

Chalfont St Peter Village Voice

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Chalfont St Peter website: www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice

DRIVERS are warned that Mill Lane, Gerrards Cross - between Marsham Way and Woodlands - will be closed to through traffic from Tuesday February 5 – 17 while telecoms company Verizon carry out duct work and chamber building. For up to date information please visit our website, www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/ and follow the links through Transport, or phone Highways on Call 0845 2302882 or email hoc@buckscc.gov.uk.

THE Popular **LIFEBOAT QUIZ** takes place on Saturday 9th February, 7 for 7.30pm and tickets can now be booked for this annual occasion of fun and friendly rivalry. The venue is, as usual, the Church Hall, Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter. To ensure that you don't miss out, please contact Elaine Quigley on 01753 886412 or Brenda Lawson on 01494 872085 to book either a table for 8 or just as many tickets as you wish. If you are coming alone, there will be friendly team members to welcome you to make up a table. Tickets are £10 each and include a tasty, light supper. Bring your own drink and glasses. There is also a raffle.

BLACK Gold is a film about the coffee industry and tells the story through a coffee growing co-operative in Ethiopia. It is intended to challenge us all to think about how our purchasing decisions affect the lives of others around the world. The film has been highly acclaimed and is worth seeing. There will be a showing at 8pm on 11th February at St James' Centre on the A40 at Gerrards Cross. Tickets are £3 to include refreshments and are bookable by visiting the St James Centre (open 9am-5pm Mon-Fri and 9am-1pm on Saturday) or you can call 01753 278955.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Village Appraisal group will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 12th. February in the Parish Council Office. There will be an opportunity to visit the new Heritage Centre as well as attending the meeting and finding out what all the different Groups have achieved this year. At the end of the meeting there will be a presentation by members of Chalfont St Peter Youth Club.

CHALFONT St. Peter W.I. celebrates its 66th birthday in February. Go along to the church Hall on February 13th at 2.15 for a cheering talk from the R.S.P.B on " A Year in the life of Hope Farm" .then enjoy a cup of tea , a chat and a piece of cake. Visitors always very welcome.

CHALFONT St Peter Library has activities for young children that mums will find worthwhile. **Bounce and Rhyme** is on the first Friday of every month from 2.15-2.45pm. It is free and there's no need to book. Just turn up. **Sign and Rhyme** is on every Monday from 10.30 - 11.30am, where children learn to sign and sing nursery rhymes. Free - Fun- and All welcome.

CHALFONT COMMON W I report that with the seasonal activities over it was back to normal with discussions on the forthcoming attic sale and the various resolutions which had been mulled over at the Bourne End meeting. Their speaker for January was Mr Bob Harding-Jones, on Second World War poets. Some of the poets were very well known, but not associated with war poetry, ie, Noel Coward, Spike Milligan, and Dirk Bogarde's 'Still Cathedrals' written while he was an intelligence officer for General Montgomery. Four of the poems were by very young men, between the ages of 19 and 22, and drawn from the ranks of the army, navy and RAF. Another poet, Henry Reid, who wrote 'Naming of the Parts', worked at the code breaking Bletchley Park. It was a very moving evening, servicemen putting into words their fears, their hopes and their experiences. Very poignant, very interesting. A vote of thanks was given by Yvonne Jarman. **They meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Tony Graham room in the community centre at 7.30 for 7.45pm.**

CHALFONT COMMON W I is holding its annual ATTIC SALE on Saturday 8th March at 9.30am at the Community Centre in Chalfont St Peter. Tables are available for £10, please apply to Mrs Brenda Aldworth 01753 885293.

LADIES, if it is friendship you want you are invited to go along to the Guide Hut in Lansdown Road on the 1st Wed. each month at 2.p.m. The Trefoil Group welcomes visitors, whether a Guide or Brownie in the past or not. They have a varied programme for the coming year. Talks., a ploughman,s lunch, a summer lunch, craft afternoons, an outing in the summer, a Christmas Party ! you name it!

RECOVERY from Divorce and Separation Course runs from Mon 4th Feb to 17th March (7.30pm to 10.00pm) at Gold Hill Baptist Church, CSP. Suitable for all – whatever stage you are at. Contact Katrina Reading on 01753 887173 to book or for more information.

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. Dates: 6th February. JourneyMaker 5. Tilman Trophy Winner – 3 Peaks Race. Chris Jones and Louise Makinshre their adventures in the 2007 race, one of the toughest on record with gale force winds in the Irish Sea, sailing 400 miles along the west coast of Great Britain with ascents of the highest peaks in Wales, England and Scotland.

