

# Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Spring 2016

## Our Sports Pavilion – A Brief History

In 1945, a meeting was held to discuss some form of memorial for the men from 'Peppard and District' who gave their lives in the Second World War. Those present included the Rev'd Thomas Wilson (Chairman of the Parish Council and Pastor of the Congregational Church), Major Bertram (the architect), Mr Eke (the builder), Captain CF Wells (the Royal British Legion), and Mr Lionel Chater (Lord of the Manor). The provision of the Sports Pavilion, which backs on to Stoke Row Road near the junction with Gallowstree Road, was the attractive and useful outcome of the meeting.

Mr Chater conveyed the manorial rights of the football ground, cricket pitch and the ground on which the Pavilion stands, to the Parish Council. The people of Peppard were also involved in the decision and the fund raising.

The Opening Ceremony, performed by Mr and Mrs Chater, took place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1952, on a very wet day. All those present sheltered from the rain on the veranda in front of the building. A United Service of Thanksgiving and



*Peppard Sports Pavilion (Photo Angela Davison)*

Dedication was held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1953 and acts as a reminder that the years 1952 and 1953 saw the death of a Sovereign and the commencement of a new Elizabethan era.

A Management Committee responsible to the Parish Council was formed at the outset. Over the years a relationship has been established with the Nettlebed and District Commons Conservators, who have managed the Commons in accordance with the Nettlebed and District Commons Act 1906 – a special Act of Parliament which helps to protect the Commons (including the sports ground) from development.

In 1989, the Sports Pavilion and Field, Rotherfield Peppard, became a registered charity, with the Parish Council as Sole Trustee (charity no. 801262).

The Royal British Legion, the Scouts, Guides and sports clubs have benefitted since the grand opening. A copy of the *Peppard Chronicle*, published in 2002 on the occasion of Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, shows photographs of events in and around the Common. On the lighter side, Fancy Dress Cricket on the Common was also a feature.

The Pavilion is now used by special interest groups of all ages, including New Hearn's Art, a dancing class and AGMs. It would be good, however, to have a Football Club again!

I am indebted to the *Henley Standard Archive* and *The Peppard Chronicle Golden Jubilee Edition 2002* for my research.

Nick Launders

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*Fancy Dress Cricket circa 1953*

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# Our Schools

## Peppard School

We ended Term 2 with our usual Christmas festivities: a Christmas lunch for the children with a special visit from Santa, our KS1 Christmas play which was a complete sell-out and the traditional Christingle service which was as delightful as ever. The collection for The



*Acer*

Children's Society raised £175. Last term Year 1 and 2 children visited the River & Rowing Museum in Henley for a Winter Light workshop which supplemented their science topic. As part of their Greek Week, the Year 3 and 4 children went to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. In school they also learnt some Greek language, tasted some Greek food, dressed as Ancient Greeks and made some Greek coins and urns.



*Ash*

## Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU

Phone: 01491 628354

Headteacher  
**Nick Steele**

Chairman of the Governors  
**Christine Bradbury**

This term began with great excitement when the Choir performed at the Young Voices 2016 at the O2. The children had an amazing time despite the very long day!

We also had a visit from 'Feathers & Fur', a local garden centre who specialise in large birds. We had the pleasure of meeting Ash the Tawny Owl, Acer the Peregrine Falcon and Bailey, a beautiful Barn Owl.

Last week we held a 'car wash' in the playground to raise money for the Atlantic Lions who are rowing the Atlantic in aid of MS. With the help of some fantastic parents and grandparents, the children raised over £250.

Looking ahead, we are planning a visit to Didcot Railway, and also to Greys Court, to take part in a plant workshop. We are also, for the first time, starting a kayaking course for the children in May with the help of Sabine Kirschstein-Smith.

We are very sad to hear that the library van will be visiting us for the last time in June due to local council cuts. This has



*Bailey*

been an invaluable service for the school and, along with the wonderful David Ling and his helpers, it will be very sadly missed.

**Fiona Hilton**

## Kidmore End Pre-School

At the Christmas party the children learnt circus skills with the visiting entertainer and welcomed Father Christmas. In the run up to Christmas we welcomed new families, new staff members and new Committee members. We have had two full and exciting terms exploring our current topic of Castles, Kings, Dragons and Princesses.

Our new children started in January and so far their transition into pre-school life has been very happy. We have lots of exciting activities planned: there are festivals and occasions to mark in the coming months with Mothering Sunday, World Book Day and Sports Relief. This means that it promises to be a varied and productive term interspersed, as always, with plenty of playing, glueing, painting, dressing up and lots of fun!

