

Chalfont St Peter Village Voice

OCTOBER 2007

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MISBOURNE Art Society's annual exhibition is on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th November, 10am-5pm, in the Church Hall, Church Lane, CSP. Free entry, home-made refreshments. Usually well over 100 exhibits of framed



pictures in watercolours, oils, acrylics, and pastels, as well as some sculptures and, for those who like browsing, there are lots of unframed works also. This is a real village occasion that has taken place every year for decades and always visitors are excited by the quality of art created by local people. Most are for sale and make excellent Christmas presents for someone special as well as a treat for you to buy yourself a piece of art that you can enjoy over many years.

In recent years, the 'Elaine Butler' Silver Salver (donated by her husband in her memory) has been presented to the artist

whose painting has been voted the most popular by visitors to the exhibition. Last year this was awarded to Brian Isherwood, a talented and popular member of the Society, for his painting, 'Clivedon'. You can see for yourself why.

MISBOURNE Art Society meets at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre at 2.15pm on the first Saturday of the month.

November 3 - Martin Smith - Society, Seascapes & Saints.

December 1 - Christmas Party, Competition - Christmas Box.. Quiz and presentations by member

CONGRATULATIONS to Doreen Pooley of Chalfont St Peter, on taking office as the National President of the Catholic Women's League of England and Wales. Doreen is well known locally, so it's important that her new role is publicised and the responsibility that she has taken on is recognised. It is a big role to handle and all her friends wish her well.

THERE Is an open morning from 10.00am - Saturday, 10th November, at the Abbeyfield home, Austenmead, 56 School Lane, Chalfont St Peter. Abbeyfield Chalfonts Society is a registered charity No 261970 and provides high standards of affordable housing. Austenmead is a charming house of character and home to eleven seniors who enjoy a unique blend of privacy, security and companionship. One and two bedroomed apartments all offer en-suite facilities on highly competitive terms. A resident House Manager provides the main meals and the charity ensures the home is well supported. Enquiries 01753-887267

FOLLOWING the successful Chalfont St. Peter W.I Spring fashion Show, they will be presenting A Winter Fashion Show with Bucks. Leather Centre and M. & Co. "Parties and Presents" In the Parish Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Friday 23rd November. 2007 Entry £5.00 to include Wine and Nibbles.

THE CSP WI meets on the second Wednesday in the month at the Church Hall, Church Lane at 2.15pm. Meetings:

Nov. 14 - Costumes Old and New - Speaker: Barbara Owen.

Dec. 12 - Starts at 2pm. - Christmas Carols and Songs from the Chiltern W.I. Singers

THE Village Older Persons Action Group (VOPAG) meeting will be held in the Parish Council Office from 10.30am-12.30 pm, on Tuesday 20th, when there will be a talk on affordable warmth and energy efficiency by the Affordable Warmth Co-ordinator for Bucks. On Thursday 13th. December they will be holding their Christmas meeting and will be entertained by the South Bucks U3A Jazz band. Because of the likely disturbance to the people working in the Parish Council office, they are changing the venue for the December meeting only to the Parish Church Hall in Church Lane. For both of these meetings they will meet at 10.30 for coffee, with the meeting starting at 11 am.

As a result of their initiative, Simply Walk has been running walks from the village on the first and third Fridays of each month, starting from the Community Centre at 10.30. Each walk lasts for about 45 minutes.

CHALFONT ST PETER now has its own historical display, opened by Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher on Saturday, October 27. This exciting new heritage project is to be known as the Celfunde Inheritance, which refers back to the early existence of its ancient history, with traces of Iron-Age and Roman habitation. The earliest known reference is a Saxon Charter of 949 AD which calls it Ceadeles Funtan. In the Domesday Book of 1086 it is referred to as Celfunde.

The Heritage Section of the Village Appraisal Groups started work on this project in 2005 to raise awareness of Chalfont St. Peter's past and is dedicated to the vision of celebrating and preserving the rich heritage of the village and to bring alive the past for both villagers and visitors. The secret first exhibit was in fact about the Victoria Cross. At the time it was decided to make this one of the first exhibits, no one knew that it would be this time of the year, but appropriately the Lord Lieutenant had actually launched the Bucks. poppy appeal earlier that morning! The founder members decided on this exhibit because they felt that it was a fascinating story that **only 3 people** in the whole of Buckinghamshire have ever been awarded the Victoria Cross and 2 of them are buried here in Chalfont St. Peter. These were awarded during the 1st World War and members of both families were present to see the exhibits unveiled.