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. The Monday meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm at St Andrews United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross. See their comprehensive website www.careersspringboard.info for more information.

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 Tithe Barn Youth Club opens Monday 14th. January. The times, evenings and age groups are the same and they would welcome any new members.

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 meetings. A warm welcome awaits mums with young children who can enjoy a coffee, home-made cake and chat, or simply chill out with a paper / magazine in the Jugglers' Café. For further information call GHBC on 01753 887173, or Joyce Gledhill on 01753 880268

THE LONDON & SLOUGH Run takes 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.

FRIENDS OF CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM programme: Wednesday 27 February – The Ffestiniog Railway; Richard Ogden relates the amazing story of the birth, growth, decline, death and rebirth of “The Little Railway the Whole World Talks About”. Meetings take place in the Mary Smithells Room, Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, commencing at 8 pm and lasting no more than two hours. 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.

THE women's section of the British Legion - Chalfont St Peter Branch - is holding the three-yearly election of its National Chairman, on Saturday, March 15th and will have a fund raising sale with stalls etc. from 10am-noon in the Church Hall, Church Lane. This is to raise urgently needed funds to help dependants of the armed forces, so do try and support the Women's Section Benevolent Fund's work.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE Launches Digital TV. If you want to find out more about services in your local area you don't even need to leave the comfort of your own home now, so long as you have Sky or virgin media digital television, a freeview box with modem or a web enabled mobile phone. All council services are listed on the new site, with details on how to contact the right people. If you wanted to find out which school is in your catchment area for example you could request a call back from the contact centre. Or if you wanted to find out more about adoption, all you need to do is request more information and it will be sent out to you.

If you are trying to access the service from SKY you need to press the interactive button on your remote, select sky active from the menu, select interactive then local services and then looking for local. Alternatively you can press the interactive button on your remote, press sky active from the menu, then A-Z and then select Looking Local.

If you are viewing it through Virgin, press interactive, select Home and Away, then Find and then Looking Local. Using Local on Telewest, press the interactive button on your remote control, select News and Info, then Community, and then choose Looking Local

From your web enabled mobile, choose Services from the main menu, select Websites, select Look up Stuff, then choose Looking Local and then select your area or insert a postcode. You can also type in the URL to any GPRS/WAP phone www.digitv.gov.uk/digitv/cds/lookinglocal/mobile/home

IT IS said that about 80% of the male population in this country have been involved with the Scout Movement in some way. There were 4 Scout Groups in Chalfont St Peter at one time, and a local researcher is trying to discover more. We know that there was a Scout Troop here registered in 1910, run by Scoutmaster MN DRUMMOND with his Assistant CORNELL. Having spoken to some older gentlemen of the village whose fathers were Scouts, it is more than likely that there was some Scouting here prior to that. Later there were 1st Chalfont St Peter (Cof E), 1st Gold Hill - connected to the Baptist Church; 2nd Gold Hill - connected to St Josephs RC Church and the 1st Chalfont Colony. Now only one Group survives - 1st Chalfont St Peter, which is open to all faiths and beliefs. Were you or your family members involved, either as local Cubs and Scouts, and/or as leaders or helpers? Can you give more insight into the activities, particularly before 1960? All information would be welcome. **Anne Leitch, previous Group Scout Leader 01753 884754**

THE next **VOPAG** meeting will be at 10.30 a.m on Thursday 21st February in the Parish Council offices, Gravel Hill.

WATCH out for the safety of your property outside the house, as there have been several shed breaks in the Chalfonts in recent days. The break's mainly occur overnight and offender/s are stealing garden equipment. Offender/s are forcing the locks to the doors to gain entry. From strimmer's to lawn mowers and quad bikes being stolen. If you have any information or wish to report any suspicious incidents please contact the police on 0845 8 505 505.

CHALFONT ST PETER GARDEN CLUB OUTINGS

1 APRIL - Wed 23rd - Benley's East Sussex - House and Gardens/motor museum/park/wildfowl/craftworkers/shop etc.

2 MAY - Wed. 21st - Penshurst Place - House & Gardens?toy museum/13 acre walled garden.

It's well worth joining this very friendly club. The Secretary is Susan Mills - Telephone 01753 885496 The Garden Club email is info@gardenclub.org

THE Anchor Staying Put scheme is part of Southern Buckinghamshire Safer Homes. They will undertake small household repairs etc. for disabled adults; anyone over the age of 60 and vulnerable householders at risk of accidents, falls, fire or living in fear of crime who are living in Chiltern. The service is supported by local District Councils, Fire and Rescue, Police, our Primary Care Trust, the Housing Association and Bucks County Council. It is a valuable service, charging only £10 per hour + VAT and materials and the people carrying out the work are all carefully checked before being employed. The number to obtain help is 01628 526367.