We have welcomed two new Chairs to our committee: Liz Bland and Kayleigh Rixon who are sharing responsibility. We are always looking for new committee members, not necessarily with children at the pre-school. It's not a huge time commitment, but it is a really important contribution - please do not hesitate to let us know if it's something you'd be interested in. We always welcome the support.

We are a friendly pre-school set in a rural location, with session numbers limited to 14 children. We have a limited number of spaces on the register so for more information please contact me on 0118 948 4985 or e-mail [enquiries@keps.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@keps.co.uk).

Please see our website at [www.kidmoreendpreschool.co.uk](http://www.kidmoreendpreschool.co.uk).

**Emma Hawker**

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# Our Young Achievers

## Brother and Sister: Talented Swimmers

I visited Scott and Isobel Barnett at their Peppard home recently when they had an inset day from school. Both attend Chiltern Edge School where Scott, aged 16, will be taking 10 GCSEs this summer and Isobel, aged 14, is in Year 9.



Isobel Barnett

Apart from their school work, both fit in a lot of time training for their chosen sport. Their mother, Julie, is a swimming teacher and both teenagers were introduced to swimming at a very early age. Scott and Isobel were recently amongst 32 youngsters in our area whose achievements were recognised at the South Oxfordshire District Council's annual Young Achievers Awards where they were given £250 towards



Scott Barnett

equipment for their sport.

It's an early start for the pair: three mornings a week they get up at 04:45 to train for an hour and 45 minutes at Central Pool, Reading, before going home for breakfast then on to school. They also train either at the pool at Bradfield College or in Aldershot four days a week after school.

Scott has taken part in the South East Regional Championships and plans to compete in the National Championships next year.

From the age of eight until last year, Isobel was a member of Reading Athletics Club and in July she took

part in a triathlon at Dorney Lake coming first out of 60 girls. She enjoys open water swimming, running and cycling and has qualified for the County Swimming Championships this year.

Scott and Isobel both aspire to university, demonstrating just how much can be achieved by dedication, careful time management and family support.

Sue Nickson

## Are You a Young Achiever?

Browsing through some past issues of *Peppard News*, I am reminded that we have featured quite a range of amazing Young Achievers.

Perhaps not surprisingly with our proximity to the Thames, several young people in the village have excelled at water-based sports; I recall kayakers, rowers, swimmers and a yachtsman. Then there are the horse riders, dancers, a tennis player, a BMX racer, a table-tennis player, a karate medallist, an artist, an academic high achiever, a scout, a young golfer, singers, volunteers helping disabled skiers and various charity fund raisers.

Quite a list and I'm sure there are more keeping quiet about their achievements. Don't be shy - we want to hear from you if you have achieved something special! I would particularly like to find a young person in Peppard who has performed a special act of kindness which may have gone unreported, perhaps someone who helps look after a disabled parent or sibling or is themselves disabled yet has achieved something special like Tom who rides at Wyfold RDA (see *Peppard News* Winter 2015 issue - [www.PeppardNews.co.uk](http://www.PeppardNews.co.uk)).

If this resonates with you or you know a special young person I can talk to please do get in touch with me at [peppardnews@btinternet.com](mailto:peppardnews@btinternet.com)

Sue Nickson

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# The Councils

## Parish Council News

As I write this we are experiencing one of the coldest days for many years. However, the Parish Council, probably like you, is looking forward to spring and our annual events. The first item is our Litter Blitz. Under the leadership of Lady Brunner, the WI held the first *Keep Britain Tidy* campaign in the 1940s, and this year, to recognise Her Majesty the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the National Federation of Women's Institutes are arranging a national Great Clear Up over the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016. In response to this, and together with WI members, our annual Litter Blitz will now be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March, meeting outside the Unicorn at 10:00. HiViz jackets, bags and litter pickers will be provided but please bring gloves and good shoes or boots. This is somewhat earlier than in previous years which should be something of an advantage as the grass, etc. will not have started to grow.

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 10:00 we will hold our Annual Parish Meeting in the War Memorial Hall. This year this will start with an Annual Meeting for the Sports Pavilion and Field charity which runs the facilities in Stoke Row Road. This is your chance to meet and hear from your Councillors. Our guest speaker is Professor Richard Harding, Chairman, Wallingford Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Later in the year on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May we will be organising the historic Beating the Parish Bounds. We plan to start outside the Red Lion Public House at 14:00 and walk the eastern boundary of the parish, returning at about 15:30. More details about all of the events will be on our website [www.rppc.org.uk](http://www.rppc.org.uk), and circulated on the Village E-mail. If you wish to be added to the Village E-mail, please contact the Clerk on [clerk@rppc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@rppc.org.uk). We do hope that you will be able to join us at all or some of these events.

