

Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Elizabeth Goudge

Elizabeth Goudge was recently commemorated with a blue plaque on Rose Cottage, the house in Peppard where she lived. "She was the kindest and most generous person you could wish to meet: a thoroughly lovely lady in every way"; so said Mrs Betty Harper, a very close and long standing friend of Elizabeth Goudge.



Elizabeth Goudge

As a child and young woman, Betty lived at the Dog pub with her parents. When Elizabeth Goudge moved into Rose Cottage in 1952, Betty quickly became a constant visitor to the cottage and although there was a twenty year age difference, they became firm friends. At that time, Rose Cottage had no electricity, running water or central heating and although Elizabeth Goudge had electricity and water put in she lived without central heating all her life and Betty remembers that, with roaring log fires, she created a cosy and homely atmosphere.

She loved simple things and simple people – these she expressed in her books, especially *The White Witch* - all written in longhand. In *The*

White Witch she described Dog Lane and Flowercott Walk with its avenue of trees – taken from her own experience of walking in Peppard. Betty's own favourite book is *Gentian Hill*.

The White Witch, in particular, arose from her love of children although sadly she never married and had any of her own; Betty believes this is simply as a result of her moving around and caring for her parents – she didn't have the opportunity to meet Mr Right!

She also cared deeply for other people and demonstrated this in her kindness and generosity to the couple who looked after her. Mr & Mrs Wells were her gardener and housekeeper respectively; Betty believes it was they who were described in *Centre Water*. When Mr Wells became seriously ill, Elizabeth Goudge paid his wages and continued to do so for 17 years until he eventually died. She also helped and paid for the education and living expenses of a young Hungarian refugee who fled the Hungarian uprising in 1956. She was known to have said "I am a rich lady and I don't wish to be".

Only thirteen blue plaques have been awarded in Oxfordshire outside the city of Oxford and now one commemorates Elizabeth Goudge. We are very proud to be able to boast of this fine author and esteemed lady having lived here in Peppard.

Rita Hadgkiss



Rose Cottage

Summer 2008

Editorial

www.PeppardNews.co.uk

Yes, we are now **worldwide** and are delighted that we have been able to obtain the above domain name! Please visit our website, where you will find a wealth of information about the parish of Peppard, our Churches, Schools, Charities, Clubs & Societies, our Advertisers and much more.

Within our website you will find a Guest-book where we hope you will post your comments and ideas that are relevant to Peppard, past and present. There are two more categories – Latest Village News and Local Events that depend upon you to provide us with the information; this is particularly useful for those things that fall between issues of Peppard News. Please let us have any comments, contributions and photographs.

My thanks to Rita (Sub-Editor and Compositor of Peppard News) for the huge amount of time and effort she has put into the website. This has been a challenge to her and special thanks go to Tony Treglown, the website developer for the Bowls Club and the War Memorial Hall, who set Rita on the right road. I hope you, our readers, will agree that she has done a wonderful job in putting Peppard on the map! Obviously she could not have done this without some help from the rest of the Team (you can read all about them on the website) and our contributors. Thank you all!

Susan Carter
Editor

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 RPPC unless stated as such.

Peppard News is also available by e-mail.

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School Matters

Peppard School

Last term, Foundation class had a visit to The Northmoor Trust Nature Reserve near Wallingford. The day included pond dipping in the morning followed by a healthy lunch in the barn. After lunch the children ran up and down Wittenham Clumps and went mini-beast hunting. We were fortunate to have glorious weather and finished the day collecting lots of different petals and leaves to bring back to school.

Peppard C of E Primary School
 Peppard Common RG9 5JU
 Phone: 01491 628354
 Head Teacher - **Anne Jarvis**
 Chairman of the Governors
Elizabeth Bielby

ping, data logging, a mini-beast safari and orienteering.
 KS2 SATs – Well done to all the Year 6



Foundation Class at the Northmoor Trust Nature Reserve

Years 4 and 5 had their residential trips to Somerset and Oxford respectively. All the children had a wonderful time. In Somerset they took part in clay modelling, grass sledging and willow art. At Hill End, the Year 5 children had fantastic weather and they experienced pond dip-

children who had their SATs, they all tried really hard.

We held a Celebration Assembly for Valerie Phelps who had an important birthday recently. We sang a selection of traditional songs that included the National Anthem. The Choir performed

a Latin song by Mozart, known to be a favourite of Valerie. Each child wrote about Valerie and drew pictures, which were presented in a folder for Valerie to keep. She was also given some vouchers to buy books, a beautiful silk scarf and a bouquet of flowers. Finally, she was asked to blow out candles on a large chocolate cake, later shared between the children. This was followed by a sumptuous celebratory lunch for staff and governors, prepared by the TAs and the school secretary. Valerie was very touched by the whole event and very grateful to all involved.

The School Choir is going from strength to strength and recorded a song, Ave Maria, which was played at Ms McNamara's wedding in Ireland during the holiday.

Term 6 started on Tuesday 3rd June and we anticipate our usual busy, fun-filled summer term. The children have now been able to return to Gillotts to use the newly refurbished swimming pool.

Our Open Morning on Wednesday 4th June was a great success with a good turn out of prospective parents. FOPS supplied the refreshments.

Other Summer Events:

The Summer Production this year will be on 25th and 26th June at Chiltern Edge and includes a selection of songs and dances from different musicals.

We are practising in earnest for our annual trip to Dorchester Abbey on Thursday 3rd July for the Festival of Voices.

