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## Village Voice, September 2014

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THE MISBOURNE ART SOCIETY meets next on 6<sup>th</sup> September when members will be painting together at Chiltern Open Air Museum. [www.coam.org.uk](http://www.coam.org.uk)

**DO YOU struggle to hear in noise? ...Judy Perry** is a member of ATLA (Association of Teachers of Lip-reading to Adults) and she will be setting up a new class at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre in September. During Lip-reading Awareness week (September 8-13) Judy will be running a **FREE 1-hour** taster class at the Community Centre on **Tuesday 9th from 1030-1130**. For these classes in Chalfont St Peter contact details: [judy.lipreading@gmail.com](mailto:judy.lipreading@gmail.com) or phone 07837 993923.

### **LIPREADERS HEAR BETTER .....let your eyes help your ears**

Even good hearing aids do not restore perfect hearing. They may make sounds louder, but not necessarily clearer. Learning to lip-read is a skill which helps improve how much you understand when people speak to you.

**Join a lip-reading class !**

### **HOW CAN A LIPREADING CLASS HELP? *Let your eyes help your ears by filling in the gaps you can't hear.***

Do you have difficulty following a conversation, even though you wear a hearing aid? Having a hearing loss makes speech sound quieter, distorted or both.

If you are deafened or hard of hearing, joining a lip-reading class can help you manage your hearing loss and improve day to day communications.

The lip-reading tutors are fully qualified and most have a hearing loss themselves. The classes are suitable for both beginners and those who have attended lip-reading classes before.

As well as improving your lip-reading skills, you will learn about useful communication tactics, local support services and the latest developments in listening equipment.

Lip-reading classes are relaxed and fun. You'll also gain support from people who share similar experiences.

Learning to lip-read takes time, patience and understanding, but the rewards are immense, and while you learn you are improving your confidence, lessening your feelings of isolation, and enhancing and strengthening your communication ability.

**Classes throughout Beds, Bucks & Herts**

For more details contact Molly, Lipreading Community Tutors: Email: [classes@lipreading.org.uk](mailto:classes@lipreading.org.uk)

Or call: 07741 095921

**MALCOM BIRDI at Chalfont Repair Centre, 5 Market Place**, wants to let people know that he is still operating from his premises. He has let Vintage Beauty use the front shop, but his workshop for repairs is still operating up the stairs. If you want help or advice with televisions, aerials or anything to do with such things, contact him on 07956 830771.

**A NEW** refurbished premises where the Myrtle Tree once operated is now open for business. BREADHOUSE is fresh and bright, offering breakfast from 8.30-11.30am and lunch from 12-3.30pm with afternoon tea available also. Outside is a lovely garden area to eat out in the sunshine when the weather is enticing. Food is ethical, local and organic where possible. Breadhouse is in partnership with Goldhill Baptist Church, as was the previous café.

**GERRARDS CROSS** flower club meetings are held at the Colston Hall in the Memorial Centre, East Common on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 2,15pm. The subject on September 17<sup>th</sup> is 'Come Fly With Me, with Jane Fox, and the subject for the Sunnyhurst Cup is 'Bountiful Basket'.

**CHALFONT ST PETER Garden Club** had a most successful Show in August and pictured is the Rose Bowl winner, **Diana Tappin**, (below) for best in show.



Youngest winner, **Holly Thompson**, (right) received the Juniors Challenge Cup. She got a Second for photograph of a Flower and a First for a painting of a Flower.

The Garden Club meets next at 8pm in the Church Hall, Church Lane on Wednesday, **17<sup>th</sup> September**, when Terry Cann will talk on 'Outstanding Features of Great Gardens'. Visitors are welcome.



#### Chalfont St Peter Garden Club Summer Show 2014 Results

#### Cups and Awards Winners

Elkins-Green Cup	Lesley Overton
A. J. Berridge Cup	Bert Eldridge
S.S.Beeson Cup	Bert Eldridge
Robinson Cup	Eunice Doubtfire
Senecal Memorial Trophy	Alan Coles
I.Palfreeman Cup	Lesley Overton
William Sharp Cup	Clair McCoy
Fred Sawyer Cup	Lesley Overton
J. J. Williams Cup	Bert Eldridge
Gyle Thompson Memorial Cup	Rod Pengelly
Coxhead Cup	Diane Ponting
Residents Cup	Sarah Newbery
Jack Wennell Trophy	Mr R Mitchell
Argent Cup	Mrs Connie May
Boyd-Carpenter Cup	Rod Pengelly
Fred Tomlin Memorial Cup	Bert Eldridge
E. Stancer Cup	Diana Tappin
Rose Bowl	Diana Tappin
Home Fare Award	Lesley Overton
Harvest Award	Josie Mitchell
John Ray Cup	Bert Eldridge
Chrysanthemum Cup	Rod Pengelly
Imp Cup	Olivia Bedford
Juniors Challenge Cup	Holly Thompson
Chairmans Cup	Sarah Newbery
Bucks Area Horticultural Soc Rosette	Wendy Tapner