Finally we currently have two vacancies on the Council. This is an interesting, although sometimes frustrating, role helping to maintain the lovely area in which we are lucky enough to live. Our Parish ranges over a large area with several centres and it would be excellent if each of these were represented by a

## Parish Council

Chairman: Tony Cotton  
e-mail: [chairman@rppc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@rppc.org.uk)

Parish Clerk: Linda Collison

7 Grange Avenue, Rotherfield Peppard,  
Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 5LD  
01491 629676

e-mail: [clerk@rppc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@rppc.org.uk)

Website: [www.rppc.org.uk](http://www.rppc.org.uk)

SODC Councillors: Charles Bailey

[Charles.Bailey@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Charles.Bailey@southoxon.gov.uk)

& David Nimmo-Smith

[David.Nimmo-Smith@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:David.Nimmo-Smith@southoxon.gov.uk)

OCC Councillor: David Bartholomew

07769 808773

[david.bartholomew@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:david.bartholomew@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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.

Councillor. We do not have a representative from Wyfold or Stevens Lane and it would be good to have applicants to represent these parts of the Parish, however this does not preclude others from applying.

**Tony Cotton**

## OCC Budget Cuts

Additional savings: it is with a heavy heart that I write to bring you news about further reductions in services. Prior to Christmas, Oxfordshire County Council went out to consultation on possible additional budget cuts totalling £51m on top of the savings already made. At the time this was believed to be the worst-case scenario. It was hoped that when central Government confirmed the local government settlement, that not all the 95 savings measures consulted on would have to be taken. As it transpired, due to a change in the funding formula, which unexpectedly penalised shire counties, the settlement was even worse than expected and the total additional savings required now total £69m.

Short-term measures: the council will introduce a series of short-term measures to buy time before it has to make yet more new savings to cover the difference between £51m and £69m. Further

consultations will take place during 2016/17 and the council will continue to work with communities to reduce the impact of the savings. The approach remains the same – the council seeks to protect the most vulnerable people in Oxfordshire. These are adults who need help with basic personal care and children at risk of abuse or neglect. (Nearly half our budget now goes on social care.) The short-term measures the council is proposing involve: drawing from reserves on a one-off basis; bringing some savings proposals originally proposed for future years forward to 2016/17; reducing spending in certain areas on a one-off basis (training budgets, Book Fund in the library service); recalculating various financial assumptions on things such as inflation, Council Tax income and the overall tax-base. Additionally, a few days before the Council debated the budget on 16th February, the Government announced some transitional relief measures. This was in response to representations from hard-hit shire counties. OCC will receive £9m spread over two years. A cross-panel is to be set up to agree the best use of these funds.

Council Tax: county councils will now be allowed to raise Council Tax by up to 4% before a referendum is required; 2% of this is the original limit, with a further two per cent on top allowed for spending on adult social care. However, the benefit of this extra 2% increase in spend is cancelled out by the fact that central Government has not compensated local government for the estimated costs of the new National Living Wage and it is therefore of no assistance in terms of council services. Oxfordshire County Council is proposing a 3.99% rise in its share of the Council Tax for 2016/17.

**Cllr David Bartholomew**

## No 145 Bus

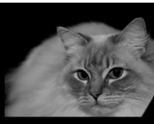
One of the many painful decisions the council is having to take to achieve a balanced budget is deciding whether or not to remove bus subsidies. It is highly likely all bus subsidies will be removed and this will impact upon service 145 next year. It will then be up to the operator to decide if the service continues.

**Cllr David Bartholomew**



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# Our Favourite Walk

## Third Reading Bridge Update

As most residents will be aware, various Berkshire councils and enterprise groups have been campaigning vigorously in recent years for a new Thames crossing known as the *Third Reading Bridge*. It is likely this bridge would link the end of the A329(M) in Berkshire to Playhatch in Oxfordshire.

The enthusiasm of the scheme promoters is not shared by many Oxfordshire residents who are concerned about the large amount of extra traffic that would be deposited on to inadequate rural roads.

Indeed, most of the parish councils in the nine parishes I represent have expressed grave reservations about a third bridge. There are worries that the B481 could become a rat-run between the M4 and the M40, and that the A4155 into Henley would become even more congested than it already is.

Historically, both Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) have shared residents' concerns but last year, in order to remain part of the process, both councils agreed to contribute funds to a traffic modelling study being led by Wokingham Borough Council on behalf of interested parties.

Worryingly, I have recently learnt that this study has now been expanded and renamed Strategic Outline Business Case, which wrongly seems to suggest that all parties are supporters of the scheme. In response to this I have tabled a question to the OCC Cabinet asking for reassurance that any proposals resulting from the study will be rigorously challenged to ensure they best meet the needs of Oxfordshire residents.

I will update readers further in the next issue.

**Cllr David Bartholomew**

Approximately 3 miles.

