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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice, December 2014

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www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice

Camelot the Panto St Peter Players December 5-7

St Peter Players have a wonderfully fun show for you and the family to enjoy - there's Magic, Mayhem and Much hilarity to be shared in this traditional yet modern panto. It's local, it's affordable and your kids (and you!) will love it!

Need more convincing?...There's A dancing teddy bear, A feisty princess, Magical Merlin and some Evil and quite Naughty baddies to boo - some singing snakes, living paintings and ghosts and spiders makes this a show not to be missed. If you're not fed up of the top tunes this year, come and sing along with our live band to Let it Go, Happy and Roar to name but a few songs, and enjoy the festive atmosphere...yeah, it'll nearly be CHRISTMAS by then...hurray! **Tickets! £10/£12 - are going fast**

Also worth noting we have a British Sign Language signed performance on the Sat 12:00 matinee - spread the word to those you know who sign - were very excited about it! **Book on 07928 161419** and tell us if anyone has a birthday too!!

Evening performances are around tables of ten and have a bar available. Byo snacks! All matinees are usual rowed seating.

Come and see if Prince Arthur can win back Princess Guinevere before the Evil Valerin the (not so) Vicious executes his naughty plan...with the help of the cacklingly Evil Morgana it's going to be perilous for all of our goodies to say the least....

(Dame Connie and Teddy could save the day, if only they hadn't been captured by the Evil Sisters...)

Will good win over bad? Come and find out!! We're sure you'll want to... Oh yes you do!

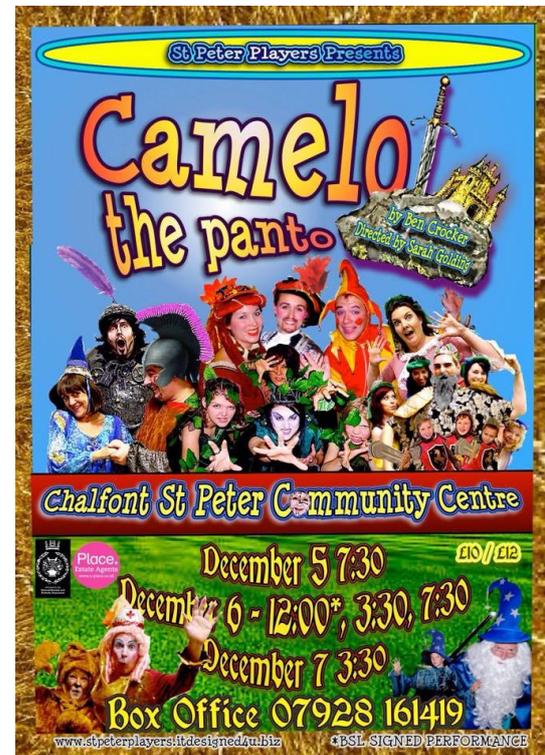
Chalfont Common WI report. After a very busy year we are now looking forward to our version of Sleeping Beauty for our Christmas pantomime at our December meeting on the 4th, and we will be having a Christmas lunch at a local hotel the following week.

We have had a very interesting Autumn. We had a back stage tour of Aylesbury Riverside Theatre and then some of us stayed on to see The Importance of Being Ernest. It is fascinating behind the scenes and we got to see some of the actors costumes being prepared for the afternoon performance. In September the Sunday Club visited the Odney Club at Cookham, which is owned by John Lewis and only open to the public once a year and in October they went to Ruislip Lido for lunch. We had a very successful lunch followed by a Beetle Drive and the next day we went to see Aspects of Love at Watersmeet theatre. Several of us spent many hours selling poppies for the British Legion and on Remembrance Sunday took part in the parade to the church which was followed by a service after the wreath laying. We organized a trip to Worlds End garden centre where we had a talk followed by lunch leaving plenty of time to shop. We have coffee and croissants in the The Greyhound every month.

It is such a busy lively group and we are always pleased to see new faces, so come along and have a chat or contact us on 01494 872133. Our meetings are on the 1st Thursday of the month in the Tony Graham Room at the community centre 7.30 for 7.45.

Our book clubs, cinema visits, table tennis and walking groups are all thriving.

For those who haven't had a chat to the men with hard hats, who are working on our roads, the metal pipes that deliver our gas are all being replaced all over the country, as they are failing rapidly, with gas escaping through holes and therefore they are being replaced by new piping that has been made of much more durable material.



Misbourne River Action

The Group's next work day is on **Sunday 7th December** with separate morning (0930 - 1230) and afternoon (1330 - 1530) sessions. There are plenty of both light and heavy tasks to go at through the Chalfonts. Tools and PPE provided. If you can join them for even just an hour, or to find out more about what's involved, please contact bob.older@me.com <<mailto:bob.older@me.com>> (Tel.01753 885131). For more information about the Group and the river, visit www.misbournriveraction.org <<http://www.misbournriveraction.org/>>

It is exciting when new talent comes to the village and someone with a new approach to art is at 28b Market Place.

