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# Chalfont St Peter Village Voice – June 2012

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[www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice](http://www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice)

## Chalfont St Peter to Celebrate Queen's Diamond Jubilee with Permanent Beacon on Gold Hill Common.

TO mark Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Chalfont

St Peter Parish Council has obtained grant funding for a permanent iron and oak beacon which has been erected on Gold Hill Common at the top of the slope overlooking Market Place. It has been manufactured by a local Buckinghamshire forge, E and R Meakes of Lane End, and stands on a sturdy post not far from the Coronation clock which is situated further down Gold Hill. The clock was erected 60 years ago by villagers at the time of the Queen's Coronation in 1953 and features wrought iron work made by the village blacksmith. It has become a familiar village landmark and it is hoped that the Beacon will also become a well-recognised part of the landscape.

Residents of Chalfont St Peter will be able to join in the celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by attending the lighting of a beacon on Gold Hill Common on Monday 4 June. Timed to take place at 10.15 pm it will be part of a nationwide lighting of over 2012 beacons culminating with The Queen lighting the National Beacon at 10.30pm. Everyone is welcome to watch the spectacular blaze.

It is planned that the beacon will also be lit on future festivals and celebrations including the annual Feast of St Peter which this year takes place on 30 June.

Parish Council Chairman John Hatton said *"The council wanted to do something special and permanent in Chalfont St. Peter for the Diamond Jubilee and we felt a Beacon could be used for other purposes such as Feast Day or special events. The Beacon cost the village nothing due to the fact that we applied for a grant. Beautifully made from iron and oak it looks fantastic and will be pretty spectacular when lit. I hope that everyone can come and see it on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June when we will be lighting it as part of a national chain of beacons across the UK. Please bring the family!"*

**For more information contact the Clerk to The Council - 01753 891582**

**ALL SAINTS MUSIC FESTIVAL** presents THE SQUADRONAIRES on Saturday **2<sup>nd</sup> June at 7pm** in All Saints Church, Oval Way, SL99 8PZ. Tickets from: Anne Hatton (01753 882425) or Paddy Hague (01753 883384) £20/adult; £12/under 13 - Includes BBQ Supper.

### **A Help For Heroes Charity event "HER MAJESTY'S MUSIC ~ JUNE 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012**

This is a major celebration of The Jubilee in the Gardens and Thames Suite Theatre of The Bull Hotel Gerrards Cross. It starts with an afternoon street party including the Chalfont and Gerrards Cross Rock Choir, music and dancing, and then the evening cabaret concert containing top twenty hits of Her Majesty's reign, plus "The Last Night of The Proms," all of which is under the musical direction of Jennifer Morton. All the profits to Help for Heroes in recognition of the debt we owe our armed forces – a debt which continues to increase. Contact: John on 01753 888666 or [johncdraper@aol.com](mailto:johncdraper@aol.com)



**CHALFONT ST PETER W.I.** next meets on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June, in the Church Hall, Church Lane at 2pm when Jill Fraser will present "More Tea, Less Vicar". Handicraft Cup – Adult Mittens.

**CHALFONT ST PETER** Garden Club members please note that the hut will be closed on Sunday 3rd June, due to the Jubilee celebrations. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June in the Church Hall, Church Lane at 8pm, when Les Moody will present "A Tale of Two Gardens". Visitors welcome.

AN opportunity to see and learn more about glow-worms is on offer Saturdays June 16 and July 14 and 21. Meet at Brush Hill near Princes Risborough at 9.45pm for a brief introduction to glow-worms – what they are, how and why they glow and how they live – before going off in search of them (finishing about 11pm). Adults £5 and children £2.50. For more information, or to book a place on a walk, please visit <http://www.johntyler.co.uk/brushill.htm> or email [johnclarketyler@gmail.com](mailto:johnclarketyler@gmail.com). Tel: 07814 392335 Places limited so book in advance.

**CAREERS SPRINGBOARD** THE CHILTERN, SOUTH BUCKS & HIGH WYCOMBE SELF HELP GROUP FOR MANAGERS AND PROFESSIONALS SEEKING WORK. - Meetings take place 7.15 for 7.30pm each Monday at St Andrew's United Reformed Church Hall, Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross, SL9 7QE. Meetings are FREE. New members always welcome.

