

Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Olympic Torch - Peppard Connection

Autumn 2012

Sir David Money-Coutts
19th July 1931 – 25th June
2012

Sixteen year old Sam Kirschstein-Smith lives in Church Lane Peppard. He was proud to be chosen as one of three to paddle the kayak transporting the torch on Dorney Lake on Tuesday 10th July. The torch was carried for 1000 metres by their kayak and the same distance by a rowing eight. The third place in the four man kayak was taken by the torch bearer who had no connection with the rest of the crew. Sam and his two fellow paddlers had a rehearsal on the lake the

previous day and had to arrive at 09.00 on 10th for the brief event at 10.52.

Sam is a member of Reading Canoe Club where he trains for 12-14 hours a week. He followed his two older brothers into the sport and now competes at international level having already gained two bronze medals. His sport has also taken him to France and Germany.

He has been selected to go to the Olympic

Hopes Regatta in Hungary with the GB squad in September. Sam has been a pupil at Gillotts School, Henley where he has recently finished taking 11 subjects at GCSE. In September he starts his A level course at Henley College.



*Sam Kirschstein-Smith with Sarah holding the torch
and fellow paddlers Imogen and Amber
Photo: Courtesy of Tamsin Phipps*

When I asked him about other hobbies I quickly realised it was not a reasonable question - his sport leaves him little time for anything else as he trains before and after school. Looking ahead, Sam is not sure where his sport will take him but perhaps we should remember to look for his name in kayaking in Olympics 2016!

Sue Nickson

I am very pleased that I was able to talk to Sir David in the Autumn of 2011 for the profile of him that I wrote for *Peppard News*. Although his health was not good (he had suffered two strokes and had problems with his sight and hearing) he was, nevertheless, still the highly intelligent, interesting man he had always been. He was well known for his attention to detail and when he had seen my draft of the article he, quite rightly, put me straight on minor grammatical errors and inaccuracies; however, he appreciated that the article was mine and made no attempt to alter it in other ways. I very much respected him for that. 'Your opinion,' he said, 'is your own'.

His funeral, as was to be expected, was attended by a large number of people and was a celebration of his life rather than an expression of grief. His life had touched, for the good, so many people both local and very much wider. It ended on a very upbeat note with the congregation singing the Eton Boating Song. I could not help wondering if Sir David himself had decided that is what he wanted but I felt he would have very much enjoyed it!

Sue Nickson

STOP PRESS

The Samuel Hood Memorial Peppard 10k Run/7k Walk due to take place on 23rd September, has been cancelled.

See Page 6 for more information.

Editorial

I know many of you access the *Peppard News* website to find news and information about the community and the organisations and services available to you. I realise that there are many sites published by the village's organisations. That being the case, it is almost inevitable that within those sites there will be duplication of information and certainly duplication of effort in their maintenance.

Peppard News, in liaison with the Parish Council, is about to begin researching the possibility of launching a village website, which will provide one source of common

information while, at the same time, provide links to other local sites maintained by churches, clubs and other village bodies.

It is possible that the site could incorporate some form of village forum, where residents' views can be expressed.

Before work begins, please let me know what you, particularly our younger readers, think should appear on the site, so that the widest range of views can be considered in the research.

With best wishes,

Tony Treglown, Editor

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Our Schools

Peppard School

Last term was very eventful at Peppard Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, with visits to Sutton Courtenay, Bletchley Park, Hill End and The Ashmolean Museum. It has also been a great opportunity for our pupils to display their wonderful talents once again.

During the 2012 Olympic Year, it was a great privilege to be invited to open the Peppard Revels' Event in June. Our pupils performed a dance/gymnastic display and also paraded flags, chanted and sang. Thank you to everyone who has congratulated the school and pupils on their wonderful performance. We were very proud! The sports theme continued a few weeks later with a wonderful sports evening on the Common, followed by a family barbecue organised by FOPS. We even managed to avoid the rain!

The arrival of the Olympic Torch in Henley was very exciting. We closed the school on the morning of Tuesday, 10th July and met up by the river so that we could see the torch pass on the road and again along the river. It was so great to see Sir Steve Redgrave row with the torch and we are sure that being involved in such a wonderful event will have inspired our pupils.

The Kenton Theatre was alive with talent on the evening of 3rd July as the school performed *Wind in the Willows*. It was a spectacular show and proved to be a great opportunity for our pupils to perform on a real stage in front of a full theatre. The whole school was involved and the atmosphere was amazing, with pupils, staff and the audience showing incredible support for everyone involved.

The end of year leavers' service, held at All Saints' Church, was Rev Olsen's last service for the school, so as well as saying

Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU
Phone: 01491 628354

Headteacher

Mrs Christine Grieve

Chairman of the Governors

Christine Bradbury

goodbye to our Year 6 leavers we also presented Rev Olsen with a card containing self-drawn portraits of the children. The Leavers' Assembly was very entertaining and all pupils performed in a variety of ways to thank Year 6 and wish them well for the future. During the assembly, the Foundation Class sang *Lean on Me* with their Year 6 buddies. Year 6 pupils have the responsibility of being a 'buddy' to members of the Foundation Class. This is a role that they all enjoy and excel at and is a great example of how the school has such an exceptionally caring and supportive family ethos.

We have a Foundation Class, Year 1/2 Class, Year 3/4 Class and Year 5/6 Class at Peppard Primary School. Our small school enables all of our staff to get to know each child well and provide them with the support and experiences they need in order to achieve their best. We wish Mrs Harrison well in her new leadership role in a school in Oxford and warmly welcome Miss Tillotson in her new role as Year 3/4 Class teacher.

