

Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Peppard Hospital

Summer 2010

When Peppard Hospital finally closed in 1980, it marked the end of a chapter of pioneering medicine into the treatment and cure of one of the world's killer diseases. Before the discovery of antibiotics, tuberculosis (TB) was the scourge of 19th century public health, responsible for 1 in 8 deaths in Britain alone. But in 1902, TB sufferers were given fresh hope when Reading doctor Esther Carling (or Colebrook as she then was) bought Kingwood Farm and opened Peppard Sanatorium.

Dr Carling had already notched up a considerable reputation. She was one of the first doctors to pioneer the new open air treatment for TB, successfully treating patients in a ward she had set up at a Sonning Common farmhouse some years earlier. The ground-breaking treatment relied on fresh air, relaxation and good food. Peppard, on the edge of the Chilterns, away from urban pollution, was an ideal location. Patients, bundled up under blankets, would lie in their beds on verandas in all weathers or next to wide-open windows. Chalet-type wards on turntables that could be swivelled so patients would face the sun.

Dr Carling remained at Peppard until 1938 and was succeeded as medical superintendent by Dr Harley Stevens who continued her good work. However, after the war and the introduction of antibiotics, TB cases fell dramatically. The sanato-

rium became Peppard Chest Hospital specialising in other chest (and, later, heart) diseases requiring more modern equipment and operating theatres.

But the ethos remained the same. With its own farm, vegetable gardens, orchard, laundry and tuck shop, the hospital was very self-sufficient. Its easy-going atmosphere was particularly important for patients, many of whom were there for months, even years, until cured. There were snooker tables, a library and



Staff and patients of Peppard Hospital

a hall where shows, concerts and film evenings were regular events. Kindercot ward, for long-stay children, also included a school. As patients grew fitter, they were encouraged to do 'graded work.' Mornings, they would help on the wards, collect eggs from the farm or do light work in the gardens. Afternoons were for resting. 'It was such a happy place,' recalls Dorothy Rose, a ward sister from 1962-1972. 'It was very home-from-home. There was always good food, cooked on the premises.

Some of the men who weren't infectious even used to sneak off for a pint at The Unicorn!'

After they were cured, many patients took jobs at the hospital - as nurses (there was an on-site nurses' training school) or in other capacities. Former Kindercot nurse Anne Watts met her late husband Ron in 1954 when he was on morning ward duty. He had been a TB patient for two years. After discharge, he did nursing training, remaining at Peppard with Anne until the hospital closed. Anne recalls the camaraderie. 'There would be singing on the wards. We used to work overtime - we were never asked, we just wanted to do it.'

By the mid-Sixties, the hospital (soon to become Peppard Hospital) was still providing chest services for Reading hospitals. There were also beds for rheumatology patients, long-stay children and the elderly, plus an X-ray department and outpatient clinics. In 1970, the Sonning Common practice took over responsibility for the Norman White ward - a popular community facility mostly used by the GPs' own admissions and post-operative patients from Reading. But the writing was on the wall. As more sophisticated medical techniques were introduced at Reading, Peppard became obsolete. The main hospital officially closed in 1978 followed by the Norman White ward in 1980. Gradually, the old buildings fell into disrepair and the site was sold for housing. An era had ended.

Carol Evans

Editorial

Time for change. When I joined the newly formed Peppard News Team in the summer of 2005, the only vacant post was that of Editor. Somewhat hesitantly, I agreed to take on this role, on the basis that if someone else came along in the next few months who had appropriate experience, I would hand over. It was all new to me, it has been interesting and at times challenging and I have learned a lot. Five years on and still Editor, I feel it is now time for change and so I am leaving the Peppard News Team this summer.

I hope that whoever takes it on will enjoy it as much as I have and will ensure that *Peppard News* continues for a very long time to provide the community with an informative and interesting account of the many diverse activities and personalities there are in the Parish of Rotherfield Peppard. Would you like to take on the role? Please make contact if you would like to be considered. (See page 4)

My thanks to the Team for their continuing hard work and dedication to *Peppard News*.

Susan Carter, Editor

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Peppard News is also available by e-mail.

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Our Schools



Trip to Manor Adventure

On Monday, 22nd March Year 6 children, accompanied by myself (their class teacher) and Kit Sharpe, left Reading Station to begin their journey to Shropshire. The group spent the week at Manor Adventure, an outdoors education centre, taking part in lots of fun and exciting activities.



The types of activities included: kayaking, canoeing, abseiling, high ropes, underground maze, camp craft, survival, hill



Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU

Phone: 01491 628354

Headteacher - **Tina Nowell**

Chairman of the Governors
David Sell

walking, fencing, obstacle courses and blind trail. It was an amazing week, enjoyed by all.

The children were true ambassadors for their school and showed courage, strength, maturity and leadership qualities, even when they were faced with activities that took them out of their comfort zone.

Debra Harrison

The Year 5's and 6's at Peppard CE Primary School have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians. As part of literacy they explored Egyptian myths: here is Stephanie Croft's myth.

Poisoned Plants

Taynosis was sat miserably in a corn field, wishing he was ruler of Egypt, but of course he wasn't. He said (to himself), 'what can I do, what can I do to make people want me ruler?' Suddenly an idea hit him! It was cruel and would take a lot of effort, yet he thought it was worth it.

After about a week of non-stop work his plan was finally to be put into action. Taynosis stepped out of his door with a great sense of accomplishment. First of all, he ran to the nearest town he could find with a large area of plants. Taynosis took a small bottle of chemicals out of his pocket and poured it all over the plants in that area. The plants instantly became poisonous.

