

WHITCHURCH-ON-THAMES BULLETIN

www.whitchurchonthames.com

SEPTEMBER 2007

Meeting of the Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 3rd of September at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

In attendance were the Chairman Matilda Oppenheimer and Councillors Nigel Grove, Vincent Aldridge, Kate Thatcher, Harry Butterworth, Elizabeth Robinson and Nigel Cabeldu.

Also present was the Parish Clerk Andrea Gardner.

There were 3 members of the public present

Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk Email address: clerk@whitchurchonthames.com

This position is becoming vacant in October, if you are interested in applying please contact Andrea Gardner by the 21st September.

Transport

The 142 bus service will be under review again towards the end of the year. Reasons to love your bus service have been included after this report.

Traffic calming

The council are looking to meet with OCC to discuss the problems of parking along Hardwick Road. We are also currently in contact with OCC over a number of road maintenance issues about the village.

Planning

New Applications

P07/E1033 – Cliff Cottage, Hardwick Road, Whitchurch on Thames – Erection of single storey outbuilding to side of house – NO STRONG VIEWS

Decisions received

P07/E0582 – White House Cottage, Manor Road – Roof space extension and two storey extension. GRANTED

P07/E0569 – Toll House – Demolition of existing conservatory at rear and construction of new replacement conservatory – GRANTED

P07/E0804 – Thames Bank House – To erect wrought iron railings to the main house – GRANTED

P07/E0877 ; P07/E0876; P07/E0879/CA – Milverton – Remove and rebuild sections of brick and flint retaining wall; Erection of 1.5m high picket fence set 1 metre back from boundary wall; Partial demolition, rebuilding and repointing of brick and flint retaining wall – GRANTED

P07/E0870 – Coach House, High Street – Change of use from store/coach house to church meeting room and formation of parking area – GRANTED

Finances

The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Russell Leisure	Slide installation
Russell Leisure	Bin plus delivery
Nova Press	Additional costs for the last two editions of the bulletin. Previous costs waived due to lateness of invoice.
Nikki Deacon	Internal audit
Andrea Gardner	July/August salary plus WFH Allowance
Nova Press	Upfront payment for September Bulletin

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday the 1st of October 2007 in the Whitchurch Village Hall at 8.00pm. An agenda and the dates of future meetings will be posted on the Parish Council Notice-board opposite the Greyhound before the next meeting.

Andrea Gardner
Clerk

10 Reasons to love your local bus service.

1. Most of us are lucky enough to be able to drive, but many – usually the young and elderly – do not have their own transport. There are always small numbers of people in villages who rely on the few services which exist.
2. Some families are deciding to have only one car (for financial and environmental reasons), making those left without the vehicle in the day time reliant on public transport.
3. You may think that people in your village do not really need a bus – however, isolation for those who find transport more difficult is a very real problem.

4. You might one day become unable to drive and be very grateful for your village's service, however infrequent.
5. You might also be grateful for a service which allows young people to get out of the village.
6. If you don't support your services and use them when you can you will lose them; the decline in public transport is the result of less usage.
7. The vehicle serving your village may not be wonderful, but it may be providing a service which is affordable because it does school transport in the morning and the afternoon.
8. For each person on the bus, a car is removed from the road – even if you never set foot on a bus, your wait in traffic is eased by your fellow villager using this form of transport.
9. A local bus service allows people to get to know each other. In this age of reductions in localised services (such as post offices and pubs), services such as the local bus become even more important.
10. A local bus service enhances the health and well being of everyone in the village!

Taken from the ORCC Rural Transport Newsletter Summer

NEW WALKS GUIDE

After 7 years it is time to prepare and print a new edition of the Walks Guide. This fifth edition has been updated to include the changes that have taken place. Some stiles have been replaced by kissing gates, the wording on a number of signs has been altered, the occasional path has been diverted and four permissive footpaths on our section of the Hardwick Estate have been opened and are included.