**June 4 Bank Holiday** – no meeting

**June 11 Networking** - How can I be one of the 60% of job seekers who achieve job search success through networking? Guest Speaker : Julie Barnes, (Consultant) [www.juliebarnescoaching.co.uk](http://www.juliebarnescoaching.co.uk)

**June 18 How the Recruiter sees it** - What are the expectations of the recruiter when approached by the job seeker? Sarah Cooper, Director, McGinnis Loy Recruitment. [www.mcginnisloy.com](http://www.mcginnisloy.com)

**June 25 It's a Job to get a Job !** How to be a well organised and successful job seeker. Consultant Volunteer : Tony Hodgson

**July 2 Preparing for the Interview** Thorough preparation is the key to a successful interview. Speaker : Martin Garrity, Consultant.

**July 9 Handling the Interview Itself** Focussing on what happens during the interview & how to handle tough interview questions. Consultant volunteer : Rosie Miller [www.rosyfutures.com](http://www.rosyfutures.com)

**SIMPATICO** - During Bucks Open Studios 9<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June, Beverley Parkin, Cécile Gallina, Jenny Thompson and Liz

Grammenos will be Exhibiting as well as Demonstrating Their Various Painting Techniques At St. Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Sycamore Road, Amersham, HP6 5DR, every day from 9am to 6pm and from 12.00 am to 6pm on Sundays. For a Preview of their works, go to [www.simpaticart.com](http://www.simpaticart.com) We look forward to seeing you there. We have also a direct link to the BOS website which is

[http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor\\_details.asp?id=1288](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor_details.asp?id=1288)



**Alzheimer's Bee-Friending Scheme:** There are many people with dementia in Bucks who are living alone and feeling isolated. Some of them are housebound and spend most of the week not seeing anyone. Reliable, caring volunteers are needed who would be interested in providing companionship to a person with dementia in their home or out and about. If you get on well with people and enjoy a good chat you may really enjoy being a volunteer befriender. It is very rewarding and an hour of your time each week can make a real difference to someone's life. The team is seeking volunteers throughout Bucks. Good communication skills and empathy are essential. All volunteers will be offered training and out-of-pocket expenses. More details: contact Joy Johns, 01895 837545, e mail [joy@voluntaryaction.org](mailto:joy@voluntaryaction.org).

**GERRARDS CROSS** Flower Club meets next in the Colston Hall at the Memorial Centre, East Common, GX, at 2.15pm on Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup> to share a "Journey through France" with Lucinda Sanderson. Competition is "Summer's Bounty".

**HEDGERLEY** Historical Society meets on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, in the Hedgerley Memorial Hall, KLiIn Lane, Hedgerley, SL2 3UZ when Brian Hatson will present "National Parks in the USA. Visitors welcome.

**HELEN & DOUGLAS House** opened in 1982 and was the first children's hospice in the world. During 2012 it will be celebrating 30 years of care for children to ease their difficulties at a time when they are so fragile. Funds to sustain this are always needed and the next fundraising activity is on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June. It's a challenging cycle ride through the scenic hills of the Cotswolds. It is not for the faint-hearted, but it is not a race, so you can choose your pace as you admire the scenery. There are optional routes of 70 or 102 miles, providing a challenge for riders of varying levels of fitness. This sportive event starts and finishes at the Marriots Stadi7m in Witney. Entry £25 per person. To register and for more information, please visit [www.circuitofthecotswolds.org](http://www.circuitofthecotswolds.org) - contact Fiona on 01865 799150 or email: [info@circuitofthecotswolds.org](mailto:info@circuitofthecotswolds.org). Another option is Blenheim Triathlon – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

### **EXCITING opportunity to be involved in new police accountability arrangements**

Two community-minded individuals are being sought to join the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel, a new body that will examine policing plans in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

The Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel is being established to monitor and scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner, who will be elected for the first time by the public in November to oversee, on behalf of residents, the work of Thames Valley Police. The Panel will be made up of one councillor from each of the 18 local authorities in the Thames Valley, as well as the two independent co-optees.

Recruitment has just started for these two co-optee positions and the Panel is keen to encourage applications from anyone who feels they could take on this exciting and important role. The role of the co-optees is to act as an independent voice on the Panel and selection will be based on the knowledge, skills and expertise the individuals can bring. The co-optees could have a professional background in an area such as community safety, criminal justice or victim support. Alternatively, a strong track record of relevant voluntary work would be just as valuable. Applications are being particularly encouraged from under-represented groups.

Anyone interested in applying for one of the independent co-optee roles must be able to dedicate around one day per month and attend a minimum of six meetings each year at varying locations in the Thames Valley. Co-optees would serve a four year term. No allowance is paid for the roles, but travel expenses will be paid and all relevant training will be provided. The closing date for applications is 13 July.