Sports Evening is planned for Friday 4th July, weather permitting. If the weather is inclement, the alternative date will be Friday 18th July.

Highmoor class are collecting aluminium cans for recycling and would therefore be very grateful for any donations.

Fiona Hilton

Michael Barlow - 30 years' experience

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The Royal British Legion

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Council Matters

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Parish Clerk: Barbara Marston
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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.

Action Plan Bid Inspire 08 - Youth Event

Residents from Rotherfield Peppard and Sonning Common have joined forces to organise a youth event, 'Inspire '08' on Saturday 19th July 15.00-19.00 at Sonning Common Primary School playing fields.

This initiative was borne from the Community Action Plan (CAP) process, which both villages are doing to establish what residents want for their village (and don't want!) and to make sure everyone gets the most out of where they live. A main part of the CAP process is gathering villagers' views on the village - covering areas such as Leisure (things to do and places to go), Housing, Environment, Traffic and Clubs & Societies.

Inspire '08 is a vehicle for consulting with young people aged 11-19 years, but is also intended to showcase the variety of things there are to do in the local area for young people. There will be live music, free dance and drama workshops, martial arts and street dance displays and a demonstration of bush craft and fire skills - all provided by local groups. There will also be information on groups and activities that young people can get involved in, and a hog roast and barbeque

To be kept informed of this event, please e-mail inspire08@sonning-

common.org.uk to join the email mailing list. The Rotherfield Peppard CAP group will have a stall at the Revels Family Day on 21st June where residents can make their suggestions and share their views. If you would like to share your views on, and ideas for, our village please visit the CAP stall at the Revels, e-mail rotherfieldpeppardcp@yahoo.co.uk or text 07526 922112.

Anna Moulton

Council Reporter

Unfortunately we have no other Council news for you in this issue. We are still without a Council Reporter and put out another plea for someone to step forward and fulfill this valuable role.

You will receive the same salary as the rest of the team, i.e. none, but you will be given a very warm welcome as well as doing the community a service.

Susan Carter
01491 628549

Snippets

Do You Want to Make a Difference?

Victim Support—Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire

Victim Support is an independent voluntary organisation for crime victims, witnesses, their families and friends. Together with Victim Support areas across the country we provide services and promote the rights of people affected by crime. The bulk of our service is delivered by trained volunteers who help us in a variety of ways. Some volunteers work for the community side of the service while others support victims and witnesses in the crown and magistrates' courts. In addition we are also looking for people who might want to help us with fund-raising or administration. If you think you might be interested and would like to know more about our work, please contact us for an information pack: Area Office, 45 The Slade, Headington, Oxford. OX3 7HL Tel: 01865 751511/12

Local Pub Review The Reformation

We had heard that the Reformation at Gallowstree Common had had its ups and downs, having changed management several times over the past few years, so we were looking forward to seeing for ourselves what it is like now.

Certainly, as you pull into the car park the pub is now very spruced and looks welcoming and inviting. This was more than matched by the welcome we received as we were greeted by the charming young woman behind the bar. The Reformation is now run by a husband and wife team - he as chef and she as front of house, serving both drinks and meals. We went on a Tuesday and found there were several other diners, in fact most of the tables were taken, giving confidence of the popularity of the place.

Although the Specials board had a good choice we both ordered from the standard menu—my friend ordered the crab cakes and I chose a Greek salad. My salad, accompanied by pitta bread, was excellent with very generous portions of feta cheese and olives. I do believe that a Greek salad is only truly a Greek salad if it is drizzled with fine olive oil; mine wasn't and I did have to put in a special request for this.

Unfortunately my friend was not so fortunate in her choice. She didn't really enjoy her crab cakes, finding them very "uncrabby" and made worse by being overcooked and accompanied by pre-cooked and then micro-waved potatoes. Being something of a coffee buff however, she did comment that the coffee was one of the best she had ever had.

We did not indulge in desserts although we were very tempted having seen what was being carried to other tables.

Our lunch was just under £25 which we considered very reasonable.

A Contributor

Midsomer Murders

Blood Wedding, with scenes filmed at All Saints' Church, will be televised on Sunday 6th July at 21.00 on ITV1.



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Village Matters

The Commons

Jenni Hignett is the new Project Officer for the Nettlebed Commons Project – she is appointed for 2 years and is about 3 months into her new role and is getting up to speed. At the end of the 2 years, she should be in a position to submit an application to the Secretary of State (SoS) to introduce selected grazing on Kingwood Common. Other commons were considered, but at this stage it has been agreed that concentration should be on Kingwood, as this represents the greatest opportunity to restore the lowland heath that is so rare in Oxfordshire. There are many issues to address, commencing with extensive public consultation, followed by proposals then further consultation. Leaflets are to be prepared that describe the aims of the project and that will attempt to answer some of the questions that are likely to be raised by concerned local residents and groups. Drop-in days in local halls are proposed this summer.

In the Autumn, Jenni will start to prepare the application to the SoS and to prepare the draft Management Plan, then she will look for funding sources for the grazing, including fencing. SoS approval could take up to 10 months from submission. Other community schemes, e.g. access and interpretation are proposed. Jenni confirmed that plant surveys exist on Kingwood, so this information will be useful for the application. Six of the eight Commons are registered as County Wildlife sites (includes Peppard & Kingwood). Issues regarding grazing animals are to be considered as part of the proposals.

