

WHITCHURCH ON THAMES BULLETIN

www.whitchurchonthames.com

September 2008

Parish council meeting, 1st September, in the village hall

Present:

Cllr Matilda Oppenheimer (chairman), Cllr Vincent Aldridge (vice chairman), Cllr Nigel Grove, Cllr Nigel Cabeldu, Cllr Harry Butterworth, Cllr Elizabeth Robinson, Jo Wheeler (parish clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor Pearl Slatter.

Parish councillor resignation

The council has received notice from Kate Thatcher of her resignation as parish councillor. The parish council would like to thank her for her contribution over the last 7 years.

The council received notice from Cllr Dr Matilda Oppenheimer of her resignation as chairman. Although Dr Oppenheimer has regretfully had to step down from her role due to work commitments she will continue as a parish councillor. The parish council would like to thank Matilda for all her hard work as chairman. The new chairman will be announced in the next edition.

Parish councillor vacancy

There is a vacancy for a parish councillor and the parish council is asking for anyone interested to apply. The role of a parish councillor is to represent the views of all residents within the parish. Their period of service is usually for four years with an extension. It is a voluntary position with some expenses paid in certain cases.

The parish council meets in the evening on the first Monday of every other month. The next meeting is on 3rd November. Please contact the parish clerk at wotparishclerk@aol.com or on 07766 692235 for more information.

Police and community support surgeries

The parish council wishes to remind everyone that Thames Valley Police are running a police and community support surgery. Anyone can drop in to discuss issues and obtain advice on police and community matters. It will run on the first Wednesday of every month between 10am and 1pm at the Pangbourne Medical Practice. There is no need to book an appointment you can just turn up.

If parishioners aren't able to attend the surgeries they can arrange for a visit from a police community support officer (PCSO) at their home. For more information please call Thames Valley Police on 0845 505505.

Bottle bank

If you have bottles to recycle please ensure there is room in the bottle bank. If the container is full do not leave your bottles on the ground, please report the situation to a parish councillor or directly to South Oxfordshire District Council on 01491 823000.

Planning applications received

Reference	Location	Description	Parish council comments
P08/E0946	29 Manor Road	Two storey extension.	No strong views
P08/E0912	Jasmine Cottage High Street	Single and two storey extension to the rear (North) elevation, replacement of flat roof with pitched at south elevation, and internal alterations	No strong views
P08/E0875	Eastfield Lodge Eastfield Lane	First floor extension over rear dining room	No strong views
P08/E0687	White House Cottage Manor Road	Erection of garden shed	No strong views
P08/E0780 /RET	2 Swanston Field	Single storey rear extension and internal alterations (Amendment to application P07/E0314 to include increase in height of the roof)	

Although similar conclusions were reached for all of the applications, each application was discussed at length. Each discussion included Liz Robinson's analysis and her reports on her interviews with people whom she considered might be affected.

Planning decisions

P08/E0591- Eastfield Lodge, Eastfield Lane, single storey timber summerhouse - **GRANTED**

P08/E0641- The Hive Hardwick Road, side garage extension - **GRANTED**

P08/E0685 - Lubricants UK Ltd Technology Centre Whitchurch Hill (In the parish of Goring Heath) RG8 7QR, proposed fabricated temporary store building – **GRANTED**

P08/E0721- Ferry Boat High Street - alterations to existing rear store to form external covered area – **none issued yet**

If anyone wishes to view details of planning applications they can look on online at www.southoxon.gov.uk/planning or contact Liz Robinson (parish councillor) 07733 623 828 (email liz@robin-swan.demon.co.uk) to make an appointment or discuss any issues relating to a planning application.

The Allotment Society

We have welcomed several new members this year, who have had a very successful first year. The weather has meant that the weeds as well as the veg have grown very well. Turn your back for more than two days and its “oh help”!

The weather has taken its toll: blight on potatoes and tomatoes but mostly everything has enjoyed the wetter conditions interspersed with sunshine.

Rosamund Heath

984 2358

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

Our forthcoming meetings are:-

At Whitchurch Village Hall

Jan 15th Colonel Forbes and the Matabele Wars. Illustrated talk by Peter Hawley

Feb 19th AGM, speaker to be announced

All meetings start at 8pm

The society holds lecture meetings from September to May and then has outings in June and July.

Everyone with an interest in history is welcome to come, and we aim to cover local as well as general interest topics - usually with a local slant. We have informal working parties from time to time to study particular material (eg enclosure, building plans) and publish books on local topics.

At Goring Heath Parish Hall

Sep 18th Reading before Development 2.
An illustrated talk by Alan Copeland

Oct 16th Yesterday's Runways.
Illustrated talk by Bill King

Nov 15th Forum -
Trading in Pangbourne - how it was

Goring on Thames Decorative and Fine Arts Society

GADFAS

450 members

Are you interested in paintings or would you like to know more about sculpture, textiles, architecture or jewellery? Would you like to visit special exhibitions or historic houses in London and elsewhere? Would you like to join overseas tours, doing the same on the continent?

