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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice - August 2009

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THAMES Valley Police's fourth annual Open Day will be held at the Force Training Centre, Sulhamstead, near Reading, on Saturday 8 August, from 10am to 4pm.

The open day will showcase the work of specialist roles and departments in TVP, such as the Air Support Unit, Roads Policing, the Mounted Section and the Dog Section. The Dog Section and Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service will be performing displays throughout the day.

Admission is £2 per adult and children under 16 go free. Parking at the site is limited and will be available on a first come first served basis. No dogs are allowed on site except guide dogs.

SOUTH Bucks and Chiltern Access Group (SB&CHAG) which helps to improve physical access for disabled people to buildings and services, desperately needs a new chair person in order for its valuable work to continue. Could you organise and lead the group's bi-monthly meetings, represent the group at other meetings, respond to government consultation documents, write letters to raise issues of concern, respond to requests for information, and really make a difference to people's lives?

If you think you could meet this challenge, please contact Joy Johns at the Volunteer Centre, 01895 837545, e mail joy@voluntaryaction.org.

HOME-START SLOUGH (which has volunteers helpers from Chalfont St Peter) has teamed up with the Great British Duck Race 2009 to offer you the chance to win £10,000 and up to £300 each month until September! On Sunday 6th September, the ducks will be released at Molesey Lock, near Hampton Court Palace. To adopt your Duck, and help the valuable work that Home-Start Slough does, please visit their website on www.thegreatbritishduckrace.co.uk/o/homestartslough Minimum suggested donation £1 per duck (you will also be charged £2 per duck entrance fee). And the more ducks you buy, the more chances you have to win! For more information about Home-Start Slough and other ways you can support this very practical charity, please contact 01628 661029. or visit their website www.varioweb.co.uk/homestart

BLACK PARK Model Boat Club Open Day and Regatta, takes place on Sunday 30th August from 10am until 4pm You can see a huge number of models on display both on the water and around the lakeside... tugs, trawlers, steamboats, yachts, lifeboats, warships and submarines. Free entry, - parking is pay and display at £2 a day. Toilets and cafe facilities, raffle and fund-raising for Thames Valley Air Ambulance

AT the July meeting of **ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET** donations of £250 each were made to Macmillan Cancer Support, Helen & Douglas House (Hospice for children) and Thames Hospicecare (in memory of Sylvia Freeman) and there was a donation of £150 to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thanks to all who support the efforts of the Furniture Market Volunteers, who are open for business in the hall behind the Church and the social club. Entry from Priory Way – Saturday mornings 9.30-12.30.

THE Friday Market in the Church Hall, Church Lane has changed its composition somewhat with the addition of a **Book** stall (formerly held monthly on Saturdays) and a **Jewellery** stall with really competitive prices. There are of course the usual **Housewares**, **Cards** and **wrapping paper** stalls as well as **Pet products** and the biggest change is that the market is open longer **from 8am – 4pm**. Pop in and check it out.

THERE is no meeting in August of the Gerrards Cross Flower Club so the next one will be on September 16th. at the Colston Hall, Memorial Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross. The title of area demonstrator Lucinda Sanderson's demonstration is "A Journey Through France". The competition members title is "A French Basket". Guests are always welcome. For more information, contact Pam Houchen on 01753-884190.

Chalfont's Children's Centre Summer Timetable.

MON AM

9.00-11.00

DROP IN AND PLAY

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th August

At Bell Lane School, Bell Lane, Little Chalfont HP6 6P

MON PM

1.30pm-3.00pm

MESSY MONDAY!

£2 per session.

At Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill,

Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9QX

NUMBERS STRICTLY LIMITED TO 20 PLACES.

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!

Every Monday

(excludes bank holiday)

TUES AM

10.00am-11.30am

TWINTASTIC

11th, 18th August

NO SESSION ON 4th and 25th AUGUST.

At Chalfont St Giles Scout Hall, Silver Hill, Chalfont

St Giles, HP8 4PY

TUES PM

1.45pm-2.45pm

BABY FC ACADEMY

WEDS PM

4th, 11th, 18th & 25th August. At Chalfont St Giles Guide Hall, Silver Hill, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4JJ
PLEASE BOOK WITH SARA ON: 07776225679
£1.00 per child. NUMBERS LIMITED TO 12 PLACES. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

1.00pm-2.00pm

BABY LAND

2.00pm – 3.00pm

HARTBEEPS both on...

12, 19, 26 August NO SESSION 5th AUGUST

PLEASE BOOK!

Both at Chalfont St Giles Scout Hall, Silver Hill, HP8 4PY

WELL BABY CLINICS

1st and 3rd Weds every month

2.00pm-3.30pm

At 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, SL9 9SA

THURS AM

9.30-10.30

FUN TALES

6, 13 August

At Chalfont St Giles Community Library, HP8 4QA

HOLIDAY RHYMES WITH LEE

FRUIT TASTIC

6th August.

At Chalfont St Peter Library, High Street, Chalfont

St Peter SL9 9QA 9.30am-11am

WELL BABY CLINIC

Chalfont St Peter Community Centre,

THURS PM

1.45-2.45

DINKY DANCERS

6th, 13th, 20th August At Chalfont St Peter Community

Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9QX

£1.00 per Child.

