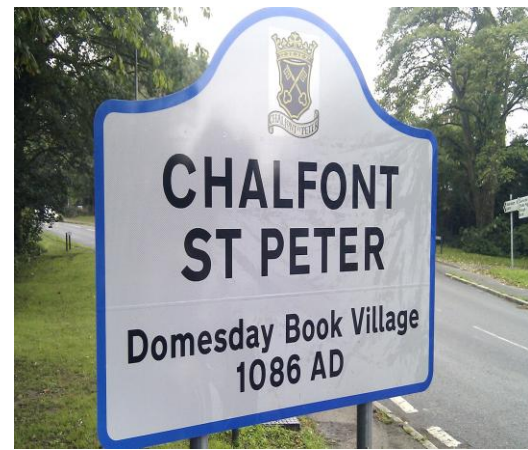


## Chalfont St Peter Village Voice November 2011

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**CHALFONT** St.Peter W.I is holding a Fashion Show and Christmas Gift event on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Church Hall, Church Lane, in conjunction with M&Co and Bucks Leather. Tickets £5 include wine and nibbles. Tickets available. Bucks Leather. W.I.Contact and enquiries. Jill Repper 01753 880491

**A Fund raising evening for the R N L I** Chalfonts Branch is taking a different approach this year, with an investigation into Jack The Ripper, the Real story. Hear how the Popular Press at the time created a monster and thereby provided the opportunity for an escalation in the number of murders committed in a short time, in the Whitechapel of the 1880s.

The event will be in the Church Hall, Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter SL9 9RJ on **Saturday, 12th November**, 7.00 for 7.30pm, when Elaine Quigley will explain how handwriting reveals the facts. Tickets £10 each include a Fish & Chip supper. (please bring your own nibbles, drink and glasses) After the lecture have a personality profile from your handwriting (£2 donation for the RNLI). For tickets contact: 01753 886412 Tickets need to be booked soon, to give numbers for the supper.

**CHALFONT** St Peter's Children in Need charity concert presented by Vocal Performance Academy, is entitled 'From Mozart to the Musicals' and will take place in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre 7pm, **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November**. They will perform a variety of songs from Mozart to the Musicals, including Wicked, Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables and more, performed by Vocal Performance Academy directed by Catherine Françoise. The choir range in age from 8 to 80 and include many members who are studying at some of the country's leading music academies.

The plan is to stage the biggest village choir, with people invited to join them for two songs on stage. If you are interested, let them know and they can book you in for rehearsals. All profits go to Children in Need. Tickets £10, from 01753 889946 or [www.VocalPerformanceAcademy.co.uk](http://www.VocalPerformanceAcademy.co.uk). There will be a fantastic raffle, with prizes drawn by Pudsey Bear.

**THE** next Tots Sale is **Saturday 12th November** from 10-12 in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. The usual bargains are to be had to be had. Tel; 07778 427518 for table bookings/ details.

**I HAVE** just completed on line the **budget consultation**, for Buckinghamshire County Council's Questionnaire on Budget Priorities 2010/13 *Your money, your choice*, which all residents have been asked to complete so that the County Council can assess priorities for the coming years. This is so simple that it only took about 2 minutes and I do urge everyone who has the internet to undertake this, but also those who don't have it to collect a form from the Library and fill it in and post it back in the pre-paid envelope.

You can make comment on Care for older people, Reducing crime, Services for those who are vulnerable, Further improving roads, Supporting businesses to create more jobs in Bucks, Creating more opportunities for young people and more.

We all have our grumbles about our local services and the priorities of the local councils, so this is your chance to have your say and make a real difference. They need our answers by November 13<sup>th</sup>, so please go on line at [www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/budget) and record your information, but do pop into the Library if this is your preference and get a form.

**THE** next monthly meeting of the CSP W.I. is on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November when Mr Dixon will talk about Nursing Heroines at 2.15 in the church hall, Church Lane.

