

Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News

SEPTEMBER 2024



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Holton, Waterperry & Waterstock News is delivered monthly and free-of-charge to all households in the three parishes, with additional copies left in the parish churches.

The magazine is run on a not-for-profit basis, and paid for largely through advertising revenue along with financial support from the three parishes. Its finances are overseen by Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council.

We welcome letters, articles and announcements from individuals and organisations, but reserve the right to edit or to publish or not.

All copy must be received no later than the 20th of the month prior to publication and with its author's name attached - anonymous entries will not be considered.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor.

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September Church Services

David is on holiday 24th August to 8th September

September 1 st	Local arrangements
September 8 th	3pm Re-dedication of St Mary's Wheatley 5pm Waterperry
September 15 th	9.30 St Helen's Albury (Combined with St Mary's) 11.00 St Leonard's Waterstock
September 22 nd	8.00 St Mary's Waterperry 9.30 St Helen's Albury (Family Service) 11.00 St Bartholomew's Holton
September 29 th	Cluster Service TBA
October 6 th	11.00 St Leonard's Waterstock (Harvest)

St Leonard's Waterstock

Flowers and cleaning rota

September 1st	W. Court
September 8th	W. Court
September 15th	S. Getty
September 22nd	S. Getty
September 29th	C. Tyce
October 6th	C. Tyce

Mowing rota

N. Edmondson
P. Beaven
P. Beaven

St Mary's Waterperry

Flower rota

September 1st	Zena
September 8th	Susan Fonge
September 15th	Jan
September 22nd	Susan Fonger
September 29th	Helen

Letter from the Vicarage

Hello,

In 1752 something very strange happened in September – in fact it's never happened again. In that year the British Empire adopted the Gregorian calendar and so in the British Empire that year September 2nd was immediately followed by September 14th. In the space of a minute from midnight on the 2nd people were instantly 11 days older. But were they? We could now disappear down a complete rabbit hole of what time is – is it the measurement we use based on the annual round of nature or is it something that operates totally independently of us? And, maybe more to the point for the people at the time – what happened if your birthday was between the 3rd and the 13th inclusive?

In fact that last question is more relevant to September than any other month of the year because, fun fact, there are more birthdays in September than in any other month (based on figures from the last 20 years). So more people missed birthdays in those missing days than if the jump had been in any other month. Something the planners of the quantum leap in the calendar in 1752 probably didn't factor in in their decision making. 8 of 10 of the most popular birth dates in the UK occur in the last 2 weeks of September (the other 2 in the first three days in October).

Why? Well it seems there could be two main reasons although you may well know others. One is due to planning, that is couples wanting their children to be born at the beginning of the school year. The other is human nature – if you work out the most popular conception dates they fall in the Christmas holidays – long nights, more time together and evidence of the Christmas spirit in action maybe!

And the high 'harvest' of babies in September is echoed of course in the farming year. September was called "harvest month" in Charlemagne's calendar and September is still called *Herbstmonat*, harvest month, in Switzerland. The Anglo-Saxons called the month *Gerstmonath*, barley month, the time of that crop's harvesting. This link with harvest, particularly the fruit harvest, is illustrated in many Books of Hours where the occupation is treading the grapes. In these books there are many beautifully hand painted pictures of peasants, smocks lifted to their knees, stomping in the large wooden vats of fresh grapes.

The other notable annual natural event in September is the Equinox on the 20th/21st. So September is the month that we switch to the daylight hours being in the minority. From the Equinox on until late March we in the northern hemisphere have longer each day with the sun below the horizon than with it above. If you are someone like me that is rather depressing – for some literally so. One of the things that Jesus declared about himself was that he was the 'light of the world'. He was of course talking about spiritual light not physical light but one can often influence the other. As the days darken I am sustained by the fact that the light that Jesus brought and indeed was in himself, is both constant and glorious, universally illuminating but also intensely personally enlightening. I trust this light will shine on you and in you this September and indeed every month.

Stay blessed,

David

Rev David Bendor-Samuel

01865 872102, dbendorsamuel@btinternet.com



Recipe: Apple and Blueberry Flapjacks

Useful energy bars.