Nigel Wooding

Health Walks

Want to get some exercise and improve your fitness level? Come and join our group of walkers and exercise in the countryside. Sonning Common Health Walks organise 11 free walks each week, which are graded by distance, terrain/stiles to help you judge which are suitable for you. On a Health Walk each person walks at their own pace so our groups do spread out. Each walk has 2 trained leaders, one at the front with the faster walkers, putting down arrows to mark the route, the other at the back with the slowest walker. Leaders carry mobile phones to summon help if required. We start each walk by warming up and doing some stretching exercises. On your first walks we will ensure that one of the leaders walks with you to help you find the way. You walk at your own pace, which will make you feel slightly warmer, slightly raise your heart rate and

make you breathe faster, but you should still be able to hold a conversation. Health Walking has many benefits, for example it helps to prevent heart disease, reduces cholesterol and blood pressure, relieves depression and anxiety, reduces stress, helps with weight management/obesity, helps with diabetes.

I started walking to help with low bone density. Being asthmatic and working full time with a young family made it difficult until I was introduced to the Health Walks. Initially even the easiest walks were very challenging; I needed to stop at least once on hills. I was delighted how quickly I started to improve and soon found I could walk up the hills (slowly) without stopping. Gradually I moved from being at the back of the group to being in the middle and then on to the longer walks. My asthma and bone density have improved, my weight has decreased and my fitness levels have soared and I made lots of new friends.

Our current timetable is available from the Health Centre or the Library. If you would like more information please contact me on 0118 9242515.

Please do bring with you any medication that you need whilst exercising. Hope to see you soon on the walks.

Chris(tine) Brook

Bishopswood NIMBY?

No, it is in Sonning Common's backyard.

The Sports Ground was sold out of public ownership, with the proviso that it be used for 'Sport & Recreation'. A planning application has been presented to SODC for a new pavilion on the site of the existing shacks. The pavilion will be a traditionally designed and built long structure and includes a flat for a caretaker.

The second phase, which is included in the application, will approximately double the size and encompasses a tower to house a climbing wall. It is well screened from the surrounding habitation by the existing woodland.

The developers, who are local people, have given an assurance that they have the £1M development finance in place and they hoped to start work on the development this autumn.



Architect's Model of the New Bishopswood

The only aspect of the proposal which need concern Peppard residents is access. The concept is that Sonning Common residents will be the main users and will approach by foot from the centre of Sonning Common and walk through the woods to use these sports facilities. Car access will be from Horsepond Road, turning by the Day Nursery.

The development will be wheelchair friendly, but it will not be possible to get there in a wheelchair without a car, since there is no provision for a wide, smooth track through the woods, such as is provided by BBOWT (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust) and others.

All users from surrounding villages will no doubt arrive by car and this will inevitably generate more traffic on the roads of Peppard.

Jim Smith

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FISH

The FISH AGM took place on Monday 28th April 2008 preceded by a Buffet Lunch for volunteers and invited guests; I believe a good time was had by all. Our volunteers and supporters come from all walks of life and they prepare and donate most of the food and beverages consumed. At the end of the meeting they roll up their sleeves, wash up and sweep the hall. It is heartening that we have so many like minded people in this and surrounding villages who willingly give up their time to help others.

The Co-ordinator Barbara Perez, retired at the AGM after serving almost four years, and is succeeded by Caroline Stockill who will no doubt give the same level of commitment that our clients have come to enjoy over the years. Three other Committee members retired: Clifford Pryke, Sue Frayling-Cork and Ruth Whitaker, who have all given many years of excellent service between them.

Barbara reported that our volunteers have carried out 687 ad hoc driving jobs during the course of the year, in addition to at least 12 regular weekly/fortnightly jobs bringing the total to well over 1000 car journeys. Our minibus makes trips most weekdays, again driven by volunteers, taking our clients shopping and to places of interest.

Malcolm Cooper-Smith, our Treasurer, reported that we had a small excess of income over expenditure and our finances are beginning to look healthier after the purchase of the new minibus three years ago which somewhat depleted our bank balance. We are most prudent in our expenditure, and are ever mindful that without client and supporter donations we could not operate effectively.

Reg Foster, our Bus Manager is preparing a new programme of events for the com-

ing months including the popular Afternoon Tea trips, so look out for the posters and book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Our Chairman, Philip Clark, took this opportunity to thank all our volunteers and supporters for their help during the last year and all the Committee thank you in advance for your continued support during the next.

Barbara Perez

Enter the Dragon

Experience the exhilaration of Dragon Boat Racing! This is your chance to race in a team in 30ft Hong Kong style Dragon Boats on the beautiful River Thames at Remenham Farm on Sunday 13th July 2008. Have a fun filled day whilst raising funds for Sue Ryder Care – Nettlebed Hospice.

Dragon Boat Racing is a team effort and is ideal for community minded organisations. Teams compete in heats, racing for position in the Grand Final. Trophies will be awarded to the winning teams, the best fancy dress and the team that brings the most sponsorship money on the day.

Remenham Farm, in Henley-on-Thames is a lovely setting for this event. Spectators and participants alike can relax along the river bank and watch the spectacle. There will be car-parking on site and refreshments.

Teams can consist of up to 15 people although only 11 members can be in the boat at one time (10 paddlers and 1 drummer). Entry fee is £150 per team (£10 per person if 15 members) and the minimum sponsorship is £1000 per team. To reserve your place or for more information, please contact Sarah on 01491 641070, email fundrais-ing.nettlebed@suerydercare.org or text

Dragon (07917 558760) with your full name and address.