Marie Cavanagh produces most beautiful pictures in glass, amazingly realistic and in wonderful colours and they can be seen at **FIRED WORKS**, her newly opened shop.



She started 15 years ago making crystal jewellery and then silver jewellery with glass pieces. The next step was buying a kiln and for the past 5 years she has been using it to make beautiful pictures and glass ornaments. You just have to go in and see the display. The next step is for her to start giving classes, so people may be inspired to develop their own talents. marie@fired-works.co.uk www.fired-works.co.uk

An awareness campaign is being organised by national family law organisation Resolution, The aim is to let the public know more about separating outside of the courtroom. Local family lawyer Ann Corrigan, founder of Clarity Family Law in Gerrards Cross, is a member of Resolution and a trained mediator and collaborative lawyer, who is supporting the campaign. Ann says: ³Mediation is a cost-effective, and often quicker way to reach a resolution of all issues surrounding your relationship breakdown. You are in control and with the assistance of a specially trained family law mediator, the outcome is likely to be one that you are comfortable with, not one imposed by the court which neither of you wished for. For more information about mediation and other ways of separating outside of the court contact Ann for a FREE telephone consultation this week. info@clarityfamilylaw.co.uk or 01753 880075

The Chalfont St Peter branch of the RNLI has received this information from head office. You may find it useful. The Big Christmas Rescue is a new book that puts young readers at the heart of an exciting Christmas story, where an RNLI lifeboat crew rescues Santa on a wet and windy Christmas Eve - with a little help from someone special. The book can be personalised so that the name, gender and skin tone of the young hero in the story reflects the loved one who the book is bought for. This exciting, personalised tale of Christmas courage gives children a magical introduction to the work of the RNLI's volunteer lifesavers. The book, priced at £9.95 excluding postage and packaging, will raise vital funds for the charity, with all profits from sales helping to save lives at sea. The Big Christmas Rescue is a fantastic gift for children aged between 3 and 7 years old. Order the book online at RNLISHOP.org/BigRescue from 1 September 2014.

The book was written by the RNLI's Rory Stamp, 37, from Poole in Dorset. Rory works at RNLI HQ, Poole, as a Senior Editor and has written articles, scripts, speeches and fundraising materials for the lifesaving charity for over 10 years. The Big Christmas Rescue is the latest children's book featuring illustrations by the award-winning Hannah Cumming. Hannah, 31 years old and from Bristol, was Highly Commended in the Macmillan Children's Book Prize for two years running, and was commissioned to illustrate her first book, The Gift, while still at university. Her other children's books include The Cloud, The Lost Stars, and The Red Boat.

The Big Christmas Rescue book is available to order online at RNLISHOP.org/BigRescue from 1 September 2014. Please allow 10 working days from the date of order for the book to arrive. The book can also be ordered over the phone on 0300 300 9916. If there is anything I can help with please just let me know.

Gravel Hill Bridge Club, Chalfont St Peter is a small friendly club. Bridge evening is Tuesday from 7.30 to 10.15pm. We are not associated with the EBU and play bridge for the enjoyment of it and congenial friendly company. The Club organises several special bridge events throughout the year. We would welcome new potential members, so if you would like to visit the club with your playing partner for two or three Tuesday evenings you would be made most welcome. Visitors table fee is £3 each, which includes tea/coffee.

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Christmas meetings at Gold Hill Baptist Church.

The first one is White Christmas on Sunday 7th December - for all who have suffered the loss of bereavement over recent years...a reflective start to the Christmas season, which can be particularly difficult in this circumstance.

*The Gold Hill family
wish you a very happy Christmas
and peaceful New Year.*

We invite you to join us on one or more occasions over this Christmas period - there is something for everyone. Events are held both at Gold Hill Baptist Church, and at the Epilepsy Centre as we 'Celebrate Christmas as a Community'.

**Sunday 7 December, 3pm
White Christmas**

A special service for all those who have experienced the loss of bereavement in recent times. Followed by refreshments.



**Sunday 14 December
Celebrate Christmas as a Community**
Morning and evening meetings at the Epilepsy Society, Recreation Hall, Chesham Lane, Chalfont St Peter SL9 0RJ. Refreshments served before and after both events.

11am: 'The Star of Bethlehem'
All-age celebration of the Christmas Story
6.30pm: 'A Holy Night'
Uplifting music for everyone,
celebrating the joy of Christmas.

**Sunday 21 December, 6.30pm
Carols by Candlelight**

A selection of Christmas music and readings with orchestral accompaniment.



