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Chalfont St Peter Village Voice - February 2016



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www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoic

PLEASE come along and join us for coffee and cake to celebrate National Libraries Day, this Saturday morning, 6th February, from 10am. We would love to show you around our lovely library, introduce you to a few of our dedicated volunteers and tell you about our monthly film screenings which are proving to be very popular. You can also find out more about what our library is planning to celebrate its 50th Anniversary this year. No need to RSVP – just come along. Our Friends are always welcome!

Change4Chalfont's next Green Drinks are on Monday 8 February at 7.45pm.

We are meeting in The Space, Gold Hill Baptist Church, Gold Hill, Chalfont St Peter.

The speaker is Suzanna Hinton, who will discuss the role of nuclear power in providing for our energy needs.

Suzanna graduated from Cambridge University with a degree in geography and a specialisation in sustainable future-fuels before going on to do a master's of science in climate change at Brunel.

Suzanna has worked for a renewable energy consultancy, focusing on UK onshore wind and global solar as a developmental opportunity. In 2014, she began working with the former head of Greenpeace, Stephen Tindale, on energy and climate change policy, first as a policy writer at the Centre for European Reform, a Westminster think tank, and now as the Policy Officer with the Weinberg foundation, a pro-nuclear charity. In addition Suzanna works as a consultant for various additional climate and energy political projects, and continues to be a writer for Stephen Tindale's educational website Climate Answers. She is a defender of pragmatic environmentalism and an advocate of the need for an "all of the above" strategy when addressing sustainable energy.

We look forward to seeing you there! Best wishes from all at Change4Chalfont www.change4chalfont.org.uk

VOPAG

Village Older Persons Action Group – will meet next on Tuesday, 16th February in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, 10am for coffee and at 10.30, speaker Lucy Goldsman, from Collective Legal Solutions, will advise on Tax-long Term care fees and other matters relating to old age.

CHALFONT ST PETER Garden Club meets next on 17th February at 8pm in then Church Hall, Church Lane, when Dr Pat Morris will talk All About Hedgehogs

INFORMATION has been sent by the Thames Valley Police.

Fraudsters are sending out virus infected emails that claim a package has been seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom. The official looking scam emails claiming to be from Royal Mail contain a link to document which will install malicious software on your computer designed to steal credentials like account names, email addresses and passwords. An example email reads:

Title: Your parcel has been seized

Royal Mail is sorry to inform you that a package addressed to you was seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom.

A close inspection deemed your items as counterfeit and the manufacturers have been notified. If your items are declared genuine then they will be returned back to you with the appropriate custom charges.

You may have been a victim of counterfeit merchandise and the RM Group UK will notify you on how to get your money back. Please review the attached PDF document for more information.

Document (RM7002137GB).Zip Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

To help the spread of the virus, the email also says: "you will need to have access to a computer to download and open the Zip file". If you receive one of these emails, do not click on any links or download any attachments and report it to Action Fraud.

Protect Yourself

- * Royal Mail will never send an email asking for credit card numbers or other personal or confidential information.
- * Royal Mail will never ask customers to enter information on a page that isn't part of the Royal Mail website.
- * Royal Mail will never include attachments unless the email was solicited by a customer e.g. customer has contacted Royal Mail with an enquiry or has signed up for updates from Royal Mail.
- * Royal Mail have also stressed that they do not receive a person's email address as part of any home shopping experience.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online:

http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone: 0300 123 2040

CRAFTS & COFFEE, Tools for Workaid Felt Impressions Barbara Weeks

Using water lilies as the example – but you can use any other flowers for inspiration, or you might even want to do an abstract design - Barbara will guide you through the process of making fine felt without fuss! You will explore colour and texture with wool and silk fibres, learn how to lay fine layers of wool and use torn and cut pre-felts to build an impressionistic style composition and complete the felting process. Barbara is a textile artist with a national and international reputation, especially for her Patchwork and Quilting. www.barbaraweeks.com

You need to bring:

A towel, minimum 60 cm x 1 metre, bubble wrap, 50 cm x 1 metre (small bubbles, no tears - can be two pieces 50 x 50), scissors, tape measure, plastic container (jug or ice cream tub) Barbara will supply: Wool and silk fibres, pre felts in a range of colours, as well as nets, water dispensers, olive soap and foam rollers - £2.00 will be payable to Barbara on the day for these specialist items.

