

Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Riding Starts at Borocourt Hospital

For Wyfold's Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), Borocourt Hospital is where it all began ... forty years ago.

Many activities were developed for patients over five decades at Borocourt Hospital including equine therapy that can help build muscle strength, improve balance and coordination and develop confidence and emotional wellbeing. 1970 marked the start of a new riding group at Borocourt. It was felt that some of the profoundly disabled children living there would benefit from riding ponies. The children came from school groups that had been organised on the hospital wards by Tom Pascoe and Jeanne Neale.



Des & Spooky

The RDA had use of a small fenced-off area in front of the mansion building and some storage space in the old stable block. At first the group borrowed a pony, one day a week, from Bernard Palmer's Riding School. Soon Mr. Palmer was bringing ponies two days a week, and then some of the children started visiting his school too.

After a while, the RDA began borrowing ponies from other local people, who kindly walked for miles in all weathers to give the children rides. Over fifty ponies and donkeys have come to the RDA in its forty-year history – loaned, given or bought. Some stayed for only a short time; others stayed for years. Ponies that came in the early years included Wellington from Stoke Row, Joker from Kingwood Common and Horace from Hook End.

Soon the children and volunteers had been organised into small groups on different days of the week. The RDA went from strength to strength throughout the 1970s and 1980s, working closely with Borocourt Hospital and operating within its grounds. Having been so closely linked to the hospital, its closure in 1993 raised serious questions about its future activities. 1993 was also a bad year for the health of the ponies. The riding school at Cane End (which had given so much support) closed that year too – a serious setback – and to make matters worse, 1993 was a spectacularly bad year for mud!

Nevertheless they got through it with good humour and endless determination. The riding continued despite enormous challenges, and the mid-1990s were spent securing land and funds for Wyfold RDA's operations and future development. Planning permission was eventually granted for the present site, and building work began in 1998.

Alison Stodolnic

Editorial

Sadly, we said our goodbyes to Susan Carter after the last issue. She had been Editor for five years and she felt it was time for *Peppard News* to move on without her. She certainly brought about some changes and, we think, improvements to *Peppard News* during her tenure. Susan will be a hard act to follow but are you the true Peppard Paragon that we need as our new Editor? (See Page 5)

In the meantime, we would like to welcome Sue Nickson to the *Peppard News* team. Sue will be helping Jennifer and

Penny in sorting and forwarding all the contributions that we receive.

We thank our contributors without whom there wouldn't really be a *Peppard News* at all. We know that sometimes there is disappointment when an article isn't included and for that we are truly sorry – but we do try to be fair and make sure that over the course of a year all our contributors receive page space and that the articles included cover a broad range and variety of subjects.

Rita Hadgkiss,
Acting Editor

Autumn 2010

Wyfold RDA Celebration

On Saturday 26th June, one of those scorching hot days with lots of flies, Wyfold RDA celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a very well attended Open Day. Riding and driving demonstrations took place, including: a handy pony, dressage to music by a rider who has only been with us for two years, pairs dressage to music, driving to the Ascot Gavotte and a finale of a musical ride on the theme of Robin Hood. The Mayor of Henley presented commemorative rosettes and the celebra-



Jenny Cunningham with groom Lorraine

tion cake was cut by the Oxfordshire County Instructor, Moo Nowell-Smith and Oxfordshire County Chairman, Waveney Luke. There were lots of stalls and games, and a long queue for the delicious hog roast. All in all it was a very happy and enjoyable day and many people were very appreciative. A booklet was on sale which had been written from notes made by the late Philip Dennis, a founder member, on the history of the group.

Adrienne Heriot

Peppard News is a community newspaper published by Rotherfield Peppard PCC with financial support from Peppard Parish Council, and is distributed free to almost all households in the ecclesiastical and civil parishes of Peppard. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the PCC or RPCC unless stated as such. Peppard News is also available by e-mail.

Issues: March, June, September & December

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Advertising: Ian Fraser - phone: 01491 629631

Printed by Trinity Creative Resources
Earley RG6 7RH

Our Schools



Peppard Primary School

We are looking forward to another exciting year here at Peppard School with the many changes taking our school from strength to strength. With a busy term ahead, we are imminently looking forward to our year 6 trip to the Manor in Shropshire during the week beginning 13th September and our Harvest Service on the 27th September at 09.15 in All Saints' Church.

Following half term, 22nd October to 1st November, we will be preparing for an exciting Christmas production in addition to our annual Christingle on 16th December. Term ends on Friday 17th December and we return on Wednesday 5th January 2011.

We welcome any new families to the area and invite you to come and see our happy little school which offers a personalised learning journey for every child.

Tina Nowell

Friends of Peppard School

We had a very busy fundraising year with some fabulous events ranging from a Lantern Evening, Christmas Fair, St Valentine's Disco, Quiz Night for both parents and children, Children's Easter Egg Hunt to family Treasure Hunt and Barbecue, cake stalls, school calendars and tea towels. We were able to provide for the school: fantastic playground equipment, a keep fit programme, netball posts, Ipod hubs, a drumming workshop, a storytelling workshop, money towards buses for school trips, and many other items. This is only possible through the hard work that

Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU

Phone: 01491 628354

Headteacher - Tina Nowell

Chairman of the Governors

David Sell

FOPS put in to organise events and the support of all parents in attending.

We were also very pleased to have many of the people of Peppard supporting our Christmas Fair, Quiz Night and Treasure Hunt and we hope that we can encourage more local residents to join in with Peppard School events. Please keep an eye on the FOPS page of the school website www.peppardprimary.co.uk for future activities.

Many thanks to all the parents who continue to support FOPS with their hard work and may I wish the new FOPS Committee a fun and successful year.

Antonia Rolph, Chair of FOPS

Peppard Mother & Toddler Group

Run by a group of volunteer Mums, we meet each Tuesday during term time from 09:45-11:45 at Peppard War Memorial Hall. This term runs until 14th December.