For more information, and to apply, visit [http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/overview\\_and\\_scrutiny/tvpcp.page?](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/overview_and_scrutiny/tvpcp.page?) or call 01296 383610.

**FIFTEEN** very proud local school children won prizes in the Young Arts competition run by the Chiltern Decorative & Fine Arts Society (**CDFAS**), prizes for which were presented at the exhibition of their paintings in the Chalfont St Peter Library on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May.

During the Spring Term the Young Arts Group at Chiltern Decorative and Fine Arts Society ran a painting competition at three local schools. The theme was **Olympic sport**. Two hundred and Forty children entered the competition and fifteen winners were selected.

**Commended:** were Tom Junak (11) from **The Village School, Chalfont St Giles**, and from **The Chalfont St Peter C of E Academy** : Eva Whittall (11), Joe Long (10), Louise Blakeman (11) and Evie Bullivant (11).

**Highly Commended:** from Chalfont St Peter C of E Academy were Charlie Mills (11), Hannah Yates (11) and Katie Thorp (11). **From St Mary's School:** Tate Miller-Christie (11) and from The Village School, Chalfont St Giles: Izzy Summer (11), Jaia Kortman (8) and Harry Whiting (9).

**The medals** awarded were: **Bronze:** Ananya Kallianpur (11) from St Mary's School. **Silver:** Carys Evans (11) from Chalfont St Peter C of E Academy and **Gold** : Brittany Eyre (11) from Chalfont St Peter Academy.

**The paintings will be on display at the library until Saturday June 16th.**

Many congratulations to all the prize winners for an excellent selection of artwork.

**THE treacherous Games - The new Olympic Novel by Davod Brodie.**

**A free, illustrated talk on the Olympic Games and the fun and frustration of writing a thriller on the 2012 Olympics  
Tuesday, June 19th, 7.30pm, Parish Council room, Gravel Hill [www.davidbrodie.org](http://www.davidbrodie.org)**

**ST JOSEPH'S** Furniture Market, behind the church hall, made the following donations in May to:- Iain Rennie Hospice at Home (£400), Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust (£350) and Julian Budd Kids in Sport Trust (£250). The Market is open Saturdays 9am to 12.30 and can be accessed from Priory Road, Chalfont St Peter. (off Austenwood Lane). Park in the Church car park. To donate furniture in good condition: phone 01753 888340. [furnituremarket@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:furnituremarket@hotmail.co.uk)

**VILLAGE Older Person's Action** group (VOPAG) has been set up as part of Chalfont St Peter Village Appraisal to give the over 55s of Chalfont St Peter the opportunity to meet together and exchange views, news and information. VOPAG meets once a month and speakers talk on various topics of interest. There is also an information point in Budgens, the dates of which are displayed on their notice board. The next meeting is on **Thursday, June 21st**, at 10am for coffee and the meeting begins at 10.30, in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. Further information from 01753 884729

**THE** Chalfonts Friendship Club is for people who are retired/of retirement age to meet to share company. It is focussed on reaching out and promoting companionship and sharing amongst people in our local Community.

We get together every month at the Chalfont St Peter Community Association and have regular Outings, Theatre Trips, Sunday Lunches, Quiz Evenings, Talks on Art, Days Out & Visits to Stately Homes & Seaside. All welcome. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact Pat Kelly 01753 885534 or Mary Cross on 01494 875264.

**BUCKSVISION**, Chalfont Division, needs volunteer drivers who could spare an hour twice a month to collect members from their homes and take them to the meetings in Chalfont St Giles. This Local charity covers Chalfont St Giles, St Peter, Little Chalfont, Seer Green and Jordans. If you are interested, please contact VAL ROBBINS (01753 885752) or WENDY STEVENS (01494 874844).

**NEW** online directory for care and community services launched.

People can now find details of care, community services and organisations at their fingertips, following the launch of a new online directory by Buckinghamshire County Council.

Bucks Connect, ([www.bucksconnect.org.uk](http://www.bucksconnect.org.uk)) is an online database designed to make life easier for residents to find essential information on a range of organisations from the private, public, community and voluntary sectors. The website, will help put them in touch with services from arranging social care support for adults, to finding a new community group to join.

Information can be found on extra help in the home, voluntary and community groups, charities and organisations that provide advice on topics such as advocacy, transport and money matters. There are also listings for various interest groups, community facilities and activities to take part in.

Patricia Birchley, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, said: "This is an excellent resource for families and individuals who rely on the support of community and care organisations. The website is a really simple way to find services that can help people be more active, find a new hobby, join a club, find a support group, cope with a long term condition or get extra help in the home...."