Lunch Box favourite.

Makes 12

200g unsalted butter

200g caster sugar

150g runny honey

425g porridge oats

2 red apples, peeled, cored and grated

0.75 teaspoon ground cinnamon

100g dried blueberries

75 g sunflower seeds

75g Brazil nuts, chopped

- Line a 20cm x 30cm tin with baking parchment
- Heat the oven to 180c / 160c fan / gas 4
- Melt the butter, sugar and honey in a medium saucepan until dissolved
- Mix well
- Remove from the heat and stir in the rest of the ingredients
- Spoon the mixture into the prepared tin then spread and flatten
- Bake for 45 minutes
- Cool completely
- Cut into bars

The bars will keep up to 3 days in an airtight container.

Holton and Waterperry WI

Holton News

Did you go to the Village BBQ this year? If you didn't you missed a real treat. One estimate puts the number attending at about 150 and there were a good many children who had a great time with the various games, play equipment, ice creams and soft drinks provided. The adults had music provided by Hunter 101 while they queued in great numbers for burgers and hot dogs and the bar did really good business. There was ample opportunity to socialise with neighbours and friends, helped by the relaxed atmosphere and warm weather. It seems to me, this is the best summer 'do' we have had for a long time. However, such success does not come without planning and the learnings from previous years' events. Thanks must go to all those who worked so hard to make this event a success. From the hard worked 'barbequers' to the bar staff and the ice-cream vendors and everybody in between, thank you all and well done. The whole evening was a tremendous success and a tribute to the good folk of Holton.

There has been a bit of a stream running down the road by the green for some time now. The story is the usual one of apparent incompetence by Thames Water and its contractors. A few weeks ago, a man dressed all in orange knocked on my door and asked how long the stream outside had been running. I told him that since the rain had stopped about 4 days ago and tried to disabuse him of the concept that this was ground water. He assured me that he would raise a job for that Friday and 'someone would look at it'. Well someone did look at it and to cut a long story short, the householder was informed that the leak was on their property and they were liable to fix it. Insurance contractors came out and established that it was not on the householder's property and that Thames were responsible to fix it. The Thames contractors then appeared to have a hissy fit and gave a timescale to investigate (not fix) of over one week and in the meantime, gallons of water flow down the street. The householders were extremely upset by this as they possibly stand to get a large bill from the leak. The story goes on but this is not new, we have had similar experiences a couple of times from Thames contractors who claimed that we were liable when in fact it was Thames who were at fault. Beware, and don't fall into the trap of accepting liability from contractors trying to shift the blame, is the lesson from this story.

Watch out for all the other events in the village on the village website <https://www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk/events/> or in the magazine under Holton Village Hall. Do let me know if you have any village news that you wish to appear in these notes in future, especially if you are new to the village.

Mel Ault

Holton Parish Council

**Planning Appeal Ref: APP/Q3115/C/24/3348330: 331/332/333/334:
8th August - 19th September 2024**

Land known as St Andrew's Field, Holton, Oxon.

Without planning permission the material change of use of the land from agriculture to a mixed use of agriculture, storage and leisure plot.
(SE20/188(A)).

Holton Road Safety Group

The next meeting of the group will be held on Tuesday 17th September 6.30 pm in

Holton Village Hall Committee Room. Anyone wishing to contribute to this project would be most welcome to join the group that evening.

Public Meeting Brookes Campus/Holton Park Development

A well attended meeting in Holton Village Hall on Thursday 8th August 2024. Plans were shown about the layout of the proposed site for 447 homes.

Work to start on the demolition of existing structures early 2025.

Concerns were raised about the sewerage provisions and the capacity at the Wheatley Ditch Pumping Station and could it cope with the extra load on the system. Also many concerns about the western access road leading to the Holton Turn/Flyover to the A40 and likely congestion competing with the school traffic at peak times and pedestrian safety in the area.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 9th September 2024 starting at 7.00 pm In Holton Village Hall Committee Room.

Agendas will be on the village notice boards and Parish Council website.
Contact details below.