The group is not just for those with toddlers, we welcome anyone from those with newborns right the way up to those about to start school. Many of our mums have small babies and toddlers so it's a perfect way to entertain all the children. We have a cosy baby corner for the smaller visitors as well as activity tables which are rotated weekly, a big dressing-up box, home corner, quiet reading corner as well as bigger play equipment. We also have weekly crafts, painting and play-doh.

The group is a great way to get to know other people in the local area including mums, grandparents and other carers. Sessions cost £2.50 per family for children over one year and £1 for children less than one year. A term membership is also offered for those who come on a regular basis, making it very cost effective. For further information call Emma Dag on 0118 924 2821 or just turn up.

Outing to the Seaside

The Rainbow Children's Centre in Sonning Common, Goring and Woodcote had a wonderful day out with the NOMAD youth and community team and The Rainbow Children's Centre in Henley. Fifty one local families met at Woodcote at 09.00 on a cloudy but dry day to board the coach to Alum Chine. The journey went well and the children were so excited. On



Rainbow Children's Centre day out

arrival at Alum Chine, the different coaches all met up and the day was spent eating picnics, building sandcastles, searching for shells, playing in the sea and burying each other in the sand! Lots of children made new friends and it was a relaxed family fun day. At 17.00, the coaches picked us up and brought us back to Woodcote tired but happy. The seaside theme continued at the Stay and Play session the following week. For all informa-

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Our Young Achievers

tion on our activities and outings please contact Anna on 01491 577414.

Sonning Common Pre-School

We were greatly upset to find that the £450k grant we were awarded to build a brand new pre-school has been suspended, while the government reviews its budgets.



The children say Thank You

We still don't know if it's a temporary suspension, or a permanent withdrawal. However, we do have some good news. Planning permission for the new building has been approved, so when our funding is secured, construction can begin.

We are still a long way from raising the £12,000 we need to furnish and equip the new building. However, thanks to the support of local businesses, parents and others, we are now almost a quarter of the way towards our target. We would particularly like to thank Davis Tate, Johnson Matthey, Forresters, Hobbs & Sons Ltd, Beville Estate Agency, The Bird in Hand, The Unicorn, Sonning Common Garage, Palmer Stables, Tandoori Connoisseur, Carl Woods Butchers, Mapledurham House and Beale Park. In tough economic times such as these, support for charities like ours often dwindles, so we really appreciate every contribution.

Nikki Hampton

Olympic Hopefuls Head for Slovakia

Following intensive training at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham, both Nico and Tony Kirschstein were selected to represent Britain in the GB Kayaking Squad of twelve at the Olympic Hopes 2010 in Piestany, Slovakia in September. They competed in the Under 17s and Under 16s respectively against thirteen other nations.

Tony began the Kirschstein Kayak Craze aged 12, and was soon joined by both his brothers, Nico and Sam, aged 10 at the time. The three of them train up to fourteen training sessions a week with the Reading Canoe Club, before and after school, for both Sprint and Marathon competitions.

Together they are a formidable force winning six medals at the British Canoe Union (BCU) National Marathon Championships in early August; Silver and Gold Medals for Sam in the U14 category in K2 and K1 as well as Silver in the U16 category where he competed with his brother, Tony in a K2. Nico excelled in the K2 marathon with Gold and Silver in the K1 under 18s.



Sam Kirschstein

At the beginning of September, they competed in the BCU National Sprint Racing Championships and did even

better, despite the adverse condition of the course. Sam came home with three Gold Medals for his 500m and 1000m sprints in K2 and 1000m K4, a Silver in his 500m K4 and a Bronze in the 1000m K1; Tony gained a Gold in the 500m K4 and Silver Medals in the 500m and 1000m K2



Tony Kirschstein

sprints; Nico drew the short straw and had to contend with a weed choked lane but still managed Bronze medals in the 500m K2 and 1000m K4.

'The Olympics 2016 is my dream which I'm hoping I'll achieve,' explained Nico.

Jennifer Smith

Award Winning Rose

Rose Hugh Smith was just seven when she got her first pony, a few months after her family moved into the former Peppard Rectory in 2005. Her riding was to develop into a passion and a focus that was to set her on a highly competitive road.

At the tender age of nine she won the under 21 Fledgling Championship at Addington and in succeeding years she was twice Reserve Champion at Addington. On the second occasion she excelled with a score of 78.5% and received a standing ovation from the judges.

This year, Rose was selected to ride for the Under 21s in Ireland at the Marlton Friendly International and became Reserve Champion Novice Pony Rider.

Contd. overleaf

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The Councils

Rose received the Glamour Award at the Under 21 Championships. Previous winners are currently in the GB or Young Riders squads. She has been invited to the viewing day for the National Squads so Rose hopes that these are good omens for fulfilling her ambition of riding for Britain.



Rose Hugh Smith

Rose is torn between the thrill of eventing and the discipline of dressage but her current pony doesn't jump so it's dressage for now! Watch this space.

Young Achievers Award Scheme

South Oxfordshire have introduced a Young Achievers Award Scheme for arts, sports and citizenship. The council offers financial awards of up to £250 for people living in South Oxfordshire aged between 11 and 18 years old. The scheme is now open for applications and the closing date is 31st October 2010. Further information and an application form is available on our website at <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/community--people-and-living/grants/the-young-achievers-award-scheme/>

Emma Morris

Peppard's Got Talent

Do you know of any Young Achievers in Peppard? We would be very happy to feature them thus allowing all of Peppard to feel proud of them.

Parish Council

Chairman: Nick Launders
01491 628243

Parish Clerk: Barbara Marston
01491 684188

Website: www.rppc.org.uk

SODC Councillors: Paul Harrison
0118 972 2665

& Alan Rooke—01491 572919

OCC Councillor: Carol Viney
01491 680887

Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council usually meets on 2nd Monday of the month at 19.30 in the Pavilion, though there is no meeting in August. Parishioners may attend and observe, and may raise briefly issues of concern to them. All may attend intermediate planning meetings as well - see Diary for dates and times.

