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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Chalfont St Peter website www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice

THE flower shop in the Precinct, Purple Tulip, has a new name and new owner, Annette Daly, who has an interesting story to tell. Annette is been working as a florist for 5 years and loves it, but she encountered problems with employers



because she is epileptic and she found that discrimination was a real issue. Some were fine, but others made her feel very unwelcome. Fortunately her husband has been most supportive and encouraged her to set up her own business, which she has now done after a year and a half of searching for the right premises. You can see from the photograph how attractive she has made the shop and it is just as good inside. Annette told me that she wanted to talk about her experiences, so that she can encourage others with epilepsy to persevere in their search for living the life that they want, because she has won through. She acknowledges that The Epilepsy Association has been of great help to her and she wants to let people know of her appreciation. Admittedly she isn't severely afflicted, but she still had problems, which she overcame to now show her skills with pride in her new venture.

JON SHILLING is passionate about good food and has been looking for a local outlet for a shop that can offer just that. Local produce and some imported specialities, such as high quality pasta from Italy and olives from Greece, are now available in the new shop, Goujons, that he opened on 2nd August in The Broadway at the bottom of Market Place, beside the Tile Shop.

Jon is a Chartered Marketer, who has lived in Beaconsfield with his family for the last 10 years and he has researched the area carefully, deciding finally that Chalfont St Peter is an ideal village, with friendly people and lots of privately run shops, so his new venture fits in very well in this environment.



I went to visit him to find out about Goujons and about Jon's vision for what he wants. It's summed up on the back of his business card: "When you're looking for something special it's easy to miss what's on your doorstep. You'd be amazed how many independent producers are creating good quality food in your local area. At Goujons we're bringing the best local food back to the high street for people like you who have naturally good taste." To prove that he means this, Jon has sourced as much local produce as he possibly can and buys from local farmers' markets to stock his shop, whenever possible. He says that usually they are only available once a month, but he will have their produce all the time. Local produce means within a thirty mile radius and from this he has jams, honey, high quality chocolate powder for drinks, goat's cheese from Chesham, blue cheese from Wokingham, crisps from Aylesbury, ice cream from High Wycombe, bread and bread mixes from Amersham, handmade biscuits from Stoke Mandeville. From further afield there are oils and vinegar from Spain and many other items. He also hopes to stock English wines at a later date. There is a powerful coffee machine that delivers a splendid brew for those who want coffee at one of the tables outside the shop, where they can enjoy it, or in fact a cup of the special hot chocolate, and a piece of the handmade shortbread, as they watch the world go by. Find out more at www.goujons.co.uk

THE summer show of the Chalfont St Peter Garden Club on Saturday 18th August was, as usual, a showcase for the skills of local gardeners, jam makers and bakers, and provided an afternoon of enjoyment and for all.

The entries at 476 were up on last year and the judges were very impressed by the standard across the board. The vegetables have done very well this year because the rain seemed to have suited them. The cabbages were whoppers and the quality of all the displays was impressive. It was noticeable that the judges liked a trio of the same vegetable to be exactly the same size. Even though other groups were good, if they varied, they didn't get such high marks.

Of the flowers, roses particularly benefited from the wet weather and also the sweet peas and enabled them to last longer this year. However the dahlias were rather weighed down by the abundance of rainwater, but those on display were magnificent specimens and were obviously well looked after to bear up so well. The gladioli were also splendid. The begonias were amazing and D. Stallwood and Mrs C May took first prizes in these. The great thing about begonias is that they are so powerful in their impact and though there were many other superb plants, these caught the eye.

As always the flower arranging classes were terrific. The talent of these competitors is most impressive. In the advanced class, the subject 'A summer's day' was beautifully depicted for a 1st class by Mrs F Hallam, 'A Wedding' by Diana Tappin, 'Through the Gate' by Mrs D Neil and 'Beside the Stream' by Mrs F Hallam.

An excellent photographic display was, for the second year, a highlight in the Tony Graham room, where there was space to stand and admire the quality of the photography. This is an exciting category, as the skill of the photographers resulted in some wonderful flower and garden pictures.

Chalfont St Peter Garden Club was founded in 1940 as part of the "Dig for Victory" campaign during WW2, at a time when many allotments were being made available. There are still many allotment holders among the membership.

The Club mainly serves people from the Chalfonts, although there are some members in Gerrards Cross and other nearby villages, with even those who have moved further afield, still maintaining their membership.