From the crossroads on the Stoke Row Road, follow the road signposted towards Sonning Common and Reading. Walk to the junction of Gravel Hill and Peppard Road - it's interesting to note the different styles and ages of houses along this stretch of straight road. At the junction cross (carefully) to Blounts Court Road. Continue on, past Springwater Church and then take the footpath left, just before Home Farm (on your left) and just past the entrance to Churchill Crescent on your right.

The footpath takes you between two open fields with views towards John-son Matthey on the right. In the summer we have found ourselves surrounded by crops of Poppy/Rape Seed/Barley/Wheat fields which are all a treat.

Continue on down into a wood of beech trees. Soon the path comes very close to Sedgell Spring on your left. It's faced with a brick structure decorated with an ornate carving of an elephant. According to the Woodland Heritage Manual – 2008 'It was built by the Knollys family who bought the Blount's Court estate in 1841. The spring is still a prominent feature after restoration in the 1960s.'

On to the gate at the bottom of the wood and across the field where you can branch left leading through a close wooded path, or to the right where you will walk to the left of an open field. Take the right hand one and remember to turn and admire the open fields and wonder at the lack of a single road in your view. It brings you out across a small track to the flint All Saints' Church. Worth a look, beautifully tended and cared for, and a very attractive spire. Turn to your left and follow the road to the Top Common, passing Peppard School on your right. With the school to your back, cross the



Maps contain Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2015

Common heading for a blue and white vehicle weight limit sign. Cross the main road and head straight for the narrow road (Colliers Lane) opposite, which will lead you through arching trees, round, down and then back up again. At the top you will reach the Unicorn pub, should you wish to stop for a well earned pint, or if you prefer, before you get to the pub take the (not easy to see) left hand footpath up some steps shortly after Manor View house on the climb back up the hill. This will bring you back on to the Top Common via Peppard cricket pitch.

Skirt the cricket pitch clockwise and you'll meet up with a short path through the heather that brings you out opposite the car park. If you go to the Unicorn, turn left after your drink and follow Stoke Row Road back to the car park. The very best time to do this walk is on a late summer's evening when the sun is low in the sky and all the rich colours of the landscape and dappled light of the trees are at their best. Listen out for the numerous birds and watch the soaring kites. Quite often we have seen deer, and we have once eye-balled a fearless fox at close range, which was quite an experience.

**Angela & Eric Davison**

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## Our Village

### The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June is the Queen's Official Birthday when the nation will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup>. Peppard Revels will be arranging a Village Picnic on Peppard Common with a barbecue and lighting of the ceremonial beacon.

If you aren't already on our e-mailing list send your details to [peppardrevels@mac.com](mailto:peppardrevels@mac.com) to make sure you get more information later.

**John Hasler**

### Grey Court and Nuffield Place

Both our neighbouring National Trust properties have Easter Egg Hunts, Friday 25<sup>th</sup>-Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March.; follow the clues and win a Cadbury egg (£3 a trail).

### Peppard Common

Throughout the winter, the Peppard Common Volunteer Group has been continuing with its conservation work on the west side of the valley. Areas of bracken and bramble are being cleared, in order to allow dormant heathers and grasses to become established once again and to restore some of the grassland and heathland that dominated in the early 1900s. Trees and saplings have been selectively felled to create glades at the edge of the woodland. And Yes; you can help yourself from the piles of logs that you might have noticed dotted around the Common, but please ensure the stacks are left safe and tidy. You are not, however, permitted to cut down any new wood.

The volunteer group now meets at the car park at the junction of Gallowstree Road and Stoke Row Road at 10:00 on every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. It's an extremely satisfying morning's (and afternoon's if you wish) exercise in the fresh air. New recruits are welcomed, so please contact me if you want to know more.

Other events are organised for the Friends during the year and, if you wish to join, or want further information, feel free to contact Liz Longley, Clerk to the Conservators, 01491 641445; [clerk@nettlebed-commons.org](mailto:clerk@nettlebed-commons.org).

After 10 years of unstinting service as our Chairman, Jeremy Simon is stepping down. Fortunately, we haven't lost his wise head and depth of experience, because he is continuing as a Conservator. Peter Allport, who has been a Conservator for several years, is now Chairman.

**Tony Rancombe**

### Peppard War Memorial Hall

Having made several attempts to save the Bowls Club, it is now official - 'the club has ceased to exist'. The club's executive committee donated many items to the Hall Trustees and we hope to be able to display some of the trophies in memory of the Bowls Club. We are now considering uses for the area to enhance facilities for the community.

We still hope to start Rugbytots this season. Please keep an eye on [www.peppardwarmemorialhall.btik.com](http://www.peppardwarmemorialhall.btik.com) for details. Other good news is that we have been approached by a newly formed Beaver Colony and Cub Pack for use of the hall once registration with the Scouting Association has been completed. It is hoped to introduce these activities during the course of this year.