Forms can be downloaded from www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/communitydevelopment.

Oxfordshire Voice

Are you interested in having your say on local NHS services? Oxfordshire Voice is a citizen's panel of volunteers living in Oxfordshire. A partnership between NHS Oxfordshire and the OCC is looking for a cross section of people prepared to answer four questionnaires a year. The partnership would be particularly interested to hear from you if you are male aged 16-24, in full time work or from black or other minority ethnic groups.

What the panel says is used by the Council and NHS to help develop services and change the way things are done. You can choose to have your say on line or by post. First you would need to complete a short survey on line: www.bit.ly/9hxa3c or to request a paper version call Annika Howard on 01865 334643.

Anchor

In partnership with SODC and OCC, Anchor Staying Put helps older and disabled home owners who live within the area.

Anchor will help you if you need repairs, improvements or adaptations to your property enabling you to 'stay put' in the community in comfort and safety. They offer confidential advice and support.

Whether it is rising damp or a leaking tap, Anchor will help with small repairs to major improvements and adaptations.

Anchor will visit you at home to discuss your needs and help you find the right solution. They will be happy to help you get information on the different ways of paying for the work such as grants, equity release or charitable funding. Anchor will help you to fill in any forms that are required for help with funding.

If major structural work is required or the use of chemicals for damp treatment, it may be necessary for you to move out of your house - Anchor will help you organise this.

For more info phone 01491 823888, see www.stayingput.org.uk or e-mail stayingput.southoxfordshire@anchor.org.uk

Bus Passes

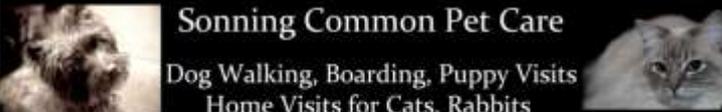
Currently, SODC provides bus passes to residents over 60 years old and certain disabled residents meaning they can travel free on local buses during slightly restricted hours and also the FISH bus and the Henley Handibus. In April next year the responsibility for bus passes will transfer from SODC to Oxfordshire County Council. The council will lobby OCC to ensure that there is no downgrading of the usage for bus passes.

Community Plan

It is quite some time since we heard anything about the proposed Community Plan. This has now been resurrected. The Community Plan Committee met in August and decided to go ahead with producing a questionnaire canvassing all residents for their views in the near future.

Community Support Fund

If you are involved with a small local community group or voluntary organisation in need of funds this could be of interest to you. Oxfordshire County Council and Community Services have alerted us to this fund which can give grants up to £800. For further info: The Community Development Team Administrator Tel. 01865 323091 or communitydevelopment@oxfordshire.gov.uk.



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Snippets

Local Restaurant Review

Tandoori Connoisseur

When I was very young I disliked curry intensely – in those days it meant curry powder, raisins and a boiled egg usually with a cheap cut of stewing steak. Can you blame me for disliking it? And Indian restaurants frightened me because I didn't know what to order. The tide was turned when I went out for an Indian meal with a group of friends that included two Indian brothers – one of whom ordered my meal for me and explained each dish. I now thoroughly enjoy the occasional curry meal and when I lived in West London the odd foray into Hounslow or Southall was a real treat. I even cook curry myself – my guru being Madhur Jaffrey. I didn't really know what to expect of Sonning Common's *Emporium of Indian Cuisine*.

The Tandoori Connoisseur know their client base well and know how to cater for it and provide an enjoyable eating experience. The restaurant is light, airy and modern and there are even fresh flowers on the table – a far cry from the flock wallpaper of repute. There are definitely no surly waiters here – we were greeted with smiles and received excellent service and our waiter was even happy to discuss the food and its preparation with us.

For around £50 we had a moderate quantity of lager, and from a large and varied menu my husband chose an oriental thali (a selection of four different meat and prawn curries with rice and nan bread) whilst I had a lamb passanda accompanied by an aubergine and potato side dish with rice. One never knows if the rich sauce is designed to cover up a bit of chewy, leathery meat but in this case the meat was tender and very well cooked. My husband's empty dishes declared his verdict and I certainly enjoyed mine.

A Contributor

Peppard Paragon

Are you this person? Following Susan Carter's departure, we urgently need a new Editor. We need a person with the ability to see the 'Big Picture' and with the vision to take us forward and play a strategic role in the future development of *Peppard News*. Most of the team have been in their respective roles for five years so the Editorship doesn't need to be a hands-on role – we need a leader rather than a manager. He/she needs to be a good communicator and computer literate as we communicate via e-mail but no other IT expertise is required. We would expect our Peppard Paragon to have local knowledge and a general interest in Peppard. Time spent is probably an hour or so a week with a little more around production time.

For more information contact Rita Hadgkiss on 01491 629996 or e-mail peppardnews@aol.com

Peppard War Memorial Hall

The Hall is hosting a second fundraising Barn Dance on Saturday 9th October. There will be live music from Random Jig and, for those who are yet to experience the eightsome Reel or the Circasian Circle, there will be a dance caller ensuring everyone is going the same direction! A ploughman's supper is included in the ticket price of £15 per person and needs to be booked by contacting 0118 972 2201.

The War Memorial Hall continues with its fundraising efforts to carry on with the updating of the hall. There is still a lot of work to do and we welcome any support, financial and non-financial, from the local community. If you would like to book the Hall, please contact Maggie Brakspear on 0118 972 4751.

Emma Dag

Film Club

Our Club evenings are starting again at the War Memorial Hall. Come along and enjoy evenings with friends at unbeatable value. The price is just £10 including supper in a bowl and a glass of wine.

Friday 15th October: *The English Patient*

Friday 19th November: *The Italian Job*

There will be subtitles for the hard of hearing. Why not buy tickets for both films at once?