Clerk to Holton Parish Council (Sonja Barter) Home Farm House, Holton,
Oxford OX33 1QA

Email:

clerk@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Tel: 01865 872334

Copies of Holton Parish Council Meeting Agendas and Approved Minutes can be viewed on the Holton Parish Council website

www.holtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Love to sing?

If you are aged 9-14, come and join our new choir

We meet every Sunday at 4pm in St Mary's Church,
Wheatley

Why join our choir?

- Have fun singing with other people
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Contact Alexandra: choir@stmaryswheatley.org

Holton & Waterperry W.I.

All our events have been splendid and well supported. Adwell House gardens didn't disappoint. We had a lovely walk in walled gardens, with lakeside vistas and with flowers in abundance. Everyone enjoyed the whole day including a lunch in Tetsworth.

Our September meeting on the 3rd is open to everyone. It will feature Jenny and Bob Clarke from Chalgrove Artisan Distillery - with tastings! You will be very welcome if you wish to come as a visitor.

Barbara Martin



Morland House Surgery

Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm
Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends) 8am to 10.30am,
for ***prebooked*** consultations only

Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to
one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by
phoning 111.

**The surgery's in-house dispensary closed permanently on Friday
29 September 2023 WHEATLEY PHARMACY REMAINS OPEN**

There is no change to the process of ordering your repeat prescription. If
you already collect your medication from Wheatley Pharmacy, then you
need not do anything.

**If you have not yet nominated a pharmacy to pick up your
medication, then please do so.**

Check or alter your nomination via your NHS login - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
or contact our prescription clerk team via morland.dispensary@nhs.net
Tel 01865 872448 (option 3)

Group Consultation Clinics – We are excited to offer group clinics for
certain health conditions, currently menopause and diabetes. The
benefits are many including a more thorough examination of your
condition, having your questions answered, sharing issues with others
going through the same issues, and spending longer with a GP.

For a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of
health conditions, symptoms, and treatment, please visit www.morland-house.co.uk

Also on the website are details of the new rules relating to accessing
your medical records - see <https://tinyurl.com/3879mz6p>

ROAD SAFETY IN HOLTON

AN INVITATION TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS

During this year's Annual Holton Village Meeting I asked if everyone who was happy with road safety in the village could please put up their hands. Either long experience had taught us all that raising a hand is tantamount to volunteering, and best avoided, or dissatisfaction was universal. Either way, not a single hand was raised. But just assuming, say, half the immobile arms meant dissatisfaction, it showed that the Parish Council (PC) had been right to resurrect the circa 2018 Road Safety Working Party to take stock of the state of road safety now and look for answers where problems exist.

To date, five dedicated souls have volunteered to form the initial core of the Working Party but others who have a serious interest are very welcome to take part. Obviously, bringing your fresh ideas to our discussions would be very valuable. Also, what we do is likely to include the sifting of ideas for priority, feasibility and cost, amongst other criteria such as acceptability. Researching the merit of ideas on the internet is another possible task to be done. Please do contact Sonja Barter or me should you be interested in joining in.

We would be very glad to hear from you via clerk@holtonparishcouncil.org.uk or my email below.

The remit of the current Working Party is to take a broad view of road safety in the village, including the effectiveness of the 20 mph limit and to make any recommendations that are appropriate. The PC wishes, and the Working Party endorses, that this should be achieved through consultation with everyone living in the parish who wishes to engage with the issue.

Hence, the Working Party invites anyone and everyone to join in a village wide FREE THINK about road safety issues and to forward your thoughts to us through the following email address. reports@velocita.co.uk If you are happy to do so, please include **your name and preferred phone number** lest we would like to ask you more about your suggestions. Your contact details will be retained confidentially for the sole use of the Working Party. Your comments will not be attributed to you publicly.

The only guidance we offer is as follows:

ANYONE CAN CONTRIBUTE: Ages from birth to infinity can take part.

All ideas are valid and can be:

- **Bold, creative, common sense, fanciful or whatever**
- **About problems or solutions or both together**
- **For immediate action or about long-term concerns**
- **Of any number per person**
- **Sent by email in any format. E.g. Text, diagram or photo**

Please let us have your thoughts **no later than 30th September 2024**.

We look forward to hearing from you all.

