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## Chalfont St Peter Village Voice January 2009

Editor: Elaine Quigley

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**THE WORKS**, in Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter, has been inundated with an array of items for sale and Anthony Kelly has planned a **BUMPER AUCTION** on Saturday, **January 10 from 10am-noon**. It's worth going along to cheer up your new year with some bargains, so everyone will be a winner.

**FRANCES CHIDELL** sends the information that The Amersham Festival of Music's Winter Concert Season, under founder/conductor Iain Ledingham has concerts at St Mary's Parish Church, Old Amersham that finish off its winter season. On January 9, 2009, festive Italian Baroque Concertos will celebrate New Year and the programme will include Corelli's Concerti Grossi.

The final concert will be on February 6 when there will be two works by Bach and Handel's Water Music Suite. These will both start at 8pm.

**THE** The South Bucks Choral Society has been established for 25 years under the leadership of conductor Iain Ledingham and three concerts are given each season. New members having a reasonable knowledge of music and sight reading are most welcome. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays at 7.45pm in St Joseph's School, Priory Road, Chalfont St Peter. For further details please contact 01753 883684.

**VOPAG** meets on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January, in the Parish council meeting room, Gravel Hill. Coffee is at 10am and meeting begins at 10.30. This is the chance for everyone over 55 to meet, greet and enjoy the presentation on a subject of interest. Do go along and support this.

**SIMPLY WALK** is a VOPAG initiative that will help you keep fit. Everyone is welcome to meet at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, for a walk of approximately 45 minutes on mostly flat terrain with no styles to climb, but do wear practical footwear. While walking in the fresh air of your local countryside, you can admire the scenery and make new friends as you enjoy the exercise. Contact Fiona Broadbent 01494 421736. [fiona\\_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:fiona_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk) for more details.

**FRIENDS OF CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM** will welcome Colin Oakes on Wednesday 28 January, who will talk on "London Between the Wars – 1918-1939". This popular and talented speaker reviews the changes which took place, often for the better, contrary to the general national trend. This takes place in the Mary Smithells Room, Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill at 8 pm. A small admission charge of £2.50 is made - £2 for Friends of the Museum. Light refreshments are available. All welcome – per-booking not necessary.

### COMMUNITY COURSES

Two 8 week PARENTING COURSES are on offer again for parents or carers of children aged 0 – 6 or 7 – 13. These courses are suitable for all and give you some great tools to give your children the best start in life. They will run on Monday mornings from 26 January to 23 March from 10.00am to 11.30am with a free crèche provided. The cost is £30 which includes course book and refreshments (concessions are available).

**RECOVERING FROM DIVORCE OR SEPARATION COURSE** for those who are at varying stages in this process who would like some practical guidance and support from others in the same position. This is a 6 week course running on Monday evenings from 26 January to 9 March from 7.30pm to 10.00pm and the cost is £25 (concessions available).

**SEMINAR FOR COUPLES – A DAY TO TREASURE** - for those who wish to strengthen and invest a little time into their marriage. This is being held on 28 February from 9.00am to 5.00pm and costs £20 including a light lunch and refreshments.

**GLAD YOU ASKED** - a new 7 week course to explore spiritual issues in a fresh way. An opportunity to give your opinions and ask questions on a whole range of topics. This will be on Thursday mornings from 29 January to 19 March from 10.00am to 11.30am and will be free of charge. All courses are being held at Gold Hill Baptist Church, Chalfont St Peter but are suitable for the whole community. Places are limited and early booking is therefore recommended. Please contact Katrina Reading on 01753 887173 or email her on [katrina.reading@goldhill.org](mailto:katrina.reading@goldhill.org) to book or obtain further information.

**CAREERS SPRINGBOARD meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30 pm each Monday at St Andrews United Reformed Church Hall, 12 Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross.SL9 7QE. New members are always welcome – membership is free. Email address: [careers.springboard@virgin.net](mailto:careers.springboard@virgin.net)**