Bookings for the hall are progressing for the spring and summer so if you would like to book your function in the hall we would be pleased to hear from you.

If our submissions to various organisations for funds are successful, it is hoped to undertake the work on our roof in August. Bulbs planted by an intrepid bunch of volunteers in the cold and wet last year will hopefully soon be in full bloom. They were planted in the verge by the hall and should be a pleasing addition to the area

**Clive Mills**

### Peppard Unplugged

Once again we will be holding these popular events: an evening of informal music for local talent run on the lines of a musical café in a relaxed atmosphere. Each musician, singer can be on stage for 15 minutes.

For dates, please see Peppard Diary on Page 16. The admission of £6.00 (children £3.00) includes teas and coffees and people may bring their own drinks.

All proceeds go to the Roof Fund. For further details please contact : 0118 972 3609 or visit our website (see above).

**Clive Mills**

### FISH Volunteer Centre

FISH run regular door-to-door shopping trips every month. Leisure trips planned for the coming months include visits to Chiswick House, Thame Farmers' Market, Broughton Castle, Cambridge, Milton Keynes Shopping Centre and the RAF Museum at Hendon. For more information and to book any trip call our office: see Diary page for contact details.

Our Bus programme is published and distributed on 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is posted on noticeboards and can also be found on the new, redesigned FISH website [www.fishvolunteercentre.co.uk](http://www.fishvolunteercentre.co.uk). To receive a personal copy by email each month please send the message 'Bus programme please' with your name to [busmanager@fishvolunteercentre.co.uk](mailto:busmanager@fishvolunteercentre.co.uk).

Are you running the Reading Half Marathon and undecided which charity to be involved with? FISH would love you to support us. Please contact Clive Mills, 0118 972 4154

**John Pearman**

### Kingwood and Peppard Common Volunteers

We are a friendly group of volunteers who meet twice a month to work on the Commons. Over the past three months we have continued with clearing several of the glades on Kingwood Common. We have also spent time clearing and widening paths, to make them more accessible. During one of the January work parties we had a visit from a *Henley Standard* reporter, and you can see the article (with picture!) on the *Henley Standard* website (search for Kingwood Common). It is dated 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and entitled 'Volunteers clear brambles and bracken to help flowers'. So now you've seen us, don't be shy, come and join us.

See Peppard Diary (Page 16) and also [www.peppardnews.co.uk](http://www.peppardnews.co.uk) for dates of spring work parties. The work parties run from 09:30-12:30, and volunteers are welcome for all or any part of that time. On occasion we also join forces with the Green Gym. For more details please contact [ShKinghorn@aol.com](mailto:ShKinghorn@aol.com).

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# Junior Peppard News

## Mrs Davies- A New Addition to Peppard School

Mrs Davies, a new teacher, joined Peppard School and took the role of the *Junior Peppard News* adult. Since she is our new TA, we decided to ask her some questions.

When and why did you start teaching? 'I worked in a bank and financial services for 15 years and changed careers when my children started school. I enjoyed helping out in their classes on my days off and eventually went to work at their school.'

What was your favourite subject in school? Mrs Davies said she enjoyed all languages like English, French and German.

What is your favourite sandwich filling? Mrs Davies answer was very simple- 'BLT' (bacon, lettuce and tomato).

What is your favourite animal? 'My favourite animal is a dolphin.'

What are your big ambitions in life? 'A large family and spending lots of time together.'

What was your favourite childhood book? 'Amelia Jane books by Enid Blyton. I enjoyed them so much that I named one of my daughters Amelia!'

## Christmas Cakes

Before half term, Springwood class started cooking lessons with Mrs Barlow so that they could surprise their family and friends with a special Christmas treat. Cooking took place every Thursday; in small groups; in the staffroom and quickly became many children's favourite activity.

In the first week, we made the cake with the fruit, flour and eggs. We mixed the ingredients with a wooden spoon and everybody got a turn. It smelt heavenly!

After half term, we covered the cakes with marzipan, which was quite tricky. We had to stretch it out and make sure that there weren't any creases. The week after that, we used the same technique to lay the fondant icing over the cakes.

The next step, was the best part of all – decorating the cakes. We had a choice of: penguins, a post box, a Christmas tree or presents. We chose a ribbon to go round our cakes and then the cake was ready!

On the last week before the Christmas holidays, Mr Steele handed out certificates to the Star Bakers. All the cakes looked amazing and tasted even better!