Ian Beach: Chair. Road Safety Working Party reports@velocita.co.uk 07802 615933

Dr Rogers Trust

Educational Grants for Young People in Holton

When the Trust was set up in February 1980, the Constitution stated:-

“The objectives of the charity is to promote the education (including social and physical training) of children and young person’s resident in the area of the ancient parish of Holton. The Trust Deed instructs that Trustees shall have special regard to the promotion of education in accordance with the principles and doctrines of the Church of England”.

The Dr Rogers Trustees will be meeting in November 2024 to consider applications from apprentices, trainees and students, aged 14 to 21, who are resident in the parish of Holton, for grants to assist in the purchase of books and equipment or towards the cost of educational trips or courses.

A maximum of 2 grants per applicant will be considered, the first whilst at school and the second for undertaking further education up to the age of 21.

In 2023 five grants were awarded to young people.

If you would like further information, please contact:

Carol Johnston, Trustee/Clerk, Chance Cottage, Holton

Email: carol.johnstonfj@btinternet.com

Applications **MUST** be made **in writing** to the above by **3rd November 2024**.

Holton Table Tennis Club

The new season will commence on Wednesday 4th September 2024, 7pm - 9pm, see advert for details of subscriptions, which we have kept the same as last season.

All ages and abilities welcome from the age of 10 upwards.

We have club members who will be on hand to help coach those that are playing for the first time or are coming back into the game.

We have five tables available, so everyone who turns up will get playing time even on busy evenings, hope to see you there.

Brian Dobson

Holton Bus Shelter Summertime Events

Bring and Take

The Bring and Take in July saw the bus shelter bathed in its traditional sunshine. The event was very well attended and once again there was plenty of swapping as books, puzzles and toys were exchanged. We also had a large variety of plants that people were eager to take home for their gardens. Additionally, we had a considerable selection of organic fruit and vegetables kindly donated by Sandy Lane Farm in Tiddington. Many thanks to everyone who contributed by bringing items along and even greater thanks to those who took things away. Our charity this time was Macmillan Cancer Support and your wonderful generosity meant we raised a fabulous £220. Thank you all so much for this.

The next Bring and Take will be on **Sunday, 29th September from 10.00a.m. until 1.00p.m.** By then, given the rain we have had, there should be plenty of surplus autumn produce to swap

Where Am I in Holton? Photograph Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 'Where am I in Holton?' photo quiz and well done especially to Brian and Julia Dobson for submitting the only all correct entry.

Summer Sculpture Exhibition

The recycled materials 'Summer Sculpture' exhibition is now on and will run until 22nd September (weather permitting). Please do bring more exhibits along (can be left at Treetops or handed to Dominique at afternoon tea).


*Allan East
Holton Parish Council*

Holton Cock and Bull

The increasing tendency of instruction manuals to be lacking in detail is something that many of us have observed. So, it was encouraging to find that in a magazine on Arctic survival the instructions on how to milk a polar bear were comprehensive – except, perhaps, regarding one small but important aspect.

Full directions were provided about the construction of a snare, shooting of a tranquillising dart, and testing that the bear is harmless. However, the same level of detail was not felt appropriate for the concluding part of the piece which simply read, "Finally, milk, as with any other bear". Perhaps that part was obvious?

Name and address supplied



FILM NIGHT

Holton Village Hall

Friday 20th September 2024
7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

The Phantom of the Open (12)

Starring

Mark Rylance & Sally Hawkins

Run time approx. 106 minutes

Maurice Flitcroft, a dreamer and unrelenting optimist, manages to gain entry to the 1976 British Open Golf Championship qualification round despite being a complete novice.

ENTRANCE - *cash only*

Adults £5

Under 18s £3

TEA / COFFEE & CAKE £2 - *cash only*

BAR OPEN

Holton Village Hall

www.holtonvillagehall.co.uk

Afternoon Teas at the Village Hall.