Fancy putting on your running shoes for Sue Ryder Care?

Run with us and raise vital funds to help us put back what life limiting conditions such as Cancer and Multiple Sclerosis take away. Contact Gabriela at gabriela.potworoska@suerydercare.org or call 01491 641070

- British 10K—6th July
- Windsor Half Marathon—21 September
- Henley Half Marathon—12th October
- New York Marathon—2nd November and many others.

Slugs & Bugs

With summer finally with us, make the most of the season at Greys Court and enjoy it while it lasts. The Garden and Tearoom are open Tuesday to Saturday plus Bank Holiday Mondays from midday to 17.00 with last admission at 16.30, until September 27th 2008.

For families - join the Slug and Bug hunts, featuring a relaxed day of activities for children in the garden, with an organic picnic lunch included in the price. The day involves looking for and at various garden slugs and bugs which can be found at Greys Court and then various craft activities relating to our garden and the slugs and bugs. All children must be accompanied by an adult. These take place on Tuesday 5th and 19th August 2008, starting at 11.00. Tickets cost £15 per child and normal admission charge applies to adults. Please do book in advance on 0871 527 1887 or www.nationaltrust.org.uk/thamesandsolentevents. For further information on this and other events, please call the property on (01491) 628529 or check the Peppard News website (www.peppardnews.co.uk)

Paul Williamson

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More Village Matters

Green Gym

Having spent several sessions on the project, the Green Gym finally completed the removal of a redundant fence in Flowercroft Wood at the end of April. The carpet of bluebells made an idyllic setting for a satisfying morning's work.

See the Green Gym's current programme on www.greengym.org.uk/sonningcommon or call Robin Howles 0118 9723528.

Julia Booker

A Good Cause? In Need of Funds?

The Chiltern Edge Community Association, a charitable trust formed in 1979, is operated by a management committee drawn from local organisations. The committee meets twice a year to allocate surplus income to local organisations and individuals in accordance with its constitution – "... to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Sonning Common, Kidmore End, Rotherfield Peppard and the neighbourhood in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants".

Since 2002, donations have totalled in excess of £18,000. Recipients have included Guides, Playgroups, Schools, Scouts, Village Halls and a variety of local organisations and not least young people wishing to carry out sporting activities or to travel.

The CECA is keen to encourage requests for financial support, both for adults and young people, which in the first instance should be by letter to the secretary – Jenifer Titchener, 19 Sedgefield Close, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9TS

Local Recycling Group Claims Early Success

The Sonning Common Recycling Group, launched last October, has just recycled its 50th item: a wooden chest. The group achieved this through an innovative website which is dedicated to the free exchange of goods. The site works like Ebay, but everything listed is free. Anyone living near Sonning Common is welcome to use the site.

The group's aim is to save things from landfill and promote re-use and recycling. Group member Michael Harper suggests - "instead of taking unwanted possessions to the tip, why not list them on the site? Whether it is a bed or a bicycle, someone might well be able to use it".

One of the fun features of the site is the Member Map: A map of the South of England which then quickly zooms into South Oxfordshire. Anonymous red markers show the location of each member of the group. There are several members scattered around Peppard and Kingwood. If you register on the site, you can have fun finding your own marker.

The software was written for the Sonning Common Recycling Group by a sixteen year old pupil of Chiltern Edge School. There is an uplifting and very positive feel to the website. There are some useful items on offer and the site is a reminder of the generosity of the people living all around you. Of 100 items listed, 50 have already found a new home.

Visit

www.sonningcommon.recyclinggroup.org and start recycling today!

Michael Harper, Sonning Common Recycling Group; e-mail: srgr@quickerwit.com

The Dog

The old Dog pub, close to Rose Cottage where Elizabeth Goudge lived, recently closed and has now been transformed into an Italian restaurant – The Ruchetta, sister restaurant to one in Wokingham.



The Dog Pub—Drawing by Nigel Wooding

We haven't been yet, but have you? Would you like to send us your review of this new restaurant? Please share your experience and views with other readers.

Susan Carter

Oak Tree

Peppard News readers will recall that Oxfordshire County Council felled a huge beech tree located on the circus outside All Saints' Church last Autumn. We are happy to report that as part of its arbicultural programme OCC has now planted an oak tree to replace this beech.

At the same time, Oxfordshire Highways Department is actively looking at ways of solving the problem of the very large puddle, almost a permanent feature, outside the gates of All Saints' Church. The Highways Department hopes to address the problem by constructing a soakaway under the site of the puddle.

Ian Fraser

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Greenshoots Your Local Plant Nursery

We have had a record number of visitors to Greenshoots to buy their summer plants. Thank you for your feedback on the improvements at Greenshoots; they have been appreciated and well received.

You may not know that Greenshoots is part of The Ways & Means Trust, a Charity, which was set up in 1968 - we are celebrating our 40th anniversary.

We work with adults who have a range of disabilities. The Charity was set up by Dr David Duncan, and it provides a safe, friendly environment, where adults may learn new skills or refresh old ones, to gain confidence to progress towards employment. It was started in premises provided by an old established Reading Company, Huntley and Palmers. Greenshoots Nursery opened in 1994.

Plans for Greenshoots continue; sadly, one plan has resulted from the death of Mark Bradbury, who had been working with us for some time. We have already collected £100 towards developing a quiet area, where people may go to reflect and be still. This idea came from those who knew Mark well and wished a lasting memory.