**CHALFONT St Peter** Garden Club meets next on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm in the Church Hall, when Hilary Newman will talk on Vertical Gardening.

**GERRARDS Cross** Flower Club meets on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm in the Colston Hall, the Memorial Centre in East Common. The presenter is Sue Flight and her theme is "Twas the Night Before Christmas'. Competition is 'A Chance to Shine.

**CHILTERN** Open Air Museum will be hosting a Charity Auction on November 19<sup>th</sup> in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. I have no date for it on my folder, but maybe you could check it out next time you are in the Community Centre.

**GERRARDS** Cross Sailing Association meets at the Colston Hall of the Memorial Centre, East Common on the following Wednesdays and you can get the full details from <http://www.gxsa.org.uk/prog.htm>

November 9<sup>th</sup> – National Historic Ships Society – Martyn Heighton

November 16 – The Plimsoll Line – Nicolette Jones

November 23 – The RYA: the best possible Life Sentence – James Stevens

November 26 **Saturday** big occasion which is a MasterClass on 'Ocean Sailing'

November 30 – Sydney to Hobart Race 2006 – Charles Sandison

December 7 – Traditional boatbuilding on the Thames – Colin Henwood

**A QUIZ** evening in aid of the Children's Society will be on Saturday 3rd December 2011 7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Parish Church Hall, Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter Tickets £12.50 Teams of 8 max Hot home-made supper + delicious puddings (vegetarian option available) Bring your own drinks Tickets from: Cheryl Older 01753 885131 and Isobel Silman 01494 873562.

**CAREERS** Springboard meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm each Monday, at St Andrews United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross. New members re always welcome and membership is free.

**Nov 1 Interviews – Part 1** Preparation is the key to a successful interview

**Nov 8 Being an Interim Expert Volunteer** How can opportunities in the Not-for-Profit Sector help your job search ?

**Nov 15 Freelancing Can I be my own boss ?**

**Nov 22 Take charge of the next step in your career** Do you see yourself as a leader or a team player ?Self assessment and self perception – how teamwork and leadership styles affect your job search.

**Nov 29 Interviews – Part 2** Focussing on what happens during the interview,including a discussion on tough interview questions and how to handle them.

**Dec 6 Breakout Groups / Action Planning** Re-visit some of the topics covered in the past three months and an opportunity to build a well organised and successful action plan for the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

**VOPAG** – Village Older Person's Acton Group (for the over 55s) meets in the Community Centre. They have changed their speaker for `November 15th, and have asked Audley Retirement to come and talk to them about the extra care housing they are hoping to erect on the land at NEC, which is no longer needed by the Epilepsy Society.

Refreshments are available from 10 – 10.30, then proceedings of the meeting and speaker at 10.30am. The final meeting of the year is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December, so you might like to put the date in your diary.

**MISBOURNE ART SOCIETY** has its Annual Art Exhibition on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, from 10am FREE entry, home-made refreshments, ample parking.

**FREEDOM PROGRAMME** - 12 week programme for women who feel intimidated by their partners and would like support and help. Contact Katrina Reading on 01753 887173 ext 2 or [katrina.reading@goldhill.org](mailto:katrina.reading@goldhill.org) for more details. Complete confidentiality will be maintained.

**CAREERS SPRINGBOARD** is the Chilterns, South Bucks & High Wycombe Self Help Group for Managers seeking work. Meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm each Monday at St Andrew's United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross, SL9 7QE.

**Nov 7 Networking in Action**

Polishing your telephone networking skills in live practice sessions. Presenter : Heather Mintern (Volunteer)

**Nov 14 Freelancing / Going Independent**

An overview of the Freelancing marketplace & finding an opportunity:

Guest Speaker : John Brazier (Managing Director, PCG ( The Voice of Freelancing)

**Nov 21 Making a Good Impression**

Feeling, looking and sounding confident. Speaker : Kieran Williams (Consultant)

**Nov 28 What is the Employer looking for ?**

A panel of executives answer members' job search questions. Panel TBA

**Dec 5 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Social & Awards Evening** Members are invited to celebrate Careers Springboard 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Presentations to our Anniversary Awards Competition winners.