The Parish Council kindly agreed to house this initial exhibition in their new Council Offices in Mill Meadow and Chiltern District Council awarded a grant to enable the Celfunde Inheritance to stage the exhibits. Without the support of these two Councils the project would not have got off the ground. **The museum will only be open for viewing between 10.00 - 12.00 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month commencing November or by special appointment by ringing one of the four founder members**

An illustrated map of the Parish in the style of an illuminated manuscript of the Middle Ages is the centrepiece of the exhibition and images on the map reveal how the village has evolved over many centuries. A facsimile of the Domesday Book open at the Celfunde entry will be on display and there will be a special themed exhibit to introduce some of the more fascinating aspects of the history of the village and this exhibit will be changed periodically.

Future developments are the launch of a Living History project, the creation of a dedicated history web-site and a time-line chronicling 2000 years of life in Chalfont St. Peter set against a background of world events. A permanent home within the village is our ultimate goal.

For further information please contact either Sandy Warren on 01753 885529, Linda Smith on 01494 874065, Pam Bacon on 01494 873550 or Tony Shinner on 01753 880100.

THE next Police Community Surgery will be in Budgens on Tuesday 13th. November between 12 mid-day and 2 p.m. You are invited to meet our village Beat Officer and discuss with him any problems you may have concerning crime in the village - are you worried by speeding, antisocial behaviour, litter, parking, drugs etc? If so, come along and discuss these matters with him in complete confidence. We shall also have our Police Crime Reduction Officer with us this time and he will be happy to offer advice concerning your personal safety and home security, particularly during the dark winter months. Would you like a Neighbourhood Watch in your road? If so, we can discuss this with you and make the necessary arrangements."

CHALFONT St Peter Garden Club holds its meetings on the third Wednesday evening of the month, in the Church Hall, Church Lane, CSP at 8pm. The programme for the rest of the year is: November 21 – The Dry Garden, speaker Mr Hilary Newman. On December 19, there is a Christmas social evening in the Church Hall.

THE next concert of the fully professional A40 Concert Orchestra, founded and conducted by Chalfont St Peter resident David Meacock, celebrates The Buckinghamshire Building Society's Centenary. It will take place at 7:30 on Saturday 10 November at Dr Challoner's High School, Little Chalfont.

The A40 Concert Orchestra has had a long association with Buckinghamshire Building Society, and so was delighted to be asked to do a concert for the Centenary. The starting point for the popular programme was the Building Society's Swan logo, hence the inclusion of Saint-Saens' famous descriptive piece, for solo cello, The Swan, from The Carnival of the Animals. This is complimented by Delius' Summer Night on the River and On Hearing the first Cuckoo in Spring which were written in the early 20th Century.

The wildlife theme is continued with Rimsky-Korsakov's spectacularly virtuosic The Flight of the Bumble Bee and Bach's pastoral Sheep May Safely Graze. Violin soloist Anna Cashell returns, following a highly characterful performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons with the A40 CO last year, to play Vaughan Williams evocative The Lark Ascending – which features consistently at the top of Classic FM's 'Hall of Fame' listing of the current 300 most popular and accessible classical music pieces.

Following studies in Ireland and the Yehudi Menuhin School, Anna went to the Royal College of Music as the Mills William Junior Fellow, where she won many awards including the 2006 String Player of the Year. Anna will also play Romances by Beethoven and Dvorak. The orchestra will open proceedings with Schubert's cheerful Symphony No. 5 in Bb. Tickets, which include free refreshments, are now available via the A40 Concert Orchestra page of www.a40music.com or 01753 886005. Prices are Adults in advance £12, Adults on the door £15-00 and Students £6. To encourage families to go, there is also a bargain family ticket for 2 Adults with up to 3 children for only £25.

THE Friends of Chiltern Open Air Museum have two more talks this year in the Mary Smithells Room of Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, commencing at 8 pm and lasting no more than two hours.

Wednesday 28 November – **History of Farming in the Chilterns** - Tracy Adams, Chilterns Conservation Board.

Another welcome return – Tracy is bound to be thoughtful and thought-provoking as usual.

Wednesday 5 December – A speaker from the **Pendon Museum**, near Didcot. A fascinating place, with wonderfully detailed model railway layouts. (Seasonal refreshments at a small extra charge.)

All are welcome to attend – a small charge of £2.50 per person is made - £2.00 for Friends of COAM. Light refreshments are available. No pre-booking required – just turn up on the evening. However, any enquiries may be made to Jenny Ogden on 01494 793017.