There is a monthly newsletter and a comradeship that makes the Club a very friendly one. There is also a garden hut, an important feature of the club, which can make a big difference to the cost of gardening, as bulk buying enables members to buy composts, bark, growbags and all sorts of garden equipment at a very advantageous rate. The hut is maintained by volunteers and is open on Sunday mornings from 10am to noon. If you want to join the Club or to know more about it, please go to www.gardenclub.org.uk, where you can also obtain a membership application form.

Next meeting is Wednesday, September 19 in the Church Hall at 8pm, When Rev Charles Overton will talk about Water lilies.

Under 5's go Wild in the Woods If you go down to the woods on Tuesday, 11 September you are sure of a big surprise – there will be several teddy bears, some picnics and lots of children having fun!

As part of the Bookstart event, *Wild in the Woods*, Buckinghamshire Libraries are inviting the under fives, their parents and carers to join them in Wendover Woods. There will be lots of fun for the children including Bounce and Rhyme, Story times, Col. Custard and a treasure hunt. For adults there will be information and advice provided by Adult Learning, Trading Standard, Real Nappies, Wycombe Resource Centre, the Children's Centres and others. The Mobile Library will be on hand during the day and the winners of this summer's Bookcrawl will be announced.

The event, which takes place in Wendover Wood between 10am – 2pm on Tuesday 11 September, is free but there is a £2 charge for parking in Wendover Woods. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring a picnic. The meeting place is the main car park adjacent to the café. Bookstart is run by Booktrust, an independent national charity promoting the joys of reading to people of all ages and culture. Bookstart works in partnership with libraries and health visitors, and is a national programme that encourages parents/carers to spend more time enjoying books with their children. It gives every child in the UK the free gift of a bag of books at eight months, 18 months and three years.

MISBOURNE Art Society meets at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre at 2.15pm on the first Saturday of the month.

October 6 - Susanne Carr - Picasso, Beautiful or Ugly? Tender or Cruel?

November 3 - Martin Smith - Society, Seascapes & Saints. November 15-17 - Annual Exhibition in Church Hall CSP.

December 1 - Christmas Party, Competition - Christmas Box.. Quiz and presentations by members.

MAGGIE MAPLESDON is a retired Physics Researcher who has lived in the Chalfont Common area since 1975. Sadly her health hasn't been good in recent years, but nothing daunted, Maggie has her trusty tricycle and next time you see her around the village, a cheery wave will be welcome. She attends the Age Concern lunches in the Church Hall and plays at the Chalfont St Peter Bridge Club. Her garden has been a great preoccupation and growing her own vegetables always enjoyable. She's having to learn when to stop trying to have a go, her chain saw for cutting branches



and logs has had to be put to one side and a gardener does all the jobs that she loved doing, but she's full of fun and is always pushing back the boundaries if she can. She used to participate in many sporting activities, in Scottish dancing and playing the accordion, which is now not an option, but she still plays keyboards. She knows this area well and still drives her car far and wide, especially when playing in bridge matches.

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 and appointments should be booked through the administrator Chris White on careers.springboard@virgin.net. The Monday meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm at St Andrews United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross. Topics are: September 10 - Building a Winning CV. September 17 - Get to know YOUR Skill., September 24 - Tell Me About Yourself Part 1. October 1 - Tell Me About Yourself Part 2. October 8 - Networking. October 15 - Networking Practise/ October 22 - Breakout Groups: CV's covering letters: Working with Recruiters; Tell Me About Yourself & Get to know YOUR Skills October 29 - Interviews 1 and November 4 - Interviews 2.

2007 MARKS the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Community Association and the 45th anniversary of the official opening of the Community Centre. The Association is keen to mount an exhibition of documents, photos etc. relating to the early days of both, at the Golden Jubilee Celebration Open Day at the Centre on Sunday, September 2. If you have anything of interest, please contact the Association office at the Centre (01753 email: cspca@btconnect.com)

THE LONDON & SLOUGH run on Mondays to take 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 VOPAG meeting will be held in the Parish Council Office from 10.30 am. to 12.30 pm, on Tuesday 18th. September, Thursday 18th. October, Tuesday 20th. November and Thursday 13th. December. Do go along and join in.