**A new programme will be published in December for meeting starting Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012.**

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS** by the South Bucks Choral Society are on:

Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2011

Venue The Chapel of the Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth at 19.30

The Four Coronation Anthems – Handel : Ode on St Cecilia's Day – Handel : Tickets £15

Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

Venue St Mary's Church, Old Amersham at 19.30

Christmas Music and Carols (ticket prices to be confirmed) and there will be a retiring collection in Aid of Marie Curie At 15.30 – 18.00 there will be a short FREE concert for younger children

**THE** local group for National Trust members meets on the 2nd Friday of each month. They meet one month in Gerrards and the next month in Chalfont St Peter. For further information contact 01494 872204.

**AT** the October meeting of St Joseph's Furniture Market the following donations were made:-

Scannappeal (Amersham & Wycombe hospitals)	£500
Victim Support	£350
Padstones (helping young homeless)	£350

The market is open Saturdays 9am-12.30pm in the Store off Priory Road, Chalfont St Peter.  
**furnituremarket@hotmail.co.**

**CHALFONTS and Gerrards Cross Camera Club welcomes new members.**

Contact Dave Trotter Phone: 01628 524332 E-mail: [dave-trotter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave-trotter@tiscali.co.uk)

Camera Club information: <http://www.candgxcameraclub.org.uk/section321554.html>

**GX Scottish** Country Dancing Club would warmly welcome any newcomers, especially beginners. Classes Tuesday at 7.30pm at GX Memorial Centre. Keep fit and have fun! For further information please telephone Celia on GX 884217.

**MUSIC 4 Lovers A40 Choir concert.** Music 4 Lovers was inspired by this year's Royal Wedding pieces by **Parry**: I was Glad, Blest Pair of Sirens and Jerusalem. Handel's Zadok the Priest was 'piped' to the waiting crowds and also along with Handel's Hallelujah chorus was sung at conductor David Meacock's wedding to his wife Kate who will be singing in the choir. A spokesman for the A40 Choir elaborated: "Soprano Celena Bridge (pictured) will be making a welcome return and will sing Handel's famous Where 'ere you Walk and solos from Messiah. Organist Greg Morris will play **Parry's** Elergy and to further put the **Parry** choral items into historical context, David will also play the original version of **Elgar's** Salut d'amour, which is nowadays better known in its string orchestra and solo violin versions. As 2011 is the bicentenary year of **Liszt's** birth, the Music 4 Lovers theme will be continued with his Liebesträume N<sup>o</sup> 3. **Liszt's** much later Les Jeux d'eau à la Villa d'Este and **Debussy's** Reflets dans l'eau will give an insight as to other musical trends around the time of the **Parry** works." The performance will take place on **Saturday 19 November** at 7:30 in St. Mary's Church, Amersham. Tickets - Adult £12, Student £6 - are available in advance via 01753 886005 or via [www.a40music.com](http://www.a40music.com) or on the door at Adult £15, Student £7.



**GERRARDS Cross Lawn Tennis Club** will be holding its next Neighbourhood Meeting on the Monday 16th January, starting at 8pm in the Clubhouse, Bull Lane.

**DON'T** stand out in the cold this winter - get live bus times direct to your mobile and pc. CHECK when your bus is coming the smart way this winter, using the nextBus tracking service. It tracks your bus journey and will tell you exactly when your bus is due to depart from your stop. This can be used anywhere via your mobile phone or pc so you can stay warm and dry as long as possible and less time at the bus stop.

Peter Hardy, Buckinghamshire's Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport, said: "As well as providing live information to passengers, nextBus also helps us monitor punctuality so we can work with bus companies to improve reliability, making catching the bus a smarter way to travel."