By Lois Powell



Astrid White & Freya Kristen  
at the River & Rowing Museum

## Greys Visit to the River and Rowing Museum

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January Greys class (Year 1 and 2) visited the river and rowing museum in Henley. When they arrived in the morning they split into groups to do a workshop about light and dark. The carousel included various activities: reflection, shadows, sources of light and nocturnal animals.

In the afternoon they all took part in an art workshop. It was a screen painting activity looking at light, dark and shadows. By the end of the day, the whole class had produced some amazing work.

By Charlie Upsher

## The Living Rainforest

Last term, in Springwood Class, we were learning about rainforests and on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015 we were all excited to be going on a trip to the Living Rainforest in Newbury.

After travelling on two minibuses, we arrived at about 10.30 a.m. Then we split into two groups and had guided tours around the indoor rainforest. There are over 700 species of plants and animals in the Living Rainforest and we were lucky to see lots of cool and exotic animals including: an armadillo, toucans, freshwater stingrays, tiny monkeys and many more! We even encountered Luigi, a really funny bird with a brother named Mario.

We had lunch and some time to play outside before going into the rainforest again. In the afternoon we had worksheets to complete about the adaptations we had learnt about in the morning.

We then went back to school, very exhausted after such an amazing trip.

By Marie Guthrie



Head Chef Lois

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# Junior Peppard News cont'd

## Chiltern Edge Performing Arts Day

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January was a very exciting day for Year 5 because we were going on a trip to Chiltern Edge to do a performing arts workshop about *Footloose*. We all arrived at school, in our PE kit, ready for the thrilling day ahead of us. The school bus was filled with happy children anticipating what the teachers of Chiltern Edge had in store for us.

Once we arrived, we went into the main hall where we got given a bit more information about the day. We were split into three groups with other children from local schools. There were three different workshops: dance, drama and music. Throughout the day we rotated around all the activities so that everybody got to try out all of them.

In drama, we performed the gym scene from *Footloose* where some of the main characters tried to sneak into class because they were late. It was extremely funny and very enjoyable, despite the fact that we had to do push-ups at the end!

For dance, we learnt a routine to the song *Let's Hear It for the Boy!* The dance included some tricky steps where you crossed your legs over (the grapevine) and it all got a bit confusing. Eventually, all of us got the hang of it and the dance looked amazing!

During music, we sang *Footloose*, which got all of us jigging about in our seats. There were some high notes that we had to hit but it went smoothly in the end.

In the afternoon, we all got ready for the big performance in the hall where we had the chance to show parents and teachers what we had learnt throughout the morning. It all went really well and was great fun!

After the final group had finished performing, three judges, who were in the Chiltern Edge production of *Footloose*, came up to hand out certificates. Octavia and Lois were awarded

Star Dancer and Star Actor and were very proud of their achievements.

The whole day was great fun because we got the chance to do things we don't normally do at school.

By Lois Powell



Georgia Ruff is 'Knighthed' at Windsor Castle

## Windsor Castle

In November 2015, Highmoor Class (Year 3 and 4) went to Windsor Castle. Their topic was the Normans, and they were looking at Motte-and-Bailey castles.

They travelled by minibus and got into different groups. They went around the Windsor Castle and saw lots of interesting artefacts such as armour they used in Norman times, Normandy helmets and they almost saw the Queen!

Emily Guthrie, a year 3 who went to Windsor Castle, said, "Windsor Castle had a lot of history in it and I was fascinated by it!"

Overall, the Windsor Castle Trip was very useful as Highmoor definitely have learnt lots from being able to explore the castle for themselves.

By Marie Guthrie.

## The Choir O2 Arena

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the school choir went to the O2 arena for Young Voices. (A massive performance of school choirs from around the country).

We left school at 10 o'clock and travelled in two minibuses and arrived early afternoon, (we had lunch on the minibus). We sang the songs we had learnt for the performance on the way to the O2 arena. When we first saw the arena, we were all very excited yet nervous too as it looked *huge* from the outside!

We went into the O2 arena, which seemed even bigger from the inside, but Mrs Clinkard told us that we weren't even in the main bit of the O2 yet! When we were called in to start our practice, we were all buzzing with excitement! As we entered the main arena, we were all gobsmacked at how big it was! We found our seats and started to practise our songs. It was an intensive 5-6 hours of practise. We practised the harmonies that we were going to do on the real thing and we met amazing people including some exceptional beat-boxers who sounded like sound effects and a great lady called Laura Wright who sang *World In Union* in the Rugby World Cup.

As adults and parents started to file in to watch our performance, we were both excited and shaky! The concert was MAGNIFICENT! We saw a brilliant group of dancers called Urban Strider, a fantastic singer called Tom and an amazing band who played all the songs brilliantly!

Overall everything was SENSATIONAL and a truly unforgettable experience!