PLEASE BOOK

3.00-4.00

MUMS OF STEEL

6th 13th 20th 27th August.

At Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill,

2.00pm-4.00pm

WELL BABY CLINIC

Chalfont Health Clinic

Hampden Rd, Chalfont St Peter.

FRI AM

2.15pm-3.15pm

BOUNCE & RHYME

1st Friday in every month.

At Chalfont St Peter Library, High Street, Chalfont

St Peter, SL9 9QA

SAT AM

10.00am-12.00pm

DADTASTIC!

1st August

5th September

First Saturday of every month.

At Chesham Children's Centre, 470 Waterside, Chesham

9.00am-12.30pm

BABY AND INFANT FIRST AID

5th September

Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont

St Peter, SL9 9QX

PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE

ALL Saints Church Music Festival - 'A HARVEST CELEBRATION' on Saturday 19th September at 7.30 pm. This evening's entertainment sees the welcome return of Esther King, a graduate of the Royal College of Music, with her String Quartet and featuring Professor Grenville Hancox MBE, clarinettist and Head of Music at Christ Church University, Canterbury. A varied and exciting programme celebrating the Harvest Season. Tickets £12 to include Bucks Fizz and 'Nibbles', from Paddy Hague 01753 883384.

CHALFONT S.PETER W.I. did so enjoy taking part in the St.Peters Feast Day Celebrations on Gold Hill. The Chinese Auction intrigued many people. People met friends old and new, enjoyed the sunshine and being part of the village activities.

The July meeting was a real treat. Mrs. Ann Middleton gave a flower arranging demonstration. A beautiful pink, in many shades and green Basket . A stunning glass dish with shades of red and a magnificent pedestal , in cool whites and greens. Lucky raffle winners carried these home with joy. Mrs. Middleton made it look so simple to do, which us lesser mortals know it is not, a real artiste . Outings this month: to Hampton court Palace " Quavers and Quilts" "Wandering minstrels" at Hall Barn, and A walk in Burnham Beeches, followed by afternoon tea lined up for the Autumn.

Their September 8th.. meeting is "Diamonds: A girls best friend" a talk by Mr.C.Clarke. Visitors always welcome in the Church Hall at 2.15.P.m.

VOPAG's next meeting Thursday, August 20 in the Parish Council Office,. Coffee ~10am, Meeting ~10.30.

All over 55's are welcome to attend and enjoy the speaker of the day and meeting and making contact

AT their July meeting, **CHALFONT COMMON W.I** thanked members for helping at the Cheshire Homes Open Day at which they raised £158 from the sale of refreshments. Also the Gerrards Cross library thanked members for helping at their first coffee morning for library users.

They had a wonderful garden visit to Joan's beautiful garden as they were blessed with glorious weather and the money raised was donated to the David Shepherd Wildlife Fund.

Another garden visit is planned for August with a bring and buy sale and profits going to the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf Centre at which members had had a most interesting and informative visit earlier in the month.

After refreshments Patricia Allwork gave a talk with slides entitled "Out and About in the Chilterns". She started by describing the Chilterns as chalk hills stretching from Oxfordshire through Berkshire, Bucks and Bedfordshire. She showed wonderful photographs of the view over the vale of Aylesbury from Coombe Hill, mentioning Chequers built in 1921 and housing the Cromwell memorabilia. Miltons Cottage in Chalfont St. Giles, Stoke Poges Church where Thomas Gray wrote his Elegy - the yew tree still standing in the churchyard - Stoke Park now a golf club and hotel, were all beautifully captured on film.

Patricia provided snippets of information on many other well known places including Chenies, Hughenden Manor, Marlow with its suspension bridge, Cookham and Stanley Spencer, Turville, Ewelme, Chiltern Open Air Museum and Pitstone Mill. It was a most fascinating and stimulating talk.

The annual August garden party will be held in the Community Centre in anticipation of inclement weather. Members contribute generous quantities of food and the event is always well supported and greatly enjoyed. They meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Tony Graham room at the Chalfont Community Centre at 7.30 for 7.45. Visitors welcome.

THE sun shone, the trees gave lovely shade and the tea delicious, as the 1st.Chalfont St.Peter Trefoil Guild celebrated it's 60th Anniversary with a Garden Party. A founder member, Mrs. Doris Hindley cut the beautifully iced cake. Guests, old members, Guiders, the County Commissioner all enjoyed the afternoon. Meetings are 1st.Wed.each month (except January and August,) in the Guide Hut in Lansdown Rd. at 2 p.m - visitors welcome.

MOBILE beauty treatments, brought to your home by Lucy Singleton, could be a good way to spoil yourself, or get a few friends round to share this with you. You can be pampered from head to toe, so you might like to phone Lucy on 07948 173744 to book an appointment.

BLACK PARK Country Park in **Wexham** is on a par with the country's finest parks, after receiving a sought after Green Flag at an awards ceremony in Bournemouth last Wednesday. Green Flag Awards recognise and reward the best parks in the country, and **Black Park Country Park** stood out, after impressing the judges with excellent facilities including well managed green space, signage and amenities.