We support the annual National Moth night, to provide data on the status of the moth population.

Studying these 'little brown jobs' is important for two reasons: a) we need moths as pollinators because of declining bee populations, and b) their short life makes population trends good indicators of climate and habitat change. Greenshoots has been participating in this survey for several years; the good news is a healthy and diverse moth population, which indicates good site management - 150 species recorded!

If you wish to join us on Friday 25th July, from 20.30 onwards, e-mail Denise – denise@waysandmeans.org.uk (or telephone, 0118 948 1944) – we do need some idea of numbers. We will have several moth traps and local moth 'expert', John Notton, will be supervising us. Children enjoy this event and there is no

charge – all donations towards refreshments will be gratefully received. Remember though, 'little brown jobs' don't like rain, so if it does, we will cancel. If we have your e-mail address, we will contact you to say when we are rescheduling.

Frances Hill

Peppard 10K Run

Charity runs - or strolls - help feed hungry children. Whether you are in serious training or just wanting a gentle stroll in beautiful countryside, Feed The Children's popular Peppard 10K run/7K walk could be for you. The mostly off-road course starts from Greys Green Golf Course, Rotherfield Peppard (RG9 4QG) and is for all the family – including the dog - on Sunday 28th September. Runners start at 10.30am, walkers at 10.35, and registration is from 09.30.



Last Year's Peppard 10K Run

Proceeds are in aid of international charity Feed The Children, which supports needy children and families in situations of famine, disaster, conflict and poverty, across Africa, Asia and eastern Europe - and here in the UK with breakfast clubs in deprived areas.

Entry fees are: Runners, £8 for adults in advance, £10 on the day. Walkers: £5 for adults in advance, £6 on the day. £1 for all children under 16.

For further information about the charity's work and to download a registration form, see www.feedthechildren.org.uk,

call Sally Brown on 0118 932 0095 or email info@feedthechildren.org.uk.

The charity would also love to hear from you if you could volunteer on 28th September to help with tasks such as registering the runners, marshalling the course or manning the water points.

Sally Brown

Peppard War Memorial Hall

Peppard War Memorial Hall is still seeking a Chairman to lead its Committee.

The Hall is a valuable community resource used by many including Peppard Bowls Club, Peppard Mother & Toddler Group and the Women's Institute as well as being home to the Chiltern Players.

If you think that you can help, or require further information, please contact Jill Kendal on 0118 972 2201.

There will be a Summer Fete taking place at Peppard War Memorial Hall on Saturday 28th June from 14.00 in order to raise urgently needed funds for a new roof and general refurbishment. There will be games and stalls as well as a colouring competition, face painting and raffle. We look forward to welcoming you.

For further information, please contact Emma Dag on 0118 924 2821.

Christian Aid 2008

The amount raised from the house to house collection during Christian Aid Week was £1,832. This figure will increase by £200, when the tax reclaimable from gift-aided donations is collected. With the inclusion of the proceeds from the *March Miscellany* concert, residents of Peppard and Greys will have donated a very generous £2,454 to enable Christian Aid to continue their work to help the world's poorest communities. On behalf of Christian Aid, we would like to thank the team of collectors, everybody who donated, and Rebecca Bell and Anthea Fry for their delightful concert.

Ian and Pat Fraser

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Church Matters

All Saints' Church of England www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk	Rector:	Revd Graham Foulis Brown	0118 972 3987
	Asst. Priests:	Revd Hugh Warwick	0118 972 3070
		Revd Barry Olsen	0118 924 2812
	Churchwardens:	Adrienne Heriot	01491 629254
		Peter Hutt	0118 984 1061

Our Small World

We have recently returned from New Zealand. We spent eight weeks there during which Marion gave concerts in six venues and the time in between was spent catching up with families and friends. Nigel Foster, Marion's young English pianist, remarked on what lovely friends we have and how they all seem to live in houses with glorious views!

When we arrived we stayed with friends in Auckland. Also staying with them was a 'woofer'. I learned that that means 'a willing worker on organic farms'. Our 'woofer' tries to visit New Zealand each year where she works on various farms and for our friends in their B&B in return for lodging. She is a clergy widow and back in England runs a Quiet Garden in Ludlow, a place one can visit for quiet and spiritual reflection. We look forward to meeting up with her on this side of the world.

A little later we went to stay with our singing/farming friends, the Thorburns. They told us that they had other friends from England staying. When the other friends arrived in from a walk they turned out to be Margaret and Paul Jefferson from Durham. Margaret is Dr John Hasler's sister! We had last met at our Trafalgar Day celebrations.

And so our tour continued. At Taupo the young lady sitting next to me in the hot pool in the evening was from Reading. It's a small world. I'll leave you to work out the spiritual implications of this for yourself! I imagine you'll come up with something about how interconnected and interdependent we all are.

Barry Olsen

A New Churchwarden

At the Annual Vestry meeting on 22nd April, Adrienne Heriot was elected as church warden to succeed Keith Atkinson. During the meeting Peter Hutt thanked Keith for the significant contribution he has made to the church and the parish during the eight years that he has served as warden. Churchwardens in the Henley Deanery were sworn in at the Archdeacon's visitation at Goring on 15th May. Adrienne is looking forward to serving as churchwarden and keeping this ancient and important role alive.