Over half of the village relied on food from those plants. Once eating a small amount of the plants, they instantly be-

came ill. People begged for him to stop but he didn't. Layra was the god that guarded that village and she was not happy with what he was doing. She decided that she had to stop him.

The next day Layra went to a local field and instantly found Taynosis there poisoning plants. 'Why are you doing this?' she asked sadly. Taynosis replied in an angry voice, 'I should be the ruler of Egypt, that's why I am poisoning plants. To make people beg at my feet to stop and I shall make them make me ruler to stop poisoning the plants'.

Layra walked towards Taynosis but he immediately drew his sword. She could tell Taynosis was very nervous. In his other hand, Taynosis had the chemicals. Layra drew her sword (with great confidence) and they started to fight!

They fought for hours but eventually Taynosis stopped for a second just to breathe. In those few short seconds he had stopped, Layra had whistled and a million children ran in from that village. The children held Taynosis down and dragged him to the village dungeons.

High members of the Lord Council were so proud of Layra that they made her rulers of the Lords. Just the plants that were poisoned could not be reversed. So now people are very careful not to go near those plants.

By Stephanie Croft, Year 6

Sonning Common Baby & Toddler Group

We are a small, friendly, parent-led group that meets every Wednesday in Christ the King Church Hall. We welcome children aged 0-5, accompanied by parents, grandparents or childminders.

Being a volunteer group with an income below £30,000, the group applied for and has been awarded a Grassroots Grant from the Oxfordshire Community Foundation

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(www.oxfordshire.org). We were delighted to receive just over £3,000 to cover the purchase of lots of new toys and equipment, the demolition of the existing shed and a replacement shed. We have also joined Reading Toy Library and have borrowed a selection of fun toys.

We would like to thank the Reverend Graham Foulis-Brown for supporting our application and for the donation of £50 from the Church to put towards the new shed, and Mike Farina Auto Services for taking delivery of some of the larger toys.

We follow the Sonning Common school term calendar. Fees are £20 per family per term or £2.50 per session. No need to book - just come along and play.

Please contact Alison on 0118 972 1131 or Nikki on 0118 972 4241 if you would like further information.

Peppard Mother & Toddler Group

We meet each Tuesday morning during term time from 09:45-11:45 at Peppard War Memorial Hall. The term ends on Tuesday 13th July for the summer holidays, reopening on Tuesday 7th September.

The group is not just for those with toddlers; we welcome anyone with new-borns right 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 as well as activity tables, craft, play equipment and much more for the older children. There is also a story and singing at the end of each session.

During the morning we have a break for the children to have snacks and a drink with a well earned cup of tea or coffee for the mums, and maybe the odd biscuit or two!

The group is a great way to get to know other people in the 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.

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

Village Pre-Schoolers Need Your Help

If all goes to plan, our much loved - if somewhat dilapidated - village pre-school is going to be knocked down this summer. Oxfordshire County Council has agreed to build a brand new pre-school (subject to planning consent), this coming autumn. Although thrilled, we are now faced with the enormous task of raising enough money to fit-out and equip our new state-of-the-art home.



SC Pre-School Children at play

We need to raise at least £12,000; this is four times more than usual.

Can you help us? If you are entering a sports event/marathon soon, would you consider raising money for us? Your business may be able to donate a raffle prize or something we could auction at our next big event. All contributions will be acknowledged in our regular newsletter to parents and, where possible, the

local press. We would like to say a big thank you to the One-Stop, Forresters, Heath & Watkins and P. Smith Pet Supplies for putting collection tins on their counters, so people can make cash donations if they wish.

The plans for the new building will be on display in the library for most of the summer. For more information visit www.sonningcommonpreschool.co.uk

Nikki Hampton

Rainbow Children's Centre

We arrived at Woodcote Village Hall with coats and umbrellas. The weather forecast was bad yet we were all determined that rain wasn't going to ruin our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. As it turned out it was a wonderful day and the coats were soon discarded.

There were so many different animals to see and everybody had their favourite. The meerkats were funny and you could get really close to them. The penguins swam and waddled and we watched them being fed. Some of us loved the insect house with all the creepy crawlies, others preferred the cheeky monkeys. Those who were brave enough got a picture taken next to the giant anaconda snake.

At lunchtime many people had picnics on the grass. In the afternoon we enjoyed a ride on the miniature train and spotted the animals as we went.

Finally, there was just enough time for a visit to the gift shop before we were back on board the coach, showing each other our souvenirs and exchanging stories about our amazing day.

To join us on future trips look out for information advertised at our various play sessions.

Fran Bunkall, Children's Centre Manager, fran@nomadhenley.co.uk

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Parish Council

Chairman: Nick Launders
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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.

Councillors

The Parish Council currently have vacancies for three Councillors. If you are interested in serving the community, please contact: Barbara Marston, Clerk to the Parish Council on: 01491 684188 or, via their website: rppc.org.uk

Development Refused

Two separate applications for development are not going ahead. One for three houses to be built in the garden of a house on Stoke Row Road has been refused and another, for six houses to be built in the garden of Mulberry House was withdrawn when a tree preservation order was placed on the trees in the garden. In both instances neighbours objected to the potential loss of privacy and increased traffic.

Talking about development in the district, SODC Councillor Alan Rooke said, 'No houses in Peppard have been planned but if people decide they want to build in their back gardens we have no control over it'.

Speeding

Plans to raise the speed limit on Stoke Row Road and the B481 from 30 mph to 40mph have been postponed. Chairman of the Parish Council, Nick Launders said that drivers are still speeding through the village and the police will continue to carry out random speed checks.

Snippets

Local ~~Pub~~ Café Review The Herb Farm

Knowing that the Herb Farm is a popular lunch venue, in a departure from our normal pub reviews, we sent our reporter off to investigate.