GADFAS offers nine lectures, study days, UK and overseas tours and a number of UK day tours to its members throughout the year and we meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month in Goring Village hall. The annual subscription is £27.

We begin our 21st season on 24th September with a lecture by James Taylor on 'Ocean Liner Art 1800-1950' and an overseas visit to Delft. Our October lecture is on painted church interiors and our study day in December covers the Roman and Islamic Art of Libya, Tunisia and Morocco.

For further information contact the Assistant Secretary on 01491 873212.

Woodcote Library

Our events for children were well attended and great fun so the library was a very busy place over the summer. There is still time to complete the Team Read and gain a gold medal - come in with your card before the end of the month.

With the start of School terms we look forward to getting down to serious work answering all your homework questions. For adults too there is a new "Answers Direct" service for any enquiry that cannot be quickly found in a local library.

RIVERMEAD INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

The bowls season at Pangbourne Bowls Club and at other bowls clubs in the locality are about to wind up in September 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 **Sunday October 5th from 9am till 1pm, or Saturday October 11th from 9am till 5pm**). If you are unable to come to either of the open days, 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 ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

The weekend of 15th-16th November
2008

Whitchurch-on-Thames Village Hall,
Manor Road

This is to remind everyone that the Whitchurch Society's Annual Exhibition is not far off, 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 13th Nov, 7- 8pm at Cliff Cottage, Hardwick Rd, Whitchurch

Friday 14th Nov, 11am - 2pm at the Village Hall

If it is not possible to bring your entry at either of these times, please contact

Kate Preston (0118 984 4265) to arrange a convenient alternative.

Prize giving

Sunday 16th Nov at 4pm

Collection of work

Sunday 16th 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

Open class for all age groups The theme this year is 'Journey'. The work may be any item of art, craft or photography. Please clearly mark your work 'Journey' 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.

Art

18 and under This is divided into four 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.

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

My Family Tree

Many, many years ago When I was twenty three,
I married me a widow As pretty as could be.

She had a grown-up daughter Whose hair was flaming red.
My father fell in love with her, And soon the two were wed.

This made my Dad my son-in-law And changed my very life.
For my daughter was my mother, as she was my father's wife.

To complicate the matters worse, Although it brought me joy,
I soon became the father To a bouncing baby boy.

My little baby then became A brother-in-law to Dad,
And so became by uncle, Though it made me very sad.

For if he was my uncle, Then it also made him brother,
To the widow's grown-up daughter
Who of course was my stepmother.

Father's wife then had a son Who kept him on the run,
And he became my grandson, For he was my daughter's son.

My wife is now my mother's mother, It really makes me blue,
Because even if she is my wife, She is my grandma too.

If my wife is my grandmother, Then I am her grandchild,
And every time I think of it, It really drives me wild.

For now I have become The strangest case so far.
As the husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa.

Anon - but with thanks to Dolby Landon

GORING HEATH PARISH CHARITY

So we are ready for the “new term” to begin with the clubs, groups and regular classes meeting again. And talking of classes, **a new one “Fitness for the Over Fifties” will begin on Monday September 22nd running from 9.30 – 10.30am each week.**

For information on this class or Children’s Dance held on Tuesday afternoons, Yoga ~ Thursday mornings, Pilates ~ Friday mornings or the Clubs and groups or to book the Hall, call 0118 9842056.

And so to future events;

Saturday November 22nd is Quiz night with the “One and Only” quiz master Mike Holland!!

As usual food will be available and included in the price of the ticket. So start getting your team together and book your table, don’t leave it too long as these quizzes are becoming very popular!

**Saturday 6th December at 7pm
Garwain and the Green Knight.**

Tickets Children and OAPs-£5.50. Adults- £8.00

This is the now regular pre Christmas show for the Children, and we are sure it will be as entertaining and enjoyable, for all age groups, as the past events have been.

“Believe it or not, this version of Gerwain was originally commissioned by Led Zeppelin’s Robert Plant for a private Christmas party! This show proves you can turn a piece of traditional medieval literature into an entertaining show with lively modern language without the need to “dumb it down””

Phone 0118 9842056 to book your seats.

ORCHARD OPEN DAY

CROSS LANES FRUIT FARM, MAPLEDURHAM, RG4 7UW

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 10.00am-5.00pm

Come to the Open Day on Sunday 12 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 juices of several varieties as-tound.

Find out about the work that goes into producing these delicious apples by joining one of the guided walks at 11.00am or 12.30pm and 2.00pm or 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.

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, selling Cross Lanes apples and pears, juices and honey, will be open all day and remains open until mid-January - Wednesday to Sunday from 10.00am to 6.00pm.

Entrance and car parking are free.