The coffee mornings and afternoon teas at the Village Hall continue to be a great success. Many thanks to everyone who helps for all their hard work. The dates in September will be on the 5th and 19th, these will be from 2.30pm until 4.00pm as normal. These events are really well attended so come along for Tea, Coffee, Cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Film Night 20th September

The next Film will be the Phantom of the Open starring Mark Rylance and Sally Hawkins on 20th September. Entrance is £5 for adults and £3 for under 18s cash only. Tea, coffee and cake are available (£2) and the bar will be open.

Apple Pressing Saturday 5th October

Apple Pressing in conjunction with Road Safety Week (28th Sept- 5th Oct). More details to follow.

Booking the Village Hall

If you would like to book the Village Hall please call **07873 857063** or please E-mail [**bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk**](mailto:bookings@holtonvillagehall.co.uk)

Mel Ault

September Birthdays



A very Happy Birthday this month
to:



Jake who will be turning 3
Bobbie & Edie who will be turning 7
Oliver who will be turning 7
Freya who will be turning 8
Katie who will be turning 9
Eoin who will be turning 12
Katie Fonge who will be turning 9

(to have a birthday included in the magazine, please email Dominique - domisqueak@gmail.com)



Waterperry
Gardens

August & September

Waterperry Gardens - inspirational gardens & plants, expert advice, sumptuous food & great ideas for the home & garden, the perfect place to come with family & friends.

Waterperry Opera Festival – 9 until 18 August The opera festival with a difference... not just grand opera, but family fun & entertainment too over 10 days across the Waterperry Estate.

Oxford Storytelling Festival – 23 until 25 August An enchanted realm of Myth, Magic and Mystery, an intimate festival weaving magic with stories, spoken word, poetry and song.

Theatre: Little Mermaid by IK Productions – 31 August, 5pm-6.30pm Brand new family show is great for all ages from tiny tots to big kids, so hop aboard and sail the sea with The Little Mermaid!

Waterperry House Open weekend: 31 Aug & 1 September A chance to meet the owners of Waterperry Estate, the School of Philosophy and Economic Science. A varied selection of lectures, talks and tours throughout the 'open house' weekend. No pre-booking is required.

Autumn Wellness Retreat with Rina Golan: 13 until 15 September
3-day retreat run by Rina Golan to support your overall well-being.

Herbaceous Borders Old and New – 27 September 10.30am – 3.30pm One day course - practical advice about planning and designing, planting and maintaining your own border.

Tuesday 17 September: gardens open in aid of the National Garden Scheme

For further information and booking details please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

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msmelectrical61@gmail.com

Waterperry News

This month, the Parish Council thought it would be useful to give some biographical information on your Parish Councillors and Parish Clerk, and what motivates them to serve our community:-

Sue Parker (Chairman): Born in West London and has lived in the village for 17 years. Her first job was as a graduate trainee at Harrods.

She enjoys gardening, walking, outings and meals with Rob, learning new art skills (currently stained-glass work and flower pressing).

Sue says *"I love the village, the history of its development, its farming heritage and its links to the historic House and Gardens. We can't preserve it in aspic, but I think it's important to try to keep the character and ethos of a small community."*

Daryl Atkinson: Born in Dewsbury in West Yorkshire, but grew up in Scarborough, and has lived in the village for 29 years. His first job was as a geologist working on North Sea oil rigs.

Daryl enjoys cycling, fishing and trying to tame his garden.

Daryl says *"I believe it is important for all communities to be able to have some say in how they want their village to develop and be managed, aligning to the wishes of those who live there. With these democratic principles in mind, my involvement is to ensure that we don't lose this small element of self-government."*

Simon Melton: Born in Cove, Isle of Ely, and has lived in the village for seven years. He worked in the film industry and enjoys painting, music art classes, and loves the village of Rock in Cornwall.

Caroline Monteith: Born in Farnham, Surrey and has lived in the Worminghall and Waterperry for 21 years. Her first job was as a solicitor. She enjoys gardening and horticulture. One of her particular interests in joining the Parish Council was to help in making decisions that will protect the biodiversity of the area.

Dawn Leopard: Born in Te Kopuru, New Zealand and has lived in the village for 2.6 years. Her first job was as a photographer/dark room trainee. She enjoys art, gardening and travel. She joined the parish council with the aim of encouraging community spirit and protecting the environment.

