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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice – April 2013

See picture

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Throughout the coming month, regular updates can be seen on www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice

CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM STARS IN POPULAR ITV DRAMA "LIGHTFIELDS".

STAFF and volunteers at Chiltern Open Air Museum have found fame in the new ITV series "Lightfields" on Wednesday evenings! Farm Manager Conway Rowland and other members of the farm team, Verena Clark and Chris English can be seen particularly in episode 3 of the popular new drama set in the 1940s, 70s and present day. Some of the 1940s rural scenes were filmed at the Museum last year featuring the Museum's corn rick and rick yard outside the threshing barn from Chalfont St Peter. The Museum's farm manager can be seen thatching the rick using traditional skills now rarely used and the costumed farm team can also be seen stooking (standing the bundles of rye or sheaves together to dry out) in the same episode. Museum Director Sue Shave is very proud that the museum's wonderful historic buildings feature in such an important new drama. Says Sue, "We were delighted to see our recreation of the Chilterns landscape and our wonderful Chilterns farm provides the important period backdrop to the exciting and ghostly action in this series. Our staff work very hard to recreate and preserve these important traditional skills so that our visitors can experience what life was like in the past. This drama helps to showcase our work and bring the 1940s to life." Other scenes also took place outside the blacksmith's forge from Garston, where visitors can sometimes see our traditional blacksmiths at work.

Local people can visit these locations from the set of Lightfields from 29 March onwards when the museum opens to the public 7 days a week. The opening weekend kicks off with a big re-enactment event set in the time of the American Civil War and the Bucks involvement in that conflict, featuring soldiers pitching their tents over the weekend around the museum grounds. Details available from the Museum web site on www.coam.org.uk or ring 01494 871117. Further information about the events or the filming of Lightfields at Chiltern Open Air Museum can be obtained from Katherine Reed, Communications officer on admin1@coam.org.uk.

Chiltern Open Air Museum is a Museum of historic buildings spanning 2000 years of Chiltern history from the iron-age to Second World War. The Museum is a registered charity and an independent museum with no regular supporting funding from local or national government. The forthcoming activities are: 5th-6th May – Medieval Jousting, 8th May – Enchanted Museum at Night, 26th-27th May – Gladiators! and 1st-2nd June – Chiltern Arts Fest.

BEECHWOOD Artists will again hold their Spring Art Exhibition at Chalfont St. Peter Community Centre on Saturday and Sunday the 6th and 7th of April from 10.0am to 5.0 pm. Entry is free and the centre has free parking space. Refreshments will be available at the exhibition. A percentage of all sales will be donated to Iain Rennie Grove House Hospice Care. For more information go to www.beechwoodartists.org.uk

WILLETS – Freda, of Chalfont St Peter, died peacefully on 21st December 2012, aged 86 years. Much loved Mother of Ruth and Deborah, loving Sister to Jean (deceased), Gwendoline (deceased) and Doreen, and a dear Aunt to all her nephews and nieces. **Memorial service to be held at Chalfont St Peter Parish Church on Wednesday, 10th April 2013** at 2pm, with refreshments afterwards at 15 Highlands Lane, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 0DL. All welcome. Donations may be given if desired for Alzheimer's Society, by retiring collection or c/o Ruth Blamey, The Holt, Holt Lane, Teffont Evias, Wiltshire SP3 5RG

MISBOURNE Art Society meets in Chalfont St Peter Community Centre at 2.15pm on the first Saturday of every month. On the 6th April the subject will be Landscape in Gouache – Demonstration by Charles Bezzina. More information: www.misbourneartsociety



SCANNAPEAL'S Open Gardens scheme for 2013 has been launched to raise funds for life saving equipment at Wycombe, Amersham and Stoke Mandeville Hospitals and in the community. From April to September, fourteen gardens around Buckinghamshire are taking part including some in Penn Street, Chesham, Jordans and Little Chalfont.

From smaller neighbourhood gardens to those at larger properties, there are a range of different places to visit, with varying special features. Refreshments are available at all the properties and some will also feature musical entertainment to give the charity's supporters further reasons to visit and enjoy a morning, afternoon or evening out.

To request a copy of the Scannappeal Open Gardens leaflet which gives details of all gardens or to book tickets in advance (including a discounted multiple entry ticket), telephone 01494 734161, email

info.scannappeal@buckshealthcare.nhs.uk or visit www.scannappeal.org.uk

The first garden will open on Saturday 6 April at Penn House, the home of Countess Howe in Penn Street near Amersham. Please check on line for subsequent venues

AT THE March meeting of Chalfont St Peter W.I, Edward Dixon gave a very fascinating talk and slide show depicting postcards of the 1st world War and to accompany that there was a display of old postcards and military people who were involved during that war, brought to the meeting by W.I. members.