You can access nextBus in a number of ways:

- Our new look website [www.nextbus.travel](http://www.nextbus.travel) has been improved with an interactive map and easy to use bus stop and route number search facilities.
- To get live bus times via mobile internet go to [www.nextbuses.mobi](http://www.nextbuses.mobi)
- Via SMS text your busstop code (found on your bus stop flag or at [www.nextbus.travel](http://www.nextbus.travel)) to 84268 and receive a text back with the live times for the next few buses. Texts cost 25p plus your standard network charge
- Through your smart phone. A number of apps exist including NextBuses and MyBus on the App Store and CatchthatBus and TransiCast UK on Android Market

**CHALFONT St Peter Xmas Fun Night - Bookings Now Being Taken.** The Chalfont St Peter Xmas Fun Night organised by the Chalfont St Peter Chamber of Commerce is set to take place on **Friday 3rd December** between 6pm and 8pm. Shops and businesses will stay open late and many will be holding competitions and providing food and drink for customers.

Following last year's successful event, the centre of the village will, once again, be closed to traffic with a range of stalls operating up Marketplace. Stall pitches are now being booked with the cost at £30 for businesses and £20 for local charity or not for profit organisations. A discount of 20% will apply to all bookings made and paid for by the end of September.

There will be a kiddies funfair operating in the precinct and a range of entertainment taking place from a stage in the centre of the village. The event provides an excellent family fun evening and an opportunity to show what is on offer within the village. For further information or to book a stall, please contact Michael Day on 07717 295369 or by email at [msd@integra-ps.com](mailto:msd@integra-ps.com)

**WRG (Waste Recycling Group)** have been awarded the new contract for Buckinghamshire County Council's ten household waste recycling centres, which will come into place from 1st April 2012. This contract will deliver an anticipated saving of between £2.1m and £3.2m\* over seven years for Buckinghamshire taxpayers.

WRG will be working with the Council to deliver an improved service to residents which aims to reduce the amount of damaging and expensive waste sent to landfill and achieve an overall county-wide recycling target of 60 per cent by 2025.

Cabinet Member for Environment, Steven Adams, said: "Our recycling centres are very popular and divert a huge amount of waste away from landfill through recycling and reuse schemes. However the difficult financial climate we are in demands that we are achieving savings alongside better levels of performance for residents. I am very pleased that this new deal will achieve this."

The new contract will provide an improved customer experience; this will include enhanced signage, improved layouts of recycling containers and 'meet and greet' attendants who will help customers unload waste to ensure items are recycled. There are also changes proposed for the reuse scheme, details of which will be released shortly.

Steve added: "The present contractor, Aylesbury Secondary Metals (ASM), who we have worked with for over 12 years, has done a great job in helping us to drive up recycling rates and maintain standards of customer service. I would like to thank all the site staff and ASM for their hard work and commitment. We will be working with ASM and WRG to ensure there is a smooth transition of any potential TUPE staff."

The new contract will start from 1st April 2012 and run until 31st March 2019 with options to extend annually until 31st March 2022. The contract is anticipated to be worth up to £22 million\*\* and will provide the Council with the flexibility to provide service levels and costs which are affordable both now, during these difficult financial times, as well as in the future.

Once the contract commences, the most immediate change will be the opening hours at the sites. The sites will open an hour later and have fixed summer and winter opening periods and times, as follows:

1st April - 30th September (summer opening hours): Sites will open from 9am - 6pm.

1st October - 31st March (winter opening hours): Sites will open from 9am - 5pm.

Revision of opening hours follows analysis of the traffic counter data gathered during the consultation phase of the project, which showed that the lowest customer usage time period was between 8am and 9am daily across the week. The recycling centres will continue to close on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Gordon Fergus, Group Commercial Manager for WRG, said: "We are delighted to have been selected by Buckinghamshire County Council for their HWRC contract. We believe it demonstrates WRG's ability to deliver the high quality service that the public demands, but in a cost-effective way that is important in these difficult economic times.

"We're looking forward to working with the people of Buckinghamshire in helping them to increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfill."

**NATIONAL** Adoption Week (31 October - 6 November) aims to raise awareness of the constant need for prospective adopters - and to provide information for anyone interested in finding out more.