Doors open at 19.15. Tickets available from Geoff Pitcher, Chiltern View, Gallowstree Road, Peppard Common, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 5JB. T: 0118 972 3050. e-mail: peppardrevels@mac.com.

www.peppardrevels.org.uk

Conker Champ

Could you be the local conker champion? Then go to Cross Lanes Fruit Farm, Mapledurham, RG4 7UW on Orchard Open Day, Sunday 10th October 10.00-17.00, where Goring, Woodcote & District Lions are holding their Annual Conker Challenge. No entry charge to the farm and £1 for a conker on a string. For directions to the farm: www.crosslanesfruitfarm.co.uk or for more about the Lions phone John Bridgens 0845 833 9837 www.lions-gwd.org.uk.

Just Jog

Join in with our social jogging groups, whether you're new to jogging or want to improve. Henley Leisure Centre: Thursdays 19.00–20.00, £2 per session. For info: 01491 577909.

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Our Village

£5000 WOW!

It really was all happening at the Red Lion Pub on Peppard Common on Saturday 17th July. The publicans, Julie and Graham, had decided to host an event to raise funds for the Help for Heroes Charity by holding a Music and Beer Festival in their back garden - fortunately there is an acre of it!

They invited not only their many regular customers but the whole village community to have a really good time in support of the charity. There had to be a limit to the number of tickets sold and the omens were good when all 250 were snapped up in advance of the event.

There was no shortage of entertainment: three local bands, Bleak Angel, Better Than Life and Three Kicks were augmented by RJM Discos, which filled the gaps right through to the 23.00 finish. Fund raising continued with a charity auction which alone raised £890.00.



Mark Allen

What inspired Julie and Graham to hold this event in support of Help for Heroes was a very severe injury suffered by Mark Allen, the nephew of one of their regulars. Mark was serving in Afghanistan last winter when he had an encounter with a Taliban IED (improvised explosive device) resulting in the loss of both legs. What a good moment it was when Mark arrived at the Festival complete with prosthetic legs - not a dry eye in the house! Mark has received wonderful treatment during his stay at Headley Court Hospital for injured soldiers which is largely funded by the Help for Heroes charity.

Whilst everyone had a great time at this Festival the best result was a cheque for over £5000.00 being sent to Help for Heroes - a brilliant outcome - well done the Red Lion!

Ian Fraser

Commons News

Kingwood Common Grazing Project

The inspector has called for a Public Inquiry into the proposal for selective grazing on parts of Kingwood Common. This will take place on 11th -12th November at Nettlebed Village Hall and all interested parties are welcome to attend. Times and other details will be confirmed in due course when they become available. In the meantime, there have been visits to a number of locations where grazing has been introduced and a number of local residents have attended. Of particular interest was the visit to Turville Heath in June to see Robin Harman's farm, where Dexters are used for grazing. Robin's conservation work is extremely relevant to what is proposed at Kingwood. Another informative visit to Ibstone Common has taken place, where more temporary fencing has been introduced.

Peppard Common Archaeological Study

Dr. Tim Southern is proposing to carry out an archaeological study on the common using surface techniques and hand-held equipment, which will be non-destructive. There is some fascinating evidence of earlier settlements on the north side of the common. Most of the work will be carried out by volunteers and will involve Peppard Primary School. The Commons Conservators have given their permission for the study to be undertaken. The findings will be of great local interest and it is hoped that there will be an opportunity for local residents to see some of these.

Nigel Wooding

Kingwood Common Preservation Group

It is now a little over three months since the deadline for letters to the Planning Inspectorate and I am delighted to let you know that we are aware of more than 80 letters opposing the Conservators' plans to fence the Common and/or requesting a Public Enquiry.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send a letter and encouraged others to write.

In view of the size of the opposition (measured properly for the first time) Ted Dadley, the Chairman of the Kingwood Common Preservation Group, has written to the Conservators asking them to reconsider their Application.

Sonning Common Health Walks

Now with autumn arriving and opportunities to get out lessening, it is a good time to get out walking. The Health Walks have a new programme with free daily walks throughout the year. Do come and try them and enjoy the beautiful countryside.

Walks are graded by distance, terrain and stiles to help *you* judge which are suitable for your fitness level. We have two trained leaders on every walk, one to accompany the faster walkers and the other to bring up the rear with the slowest walkers.

Our new timetable is available from the Health Centre, the Library or the Herb Farm or from our website www.sonningcommonhealthwalks.co.uk/timetable If you would like more information please contact me on 0118 9242515.

Chris Brook

Peppard Revels 2012 – Can You Help?

We urgently need a volunteer to take charge of the dinner for the next Revels in June 2012. This involves sorting out the caterers and menu in conjunction with the Revels Committee.

The Revels are one of the most popular local events and next time will be featuring the Peppard Olympics (ahead of the London one) and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

If you or someone you know would be interested please contact Dr John Hasler on 01491 628478. johnhasler@supanet.com.

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FISH

Lots of folk see the fish symbol on our community minibus and assume we are a religious organisation, but in reality we are a local charity run entirely by unpaid volunteers, some of whom are believers and some who are not. We aim to provide much needed community transport for the sick and elderly, although anybody in need is welcome to use our services. We serve Peppard and surrounding villages. A team of volunteers mans the telephone and organises our services from an office in Sonning Common village hall.

Everybody at FISH volunteers because we like people and we enjoy serving our community. Sometimes the chat in the car on the way to a hospital appointment can be the highlight of someone's week. We urgently need more volunteer car drivers. So if you can spare an odd morning or afternoon, and would like to help in any capacity, we will be very pleased to hear from you.