**GERRARDS CROSS** Scottish Country Dancing Club would warmly welcome any newcomers, especially beginners. Classes are at 7.30pm at GX Memorial Centre, during term time. Keep fit and have fun! For further information please telephone Celia on GX 884217

You are invited to the next meeting of VOPAG to be held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE on **Tuesday, 16th 2014**. We will meet at 10 a.m. for coffee, with the business starting at 10.30 a.m. There is a £1 charge for entry, but give you a free raffle ticket, if you wish to have one.

#### AGENDA

1. Welcome by Chairman.
2. Police update from Thames Valley Police.
3. Outing to the Swan Theatre pantomime Wednesday 17th December. Cost Â£25

Monies to be collected at this meeting..

The speaker will be John Pearson on the subject 'All About Cheese'. There will be an extra charge of £1 per person for the cheese tasting

5. A.O.B.
6. Raffle.

The October meeting will be on Tuesday 21st October, 2014 at The Community Centre Chalfont St. Peter. Bob Bradnock will talk on Climate Change.

**A NEW** mobile friendly version of the Thames Valley Police website is now available which will enhance the site and services available for smartphone users.

The website contains a wealth of useful information and advice, including our interactive virtual neighbourhood, details of your local neighbourhood team and what they've been up to, and online crime and incident reporting, which will now be even easier to access when you're out and about.

There is no need to download a special app. If you access the website from a smartphone the new mobile version loads automatically. Over 50 per cent of visitors to the Force website now access it from mobile devices.

Karen Papworth, Thames Valley Police Corporate Communications Support Services manager, whose team developed the new version for mobiles said: "Since we launched, mobile phone access has increased by 74 per cent and the number of new users by 110 per cent." Complete a survey on the new mobile version:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WJKQP8M>

**SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES** This is a message sent has been sent on behalf of Thames Valley Police, who ask you to report any suspicious vehicles, which you do not recognize, if they have been parked up in your street for some time, via 101. If you see any persons acting suspiciously with the vehicle and you believe a crime may be in progress please call 999.

**THE POLICE** also mention a Theft from a vehicle in Denham Lane Chalfont St Peter.

Between 2100 and 2200 hours on 23rd August 2014, a red transit van (possibly an ex Royal Mail van) followed a vehicle along Denham Lane from the Scout Camp. The driver of the red van indicated to the other vehicle to pull over and said that the rear brake light was not working. Whilst this conversation was ongoing, the driver of the red van went to the rear of the other vehicle and stole a utility belt which contained a mobile phone and money which had been left hanging on the rear of the vehicle. Did you see either of these vehicles? If so please contact PCSO C8632 Shraga from the Chalfonts Neighbourhood Policing Team by calling 101.

Please ensure all valuables are secure at all times.

**THAMES Valley** Police is advising people who own smart phones and other electrical items to protect them by installing a "tracker" application. Smart phones, laptops and tablet computers have become indispensable accessories and desirable to thieves. With recent Apple products an iCloud account will be installed. You can check this by looking in the "settings" menu and locate the Find my iPhone app. Ensure this is activated by swiping it to "Yes".

Not all devices have this capability, but new iPhones, iPads and Samsung Galaxy phones have tracker apps provided by the manufacturers. It is best to consult the manufacturer about which applications are appropriate.

If your device is stolen, act quickly. Inform the police and tell them you have a tracker application installed. You will need to have your username and password details available. Do not attempt to retrieve the device yourself as it could put you in danger. Your safety is more important than items of property.

**A SPECIALIST** education centre is helping young people with complex learning needs to transform their everyday lives and build an independent future.

The Life Skills Centre, which has been running since September 2012, runs a teaching programme of up to three years which teaches young people from across the county aged 16 - 25 with learning difficulties.

The cutting-edge facility provides a new learning experience designed to help young people become more independent and work-ready. It is one of the first in the country to use a partnership approach with local education providers and specialists to offer personalised, bespoke learning designed specifically around each student's needs and learning interests.

Helen Backus, the County Council's Commissioner for young people 14 - 19, who developed the centre, said: "Most of these young people, who have a range of learning disabilities, would have had to move to an educational placement out of the county, sometimes hundreds of miles away.

"I could see a real need to work in partnership with local providers to give a holistic education package that is based on the real world out there and real life.