I hope to have the new edition available for purchase in time for the Art and Craft exhibition.

Eric Hartley

JACQUELINE LUIGIA BARTRUM

15TH November 1925 – 27th June 2007

Jacky and Pat Bartrum moved to Whitchurch with their three children in 1963, living first at Milverton Cottage and then for over thirty years at Prospect House. In 2004 they moved to Pangbourne to a smaller house and garden, but Jacky's heart remained in Whitchurch.

Jacky was born in Didsbury, Manchester, to a Belgian mother and a Swiss-Italian father. She had an older brother. She came South to attend Downe House School, where she became Head Girl. While there she made many close friends which lasted a lifetime. She remained committed to Downe House where she served for many years as Secretary of the Seniors' Association and also as a member of the Board of Governors of the school. In 1944 she joined the WRNS where she remained for 18 months until peace was declared. Then followed a short course at the Central School of Speech and Drama, followed by a Secretarial Course, both in London. For a short time she was employed in the office of Peter Carter Ruck, who was later to achieve great fame as a libel lawyer.

Jacky soon became involved with Whitchurch life; she was a member of the Parish Council, arranged the Church flowers for years, and cleaned the Church brass. The words 'no' and 'can't' weren't in her vocabulary, so in her younger years she would always be the first to be asked for help.

Jacky was a very keen and competitive sportswoman and played tennis until a month or so before she died. She was also an enthusiastic bridge player and quickly joined the Whitchurch Bridge Club. Many people in the village will remember the Charity Bridge Drives that Jacky and Pat organised at Prospect House in aid of various charities. The 64 participants always had mid-morning coffee, a three course lunch with wine, and tea, everything home made by her team of helpers. A sum in excess of one thousand pounds was regularly raised. It was a terrific effort by Jacky to organise the cooking and cajole her many friends to help.

Jacky and Pat were much travelled. While living for four years in South Africa, they explored Africa extensively. They visited China, the USA, South America, Australia, New Zealand, and many parts of Europe. In her fifties Jacky walked 200 miles of the Pennine Way, experiencing Youth Hostelling for the first time.

Jacky's embroidery was exquisite. Her home is a testament to her skills as a needlewoman, with beautiful bedspreads, cushions, doorstops, wall hangings and chair seats everywhere. She went on many courses, always keen to learn more and improve.

Jacky frequently visited many elderly friends in Retirement Homes, but she had a horror of spending her last years anywhere other than in her own home, with Pat. Jacky had recovered from the pneumonia that had hospitalised her for ten days, but her heart couldn't take the strain. She spent a very happy last day with Pat and her eldest grandchild, and died in her own bed, as she would have wished. She will be sorely missed, not only by her loving family, but by a large number of close friends.

Sonia Wakely
Riverdale

Whitchurch-on-Thames Habitat Study Group (WoTHABS)

Many thanks to all who supported our stalls at the fete. We always enjoy doing them. This year we were particularly delighted with the response to our children's activity. The children made miniature gardens using all sorts of plant pieces from hedgerows and gardens, as well as items from the kitchen cupboard. The number, 27, and variety of designs was impressive. Many had elaborate pathways made from fancy pasta, cous cous, etc. The finished portable items went home with their makers. The prize for our 'treasure hunt' – find the lost ring in the garden – was divided between two winners.

On the adjacent pitch John Southey and Martin Parham gave the fete-goers all the good reasons for composting: less or nothing to burn, less or nothing for the brown/garden waste bin, food for your plants, the almost complete disappearance of your kitchen waste if you have a closed bin wormery. In short, ideally nothing at all for you to carry out for the bin men. Their display showed how to do it all efficiently and they were able to explain the technicalities to anyone with a tricky question.

For anyone who would like a new compost bin at the low cost of £10, please ring Sandra Conn on 9844031 as she has one surplus to her requirements. You can then either collect it from 'Chalkhills' (formerly Boze Down Vineyard) or she will deliver it to you.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday October 17th, 8 p.m. at 'Chalkhills'. Please contact me if you would like to join us. You can find WoTHabs on the village website, if you would like to know more about us.