**For full details visit our website [www.careersspringboard.info](http://www.careersspringboard.info)**

**Regular participation in our Monday evening meetings will help to improve your job search skills.**

- January 12                    New year – relaunch your job search  
*What you thought was the end of the road may turn out to be the first step on a journey to a new and better destination. Practical suggestions to help you move on.*  
Speaker:                    Richard Lambert (Volunteer)
- January 19                    Building a Winning CV  
*Advice on how to make your CV an interview winning tool*  
Speaker:                    David McMullan (Volunteer)
- January 26                    “Tell Me About Yourself”  
*How to hone your response to this frequently asked question*  
Speaker:                    Peter Roycroft (Volunteer)
- February 2                    Determining your Personal Brand  
*Really understanding your unique selling points*  
Guest Speaker: Linda Denny, Director – The Smart Coaching Company
- February 9                    It’s a Job to Find a Job  
*How to be a well organised and successful job seeker*  
Speaker:                    Tony Hodgson (Volunteer)
- February 16                  Networking Skills  
*Making Contacts – the essential ingredient to job search*  
Speaker: Peter Roycroft (Volunteer)

**AFTER** 28 successful years supporting communities in South Bucks, the Rotary Club of Jordans and District recruits its first woman Rotarian who is joining the Club as part of a pioneering new membership structure. The Rotary Club of Jordans and District, one of the best-established Rotary Clubs in South Buckinghamshire, is pioneering a new membership structure which has been specially designed to boost recruitment among younger people.

As well as the traditional Rotary membership structure, Jordans is now offering a special ‘couples’ membership which enables a couple to join on a single membership while sharing the Rotary responsibilities of attending meetings and helping with fundraising. The revolutionary new scheme is intended to fulfil the Rotary movement’s stated intention to recruit younger men and women whose family or professional responsibilities frequently make it impossible for them to commit enough time to Rotary.

And the scheme has already attracted the Club’s first female Rotarian! **Grainne Ruhan, from Gerrards Cross**, is joining Jordans on a couples membership with her husband Gabriel Ruhan, who is CEO of a marine engineering company.

Grainne and Gabriel, with their three daughters aged 9, 10 and 12, moved back to the UK from the United States three years ago. They will take it turns to attend Jordans’ weekly membership meeting which takes place over a sandwich supper at the Bellhouse every Monday evening.

Grainne, a cancer care nurse at The London Clinic, said: “We have both been involved with service organisations in the past and, now our three daughters are becoming a little more independent, we feel it is time to commit a bit more time to helping the community. Jordans is a wonderful Rotary Club which is determined to push back the boundaries to bring in younger men and women – and I am sure we will be the first of many couples who will relish the chance to ‘give something back’ in a way which fits in with their family and work commitments.”

The special scheme was developed by Jordans’ Membership Chairman Leo Lacy who had to clear the idea with Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland (RIBI) before launching it officially in South Bucks. He explained:

“The Rotary movement knows it must change and modernise to suit the increasingly busy lives of the professional men and women who form our membership. After 28 years, Jordans is one of the District’s best-established Rotary Clubs so it is entirely fitting that we are pioneering a system which will help Rotary prosper into new generations, bringing practical and financial support to deserving causes in local, national and international communities.”

**BUCKS PRIMARY CARE TRUST - Drop-In Assessment Clinics for all children up to 3 years 6 months, from 5 Jan – 18 Dec 2009 No Drop-In Clinics in August 2009**

We see young children at 'Drop-in' clinic sessions where a Speech and Language Therapist will offer a 15 minute appointment to discuss concerns, assess your child and offer advice.

the drop-in dates for:

**Chalfonts** Health Centre Hampden Road, Chalfont St. Peter, SL9 9SA

1st Wednesday of the month of January, March, May, July, October and December 1.30 - 3.00 pm

The **Ivers** Children's Centre, West Square, Iver Village, Bucks, SL0 9NW

1st Wednesday of the month of February, April, June, September, November 1.30 – 3.00 pm

**Amersham** Health Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham Bucks HP6 5AY

3rd Thursday of the month 9.30-11.00 am

**FIRST STOP ADVICE** is an independent, free service providing information and advice about care and housing in later life. It is provided jointly by Counsel and Care, Elderly Accommodation Counsel, Help the Aged and NHFA Limited. Their aim is to expand the options and choices you might consider, and provide enough information about them to help you decide what is right for you.

What FirstStop offers:-

The firststop service is available via this website and also through our telephone Advice Line. It covers:-  
Care send support - in your own home, in specialist housing or in a care home.

Housing - services to help you 'stay put' successfully; information about all the options if you choose to move somewhere more suitable.

Finance - including paying for care, benefits and allowances, Council and NHS funding, insurances, financial planning and financial products.

Your rights - the law; standards you should expect; and how to get what you are entitled to, including advocacy services that can support you.

Their philosophy.

FirstStop aims to promote independence, dignity and choice for old people in meeting their care needs.

About the website.

The site includes:-

Straightforward explanations of how help and social care works in England, and the many accommodation options available.