To mark the event in Buckinghamshire, the county's adoption team are having a stand in Friars Square shopping centre, Aylesbury on Saturday 12 November, with experienced social workers available to offer guidance and answer any questions.

Val Letheren, Buckinghamshire's Cabinet Member for Safeguarding, said: "Adopting a child is not a step to be taken lightly, it can be both challenging and rewarding, but many who have taken that step have found it an incredibly positive and enriching experience. To give a loving and stable home to a child in care is, arguably, the greatest gift one human being can give to another.

"Adoption week is a great opportunity to raise awareness to the need for more adoptive families - in reality, we always need more people to consider adoption, it's an ongoing recruitment drive. But I would urge anyone who may have considered adoption, or fostering, to find out more about it. We'll have experienced staff on hand to offer prospective fosterers and adopter support and advice."

Buckinghamshire County Council is particularly interested in people who are interested in adopting children of mixed heritage, older children, sibling groups and children with specific disabilities. Adopters do not have to be of the same ethnicity/culture as the child, but would need to be able to ensure their ethnic and cultural needs are promoted.

The adoption team is keen to answer any questions you may have about adoption and holds regular information sessions if you would like to find out more.

For further information please visit our website [www.buckscc.gov.uk/adoption](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/adoption) or contact the Adoption Team on 01494 586443 or [adoption@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:adoption@buckscc.gov.uk) If you are interested in finding out more about fostering, more information is available at [www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/fostering), call 01296 382555 or email [fostering@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@buckscc.gov.uk)

## **2012 - a time for Buckinghamshire to party, says County's Leader**

2011 may have been a time of tough austerity for most Buckinghamshire residents but looking forward to 2012 there should be much to celebrate.

Buckinghamshire will be a host county for the main London Olympic 2012 Games at Dorney Lake in south Bucks and of course is the home of the Paralympics at Stoke Mandeville. Add to this the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and there are "three great reasons to celebrate", Buckinghamshire County Council Leader Martin Tett told his Cabinet on Monday (19 September).

He said: "I want to give local communities the opportunity to be really involved. There is so much to be proud of with opportunities to cheer on the Games events themselves, celebrate the cultural heritage of the participating countries, organise themed summer fetes and hold street parties to enjoy the Jubilee. In the past it can have been a real challenge organising local events with so much 'red tape' for things like road closures etc. I have asked the county officers to work with our district colleagues to make it really easy and affordable for everyone to celebrate."

The County Council's Localities teams will be working closely with communities to plan jubilee celebrations, which will provide lasting legacies for residents.

Martin Phillips, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement said: "I'm committed to making 2012 a year to remember for Buckinghamshire residents and visitors."

For further information please contact:

Viv Saunders, Communications Officer

Tel: 01296 382673 Fax: 01296 382005 Email: [vsaunders@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:vsaunders@buckscc.gov.uk)

**THE** much-anticipated Parliamentary debate on the proposed HS2 rail scheme went ahead on Thursday 13 October and like so many rail related projects, it arrived late!

The cause: A lot of hot air on the line - a long and some might say, tedious, debate on the use of handheld devices in the House of Commons went on, and on and on.... At one point Wycombe MP Steve Baker pleaded the business be allowed to move lest his 'constituents flay me alive'.

Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire County Council and Chairman of 51m - the alliance of 18 local authorities committed to challenging the Government's case for HS2 watched the debate from the public gallery. Martin said: "It was definitely not Parliament at its best. To drag out a debate on 'Twitter' in preference to discussing the proposal to spend £32 Billion on taxpayers money on a highly controversial project shows strange priorities."

When the HS2 Debate did commence, Andrea Leadsom, Conservative MP for South Northamptonshire, opened stating in opposing HS2 she was defending the taxpayers of the UK against the spending £32 billion on an unjustifiable and eye-wateringly expensive project.