CHALFONT Leisure Centre has a comprehensive range of facilities on your doorstep and invites you all to use them: To find out more please call: 01753 887812 or visit www.wll.co.uk Sessions have been created to encourage men and women in the 50+ age group to take up sport and recreational activities in a sociable environment. If you are in the 50+ category or know of people who are and would like to attend the aerobic sessions, it is advisable to book in advance by contacting the Leisure Centre reception (details above). Other activities offered for the 50+ age group are Table Tennis, Badminton, Short Tennis, Stretches, Conditioning and Swimming, so there's plenty to give you healthy exercise and enjoyment.

PANCAKE DAY takes place this Tuesday 5th February and the Waste Partnership for Buckinghamshire is reminding residents to spare a thought for the environment – by composting their pancake leftovers. Traditionally, Shrove Tuesday is the day when we cook up all the types of food that should be given up for Lent – making use of food that would otherwise be wasted. So what better way of marking the occasion than giving your kitchen waste a new lease of life too – in the compost bin. Councillor Martin Tett, Chairman of the Joint Waste Committee said, “Up to one third of all household waste can be composted rather than sent to landfill, so just imagine the difference you can make by doing a little bit every day.” When organic matter is sent to landfill, it gets trapped under other waste and decomposes without oxygen. This results in the production of methane, a dangerous greenhouse gas. When it breaks down in the compost bin, no methane is produced, which is good news for the environment. One third of a household’s waste can be composted, so by simply improving our kitchen habits we can help divert organic waste from landfill and limit the damage we do to the environment. Did you know that once your eggs have gone into the mixing bowl you can crush the shells and add them to your compost bin? They are rich in nutrients and along with the rest of the organic waste will help to create a rich, natural fertiliser for your garden. Even the cardboard egg box itself can be torn up and added to the compost, providing a rich source of carbon and fibre. It is important to include these ‘brown’ ingredients as well as the traditional ‘greens’ like grass cuttings, in order to achieve the right environment for the good bacteria to get to work. And it doesn’t stop there. When you have tossed your perfect pancake and added the finishing touches such as sugar and lemon juice, don’t forget the lemon peelings will add valuable nutrients to your compost – but be careful to add citrus fruits in moderation to avoid creating very acidic compost. You can even roll slices of banana, apple or orange into your pancake – their skins and peelings can be composted too. And if you fancy making some savoury pancakes for dinner, any uncooked vegetable peelings will be a welcome addition to your compost mix. If you want to become part of the Recycle Now Compost at Home Scheme, you can buy a compost bin from as little as £8. For more details, check out the website www.recyclenow.com/compost

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 guest 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 in a homely setting. 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 email 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.

A TABLE Top Sale is being organised by The Chalfont St Peter Conservative Association on Saturday, 3rd March, in the Community Centre from 9.30am – noon. To book a table please phone 01753 883935 or 07831 874044.

THE bus from Chalfont Campus through Chalfont St Peter and Denham to Uxbridge Station runs during College days only, from Chalfont Common: 0800 and 09.05, then every 30 minutes until 16.36, 17.55 and 18.35. From Uxbridge Station 08.30 then every 30 minutes until 17.00 and 18.00. It is a useful and reliable service for those who want to get to Uxbridge without hassle.

THE Misbourne Art Society 's aim is to further the interest of artists in the locality by arranging programmes of regular meetings for discussion, lectures, outdoor sketching and painting and to promote exhibitions of members' work and visits to art centres. Meetings are held at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre at 2.15pm on the first Saturday of the month. Workshops and Tutorials start at 10am. March 1st - afternoon of 3-minute portraits done *by members of members....should be fun!*.

THE latest donation made by St Joseph's Furniture Market to charity is as follows: The Chalfonts & Gerrards Cross Hospital £300, Bucks Association for Mental Health £200, Victim Support - Chiltern £200, Multiple Sclerosis - Amersham & Chesham £200. Chalfont St Peter LIFE Group £200. The Market is open every Saturday morning from 9.30 to 12.30. It is situated in Priory Road, the first building past St Joseph's church car park. All proceeds are donated to charity. If you have furniture in good condition that you would like to donate, please contact 01494 872207.