On March 19th the Misbourne Valley spring Group meeting took place at Chalfont St.Peter community Centre. This was an excellent afternoon with Josie Jeffries, a retired store detective giving a talk on her work and the slippery thieves she had to deal with. She also gave some hints on how to protect purses and handbags when out. The talk was very well received. Denham Green, the hostesses at the meeting excelled with refreshments and a good time was had by all.

The talk at the April meeting is entitled "Rock-n-roll and a Rocking chair" by John Dunsterville. This is an unusual title and they look forward to being enlightened.

Visitors are most welcome to go along to the meeting on April 10th to the Parish Church Hall Chalfont St.Peter at 2 pm.

GERRARDS CROSS Sailing Association Joint Special Event with **the Ocean Cruising Club** Friday **April 19th** Talk by: Matt Rutherford Fortitudine Vincimus – "By Endurance We Conquer". Matt Rutherford is a very, very special yachtsman. In 2012, he completed a 27,000 nm trip solo and non-stop anticlockwise round both North and South America - from the Northwest Passage to Cape Horn, and back to Chesapeake Bay. That's not all - his boat is a small, modest, 1960s designed 27' yacht which he fitted out for the trip and named 'St Brendan' after the legendary Irish navigator. He did the voyage to show people, particularly those with disabilities, that there are no limits to what can be accomplished in life; and to raise money for a non-profit sailing program for people with disabilities based in Annapolis, Maryland.

Matt is on a short visit to the UK to receive the prestigious OCC's Jester Medal donated by the Jester Trust, and awarded for an outstanding contribution to the art of singlehanded sailing. He will be presented with this coveted award at a special dinner the day following this talk. We are both privileged and honoured that he has agreed to talk to us. The event will be held at **All Saint's Church Hall, Oval Way** Gerrards Cross, SL9 8QB which is just over 1m north of our usual venue. The hall is located behind the church. There is adequate on-street parking near the church and some limited extra parking immediately adjacent to the hall. The talk will start at 20:15hr (doors open 19:30hr) Admission £5 for non GXSA members - refreshments available



'SPEAKING our truth' - An evening with Geoffrey Durham Thursday 18 April 7:30-9:30pm refreshments All welcome – a £10 donation is suggested.

A man known to many as a magician and entertainer, Geoffrey is also a Quaker. He speaks and writes on Quaker topics You are invited to join him at Jordans meeting house for a lively and thought provoking evening.

Jordans Meeting house, Welders Lane, HP9 2SN, [01494 876594](tel:01494876594) office@jordansquakercentre.org

GERRARDS CROSS FLOWER CLUB meets in the Colston Hall Memoriaql Centre, East Common, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.15pm. New members welcome.

THE Chamber of Commerce would be interested to hear from any local based business or individual who can offer help in hosting, designing and managing its website.

Please contact the Chamber President, Andrew Welch, on 07774 955138 or at andrew.welch@sundialmarketing.co.uk

CHALFONT St Peter Garden Club meets next on Wednesday 17th April at 8pm in the Church Hall, Church Lane. This will be the occasion of the Spring Club Show and photography competition. Visitors are welcome.

GERRARDS CROSS Scottish Dancing club meets at 7.30pm in term time at the Memorial Centre East Common. GX. Beginners very welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET in March donated £350 to The Stroke Association, £350 to MacMillan Cancer Support and £300 to South Bucks Deaf Children's Society. The market is open each Saturday from 9am to 12.30pm in the market store behind the church and the hall. Entry off Priory Road and parking is in the church car park. If you have any furniture in good condition that you no longer need and would be happy to donate it to this charity, you can contact 01753 888340. furnituremarket@hotmail.co.uk

GERRARDS Cross Lawn Tennis Club will be holding Neighbourhood Meetings on Monday 15th April, starting at 8pm in the Clubhouse, Bull Lane.

V O P A G Village Older Person's Action Group, www.bucksvoice.net/vopag invites you to the next meeting to be held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE on Thursday 18th April. They meet at 10 a.m. for coffee, with the business starting at 10.30am and charge £1 for entry, but give you a free raffle ticket, if you wish to have one.

COUNTY COUNCIL says if your name's not on the list, you can't get in.....to vote. With important Buckinghamshire **County Council elections taking place on May 2**, local people are being urged to check they are properly registered to vote and have their say.