The Autumn term starts on Tuesday, 4th September and we are looking forward to another exciting year. Year 6 and Year 5 will be participating in residential visits and we have our Harvest Festival and Christmas Services to look forward to. Please visit our website for more information about our school and events:
www.peppard.oxon.sch.uk

If you require a place for your child, please contact the school and ask for an appointment to speak to me so that you can view the school and discuss your needs. We look forward to hearing from you.

Christine Grieve

Friends of Peppard School

We raised a lot of funds and had a great evening at the School's Sports Day and BBQ and the children enjoyed the recent Cinema Night which we hope to repeat next term. We will also be holding the annual Lantern Evening next term and look forward to seeing everyone there.

Sarah Brophy

Rainbow Children's Centre

We are having an exciting summer with our families attending summer stay and play sessions for children aged 0-5 years and siblings. We are enjoying the Olympics and having lots of fun activities to link in the exciting events.

Our sessions include messy play, stories, singing, role play, sand and water and we have facilities inside and out. The Children's Centre has been set up to support families and you are welcome to come to a session with your child to enjoy activities, receive information about economic wellbeing, talk to our friendly team, share your expertise or receive information about health. We want to offer the support that you need. Please feel free to give us a ring on 0118 972 4024 or pop in to the Rainbow Children's Centre, Chiltern Edge School, Sonning Common and pick up a timetable. The Children's Centre is keen to recruit volunteers so please contact us if you have some spare time to contribute.

Anne Byron

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Our Young Achievers

Contributions Please

We are looking for contributions from the younger people in our area. If you live in, or near, Peppard and have something to tell us, write a short article (we are looking for 200 words) outlining your news. We are looking for anything of interest: it may have been a school trip you have been on, a GAP year voluntary job, a sports event, a musical competition or raising funds for a charity. You may have found a great cycling route in the area or taken a great photograph. You may be a budding journalist - now is your chance to tell us about things from your angle. Please send your contributions to us via www.PeppardNews.co.uk and we will review them for inclusion in the forthcoming issues.

Young Achievers' Awards

The SODC Awards scheme for young people between 11 and 18 for arts, sports and citizenship. Awards of up to £250 will be made to successful winners. Applications and nominations will be accepted from 3rd September to 21st December. e-mail grants@southandvale.gov.uk or search for Young Achievers Awards on www.southoxon.gov.uk

Readers' Letters

I attended the Peppard Parish Council meeting on the 9th July, particularly to listen to the deliberations, and give support to the provision of a children's playground within the Parish that arose from the recent survey. Indeed 67% of the people surveyed thought that it was needed. I was appalled by the Council's attitude to the playground. Total disregard of the wishes of the people they were supposed to represent, and a rejection of the results of the survey of opinion that, they themselves asked for. Furthermore a new

Councillor was elected whose total platform seemed to be opposition to the playground.

The essence of any village is its community. Friends who give support to one and other and combine to make the village a better place in many ways. This community is constantly changing as new largely young people, with children, move into the village as the older generations fade away.

These friendships, some lifelong, are forged within the village, in the Church, the Pub, and at the School and would have been at the village children's playground. Some people send their children to schools outside the village and do not go to the other places where they would come into contact with potential friends. The playground would have been an ideal place to compensate for this and the village would be a better place for it. The aim of the Parish Council seems to be, to generate an area where old commuters live in isolation from their neighbours and require people to travel to other places to use their facilities.

Jack Stanger

Having attended the 9th July Parish Council Meeting as spectators, we were surprised and very disappointed to learn of the casual way that the Parish Council can dismiss the village survey's request for a children's play area in the parish, when 67% of the village requested one. Why have a survey done if it can be ignored? The suggestion that you can pile the children in a car and visit a nearby parish to play on their playground is not having one of our own that they can walk too.

Pete & Liz Ballard

According to a recent survey, the majority (67%) of parents and children in our community are in favour of a dedicated

playground facility. Our children and their parents have spoken; therefore a Playground Action Group was set up in concert with the Parish Council, to investigate delivering a solution. Volunteers from around the Parish who were willing to invest valuable time and resources to help our children and future generations started to develop possibilities. Clearly, the play area had to be safe, for children, parents and residents alike, be sympathetic to an area of outstanding beauty, (so wood and bark rather than concrete and coloured metal) and most of all help our children learn and play, make friends and build community values which would help them in later life.

This brings us to the Parish Council meeting on 9th July. It was clear from the outset that our Parish Council (with the exception of two councillors who have actively supported this process), had their own individual prejudices and agenda. Throughout the meeting it became clearer to us that individually, the council had no intention of allowing this process to proceed, in a fair and impartial manner.

We have therefore decided to withdraw our commitment, as we have no hope of success. We believe the decision in the minds of the majority of the councillors has already been made, even before we have had a chance to make a recommendation. We apologise to the parents of Rotherfield Peppard, but most of all we apologise to the children in our community. If you are a parent and feel strongly about this issue then contact *Peppard News* on www.PeppardNews.co.uk or visit the next Parish Council meeting.

Playground Action Group

Editor's Note: Due to space constraints this last letter has been abbreviated. The full version can be read on our website. The letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Peppard News editorial team

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The Councils

Parish Council News

After several years of having vacancies on the Parish Council, we are now up to full strength with ten members. Simon Crouch was co-opted onto the Council at its meeting in July. We have a good spread of members from all parts of the Parish and with different skills and experiences.

Following last year's Community Survey, work has been continuing to put plans in place to respond to issues raised. A group of volunteers explored options for building an outside play area in the Parish. The suggestion that this could be built on land at the Sports Field resulted in a number of members of the public coming to the Parish Council Meeting in June to express their concerns. The Parish Council agreed to a request from the working group to be given clearer terms of reference. The type of playground and possible locations are key issues to address and we hope that a workable proposal can be drawn up in the coming months. There are other initiatives for young people which need to be developed: *Peppard News'* Young Achievers is one excellent example. Another is the possibility of establishing an annual event for local sports clubs to encourage local youngsters to take part.