A SCOTTISH Evening is also being arranged by Friends of COAM for Saturday 10 November, 7.00 for 7.15 pm at WHITE HILL CENTRE, CHESHAM. Enjoy a Display of Scottish Dancing by Berkhamstead Strathspey & Reel Club, A chance to try simple dances for yourself (flat shoes desirable), Enjoy Scottish Music, Scottish Quiz and chat with friends over a buffet. Tickets are £8 and to obtain them contact Gill Cassidy on 01844 344461 or Jenny Ogden 01494 793017. Soft or alcoholic drinks only available from the Centre's bar.

NATIONAL Council of Women meets in the CSP Community Centre at 2.15pm the last Thursday of each month.

CLAIRE CALLAGHAN will hold her super book sale in the Church Hall, Church Lane and now has an even better display for your enjoyment. She has teamed up with a friend who has really superb handbags, belts and pashminas to add to the array. The Sale is on Saturday 24th November from 9am-4pm. Christmas gifts right on your doorstep

THROUGH THE WARDROBE is looking for enthusiastic 9 - 12 year olds who are ready to have fun with dance.

New junior dance classes are already under way, plus places are available in the Wednesday drama classes in Fulmer Village. For more details call Nicki on 01753 892009

DONATIONS of £300 each were made by the St Joseph's Furniture Market team to: Bucks Association for the Blind (South East division), Slough Homeless Our Concern (SHOC) St Vincent de Paul Society (CSP)

The market is on Saturday mornings from 9am-noon in the big storeroom behind the Social Club, where good quality used furniture is there for those who would like to go along and see what has been donated to be resold.

If you have furniture in good condition that you would like to donate, you can phone the co-ordinator on 01494 872207.

CONTACT the elderly is a charity founded about 30 years ago. It aims to give frail, isolated, elderly people companionship. On the third Sunday of the month, volunteers collect one or two elderly people from their homes and drive them to the home of that month's hostess. About eight elderly folk and their drivers gather at the home of a volunteer host or hostess. A welcoming cup of tea at 3pm is followed by a quiz and chat, then an afternoon tea with savouries, cakes and a cuppa. At about 5pm the drivers take their guests home. The hope is that the elderly have enjoyed the companionship of people their own age and also of the younger drivers. For those who cannot get out much, or whose family lives too far away to visit often, or don't have family, it provides a chance for a relaxed chat.

The charity is a national organisation. There are now seven groups in Bucks, but still lots of potential guests who would benefit from a group in their area. If you think you could host a tea party, drive or support, please contact the Buckinghamshire Development Officer, Terry Gibson, on 01276 502611 or terry.gibson@contact-the-elderly.org.uk.

If you think that you'd like to be a guest at such a tea party, contact your doctor in the first instance. All the guests are referred to contact the Elderly by their GP or Age Concern.

DATES for the Scout and Guide Christmas Post: Saturdays 1st, 8th and 15th December from 9.30a.m. to 12.30 p.m. outside the Tile shop/ opposite Budgens.

WHAT do you do when you reach fifty? Throw a party. Which is just what **Chalfont Common WI** did! In all seventy of them, including husbands, had a very jolly evening at the community centre; with Bucks fizz; a three course meal and a speaker; for their fiftieth anniversary dinner. It was the culmination of a very busy month; with a bring and buy sale at their president's house in aid of the Chalfont Heights scout camp. A team went over to Wendover and did quite well in their village quiz, and the energetic ones went for a ramble along the Grand Union canal. Their October speaker was a teacher who, having been on a walking holiday to Nepal a few years ago, decided on reaching retirement to return and teach and get to know more about the Nepalese people. It took her eleven days to walk from Katmandu with the guides (no roads or sanitation) along tracks up and over mountains to reach the village of the Sherpa she had first met on her original holiday. It was extremely cold in the north; minus 20 degrees some nights and sunny and warm in the south of Nepal. The houses are built on very narrow terraces; so you have to be careful how you walk about on the outside. Everything is carried either on the Sherpa's back or head, as the countryside is very steep. The Nepalese lead very simple but colourful lives with their buffalo for milk. Fifty is old age. A group of members also did a walk from Chenies along the river Chess; buying watercress along the way. Also several of them attended the WI Group meeting, which includes Chalfont St Peter; Chalfont St Giles Afternoon and Evening and Denham Green, at the Community centre, with the opportunity to learn about the origins of some of the old time music hall songs and a chance to join in and have a sing song. The next meeting is Thursday 1st November; in the Tony Graham room at the Chalfont St Peter Community centre. 7.30 for 7.45. The group meets on the first Thursday of each month.