Gill Goodwin

9842934 (gill_goodwin@yahoo.co.uk)

Whitchurch Art and Craft Exhibition
The weekend of 17th – 18th November 2007
Whitchurch-on-Thames Village Hall, Manor Road

This is to remind everyone that the Whitchurch Society's Annual Exhibition is not far off (only about 12 weeks) so it's time to get busy with your entries! We welcome all ranges of work - it is an enjoyable, friendly event, not an elitist showcase! All residents (both past and present) of Whitchurch and Goring Heath Parishes are eligible to enter their work. Children who attend the Whitchurch Pre-School Group, Whitchurch Primary School or The Oratory Preparatory School are also eligible to enter, regardless of their place of residence. Exhibits that are offered for sale are welcome but they will not be eligible for the awards.

To save paper and expense, we do not print an 'advance' entry form and schedule - instead, the details of sending-in times and the classes are given below, and exhibitors will be asked to fill up an entry form when they submit their work.

Timetable

Sending-in - Thurs 15th Nov 7pm - 8pm at Cliff Cottage, Hardwick Rd,
Whitchurch

Friday 16th Nov 11am - 2pm at the Village Hall

If it is not possible to bring your entry at *either* of these times, please contact Sally Woolhouse (0118 9844365) to arrange a convenient alternative.

Prize Giving - Sunday 18th Nov at 4pm

Collection of work - Sunday 18th Nov 4.30-5pm

Loss or damage to exhibits

We take great care of exhibits but the organizers cannot be responsible for loss or damage. If required, insurance cover should be arranged by exhibitors.

Commission

A commission of 20% will be deducted from *all* sales at the exhibition.

Classes and Rules of entry

Joyce Voysey Prize

- a) This is an open class for all ages and the theme this year is 'Food'
- b) The work may be any item of art, craft or photography.
- c) Please clearly mark your work 'Food' on the back with your name in block capitals, and with the price if offered for sale. No more than one entry per person please.

Classes for 18 year olds and under

Art and Craft

These are divided into 4 age groups. Prizes will be awarded for both Art and Craft in each of these age groups :-
(a) under 7 years (b) 7 - 10 years (c) 11 - 14 years (d) 15 - 18 years
The exhibitor's name and age must be clearly written on the back of the work.

Photography class

- a) This is a single class open to all young people aged 18 or under.
- b) Exhibitors may submit a maximum of 4 photographs which may include one series of photographs.
- c) All individual photographs should be mounted on heavy quality card.
- d) A series of photographs should be mounted on card no larger than A3 (420mm x 295mm).
- e) The exhibitor's name and age must be clearly written on the back of the work.

Adult classes (over 18)

Art Work

- a) Exhibitors may submit up to a maximum of 4 pictures.
- b) All pictures must be framed and fitted with eye screws, or mounted on heavy quality card with a margin around the picture.
- c) Pictures must be labelled on the back with artist's name in block capitals, and with the price if offered for sale.

Photography

- a) Exhibitors may submit a maximum of 4 photographs which may include one series of photographs.
- b) All individual photographs should be framed, or mounted on heavy quality card with a margin around the photograph.
- c) A series of photographs should be mounted on card no larger than A3 (420mm x 295mm).
- d) All entries must be labelled on the back with artist's name in block capitals, and with the price if offered for sale.

Craft Work

- a) There is no limit to the number of exhibits submitted, although the organizers' discretion may be exercised.
- b) All work should be labelled on the back with name in block capitals, and with the price if offered for sale.

First Time Entrants

There is an award for the best art work, photography or craft work produced by a first time entrant. If you have never entered before, and you are over 18, you are eligible for this award.

For further details, please ring Sally Woolhouse on 0118 9844365 or look at our website on www.wotarts.co.uk

Sally Woolhouse (Tel 0118 984 4365).