We take people to hospital appointments, clinics, dentist, opticians and to visit loved ones in care homes. People who cannot drive themselves, or who are no longer comfortable driving themselves on some trips, and those who cannot cope with public transport, use the service we offer. It often provides a valuable lifeline at a distressing time. Clients make a small donation and drivers are paid a mileage allowance. Last year we did over 1,000 such trips. FISH Stands for Friendship In Sickness and Health

FISH Volunteer Centre, Village Hall,
Sonning Common, Open 09.30-11.30 Tel:
0118 972 3986

Alan Goswell

Greenshoots

The new Patron, Sir William McAlpine Bt. and his wife, Lady McAlpine attended their first Open Day on 26th June. Sir William unveiled a plaque to commemorate a donation from The Henley and District Agricultural Association used to build raised beds, and planted a tree in memory of a trainee who sadly passed away.

The day was very successful and raised much needed funds for Greenshoots,

which is are hoping to make it an annual event. We had a lovely range of bedding plants and perennials for sale. The refreshments, including home made cakes and cream teas, proved very popular with visitors.



Lady and Sir William McAlpine with Frances Hill, CEO of The Ways and Means Trust

We have organised some team building events at Greenshoots, offering local companies the chance to build raised beds for us and enjoy a day out of the office helping a local charity. These have proved to be very popular with the teams who have attended, and have helped us to improve our facilities and growing areas. We have a number of other activities available for teams to complete. If anyone would like to organise an event please contact Angela for details. We would also be very interested in other volunteers, either for practical help, or to support our trainees with literacy and numeracy.

Towards Christmas we will again be making wreaths which can be ordered in advance or bought directly from the site. We also have Hot Bots and other oat filled heat packs for sale which make excellent presents.

Angela Fordham
01491 628933

Antiques Valuation

After a very successful event in October last year Bonhams have kindly agreed to another valuation day this year with proceeds to Feed The Children, the Twyford based international charity. Just come along on Wednesday 27th October 10.00-12.30 to the Sonning Common Village Hall with your items to be val-

ued for £2 per item. There will also be refreshments, a raffle and a chance to buy the charity's Christmas cards. Phone Sue Nickson 01189 724520 for further information. Hope to see you there!

Peppard Run And Walk

Despite the inclement weather 292 registered runners and walkers, from cross country racers to dog walkers and weekend ramblers, raised over £5,000 (a 100% increase on last year) for Feed The Children (UK) on Sunday 5th September when they strode out to take part in the Samuel Hood Memorial 10K Peppard Fun Run/7K Walk.

Overall winner and first man home was 18 year old student, Thomas Watkins from Great Sheffield who finished just one second quicker than last year's winner, whilst first woman was Wiki Daniels from Stoke Row who beat last year's winner by 11 seconds. All winners received trophies sponsored by the Hood Family and Thomas' name will go on the annual Book-Rabbit.com winner's shield. The Hood Family also sponsored the annual Best Fundraiser shield and trophy, which will be presented in late September.

For the juniors, veterans and walkers, first boy home was 14-year-old Sam Andrews from Waltham St. Lawrence who attends Reading Blue Coats School; the fastest veteran was Roy MacNeil (70) from Earley; and the first walker was David Bunn, aged 9, who attends Dunmore Primary School in Abingdon.

'It was fantastic that so many supporters turned out on the day, especially as the weather let us down,' says Feed The Children's project manager, Sally Brown, 'and to raise £5,000 is really good going. We are grateful to all our sponsors and supporters and especially the Peppard Organising Committee's continued support, who established the event for us.'

The event started and finished at Greys Green Golf Course, thanks to the owners Mr and Mrs Alexander Hood who kindly give permission to use their land. The money was raised through the entry fees and sponsorship for the race and walk.

Sue Hinton

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Our Churches

All Saints' Church of England www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk	Rector:	Revd Graham Foulis Brown	0118 972 3987
	Asst. Priest:	Revd Barry Olsen	0118 924 2812
	Churchwardens:	Adrienne Heriot	01491 629254
		Toby Greenwood	0118 972 2861

From the Rectory...

The Rector of Henley's answering machine's message began, "During the holiday month of August..." and about six weeks ago, I remember people advising me to "Have a good summer" and I think I did. Early on, when I went away for a couple of nights it was blazing hot – and I was only on the south coast.

For the third August in four I had an operation on a hand to straighten a finger and that seems to have worked for at a certain point the finger in question began a new life on the computer keyboard, so all's well.

As soon as the month of September dawns, everything begins again and this year our schools start almost as early as they can; our clubs and societies resume their activity and some of the things I do outside the parish crank back into life and that is the community life in which this newspaper rejoices.

The regular run of things from Harvest Thanksgiving onwards run on in the Church and before we know it, yes it will be...next term. It's helpful to pause awhile, even in the busiest of lives to enjoy what passes by: while I regularly took time out to watch my kids play in matches, in retrospect it was such a short time that all that lasted.

The Church Council publishes this community newspaper and as such it falls to me as Rector to pay vast tribute to Susan Carter who has served as Editor for five years and is now standing down. It hasn't always been the easiest thing for Susan but she has triumphed magnificently and we owe her a great debt.

Graham

More Medals ...!

Congratulations are due to Isobel Brooker and Stephanie Franklin who recently gained their Royal Schools of Church Music Bishops Chorister Awards Silver medals. This is a significant achievement as, in addition to singing various pieces including a Psalm and some sight reading, they also must have gained knowledge of the church liturgy and the role of a chorister in the life of the church. The medals will be presented in Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford on Saturday 30th October at 18.00.

Another Knees Up

Members of All Saints' and friends will be celebrating Harvest on 26th September. The Harvest Festival Thanksgiving service at 10.30 will be followed by a lunch in the Peppard Memorial Hall with entertainment afterwards. If previous years are anything to go by this should be a very enjoyable event.

Cambodia and the Educational Trust

The July issue of the *Parish Magazine* carried an article by Ellie Jefferies on her trip to Cambodia where she spent three months as a volunteer teaching and helping some of the poorest children and families in the country. It was clearly an amazing and very rewarding experience. Ellie received a grant towards her costs from the Peppard Educational Charity. This charity is able to give modest grants to young people living in the parish to assist with expenses for educational trips of various kinds. Further

information is available from Sylvia Overbury 01491 680245.