A Concert by Quire

On Saturday May 10th another in the series of concerts at All Saints' was given by Quire. As the title suggests the theme running through the concert was preparation and contemplation for the night ahead, and sleep. Interspersed within the musical items were four readings which included *Night Mail* by W H Auden, a poem by Dylan Thomas, *In the Secular Night* by Margaret Atwood and *Goodbat Nightman* by Roger McGough, a parody on Batman and Robin. There have been many excellent concerts and recitals at All Saints', but this concert must rank amongst the most memorable for the professionalism of the singers and the obvious enjoyment with which they delivered the programme. The voices blended beautifully and the

pieces were impeccably performed conveying the beauty and serenity of the music. A retiring collection in aid of Helen and Douglas House raised £560.

The E-type Returns

Last year Hat Trick productions spent a day at All Saints' filming a pilot episode for a projected new series *Our Mutual Friend*. This obviously went down well with the BBC and there is now to be a six episode series of this comedy drama. Once again residents of Church Lane had a grandstand view of a vintage E-type Jaguar, this time driven by the new star, Alexander Armstrong, traversing up and down the Lane. Co-star Keeley Hawes will feature in a wedding scene when the film company returns to film scenes for episode six in late June.

Hard Act to Follow

The all star team representing All Saints' came second in the county in terms of money raised at last September's Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride or Stride - over 500 churches in the county took part! The challenge is to do even better this year. The event takes place on Saturday 13th September and Ian Fraser, the OHCT organiser for All Saints', would welcome new team members. Please phone Ian on 01491 629631 if you would like to take part in a very enjoyable event.

The Rector's Anniversary

On 4th July our Rector, the Revd Graham Foulis Brown, will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a special service at 20.00 at the Church of St John the Baptist, Kidmore End. Everyone is most welcome to attend this rather special occasion.

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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

At St Michael's we come together each year for our Annual General Meeting: these are never the most exciting events and tend to be endured rather than enjoyed. But they do serve to allow everyone to come along and put any grievances, worries or complaints about the way matters are proceeding. Our AGM was on Sunday May 4th, and we combined it with a Bring-a-Dish lunch. For those of you who have endured many such meetings you will know that if a great number of people turn up then you are in trouble, because in all likelihood folk have come along to complain. So it was with a great sigh of relief that we did not have a huge

turn-out: just the usual suspects, so to speak. And that can be positive, because we can interpret it as a sign of approval....."Silence gives consent".

However we can't rest on our laurels, and with a noticeable rise in our congregation, particularly young families, we perhaps have to consider the provision of a creche. Since our present building isn't really suitable we need to think creatively about building an extension.

A genuine concern voiced at the AGM was that we do not readily come together for social events, and it was suggested that the Hall itself was not as inviting as it could be. So we have to face up to the idea of a make-over to make the Hall a more enticing venue. We shall be seeking funds from the Lottery and possibly from funds and charities in Europe. These are rather pleasant

issues to be faced with, because they speak of a lively and expanding community which is looking to develop and deepen its social life.

Two weeks ago, 20 young children made their First Communion, and in three more weeks our Archbishop will come to administer Confirmation to another group of our young parishioners. These are two important steps in the lives of young people. We hope that they will see these rites as affirming their maturity as young people preparing to face life's challenges and take their place in our modern world.

As the weeks pass we all look forward with longing to our summer holidays. I hope we can all make the very best of the opportunities we are offered in order to renew and refresh ourselves.

God bless you all

Fr Chris Bester



Minister
 Revd Phil Cheale
 0118 972 4519

A Short Tribute to the Rev. Philip Cheale

Phil Cheale, the minister of Peppard Congregational Church, now known as Springwater, has decided to retire in August of this year. Phil was offered the pastorate in the summer of 1991 by the membership at that time, which I believe numbered six stalwarts of the church.

I would say these people were brave and uncharacteristically adventurous, not to mention in touch with the Lord, in making this appointment. Why do I say this? Because Phil Cheale is a fantastically enthusiastic and outspoken preacher never afraid to "rock the boat" - if this is what is required to get across Jesus' message.

However his biblical knowledge is phenomenal and the prayer and love that goes into his inspirational teaching have always been evident.

The vision those church members had when appointing Rev. Cheale has been witnessed by the huge growth in the congregation over the ensuing years. This enabled the expansion of the premises, also needed to accommodate large numbers of children who attend the Sunday school classes for various ages. There is also a parent/toddler group serving the local area and outreach into the schools and community and including Springwater's involvement in the CCA shop in Sonning Common.

Phil and his wife Sylvia were missionaries for many years (20, I believe) in Sierra Leone and then Liberia in West Africa, before coming back to the UK with their children. One could fill a book describing just that period in Phil's

life but suffice it to say that he, and therefore this church, have strong links, particularly with Liberia. Among other projects, we support the Cheale Vocational College, to which containers of computers, clothes, etc, and even a large generator have been sent.

Pupils at the college have gained a vocational skill and many have come to know the Lord, including some who previously had tragic lives, even ex-child soldiers who had been drugged to kill and maim. This is in no small part due to the courage, determination and vision of Phil.

We are all going to miss this great man of God, this teacher, this loyal friend but no one deserves a rest more, although I know, even in retirement the Rev. Philip Cheale will continue to work for his beloved Jesus in one way or another.

Thank you Phil for having been our pastor.