Learning Through Play

If you are thinking of sending your child to Pre-School and would like to visit, please telephone Helen on 0118 9844516. You can also find out more from our web site www.whitchurchpreschool.org

Progress on Mr Toad's Village The Whitchurch Documentary

IT'S A WRAP!

Most people in this area will remember Monday 23rd July as a day of exceptionally heavy rains and flooding. But for me it was significant for another more personal reason because I added those two important words "The End" on the village documentary.

Since I started this project in November 2005 I have shot about 25 hours of material which has now been edited down to a 40 minute video. The original idea to record the story of the life of the village was not actually mine.

Fifty years ago, when he was the church warden of the Parish Church of Little Missenden in Buckinghamshire my late father had the idea of doing a film of a year

in the life of that village. Sadly, the amount of time and organisation it required made him decide against the project not to mention the cost of the 16mm film stock required. But I always thought it was a good idea and it lay dormant in my subconscious waiting to be hatched out fifty years later.

Time and technology have moved on in leaps and bounds. Shooting such a documentary on broadcast quality video is much cheaper and simpler than using film, the only choice open to Robin Brazil all those years ago. It is indeed sobering to think that if I had made this documentary on 16mm colour film it would have cost somewhere in the region of £10,000!

This is not to say that there have not been a few interesting challenges including temperamental editing software and completely filling up the memory of my computer's c drive.

There were also the vagaries of human nature that I have encountered whilst filming. Take that small but persistent minority of Neanderthals I have dubbed "The Hornblowers" for example. These half-wits think it is absolutely hilarious to blow their car horns whilst driving past someone who is filming. I assume that they hope to a) cause the cameraman to wet himself, b) to induce a fatal heart attack and c) startle him or her into dropping their equipment into the Thames or d) all of the aforementioned.

As an added refinement, I was even sworn at by a passing motorist recently and told to "Get orf the bl**dy bridge!" This ignored the fact that I was actually videoing on the pavement of Clifton Hampden bridge at the time.

Fortunately, such individuals only represent a fraction of the human race. Far more typical are all those kind and generous people who helped make this video possible. Whilst this includes virtually the whole population of the village there were also some friends who went far and beyond the call of duty. They include Will and Audrey Barclay whose generous support at an early stage showed their faith in the project, Anton Rodgers who kindly provided the excellent narration, Geoff Weir and The Whitchurch Tollbridge Company who have also been very generous in their support. So the documentary is now complete and a public showing has been arranged for Friday 28th September in The Whitchurch Village Hall. Entry is £1:00 a head and refreshments will be available. DVD copies of the documentary will be available at £10:00 each – an ideal Christmas present.

Please contact Nick Brazil on 01189841602 or nicholasbrazil@btinternet.com for further details.

© Nick Brazil 2007

Whitchurch Hill- Christmas Village Fayre - 1 December 2007

Back by popular demand!

If you are looking for a relaxing environment in which to do your Christmas Shopping, visit the Whitchurch Hill Christmas Fayre on Saturday 1 December 2007, between 10.30am – 3.30pm.

Goring Heath Parish Hall (opposite St John's Church) will host stall holders selling quality gifts, stocking fillers, cards and cakes. Light refreshments will also be on sale. All organisers' profits will be donated to Goring Heath Parish Hall.

Rosamund Heath
984 2358

The Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

Programme 2007-2008

- Sept. 20th - 50th Anniversary of the closing of Whitchurch Preparatory School. Not many people know that Whitchurch House was once a prep school for boys. Join "old boys" and others who will form our panel.
Peter Hawley (Whitchurch Village Hall)
- Oct. 18th** - Members' Forum including the postponed talk by Susan Lowery. (Goring Heath Parish Hall)
- Nov. 15th Bill King makes a welcome return to Goring Heath Parish Hall to give an illustrated talk on "Dad's Other Army". Anyone who heard him speak last year will be sure to put the date in the diary.
- 2008**
- Jan. 15th** - **Members' Evening (Whitchurch Village Hall)**
- Feb. 19th** - **Annual General Meeting Speaker to be announced (Whitchurch Village Hall)**

LANGTREE CELEBRATES EXAMINATION SUCCESS!