Funeral Address

The address which was given earlier this month at the funeral of Betty Harper is reproduced in the September issue of the *Parish Magazine* and makes interesting reading. The magazine which is available each month can be delivered to you regularly if you wish. Please email info@allsaintspeppard.org.uk or contact Allen Harris on 0118 972 2179. Information about services including Christmas tide is available on the website at www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk

Royal Summons

The Rector accompanied by his daughter Eleanor recently attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Graham was nominated by the Lord Lieutenant for his work in Oxfordshire over the past 26 years both as a parish priest and school governor. More celebrations were in hand as Graham reached a significant birthday recently and also marked 20 years as vicar at St John's Church, Kidmore End with a special service attended by Bishop Colin, the Bishop of Dorchester.

Adrienne Heriot

Historic Churches Trust Ride or Stride Event

Over 500 churches throughout Oxfordshire took part in this year's fund raising event on 11th September. All Saints' has always put out a strong team including *Peppard News* own Ian Fraser who spent the day in Oxford with his sister and achieved their target of visiting 50 places of worship, including 23 of the University college chapels, which Ian described as not only historic but incredibly beautiful, many with the most stunning stained glass windows.

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St Michael's Catholic Church

Revd Chris Bester 0118 972 3418
 Revd Francis Andrews 0118 972 2354
chris.bester@btinternet.com

Here at St Michael's we are preparing for our patronal feast-day on 29th September. Each year we try to do something special over the nearest weekend to the feast to help us come to a deeper understanding of our Faith and the way it should be lived out each day.

This year a group of nuns who specialise in their knowledge and understanding of the life and teaching of Cardinal Newman will come to talk to us about him, his importance and relevance and the impact he has had on English church life. In each of our denominations we sing his hymns and so there is a commonality amongst us. But what makes this year special is that Pope Benedict is coming to England.

While he is here he will beatify Cardinal Newman. This act of beatification means that John Henry Newman is now recognised by the church as someone who can be publicly venerated, his intercession sought for our personal needs and his writings seen as authentic Christian teaching.

A number of our parishioners will be travelling to Birmingham for this ceremony on 19th September at Cofton Park in Rednal, Birmingham, where Newman took his summer holidays and went for his afternoon walks. Pope Benedict has himself been greatly influenced by the writings and teachings of Newman, particularly on his insistence on the primacy of conscience. Newman understood conscience as the place where the seen and the unseen meet in the depths of a person's being. Conscience is an authoritative voice, the voice of God within us, alerting us to God's presence

within us. Conscience helps us to be objective: it helps us to know what is true.

Twenty years ago, before he became Pope, the present Pope concluded an address by describing Newman as one of the great teachers of the church, '...because at the same time he touches our hearts and enlightens our thinking...'

So we pray that the Lord will strengthen and guide Benedict for this epic journey. He is not coming to propound a new theory or press a particular political view, but to put before us the person of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer who stands at the centre and purpose of all human history.

May we give him a gracious welcome and may God bless this land and all our people, so that we may discover afresh the joy and assurance of the gift of faith in God.

Fr Chris Bester



Revd Barry Kirk
 0118 972 4519
www.springwater.org.uk

In the last issue we mentioned the support that Springwater has given to Christian training charities in Liberia, started by Rev Phil Cheale over 20 years ago when he was a missionary in West Africa, and the preparations for sending out another 40' container. As we write, the container is being unloaded in Monrovia and the contents – computers and other IT equipment, generators, sewing machines, clothes, personal and household goods – are being distributed through the local churches and training school. We would like to thank very sincerely all those in the community who contributed to this great effort to bring help, joy and a means of

livelihood to those who have so little and who are still recovering from the effects of years of horrendous civil war.

This act of kindness in a small country in West Africa reminds us all of the millions of people in the world still suffering from poverty, ill health and lack of basic human needs. Our hearts go out to the people of Pakistan who are trying to rebuild their lives after the devastating floods, and we thank God for the generosity of the British people who can always be relied upon to dig deep when there is a genuine need.

Summer is usually a quieter time in the life of the church as members quite rightly get away to enjoy some rest and relaxation – some of course go on more adventurous holidays, sailing or climbing mountains. But it has been a busy time for the new leadership team at Springwater, a group of four core lead-

ers, supported by Rev Barry Kirk and a number of ministry leaders. This team has been meeting regularly to consider prayerfully the way forward and to plan services and activities for the autumn which, we hope, will be attractive to both regular members and those who might be considering joining us. The programmes, based on prayer, care and the teaching of God's word, as well as having fun times together, are designed for all age groups – the young, families, ladies, men, and senior citizens. All are very welcome.

As Paul says in his letter to the Ephesians, chapter 4, our responsibility 'is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ, until we come to such unity in our faith...' As we reach towards this goal, we hope also to be a blessing and to play our full part in the community.

Chris Mills

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Clubs and Societies

2nd Kidmore End Brownies

A new term begins for brownies on the 15th September, following the summer break. It is an exciting term as on the 20th October at 20.10 we celebrate the centenary of Girl Guiding (20:10, 20/10 2010!). A Chiltern Division celebration is planned for Henley where all local Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Leaders and the Trefoil Guild will get together to celebrate.

In order to focus on Guiding we will be working towards the World Guiding Badge, which is itself a celebration of the international success of Guiding. We are hoping to contact Brownies in Germany and New Zealand and find out about what it means to be a Brownie in a different country.

We will be having District Christmas celebrations in December where all the Sonning Common Packs come together. It is also hoped that we will do a concert in December with the Guides to sing carols and celebrate Christmas.

For further information please contact Brown Owl, Jessica Higson 0118 972 3026.