To my surprise, my partner suggested that we try the Herb Farm in Sonning Common for lunch - surely they just do famous cream teas? Wrong! We arrived shortly after midday, which was just as well - by 13.00 it was really busy. Restaurant seating, previously confined to the conservatory, has now been extended to include the adjacent atmospheric mediaeval barn and two outside patio areas. It seems just a few years ago that catering at the Herb Farm was confined to a very dodgy self-help coffee machine!

The Herb Farm has no licence to sell alcoholic drinks, but no worries, we enjoyed our elderflower pressés - one of an innovative selection of soft drinks. The menu was mainly restricted to a good and varied choice of light lunch dishes and sandwiches, but there was also a daily special which my partner enjoyed: chicken and bacon in a sweet mustard ketchup with new potatoes and a side salad - 'a very generous portion and tasty plate of food' was the verdict. I could say the same for my two large slices of Quiche Lorraine, served with salad garnish and freshly cooked chunky chips. How refreshing when my request for tomato ketchup was met with the ketchup being presented in a pretty little glass dish - no sign of those ghastly plastic sachets which are impossible to open (and no place to discard the empties)!

We felt rather full so desserts were a real indulgence. Our friendly waiter obliged by dividing up a single portion of wonderful German apple torte complete with clotted cream! This was a very enjoyable lunch experience which cost the grand sum of £21.50. Two very satisfied customers then proceeded to get lost in the maze!

A Contributor

Situations Vacant

Editor Required. Come and join the Peppard News team as our new editor. On average, an hour a week with more time spent around production week.

Salary £0.

Contact Susan Carter, 01491 628549 or Rita Hadgkiss, 01491 629996 or e-mail PeppardNews@aol.com

Christian Aid 2010

On behalf of Christian Aid, we would like to thank all the people of Peppard and Greys who gave so generously during Christian Aid week. The charity will benefit from a total of £2551 (including reclaimable Gift-Aid tax). This amount was raised from the house to house collection and the retiring collection taken at the *Darling Buds of May* concert.

As always, we are very grateful to the team of collectors for their help and support. Thank you also to Rebecca, Sarah and Nigel for giving their large audience at All Saints' Church on 15th May such a wonderful evening.

Early Diagnosis in Dementia

NHS Oxfordshire and Oxfordshire County Council are seeking feedback to enable the development of a pathway of care for early diagnosis and intervention in dementia. To take part visit: www.tinyurl.com/NHSOxon-dementia

Big Easter Eggs & Spectacles

The Lions Club raised £509 for charity during the Easter weekend raffling five extra large chocolate eggs from venues including The Hare & Hounds and the Pet Shop in Sonning Common. The Lions have also been collecting unwanted spectacles for recycling free to visually impaired people in third world countries. Sonning Common Surgery was one of the collection points and a total of 1,300 pairs of glasses were donated.

Lions Club members are ordinary people who do amazing things. To find out about them call 0845 833 9837, email: info@lions-gwd.org.uk, website: www.lions-gwd.org.uk

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Oxfordshire Advocacy

Can you help people with comprehension difficulties, health problems, etc., to get their voices heard? Oxfordshire Advocacy runs schemes to train volunteers to help. Please call 01865 741200, email oadg@oadg.org.uk or visit www.oadg.org.uk if you'd like to get involved.

Can You Help?

If you studied at Oxford Brookes University or any of its associated colleges, please send your anecdotes and photos to alumni@brookes.ac.uk for inclusion in the shared history being compiled to celebrate Oxford Brookes's 150th anniversary in 2015.

Beware Bogus Biodegradable Bags

Please make sure you buy genuine biodegradable bags for your food waste. Don't get caught by rogue traders selling bogus bags. The Council's website www.southoxon.gov.uk/foodwaste has a list of places stocking genuine bags, or call 03000 610 610 for advice.

Grit Bins for Peppard

Let Barbara Marston know where you want grit bins to be installed in Peppard. e-mail: barbara.marston4@btinternet.com

Volunteering in Cambodia

In January I went to Cambodia as a volunteer teacher with sponsorship from the Peppard Educational Trust.

I went straight to Grace House, the community centre in Kor Kranh Village, just outside Siem where there are rural communities subsisting on farming and fishing. The children who attend the community centre live in houses made of palm leaves with no running water so

water pumps are used to draw infected water from the ground and several families share a single toilet. Many of the children have no parents and are raised by extended family or neighbours. This can cause an extra burden to a family especially in a country where the average wage is \$40 a month. Grace House

aims to provide education to the children and projects for the people of the community to enable them to become self-sufficient, e.g. weaving for the women and growing vegetables. Donations of rice are given to the poorest families and they are helped to replace their roofs which have a life span of a year before they cave in. Some of these children have HIV and most of them have only two sets of clothes.

On my first day, I walked into my bamboo classroom. Sitting on the floor were 25 children aged 3 - 9, chatting excitedly to each other in Khmer. The classroom was completely bare. I started by handing out paper and paints; using exaggerated body language and translation from a Khmer teacher, I asked the children to paint a picture of their families. I demonstrated for them and they all cop-

ied my painting exactly! They didn't seem to be able to use their imaginations to paint their own picture. Working with 3 to 5 year olds in my previous job back in England, I realised that creativity and confidence are two of the most vital ingredients to a child's development.

Every day, as part of teaching the children English, I tried to incorporate an art or music based activity. Soon their creativity began to show and pictures were hung

around the classroom - the classroom was taking shape. Although the Khmer children were the most independent, resilient children I had ever come across, teaching them was not always easy. The Khmer teacher in the classroom had no experience of teaching and therefore I had to 'teach the teacher.' The education she had received was very basic. Discipline was also another difficult topic.