Another issue raised in the Community Survey was concern about roads and speeding traffic. This concern has been further highlighted by two recent accidents – one on the B481 and one on the Gallowstree crossroads on Stoke Row Road. In both cases cars were written off, fortunately no-one was seriously injured. A group has been meeting to consider any actions that can be taken locally. A survey has been undertaken which has identified a number of signs obscured by foliage. Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department has already improved the 'Give Way' signs on the Gallowstree crossroads. Other possibilities being considered include the establishment of a Community Speedwatch Team where local residents supplement speed checks carried out by the police. One thing is clear from police feedback. Most of the speeding on our roads is caused by local residents. If we all drove more slowly, others would too.

Parish Council

Chairman: David Hammond
01491 628774 / 07798 763795

Parish Clerk: Linda Collison
7 Grange Avenue, Rotherfield Peppard,
Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 5LD
01491 629676

e-mail: clerk@rppc.org.uk

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. Parishioners may attend and observe, and may briefly raise issues of concern to them. All may attend intermediate planning meetings as well - see Diary for dates and times.

Many drivers believe there is little difference between 30 and 35mph. Imagine that you are driving along at 30mph and something happens: a herd of deer run across the road, a car comes out of a driveway where there is little visibility, a child or a dog runs into the road. Imagine that you just manage to stop in time. Now imagine you are doing 35mph in the same situation. What speed will you be doing when you hit the obstruction? 5mph? No. Because of the greater distance covered while you think and the greater distance needed to stop, you will actually be going much faster – nearer 20mph when you hit. Approximately two-thirds of all crashes in which people are killed or injured happen on roads with a speed limit of 30mph or less. At 35mph a driver is twice as likely to kill someone as they are at 30mph.

Other issues being looked at by the Parish Council as a result of the Community Survey include illegally posted signs on the highway and what more can be done to keep our footpaths maintained and how they could be developed in future.

These, and other initiatives, will be considered over the coming months. Information about Parish Council Meetings and much else is on the Parish Council website: www.rppc.org.uk.

David Hammond, Chairman

The Community Right to Challenge

This came into force at the end of June. This means communities will be able to take over local services they think they can run differently and better. It allows Parish Councils, voluntary and community groups and local authority staff to express an interest in taking over the running of local authority services, making services more responsive to local needs and delivering better value for money. A range of specialist support is being put in place to help community groups work through the process. For further information see:

www.communityrights.communities.gov.uk and www.mycommunityrights.org.uk/community-right-to-challenge/

Carol Viney

Village Tour

Following the success of his tour last September, John Howell MP will again be on tour in September this year. Although John holds regular surgeries and visits many communities, schools and businesses during the course of the year, this is a specific opportunity when John makes himself available to people in or near their own location.

Last year he visited 80 villages in 8 days stopping briefly in each. This year there are fewer places on the list to allow for longer stops in some of the larger settlements. People can raise anything they want to with John or simply say 'Hello'. If an issue arises that needs a confidential or longer discussion than possible at the time, arrangements will be made to follow this up as appropriate.

The tour is important to John. Given the size of the constituency, which spreads from the edge of Bicester to the edge of Reading, it is not always easy to meet people especially in some of the smaller villages. This is a chance to meet people informally, to discuss issues and hear their concerns. It is also a chance for people to put a face to a name.

Although not coming to Peppard, John will be in Sonning Common on Friday 28th September at 12.00 by the Village Hall and Nettlebed on Tuesday 2nd October at 12.00 by the shop and café.



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Know Your Councillor

Henley Triathlon

The second Henley Triathlon, which takes place on 16th September, will affect Rotherfield Peppard Parish. The routes, which will be published in the *Henley Standard*, have been agreed. I will be discussing this with Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council at their August meeting.

Carol Viney

District Councillor's Report

Currently SODC has 48 councillors. To reduce cost, the District Council has requested that Local Government Boundary Commission review our current ward boundaries with the intention of reducing the number of councillors to between 36 and 38. Also all wards should be single member wards. This would lead to an average of 3,000 electors per councillor. These changes need to be implemented by the next District Council elections in May 2015. So what would the impact be on us here in the existing Ward? First the village of Sonning Common has 3,095 electors so the likelihood is that the Boundary Commission will make that a single ward: then Rotherfield Peppard has an electorate of 1,328 so it will need to be merged with other parishes which border the parish. As yet this has not been determined but the Boundary Commission has started its consultation stage and will report back next year.

Age UK will be working with schools in South Oxfordshire to run a series of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) training courses to help older residents get online. The Council is encouraging schools to host future courses, with their students as volunteers to support older people on a one-to-one basis. For further information contact the Young People's Co-ordinator on 07827 081818 or e-mail

karen.tolley@southandvale.gov.uk

Paul Harrison

Tony Cotton

When going to a strange house, I have very rarely received such an effusive, friendly and affectionate greeting as that that I received from Rosie: Tony was very friendly too and laughter comes easily to him. Rosie is the Cotton Family's pet springer spaniel.

Tony and his wife, Carol, moved to Peppard in the spring of 2005 having spent many years in Australia. Originally from Ruislip, they came to Peppard via Amersham and then Australia. They had always loved the Chilterns area with its mix of beautiful countryside and proximity to London and were delighted when they found their current house in Colmore Lane. Tony had worked for the Hanson Group for 25 years and ended his career as Chairman of their mining business in Australia. They thoroughly enjoyed living in Australia – so much so that they adopted dual nationality. Eventually they decided to return when grandchildren came along: their daughter lives in Henley, their son in Twickenham and in total they have five grandchildren.