TOTS Nearly New sale at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre is on Saturday 15th Sept from 10am-noon. Nearly new clothes, toys and equipment will be on sale at bargain prices. If you wish to have a table and sell or have any queries then please call 07778 427518 or email: juliebeales@hotmail.com or you can go along and buy those bargains.

YOGA classes are at the CSP Community Centre on Thursdays at 1.30pm. Contact: 01494 677094 or 07811 138589.

TITHE Barn Youth Centre will re-open after the summer holidays on Monday 17th. September for year 7, Wednesday 19th. September for years 9 - 11 and Thursday 20th. September for year 8.

CHALFONT ST PETER WI meets on the second Wednesday in the month at the Church Hall, Church Lane at 2.15pm. On September 12 Dr Audrey Hogarth will give a talk on Perestroika.

THE next Police Community Surgery will be held in Budgens on Tuesday 4th. September, mid-day to 2 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and talk to our Beat Officer, Jim Clarke. When you arrive in Budgens please go to the check-out desk nearest to the Wine Department and you will be taken to the office where your discussion will be completely confidential".

GERRARDS CROSS Flower Club next meets in The Memorial Centre, Gerrards Cross at 2pm on September 19 when Katherine Lee, a national level demonstrator, will present "Diversity". The competition is An exhibit "Basket to feature Garden Flowers" for the Sunnyhurst Cup.

NEW library opening times come into effect from Monday 3 September, in the great majority of Buckinghamshire's public libraries. The new hours were subject to a public consultation earlier in the year, in which over 5,000 people took part. Although there is an overall reduction of 8.7%, library managers have responded positively to the consultation by ensuring that libraries are open on those days and times requested by local people. Neighbouring libraries such as Haddenham and Princes Risborough, or Gerrards Cross and Chalfont St.Peter, will have complementary opening times to give customers greater choice. Library users at Princes Risborough and High Wycombe will welcome a small **increase** in the opening hours of those libraries.

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. Subjects in July are: Fantastic food for kids, Through tough times to good, with Patsy Wyatt .This is a non-denominational group and all ladies are welcome to join the Thursday meetings.

CHALFONT St Peter and Gerrards Cross History Society holds it's meetings, generally one a month, on Fridays at 8pm in the Memorial Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross. Visitors are welcome For further information, the secretary can be contacted on 01494 873831

MISBOURNE Art Society meets in the CSP Community Centre at 2.15pm the first Saturday in every month. August 4 Self Portrait (take a mirror) 'Rogues Gallery worthwhile goal!

ALL SAINTS' church music festival has 3 more events, ending in November. Their next date is Saturday, October 13, when The Ionian Singers will perform at 7.30pm in the Church hall. A chamber choir consisting of 35 singers, they have a national and international reputation based on performances throughout the UK and abroad, as well as many recordings. They will be presenting a varied programme of both sacred and secular music. Tickets £12: from **01753** - 883384 or 882426.

FRIDAY market in the Church Hall, Church Lane is worth a visit. 9am – 2.00pm

BINGO is on Friday, 9-9.30pm at the CSP Community Centre for some light entertainment and maybe an exciting win.

NATIONAL Council of Women meets in the CSP Community Centre at 2.15pmm the last Thursday of each month.

ALL SAINTS' Church Hall is the venue for Chalfont Grand Squares every Tuesday at 8pm. Have fun and keep fit doing American squares. Contact number for more information is 01895 259510.

BADMINTON players are needed by a friendly club that plays Wednesday evenings in Chalfont St Peter Middle School. Contact John on 01494 873527 or Linda on 01494 875486.

SHORT Mat Bowls provides enjoyable exercise on Friday afternoons at 2-5.30pm in the community centre. Instruction will be given and bowls will be available to for new members to use. Either turn up or contact Audrey on 01494 873401.

PILATES classes are provided by Chalfont St Peter experts. Tricia at the Community Centre, CSP on Monday and Friday 10.40am to book phone 01753 885420 and Jackie at the Chalfont St Giles Youth Club, Narcot Lane, CSG, Monday at 1.15pm. Phone Jackie for more details on 07941 274379. Pilates will improve your flexibility, help increase your strength and muscle tone, lower your stress, help flatten your stomach, help back pain and many other benefits.

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Sincere thanks to Chalfont St Peter Parish Council for support and printing this newsletter and to Chalfont Office Direct, 3 Marketplace, for donating the paper. There is only a limited printing, so when you have read this newsletter please pass it on.