Children would come into the class with horrific wounds and I would try to help using my basic first aid skills. A child came into the class one day with a deep gash across his shin which was infected. I later found out his mother had hit him with a wooden stick for breaking a plate.

Cambodia seems a world away but is close to my heart. The people of Cambodia continue to inspire me, they are the happiest, most contented people I have met, and they have nothing. Smiles are continually spread across their faces which makes you wonder what exactly we as westerners have to worry about...

Ellie Jefferies

See www.gracehousecambodia.org, www.newhopecambodia.com or www.globalteer.com



Ellie's Class

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Our Village

Drivers Needed

Summer is with us at last and the next few months will be very challenging for FISH. The reason is simply that our regular drivers will be taking holidays and visiting friends and families. Over the last year or so we have struggled to find new bus and car drivers to replace those who have 'retired' or left the area and so we are now very keen to talk to anyone who would like to offer a little of their time to drive people, for mostly medically related appointments, in their own cars. The people we drive are often unable to get to appointments under their own steam. Some of our volunteer drivers drive regularly, sometimes 2 or 3 times a week, others find it convenient to help with a specific regular journey at the same time every week and others are happy to receive a call and maybe drive only once a month or even less regularly. It doesn't matter, we are happy to welcome you on any basis as having a pool of drivers helps us, particularly in the summer months. No-one involved in FISH receives any pay as we are a strictly volunteer charity but we do pay out-of-pocket expenses to all our volunteers using their own cars, based on a rate per mile.

Equally we are looking for more mini-bus drivers, particularly for occasional back-up duties when a regular driver is sick or away. Full training will be given in advance of driving the bus with passengers.

Whether it is driving the mini-bus or driving your own car, it is rewarding work, so if you have any interest please call 0118 972 3986. Our office in Sonning Common Village Hall is open 9.30 - 11.30 weekdays; it is the same number for booking bus trips and asking for someone to take you to medical appointments. You can always leave a message on the answerphone at anytime and someone will call you back when the office is next open.

Phil Clark

Commons News

A lot of routine maintenance has been carried out on the commons, including path clearance, removal of areas of brambles and undergrowth in certain areas. As ever, the Green Gym has been spearheading this work, which is much appreciated, although contractors have been engaged to clear specific areas and also other volunteers have been carrying out routine clearances.

Fly-tipping continues to be a problem, although SODC's service to collect illegal dumping of rubbish has been extremely

effective and speedy. The car-park on (old) Colliers Lane has been a target by fly-tippers, but we hope that the work by the Green Gym to make this area more visible will have a positive effect.

The application for seasonal grazing and fencing on Kingwood has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and formal notices of this were advertised. It is uncertain how long the review process will take, but an outcome is expected before the end of the year. Obviously there are those who support the proposal and those who do not but, whatever the result, it is clear that the maintenance of Kingwood cannot continue to rely simply on the Green Gym and it is strongly believed that the proposal before the Inspectorate represents the most sustainable solution.

Nigel Wooding

Kingwood Common Preservation Group

The date for all objections to the Conservators' plan to enclose part of Kingwood Common has now passed. The matter lies with the Secretary of State through the Inspectorate and we now await their decision. We hope that the application will be dismissed or at least a Public Inquiry instigated.

Graham Parnum

Sonning Common Library

The Summer Reading Scheme for children (designed to keep them interested in reading when not at school!) will be starting in July, and this year the theme is *Space Hop*. There are stickers, fridge magnets, bookmarks, pens, medals and certificates to collect. All the children have to do is make three trips to the library over the summer (between the beginning of July and the middle of September) and read six books... not too difficult, surely?!

For more information about summer activities, call in at the library in Grove Road, or phone 0118 972 2448.

Rosemary Dunstan

Joan Austin's Peppard

Oil lamps, a kitchen range, one cold water tap and outside toilet – these were the facilities at Joan's first home as a newly-wed in 1953. Now aged eighty, she was born in Cumbria but remembers wishing to move south from an early age. She left school at fourteen and became a typist but volunteered for the Land Army as soon as she was eligible.

Pleased to be sent here, Joan was given accommodation at Kingwood Common and had the job of milking eight cows at Rectory Farm, Peppard Common. 'Country folk,' she says, 'are more friendly than town people but people seem to have less time to talk these days.' It was there, in 1948, that she met Cyril Austin, a tractor driver, whom she married.

Their first home belonged to her husband's family and her father-in-law lived with them in Shiplake Bottom which was just a mud track back then. Cyril worked for the Council at the Depot of the Highways Department (just opposite their house) mending the roads. In winter, he went out on the salt and grit lorries. The couple had two sons, David and Robin. Joan worked in the kitchen of the Sonning Common Primary School serving meals and washing up.

In 1961 the family were given a council house in Sonning Common and moved to Joan's present home in Church Lane, Peppard in 1969. At the time there were just four privately owned houses opposite the twelve council houses and the houses in Dray's Lane had not yet been built. The houses have been updated with central heating and replacement windows but nothing much else has changed. The Housing Act 1980 gave tenants the right to buy their house and of the twelve properties, seven are now in private ownership. A footpath was created outside the council houses during the late 60s to make it safer for the children to walk to Peppard Primary School. This meant that Joan lost about two yards of her front garden.

Joan has always loved animals and the outdoor life and for 25 years she worked at Rocky Lane Orchard where cherries,

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apples, pears and cobnuts were grown. Pruning work was in the late winter and picking the produce through until the autumn. When she was sixty, the orchard closed down with the coming of the Common Market (precursor to the European Union). Joan has lived alone since Cyril died of a heart attack two and a half years ago.