With Rosie in tow, Tony finds it very easy to meet and chat to people when he is out. This is how he met Nick Launders, who was instrumental in nominating Tony to lead the Community Plan project. He subsequently joined the council in 2009. Although the Community Plan took a lot of effort, he felt it worthwhile to gauge residents' opinions. Tony will be coordinating the Council's Action Plan in due course highlighting what can or might be done (*Peppard News* will publish the main points).

Tony wasn't in favour of the Commons grazing project but only because he felt the Conservators had taken the wrong direction. He has now joined the Commons Conservators – as he says, poacher turned gamekeeper!

Now, of course, the council is involved in, and has voted in favour of, the proposal to have a playground. Tony hopes that this project will gain new momentum in the autumn. Of course, he understands that there are many issues to be overcome, not least raising the necessary funds, but he takes his grandchildren to a Henley playground and would really like to have a Peppard facility.

Tony also believes there is an absolute requirement for Peppard to move into the 21st Century with good broadband and mobile services and he is leading the council in progressing this. As Vice Chairman he is happy to take responsibility for special projects but cannot take on any more – he leads a very full life and doesn't have time for more. He fervently believes that he shouldn't fulfil a role unless he can give it his all.


Years ago he helped raise funds for the British Heart Foundation, but had never been involved, or particularly interested, in local politics. He certainly understands why younger people rarely become involved – when he was younger he just didn't have time for any role outside his professional orbit.

But now that he does have a little more time, he enjoys walking and gardening, growing both vegetables and dahlias, but most of all he enjoys travelling. He and Carol have invested in a motorhome and love the freedom of travelling in Europe, taking Rosie along with them. They have retained an apartment in Sydney and manage to return to Australia each year.

In between travelling and council work, he is a keen spectator of all sports and is a passionate Chelsea fan, like his father and grandfather before him. Of course, he loved the Olympics.

I, for one, think that we, in Peppard, are very lucky that Tony does make time in his very busy life for our Council.

Rita Hadgkiss



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Our Village

Peppard Revels 2012 –The Diamond Jubilee Weekend!

What a celebration! Thank you to all of you who sent emails and letters – mainly of thanks but one or two critical; they were much appreciated.

The weather for the whole weekend was pretty dismal but the Games went ahead as planned on the Saturday with around 30 families taking part. The tea time film *Kung Fu Panda* seemed to go down well with the kids. The Sunday Service with the Bishop of Dorchester attracted an amazing 300 people. The Monday evening Diamond Jubilee dinner was judged a success with nearly everyone on the dance floor by the end. The magnificent firework display ensured we were on the front of the *Henley Standard*.



The Peppard Revels Committee

Events like this (which this time cost around £45,000) need extremely detailed planning and each Committee member was responsible for one aspect of the arrangements, such as the marquee contract, the dinner menu, the Saturday Games and so on.

The Revels aim to raise money for charity and we have distributed £8,000 to local good causes - the Primary School, the Peppard War Memorial Hall, Wyfold RDA, Peppard Relief in Need, FISH and Peppard News Publications.

After each Revels, the Committee meets to discuss successes and failures and we identified a list of both to guide next time's planning. For example the fireworks were great (and cost less than last time while going on for longer), but the bar on Monday evening was certainly too cold (mid-June!) and needed decorating.

Many thanks to all of you who came and supported us. And a big thank you to all the Committee members who worked with such diligence and good humour. The Revels future is secure as I hand over the chairmanship to Geoff Pitcher.

John Hasler, Retiring Chairman

Supporting & Transporting Those In Need

Sixty-five people are volunteers for the FISH Volunteer Centre. Not all at once of course! They work in the office, drive people to hospital and doctors' appointments and other important journeys in their own cars. Other volunteers drive the mini bus on regular shopping trips, social outings and even mystery tours. Then there is the Committee which works hard in planning and organising the way the charity operates. The office in Sonning Common Village Hall is open each week day from 09.30 to 11.30. Covering Sonning Common and the five surrounding villages it is always busy. You are welcome to visit the office or phone 0118 9723986 if you need support or transport. We will always try to help; we have been for 34 years! If you have a few hours a month to spare and would like to volunteer for one of the many tasks that need to be done, please let us know. We would welcome your ideas on fund raising; a legacy perhaps. Running costs do not get any easier and a new mini bus is one of the items to be purchased.

I have succeeded Phil Clark who worked tirelessly for five years as chairman.

FISH is such a worthwhile and important charity and I am proud to be the new chairman.

Fred Nickson, 0118 972 4520

Kingwood and Peppard Commons Volunteers

KPCV have been meeting regularly and have concentrated mainly on the paths at Kingwood. We have been helped in this task by two new brushcutters and four people trained and certificated to use them. The Parish Council kindly paid for two members of the group to be trained, the Nettlebed Conservators another and the remaining by a member of the group. Also, we have had three members attend a First Aid Course funded by the Commons Project. The Nettlebed Conservators for KPCV have

been successful in obtaining a Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment grant which will further help with future projects, training and equipment.

If you would like to come along and find out the options for the future management of the Commons and see a work party in progress, there will be two drop-in sessions on Kingwood Common to coincide with KPCV meetings on Saturday, 1st September and Saturday, 6th October.

Some sad news to report: our supporter, Julian Grant, who attended our open day at Easter with his heavy horse, Annabel, recently lost his fight with cancer. Julian had a great deal of knowledge and enthusiasm for heavy horses for bracken control and other uses on the Common. He will be sadly missed and our sympathies and thoughts are extended to his family.

Ann Pearce

Peppard 10k Cancelled

Following the very sad closure of Global Hearts for Children (formerly Feed The Children) the decision has been made to cancel this year's Peppard 10k Run/7k Walk on 23rd September. I have been involved in this event for four years and have grown very fond of Peppard, the people who live there and the true community spirit, and would like to say thank you all for continuing to support the event over the years and helping me to raise funds for many disadvantaged children around the world.

