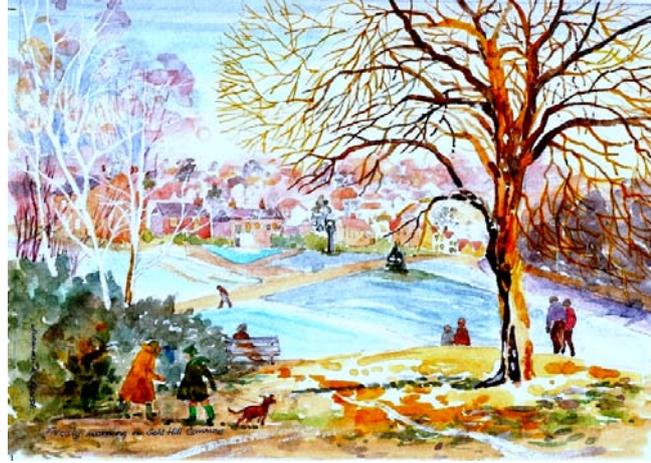


Chalfont St Peter Village Voice December 2009`

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Maureen Marsh's 2009 CSP Christmas card is available from Chalfont Book shop at £1.75 each, or from Maureen Marsh 01753 884105



FUN NIGHT in the Village is always a huge occasion for making the centre of Chalfont St Peter come alive. The Chamber of Commerce is delighted to announce that Jade Parsons, the current Miss Buckinghamshire will be in attendance at the Fun Night on Friday, December 4. Jade will be announcing the Christmas lights countdown from the stage outside Budgens at around 6pm and, together with her Buckinghamshire Babes, will be selling calendars in aid of Prostate Cancer from a stall on Market Place during the evening. Over 30 stalls will be operating on the evening and there will be a kiddies Fun Fair in the precinct. Most shops and businesses will be staying open late to join in the festive atmosphere. The Chamber of Commerce will be erecting a Christmas tree and lights on Gold Hill common on November 28. Fun Night entertainment will include carol singing from St Joseph's, Lovel End and Robertswood Schools, Barbershop Quartet, Gang of Four, the vocal group from Gold Hill Baptist and the Chalfont Wind Band. Chamber President said "This year's event is scheduled to be the biggest and best ever and will help showcase everything that is good about Chalfont St Peter, its businesses and its community. The evening starts at 6pm.

Not only all this, but **St Nicholas Fayre** will be open in The Parish Church Hall from 6-8.30pm, where you can try your hand at the low-priced children's stalls, buy inexpensive Christmas gifts and enjoy the Christmas punch, teas, coffees and free mince pies. All this can be done to music, as the Choir will be rehearsing carols in the church and you can just take time out to listen and enjoy.

ST JOSEPH'S School in Priory Road has its Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 5th December from 10am-1pm.

A LITTLE BIT OF SOMETHING Act One Drama students are performing at The Beacon Theatre, Beaconsfield, on Sunday, December 6 at 2.30pm. From comedy to drama to musical something for everyone. Tickets £6 each from 01753 899102

ALL SAINTS church music festival 2009 - a feast of Christmas music & carols with the APOLLO BRASS QUINTET. Sunday 6th December at 4.00pm. £12.50/person. Nothing captures the essence of festive Christmas music quite like a brass band. Enjoy an afternoon of wonderful favourites to put you in the holiday mood, including the opportunity to join in with some carol singing. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served during the interval. Tickets are on sale from Anne Hatton - 01753 882425 or Paddy Hague - 01753 883384.

ST PETER Players will present **INTO THE WOODS** - Music by Steven Sondheim, book by James Lapine, as their Christmas entertainment on Thursday 10th December to Saturday 12th December 2009 at the Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter Tickets are priced at £10 and are available from the Box Office on 01895 835392

Into the Woods brings to life Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood and other well known fairy tale characters. Interwoven with these classic tales is the story of the Baker and his Wife, who's longing to have a child is thwarted by a mischievous witch who lives next door. Lapine and Sondheim have fashioned a musical that has created perfect expressions of character and action which reflect the complications of living in modern society and the difficult choices we encounter on the paths of our lives

CHALFONT ST PETER benefits from the new A30 bus which comes through Chalfont St Peter every half hour, so do please use it as often as possible, to ensure that it stays available. It won't be run if it doesn't prove financially viable and our village will be the poorer as a result. This reliable bus service runs from Chesham through Amersham, Chalfont St Giles, Chalfont St Peter and Gerrards Cross, to Uxbridge and then Heathrow. If you are a senior citizen and have a bus pass, you can reach all these places FREE and not pay out for petrol or add to the carbon footprint. It also means that you can relax and rely on the return journey. The new timetables are now available and there should be some in the Community Centre, as well as the Library, or of course from bus stations. It's worth giving the A30 a trial run.

