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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice

September 2008

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ChalfontSt Peter website: www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice



Fuchsia display



THE Garden Club annual show in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre was it's usual riot of colour and quality, with the vegetables and flowers showing their best faces, but almost outshone by the amazing flower displays, which are pictured below, but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, I was called away and didn't take the names of the winners. However, their beautiful work is evident in these photos (especially if you are reading this in colour on line – see above.

Callum Wright

Mr R Jeffery with his prize dahlias



There was a sparkling array of silver cups, 5 of which were presented to Mr B Eldridge, 4 to Mr B Brackley, 3 to Mrs C May, 2 to Mr R Thomas and one each to: Mrs J Campbell, Mr R Jeffery, Mrs. D Neil, Mr C De

Carle, Mr Bryan Nicholson, Dr A Davison, Mrs Dawn Monk, and for the children's class the Imp cup (for the best miniature garden) went to 4 year old Callum Wright and the Juniors Challenge Cup to Samantha Eastwood (whose brother one this cup last year). I managed to get a picture of Callum the youngest of 4 siblings who all put in entries, but Callum beat the others to the cup.



A special accolade came from the Domestic Classes judge, who wrote on the notes that Chalfont St Peter each year, has had the best display of anywhere she has ever judged! Well done indeed.

This year the fuchsias were superb and it is always amazing how they manage to grow them so that they are ablaze with colour. Mine never get to that degree of flowering.

The garden club shows are always a great social occasions and thanks to all those who made up the support team and provided the refreshments. To learn more about the CSP Garden Club and to join, go to www.gardenclub.org.uk

ANDREW WILSON from Hill Rise was one of the people who went to the rescue of those trying to drive along Lower Road, by working with others to warn and redirect them, as the road was totally flooded. He writes: "On Sunday evening the rain came down and Lower Road was once again flooded. Where was the civil contingency response? Nowhere to be seen. A group of local residents unilaterally closed off Lower Road from Hill Rise to School Lane, a very short stretch where the water was completely across the road and the wash from cars was entering the lower level houses. But at the same time the village exit near the Greyhound was closed, and Narcott Lane was blocked by a stranded car, and the A40 and A413 were closed, so drivers had nowhere to go.

There was no co-ordination; drivers could not get directions; tempers rose. There was also a road traffic incident. At least someone from the local Chamber of Commerce provided some cones, but there was no properly thought out alternative route, no diversion signs, no high visibility jackets for those helping to direct traffic - there was nothing. There's a long term problem with the drainage in Lower Road, but there should be short term action plans for when the flooding happens. Just look out of the window and see the rain and take action".

NEWS about the Post Office's decision on closures. The Good News is that they have decided not to close Chalfont Common Post Office – the Bad News is that they have confirmed their decision to close the post offices at Old Amersham, Botley and Waterside but at least our Chalfont Common site is saved!

A CENTURY OF CHANGE is celebrated with a FLOWER FESTIVAL to mark the 100 year anniversary of the Gerrards Cross Methodist Church, Oak End Way Friday, September 5th, Noon to 7pm Saturday, September 6th, 10am-5pm Sunday, September 7th, Noon to 5pm Coffee, lunches and afternoon teas available. FREE ENTRY



SID KIPPER: "In Season" Chalfont St Peter Community Centre Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter, Friday September 5th at 8 p.m. In aid of Friends of Chiltern Open Air Museum Registered Charity 286534

Tickets: phone 01494 871465; £10 (£5 for under 16's)

Sid Kipper, wisecracker and sayer of sooth, will take you on a side-splitting spin around the year in his improbable native village of St Just-near-Trunch. From the New Year's hangover, through all the silly seasons with their feasts and festivals, to the bitter end of the year with the Scottish revels of Hog Monday, Sid notes each passing event with a song, a story, or a saying. Easter is marked by a pancake song, 'Three Jolly Tossers'; haymaking by 'Sing Cuckoo Doodle-Do'; and Halloween by 'The Ghost of the Old Goat'. We hear of curious customs like All Idiots Day, the Giving Of Bloomers, and Mucklemas; of unhappy anniversaries such as Old Soaks Day and Cyril Cockle's birthday; and seasonal labours from ploughing to harvest. There's even a morris dance for June Day. With choruses, curiosities, and cruel and unusual instruments, this evocative evening will reconnect you with nature's rhythms, remind you of high days and holidays, and make you grateful for modern conveniences such as inside bathrooms and tractors. So join Sid for an Annus Kippernicus that you won't forget in a hurry. Rather, you'll want to savour it for some time to come. Sid Kipper tours and publishes regularly, enjoying success in arts centres, theatres, festivals, and rural touring schemes. He is backed by an extensive mailing list, a growing website and regular press releases. Oh yes - and he is very, very funny.