Sally Brown

Health Walks

Our new programme of free daily walks starts on 3rd September. This autumn and winter we will be adding a new Saturday morning walk to our timetable (starting at 09.30): it will be 4 to 5 miles long. On Saturday afternoons at 14.00 there will be a 2.5 to 3.5 mile walk. Both walks start from Sonning Common Health Centre.

This is an ideal time of year to get out walking; do come and try our walks and enjoy the beautiful countryside. We have two trained leaders on every walk, one to accompany the faster walkers and the other to bring up the rear with the slowest walkers.

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Chris Brook.

Peppard War Memorial Hall

The AGM was held on 14th August. The Trustees are seeking a volunteer to take on the post of Honorary Secretary as soon as possible. Philip Collings has advised that, due to increased business commitments, he wishes to step down as Chairman of the Trustees as soon as a volunteer can be found to take over, and in any case by 30th November 2012.

For further information e-mail: Philip Collings on hairyoldgit@hotmail.co.uk.

Greenshoots

The weather has gone from tropical (remember March?) to wet and cold for what seems like months, and now to glorious sunshine, but the heat ...

The chickens are finding the heat difficult, but they do have access to shade under the orchard trees: we are getting a steady supply of eggs, and our own chicks are now nearing maturity and are settling into the flock. Come and see them, they really are fun to watch as they potter about. You can also pick your favourite and sponsor it for £30 a year, give it a name and we'll send you a certificate with its picture.

We had our Charity Family Fun Day on a rather grey chilly day in May, not as many people through the door this year, but everyone here appeared to enjoy themselves. Canine Capers was well attended again with some lovely dogs entered into our fun categories. We had a range of craft stalls and children's activities.

The growing has been slow this year, as many gardeners have found. With the early threat of drought and the hosepipe ban, I think people were put off bedding plants and hanging baskets. Then the cold, wet weather has hit some of our crops, the raspberries have been late, but have come on well recently, the beans have been terrible and the peas never got going!

We will have a range of crops available, we continue to supply The True Food Co-op in Emmer Green and have vegetables for sale, picked to order for visitors to the site.

We will also be having a one day Plant Sale on 22nd September, so come along 10.00-16.00 to grab a bargain! We will have perennials and herbs available at much reduced prices. Hopefully you'll have identified those spots in the border that need a new something.

Angela Fordham

Oral History Project

Rhona Ash has embarked on an oral history project, recording reminiscences of life on the commons as related to her by several long-term residents of the parish. They include memories of a fair in front of the Red Lion! This work is supported by the Chiltern Commons Project - do let Rhona know if you have a story to contribute. (via clerk@nettlebed-commons.org)

News from the Library

This year's Summer Reading Challenge (Story Lab) comes to an end at the end of September, so if you haven't read six books over three library visits and collected all the free goodies, time is running out!

We hope you enjoyed the special summer story times on Saturday mornings in August, and the home-made cakes on sale. We plan to continue these on certain special Saturdays in the run up to Christmas. Contact the library for more information (0118 9722448).

Rosemary Dunstan

Greys Court

In Britain, we have lost over 90% of one of our most precious wildlife habitats – the orchard.

This autumn, Greys Court is inviting everyone to celebrate the orchard, at its *Big Harvest Weekend* – an opportunity to enjoy Greys Court's restored apple orchard, and find out more about our heritage fruit varieties, which knock spots off foreign imports!

As well as stalls of organic foods and plants grown by the garden team, the

weekend brings together over 30 local producers of food, drink and crafts to these delightful gardens. Visitors can enjoy a wide range of activities, from recipe demonstrations by Oxfordshire-based Real Organic Foods, to brewing instruction from local ale producers, Rebellion Beer. Greys Court's tea room is hosting a sizzling BBQ.

For children there is balloon modelling, face painting, and acres of garden to explore, including a walled kitchen garden, medieval tower and ruins, and a giant donkey wheel. Music, and dancing displays from local Morris Men, will ensure the weekend goes with a swing.

Starting at 11.00 on Saturday, 22nd and Sunday, 23rd September, last admission 16.30. Normal admission charges apply, National Trust members free.

Commons News

Following months of negotiation, residents in the vicinity of Carlings Orchard agreed a plan to repair the access road that runs across the Common from the Stoke Row Road. The Commons Conservators gave their full support to the project, which included new speed bumps and signage to indicate a 10mph speed limit along this narrow lane.

The commitment of the small group of residents who achieved this outcome is greatly appreciated. The road serves more than forty households, who are all contributing to the cost of the repairs.

Elizabeth Smeeton

A Peppard Soldier

Phillip Raymond Swan (30th September 1919 - 5th July 1942) was the son of Sidney George Swan, a motor mechanic of Peppard Road and his wife Annie. In 1941 Phillip joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and was sent to Phoenix, Arizona, USA where he trained as a pilot. On returning to the UK in 1942, he was posted at RAF Llandow. It was there in a training flight that he was killed in a mid-air collision with another Spitfire. He was 22 years old. Phillip's body was returned to Peppard where he was buried in All Saints' churchyard.

We are grateful to local historian Mike Willoughby for this information.

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All Saints'

Church of England

www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk

Rector: Revd Canon Graham Foulis Brown 0118 972 3987
 Churchwardens: Adrienne Heriot 01491 629254
 Margaret Woodward 0118 972 2296

From the Rectory ...

I quite often get emails via ACNY (A Church Near You) from Australia or the United States of America asking if I can identify where their several greats grandmother is buried in All Saints' churchyard. We are always prepared to tackle those questions and I know how grateful people are when we break through and succeed. Actually visiting the grave is less easy for over the many years that the (original) churchyard has existed there has been reburying and gravestones have only been commonplace over the past few centuries.