Wednesday 17th February 2016, 10am - 12 noon £6 - including tea, coffee & biscuits

Venue is WORKAID, The Old Boot Factory, 71 Townsend Road, Chesham, HP5 2AA 01494 775220.

MASSIVE New Development Plan - Green Belt Threatened

With Chiltern District Council's Core Strategy (up to 2026) no longer in place, the District Councils of Chiltern and South Bucks are currently consulting on a new Joint Local Plan, to cover local development from 2014 to 2036. This new plan has to include an even larger development quota than the Core Strategy did – this means our surrounding green belt is under direct threat.

The impact on Chalfont St Peter could be devastating – the sites that have been put forward for discussion by CDC equate to over 50% of the current built area of our village.

Please consult CDC's website to see this new Joint Local Plan consultation document. The maps on pages 38 and 49 of this document show the proposed sites in CSP. (A hard copy is available to view in our library)

Our residents must now decide what development our village can manage, where we want this development to go and what type of development we would like. Proper consideration of the issues across the entire district, as well as in CSP, is essential.

This public consultation started on 18th January and will run until 5pm on the 14th March, when all representations must be logged with CDC.

Members of the Parish Council and SENSE4CSP have formed a joint working party to try and lead on this consultation. Two public meetings are being planned to discuss the implications of this new Joint Local Plan, to answer questions and hopefully to assist you in making your response. A meeting has been set for Tuesday 1st March, at the CSP CofE Academy, Church Lane, at 7.30pm, and another possible meeting is being planned for 24 Feb (TBC).

Our village volunteers are already stretched, and we need assistance with this vital project if to manage it well. If you agree that CSP must protect the green belt as far as possible, and manage the impact of essential development in our village, please consider offering your assistance for the following 6 weeks to help prepare CSP's response. If you work fulltime and are not able to assist, please at least volunteer to assist with leaflet distribution in your immediate area. The small working party of 8 volunteers can not do this alone...

Offers of assistance can be made by emailing the Parish Council clerk, Debbie Evans at clerk@chalfontstpeter-pc.gov.uk. (Please note that Debbie and her staff are working against the clock on this consultation and will not be able to engage in correspondence)

If you wish to remain informed as we move forwards, please ensure that you join SENSE4CSP's mailing list (by sending an email titled 'Subscribe' to object@sense4csp.org). You can also consult their Facebook page, the Parish Council's Facebook page, its Twitter account or their website.

CHALFONTS neighbourhood update for February Your neighbourhood policing team (NHPT) is based right in the heart of the village where we share offices and work in partnership with Chalfont St Peter Parish Council. The neighbourhood policing team consists of Inspector Richard Vine, Sergeant Nicky Upton, PC Gavin McVeigh, PC Matt Carson, Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Jen Shraga, PCSO Daniel Allen and PCSO Ollie Hughes.

Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

The issues that you tell us that are of the greatest concern to you become the issues your neighborhood policing team (NHPT) focus on. These priorities are set by you at the regular drop in sessions or "Have Your Say Meetings" (HYS) held in Chalfont St Peter, the Library in Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green Baptist Church.

The NAG develops local actions on these priorities. We link with our local communities, organisations and businesses to target these issues. The issues as set by you are anti-social behaviour, speeding and burglary.

Office Closure

The Chalfonts neighbourhood policing team will be relocating in February to Amersham Police Station. The office that is currently used in Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter will be handed back to the Parish Council. The team will still be available and will be patrolling the villages as usual. We are aware that a number of residents come down to the Office to ask advice or discuss problems, if you need our assistance please either email the neighbourhood policing team on ChalfontsNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or call 101 and ask for us.

Update for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

There was a report of groups of youths knocking on doors and running off in the Knotty Green area, causing distress to some residents. The neighbourhood policing team is aware and will be patrolling the area to identify the group and deal with accordingly.

Update for Speeding / Parking

Speeding vehicles continue to be a problem in the areas and we continue to talk and ticket the offenders of this. The Chalfonts have some very narrow roads with a large amount of parked vehicles. Although the speed limit may be 30 miles an hour in some roads please bear in mind potential hazards and drive at a speed that is more suitable. Parking on double yellow lines is overseen by a company called NSL. If you wish to report this type of parking problem please contact Bucks County Council. Abandoned vehicles can be reported to Chiltern District Council.