A NOTE for your diaries. Chalfont St Peter Youth Centre Grand Auction which will take place at the Tythe Barn, (across the road from the Greyhound Roundabout) on the evening of 4th October. All are welcome.



I HAVE just enjoyed the relaxing effect of a Reiki session with [Parviz Sachdev D.Hom M.J.M.A\(UK\)](#), of Only Natural, who has qualifications in Reiki, Homeopathy, (nutrition), Allergy Testing and Hot Stone Therapy. She is the most calming person you can imagine and after an hour's session I feel ready to tackle anything, but still calm and focused. It is well worth considering if you have been through a busy time, or if you have something demanding to do in the near future. The cost is only £35 for an hour. To telephone for an appointment, you can call 01753 889441, or of course you can just call in and have a chat, to see how you can get back to feeling well and in good form.



VOPAG (Village Older Persons Action Group) is a great support for activities and useful facts for everyone over the age of 55. The next meeting is in the Parish Council Building in Gravel Hill on Tuesday 16th September, with Coffee at 10am and the meeting beginning at 10.30am. Your support for this excellent provision is very much welcomed.

ALL SAINTS, Oval Way. family service is on the 4th Sunday of the month from 10 am for about half an hour, with the children often helping with the service. It's popular with adults too, so do take your young ones along.

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.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY has its Box Opening / Autumn Fayre on Saturday October 11th, 10am.-2pm. Cakes, plants, Xmas cards, soup, sausage, and crumble lunch in the Church Hall, Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter. All welcome to go along and support this, as well as enjoying a good lunch and good company.

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.

THE ROTARY CLUB of Misbourne Matins, the area's most dynamic Rotary Club, has elected dedicated Rotarian Ivor Congdon as its new President. A Rotarian since 1963, he was a founding member of Misbourne Matins in 1997 as well as the Club's the first Secretary. He was also President of his original club – The Rotary Club of Gerrards Cross and Chalfont St Peter – between 1975 and 1976. Originally from Devon, Ivor moved to South Bucks after he left the Air Force in 1957. At that time, he joined a new firm, Edric Films, in Gerrards Cross as a photographer. He bought the company and stayed for 50 years, selling it last year as a substantial business (Edric Audio Visual) operating out of Gerrards Cross, Birmingham, Manchester and Bristol.

Ivor is a widower with two sons (both of whom still work with Edric Audio Visual) and a daughter who lives in Somerset. His current home is in Winchmore Hill, but he previously lived in Gerrards Cross – in fact, he and his late wife bought their family home in the town from British acting legend Margaret Rutherford (and it is now a block of flats in Packhorse Road called Rutherford House!)

Ivor, who spends much of his leisure time travelling and exercising his photographic skills, took over the reins of Misbourne Matins last week from retired dentist Louis Moss, who has led the Club through the past, highly successful, year. He said: "Misbourne Matins is a fantastic club which has created a distinct and contemporary Rotary personality – one which embraces change and innovation and which boasts almost equal numbers of male and female Rotarians. We have been successful in recruiting new members and in becoming involved in all sorts of new ventures which are hugely relevant to our society today – ventures like our Junior Rotary Fun Run which took place in March with Linford Christie presenting the prizes. "As well as helping the Club develop more activities like this, which will make a big difference to our community, I also intend to explore new initiatives with the wider Rotary movement and to continue our very active recruitment drive."

ATTENTION ALL MUMS. Here is the provision until December of Sure Start Children's Centres

Monday AM 9.00am-11am Pop in and Play Informal drop-in playtime, drinks and a chat. Come and go as you please. Plus... other exciting things planned!! At: Bell Lane Combined School, Bell Lane, Little Chalfont Buckinghamshire HP6 6PF. Every week except 10th November. Please ring Bethany for details.