A CHRISTMAS Fair will be held in St Joseph's Parish Centre, behind the Church in Austenwood Lane, on Tuesday 8th December from 9am-3pm. A wonderful shopping experience, with an exciting variety of stalls offering unusual and stylish gifts. Refreshments will be served all day. Park in the Church car park.

FRIENDS of Chiltern Open Air Museum have their next meeting on Wednesday 9 September at 8pm in **Amersham**, when David Callaghan will talk on "History of the Victoria Cross. Please note that this is a fund raising event at the **Barn Hall, Amersham Community Centre**. Tickets £5 can be booked in advance from Jenny on 01494 793017 or if you want to take a chance that there is room, you can get them at the door.

CHILTERN District Council wishes to make you aware of a current scam where residents have been receiving telephone calls informing them they qualified for a Council Tax refund. The caller then asked for bank account details to enable the payment to be processed. Similar types of attempted fraud have been reported involving other public bodies and private sector firms, in the form of e-mails. Occasionally the caller requests a fee for the service. Chiltern District Council wish to make it clear they would never use telephone or e-mail to request details of bank accounts to refund overpayments of Council Tax. Neither would it charge for such a service. If you are entitled to a council tax refund, the council will send you a letter showing how much you are owed and offering the option of either deducting the amount from your next council tax bill or providing refund. If you are unsure if a caller is genuine, ask them for their name, job title and extension number and then call the Revenue and Benefits Department at Chiltern District Council 01494 732078 on 01494 732079. Watch Members are being warned of a recent telephone scam, where callers pose as BT representatives.

ANOTHER warning: People have been targeted by the unscrupulous callers, who ask for a payment to be immediately made to clear arrears on their telephone account. People are told that if they don't pay straight away, they will be cut off, and the caller is then asked for their bank or credit card details. Sometimes, the scammer terminates the call mid-way to demonstrate that they are able to cut off the phone line. Anyone receiving similar calls is reminded not to divulge their banking details, and to report the call to Trading Standards on 0845 4 04 05 06.

VOPAG - for the over 55's, meets next on Thursday, December 17th in the Parish Council Building in Gravel Hill. Coffee is at 10am and the meeting begins at 10.30. To set the mood for Christmas, students from The Community College will be there in good voice to entertain with songs from the show, Chicago. Don't miss it.

CHALFONT COMMON WI meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Tony Graham room at the Chalfont Community Centre at 7.30 for 7.45 Visitors most welcome.

CAREERS SPRINGBOARD (getting people back to work) meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30 pm each Monday at St Andrews United Reformed church hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross.

Dec 7 Action planning for the Christmas break An opportunity to build a well organised and successful action plan for the Christmas holiday period

A new programme will be published in December for meetings starting on Monday 11th January 2010.

A CAROL service will be held in St Joseph's Church on Sunday 20th December at 7.30pm. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards, in the Parish Centre.

CHALFONT St Peter WI reports that: The October walk through Burnham Beeches with Mrs. Judy Tipping was just perfect. The weather was mild with sunshine breaking through. We walked down pretty tracks and paths, stopping at interesting places. We saw black ponies and juniper bushes, toadstools and coppiced trees. We were given a Royal Tea by Templewood W.I. in Farnham Common. Many thanks to our hostesses.

We held our A.G M .welcoming a new Committee member, Mrs. Brenda Orr .

On November 11th, Mrs. Barbara Lyme welcomed everyone, especially the visitor. The Speaker, Mr. Charles Oakes, an old friend, talked about " Never had it so good: 1956 - 1963" Rationing was over at last and Britain was booming. An amusing nostalgic talk. We were reminded ,twice ,to bring a knife, fork, spoon, plate and glass to the December meeting. We will have a festive lunch followed by "A Christmas entertainment" . the afternoon starts at 1 pm.

Mrs. Hazel Lailey was wished a Very Happy Christmas in New Zealand and Mrs Shirley Hanham won the Cookery Cup for her Christmas Cupcakes. Visitors always to the meetings on the 2nd Wed. in the month at 2.15 pm .in the Church Hall, Church Lane.

HISTORICAL researcher Harvey Weiner, has asked me to put out a further request for identification of names on gravestones in Chalfont St Peter. If anyone can throw any light on the people whose names are included here, please contact Mr Weiner on harjo@harvey2w2.plus.com

Chalfont St. Peter Parish Church Memorial. A List of Seventy-seven WW1 names: all detailed on the website "Buckinghamshire Remembers". Those unidentified are: Charles Clayton, Harold Fleming, William George Francis, George Warren, Norman Chislett, who is recorded as from "Chalfont, Bucks" but not linked yet with either -St.Giles, or-St.Peter, or -Little.