Update for Burglary

There were three burglaries in January which occurred in Chalfont St Peter. As part of our winter burglary campaign the neighbourhood policing team have been driving around in the early evening and posting a "homes in darkness card" to properties that have no lights on, we were pleased to see that the majority of roads that we visited there were no cards to be delivered. We believe that homes that are in complete darkness are a sign to a burglar that no one is home, so please consider using a timer switch in conjunction with a lamp.

If you have an alarm system, please ensure that you set it every time you leave the house. If you are thinking of getting an alarm installed please look on the Chiltern District Council website that has a list of approved alarm companies in the area.

If you see any suspicious activity in the area please report it immediately; if you see anyone door knocking that is paying too much attention to empty houses let us know, including a description of the person and any vehicle (with registration number if possible) will help us identify these people.

Vehicle Crime

investigation is ongoing following a report of a Land Rover being stolen overnight from a driveway in Chalfont St Peter. There was also a

report of a smashed window of a van parked on Gordon Way, Chalfont St Giles. It is possible the offenders were trying to access the van to steal tools but the van had additional security locks and they were unable to gain access.

Please remove all valuables from your vehicles when leaving them unattended and if possible tools when left overnight.

Fake £50 and £20 notes

Thames Valley Police received a number of reports of fake £50 and £20 notes being used in the shops and pubs in Chalfont St Peter, a description was passed and Officers identified and arrested the people involved; the investigation is ongoing. If you doubt a bank note is authentic then please do not accept it. For guidance on how to help identify forged notes please look on the Bank of England website. www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/Pages/default.aspx (opens new window)

Crime Advice

If you are a victim of crime please report it immediately to the police on 101 or in an emergency 999. The f link will enable you to analyse and view the crime rates within your area, just type in your postcode and all of the information will be displayed www.police.uk (opens new window)

You said – We did

Follow numerous reports of outbuildings and garages broken into in Seer Green and Knotty Green area we sent out a Thames Valley Alert offering to property mark resident's tools and machinery. We have arranged to meet with the Seer Green Allotment group in February to mark their gardening equipment. If you would like to arrange something similar then get in touch.

“HAVE YOUR SAY”

Your neighbourhood policing team are always out and about, when you see us please stop and have a chat about any issues locally that you may have alternatively we look forward to meeting you at our “Have Your Say” meeting's. The next Have your Say events will be held on: **Wednesday 10th February 2016, 1:15pm – 2:15pm at the Chalfont Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter.** **Friday 26th February 2016, 12:00pm – 13:30pm at the Library, Chalfont St Giles** Come along and air your views let us know what the issues are that you wish to tell us about, we are here to listen to what you have to say. Your neighbourhood policing team are looking forward to meeting you.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighborhood policing team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 but if your call is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email: chalfontsNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk - please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. If you have information about crime or Anti Social Behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555111. To view information on your neighbourhood team you can visit the force website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

A Twitter address for the public to follow is available, allowing correct and real time information to be disseminated to the public. Should you wish to follow Chiltern area police visit http://twitter.com/TVP_Chiltern (opens new window)

CSP's COMMUNITY Library began a stitching group last year, and it has proved to be very popular. With the initial intention of only running the group on the first Tuesday of the month, demand has already seen it happening every Tuesday since it started, with a steady group of regular crafters attending each and every Tuesday morning.

In order to accommodate new crafters, the library volunteers have decided to start a second stitching group on a Wednesday morning, between 10 and 12. 'This new Wednesday session is open to everyone –you do not need to be particularly skilled', says organiser Val Darbyshire. 'Anybody who enjoys a bit of needlework in the



company of some lovely people is welcome to join us. You do not need to make a long term commitment – just come along with whatever piece you are working on and give it a try’.

Library spokesperson Karen Dickson explained that this new Wednesday group will trial during the month of February to see whether it gets any takers, and then a decision will be made whether it will run for the rest of the year. ‘The group will meet in the meeting room upstairs in the library, on Wednesday mornings, with a 10am start, as the library opens, and it can continue till about noon. It is open to anyone, not just current library borrowers, as part of our library’s community outreach programme. Tea and coffee is provided, and you do not have to register beforehand. There’s no charge for attending and anyone who would like to give it a try is encouraged to turn up on Wednesday next week with something to work on, and somebody will be there to welcome you’.