On one occasion we located a stone that an American relative wanted to see which both created and resolved a mystery. Why had a man from London had his ashes buried at Peppard? My predecessor's excellent records were consulted – he'd been buried at 2.30pm on a Saturday afternoon - but the reason remained a mystery – until the relative arrived. The man had been evacuated to a farm in Peppard and thought of those as the happiest days of his life.

In my last parish, we reconnected a family that had split many years earlier following a divorce. We referred back to the baptism register and one night a man returned from work to hear that I'd called his wife and given her his father's phone number. But I never heard what happened.

About forty years ago, churches that lacked a certain type of safe had either to buy one or lodge ancient registers to the County Record Office where they could be properly looked after. At that time, I taught in a parish that bought such a safe

but most parishes let their ancient registers go – in our case the County Record Office is at St Luke's Church, Cowley just off the Oxford ring road.

At All Saints' we retain only the registers currently in use though we can sometimes help, genealogy being today such a popular pastime.

Graham

A Service in the Community

On Sunday, 3rd June in a marquee on Peppard Common, an inter-denominational service, organised by the Peppard Revels Committee, was held. It was estimated that about 300 worshippers from neighbouring Churches gathered together as part of the Jubilee weekend celebrations. The address was given by The Right Revd, The Bishop of Dorchester, Colin Fletcher OBE.

Christian Aid Concert

On Saturday, 16th June, All Saints' Church was privileged to host a concert performed by the Southbank Trio, a chamber group of flute, cello and piano. The flautist, Claire Overbury, grew up just yards from the church. Christian Aid benefitted from the retiring Collection.

Farewell

On Sunday, 29th July, a joint Benefice Service was held at St John's Church, Kidmore End. This service marked the completion of Barry Olsen's ministry with us as Assistant Priest. A farewell reception for Barry and Marion was held afterwards in Kidmore End School.

RSCM Gold Award Successes

Congratulations to Stephanie Franklin and Isobel Brooker who have both passed the examination for the Gold Award of the Royal School of Church Music. This is the highest level of RSCM examination.

Whereas the syllabus for RSCM Bronze and Silver Awards is specifically for the RSCM Oxford Area, the RSCM Gold Award has a syllabus which applies to all examinations at this level, wherever they are held in the world. Stephanie and Isobel were examined in Oxford on 16th June. They are the first candidates from the Choir of All Saints' Church to have attempted the Gold Award examination. Fortunately, they were able to attend training events in Wallingford in 2011 and at Southwark Cathedral earlier this year and so were able to gain a feel for the standard required. The examination deals with rather more than 'using the voice well' as candidates have to submit advance written repertoire notes about their chosen music and they must also devise a short evening service and be ready to answer searching questions on musical and liturgical matters.

Stephanie and Isobel will receive their Awards at Christ Church Cathedral in November.

Looking Ahead

Harvest Thanksgiving will be celebrated this year on Sunday, 30th September. A 'Bring and Share' Lunch in the Peppard War Memorial Hall will follow the service.

The RSCM Annual Choirs' Festival will take place on Saturday, 20th October at St. George's Chapel, Windsor to mark the 350th anniversary of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.

Margaret Woodward

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Snippets



Revd Chris Lewis
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www.springwater.org.uk

We are very pleased indeed to welcome Rev Chris Lewis as our new full time Minister, and his wife Margaret (Mags), who are now living in the Manse attached to the church. They join us from Stratford-upon-Avon where they co-led New Hope Church, an independent fellowship which they started in 2004.

Chris Lewis, a former policeman, has been a Christian for over 25 years and has been engaged in pastoral and church ministry since 1989. He trained for Baptist ministry at Spurgeon's College, London, where he gained a BD (Hons) and Diploma in Pastoral Care and Counselling. He was ordained in 1996 and has led churches in London and the Midlands.

Margaret is a gifted leader and speaker and has her own ministry in mentoring, life coaching, counselling and pastoral work. Chris and Mags bring with them a wealth of experience, including ministry in Europe and Africa, and we at Springwater are greatly looking forward to a new season under their leadership.

We want to extend our grateful thanks to Barry and Bunny Kirk who have so graciously guided the church over the last few years, and we are delighted that they will be maintaining their connection with us in the future.

In September church life starts in earnest again after the holidays with Cradle Club, the Ark and Sunday School, all for children, and an Alpha course, home groups and men's and ladies' groups throughout the week. All are warmly welcome. For information please call the office on 0118 972 4519.

Chris Mills

Fashion Show

The show is being held in the beautiful surroundings of Phyllis Court Club, Henley on Wednesday 19th September in aid of Helen and Douglas House hospices for children. Doors open at 19.00 and the Fashion Show starts at 19.30 featuring clothes by Phase Eight, and Laurence Menswear. It is a great way to get the latest ideas on what to wear for Autumn and Winter and there will also be a selection of lovely jewelry for sale by Helen and Douglas House.

Tickets cost £10 and represent terrific value because if you take the ticket into Laurence Menswear you will get a 10% discount on clothes you buy up to the end of September. For tickets e-mail pearman@dial.pipex.com

Possible Scam - Unsolicited Parcels

Oxfordshire Trading Standards have received two calls from vulnerable adults living in Thame who have recently received expensive goods through the post that they have *not* ordered purported to have come from a well-known mail order company.

On one occasion, the consumer received a telephone call from an unknown caller shortly after receiving the parcel to arrange for collection of the parcel from the consumer's home. The consumer had not contacted anyone about the parcel – this was an unsolicited call. Soon afterwards a tall black male wearing a yellow hi-viz jacket arrived at the consumer's home and collected the parcel, no receipt was provided. Both consumers are now being pursued by the mail order company for payment of the items.