**THAMES VALLEY  
POLICE**

**CHALFONT ST PETER HAVE YOUR SAY MEETINGS: CSP LIBRARY JUNE 12<sup>th</sup> -  
10:00 TO 12:0 BUDGENS JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 TO 13:00**

**In addition there will be a Have Your Say event on JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> Feast Day at Gold Hill Common from 09:00 to 16:00**

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE** will be bursting with bunting - all 84 miles of it - to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend in June. And with only a week to go, 75 communities have now registered to light celebration beacons on Monday June 4. It will be a big weekend for celebration that will include 62 community events across the county - tea parties, picnics, Big Lunches and dances - while street parties in 135 closed roads have been planned. Enough flags and bunting to stretch from one end of Buckinghamshire to the other have been ordered by 128 parishes throughout the county. 'Buckinghamshire will be celebrating in right royal style,' said the new County Council Chairman, Marion Clayton. 'We may be going through some gloomy economic times but it's great news that so many communities are looking on the bright side. They've pulled out all the stops to make this a weekend to remember.'

Marion will be hosting a gathering at Ellesborough before Lord Lieutenant Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher lights the county council's official beacon on Coombe Hill. Cadets from the three forces built the beacon, which will blaze after a 21-gun salute by the Royal Artillery at 10pm, and to the accompaniment of music from the band, Whirlwind, which starts at 8.45pm.

Simultaneously, other parishes will celebrate in style. At Mursley, a fire eater will light the village beacon and one of the guests of honour will be Joey the horse, star of Steven Spielberg's film War Horse.

Among other jubilee celebrations, St Mary's Church, Aylesbury, is planning a church-top lazer light show, and Halton's RAF Hot Air Balloon Club will light a beacon which will be heading to London in a balloon.

The County Museum, in Church Street, Aylesbury, is hosting a week of Jubilee events. The museum and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery will open every day from June 2 to 9, including Sunday June 3, from 10am to 5pm. The exhibition celebrates the visits of two Jubilee Queens - Victoria and Elizabeth II - to Bucks.

During the half term week children will be able to create their own Jubilee mementos at the museum: souvenir plate design on Tuesday June 5, celebration hankies on Wednesday June 6, and Jubilee memory boxes on Thursday June 7. Sessions, between 10am and noon, and 1pm and 3pm, cost £2.50 per child. Under 12s must be accompanied by an adult.

**STATE** of the County debate a first for Bucks. The big issues and challenges facing the Council in the coming five years were top of the agenda in the first ever State of the County debate at Buckinghamshire County Council's annual general meeting at the end of May. The curtain-raising debate, a new addition to the AGM, will help set the direction and shape the future for the county council. Keynote speaker Professor Tony Travers, from the London School of Economics, outlined issues affecting national and local government looking into the future. He said that with the radical change in the direction of public spending, local government would continue to face deep spending reductions in the coming years.

Members were also given briefings from five 'expert witnesses' on transport and planning, economic development, children and education, health and wellbeing, and crime and community safety. County Council Leader Martin Tett said the State of the County debate was an important innovation allowing Members to discuss the issues and challenges that would impact on the shape of services in the coming years.

Members had the opportunity to question speakers and debate the issues raised. The outcomes will provide a starting point for the development and planning of the Council's next four-year Corporate Plan covering 2013 to 2017. County Council Chairman Marion Clayton, who chaired the three-hour debate, said: 'We had excellent speakers who gave us much to think about and Members contributed thoroughly to the debate.'

Mr Tett said: 'The debate has really helped to focus on our priorities, the difficult choices and the tough, sometimes controversial decisions ahead of us. I'm sure members of this council are up for it and I look forward to working together as we go forward.' Earlier Mrs Clayton (Wendover) was invested as Chairman for 2012/13 by outgoing Chairman Mike Colston. Carl Etholen (Princes Risborough) is the new Vice Chairman.

**THE** Business Driver Assessment Scheme begins its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of operation in May 2012 having given further driver training to over 150 business drivers since its launch in 2010.

Nationally and in Buckinghamshire, business drivers account for a third of road collisions where someone is killed and seriously injured. The Business Driver Assessment Scheme, which helps motorists drive more safely for their companies, is promoted by Buckinghamshire County Council's Road Safety Team and makes places available to businesses across the county at the subsidised rate of £42 per two-hour session.

Each practical on-road assessment, with a qualified instructor, will look at driving risks and how best to tackle them, offering advanced driving techniques alongside fuel efficiency tips and advice on how to use in-car safety equipment correctly. A DVLA licence check is also included.