Chiltern Players

The next production will be *Billy Liar*, Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall's comedy drama about working class undertaker's clerk Billy Fisher who escapes the boredom of his daily grind by taking fantasy trips to a mythical land where he is always the hero. Unfortunately, neither his family nor his two fiancées are sympathetic which leads to some comedic yet highly affecting scenes.

Performances will be at Peppard Memorial Hall, 1st – 4th December at 20.00. Tickets at £7 each will be on sale nearer the time from Occasions, Wood Lane, Sonning Common. For more information,

call Carol Evans, 0118 972 3628 or email beagrove@btinternet.com

Circle Dancing

Our group has now been in existence three years and in that time we've held over thirty sessions and learnt and experienced probably 100 plus dances. The term 'experienced' is chosen carefully because it's about far more than steps – it's getting into the spirit of the country of origin, so one moment you can feel you're on the Russian steppe, another on the streets of Brazil, one minute you are exhilarated, the next you are calmed by the haunting melodies. No expertise, no partner needed. Every first Sunday of the month 15.30 to 17.00, Christ the King Hall, Sonning Common. First time free. More details 01491 874220.

Ros Jennings

Peppard WI

Christmas coming up already?! But first we will be having a Harvest Lunch on Wednesday 13th October - a new departure for us but lots of scope for fun. On 10th November we shall be having a talk about the Mitford sisters by Gillian Cane, plus a bumper bring & buy stall with Christmas in mind - we look forward to some gift ideas, craft items, preserves and anything that will keep for the big day. 8th December will be our Christmas party - a bit early in the month but it helps to get everyone into the swing of the coming celebrations.

Our end of summer event was an outing to Sulgrave Manor, home of the (George) Washington family. This was a very successful trip, not too long on the coach, 1½ hours, taking us over the border from Oxfordshire just into Northamptonshire, north of Banbury. Sulgrave Manor is a small manor house jointly administered by the USA and UK since

a fund raising effort in 1922, housing many items of Washington memorabilia with excellent and friendly guides, plus a pleasant "buttery". Well worth a visit.

If these past and future activities interest you please contact Pamela Davies on 0118 9723614 for further information. We are always looking for new members to add to our thriving group. We meet at 14.30 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Peppard Memorial Hall.

Peppard Bowls Club

One evening recently our members entertained members of Sonning Common Cricket Club. The cricketers, after a lesson in underarm bowling, played bowlers on three rinks. The cricketers made surprisingly good bowlers, so ten ends were played, followed by a thirst-quenching session at the bar whilst fish and chips were being bought. Then everyone sat down to a convivial supper. Great to see the two villages getting together socially. Could this become an annual fixture?

Betty Freeman

Peppard Lunch Club

In recent years, the Lunch Club has held a garden tea party in August instead of the usual monthly lunch, but this year we decided to 'push the boat out' and have an elegant tea while cruising on the Thames! The weather was perfect, the food and refreshments delicious and plentiful, and everybody agreed it had been a wonderful afternoon. Our grateful thanks to Hobbs & Sons Ltd and to our helpers for making it all possible.

Our normal programme of lunches resumes on Wednesday, 15th September at 12.00 for 12.30 in the Memorial Hall. Retired villagers interested in joining us should contact me on 0118 972 2808.

Sally Longhurst

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Rotherfield Peppard Educational Trust

Fund for support of educational activities

The Trust supports educational activities undertaken by under twentys from Peppard. It can help with purchase of books, educational visits, special projects, and the like. If you may be eligible, or know of others who may wish to apply, please give us a call.

Robin Howles (0118 972 3528) or Sylvia Overbury (01491 628 245)

Readers' Letters

Peppard Cricket Club

The sun shone brightly to bring the curtain down on another Berkshire Cricket League season for Peppard. The 1st XI finished 5th in the Premier Division having won 7 of their 16 matches but losing 5 and managing only 'losing draws' in 3 other games with 1 abandoned.

There were some notable performances however. Tim Vines scored 609 runs and took 27 wickets to cap an excellent all round performance. He was well supported by Dan Hayden, 464 runs and Senthil Muniyasamy whose innings of 96 against Stoke Row was one of the best of the season. A special mention for Gerry Bacon who finished on 99 not out against Crown Wood having taken part in a partnership of 210 for the second wicket with Dan Hayden. One to watch is 14 year old Ashley Hayden who, in his first season of playing in the Premier Division, took 8 wickets with a best of 4-54.

Pride of place must go to the 2nd XI, which has gained promotion to Division 2 of the Berkshire League and despite scoring more points than the eventual champions of Division 3, ended up with an average of 0.3 of a point per game played less, to be pipped for the top spot. A final extended run of 8 wins in a row was not enough to secure the title. Some outstanding individual performances were headed by Alan Mayers capturing 52 wickets and Gary Legg scoring 506 runs. Useful contributions with both bat and ball came from Taylor Vines and skipper Richard Woolfrey.

The Sunday XI will continue its fixtures until the end of September but so far, it has won 9 of the 13 games played. Details of performances and figures will follow.

The more eagle eyed observers passing the common may have noticed that girls' cricket took place on the common during

the latter part of July. We were delighted to play hosts to the Berkshire U17 women & girls team and their visitors from Hampshire, Dorset and Somerset enjoyed the venue as much as we did.

Despite the well publicised incident with the tractor on the common, work is well underway to restore it to its former glory and we can expect another 50 years of service from it in the near future. Thanks to those local residents who offered help in maintaining our outfield to the standard we have come to expect.

The annual end of season work will commence soon and before we know it we will be gathering round the television sets to watch the start of the next Ashes series in Australia, happy days!

Ronnie Brock, Chairman

Sonning Common & Peppard Table Tennis Club

We are entering seven teams across the majority of the Reading & District League Divisions and preparations are now well underway for the 2010/11 league season. Anyone interested in joining the club should contact Nigel Maltby on 0118 9463191. The club also continues to run its junior coaching sessions on Monday evenings from 17.00-19.00. Any juniors interested in taking part should just turn up at the Peppard War Memorial Hall at 17.00 on a Monday and see organisers Alan Dines or John Taylor.