Students exceed targets at KS4

Students and staff have great cause to celebrate at the start of the new academic year as the school records the second best set of GCSE results ever attained at Langtree.

The GCSE pass rate was up by 5% on 2006, with 70% of all Year 11 students attaining 5 or more good GCSE grades at A* - C, comfortably meeting the challenging target set for this cohort of students two years ago. In addition, 64% of students secured 5 or more A* - C grades including English and Maths – the government's new measure of academic success. This represents an increase of 3% on last year's measure and easily exceeds the target of 60% set for the school by the Local Authority. Overall, 92% of the Year 11 students secured 5 or more GCSE passes at grades A* - G.

Staff were extremely pleased to see how well students had performed at the higher end of the GCSE grade range, as 21% of all grades achieved were at A* or A. Nine students secured 8 or more grades at A* and A: topping the list of the highest achievers were Jessica Jewitt (9 A* grades and 4 A grades), Jo Olley (6 A* grades and 4 A grades), Anje Wessels (5 A* grades and 6 A grades) and Kitty Corbett (5 A* grades and 5 A grades).

Woodcote Amateur Dramatic Society's

forthcoming production is a 'WADS' review evening on 4th, 5th and 6th October:

“Words in rhyme, Acting in sketches, Dancing and Singing”.....

This autumn, WADS are delighted to be bringing an evening of entertainment for all to the Woodcote Village Hall stage. With witty sketches, amusing recitations, dancing and musical renditions, this promises to provide something to suit everyone's taste, whatever your age!!!

Box office opens on **5th September**

Contact: Joy Aldridge - 01491 680556

Pangbourne Tennis Club News

We are now at the end of the summer tennis season. We have had a busy summer with matches, with four teams in the Newbury league. Our men's team ended up nicely in the middle of division 3, so will stay there for next summer, our mixed had a really tough time in division 1 (as we expected), but we did manage to win one match! We'll be back to division 2 next summer. The two ladies teams did well, in divisions 2 and 3, both coming second in their division, so both teams are due to be promoted next summer.

Thanks to all the team captains for arranging all the matches and teams, and congratulations to Sandra Pike and Suzanne Gordon-Smith for achieving promotion for their teams.

Every summer the club also enters a team in the Yorkshire Cup – a knock-out, handicap tournament run by the Newbury League. Pangbourne has won this tournament on 3 occasions; 1980, 1995 and 2001. This year we had a really good run and made it to the final, which took place on Sunday 2nd September at Yattendon, against Yattendon & Frilsham. The opposition were very strong but we managed to make it close, in the end only losing by 3 games; 37-40. The stars of the Pangbourne team were Karin Walker and Ben Gates who managed to win a set against the Yattendon first pair. As well as captaining the team this year Karin has also played for Pangbourne every time we've won the cup!

We're now gearing up for the winter season and we've entered the usual four teams in the Newbury league, as well as a team in the floodlit league played at Cholsey – this is tennis for the brave – outdoors on winter evenings!

Club play will also continue through the winter – it can be a lovely change from central heating and artificial light to play tennis out of doors on a mild winter morning – so do come and join us!

You can visit our website for more information www.pangbournetennis.org or email the club on pangtennis@ukgateway.net Enquiries about membership should be made to Suzanne on 984 3124 or riverside_51@tiscali.co.uk (note this is riverside_51) or to Jennifer on 984 4272 or jennifer.holmes@dial.pipex.com

PANGBOURNE HERITAGE GROUP

A reminder of the RNLI Quiz Night Supper in conjunction with the Heritage Group on FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER. The subject of the talk preceding the quiz is entitled 'Am I not a Man and a Brother?' Come and be enlightened.