She has always enjoyed walking her dog and her dog's company is important to her. Joan has always taken holidays in the UK having had only one holiday abroad: she went to America but did not enjoy it. She is no longer able to go on long walks but has to content herself with 'mind travelling' through reading about interesting places, animals and the countryside. 'The older you get,' says Joan, 'the more humour you see in things.'

Sue Nickson

Quiz Night at Peppard War Memorial Hall

The Quiz Night at Peppard War Memorial Hall was more popular than ever this year. The evening was in aid of the on-going work needed to keep our lovely hall staggering into the next decade.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event, over £1,000 was raised.

Sue Davenport, Hall Trustee

Dragon Boat Race

This will be held at Upper Thames Rowing Club on 11th July 2010 in aid of Sue Ryder Care Nettlebed Hospice.



Last Year's Event

To take part in this fun fundraising event contact Kelly.gibson@suerydercare.org or call 01491 641070 for details and entry form. Sue Ryder Care needs to raise

£1.4 million each year to continue offering specialist care for local people with life limiting conditions. See www.suerydercare.org

Samuel Hood Memorial Peppard Walk/Run

Fun runners and walkers will join more experienced athletes for this popular event across wooded paths and rural tracks, with the aim of raising at least £2,500 for Feed The Children (UK). It will take place on Sunday 5th September, registration at 09.30 at Greys Green Golf course.

Contact Sally Brown on 0118 9320 095 or visit www.feedthechildren.org.uk for details/entry forms

Local Policing

If you have any issues or concerns you wish to raise, please complete the questionnaire available on

www.southoxon.gov.uk (search for Neighbourhood Action Groups), and return it to

HenleyRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or post to Henley Rural NHPT, Henley Police Station, 4 Greys Road, Henley on Thames. RG9 1RY.

An exhibition offering help and advice on how to reduce house burglaries is to be held on Saturday, 11th September 9.30-12.30 in Sonning Common Village Hall. In the meantime, if you have concerns about home security contact the Crime Reduction Adviser, Julia Wheeler on 01491 843835.

A *Have your Say* meeting with PC Barbara Taylor will be held on Thursday, 24th June 10.00-11.00 at The One Stop in Wood Lane; no appointment needed.

Contacts: Non-emergency tel. no. 0845 8 505505, email HenleyRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk to view

Greys Court

Greys Court is open until 26th September, 14.00-17.00, Wednesday to Sunday. Both the Gardens and the Team Room open at 11.00. A timed ticket system for entry to the house is in operation. Tickets can be booked in advance, 01491

628529 or by visiting www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

A summer of fun is planned including Open Air Theatre, a Creepy Crawlies Day, Tours of the grounds, Music and Moonlight, a Family Tour with Craft Activities, a Family Guided Tour and an Apple Day. Booking is essential for most of these events, see the above website or call 0844 2491895 for information.

Help for Heroes

On Saturday 17th July from 15.30-23.00 a Music and Beer Festival will take place in the one acre back garden of the Red Lion Inn, Peppard Common.



The incentive for Julie and Graham, landlords of the Red Lion, to put on this event came from a regular customer, Craig Allen. His nephew Mark Allen, a soldier on tour of duty in Afghanistan with the 1st Battalion Royal Anglian regiment, suffered horrendous injuries in January from an IED (improvised explosive device). Injuries included the loss of both legs - Mark is currently recovering in Headley Court Hospital for injured soldiers.

The aim is to have a hugely entertaining event raising substantial funds to donate to the Help for Heroes charity. Further details of the event will be released in due course but in the meantime it is confirmed that five local bands will be putting the pedal to the metal from 16.00! In between the bands there will be a disco and a charity auction. For the kids there will be the famous Red Lion bouncy castle. The World of Silver from Thailand will be selling silver items with 10% of all sales being donated to the charity!

Entry tickets priced at £10 adults and £7 for children are available now from the Red Lion. On the day, entry will be £15 for adults and £10 for children. Ticket price includes a hog roast supper or a vegetarian option.



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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 ...

I spent 19 years as a part-time hospital chaplain so I was pleased to visit the Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplaincy Department with our Henley Deanery Clergy Chapter in May.

You may know the original chapel (now a listed building) off the London Road entrance vestibule. One would not build a chapel today without disabled access, certainly not in a hospital, but it is still a valuable resource. Staff and visitors use it as a place for prayer. And regular services are held there for those who have lost a baby or child. (This has to be one of the most important ministries exercised by the chaplains.)

There is easier access to the Sanctuary on Level 2 in Centre Block, a purpose-built room designed for use by people of all faiths or none.

The chaplains' concern is to offer spiritual care to patients, their families and friends. They are involved in the healing process and are not only there for churchgoers or 'religious people' but for all, including staff. They offer services of worship, the Sacraments, and a listening ear. In their work they are assisted by volunteer chaplaincy visitors.

I write about this ministry with three things in mind.

1. You may wish to be considered for training as a chaplaincy volunteer. I am happy to put you in touch with the chaplain.
2. We do hear of people who have been to hospital and 'no-one from the Church came near'. As parish clergy, *if we know that you are in hospital*, we are happy to visit you and, with your permission, to

tell the chaplain you are in. You can always ask the ward staff to contact the chaplains.

3. Do pray for the work of the chaplains and volunteers.

Barry Olsen

Singing Success

Once again choristers from All Saints' Junior Choir attended a three day Royal Schools of Church Music course in Oxford in the Easter holiday. We were very proud of Felicity Cunningham who was selected as a House Captain for this course and she and Lily Shanagher were chosen to take part in singing evensong at Christ Church Cathedral. In addition two bursaries are offered each year for a residential course. Stephanie Franklin became the third chorister from All Saints' to be offered one and it is hoped that this will enable her to attend a residential course at Kingswood School, Bath in August when she will have the wonderful experience of singing in Bath Abbey. Congratulations to all.