Chris Girdler

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Clubs and Societies

The edge

On Saturday 5th July The edge Youth club is holding its second annual open day at the Youth Wing at Chiltern Edge. Last year's event was well attended, in spite of the weather, and we'd love to see even more local residents and friends joining us to see what our youth get up to! We will have sports, games, refreshments and other attractions to be announced nearer the time. For more information please contact us on 0118 972 4418.

Secondly, we and local businesses are sponsoring a young authors' competition for 11-19 year olds in the Sonning Common/Peppard/Kidmore End area, to be judged by a panel of experienced youth writers and English teachers. There are many prizes to be won, including laptop computers, book vouchers, and the chance for entrants to see their work performed on stage! Interested young writers will have until October to submit their work. Full rules and conditions can be found on the Sonning Common Parish website (<http://www.sonningcommonparish.co.uk/Writing/>).

Ros Jones

Wyfold Riding for the Disabled

Several of our members have been out and about recently. Jane Jones drove Magic on a sponsored drive around Windsor Great Park raising money for the Air Ambulance. It was the first organised event she had taken part in and she had a wonderful time. Driver Helen Towner went with Magic to the Royal Windsor Horse Show. They were not placed in their section of the showing class but came second in the cones competition. Helen was thrilled especially as Prince Philip stopped and spoke to her. Rider Sara Lee has been

to some dressage competitions with Benjy. They have done so well, gaining both first and second places, that they have now been entered for the South Region RDA Show in June where we hope they will be just as successful.

Recently a small gathering of people celebrated the planting of a tree in memory of the late Marcella Skinner, a founder member and friend of Wyfold RDA. The whitebeam tree looks extremely attractive with a seat round it that should prove popular in the summer.

On July 5th we are planning a Fun Day and BBQ for our young riders, parents, friends and helpers.

Adrienne Heriot, Chairman

Peppard WI

With a smaller committee than normal, Peppard WI members are all being asked to make a larger contribution to the running of our monthly meetings. This, in turn, brings an even warmer sense of fellowship. At our May meeting, the two resolutions to be brought to the NFWI annual general meeting in Liverpool, 'The inappropriate imprisonment of the severely mentally ill' and 'Ban on Bottom Trawling'! were clearly explained by two members. We discussed these before we indicated to our delegate that we wished to vote for both resolutions. We are hoping that the weather will be kind to us for our July meeting when we will be celebrating Dinah Payne's 100th birthday in a member's garden. Dinah joined Peppard WI around the time that many of the members were born. In August we are having an 'Open Garden' event and we would welcome family and friends to join us. Do contact me on 01189478392 or any other member for more details

Irene Lindsay

1st Sonning Common Cubs

At our big musical spectacular at the start of April we entertained all our parents with puppet shows and songs from Jungle Book. This term we have completed our Promise Challenge. As part of this we did a 'Good Turn Every Day' for two weeks! And we have just started our Fitness Challenge. Most of us marched in the Henley St George's Day Parade and we entered a team in the 'Cub Powered Go-Karts' competition in Goring. It was the taking part that mattered! We are now preparing for the June district camp in Homer.

We meet every Tuesday at 18.00 in Baskerville Road, Sonning Common. If you are interested in joining us please contact Penny Cottrell (Akela) on 0118 3262790. You can put your name down at any age and we always welcome new Cubs.

Peppard Bowls Club

Following the Open afternoon at the beginning of the season four or five new members have joined and are attending Club afternoons on Mondays and Thursdays. The Club is doing well in the MUL and Plomer Cup leagues with five wins to date. Two new fixtures for friendly matches this year: one at AWRE, another against Hanborough got off to a good start at the beginning of Bank Holiday weekend. Unfortunately due to bad weather the Dick Bishop Cup competition and the return friendly at Goring Almshouses was cancelled - after a win for Peppard when they played them at home.

Gala Day is fixed for Sunday 10th August when we shall be entertaining a number of local Bowls Clubs in an all day competition. See our website at www.peppardbowlsclub.btik.com

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Sue Nickson (0118 972 4520) or Pat Fraser (01491 629631)

Peppard Cricket Club

Flaming June has arrived more with a whimper than a bang as the rain continues to make the wickets soft and the likelihood of cricket being rained off very high. With a combination of poor cricket, good opposition and indifferent weather it was only on the 1st June that the club recorded its first win in any form of competition. A fact that had even Marty Evans scratching his head to recall the last time it took Peppard so long to record the season's first victory.

This weather has however meant that even more attention needs to be given to the square and the outfield with willing volunteers to the fore.

The club has hobbled into the 21st century and established a website, <http://peppard.play-cricket.com/home/home.asp> where anyone can view the club's results and read reports of games. Those of a statistical persuasion can view the batting and bowling figures of the players going back to 2005 and this will gradually be extended as time permits.

We all look forward to the summer finally getting into full swing to get the best out of the facilities on the common and if the weather ever relents, would welcome spectators down to the common to watch proceedings on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

Ronnie Brock

1st Peppard Guides

With (we thought) the dark days of our wet winter behind us we decided to greet our new term with lots of outdoor activities. Well, the weather at the beginning of term did not match our confidence in such pursuits, but as we got closer to half term the weather positively shone down on our map reading exercises and thanks to the lovely grounds we have at our meeting place the girls held an energetic rounders match – which was both hotly contended and great fun.



1st Peppard Guides—Bell Boating

We rounded off the first half of the Summer Term with a bell boating session at Longridge in Marlow. The girls had a fantastic (if rather wet) time with their instructors Conrad and Kim.