PILATES classes in St Joseph's Church Hall are on Thursday afternoons at 1.30pm. Whether you are a beginner or already experienced with Pilates, you are welcome to join the class. Prices are £34.50 for a block of six classes, but you are welcome to go to the first one at no charge to see whether or not it suits you. Pilates is suitable for all ages and both sexes and will help you to build and tone your tummy and back muscles. Call Jeremy on 01494 672821 for details.

AMERSHAM Travel Club meetings are held in the Barn Hall, Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham on Thursdays fortnightly at 8pm. You can contact 01494 873515 for more information.

CHALFONT Leisure Centre has a comprehensive range of facilities on your doorstep and invites you all to use them:

- 25 Metre swimming pool
- State of the art gym
- Fitness studio
- Multi-purpose sports hall
- Swimming / trampolining / gymnastic lessons
- 50+ activities including aerobics, swimming and badminton / short tennis at discounted rates
- A fitness suite offering equipment and classes to help you lose weight or tone up to get ready for Christmas
- A selection of sports to play in our sports hall, including badminton, basketball and football.
- To find out more please call: 01753 887812 or visit www.wll.co.uk

THE Gerrards Cross Flower Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at The Memorial Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross, at 2pm. On Nov. 21 - Christina Curtis will present- A Diamond Christmas. Competition: An Exhibit - Sparkling (Gladys Hunt Cup). On Dec. 12 - is the Luncheon and A.G.M.

BUSY Bees Parent & Toddler Group is on Fridays 10-11.30 (drop in sessions in term time only) at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. Babies and Toddlers welcome. Baby corner, large garden, refreshments, juice and biscuits. For more info please call Julie on 07778 427518 or just drop in.

CAREERS Springboard is a self-help group and regular participation in the Monday evening meetings should help to stimulate your job search skills. The meetings also provide the opportunity for you to share your views and problems with others. Volunteers are available to give personal advice and appointments should be booked through the administrator Chris White on careers.springboard@virgin.net The Monday meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm at St Andrews United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross. On November 4 the topic is Interviews 2.

TITHE BARN, on the other side of the bridge across the A413, has rooms to let, if you are looking for a venue for Parties, group meetings or one-off bookings for activities etc. It is very competitive price-wise, for example weekdays and weekends are £8 per hour or £10 per hour after 6pm. Telephone 01753 883712 to book or for more information.

THE LONDON & SLOUGH take food to the homeless, is struggling to get enough donations of sandwiches, fruit, biscuits and soft drinks, as many of the regular givers are away. Help would be much appreciated if you can take donations of these items, sandwiches labelled please, to St Joseph's Priory in Austenwood by 4pm on Mondays.

POP-IN meets every Thursday morning during term time from 10-11.30am in the Gold Hill Baptist Church and there is a crèche for babies and activities for pre-school children. This is a non-denominational group and all ladies are welcome to join the Thursday meetings.

CHALFONT St Peter and Gerrards Cross History Society holds its meetings, generally one a month, on Fridays at 8pm in the Memorial Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross. Visitors are welcome For further information, the secretary can be contacted on 01494 873831

THE Gerrards Cross Sailing Association's programme until the end of the year is given below. The group meets on Wednesdays 8:15pm prompt - Bar opens 7.30 pm in Colston Hall, Memorial Centre, GX.

Nov 7th - High Barbaree to the Baltic and back.

Tim and Liz Dodwell sailed their Cornish Crabber Pilot Cutter to the Baltic in 2005, laying up near Stockholm, then in 2006 cruised the Baltic before returning to Buckler's Hard. They will talk about their adventures and misadventures too!

Nov 14th - A New Future for the Sailing Barge Cambria. Cambria Trust, founded by Tony Ellis, is restoring the famous 101 year-old sailing barge Cambria. Tony has been involved in a variety of barging organisations over the years and will tell us his fascinating story

Nov 21st - Single-handed round the world 'vertically' Adrian Flanagan will tell how he this year became the first single-hander to circumnavigate north/south including crossing the Arctic Ocean along Russia's northern sea route.

Nov 28th - Shenanigan in the Hebrides. Club member Rob Johnstone recalls a summer cruising Skye and the east coast of some of the Outer Isles as navigator/bo'sun/leading hand in a 35ft Moody. **Dec 5th** - Cast Off for Christmas. Mulled wine – good company, short stories – judging of their summer photograph.

[Chalfont St Peter website:www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice](http://www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice)

[THANKS TO CHALFONT LEISURE CENTRE FOR PRINTING THIS NEWSLETTER](#)