

CHURCHILL AND SARSDEN

Roundabout



The garden at Sarsden Glebe will be open for the
National Garden Scheme from 12.30-5pm on
Sunday April 6th.

There will be cakes and teas provided by **Thrive OX7**, a
charity that provide practical support to children of
struggling families in the OX7 area.

Spring weather permitting, there should be a sea of blue
and white anemone blanda with perhaps daffodils or
fritillaries and maybe some tulips. The pigs, Daphne, Dora
and Dolores will be in attendance and hopefully the two
wormeries will be active. Dogs are very welcome.

Village Hall News

EASTER EGG BINGO

Saturday, 12th April, 5 - 7pm

Come and join us for some family fun during the Easter holidays at the Village Hall for a game of Bingo with some chocolate prizes! 🥚 Tickets for all ages are £5 and available from John: arnottjohn@aol.com or 07795 388261. Also from the Community Cafe.

All proceeds will go to the Refurbishment Fund

TEAS ON THE GREEN - VE Day theme - Monday 5th May

Teas on the Green will take place on the first bank holiday in May. Here's hoping the weather is kind! Expect lots of tea and cakes, beer and bubbly, a wonderful plant stall and some items from our fabulous Churchill Crafters.

Helen will be in touch with our lovely group of bakers to ask for cake donations. Please contact Helen via email if you are able to make a cake or help on the day to serve teas. Email helencheckley25@gmail.com. Helen will be delighted to hear from you. We would also welcome plant donations for the plant stall.

A Festival of Art and Flowers will take place as last year in the Church during the Teas. Kathie Burbridge welcomes anyone who would like to be a part of this with contributions of flowers and art work from village artists. Email Kathie kmburbathotmail.com for further details. Kathie would also be very happy to display any photos from the VE day era - please have a look at any family photos you might have from that time.

CHURCHILL COUNTRYSTYLE CALENDAR 2026

Calling photographers of all ages! We will be compiling a calendar of Churchill later in the year and would love to include your photos of the area.

Look out for full details in the next edition of Roundabout.

Exciting news! The Village Hall fundraising campaign has now gone live on Westhive, which is West Oxfordshire's fundraising and grant giving platform. We have until July to raise £35,000 so that we can transform the heating and electrics in the hall, and begin to make it fit for the future. The URL will take you directly to the village hall site and allow you to make a pledge. Please take a look and share the link with anyone who might be able to help, especially any local businesses who might support the campaign.

<https://www.spacehive.com/churchill-sarsden-village-hall-refurb>

Please visit our website for further news on upcoming events

<https://churchillsarsden.com/whats-on/>
or instagram - [churchillsarsdenvh](#)

The Churchill and Sarsden Parish Council's **Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on Thursday, 10th April at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

THANK YOU to everyone for helping out on the 2nd March for the Churchill and Sarsden Annual Litter Pick. We had a huge turnout, with 46 people and a couple of keen youngsters coming along which is tremendous. I reckoned we cleared 7 miles of road which is 14 miles of verges! As usual there was plenty of rubbish unfortunately. Thanks also to *The Chequers* for getting us off to a great start with bacon butties and coffee etc. and the Church with David Salter's team for pancakes afterwards. Thanks again. *Peter Crudge*

ALSO THANK YOU to everyone who helped tidy up the graveyard surrounding the Heritage Centre at the bottom of the hill on 15th March.

One of the smallest museums in the UK will be opening once again at Easter. The Heritage Centre houses information about famous people born in Churchill, village history and other archive material. A group of volunteers man the Centre at opening times on Saturdays, Sundays, and Bank Holiday Mondays throughout the spring and summer, but new volunteers are always welcomed, and the committee needs a new secretary. Might you be willing to join us?

Contact amhasler@hotmail.com. churchillheritage.org.uk

Bin collection dates for the rest of 2025 are no longer on the West Oxfordshire District council website. I've contacted them about it, but in the meantime I guess we should assume that the current Monday collections will remain the same.

If you would like to put any information in *Roundabout*, please send it to francescahobart@outlook.com by the 15th of the month.

Visit our village website <https://churchillsarsden.com/> or simply scan this QR code with your mobile device.

Any comments or suggestions for content are very welcome. Contact john@johnfordhamdesign.com



CHURCHILLIANS

Meet your neighbours

Florence Bassett was born in Chipping Norton hospital on precisely the day she was expected. She is a precision sort of lady. She and her younger brother, Wilf, live near the top of Hastings Hill with teacher parents Roberta and Stuart. As Head Girl of Kingham Primary School, elected by her fellow students, I was desperate to seek her views on the state of Education in Britain. She didn't disappoint:

"I know schools need curriculum-based lessons, but you also need to learn things outside that curriculum. Some learning needs to be less academic. Being in just one room for six hours a day can be quite deadening, whereas having lessons outside every two days provides contrast and gives people confidence to speak up. It gives education a new edge, with birds around us and the rush of the air, and it allows us to focus better on the rest of our lessons.

Because of my job, I can walk through all the school rather than being confined to my own classroom, and I am seeing the school and classrooms differently. As a result, we are trying to get year groups to meet each other more, and teachers have started to do so too by teaching not just one year group but several - Year 6 excluded as we have exams. All the staff work to help everybody be happy and succeed and I wouldn't change anything at my school."

A respect for the outdoors is a family thing, with dad Stuart, Deputy Head at Burford School, spearheading their 'outside learning programme'. He has up to 30 acres under his environmental control and is the only state boarding school to really promote this. "The benefits of working out of doors started during covid, as we kept the school open for the 118 pupils whose parents were at RAF Brize Norton or were NHS key workers. We saw that the 'outside' gave them headspace with our burgeoning habitats and campus-like feel". Father and daughter both respect nature.

Florence also has dreams for Churchill. She would love the return of the post office and a corner shop beside the pub, but she is a realist and knows it is tough for such shops to make money. "But even a small range of sweets and other essentials would be lovely".

Florence was interviewed by Rupert Ponsonby for Roundabout