WW2 Names on the Parish Memorial to be identified: James Collins, Albert Edward Lediard, James Powell and from other CSP memorials John Charles Lediard.

St.Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Austenwood Common B. Gresham Brown, Alfred Jackson, A.Smith, H.Wild,

Mr Weiner records the sad information: "there are many pairs of brothers killed on the same day, e.g. the Thomas brothers on the St.Joseph;s memorial, both killed on the 9th Oct.1917; the Hicking brothers on the All Saints and St.Paul's memorials, both killed on the 1st July 1916. There are the men from the Royal Navy. Once you see their ship's name and the date of death, the internet throws up the events of that day.

We have in WW2, J.P.Barnard, master of the SS"Coimbra", an oil-tanker, torpedoed on the 14/15th Jan.1942, by U.123 at the start of the assault on the eastern side of the USA by the German Operation Paukenschlag, (Drumbeat), a pack of five U-boats. The master, 25 crewmen and 6 gunners were lost. A group of our village men who appear to have been in a TA unit, part of the 99th (The Royal BucksYeomanry) Field Regt., Royal Artillery, were all killed on the same day, 27th May 1940, in France. One of the group survived to die at "home" on 10th Aug.1940, and is buried with his family in St.Paul's Churchyard, Horn Hill.

GERRARDS CROSS Methodist Church Oak End Way, GX, Wednesday 16th December 2009 at 5-30pm

Carols at Gerrards Cross Train Station - Everyone welcome to go along and sing carols for commuters as they leave the train station, so warn your commuter friends. This is a very enjoyable festive occasion.

Collection for NCH (formerly National Children's Home)

Thursday , December 24 2009 at 4-00pm Christingle Service For All Ages - Rev Nigel Coke-Woods

Christingle is a festive celebration. The service brings together family and friends of all ages. This festive celebration communicates the Christian message in an inspiring way to adults and children alike. Its wide appeal makes it an ideal way to encourage newcomers to church, particularly children and extend your congregation. The children receive a "Christingle Orange" with a lighted candle.

Friday 25th December 2009 10-30am Christmas Day Family Service Preacher: Graham Marsh

Carols and readings for Christmas day. Children of all ages bring their favourite Christmas Gift A Short family service to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ Everyone will be very welcome

Sunday 27th December 2009 10-30am Family Worship.

This is a family service for all ages arranged and lead by the church stewards and members of the congregation. Everyone welcome. Coffee served at the end of the service

Sunday 17th January 2010 at 10-30am Covenant Sunday. This is a special Sunday, unique to Methodists when we all renew a vows of believe and commitment to our faith, in this most moving and meaningful service.

SOUTH BUCKS Choral Society has been established for 28 years under the leadership of conductor Iain Ledingham. Their next concert will be on Saturday December 19 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church Amersham, when the choir will give a concert of Christmas music and carols. Tickets are available from Steve Wilcock 01494 722122. 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 in Austenwood. Further details please contact Ann Whaley on 01753 883684

THE PARISH CHURCH leaflets have been delivered round the village, but a few notes to remind you.

Sunday 6th December, **10am** Foundation Family Service – *What did the Angels say?*

And at All Saints' Oval Way, at **10am** there is a Christingle Service – *in Aid of the Children's Society*.

Sunday 13th – Parish Church Hall, 10am Foundation Family Service – *What happened to the Shepherds?*

And at 5.30pm – Safe Service – *Three Wise Men and a Donkey. A Christmas Celebration*

Contemporary worship and refreshments.

Wednesday 16th – *in the Parish Church churchyard 7.30pm Carols in the Churchyard for Maria Taylor Fund.*

Sunday 20th - Parish Hall 10am Foundation Family Service – *What happened in the Stable?*

And in All Sants' Oval Way, 10am Carols for All Ages – 6.30 – Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

Also in St Paul's Hornhill – 4pm Carol Service

Thursday 24th – Parish Church 2.30pm Crib service for younger children. 4pm same for older children

11.30pm – Midnight Mass.

All Saints' Oval Way, 5.30 Crib service and 11.30 Midnight Mass.

Friday 25th – Parish Church 8am Holy Communion, 10am Family Eucharist. 5pm Carols by Candlelight.

All Saint's 8am Holy Communion, 10am Family service followed by Eucharist.

St Paul's 9am Holy Communion.

Sunday 27th Parish Church hall 10am Foundation Family Service – *What didn't happen at Christmas?*

ACROSS the UK today, the percentage of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance has in fact fallen slightly - a surprising fact in these tough times of recession.

