy solutions: traffic, especially delivery vans, is much increased, many homes lack their own spaces and double yellow lines would spoil the appearance of Iffley's Conservation Area. FOIV asks motorists to remember that pedestrians, push-

chairs & wheelchairs need unobstructed pavements as much as vehicles need roadway. Repeated mounting damages the kerb stones. Please park with care and consideration.

Winter Damage Tree branches felled or bent by snow & gales may obstruct paths and block drains. Please check your garden now that Spring is here. Please report new or worsened potholes in Iffley's roads to chair@iffley-village.co.uk for FOIV to inform OCC. The Councils will receive many similar complaints, so don't expect a rapid response.

Subscriptions & membership Collection of FOIV annual subscription is underway, aiming for at least 400 members in 2018. Anyone living in or near Iffley (no matter how briefly) is welcome to join FOIV: adding your contact details to the Subscriptions page of <http://www.iffley-village.co.uk/> will reach the committee member for your 'patch'.

Other Iffley events

Oxford City Swift Survey The RSPB is recruiting volunteers to record swift nests in East Oxford during the summer. Introductory meeting: **Thurs 5th April, 7 pm** at the Oxford Museum of Natural History. For further information contact: chair@iffley-village.co.uk.

Canon Richard Lea, who served as Vicar of Iffley 1998-2006, died on 26th Feb. 2018. A Memorial Service will be held at Rochester Cathedral on **Sat. 14th April, 3.15 pm**.

Iffley History Society Vivien Greene Memorial Lecture 2018, **Tues. 17th April 7.30 pm**
The Body: domain of the Sciences or the Arts? by Dr Janina Ramirez. **15th May, 7.30 Dr Charles Daubeny – botanist, chemist & reformer of Natural Sciences in C19th Oxford.**

Friends of St Mary's annual outing is on **Sat. 21st April**. Distinguished architectural historian Dr Geoffrey Tyack will lead tours of Northamptonshire Churches. The coach leaves Iffley Turn at 8.30 am, returns about 6.30 pm. Advance booking is essential; forms available in the Shop or Church, or email: Susie.seville@gmail.com.

Iffley Music Society Schola Cantorum of Oxford choir will sing C19th & C20th music in St Mary's Church on **Sat. 28th April, 7.30 pm**.

Drawing & Painting Day-School The Living Stones Project and four local artists teach up to 24 amateurs, beginner or experienced, on **Sat. 12th May, 10.30-4.30** at St Mary's Church. Cost is £20; forms from the Shop or: ptyack.livingstones@gmail.com

Gardens Open for Charity (National Gardens Scheme) On **Sun. 10th June, 2-6 pm** some of Iffley's most beautiful and varied gardens will again be open, with plants for sale at 17 Abberbury Road and tea and home-made cakes served in the Church Hall. Pick up a leaflet at the Shop or: <https://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/17811/>

Mystery Play in 2019 Living Stones have announced plans for a Mystery Play based upon Noah's Flood to be performed in St Mary's churchyard on **29th & 30th June, 2019**.

Grimley Evans (Sir John G.-E.) died suddenly on 26th March, aged 81. His distinguished medical career included epidemiology in Polynesia, New Zealand & London, followed by geriatrics in Newcastle. Appointment as Oxford's Prof. of Clinical Geratology in 1985 brought him and Corinne to Meadow Lane where they participated fully in local activities. As well as family, Grimley enjoyed fly fishing, gardening and cultural pursuits. Long after retirement in 2002, he contributed to medical journals & committees, tended his allotment, participated in local archaeology and helped to run Iffley's Music and History Societies. We offer deepest sympathies to Corinne, their two sons, a daughter & five grandchildren.

The next FOIV Committee meeting will be on Monday 11th June 2018. All Newsletters are available in .pdf form on the Archives menu of the FOIV website.

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Summer Newsletter, June 2018

FOIV EVENTS

Film Nights

Tuesdays, 7 for 7.30 in Iffley Church Hall. **26th June**

Philomena (2013) comedy drama based on the true story of a woman's search for the son she gave up for adoption, directed by Stephen Frears, stars Judi Dench & Steve Coogan.

31st July *I am Not a Witch* (2017) Assistant producer Ben Coren introduces the Bafta-winning Zambian film.

Tickets £5 from the Shop or at the door.

Other 2018 Films Weekend of French films: 14-16 Sept; Tuesdays: 6 Nov & 11 Dec.

Combined AGM & Summer Party

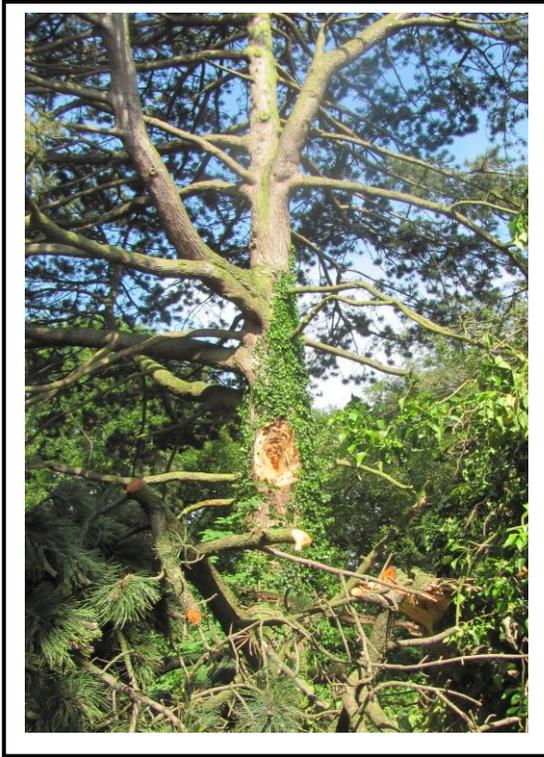
For the first time, FOIV's Annual General Meeting was combined with its Summer Party, both in the Church Hall. FOIV members re-elected five experienced committee members for a further three-year term, elected several new members and examined the Reports and Accounts for the past year from FOIV itself, the Film Group and Iffley's Community Shop.