By Marie Guthrie

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## The Atlantic Lions

During November 2015, all the children in Peppard school were asked to come dressed as lions for the day to support a charity rowing challenge. A crew of four men ( Dave Middleton, Matt Townsend, Joe Mile and Charlie Hayward) called the Atlantic Lions are going to row more than 3000 miles, setting off from San Sebastián, La Gomera, across the seas of the Atlantic, finishing in Nelson's Dockyard English Harbour, Antigua. The rowers are hoping to raise £100,000 for the Multiple Sclerosis Trust.

One of the crew members – Dave Middleton, gave us a talk about the rowing challenge which included: what the boats look like, the food the rowers would eat and the survival suits they required.

The race started on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and we have been following the rowers' progress, tracking them live on their website. The Atlantic Lions are currently in 11<sup>th</sup> place and have already raised over £62000. Good luck for the rest of the journey!

By Finley Robertson

### Farewell Mrs Brealey

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was a sad day for Peppard school as we were saying good-bye to Mrs Brealey. Mrs Brealey had been working at Peppard school for 25 years and in that time she taught us cooking, French, RE and Latin.

The church service was held at the church down the road from the school. The children sang some of her favourite songs and shared some of their memories of Mrs Brealey. Year 4 and foundations sang 'somewhere over the rainbow' and Springwood and year 4 sang 'ou se trouve mon parapluie'.

We will miss Mrs Brealey very much and hope she has lots of fun!

By Lois Powell



Joseph Biggin in an Atlantic Lions' wetsuit

## Tesco's Magic Of Christmas Competition

Early in December, Peppard School held an Art Afternoon to make a display for Henley Tesco's window competition. The theme was The Magic of Christmas and our display was based on a scene from the *Nutcracker*. Every class took part.

Springwood Class split into four groups to work on the main characters: the Magician, the Rat King, the Ice Queen and Clara. Highmoor were responsible for the toy soldiers and the *Nutcracker*. Greys Class made the stars and the mice whilst Peppard Class worked on the baubles. As well as working on the collage, the whole school did a hand-print for the Christmas tree. Mr Steele did one too!

All the schools in the area took part in the competition and we were thrilled to be voted the winners. Judges said they chose Peppard because they could see that the whole school had added something to the display.

All the children in school enjoyed working together to make the display and can't wait until Easter for the next competition.

By Charlie Upsher

## Peppard Rocket

At the start of this year Peppard class were asked to choose their topic and they all wanted to find out more about space. Noah said he wants to be an astronaut. The next week they watched Tim Peake go into space and his first space walk from the space station. After that they made their own rocket and painted planets to build the atmosphere. Jonathan said "It was fun, I enjoyed it!"

The whole class learnt 'The way back home' by Oliver Jefferies and performed it with actions. The children have been enjoying creating things with alien playdough and constructing their own rockets to send them into space. Dogs included!

By Finley Robertson

## The Chiltern Edge Indoor Athletics Competition

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016, Springwood Class went to Chiltern Edge's Indoor Athletics competition. When we arrived at Chiltern Edge, we were welcomed by Mr Nutt (the PE co-ordinator) and told the rules that we needed to know for the activities.

We started with an obstacle race, just to warm us up. The obstacles included some quick feet dodges, jumping from side to side and going over hurdles. We had a lot of fun and got an idea of what the proper competition was going to be like.

Then the real competition began! There were lots of different types of races and we were competing against children from Sonning Common and Kidmore End schools.

At the end of the day we awaited the announcement of the winners. Who was going to represent Oxfordshire in the big athletics competition? Unfortunately, it wasn't us! Even though we didn't win, we ended the week on a high as we all had great fun trying!

By Marie Guthrie

### Highmoor Nursery School

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## Our Village cont'd

### A Matter of Life and Death

What does Advanced Care Planning mean and who would benefit from free workshops ...?

Advanced Care Planning is a discussion with your loved ones and/or health care providers about your wishes and preferences. Issues include where you may wish to be cared for in your final days, who will speak for you when you are no longer able to do so and other things that are important to you.

If you are caring for someone who is approaching the last stages of life then it would be particularly useful to learn more about your options and what services are available locally.

A recent survey from 'Dying Matters' showed 70% said they were confident in discussing these subjects, 36% had made a will, 29% had let someone know about their funeral wishes, 6% had written down their plans for when they were no longer able to make their decisions and 51% living with a partner were unaware of their partner's wishes.

The purpose of the workshops is to raise awareness about the importance of having plans in place. We give information about how to make Advanced Care Plans and we talk about the legalities of a Living Will or Power of Attorney. We explain what it means to have a 'Do not Resuscitate' form. During the sessions we focus on how to start a difficult conversation. We give information about our local services and booklets about End of Life Care Planning.