**Wednesday 24 December
Christmas Unwrapped** - fun for all the family
4.00pm: craft, music, refreshments and a short Christmas presentation:

Christmas Eve Communion
11.00pm - 12.15am:
Reflective readings & carols



**Thursday 25 December
Christmas Day All-Age Celebration**
10.00am - 11.00am
Christmas Day All-Age Meeting
A celebration of Jesus' birthday - for all the family
No evening meeting



**Sunday 28 December
10.30am**
Single am meeting
with pre-school supervision

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Theft from Motor Vehicle - Chesham Lane, Chalfont St Peter

***This is a message sent via Thames Valley Alert.**

Between 5:00pm on Sunday 23rd November 2014 and 6.00am on Monday 24th November 2014 a theft from motor vehicle occurred on Chesham Lane, Chalfont St Peter where offenders gained access to a secure van and removed several high value tools from within.

If you saw anyone suspicious in the area around this time or have any information please contact PCSO C6760 Gratton via the Thames Valley Police Enquiry Centre on 101 and quote occurrence number 43140255216.

CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING

Looking for an extra activity to fill your time/keep you busy/get you out/meeting like-minded people?

That's how I came to take up Chinese Brush Painting following my retirement. Now I am a member of a mixed group of people who paint together once a week.

Once I got going, I joined the Local Association as well, which meets once a month.

If you would like to try it out-why not pay a visit- I find if you are a member of a group you look forward to meeting up and of course you paint (and chat/have a laugh/get things off your chest/discuss TV & films...no end to it).

/Belonging to a group is the secret./ We all have different styles & the only criticism you will hear is from any one individual about his/her own work.

While you are painting, your brain focuses on the activity. This clears the mind of worries/sadness/loneliness- you'll be amazed how much more relaxed you feel driving home as opposed to driving there!

Oh, and by the way...if you feel disappointed by the morning's efforts.....remember.....it's only a piece of paper!!

Speaking of pieces of paper, brushes, inks, paints.....and the rest of the kit. If you haven't got it, we can lend you some or even procure things for you to buy at very reasonable prices.

Why don't you give it a try? Details of venue & dates & contacts below:-

Park Lane Village Centre in Harefield- there is parking.

Groups meet at 10am on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays.

The Local Association meets on the first Sunday of each month from 1-4pm at the same venue.

Contact Phyllis Nash on 01895 476644 or phyllnash@gmail.com <<mailto:phyllnash@gmail.com>> or phyll.nash@gmail.com <<mailto:phyll.nash@gmail.com>>

Abuse survivor urges people to help put an end to domestic violence

This is a message sent via Thames Valley Alert. This information has been sent on behalf of Thames Valley Police*

A domestic abuse survivor who has been in two abusive relationships is urging other victims to reach out and get help, or to speak up if you know of someone who is being abused.

We would like to raise awareness about the extent of domestic abuse - that it is not just physical violence but can include emotional, psychological and financial abuse.

For Jackie (43) who lives in High Wycombe, every day is an opportunity to educate others about the problem by sharing her own story of abuse, triumph and advocacy.

She said: "During the abuse I was completely isolated from my friends and family, most of whom were hundreds of miles away. I felt I had no self-worth, regarded myself as a bad mother for letting this man into our lives, as well as suffocated and trapped by his presence. He abused alcohol and drugs, which made him completely paranoid.

"As a result he answered my calls, checked my texts and emails and insisted on knowing my passwords and bank pin numbers. I couldn't even go to the doctor on my own.

"Throughout the years I would call the police, he'd be arrested, he would wear me down by constantly calling, texting, pleading me to give him another chance, saying it would never happen again."

Eventually, with help from the Thames Valley Police (TVP) Domestic Violence and Abuse Unit, Women's Aid, social services, a very understanding GP and counsellor, Jackie finally managed to break free.

She continued: "For the first time in years I could do whatever I wanted, when I wanted. I had to re-build my life and it did take a long time but I now run a coffee morning and choir for women whose lives have been affected by domestic violence and abuse. I believe the support we give each other is invaluable. I don't see myself as a victim anymore."

Martin Phillips, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Community Engagement said: "We are committed to creating a safer county and one of our priorities is doing everything in our power to help combat domestic violence.

“We want to get the message across that it’s a horrific crime that affects people from all walks of life regardless of age, sex, class and background. It is often misunderstood and even a taboo subject which means incidents are under reported.

“I hope our activities lead to more victims realising what’s going on and getting help. Our message is clear – don’t suffer in silence.”

If you are affected by domestic abuse, or worried about someone you know, contact the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Freephone Helpline on 0808 2000 247. In an emergency, always call the police on 999.

For further information visit www.reducingtherisk.org.uk <<http://www.reducingtherisk.org.uk/>> or watch our video http://youtu.be/WXKQR_cvKU8