Today 4.1% of the UK's working population is claiming Job Seekers' Allowance to get themselves back into employment. The Buckinghamshire Economic and Learning Partnership (BELP) has analysed the latest national figures to understand how Buckinghamshire was faring on a local level.

BELP's analysis shows that the number of Buckinghamshire residents claiming Job Seekers' Allowance fell by 258 in October to stand at 7,132, or 2.4 per cent of the working age population. Looking across the county, this positive trend is reflected in Buckinghamshire's districts too. The performance of Aylesbury Vale area has been particularly strong over the last six months, with the claimant count falling by 6.7 per cent. The district now has a claimant count rate of 2.2 per cent, ranking this area 39th out of a total 380 local authorities in Great Britain.

Wycombe's claimant count fell by 100 in October to stand at 3.1 per cent, well below the national level of 4.1 per cent, but above the South East figure of 3.0. Over the last six months the number of claimants in Wycombe has risen by 5.3 per cent, the 11th largest rise in the South East. South Bucks and Chiltern have recorded falls of 2.7% and 1.7% respectively since April to rank joint 28th in Britain, with a claimant count rate of 2.0% of the working age population.

THE Citizens Advice Bureau provides a drop-in advice session is run at the Chalfont St. Peter Community Centre Contact They offer free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on a range of subjects including:- Benefits, Consumer Issues, Debt, Employment, Housing, Immigration, Legal Issues, Relationships, Tax.

CHALFONT Fine Arts meets on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month (apart from July, August & December) for a lecture on Fine Arts in the Main hall of the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. In addition outings are arranged to exhibitions and historic buildings during the year. Two study days are also held at the Centre when a particular subject is explored in more depth. Contact is Pam Dodd - Telephone : 01494 725831 Email : pam@pjdodd.net Web Site : www.chalfontfinearts.co.uk

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to encourage young people to play their part in reducing road casualties among their peers. 'In the can' challenges young people to make a road safety film suitable for use on the Internet. The competition is open to anyone under the age of 21 years, working on their own or in teams, or on behalf of their school, college or university.

There are two £1,000 first prizes and two £250 runner up prizes for the best entries from individuals/teams, and from educational establishments.

23 county councils and unitary local authorities are taking part in the campaign, including Buckinghamshire County Council.

Valerie Letheren, Cabinet Member for Transportation said: "Instead of creating a new road safety campaign about the risks and dangers facing young drivers and their passengers, we've decided to throw down the challenge to young people themselves.

"We think that, potentially, they have the best insight into how their peers think about driving and road safety - and the best way to get messages through to them.

"By challenging them to make their own road safety film we think we can learn how to approach young people - the messages and approaches that might work for this vulnerable group."

The competition runs until April 2010, when the best entries will be shortlisted. The final winners in each category will be selected via an online public vote, and the winning film(s) may be used as the basis of a national road safety campaign.

The campaign website, www.inthecan.org.uk, contains full details about the competition and useful advice and information for those thinking of entering, including: tips on how to get started and on film making; road safety information relevant to young people; research into attitudes among young drivers; and the competition rules and judging procedures. For more information contact the Road Safety Team at Transport for Buckinghamshire on 01296 382450 or e mail roadsafety@buckscc.gov.uk

CHALFONT St Peter Parish Church has a Prayer Group that meets every Tuesday from 10-11am in the Lady Chapel of the Parish Church. An informal, friendly group who sing, pray and talk together. All are welcome to join in.

BINGO is in the Community Centre on Friday evenings 8 – 9.30 pm in the Mary Smithells room in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. All welcome.

ON Tuesday, January 5, 2010, it is planned to hold a Nearly Epiphany Party at All Saints' Church hall, following the 9.30am communion service for all those who do the jobs around the church so generously. Take along any uneaten mince pies and Christmas cake and have plenty of tea, coffee and chat.

THE County's Household Waste Recycling Centres are open from 8am to 5pm from Sunday 25th October. Our local site is London Road East, Amersham HP7 9DT. All sites are open seven days a week, except for 25 December, 26 December and 1st January.

The Census information from 2001 in brief, might be of interest. More detail at www.statistics.gov.uk.

	Chalfont Common		Austenwood		Central		Gold Hill		Total
U16	17.4%	791	24%	518	20%	809	21%	449	2568
16-19	5.8%	264	4%	90	4%	172	4%	76	601
20-29	15.1%	686	5%	114	9%	355	7%	156	1312
30-59	40.9%	1859	46%	1002	43%	1761	40%	852	5474
60-74	14.2%	645	14%	299	15%	605	16%	337	1886
75+	6.6%	300	8%	174	9%	384	11%	236	1094
Total	100%	4545	100%	2197	100%	4086	100%	2109	12935