Peter Hardy, Buckinghamshire County Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport, said: "Companies have a duty of care for employees who drive for work, and the Business Driver Assessment Scheme provides training to help meet this need. Drivers who attend this course could go onto become safer drivers and may as a result save running costs for their company."

A driving for work education display stand will be at shopping centres throughout the month of May to promote the message of safer business driving.

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, advanced drivers who have the knowledge and skill to drive safely and effectively in all conditions are 25% less likely to be involved in a crash.

The Road Safety Team at Transport for Buckinghamshire also have free driving for work resources to help organisations manage safety issues their staff will encounter on the road. These are produced by RoSPA and include topics such as:

- safer speed policy
- mobile phones
- motorcycling
- drink and drugs
- own vehicle

Businesses can also request driving for work posters to display at their work place on notice boards for their employees to view.

Business Driver Assessments are subsidised by Transport for Buckinghamshire for Buckinghamshire residents. For more information visit [www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport) and click on the road safety pages or contact Road Safety at 01296 382450. To request copies of the RoSPA booklets or quantities of posters please contact Elaine Hassall by e-mail: [ehassall@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:ehassall@buckscc.gov.uk) or by calling 01296 382450.

**SMALL** changes to the way we live with far-reaching results are being championed by Buckinghamshire County Council. They aim to save families money on household budgeting while helping to improve the community environment.

The council aims to recruit volunteer champions to encourage residents to:

- \*\* Reduce the amount of food thrown away.
- \*\* Cut energy costs and carbon emissions.
- \*\* Combat litter.

In the UK we throw away one third of the food we buy: we cook or prepare too much, we half-finish food, or we let it go off, says the Love Food Hate Waste campaign. Recruitment has just started for volunteer Community Food Champions to spread the 'love food hate waste' message around their communities, and to encourage residents to 'eat local' and 'grow your own'. It is a Buckinghamshire Waste Partnership initiative.

February marks the start of a recruitment drive by the county and district councils to build a corps of volunteer Community Energy Champions to help residents save money and improve the environment.

Their objective will be to encourage friends, family and neighbours to be more aware of how much energy they can save at home, resulting in lower fuel bills and cuts in CO2 emissions.

They'll be trained in simple measures people can take at home to save energy, like switching off equipment when not in use, choosing energy-efficient appliances, and getting homes insulated. It's all designed to help communities work towards national carbon reduction and renewable energy targets.

Martin Phillips, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, said: 'These show we're very much on the ball when it comes to encouraging a Big Society culture among our communities. They're good initiatives, with good community benefits and I'm delighted we've been able to fund them.'

Also on the horizon is a Waste Partnership 'Love Where You Live' campaign to encourage pride in people's communities, with an emphasis on attitudes towards litter and action against litter.

Buckinghamshire councils spent £4 million collecting around 6,500 tonnes of litter in 2010/11, which cost the County Council another £500,000 in disposal and landfill tax.

Money for these projects has come from the county council's Big Society Fund.

If you would like to be involved, please email your details to [sustainability@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:sustainability@buckscc.gov.uk) indicating in which scheme you are interested.

**TRANSPORT** for Buckinghamshire (TfB) has organised two 'Be a Better Biker' training and assessment days during June and July. Each 'Be a Better Biker' assessment day allows bikers to be put to the test by highly trained assessors and shown how they can improve their skills to make biking even more enjoyable. Each one-day course costs £50 with TfB contributing the rest of the cost of the session.

The next courses are on Saturday June 16 at Great Holm fire station, Milton Keynes and Saturday July 7 at Marlow fire station.

Peter Hardy, Cabinet Member for Transportation said, "These assessment days are the ideal opportunity for bikers to have their skills analysed and be given pointers on how to improve. The overwhelming demand for places is testimony to the success of the campaign and will play a valuable part in reducing casualties on our roads. I would urge motorcyclists to get involved with this excellent scheme and to book early."

Previous attendees have said the courses are "excellent value for money" and "a scheme everyone should be made to take part in".

TfB's 'Be a Better Biker' is now in its ninth year. Since the courses began in 2004 there has been a significant drop in biker crashes. As part of the assessment day, riders are taken out on the roads where motorcycle casualties have previously occurred. The 'Be a Better Biker' campaign, has promoted the benefits of post-test training, to ensure that a biker's riding capabilities best match those of their machine.

For further details about the assessment days or to book a place, please visit [www.beabetterbiker.co.uk](http://www.beabetterbiker.co.uk) or call 01296 32860

**Please forward this newsletter to friends/neighbours. Thank you.**