Monday PM 1.15pm-2.45pm Mighty Messy Monday! Come and have fun with messy play every week! Suitable for 2-4 years. £2 per session. Held at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill. SL9 9QX **PLACES ARE LIMITED!**
PLEASE RING BETHANY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE.

Tuesday AM 10am-11am Kindergym Exercise & fitness fun. Suitable for ages 18 months + 16,23,30 Sept. 7,14,21 Oct. then.... **Kiddley Divey** Music and fun activities! 4,11,18,25 Nov, 2,9 December. Both activities £1 per family. Held at St George's Church Hall, White Lion Road, Little Chalfont, HP7 9LW **PLEASE RING BETHANY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!**

Tuesday PM 2.15pm-2.45pm Story Time Come and hear lots of exciting stories at Little Chalfont Community Library, Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont, HP7 9QA

Wednesday AM 10.30am-11.15am Tots and Tales Stories, Songs and Crafty things! 5th November until 10th December. Chalfont St Giles Community Library.

Wednesday PM 1.30pm-2.45p Book time and Story time 3,10,17,24 Sept. 1,8 Oct. then.... **1.45pm – 2.30pm Dinky Dancers!** A physical & creative movement based course. 5th Nov. until 10th Dec. £1 per family per week. Suitable for rising 2's to 5 years. **PLEASE RING TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!** Held at Scout Hall, Silver Hill, Chalfont St Giles. HP8 4PY **2.00pm-3.30pm Well Baby Clinic** 1st & 3rd Weds every month. Guide Hall, School Lane, Chalfont St Giles **1.30pm-3.00pm Speech & Language Drop In Clinic** 1st Wednesday of every month Chalfont Health Clinic, Hampden Rd, Chalfont St Peter. SL9 9SA

Thursday AM 10.30am-11.30am Sign and Rhyme Free 6 week course 4,11,18,25 Sept. 2, 9 October Chalfont St. Peter Library High Street, HP8 4QA **9.30am-11am Well Baby Clinic** Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St. Peter. SL9 9QX **10.30am-11.15am Tots and Tales** Stories, Songs and Crafty things! Little Chalfont Community Library Cokes Lane. HP7 9QA

Thursday PM 2.00pm-4.00p Well Baby Clinic Chalfont Health Clinic Hampden Rd, Chalfont St Peter. SL9 9SA

Friday PM 2.15pm-3.15pm Bounce And Rhyme Music and stories. 1st Friday in every month and.... **2.15pm –3.00pm Tots and Tales** Stories, Songs and Crafty things! Every week in between! Held at Chalfont St Peter Library, High Street HP8 4QA No sessions on 10th October and 21st November.

All activities are for children under 5 years and their parent/carer to enjoy together.

A reminder to all parents/carers that their children are their sole responsibility at all times during activities.

For further information and all advance bookings, please contact:

Caroline Champion	Children Centre Co-ordinator	07867 674024	ccampion@buckscc.gov.uk
Bethany Paget	Family support worker	07826 892196	bpaget@buckscc.gov.uk

ST JOSEPH'S Furniture 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. Last month's donations were:

Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD) helping kidney patients undergo dialysis at home £300 (in memory of Chris Pooley) ~ Myeloma UK (Myeloma is a form of bone cancer) £250 ~ South East Bucks Crossroads (Caring for carers) £250

HARVEST Festival will take place at St Paul's, Horn Hill, on Sunday 21st September. Evensong will be at 4pm and will be followed by tea (£6) in Horn Hill Hall. Please let Vera Butterworth know if you'd like to attend Tel: 01494 875424.

A BARN Dance will be held on Saturday, 4th October from 7.30-11.30pm in St Peter's Parish Church Hall. This is held in conjunction with Harvest weekend. Tickets £10 - £5 for under 18s. From the Parish Office 01753 880067. They are limited, so get them a.s.a.p.

SEPTEMBER will see some 80,000 children, parents, carers, teachers and support staff heading back onto the county's roads as they return to school or college after a long relaxing summer break. Also returning to work will be the county's 61 School Crossing Patrolers, a small army of unsung heroes who play a vital community role, helping children and young people safely across busy roads on their way to and from school.

There are currently 46 sites across Buckinghamshire where School Crossing Patrolers operate, a further 17 sites could benefit from a patroler's presence if the right community spirited people would come forward to help.