County Council elections take place every four years, the last taking place in 2009. Local people right across Buckinghamshire will have the opportunity to vote for the County Councillor they wish to represent their local area. Elected councillors are responsible for spending over £325 million annually on major public services including education, social services, roads and environmental services.

Residents have until April 17 to be included on the official Register of Electors otherwise they will miss the chance to vote. Whilst most will already be registered, there may be people who have just moved house, or who have just turned 18 for example who may not be registered.

County Returning Officer Gill Hibberd said registering is simple and easy. "Voting whether at local, national or European levels is a fundamental part of our democracy. It gives local people an important say in how their areas are run and governed and I would urge everyone to check they are registered.

"County Council elections are administered on our behalf by the four District Councils within Buckinghamshire. All local people need to do to register to vote is to contact their relevant local district council by phone, e-mail or through their website." Applications for a new postal vote or to make changes to an existing postal vote have to be **submitted by 5pm on April 17. Applications for a proxy vote can be made up until 5pm on April 24.**

Further useful voting information is available on www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

Alzheimer's Bee-Friending Scheme

There are many people with dementia in Bucks who are living alone and feeling isolated. Some of them are housebound and spend most of the week not seeing anyone. Reliable, caring

volunteers are needed who would be interested in providing companionship to a person with dementia in their home or out and about. If you get on well with people and enjoy a good chat you may really enjoy being a volunteer befriender. It is very rewarding and an hour of your time each week can make a real difference to someone's life. Looking for volunteers throughout Bucks.

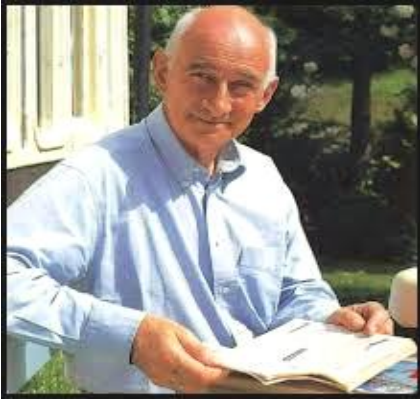
Good communication skills and empathy are essential. All volunteers will be offered training and out of pocket expenses. For more details, please contact Joy Johns, 01895 837545, e mail joy@voluntaryaction.org.



Volunteer Centre
Chiltern & South Bucks

CAREERS SPRINGBOARD is the Chilterns, South Bucks and High Wycombe self-help group for managers and professionals seeking work. They meet at St Andrew's United Reformed church on Mondays and if you are looking for work, it is a good idea to get in touch with them.

E-mail address: careers.springboard@virgin.net www.careersspringboard.info



HEDGERLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY invites you to join the meeting at 8pm on Saturday 4th May in Hedgerley Memorial Hall to hear

Exploring Britain's Lost Railways A talk by Paul Atterbury

During the 1960s and early 1970s Britain was devastated by railway closures and many parts of the country were left without any kind of railway service. The timetables of the 1950s and early 1960s are therefore filled with journeys which are now either impracticable or impossible, and the landscape of Britain is scattered with the remains of abandoned railway infrastructure.

In his talk, Paul explores the whole world of railways, their history and their cultural and social impact, to discover what has been lost along with the closed lines and stations. It is a talk about history, memory and nostalgia for a railway network, and a way of life that today is very different.

ROAD treatment work under Transport for Buckinghamshire's (TfB) county-wide We're Working On It programme for 2012/13 is almost complete.

Just a handful of roads are outstanding, and these will be completed this month ahead of a new road treatment programme for 2013/14, which starts in late April.

When complete, the 2012/13 programme, which started last April, will have treated 178 roads across Buckinghamshire - the equivalent of: ?the weight of 5,825 elephants or 285 blue whales. ?the length of road from Aylesbury to Central London twice - with some miles left over. ?the area of 90 football pitches.??

The investment in the county's roads of £25 million, announced at the February county council meeting, will pay for the road treatment programme over the next two years, ensuring the improvement of Buckinghamshire's roads maintain a high priority. This is in addition to the £30 million spent on the We're Working On It programme since 2011. Peter Hardy, Buckinghamshire County Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, said: "I am delighted by the news that once again we are recognising one of Buckinghamshire residents' top priorities continues to be the condition of the roads. We are listening to this and investing a further, very welcome, minimum investment of £25 million enabling us to continue with this successful programme of works."

The Member-led approach to deciding which roads will be treated will continue into 2013/14. Each local Member will be asked to nominate a further five roads in their division that they believe are most in need of repair.