Lawrence Wootten (Parish Clerk): Born in Hertfordshire, but raised in Headington and went to Wheatley Park School. Moved with his parents and younger brother from Holton to Waterperry in 1982, before moving away, but has lived in the village with his family since 2012. He studied Agricultural Botany at University, and worked as an agronomist with the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service before moving into scientific editing with the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux.

Lawrence enjoys playing and listening to music, is a season ticket holder at Oxford United and a keen birder, botanist and mycologist.

Lawrence says *"I joined the Parish Council as a Councillor in 2013 before becoming the Parish Clerk in 2020. I think it's important to play an active role in your community and not just 'leave it to someone else'."*

Dawn Leopard

Waterstock News

I notice from my previous pieces for the magazine that I have always started with a comment about the weather, so terribly British, but once again, it is the first thing that comes to mind when I sit down to write this piece. Summer, when it finally arrived, hit us with a heat wave, but after only a week or two into August there is a feeling of Autumn in the air. No wonder it is at the top of the list of everyday greetings by Brits.

A nice lady from the War Memorial Trust wrote to our Parish Chairman to say that they had received an email from a member of the public complaining about the condition of our War Memorial. Her moan was that she was unable to read the names of those from Waterstock which are carved into the Memorial. Chairman Rob leapt into action armed with power hose, scrubbing brush and enthusiasm and gave it a good going over. His work is soon to be highlighted by Geoff Talbot who is going to repaint the faded lettering. Apparently the Lady from the War Memorial Trust has already been in contact to thank us for the prompt response. Excellent work Mr Chairman, and a special thanks from me for the neat return of my hosepipe.

Henry Manisty reports that the dates have been set for the Public Enquiry to hear the Appeal by the Developer Greystoke against SODC's refusal last year of its application to develop the western section of the Golf Course site. Unfortunately, we are set for a marathon that will last - with some breaks- from October until January.

The precise dates are:

15-18 October
29 October to 1st November
5-8 November
12-15 November
3-6 December
10-13 December
14-17 January
21st January

The venue is likely to be the Great Hall at Cholsey, which is some distance away. In the meantime we would like to thank Irene Scott who has made a very generous donation to the fighting fund. She didn't give her address so Waterstock would like to thank her so much for her generosity.

To any who have not contributed, please consider doing so, however large or small, to protect Waterstock Green Belt. To make a payment please follow the link to the Waterstock Just Giving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/save-waterstockgreen-belt>
Or better still: obtain bank details by email from the Parish Chairman at: waterstockparishmeeting@outlook.com

John Wilkinson writes that 5 Waterstock households hosted singers and other creatives for the Waterperry Opera Festival for the last few weeks. If there is anyone else who might like to do this next year or who like to become a member, please get in touch with John.

Michael Tyce writes:

“They say that insuring thatched houses is an expensive proposition, but rates ease somewhat if chimneys are raised to the regulation 1.8 metres above the thatch. Eventually the expense of raising the chimneys should cover the cost of the scaffolding and building work. See if you can spot the difference! According to the District Council, quite a number of thatched cottage owners locally are doing the same.

There are unintended consequences though. Apparently chimney sweeps sweep by the yard, and Santa's health and safety team won't let him work at such heights without an extra glass of sherry on the hearth.”

In early August, Alex Haines completed a section of La Haute Route starting at Chamonix. The route - exclusively on foot apart from 2 cable cars to take him to Verbier - took him over 120km, from France in Switzerland, over 7 mountain passes including le Col de Louvie and Riedmatten Pass, with a total elevation of 6,600 metres. He spent 5 nights on La Haute Route, of which 3 were in refuges at altitude. Marmottes and Chamois aplenty, Alex crossed le grand desert (a glacier existed here until 2000) - not a single other human in sight - only dozens of ibex. Crucially, Alex wore his Waterstock cap during the whole hike to protect him from the sun. He finished in Evolène in Switzerland, the last stronghold of patois spoken by three generations of Swiss locals

Johnny Powell

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Entrance via Waterperry Gardens.

Ample parking with fully accessible & spacious shopping.

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shop@waterperryfarmshop.co.uk**