She blasted the business case, saying it made ludicrous assumptions and would never cure the North-South divide, as claimed, indeed 73% of any jobs created would be in London. Heavily subsidised by taxpayers, 99% of people in the UK would use it only once a year, she said. Other alternative measures could, she stated, be delivered more cheaply and immediately, easing capacity problems now. "We may not land a man on Mars by 2026, but there will be technical advances made which will make HS2 outdated before it's built."

She concluded: "HS2 will be a white elephant. It's not visionary, it's not green and it's not economically sound."

Geoffrey Robinson, Labour MP for Coventry North West, told the chamber HS2 would be subsidised massively by the taxpayer, thinking behind it was the wrong way round - the line from London to Birmingham was not needed, and any new line should be built from the north to the south. He described HS1 as 'the biggest flop ever. Sold off at a whopping loss'. Furthermore, he said, in all likelihood, the northern sections would never get built because of the enormous expense.

Steve Baker, Conservative MP for High Wycombe also opposed the scheme wanting to know if the financial returns were as good as the Government claimed why wouldn't private businesses invest in the scheme?

At the conclusion of the debate Martin Tett commented "I am delighted that the overwhelming majority of speakers were firmly against the scheme, including now MPs from inner London such as Frank Dobson (MP for Holborn and St Pancras) and the north such as Fiona Bryce (MP for Congleton). What the debate did reveal is the fundamental weakness of the HS2 case - the business case is flawed; there is no evidence that HS2 will bridge the north-south divide or achieve any regeneration benefits. It will be an environmental disaster, not just here in the Chilterns AONB but right along the line. There are huge disbenefits to our existing rail network and to many towns and cities in the Midlands and the North which will have the economic life drawn from them as they are bypassed by HS2 and suffer slower, reduced train services.

"It makes no sense at all to squander £32 billion on HS2 when local authorities are having to reduce services, small businesses, the backbone of our economy, are going bust for want of a few thousand pounds and we have two and a half million people unemployed.

"It is clear that those supporting the scheme were still unable to give any clear evidence in support of their views.

"It's time for the Secretary of State for Transport to put this vanity project to rest, scrap the scheme, go back to the drawing board and look at better ways of investing £32 billion in this country."

For more information on the 51m alliance, visit the website: [www.51m.co.uk](http://www.51m.co.uk)

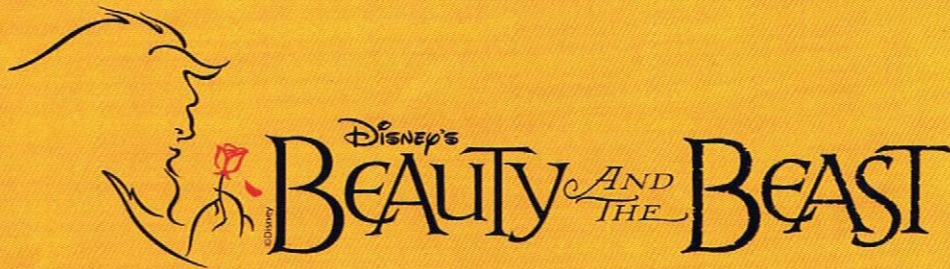
For further information please contact:

Viv Saunders, Communications Officer

Tel: 01296 382673 Fax: 01296 382005 Email: [vsanders@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:vsanders@buckscc.gov.uk)

**COMING SOON!**

**St Peter Players will be performing  
the Disney Musical**



**at the  
Chalfont St Peter Community Centre  
on Friday 9th, Saturday 10th\*  
& Sunday 11th December**

\*Two performances on Saturday

**Anyone interested in joining the Players either on stage or  
backstage are invited to:**

**An introduction to Disney's Beauty & the Beast  
on Monday, 8th August**

**Auditions: Monday, 15th August & Monday 22nd August**

**Rehearsals start: Tuesday 30th August**

**All at 8pm at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre**

**Everyone welcome!**

**For more information, please contact**

**the director, Ruth Corner, on:**

**01494 874431 or 07815 157823**