For further information about the group please contact Rosie Nurick on 9842565.



pLAYGRoUp FoR 0 to 5 YeAR oLDs

Tots on the Hill is a playgroup for 0 to 5 year olds, running on Wednesday mornings during term-times from 10.00 to 11.30. The new term starts on Wednesday 12th September. Our normal morning consists of free play, an organised art activity, a healthy snack, and music to close. We charge £2.00 per family per session, and the first session is absolutely free.

Most of the children are pre-nursery age, however older children (and siblings) are very welcome. We have a soft area suitable for babies, and would love to see new mums for some coffee and a chat.

As a lot of our children will be starting nursery this September, we are fairly quiet at the moment, and would love to see some new faces. So, please come on up the hill (road works permitting) and join us!

Goring Heath Parish Hall is in Whitchurch Hill, opposite St. Stephen's church. If you get to the Oratory, you have gone too far.

Contact Catherine Tibbs on 0118 984 2318 for further details, or email catherine.mckinney@virgin.net.

Goring Heath Scout Group

August saw the 100th anniversary of the Scout Movement, with celebrations world-wide. At 8am on 1st August one hundred Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, amongst them a contingent from Goring Heath, gathered in Henley to re-make their promises, a hundred years to the minute after the first twenty Scouts made their promises on Brownsea Island. The weather was perfect, with glorious sun shining up the Henley Market Place. Even the Nationwide Building Society's burglar alarm managed to fall silent seconds before the promise.

On the 18th July, after a chilly trip to the open-air Wallingford pool, the Beavers marked an event which was, to them, even more momentous; Owl (otherwise known as Stacey Bailey) 'retired' after four years as a Beaver Leader. Foolishly she expressed a desire to "remain connected with Scouting in some way" and within hours had been recruited as a Cub Leader. We think Stacey must hold the record for the shortest ever retirement.

WHITCHURCH MAZE

Have you ever visited The Maze and been struck by how tidy and well-manicured the bricks and the grass look? And have you ever wondered who keeps it in such good shape? I'll let you into a well-kept secret – there is a small but friendly band of pixies who meet on the 1st Saturday of every month at 10am in the summer months and they get to work with edgers and clippers and mowers. These pixies would welcome some extra man and woman power to help them in their efforts on the following dates:-

6th October

Put these dates on your calendar NOW & come along and help keep your local Maze looking beautiful!

Pete Woolhouse 9844365

CLEANER REQUIRED.

**THE TRUSTEES OF GORING HEATH PARISH HALL
ARE SEEKING A CLEANER FOR THE PARISH HALL
£25 FOR 2 to 3 HOURS per WEEK**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO ARRANGE A VIEWING OF THE
PREMISES,**

CONTACT:- THERESA ELSOME ON 0118 9842056

GORING HEATH PARISH CHARITY

AUGUST, WITH LOTS OF PEOPLE AWAY ON HOLIDAY, IS NORMALLY A FAIRLY QUIET MONTH IN THE PARISH HALL. BUT AS I WRITE IT IS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY, WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS, PAST AND PRESENT WORKING REALLY HARD STRIPPING AND REPOLISHING THE FLOOR. THIS IS VERY UNPLEASANT WORK, SO DUSTY AND DIRTY BUT ITS ALL A GOOD CAUSE TO FURTHER IMPROVE, WHAT IS ALREADY A LOVELY HALL. SO "THANK YOU" TO ALL THE HARD WORKERS AND I'M SURE ALL FUTURE USERS OF THE HALL WILL APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS. YOU WILL OF COURSE BE ABLE TO SEE THE RESULTS FOR YOURSELVES WHEN YOU COME ALONG TO ONE OF THE EVENTS TO BE HELD IN THE HALL.

FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER -- *THE CHEESE AND WINE EVENT*
FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER -- *THE TIN SOLDIER (STOREY BOX COMPANY).*
FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2008 -- *INSTANT WIT*

Cross Lanes Fruit Farm, Mapledurham

Apple open day – Sunday 7th October 10am – 5pm

Come to the Open Day on Sunday 7th October and you will be amazed by the variety of apples on display. Sixty different varieties of apples, plums and pears are grown here. Taste the difference – all apples grown for full flavour – contrast the pippins, russets, grieves, blenheims and more. Genuine freshly pressed apple juice of several varieties astound!

Find out about the work that goes into producing these delicious apples by joining one of the guided walks at 11am or 12.30 and 2.00 and 3.30pm. Visit the displays in the barn on apple varieties, pruning and pests, try out apple peelers, talk to the beekeeper and stock up on delicious home made apple pies, cakes, jams and chutneys. Local wood turned items, plants and more will be on sale.

Apple bobbing, guess the number of apples, quizzes and a host of other apple games will entertain young and old alike. Enter the Lions Conker Challenge.

The Farm Shop will be open all day and remains open until mid-January.
Wednesday to Sunday from 10.00am to 6.00pm.

Entrance and car park free.

For further information contact Gill Franklin on 0118 972 3167 or see www.crosslanesfruitfarm.co.uk

Pangbourne & District Volunteer Centre

Four mornings a week (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) between 9.30am and 11.30am, the telephone starts ringing in the committee room in Pangbourne Village Hall. It's answered by one of two volunteers on duty working for Pangbourne Volunteer Centre with the aim of co-ordinating requests from, mainly elderly, local residents requiring transport to take them for various appointments ranging from visits to the doctor's surgery, hospitals, dentists, and day centres.

Pangbourne Volunteer Centre is a charity that has been operating in the Pangbourne area since its conception in 1977 and which provides a valuable and essential service for many people who are elderly or disabled and unable to drive who might otherwise have considerable difficulty in keeping medical appointments. Together with Pangbourne, we cover the surrounding districts of Upper Basildon, Ashampstead, Tidmarsh, Sulham, Purley and part of Tilehurst.

A large number of our 'clients' are referred to us by the Boathouse Surgery although many read about us through the various parish magazines or are also recommended by existing clients. If anyone is finding it difficult to get transport to and from appointments please do not hesitate to contact the office (number shown below) during office hours. You are an important part of the Pangbourne Volunteer Centre for without you we couldn't exist.

Our dedicated group of volunteers consist of drivers providing transport whilst others support by giving the necessary administrative backup in the office, although many do both. The majority are retired and looking for an extra interest now they have more free time but we also have a few younger members who have a few hours to spare and are willing to give up some of their valuable time to help others. Driving elderly people is very rewarding as they often have a wealth of local knowledge having lived in the area for many years and much history can be gleaned. The good thing is that as a volunteer you can choose how much time you want to give and no pressure is ever put on anyone to make a journey if its not convenient. After all we all have commitments and a driver cannot always be easily found. That's why we like to have a large group of volunteers to call upon and we're always looking for new members.

If anyone is interested joining us or would like transport, please contact the office any morning, except Tuesday, between 9.30am and 11.30am on 0118 9844586.

Jane Rowberry

COFFEE MORNING

Bring & Buy, Raffle, Cakes etc

THURSDAY 25TH OCTOBER

10.3am to 12 noon

at

THE DORMAN ROOM

St Bernadette's Church, Horshoe Road,

Pangbourne

Entrance 50p to include coffee and biscuits

Proceeds to Volunteer Centre

Rivermead Indoor Bowls Club

The bowls season at Pangbourne Bowls Club and at other bowls clubs in the locality are about to wind up this month and the outdoor greens will be “put to bed” for the winter ready for the new season next April.

Chance to have a rest from bowling now then? Oh no! Rivermead Indoor Bowls Club is always on the look out for new members and this is the most conveniently located club for indoor facilities in the region being located in Richfield Avenue, Reading – next to the Travel Lodge hotel near Caversham Bridge.