The committee reported on its diverse activities, including scrutinizing local planning applications, monitoring and reporting anti-social behaviour & crime, initiating maintenance of trees, open spaces, roadways and paths. FOIV disseminates local news through its Newsletters, distributed to 660 Iffley homes four times a year and via its website and embedded Iffley Calendar, that were visited over 31,000 times during the past 18 months. There are now six Film Nights a year, plus for the first time, a weekend event in September. Film-fans can now receive film news by email.

The Shop reported disappointing results for the past year in spite of the hard work of Sue Reynolds and the scores of other volunteers who enable it to offer home-made cakes, jams and marmalade, locally made apple juice, fresh bread, milk and other provisions, as well as providing postal services and selling tickets for many locally-organised events. More volunteer servers are needed, so if you are willing to undertake a weekly two-hour shift, please contact: iffleyvillageshop@gmail.com The Shop's viability depends upon attracting more customers, so please use it for its delicious food, modern xerox machine and postage stamps but also for forgotten essentials: stationery, cards, batteries, first aid and general household supplies.

After business was finished, Fran Gardner gave an illustrated presentation entitled: ***Rose Hill Junior Youth Club – support, care & fun.*** Then other local people, their families and friends joined AGM participants for the Summer Party, enjoying scones donated by the RHJYC and a wide range of other home-made cakes and savoury snacks in the Church Hall's garden, looking its best in the glorious spring sunshine.

FOIV Committee At the June meeting, Caroline Pond was re-elected as FOIV Chairman for 2018-9. Many members agreed to continue doing jobs in which they have much experience, others took on new roles. Collection of 2018 annual subscriptions is almost complete, aiming for at least 400 members. Anyone living in or near Iffley (no matter how briefly) is welcome to join FOIV: adding your contact details to the Subscriptions page of <http://www.iffley-village.co.uk/> will reach the committee member for your 'patch'



Aleppo Pine in Woodhouse Way Copse

A huge branch fell suddenly on 25th May from the mature spreading pine tree that dominates the woodland on the west side of Woodhouse Way. Local people set to work at once to clear the roadway of this important access route and alerted OCC's tree team. The following week they cut unsafe remains and removed some of the debris but decided to leave the logs: decaying wood hosts insects, fungi and other organisms that support many kinds of wild birds, mammals and plants. The impressive scar may become a nest site!

Oxford Bus Company's PickMeUp

This new on-demand, ride-sharing, minibus service starts on **25th June 2018**. It runs every day at a flat fare is £2.50 (for passengers living more than 200 m from normal bus services)

within the Oxford Travel Zone, paid by registering your credit or debit card, or via PayPal. Book rides by mobile phone app (downloaded from <https://pickmeup.oxfordbus.co.uk/>), then about 10 min. later, buses pick you up from near your home. Computers work out the best routes to get each bus's passengers to their destinations, so journey times vary.

Other Iffley events

Iffley History Society Annual outing **Sat. 30th June, 9 am-5 pm** to historic houses and gardens at Tubney House and Milton Manor via lunch at the George & Dragon Pub, Sutton Courtenay. Tickets for coach + admission £25, forms in the Shop.

Friends of St Mary's Street party **23rd June**, Glebe field & Church Way with hog roast and music by the Ghaetta band, tickets £13 (£16 for non-members) from the Shop by 20th June; AGM & illustrated lecture from Greg Birdseye on *A Sundial at St Mary's*, **Sat. 22nd Sept., 3 pm**, Church Hall

Living Stones Celebration on **Sat. 7th July** of Iffley's anchoress, Annora, who died in 1241; scholarly talks start 2 pm in the Church Hall, then tea, at 5 pm Festival Evensong in St Mary's Church with Frideswide Voices. Tickets £15 from the Shop & from websites.

Rose Hill & Iffley Low Carbon Group Planning meeting **Wed. 27th June 7.30 pm**, 1 Hunsdon Road; social event **Thurs. 9th Aug 6.30 pm** Isis Farmhouse, Iffley Lock.

Enchanted Garden family fun day on **Sun. 24th June 12-4 pm** at Hawkwell House Hotel supporting Helen & Douglas House with BBQ, cream teas, garden games and live music. Register for free entry at: enchantedparty.eventbrite.co.uk

Iffley Music Society Piano recital from Oxford-based Japanese pianist Maki Sekiya on **Sun. 23rd September, 3-4.30 pm** in the Church Hall. Tickets from the Shop.

The next FOIV Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 11th September 2018. All Newsletters are available in .pdf form on the Archives menu of the FOIV website.