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

Village Plan

The Village Plan marches on. The questionnaires have now been analysed and highlights were displayed at the Fete on 6 September, with Steering Committee members on hand to answer questions. Our thanks are due to a group of twelve helpers who collated the comments made on the questionnaires as these were beyond the computer!

This data base will provide valuable information for our four Study Groups as they begin to formulate their recommendations for their final reports.

In November it is planned to hold a Public Meeting at which the Committee's outline proposals will be presented for your comments. A lot of hard work will be needed between now and then.

Have you Time to Spare to Meet Someone New and help them?

Our scheme to train and place volunteers is gathering speed, and we already have a terrific team in the field. But here at the South & Vale carers centre in Didcot we would like to recruit more: would you be interested in helping out someone caring for a relative in their own home? You would be introduced to a household where the carer and the cared-for person are living, and asked to stay in the home while the carer took some time off: perhaps an hour a month, perhaps an afternoon a week.

This would all start off with an interview for you, and references sought, and then a short training course to equip you for any situation and send you free from anxiety into your future as a volunteer! We will take care in matching volunteers and cared-for people, and you would have constant support by phone when you need it as well as ongoing face-to-face meetings with colleagues and with Chris Elliott, the co-ordinator of the scheme.

Chris is waiting to hear from anyone interested, and has much more information to give. Please email her at the Carers Centre pnm chris@svcarers.org.uk, or phone her there on 01235 510212. She will be delighted you've called!

NEW IDEA: Number 4

It has been suggested that in every Bulletin there is a short piece about one of the Village Societies. This would act as an introduction to new residents, and a reminder to existing residents of what they are missing!

The Whitchurch Society

The Whitchurch Society exists to nurture good fellowship amongst the residents of Whitchurch and to protect and enhance those aspects of the village which seem to be most valued by us all. In furtherance of these aims, the Society organises a regular programme of social events to bring people together in appreciation of the village, the talents of its residents, and the beauty of our local environment. Currently this programme consists of the annual Art and Craft exhibition in November, the Village Walk on New Year's Day, and the Garden Walk in June, together with an annual AGM and lecture in April. The committee of the Whitchurch Society also maintains a watching brief on various aspects of village life, including planning, and from time to time the Society acts as a mouth-piece for the general views of village residents.

Every resident of Whitchurch is a member of the Society, and as such will be invited to every public function, but the Society is particularly grateful to those residents who choose to become subscribing members and whose support enables the Society to sponsor, in a modest way, some of the events.

The Society is always pleased to welcome new active members, and anyone who would like to get involved is asked to get in touch with either the Chairman or Secretary, whose contact details are below.

Chairman - Peter Smith - May Cottage, Eastfield Lane – Tel. 984 3340 - peterbsmith@fsmail.net

Secretary - Ian Bruce - 8 Swanston Field - Tel. 984 2653 - ian.bruce@btinternet.com



WOODCOTE AMATEUR DRAMATICS SOCIETY (WADS)

Was it love that inspired a philanderer like Richard Myers to marry, or the prospect of a fast track career and guaranteed seat on the board of directors of a prestigious city firm? Does his subservient wife, Helen, who allows herself to be controlled by others suspect her husband's infidelity, resulting in nervous and forgetful behaviour. Or does the fear of abject humiliation haunt her, should Richard ever discover the sordid details of her own murky background.

Since their marriage the only visitor to their home has been Helen's younger, jealous sister, Angela (*why does she visit so often?*). As a result, Helen decides to invite her dear neighbour Betty and an old school friend, Gabby, around for a special evening, an evening with a difference – she has also invited a fortune teller! But Helen's party takes a turn for the worse when Madam Rosa, the fortune teller, is found dead.

Witness the crime, examine the evidence, reveal the murderer at WADS next production – a Murder, Mystery evening : **"Bad Fortune"**

Performances - 9, 10 & 11 October in Woodcote Village Hall

Advance bookings only – tickets **not** available at door

£12 to include 2 course Ploughman's Style Supper

Box Office : 01491 680556

RECYCLING

Aluminium Foil Bottle tops & Foil
 Cans - Clean & Crushed Primary School
Mobile Phones Inkjet & Toner Cartridges tel 984 2828
 Primrose Cottage

Stamps Help the Aged
Glass Bottles and Jars The Village Hall Car Park
Spectacles Boat House Surgery or
 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, bat-
teries, engine oil and green waste.

DIARY DATES

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

SEPTEMBER

15 History Society meeting

OCTOBER

9,10,11 WADS production
12 Cross lanes orchard open day
16 History Society meeting

NOVEMBER

3 Parish Council meeting
15 History Society meeting
15 & 16 Art & Craft Exhibition

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN will be published in
NOVEMBER 2008.

Please send your contributions **preferably by e-mail to**
Sarah.pongo@talktalk.net by 7th November 2008

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