This significant increase in spending on road repairs helps address a large backlog of repair work, but even this amount of investment does not enable every road in Buckinghamshire to be treated.

TfB's Capital Maintenance Team have been working with Members on their schemes for the forthcoming year's programme, and engineers have been busy over the winter months assessing each road individually to decide the best road treatment to be used.

The new programme, to be released in the spring, will be available on the TfB website, and include daily updates on any proposed changes or delays to works. Updates can be followed on Twitter @tfbalerts.

Celebrating Buckinghamshire's volunteers

Hundreds of volunteers who help keep the wheels of Buckinghamshire turning have been honoured for their contribution to the community by County Council Chairman Marion Clayton.

They were invited to an evening reception in the Judges' Lodgings at Aylesbury on Tuesday (March 12).

More than 800 volunteers help Buckinghamshire County Council deliver services, from Master Composters and Simply Walk leaders to school governors and education appeal panel members.

Marion Clayton said: 'We should take great pride in the huge number of public spirited people in our county. Service to the community is something Buckinghamshire people are very good at.

'I want to recognise and celebrate this major contribution to the life of our county. If it wasn't for the support of so many volunteers, some projects just wouldn't run.'

Charitable trust to be set up to manage County's outdoor education centres

A new charitable trust is set to be developed to run the County Council's two outdoor education centres, Green Park at Aston Clinton and Shortenills at Chalfont St Giles, in partnership with Marlow-based Longridge Activity Centre. The trust, to be known as the Adventure Learning Foundation, will be a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It will be run by a Board of Trustees, comprising representatives from the founding centres, the County Council and existing centre users, who will oversee the trust's activities. Both Green Park and Shortenills will be transferred to the trust on a 25 year lease.

The development of the Foundation will give the Council greater flexibility to develop its outdoor education provision and help to better co-ordinate all three centres' offering and widen the range of activities. In addition, it will help to protect Green Park and Shortenills as valuable resources for the county and enhance them for future generations.

The Foundation will also help to provide a sound opportunity to raise funds from external outdoor education, activity and sport providers, ensuring the Foundation offers a quality service at a lower cost to the taxpayer.

Chris Munday, Service Director for Learning, Skills & Prevention, said: "In these challenging economic times we need to find new ways of maintaining our most valued services. By setting up a charitable trust like the Adventure Learning Foundation, we're enabling Green Park and Shortenills to benefit from the huge wealth of experience and excellent track record that Longridge Activity Centre bring with them.

"This collaboration will ensure that the educational experience for children and young people at our centres will be better than ever before, while at the same time saving money by running the centres more effectively."

Amanda Foister, Chief Executive Officer of Longridge said: "We are delighted to be a founding member of the Adventure Learning Foundation. As well as providing Longridge with cost-saving and operational benefits, the Foundation will give us the opportunity to work with the existing team to unlock all of Green Park's and Shortenills' potential."

Green Park and Shortenills hosts approximately 96,000 visitors a year. Green Park offers adventure learning and sports facilities as well as conferencing, set against a backdrop of 80 acres of beautiful woodland and parkland. Shortenills is an Eco Centre Green Flag accredited centre, offering valuable outdoor education in beautiful natural surroundings. The Foundation will be established by July 2013 and will be operational from October 2013.

Public Health responsibilities formally handed over to local government

This week saw the transfer of public health responsibilities from the NHS back to local government.

The transfer, which took place on April 1, is one of the outcomes from the Health and Social Care Act 2012. With many of the issues that affect public health already dealt with by local councils, the transfer should improve the health and wellbeing of local residents.

Buckinghamshire County Council Chief Executive Chris Williams said:

'In many ways public health is "coming home". The origins of public health lie in establishing clean water, clean air, proper sewage systems, roads and housing.

Many of the determinants that affect public health are the responsibility of local government and, therefore, it makes sense that we take on the health and wellbeing duties too.'

Jane O'Grady, Buckinghamshire's Director of Public Health, said the move of public health responsibilities to the County Council offered excellent opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

Jane said studies had shown that health care accounts for about 25% of people's health. The major influences on health were the circumstances and environments into which people are born, grow, live and work.

'This transfer of responsibility has huge potential in terms of the services already commissioned and provided by the county council, and the influence of the council on shaping the kind of communities we live in,' she said. 'We'll be able to draw on the community leadership role of Members and the strength and engagement of communities themselves, to improve their health.

'If we can make small changes in the way services are delivered, we could make a big difference to people's health.'