This year is a milestone year for the awards as the number of Green Flag and Green Pennant Award winners has passed 1,000 for the first time.

The win comes at an exciting time in the development of the Green Flag Awards that are now run by the environmental charities: Keep Britain Tidy, GreenSpace and BTCV, who have been inundated by applications as parks value the coveted award.

Countryside & Heritage Manager, Mike Woods and Country Parks & Greenspaces Manager, Andrew Fowler who manage **Black Park Country Park** were presented with their award by the TV presenter Michaela Strachan in the presence of 1,500 people at the official Green Flag awards ceremony held at the Pavilion Theatre in Bournemouth.

THROUGH The Wardrobe Children's Theatre Company is now registering for September 09, Theatre classes for children aged 6-14 years. Check the website for prices/class times.
www.throughthewardrobe.com Register before the end of June to receive a free trial class. Call Nicki on 01753 892000

THE Rotary Club of Misbourne Matins, the area's most dynamic Rotary Club, has elected **Nigel Blackburn** as its new President. Nigel, known locally to many as a keen member of the Chalfont St Peter Garden Club Committee, was a top sales executive with Lever Brothers for 33 years before taking early retirement in 2002. He has been a vital force within Misbourne Matins over the past few years, recently earning Rotary's top honour, a Paul Harris Fellowship, which is awarded only to those who have given distinguished service to the Rotary movement.

Yet it was a chance meeting in 2002 that introduced Nigel to Rotary when he met an old friend – Rotarian Tony Shinner – in Chalfont St Peter. Tony invited Nigel to attend one of Misbourne Matins's weekly breakfast meetings at the Bull Hotel in Gerrards Cross – and the rest is history!

Having joined Misbourne Matins, Nigel quickly took over the important role of booking speakers for meetings and has been an influential Chairman of the Fundraising Committee. He has organised many local fundraising events including race nights, casino nights, Bollywood nights and Hollywood nights which together have raised thousands of pounds for the Club's many local, national and international charity projects.

In recent years, Misbourne Matins has contributed greatly to local causes including the National Centre for Epilepsy, the Chalfont St Peter Youth Club, the South Bucks Hospice, the Chalfont St Peter Village Association, the Ian Rennie Hospice and the Bucks Air Ambulance.

Nigel this week paid tribute to former President Ivor Congdon who has led Misbourne Matins over the past year. He said: "Ivor has done a great job and I am looking forward to building on his success, working with other clubs to maximise our local presence and supporting Rotary International projects such as polio eradication. Misbourne Matins has always had a particular interest in youth projects and we will continue this with new projects as well as our annual Schools IT competition and Junior Fun Run.

"We are an unusual and contemporary club, leading the way in recruitment and in gender equality with equal numbers of male and female Rotarians and an emphasis on younger members. Recruitment, especially among the 35-55 age group, will be a particular focus over the coming year."

Misbourne Matins's first major event under Nigel's leadership will be a boat trip, with afternoon tea, to Cookham Regatta for local pensioners on 5th September.

IMPROVING NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING. Neighbourhood Policing is about increasing police presence in local communities and working together to solve crime and disorder. A recent County Council report has outlined recommendations to help improve Neighbourhood Policing in Buckinghamshire.

The report was undertaken by the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Community and Environmental Services.

Councillors interviewed representatives from the Police including Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) surveyed Parish and Town Councils and County Councillors and examined information sources for residents opinions.

Residents are encouraged to get involved in the local Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) and the Committee found that while some NAGs were operating successfully others needed improvements. Making sure that meetings are well publicised, taking minutes at meetings and making them available on the Thames Valley Police website and fully involving Councillors in the meetings were among recommendations made.

The Committee also found that more could be done to join up the NAGs with Local Community Groups to avoid duplication, additional meetings and to help address 'local issues' together.

The Committee was encouraged by the positive views received on the performance of the PCSOs whilst recognising that many of them move quite quickly into the police force meaning that continuity was sometimes an issue.

All of the recommendations from the review were agreed by Thames Valley Police and by the Council's Cabinet.

County Councillor Richard Pushman, Committee Chairman said "This was a significant piece of work for the Committee. It recognises the benefits of neighbourhood policing for our communities. However, it demonstrated that improvements are needed in the operation of the NAGs and also the need for regular communication sessions between the Police and Local Councillors who, as locally elected representatives, have significant local knowledge." For further information please contact: Chris Johnson, on 01296 382673

CARD MAKING WORKSHOPS AT BLUE HAZE2 Church Street, Market Square, Chesham

Tel/Fax: 01494 782030 Email: info@blue-haze.co.uk EXCITING NEW WORKSHOPS **With Kay Lockie** CRAFTING FOR CHARITY Card making for beginners – a selection of courses limited to five participants per session. All proceeds are donated to animal or environmental charities. All materials are supplied. Have a fun, crafty morning and raise money for good causes. £20 per person

Wed, 2nd Sept : Card making for beginners – using punches All proceeds to IFAW