Kist O'Whistles Finds New Driver

Last year this page carried a plea for a new driver for our kist o'whistles. In other words we needed a new organist! Since then David Butler who lives in Sonning Common has stepped forward to fill the vacancy. David, who is a Yorkshire man by birth with impressive qualifications and a lifetime's experience of music, is most welcome at All Saints'. He helped out during the interregnum, along with several other local organists, so he already knows the choir and musical tradition of Peppard. He

says he has a lifetime fascination with all things steam driven but luckily our organ does not come into this category!

That Time of Year Again

The Annual Church Meeting was held at the end of April when Churchwardens, Adrienne Heriot and Toby Greenwood, were re-elected for another year. Members of the Parochial Church Council were also elected and the Annual Report on the life of the church was reviewed.

Beating the Damp

The Parish Room at All Saints' Church has been undergoing some modifications over the past few months. Windows and a door have needed replacing due to damage from the elements and some remedial work has been undertaken on the roof. In addition the drainage around the periphery of the building has been replaced. This work has resulted in a much improved environment in this very useful space.

Bank Holiday Church Crawl

Four members of the choir drove to Faringdon to join other singers from the Diocese in a singing tour of some very interesting and beautiful churches in the Vale of the White Horse. The expedition was to sing a cathedral-style Evensong (introit, responses, psalm, *Magnificat*, *Nunc Dimittis*, anthem and hymns) in sections at five different churches in the far west of the Diocese. At Faringdon All Saints', they had a quick rehearsal before boarding the bus to Coleshill All Saints'. Thence to Great Coxwell St Giles'. The next stop, Uffington St Mary's, is a large church with an unusual octagonal tower reminiscent of Ely. The last stop was Shellingford St Faith's (who was she?). Anyone contemplating a day out could do worse than follow this route and take the opportunity of really soaking up the atmosphere of these ancient villages and churches.

Adrienne Heriot

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St Michael's Catholic Church
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 Revd Francis Andrews 0118 972 2354
chris.bester@btinternet.com

Of all the significant events which have taken place in the past few weeks - General Election, volcanic ash, disruption of holidays and flight-plans, oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico - the hottest topic of all, as always, has been the weather! We had expected so much after the long cold winter, but so far our gardens do not seem to have caught up with the calendar and we each day greet one another with remarks about the cold wind and the lack of sunshine. How very English!

And yet in spite of that we seem unable to count our blessings. How fortunate we are that we do not have volcanoes, or oil-spills ruining our beaches, fishing-industry and wild-life. We are spared these extremes which other countries endure but the price we pay seems to be that

everything seems about average. So, let's ask 'what's wrong with being average?' But are we really average? I think we are much better than that!

After Easter the church community basks in the warmth of the Risen Son and begins to look forward to the celebration of the coming of the Spirit. We mark these events in various ways in our church worship and try as best as we can to allow their significance to sink deeper into our consciousness and influence the conduct of our daily lives.

This is a period in our parish life when the lives of our younger members come to the fore. Each year a group of our young children take a small but important step forward on their faith-journey when they prepare for Holy Communion, a rite of passage within the Catholic community marked with some solemnity. A special service is set aside for the children as they gather with their family and friends to mark this step forward. Family barbeques and parties follow to

flesh-out the importance of this step for both individual and family.

A slightly older group are now preparing for Confirmation, which is traditionally seen as a moving into adulthood and the realisation that they now have responsibilities and duties to fulfil within the community.

As we celebrate these events and see the joy and happiness shining on the children's faces we try to recall those events in our own lives and hope that the passing years have helped us deepen our appreciation of what they really mean so that we can now play our full part in our communities and remain strengthened and nourished by our regular acts of worship.

The word 'worship' comes from an old English word meaning 'worth-shaping', indicating that our own personal worth as an individual is shaped by what we worship. So the challenge as we grow older is to take stock and ask how we evaluate the worth of our personal lives.

Fr Chris Bester



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

Paul, in his letters to the Romans (Chapter 12) and to the Ephesians (Chapter 4) talks about our God given gifts and abilities. We may have several different gifts, but it is important to discover our core gift and build our lives around it in order to realise our full potential. And this is part of what church is about - identifying everyone's gift and allowing it to contribute to the whole. 'We are all parts of His one body, and each of us has different work to do... we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.' We are seeing the outworking of this at Springwater as

teams continue to develop, not only in our Sunday Services, but in the weekday activities - Cradle Club, an opportunity for mums with young babies to meet, relax and make new friends; Monday Mums, a friendly term-time Bible study for mums with young children; the Ark, offering a warm welcome and safe environment for toddlers and their parents and carers, and its offshoot 'Who let the Dads out' - a Saturday morning for Dads to get involved; home groups during the day and evening to suit everyone's busy schedules; craft days for ladies; and a men's group which enjoys bowling, cycling, boating, barbequing and other fun activities.

Paul also says, 'If your gift is to encourage others, do it! If you have money, share it generously.' For twenty years or

more, our church has supported and funded a training school for young people in Liberia as well as a group of Pastors who are taking the Gospel and Christian values to this land only just recovering from many years of horrendous civil war. Through the generosity of members and friends, we have been able to buy land, which is now producing crops. We are shortly sending out another 40ft container with essential items such as generators, hand sewing machines, clothing (particularly children's light clothing), dry goods and toiletries. These things, which we take for granted, can make a huge difference to people who have almost nothing. If you have anything in these categories you would like to donate please contact the office on 0118 9724519. Many thanks.