We are asking residents living in the South Oxfordshire or Vale of White Horse area who experience this kind of

behaviour to telephone Thames Valley Police on 101 and quote URN 706 of 13/07/12. Free Advice about Consumer Rights is available by telephoning the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline: 08454 04 05 06

Further information to help consumers be 'scam aware' is available via the Oxfordshire County Council website at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/scams

Challenge 2012

Wanda Pearce started taking part in the local Health Walks with her parents when she was a teenager. However, she very quickly progressed to longer distances and actually won the position of first under 16 girl in the Henley 10k 1999. She then took part in many local 10Ks and also the Reading Half Marathon. Upon leaving University she stepped up a gear by taking part in the London Marathon (2009) and, with the help of Henley and Peppard residents, raised over £3000. She is now setting up her own 10K. On the 23rd September, Wanda is urging local people to support her by taking part in the Challenge 2012 10k run. Starting and finishing on London's famous Southbank, this is London's newest 10k run. To make sure that it is as easy as possible for people to take part in the 10k, Wanda is offering free return coaches from Peppard (spaces limited to availability). For more information about the run, please visit www.teachfirst.org.uk/10krun, call Ann Pearce 01491 628049 or e-mail Wanda on wpearce@teachfirst.org.uk. All proceeds will go to Teach First. Teach First is working towards the vision that no child's educational success is limited by their socio-economic background. By taking part in the Challenge 2012 Run 10k, you are helping to ensure that this vision is a reality.

Ann Pearce

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Clubs and Societies

1st Peppard Guides

We have enjoyed a summer term of cooking outside, including camp doughnuts, dampers and apple crumble. We had a lovely end of term campfire and also welcomed our new recruits who are all set to join us in September. Here is the Penguin Patrol cooking apple crumbles.

Jo Waugh, Guider-in-charge



Peppard Cricket Club

Preparation of the wicket was very difficult earlier in the season because of the rain: not many players can remember it being so bad.

The 1st XI entered August with two consecutive wins taking them to 6th place in the Premier Division of the Berkshire Cricket League and the 2nd XI are a creditable 5th in Division 2 of the same league. This is a particularly pleasing situation as they have been playing with a number of under 15s in the side who have acquitted themselves very well in difficult circumstances. It looks promising for the future.

The junior section of the club is also thriving under the careful guidance of Director of Junior Cricket, Andy Watts. On Sunday mornings Peppard Common is full of youngsters aged 6 to 12 learning the finer points of the game and having a lot of fun, to judge by the smiles that can be seen on the faces of both parents and children at

the end of each session. The junior section recorded its first competitive win in a friendly between the Under-9s and Theale & Tilehurst Under-9s which, hopefully, will be the first of many.

We are all looking forward to the remainder of the season.

Ronnie Brock, Chairman

Peppard WI

We had a good 'Garden Meeting' held in Peppard War Memorial Hall because of the wet weather. However members were still able to show their Olympic torches by parading around the room. Liz Waterfall won the competition and was presented with a lovely arrangement of red roses from Maureen Richens.

However at the end of July we held our New Members Meeting in Irene Lindsay's garden in brilliant sunshine. We enjoyed our ice cream and lovely WI cakes. Summer at last! That is one big advantage of belonging to the WI, we always have a delicious home made tea.

In September we are looking forward to a talk by Sue Birtwhistle JP entitled *The Magistracy*. No doubt we will all be on our best behaviour, but I'm sure it will be very interesting. It is a subject that I for one know very little about and hopefully will learn quite a lot about what goes on. In October it is our regular Harvest Lunch, something always enjoyed by the members because the committee provide all the food, and very good it is too! In November, in contrast to our September meeting, we have Rose Musselwhite coming to give us a talk called *My Life as a Tiller Girl*. Should learn a few things from that also.

If you are interested in any of these subjects please come along as a guest. The meetings are held in the Peppard

War Memorial Hall on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 14.30. For more information, call 0118 9461381

Di Ducker, President

Wyfold RDA Produces a Champion

Earlier in the summer one of our riders, Sara Lee, competed at the Regional Qualifiers and was successful in securing a place to compete in the RDA National Championships at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire. Sara has competed in the Championships before but this year she was riding a new horse, Charlie Brown. Sara's test went well and Charlie behaved beautifully but two hours after the class finished we were still waiting for the scores for her class. So we went in to the prize giving not knowing the result. Imagine our delight when we found she had come 4th in her section and her score was a personal best. We were all thrilled but none more so than Sara who was really delighted.

Adrienne Heriot



Sara Lee on Charlie

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Rotherfield Peppard Educational Trust

Fund for support of educational activities

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

Sylvia Overbury (01491 628245)

Peppard Lunch Club Pushes the Boat Out!

In May, instead of our usual lunch, we hired a boat and went for a cruise on the river, serving a scrumptious tea en route. May had been a rather wet month but the day we had picked turned out to be warm and sunny, and in Hobbs' *Hibernia*, with its huge panoramic widows, about 40 of us enjoyed both food and river views as we cruised gently between Marsh and Hambleden locks.



We are very grateful to Messrs Hobbs for all their help with this outing.

Lunch club members had a summer garden party in August, and the usual lunches will resume from September (see diary).

The club is not just about providing lunches (though we believe we do this very well!) but is also a gathering in congenial surroundings for older villagers - especially those living on their own - to meet and chat with friends old and new. If you want to find out more about us, ring Sally Longhurst on 0118 972 2808.

Circle Dancing

If you've been inspired by the Olympics to get off the sofa and get moving, this might just be the thing for you! Circle dancing embraces lots of styles, varieties of rhythm and steps, in fact there's a

dance for everybody. You might enjoy a fast Israeli fire dance, a gentle dance reflecting autumn, called *Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness* or a meditative Indian chant based on the movement of trees. You can join in or opt out as you choose - but there aren't many who find they even wish to contemplate that. First time is free, so why not give it a try? First Sunday of the month at Christ the King Hall, Sedgewell Road, Sonning Common, 15.30-17.00, with a break for refreshments.