From little ones starting school for the first time to older siblings being allowed to walk on their own, School Crossing Patrolers are there, rain or shine, to help them on their journeys to and from school. However, increased traffic in some areas means more and more senior school children and adults are taking advantage of the school crossing service. As Martha Corlett, Crossing Patroler at Turnfurlong Infant and Junior School, said: "I am crossing people of all ages. They know we are there to help and that we have the authority to stop the traffic. So they feel safer crossing the road with a 'lollipop lady' rather than risk dodging between the traffic alone".

For information about school crossing patrols and how you can get involved visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/content

MALE primary school teachers are sought by Buckinghamshire County Council, which is continuing to work to arrest a decline in the number of men embarking upon teaching careers in primary schools. Between 1981 and 2001, the number of men teaching in primary schools nationally, fell from 46,000, to just 32,000. This fall is being acutely felt in classrooms across the country: research published last year by the Training and Development Agency (TDA) claimed that two in five boys were without a male teacher, with one in twelve (8%) never having been taught by a man at all. With men representing just 15% of full time teaching staff in Primary Schools nationally, Buckinghamshire County Council are launching a men-only teacher taster course in September 2008, which will give those considering a career in teaching an insight into the profession and an idea of what the training will involve.

The three day course will include a one-day school placement, and is designed to help participants to decide whether to apply for initial teacher training. Speaking during the Council's recent cabinet meeting, Marion Clayton, Cabinet Member for Achievement and Learning, said: "It's important, and becoming increasingly important, to have male teachers because so many of our youngsters don't have a dad at home and, if they do, he may well be working very long hours."

The TDA report shows that it is not only education officials who are calling for a greater male presence in our junior schools, with boys currently in primary education admitting that the presence of a male teacher makes them behave better (51%) and work harder (42%). There are also more intangible qualities, with many boys saying that male teachers help them enjoy school more (44%) and feel more confident about themselves (37%).

The Primary Taster Course is being trumpeted as an instrumental way of helping men into teaching. Those interested should contact Nigel Currums on 01296 382765, or by e-mail at ncurrums@buckscc.gov.uk. Further information is available on the Buckinghamshire County Council web pages (<http://jobs.buckscc.gov.uk>).

THE Chalfont St Peter Community Summer Newsletter has some useful comments about the Misbourne. The committee made a complaint in the Spring Newsletter about the state of the Misbourne and something seems to have been done to improve the flow, at least in Chalfont St Peter. It is also reported that quite independently, there is work to improve the riverside walk, for which there has been some Lottery finance. The long disused electricity substation compound, leased by the Association and used for storage by the Parish Council, could eventually be demolished. Also, you will notice that the recycling bins have been moved from the riverbank to behind the goal area of the football pitch. The car parking at the Centre is not really adequate, with 53 spaces for a building which can accommodate 400 people, so it is planned to alter the grassed area between the centre building and the Misbourne to an all-weather surface, using grassed plastic blocks, though the cost £30,000 may make this an aspiration, rather than being immediate. On a more practical note, on Saturday, 27th September, the Community Centre will have Doughty's Fabric Sale - An amazing selection of cotton fabrics at £5 per metre - 10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Refreshments available.

BUCKS looks forward to the 2012 Olympic Games With the Beijing Olympics now well under way, Buckinghamshire is looking forward to London 2012 and has a number of events organised to celebrate the Handover on Sunday 24th August and the Paralympic Handover on 17th September.

There will be Chinese drummers and a Chinese lion will perform a dance at the new Library in High Wycombe and in Aylesbury the Olympic flag will be raised at the Hobble on the Cobbles free music event in Market Square. A full listing of events can be found at www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/site/olympics-coming-to-bucks/handover-days

The Bucks Festival of Sport has also been organised at local sports clubs throughout August in some of the Olympic sports aimed at getting young people to try new sports for free and maybe join a club. More information can be found at www.sportsjunction.org/bfs

Adrian Moorhouse, Olympic Swimming Gold Medallist, local businessman, resident and Chair of the Bucks 2012 Coordination Group is acting as an ambassador for Buckinghamshire while he is in Beijing commentating for the BBC. He will be promoting the County as a great place to do business, to visit, hold conferences and to base pre-training camps in his discussions with International Olympic Committees and team managers.