WORK is now underway to produce the 2008/09 Village Guide, a free copy of which will be distributed to every household in Chalfont St Peter. They are in the process of collating information which they try and ensure is as accurate as possible and would like to receive details from any village businesses, organisations, clubs, societies etc. who either have amendments to their details as published in the 2006/07 guide or who would like to be added to the 2008/09 guide. When providing contact details please bear in mind that this guide will be in use until early 2010. Please e-mail to ldarby@chalfontstpeter-pc.gov.uk

TEA IN THE POT is a new venture in St Joseph's refurbished committee room that is now a smart cafe and it is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings for anyone who would like to enjoy a cup of tea and a chat, from 8.50am onwards. The mothers and fathers who drop their children off at St Joseph's and other schools in the mornings, will be most welcome Please to support this and make this an opportunity for friendly relaxation, before starting your busy day.

THE Waste Partnership for Buckinghamshire is encouraging residents to use recycle-more's brand new text service! For a small charge, by texting 'waste' or 'elec' and their postcode to 60060 from anywhere in the UK, residents will receive a text back with details of where they can recycle anything from plastic milk bottles to old toasters. Recycle-more is Valpak recycling information website. The new text service is another useful feature of www.recyclenore.co.uk, a site which has already received over 3 million hits in 2007. The site is a great educational resource, with recycling games for children and detailed explanations of recyclable materials and packaging symbols. Councillor Martin Tett, Chairman for the Joint Waste Committee said, 'The text service allows people to recycle materials 'on the move'. It's a quick and easy way to locate you're nearest recycling site. It also gives those without Internet access a convenient way to find recycling facilities.' The texts will cost 50p plus standard network charge. Users will only be charged once, regardless of how many texts form the reply. The 50p charge covers the cost of maintaining an accurate nationwide recycling service. If any money is made from the text service, it will be put back into the system and used to encourage recycling throughout the UK.

A REMINDER to CHALFONT ST PETER residents, this is a rallying call for us to have our say to ensure that we stay alive as a village! We can only do so if we band together to make our point about supporting our County Council representative, Cllr Bruce Allen, who is fighting against a proposal by the District Council to install Pay and Display meters in the centre of the village. Cllr. Allen has written to Mr Peter Woodburn, Head of Engineering and Contract Management at Chiltern District Council Offices, King George V Road, Amersham, HP6 5AW, to put the serious point to him that we do not need such meters and in fact that we will 'die' as a village, if our free parking facility is any further curtailed, when Tesco, being built in Gerrards Cross, will be offering free car parking. It is human nature to take advantage of such a provision and the result of this will be that our Budgens (the largest store in the company's portfolio and **our village anchor**), will be put out of business and the small traders who make the village individual and attractive, will be cut off from the shoppers who would normally be in Chalfont St Peter. Do we want to be a suburb of Gerrards Cross, with no proper shopping and nothing easily accessible to those who cannot drive? We need to do something now and it behoves us to individually contact Mr Peter Woodburn, either by writing to the address above or by emailing him pwoodburn@chiltern.gov.uk to put our view on record. Your support may save our village, so do take this problem seriously and have your say.

AS part of a National incentive Buckinghamshire Fire Brigade are offering a free 'Home Fire Risk Check'. They will arrange to come round examine your house/flat (takes 20-30 Min's) give advice and where necessary install FREE smoke detectors and/or heat detectors. Contact Community Safety Team Administrator on 01296 744477 or Email cs@bucksfire.gov.uk

[Thanks to Chalfont Leisure Centre for printing this newsletter and to Chalfont St Peter Parish Council and Chalfont Office Direct for support and distribution of it.](#)

ENHANCE your computer skills by attending a series of talks on Computers and Computing. The objective will be to give people a better understanding of computers and the maintenance they need. As the course progresses, there might well be some detailed discussion about programs where they contribute to your understanding and development, but the first two talks will be more practical on a day-to-day knowledge level.

John Puttergill may be known to many as the knowledge behind Chalfont Computers and he's rescued many a puzzled computer owner from their despair. His association with computers and computing goes back to the mid 1970's although it only took off from about 1990 when he sold his business and found enough time to devote to the cursed machines! Initially he did a little consulting for friends, specialising in writing or customising accounting software. The consulting projects became bigger and bigger often dealing with cutting-edge systems.

Simon Johnson was technical Manager of Chalfont Computer Centre and before that the head technician for PC Organic. He is currently the head of technical support at a major school that specialises in ICT. His knowledge covers most areas of IT, with things like Video Editing and Web Design as specialities.

[They would like to start towards the end of January or beginning of February, so look out for the dates which will be in the relevant newsletter and also on the website \[www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice\]\(http://www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice\). To register your interest in taking part in this great opportunity, you can contact \[john@itsjustit.co.uk\]\(mailto:john@itsjustit.co.uk\) Tel: 01753 886400.](#)