"Now, not only are they able to live with their families and stay in regular contact with friends, they are getting experiences which are really making a difference to their lives."

The centre's approach provides a unique mix of academic, independent living and vocational education which is individually tailored to each student's needs. The young adults are also helped to develop crucial learning and life skills to help them with day-to-day living, such as budgeting, staying safe, using public transport independently, keeping fit and active, and cooking meals.

Students also receive training and education in work-based subjects and college courses of their choice, such as computer programming; as well as taking part in regular work experience placements at local organisations and charities. The work experience, which includes gardening, working at sports facilities and at Waddesdon Manor, helps the young people gain valuable social skills, integrate better with local communities and helps avoid isolation.

The progress the young people make is measured not just in current terms but also with a forecast of anticipated progress into their adulthood.

Students' needs and their input were very much at the forefront of the building design - for example, one student finds comfort from his anxieties from using a garden swing, so a swing was incorporated into the design of the outside space.

Robert, 19, has been attending the centre for two years. He is severely autistic and has communication difficulties. Pat, Robert's mother, said: "A whole new world has opened up for Robert. Before, he found it very difficult to socialise with other people, but now he is able to interact with the other students. He has grown in confidence; he makes his own sandwich for lunch, he's learning to cook and with support buys his own ingredients for his weekly cooking sessions. We're also looking at options for work experience for him. I really didn't think that these things would be possible.

"Robert is now making his own choices every day and is learning to be more independent. He's enjoying life, he has a future, and he will be able to contribute to his community."

Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, has taken a personal interest in the centre and the students' progress. He met up with some of the students earlier this month to receive a piece of artwork they had created which shows some of their achievements in the time they have attended the centre.

Mike said: "I have talked with students and their families, hearing first-hand about the quite remarkable transformations that students are making from attending the Life Skills Centre. Learning to use the bus independently, using a smartphone and managing phone credit, learning the importance of eye contact with others; these are all big milestones and important achievements.

"What is being provided is cutting-edge, specialist education for young adults which is proving through firm evidence that adapting teaching to fit with students' individual strengths and talents is enabling them to make great strides in achievement.

This education approach has been so successful that demand is already outstripping supply.

So that more young people can access this specialist education, the County Council is working in partnership with Amersham & Wycombe College to build a second centre at Flackwell Heath which is planned to open in September 2015. This facility will have an employability and vocational focus, providing opportunities for students to develop their work skills by running various business enterprises including an on-site laundry, hospitality and a café.

The Life Skills Centre, based at Aylesbury College, and the New Ways Centre at Amersham & Wycombe College, comprise the Independent Living and Training Centre (ILTC) programme, a collaborative project being run by Buckinghamshire County Council in partnership with Aylesbury College and Amersham & Wycombe College, disability charity Macintyre, The Vale Federation schools, Amersham advocacy group Talkback and other key local community partners.

For the diary:

AN evening of ghostly, Halloween family fun...

Chiltern Open Air Museum's 'Halloween Spectacular' is back on 31st October and it's going to be bigger and even better this year! Why not bring the family for an unforgettable, unmissable evening of spooky fun for all ages, in the unique and atmospheric setting of the Museum's historic buildings and woods.

There will be trick-or-treating in the Museum's historic buildings around the traditional Village Green, a visit to an eerie witch's cottage, and a ghostly walk through the woods for those who are brave enough!

Visitor Experience Manager Siân Hammerton-Fraser said, "Halloween is our favourite event of the year, there is friendly competition between our staff and volunteers to create the spookiest exhibit and I won't even talk about the best pumpkin carving battle! We love coming up with new monsters and witches to spook our guests and amazing creative ideas for family activities! The Museum really comes alive in the twilight, and it's great for visitors to see our historic buildings so atmospherically lit up."

There will be plenty of family-friendly activities, including Halloween-themed crafts, so that children have a spooky souvenir to take away along with their trick-or-treat sweets; a spooky labyrinth; FireBreather; face-painting and storytelling! Hot food and drinks will be available on the Village Green, and children (and adults!) are encouraged to dress up for the event in Halloween costumes with a prize for the best!

The event starts at 6pm and continues until 9pm, with last admission at 7.30pm. Advance booking is strongly recommended to beat the queues:

[www.halloweencoam.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.halloweencoam.eventbrite.co.uk) <<http://www.halloweencoam.eventbrite.co.uk>>

**MONTHLY** Meetings of Hedgerley Historical Society take place at Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane, Hedgerley SL2 3UZ at 8pm. visitors are most welcome. Further details from John Lovelock 01753-647187/  
[jdlovelock@btinternet.com](mailto:jdlovelock@btinternet.com)