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Clubs and Societies

Party at the Palace

The 1st Peppard Guides have had a superb term, culminating in an opportunity to sleepover in the grounds of Blenheim Palace. As part of the Guiding Centenary Celebration the guides joined Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from across Oxfordshire for a day/night of celebration with various activities including: zip wire, archery, tug-of-war, traditional crafts and dance stations from around the world. As the sun went down, over 1,000 Guides danced the evening away to live band, Paradox, before 'sleeping' out under the stars and renewing their promise at sunrise.

We were particularly proud as two of our former guides, Lizzy Quincey and Emily Ainsley, were presented with the Baden Powell Award by Division Commissioner Gill Chappell, who said, 'This is the highest award a guide can achieve and involves the girls completing ten personal challenges including a residential trip where they do not know anybody else. They are both outstanding young guides and are very positive role models to the younger girls'. Lizzy has since joined 2nd Kidmore End Brownies as a young leader.

Other activities this term included: a trip to Henley Fire Station, overnight stay at PGL Outward Bound centre in Surrey, visits from our local community police officers, planting a pizza, manicure and pampering evening - we have been very busy!!

If you would like to know more about volunteering to help at Guides on a regular basis we would be delighted to hear from you. Sorry we are full at the moment but we do operate a waiting list for potential guides.

Melanie Quincey
 Guider, 0118 924 2814

Wyfold RDA

One of our riders, Sara Lee, recently took part in a dressage competition at Checkendon Equestrian Centre. Sara rode two different ponies, Benjy and Sam Ganjee, in the 'Walk Trot Class' and was placed in the top four. Later in the summer Sara plans to compete at the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) South Region Show, in the hope of qualifying for the RDA National Dressage Championships.



Sara on Sam Ganjee

We are looking for a new pony to join our team in the peaceful countryside setting at Wyfold. The pony must be a 13.2 to 14hh gelding, of a calm and polite nature, and safe off the lead. More volunteers are also needed to help, particularly on Mondays and Tuesday mornings. If you can help with either of these requests, please call us on 0845 450 7017. On Saturday June 26th we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Wyfold RDA. For information, see www.wyfoldrda.org.uk

Alison Stodolnic

The Edge Youth Club

The club has been revitalised over the past six months by the unstinting efforts of the acting Youth Club Leader, Jayne Robinson, who has been inspirational. Not only has she increased the number of young people attending, but she has also welcomed more girls by initiating events they are interested in.

The Edge Youth Club, held at Chiltern Edge School, is open to all young people. They do not have to attend Chiltern Edge School or live in Sonning Common.

The Edge is open for two sessions each week: Wednesday, 18:30-20.30 for 11-14 year olds and Thursday, 19.00-21.00 for 14-19 year olds. Admission 50p

There are activities to suit all interests from Pool to Nail painting to Nintendo Wii. There is a Tuck Shop, Chill out room and Art & Crafts. We also have special trips for Bowling, Ice Skating, Paintballing, Swimming, Archery and more!

Please note all youth club workers are CRB checked and the safety of our young people is of paramount importance to us. Please contact Jayne Robinson on 0118 972 4418 if you wish to discuss anything relating to the above.

Carol Viney

Peppard Bowls Club

We started the season well with several new members joining as a result of the two Open sessions held in April and May, some of whom are already taking part in matches. The first Manchester Unity League match resulted in a win and 9 points for Peppard - we hope to keep the momentum going and look forward to some warmer weather.

A full fixture list is in place with friendly and League matches and various Club competitions. The annual President v

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Captain match will take place on Sunday, 4th July and Gala day follows on Sunday, 18th August when Peppard will host some 20 local clubs in a day-long tournament, with refreshments, a bric-a-brac stall and an opportunity to buy new bowls wear.

Betty Freeman, 0118 972 2087

Peppard WI

Since our last report, Peppard WI has concluded its 90th Anniversary celebrations – in great style and vigorous health. Our Annual Meeting in March led to a new President and a smaller committee. Now on to our all important summer activities, ever hopeful of good weather. In August we are heading to Sulgrave Manor, north of Banbury, the ancestral home of George Washington's family; this should be a great opportunity to brush up on our history! In September, perhaps to limber up for the onset of autumn and winter (oh dear!) we look forward to a session of armchair aerobics.

The new members recruited last year are already well integrated into our 'family' and we would love to see still more people joining us.

We meet at 14.30 on the second Wednesday of each month at Peppard Memorial Hall for WI news, a speaker and an excellent tea with the chance also to join bridge groups, walks and pub lunches, to say nothing of the myriad of activities organised by our Oxfordshire County Federation. Come and join us! Learn more from: Pamela Davies, President 0118 972 3614

2nd Kidmore End Brownies

As part of our centenary celebrations we joined over 200 other Brownies from around the country on a PGL Adventure weekend in Wiltshire. We participated in outdoor activities, team games, Brownie and PGL singalongs, all finished off with a spectacular firework display.

So far this term, the girls have been learning about knot tying, addressing envelopes, hand washing and healthy food for their Brownie skills badge, as well as welcoming four new girls to the pack. We will finish this term with tea round the campfire. Next term we will be focusing on the Friend to Animals badge with, we hope, a visit from Guide Dogs for the Blind.

For further information please contact Jessica Higson 0118 972 3026

Circle Dancing

I Planted a Rose, Arrival, Courage, Perfection, Wishes for Prosperity and Happiness; some of the names of the dances we enjoy from different corners of the world. If you want to experience world music, benefit your health and find a great sense of harmony and wellbeing why not come along to Christ the King Hall, Sonning Common, every first Sunday of the month, 15.30-17.00. We do not make mistakes – just variations!