Many of the club's senior teams are hoping to do well this year. The A team will be vying for promotion back to the top flight following relegation last time around, while the promoted E team has been strengthened and could challenge again for promotion from Division 4. The club also runs several junior teams in the Reading Youth Division.

I came across this article (excerpt below) which mentions Peppard and surrounding area - the car featured is a MG Y type saloon (made 1947-53) which explains my interest as I have a 1952 model. It would be interesting to hear if the area has changed much in 60 years.

David Mullen, Liverpool

Autocar – May 1950

Undeterred by Easter weather, we followed motoring tradition by getting the car out last Easter Day for the type of restricted touring outing which petrol permits these days. As a matter of fact, the weather in East Berkshire might have been worse; bright sunshine alternated with black showers, and the worst feature was the bitter gale, so that one dived back into the shelter of the car after a foray to see the sights.

The route, however, had few sights that called for lengthy external contemplations; yet it can be recommended for several virtues, not the least of which is that it avoids main roads and popular directions. It starts north of Reading on A4009, an unimportant A road with a nice line in curves and a peach of a hill just before Peppard. The road swings wide on a right-hand bend at the foot, climbs sharply and then bends left equally sharply at the summit, calling for a quick drop into a lower gear just before the final bend. Such hills are fun, even in the family saloon. Peppard, straggling indeterminately over the hillsides, is marked by sanatoria, through which the Chiltern breezes blow, one trusts, beneficially for the patients. A feeling of sadness is engendered by the ascetic chalets and one continues northwards with spirits muted by sympathy.

A reply was sent to David Mullen, suggesting he look at www.PeppardNews.co.uk to see back issues that include some local history.

Editor

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Peppard Diary

OCTOBER	
Sun	3 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	4 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH Office
Sat	9 Peppard Mem Hall/Barn Dance/01189722201
Sun	10 Lions Conker Chall/Cross Lanes Farm/10.00-17.00
Mon	11 RPPC Council Meeting/Pavilion/ 19.30 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/21.30
Tue	12 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Wed	13 WI/Mem Hall/Harvest Festival/14.30 Hort Soc/ <i>Growing & Showing Veg</i> /CE School/19.30
Thu	14 Talk to Police/One Stop Shop SC/19.00-20.00
Fri	15 Revels Film Club/ <i>English Patient</i> /Mem Hall/19.15
Mon	18 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	19 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Wed	20 Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808
Thu	21 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office Talk to Police/One Stop Shop SC/15.00-16.00
Fri	22 Peppard School/Half term starts
Sat	23 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/10.00
Tue	26 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Wed	27 Feed the Children/Antiques Val/SCVill Hall/10.00-12.30
NOVEMBER	
Mon	1 Peppard School/Term starts Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH Office
Sun	7 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	8 RPPC Council Meeting/Pavilion/ 19.30 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/21.30
Tue	9 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Wed	10 Hort Soc/Hort Fun Quiz/CE School/19.30
Wed	10 WI/ <i>Mitford Sisters</i> /Bring & Buy/Mem Hall/14.30
Thu	11 Talk to Police/One Stop Shop SC/17.00-18.00
Sat	13 Feel Good Fair/SC Vill Hall/10.00-16.00
Mon	15 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	16 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Wed	17 Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808
Thu	18 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office Talk to Police/One Stop Shop SC/15.00-16.00
Fri	19 Revels Film Club/ <i>The Italian Job</i> /Mem Hall /19.15
Tue	23 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Sat	27 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/10.00
Mon	29 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
DECEMBER	
Wed	1 Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808 Chiltern Players/ <i>Billy Liar</i> /Mem Hall/20.00
Thu	2 Chiltern Players/ <i>Billy Liar</i> /Mem Hall/20.00
Fri	3 Chiltern Players/ <i>Billy Liar</i> /Mem Hall/20.00
Sat	4 Chiltern Players/ <i>Billy Liar</i> /Mem Hall/20.00
Sun	5 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	6 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH Office
Wed	8 WI/Christmas Party/Mem Hall/14.00 Hort Soc/AGM/CE School/19.15
Thu	9 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
Sat	11 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/10.00
Mon	13 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Council Meeting/Pavilion/ 19.15
Tue	14 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
Thu	16 Peppard School/Christingle/All Saints' Church
Fri	17 Peppard School/Term Ends
Tue	21 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/ Appts 01491578267
FISH Office: 0118 9723986 (Mon-Fri, 09.30-11.30)	
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SC & Peppard Table Tennis Club/Memorial Hall - Juniors – Mon 17.00/01189463191	

BROWN BIN COLLECTION SERVICE

Month	October		November		December		
	6 th	20 th	3 rd	17 th	1 st	15 th	29 th
Brown bin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garden waste	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	OCTOBER					NOVEMBER				DECEMBER				NOTES
	3	10	17	24	31*	7	14†	21	28	5	12	19	26	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	* Patronal Festival, 31.10.10
10.30 Communion (sung)		✓		✓	✓				✓		✓		✓	† Remembrance Sunday–Morning Service at 10.45, 14.11.10
10.30 Matins	✓					✓	✓			✓				‡ Advent Sequence of Carols and Readings
10.30 Family Service			✓					✓				✓		⊗ No Evening Service
10.30 Sunday School		✓			✓						✓			
18.30 Evensong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	‡	✓	✓	⊗	

Christmas Services		
24 th December	17.30	Nativity Play and Carols
	21.00	Holy Communion
25 th December	09.00	Holy Communion
	11.00	Seven Lessons and Carols

**Sunday Services at Springwater
(Peppard Congregational Church)**
Family Service: 10.30 - 11.45 ♦ Sunday School 10.30 - 11.30

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