Ros Jennings

Rotherfield United Football Club

The club's home ground is at Bishopswood Sports Ground and runs teams from Under 5's through to adult. The club is an FA Charter Standard Development Club and has just applied to become an FA Charter Standard Community Club, which will confirm that the club complies to the highest standards within football. All Rotherfield coaches are FA qualified, CRB checked and hold current First Aid certificates.

New Girls Team: the club has just recruited an outstanding new coach to start the club's first dedicated girls' team. Zoe Barns is a former International youth player for Wales and a former Centre of Excellence coach at Oxford United. All girls aged between 8 and 11 are welcome to join the new team for training on Tuesdays starting at 17.30 at Bishopswood Sports Ground. The first session is on 18th September.

Under 5s: the next batch of players will start training on Saturday 15th Septem-

ber at 09.30 at Bishopswood. All children who will be in Reception Class 2012/13 are welcome to attend.

For further information please contact info@rotherfieldfc.com or call Andy Davies on 07900 697513.

Junior Table Tennis Club Relunched

A new coach, Graham Outrim, has joined the Sonning Common and Peppard Table Tennis Club. Coaching is every Friday from 17.30-18.30 and 18.30-19.30; £2.50 per session in Peppard War Memorial Hall. New members are welcome. For more information contact Derek Brooke-Wavell, d.wavell@talktalk.net

Peppard Bowls Club

Each year in mid-August we host a Gala Day when 20 teams from local bowls clubs spend an enjoyable day of competition.

Our Club was selected to host an Oxfordshire Bowls Association executive match and also this year we hosted the Oxfordshire County semis and finals in three men's singles competitions.



O.B.A. Executive Match July 2012

To catch up with our news please log on to www.peppardbowls.com

Chris Eldred

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Peppard Diary

SEPTEMBER

Sat	1	Kingwood & Peppard Comms Vol Drop-In/01491628049 Hort Soc 54 th Autumn Show CE School/14.30-16.00
Sun	2	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00/01491 874220
Mon	3	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	4	Peppard School Term starts
Fri	7	Greys Ct/A Gardener's Garden/17.30-19.30/0844 249 1895
Sat	8	Greys Ct/ Heritage Open Day/11.00-17.00/ Free entry
Mon	10	RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion
Wed	12	WI/The Magistracy/Mem Hall/14.30
Sun	16	Henley Triathlon
Mon	17	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	18	Rotherfield United FC/Girls' Team/17.30 Chiltern Players/Playreading/Reformation/20.00/01189724705
Wed	19	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.15/01189722808
Thu	20	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
Sat	22	Greenshoots/Plant Sale/Manor Farm /10.00-16.00 RPPC Planning/Pavilion/10.00 Greys Ct/Big Harvest/11.00-17.00
Sun	23	Challenge 2012 10K Run/Southbank/01491628049
Sun	30	All Saints' Harvest Thanksgiving/10.30

OCTOBER

Mon	1	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Sat	6	Kingwood & Peppard Comms Vol Drop-In/01491 628049
Sun	7	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00/01491 874220
Mon	8	RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion
Wed	10	WI/Harvest Lunch/Mem Hall
Mon	15	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55

Tue	16	Hort Soc/John Negus Talk/Mem Hall /19.30-21.00 Chiltern Players/Playread/Reformation/20.00/01189724705
Wed	17	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.15/01189722808
Thu	18	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
Fri	19	Peppard Revels Film Club/Gosford Park/Mem Hall/19.00
Sat	27	RPPC Planning/Pavilion/10.00 Greys Ct/Guided Walk/11.30-12.30/Free Entry Greys Ct/3 mile Chilterns Walk/13.30-15.30
Mon	29	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55

NOVEMBER

Thu	1	Greys Ct/Guided Walk/11.30-12.30/Free Entry Greys Ct/3 mile Chilterns Walk/13.00-15.00 Hort Soc/Warburg Reserve/SC Library/19.30-21.00
Sat	3	Kingwood & Peppard Comms Vol /01491 628049
Sun	4	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00/01491 874220 All Saints' Patronal Festival/18.30
Sun	11	All Saints' Service of Remembrance/10.45
Mon	12	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion
Tue	13	Hort Soc/Talk Autumn Colour/Mem Hall/19.30-21.00
Wed	14	WILife As A Tiller Girl/14.30/Mem Hall Chiltern Players/Playread/Reformation/20.00/01189724705
Thu	15	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
Wed	21	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.15/01189722808
Fri	23	Peppard Revels Film Club/Enigma/19.00/Mem Hall
Sat	24	RPPC Planning/Pavilion/10.00
Mon	26	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55

FISH Office: 0118 9723986 (Mon-Fri, 09.30-11.30)

SC & Peppard Table Tennis Club/Mem Hall/Juniors – Mon 17.00/0118 9463191

Rotherfield United Football Club/U5s/Sat.09.30-10.30

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER				NOVEMBER				NOTES
	2	9	16	23	30 ^A	7	14	21	28	4 ^B	11	18	25	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A Harvest Thanksgiving 09.00 No Service 10.30 Benefice Family Communion
10.30 Communion (sung)		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	
10.30 Matins	✓					✓					✓ ^C			B All Saints' Sunday Patronal Festival 18.30 Festal Evensong
10.30 Family Service			✓					✓				✓		
10.30 Sunday School		✓					✓			✓				
18.30 Evensong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C Remembrance Sunday 10.45 Service of Remembrance

Sunday Services at Springwater (Peppard Congregational Church)

Family Service: 10.30 - 11.45 ♦ Sunday School 10.30 - 11.30

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