Ros 01491 874220

Sonning Common & Peppard Table Tennis Club

We begin pre-season practice and coaching sessions for our senior players on Thursday 10th June. These will continue fortnightly during the summer months before the commencement of the Reading & District League Season in September. Sessions will be held at the Peppard War Memorial Hall from 19.30 to 21.30. New members are welcome.

The Club will be restarting its Junior session on Monday evenings, 17.00-19.00, from 7th June. Coaching and advice will be given by Alan Dines and John Taylor. New members welcome.

Nigel Maltby

Club Secretary, 0118 946 3191

Peppard Cricket Club

As the weather improves so do our fortunes on the field. After an opening day defeat by the current champions, the first XI has swept to three comfortable victories in a row, realising the potential of the top order batters. Two individual centuries and two scores of 90+ pushed the team into third place in the Premier Division of the Berkshire Cricket League. The 2nd XI has remained unbeaten in four games with two draws and two excellent wins propelling the team into 4th place in Division 3 of the same league. The Sunday side continues on its merry way, providing a platform for the younger players to perform and the older hands to seek that elusive patch of form to take back in to league games.

We have undertaken some ground maintenance work and an early visitor a few weeks ago would have seen the entire common being sprayed. This was with a weed and feed mixture to help control the ever present problem. The dandelions have taken the hit - I cannot believe I am reporting this - but we could do with some rain to help promote the grass growth on the outfield: preferably on a Monday or Tuesday and stopping by Thursday please! Work has also been carried out to control the brambles and nettles round the outside of the playing area with a view to ensuring we don't lose any of our younger players when they go in search of the ball on Sundays.

For those of you interested in the teams' results of the teams they are posted on the club website soon after completion of the games and can be found at www.peppard.play-cricket.com As far as the 1st XI is concerned you can read the match report ahead of its publication in the *Henley Standard* on the following Friday.

Ronnie Brock, Chairman

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Peppard Diary

JULY	
Thu	1 Festival of Voices/Dorchester Abbey/Pepp Sch yr 5/6
Sun	4 Peppard Bowls/President v Captain match Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	5 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/details FISH office
Fri	9 Greys Ct/Tour of Grounds/18.30-20.30/tel. 0844 2491895
Sun	11 Sue Ryder/Dragon Boat Race/Upper Thames Row.Clb
Mon	12 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Council Meeting/Pavilion/19.30 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/21.30
Tue	13 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267 Peppard Mother & Toddler Group Term ends Oliver/Peppard School Production/Gillotts/18.30
Wed	14 WI/Garden Meeting/14.30
Thu	15 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/details FISH office
Fri	16 Peppard School Sports & BBQ/Common/17.00 An Ideal Husband/Greys Court/19.30/tel. 0844 2491895
Sat	17 Hort Soc/Evening Reception at Lower Basildon Help for Heroes/Red Lion/BBQ Beer fest/15.30-23.00
Tue	20 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267
Wed	21 Peppard School Term ends/Family Picnic/Common Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/0118 9722808
Sat	24 Music & Moonlight/Greys Court/19.00-22.00/tel. 0844 2491895
Mon	26 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/20.15
Tue	27 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267
Thu	29 Creepy Crawlies Day/Greys Ct/10.00-12.00/tel 0844 2491895
AUGUST	
Sun	1 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	2 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/details FISH office
Fri	6 Greys Ct/Tour of Grounds/18.30-20.30/tel. 0844 2491895 James & Giant Peach/Greys Ct/18.30-21.00/see 0844 2491895
Mon	9 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/20.15
Peppard Bowls Club: Mon & Thurs 14.00 – 16.00, Fri 18.30 – 20.30	
Green Gym: Robin Howles – 0118 9723528	
SEPTEMBER	
Thu	2 Peppard School term begins
Sat	4 Hort Soc Autumn Show/CE School/14.30
Sun	5 Samuel Hood Mem 10K Run/Greys Grn G Course/09.30 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Mon	6 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 FISH Garden Centre Outing/13.30/details FISH office
Tue	7 Peppard Mother & Toddler Group term begins
Wed	8 WI/Armchair Aerobics/Mem Hall/14.30
Sat	11 Police Exhib/burglary reduction/SC Vil Hill/09.30-12.30
Mon	13 Peppard Sch Yr 6 week trip to The Manor, Salop RPPC Council Meeting/Pavilion/19.30 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/21.30
Tue	14 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267
Wed	15 Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/0118 9722808
Thu	16 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/details FISH office
Sat	18 Hort Soc Outing to Wakehurst Place Apple Day/Greys Ct/12.00-17.00/Tel 0844 2491895
Mon	20 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	21 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267
Sat	25 RPPC Planning Meeting/Pavilion/10.00
Sun	26 Greys Court closes
Tue	28 CAB/SC Surgery/10.30-14.30/01491 578267
FISH Office: 0118 9723986 (Mon-Fri, 09.30-11.30)	
SC & Peppard Table Tennis Club Juniors Mondays 17.00 0118 946 3191	

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION DATES

Month	July		August		September		
Date	8 th	22 nd	4 th	18 th	2 nd	15 th	29 th

For GREEN (recycling) and GREY (non-recycling) bins please see SODC Calendars, which have been amended for some properties in the Parish. Food waste will be collected weekly. Phone: 03000 610610, or see www.southoxon.gov.uk or www.PeppardNews.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	JULY				AUGUST					SEPTEMBER				NOTES
	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26†	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	○ Benefice Eucharist at Kidmore End St. John the Baptist at 11.00 ‡ 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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