There are ample opportunities for both beginners and more experienced bowlers with county coaches being on hand to help improve your game, or you could join a team in one of the regular league games during the week (daytime and evenings) against fellow club members, or participate in the inter club friendly and league competitions at weekends.

The new season at Rivermead begins in late September, and you are most welcome to attend one of the open days (to be held on **Saturday 28th September from 9am till 5pm, or Sunday 29th September from 9am till 1pm**). If you are unable to come to the open day, then do please make a point of turning out on some other occasion – club members will always make you welcome

So, whatever your ability you are most welcome to come along to Rivermead and see for yourself if indoor bowls is for you. If you have any enquiries about joining Rivermead, then please call on 0118 950 0803 or just come along to the club.

Nigel Cabeldu

Secretary

Rivermead Indoor Bowls Club

WHITCHURCH HILL CAMERA CLUB

Our new season got off to a good start last month with a record number of visitors and existing members coming along to our Opening Night.

Our programme continues this month with an academic lecture on October 3rd when Andrew Wilson ARPS shows “Images that changed the World”. One week later, we have our annual Selection Evening for prints and digital images to be entered in Club battles this season.

The following week (October 17th) features the first round of our ongoing Slide and Digital Competition when we have invited Dr Ron Bell from the Henley Camera Club to comment on our work and score each image out of 20 points.

Our next meeting on the 24th features a botanical lecture when Dr Peter Brandham from Kew Gardens presents “End to End – The Flowers of the Mediterranean.” This is followed, one night later, by the monthly meeting of the Digital group.

The month ends on the 31st with the first round of the Print Competition which will be judged by Gordon Roberts CPAGB from the Wallingford Camera Club.

Our meetings are held every Wednesday evening at The Village Hall, Whitchurch-on-Thames commencing at 8pm. Pick up a copy of our full 24 page Programme free of charge from the Woodcote Library and come along to our next meeting.

Further information is available from Alan Copeland on (01491) 681471 or by visiting our website at: www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.co.uk.

RECYCLING

Aluminium Foil	Bottle tops & Foil	Primary School
	Cans - Clean & Crushed	
Mobile Phones		Primrose Cottage
Inkjet & Toner Cartridges	tel 984 2828	Help the Aged
Stamps		The Village Hall Car park
Glass Bottles and Jars		Boat House Surgery or
Spectacles		Alison Michael
Cardboard, papers, plastics (not polystyrene),		

tins & cans

Green Box on dustbin day

Cans, bottles, books, clothes,
magazines, shoes etc

Savacentre Car Park

The Refuse Centre at Oakley Wood, Crowmarsh Gifford, has facilities for the disposal of: household items, metal, plastic, bottles, paper, batteries, engine oil and green waste.

Any queries call Public Amenities on tel:- 01491 823416

DIARY DATES

Contributions welcome for this column if anyone knows of a date that would be of interest to the village.

SEPTEMBER

20th History Society meeting

21st Whitchurch Hill Cheese and Wine event

28th Showing of Whitchurch Film – in the Village Hall

OCTOBER

4th, 5th, 6th. WADS Review

6th Maze Tidy

7th Apple Open Day at Cross Lanes Orchard

18th History Society Meeting

25th Coffee morning at St Bernadette's in aid of Volunteer Centre

NOVEMBER

15th History Society Meeting

17/18th Art and Craft Exhibition – Village Hall

DECEMBER

1st Whitchurch Hill Christmas Fayre Goring Heath Hall

BANK HOLIDAY DUSTBIN COLLECTION DATES.

Collections on 27th December and 3rd January 2008 will as normal

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN will be published in NOVEMBER 2007.

Please send your contributions **preferably by e-mail to**

Sarah.pongo@talktalk.net by 7th November 2007

Views of individual contributors are the views of those contributors, and are not necessarily the views of the Parish Council, or the editor.