A comprehensive library of factsheets and other reading materials about all aspects of care and housing for older people.

A directory of care homes, covering all homes that provide care for older people, and including links to sources of additional information.

A directory of retirement housing, covering all forms of sheltered and retirement housing, assisted living, extra care, retirement villages and other caring environments.

About the Advice Line.

FirstStop's Advisors are available to discuss your own circumstances and offer guidance on the options available for meeting your care needs. They are experts in all aspects of accommodation, care and support for older people. They can also help you get the most out of this website and explain anything you find unclear or difficult. The Advice Line is free and is open from 9am. to 5 pm. Monday to Friday-0800 377 7070.

CHALFONT COMMON W.I.'s Christmas meeting in December was most enjoyable. They celebrated with wine and mince pies and were entertained by a group of about twelve members of Downley W.I., with an amazing variety of anecdotes, jokes and poems, performed together or singly to great effect. A lovely poem by Alan Titchmarsh and John Betjeman's Christmas poem were most appreciated. The performance culminated in a most amusing rendering of the well-known piece "If I were not upon the stage a fireman I would be" etc. Members attended the Remembrance service at the Parish Church with six members walking with the parade through the village. £26 had been collected for a wreath. A full and varied programme is lined up for 2009 – the January talk will be on Magic and the Magic Circle. Meetings are first Thursday of the month, in the Tony Graham room in the CSP community centre at 7.30 for 7.45. Visitors welcomed.

**LAST** month St Joseph's Furniture Market made the following donations:-

Scanappeal (for Wycombe Hospital) - £550 and Victim Support (Oxford & Bucks) - £400

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.

**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. To obtain help - 01628 526367.

**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](mailto: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.

### **LEARN BALLROOM** and Latin American Dance

Every Monday evening from 8.30-10pm there is a beginners' dance class, run by an IDTA qualified teacher, at Chalfont St Peter Parish Church hall, Church Lane, park in the car park beside the hall. All enquiries to 01753 893440. Everyone welcome, with or without a partner.

**CHALFONT ST PETER** now has its own historical display and this exciting new heritage project is to be known as the Celfunde Inheritance, which refers back to the early existence of its ancient history, with traces of Iron-Age and Roman habitation. The earliest known reference is a Saxon Charter of 949 AD which calls it Ceadeles Funtan. In the Domesday Book of 1086 it is referred to as Celfunde. The museum, which is housed in the Parish Council offices in Mill Meadow, will only be open for viewing between 10.00 - 12.00 pm. on the last Wednesday of each month.

An illustrated map of the Parish in the style of an illuminated manuscript of the Middle Ages is the centrepiece of the exhibition and images on the map reveal how the village has evolved over many centuries. A facsimile of the Domesday Book open at the Celfunde entry will be on display and there will be a special themed exhibit to introduce some of the more fascinating aspects of the history of the village and this exhibit will be changed periodically.

Future developments are the launch of a Living History project, the creation of a dedicated history web-site and a time-line chronicling 2000 years of life in Chalfont St. Peter set against a background of world events. A permanent home within the village is our ultimate goal.

**For further information please contact either Sandy Warren on 01753 885529, Linda Smith on 01494 874065, Pam Bacon on 01494 873550 or Tony Shinner on 01753 880100.**

**EAST BERKSHIRE** runs courses of English for Speakers of Other Languages **Do you have staff who need to improve their English language skills?** New Daytime and Evening Classes In Slough, Langley and Maidenhead

6 levels: Entry 1 (Beginner) to Level 2 (Upper Int.) Citizenship and Cambridge Skills for Life Exams to join a class, interviews will be held at:

The Foyer, Slough Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 9.00 – 10.45 am  
Langley Campus, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 3.30 – 6.00 pm  
Altwood, Maidenhead Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 5 – 6 pm



Ongoing assessments sessions are held in term time at:

Langley Campus, Station Rd, Langley SL3 8BY **Mondays 3.00 – 4.30 pm**

The Foyer, 53 Stoke Rd, Slough SL2 5AW **Tuesdays 9.00 – 10.45 am**

Thames Valley University, Wellington St., Slough SL1 1YG **Wednesdays 9.15 – 10.30 am**

Altwood School, Altwood Rd, Maidenhead SL6 4PU **Thursdays 5 - 6 pm**

**For more information phone 0845 373 250 Or you can contact [Susan.Dorman@eastberks.ac.uk](mailto:Susan.Dorman@eastberks.ac.uk)**