We are looking forward to the weather continuing to shine on us for the rest of the Summer Term as we get stuck into more outdoor activities, e.g tracking and

trailing, a riverside walk and barbeque – not to mention our weekend trip to Jubilee House at the end of June. But whatever the weather we are sure we will have a great time.

Amanda Coull

2nd Kidmore End Brownies

The Brownie movement is linked very much to everyday life and tries to provide what is useful and fun that school just doesn't have space for – so, over the last few months, this has led to activities for the Road Safety badge and Healthy Heart award. As summer comes along we look forward to participating in Village Day at Kidmore End where we provide a game to raise money for charity, one chosen by the Brownies in traditional form, a pow-wow! To join the waiting list, please telephone 0118 9724606.

Ros Jennings

Peppard Mother & Toddler Group

We are a friendly group of parents and carers that meet each Tuesday during term time from 09.45 to 11.45 at Peppard War Memorial Hall, Gallowstree Road. Come and join us to play, listen to a story and sing songs. Refreshments provided.

Summer term ends on 15th July but we continue to meet at Binfield Heath playground during the summer break, weather permitting!

For further information call Emma Dag on 0118 924 2821 or just turn up.

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Peppard Diary

JULY														
Tue	1	Mobile Library – see below for time & place									Wed	6	Police Surgery/SC Village Hall/10.00-12.00	
Thu	3	Peppard School/Festival of Voices/Dorchester Abbey									Mon	11	RPPC Planning Committee/Pavilion/20.15 scheduled	
Fri	4	Peppard School/Sports Day (or 18 th)									Tue	12	Mobile Library – see below for time & place	
Sat	5	SODC/OCC Councillor Surgery/10-12/St Michaels The edge Youth/Club Open Day/0118 9724418 Wyfold RDA/ Fun Day/BBQ									Wed	13	WI/Open Garden	
Sun	6	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00									Thu	21	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH office	
Mon	7	RPPC Planning Committee/Pavilion/20.15 scheduled FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH office									Tue	26	RPPC Planning Committee/Pavilion/20.15 scheduled Mobile Library – see below for time & place	
Wed	9	WI/ Garden Meeting/ Roger and Shirley Hartley-Booth									Sat	30	Sue Ryder/Sale of Goods/10.30-13.30	
Sat	12	Sue Ryder Sale of Books/10.30-12.30									SEPTEMBER			
Sun	13	Sue Ryder Dragon Boat Race									Mon	1	FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH office	
Mon	14	Police Surgery/Sports Pavion/17.30-19.30 RPPC Council Meeting/19.30/Pavilion RPPC Planning Committee/21.30 scheduled									Wed	3	Police Surgery/SC Village Hall/10.00-12.00 Peppard School/Term begins	
Tue	15	Mobile Library – see below for time & place									Sat	6	Hort.Soc./Autumn Show/CE School/15.00	
Wed	16	Police Surgery/SC Village Hall/10.00-12.00									Sun	7	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00	
Thu	17	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH office									Mon	8	Police Surgery/Sports Pavion/17.30-19.30 RPPC Council Meeting/19.30/Pavilion RPPC Planning Committee/21.30 scheduled	
Wed	23	Peppard Lunch Club/12.15/Memorial Hall Peppard School/Term ends lunchtime									Tue	9	Mobile Library – see below for time & place	
Mon	28	RPPC Planning Committee/Pavilion/20.15 scheduled									Wed	10	WI/My Life as a Wimbledon Umpire/14.30/Mem.Hall	
Tue	29	Mobile Library – see below for time & place									Sun	14	Sue Ryder/10 or 30 mile bike ride/Sarah 01491641070	
AUGUST												Wed	17	Peppard Lunch Club/12.15/Memorial Hall
Sat	2	SODC/OCC Councillor Surgery/10-12/St Michaels Sue Ryder/Sale of Goods/10.30-12.30 Hort.Soc./Evening Reception/Lychgate Farm									Thu	18	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH office	
Sun	3	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00									Sat	20	RPPC Planning Committee/10.00/Pavilion Sue Ryder/Sale of Goods/10.30-12.30 Hort.Soc./Outing to Wisley/Janet Evans 0118 9723245	
Mon	4	FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/Details FISH office									Tue	23	Mobile Library – see below for time & place	
Mobile Library – time & place – Peppard School 11.45 – 11.55						FISH Office: 0118 9723986 (Mon-Fri, 09.30-11.30)								
Green Gym: Robin Howles – 0118 9723528						Peppard Lunch Club: Sally Longhurst 0118 9722808								

STATIC ATTENDED DUSTCARTS/KERBSIDE GARDEN WASTE (BROWN BINS)

Month	July				August				September			
Date	2 nd	4 th	16 th	30 th	1 st	13 th	28 th	29 th	10 th	24 th	26 th	
Place		RP			SC			RP			SC	
Place: RP = Peppard Xroads, SC = behind Somerfield. Garden/electrical waste will NOT be accepted, ONLY Non-recyclable general. Times: Fri 8-11												
Gdn Wste	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		

Please Note that the general waste cart has now been moved to a FRIDAY

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	JULY				AUGUST					SEPTEMBER				NOTES
	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	28 th September Harvest Thanksgiving
10.30 Communion (sung)		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	
10.30 Matins	✓				✓					✓				
10.30 Family Service			✓				✓					✓		
10.30 Sunday School		✓									✓			
18.30 Evensong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

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

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Saturday 17.30 ♦ Sunday 09.00 & 10.30

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