All sessions are done in a friendly café style setting with refreshments provided.

The workshops are open to anyone who is interested and you don't need to be registered with Sonning Common Health Centre to attend.

We are planning further monthly workshops (see Peppard Diary on Page 16 for

dates) at Sonning Common Health Centre upstairs in the Palmer Room.

On 18<sup>th</sup> May we are organising an Open Day themed *Matters of Life and Death* to be held at Sonning Common Village Hall with various speakers and informative stands. These will include Age UK, Sue Ryder Hospice care, funeral directors, organ donation, solicitors, counselling, mediation, to name a few.

If you are interested in coming to one of workshops or you know someone who would benefit please contact us to book a place at Sonning Common Health Centre 0118 972 2188

Or Pat Jacobs at Sue Ryder on 01491 641384

*A few quotes from people who attended the workshops.*

*'Really informative – worth sharing'*

*'Helpful and liberating'*

*'It highlighted items we as a couple still need to address'*

***'Talking about death does not bring it closer ... it's about planning for life'***

**Dr Ellen Kruidenier**

### Health Walks

In 2016 the Health Walk scheme is celebrating 20 years of existence. On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April, health walkers old and new are invited to Sonning Common Village Hall at 14:00. There will be a social walk, starting and ending at the village hall, followed by tea and cakes, and talks from people involved in the Health Walk scheme from the start. Come along and see what health walking is all about!

The current timetable is available from the library, the Health Centre and the Herb Farm, or on the website at

[www.sonningcommonhealthwalks.co.uk/timetable](http://www.sonningcommonhealthwalks.co.uk/timetable). If you'd like to talk to someone about the health walks, phone Colin Davies on 0118 972 2527.

**Rosemary Dunstan**

### Green Gym

If, like me, you enjoy watching *Trust Me, I'm A Doctor* on TV you may have seen the report that highlighted that, from the 40s onwards, we start losing our muscle



**Members of the Green Gym in action**

mass so that we get progressively weaker. But the good news is that we can slow this decline or even reverse it by regular exercise. You can go to the gym or exercise at home. But wouldn't it be better if you did something useful while exercising? And that's what the Green Gym is for. We keep fit and do something for the surrounding countryside at the same time. We have over 20 sites for you to enjoy. These include Peppard, Nettlebed and Kingwood Commons, Nuffield Place, Ewelme Watercress Beds and Kennylands Field. Look at the programme on our website [www.sonningcommon.tcv.org.uk](http://www.sonningcommon.tcv.org.uk), or call Robin Howles on 0118 972 3528. It could add years to your life!

**John Hasler**

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# Peppard People

## Fred Nickson

Fred isn't a person to let the grass grow under his feet. Born and brought up in Ascot, Fred couldn't be a police cadet so he apprenticed to be a car mechanic instead. Once fully trained, he opened his own workshop but it didn't work out.

So, at the age of 22, he went to Australia as a '£10 Pom' – taking advantage of the Australian government's scheme to welcome immigrants. There, Fred worked for an American company as an hydraulics engineer. Initially there was very little work so his boss asked him to sell equipment too. Covering the whole of Australia and also Papua New Guinea, he eventually started training for a pilot's licence to travel around. It was a good life for a single man if a little lonely.

In 1967, he returned for a holiday and, killing time, he volunteered to help out at a Jumble Sale – and met Sue. His fate was sealed and two years later they married. Two daughters followed (and, in later years, four grandchildren) and 28 years ago they all moved to Peppard.

Fred worked in the motor trade for a few years before changing track completely to join a company that supplied dental laboratories and hospitals. In the course of his work he learnt about precious metals and the weights and measures used. Many of these were replaced by more modern equipment and Fred began to collect them and then old medical instruments followed. This sparked the interest in antiques that lasts until this day.

Later Fred bought an old post box and, almost by accident, placed it on the pavement outside the country clothing shop he had by then. It generated lots of interest before he sold it for a substantial profit. This led to a passion for British post boxes and to this day, he still buys, restores and sells around 150 a year. When the day comes that he finds them too heavy to lift, he may consider retiring! Two years after settling in Peppard, Fred volunteered for the Parish Council on which he stood for around five years. The Parish Council worked closely with the newly-formed Peppard Revels Committee, so naturally Fred joined that too: he helped plan and organise the



celebrations for the first and following four Peppard Revels and also organised the raffle. With a little more time on his hands he is now a member of several committees: the Patient Participation Group for Sonning Common Health Centre, Sonning Common Village Hall, the Chiltern Edge Community Association and last, but not least, FISH.

Six years ago he volunteered to drive the FISH mini-bus but was forced to stand down because of eyesight problems. Phil Clark, the Chairman at that time, saw his opportunity and asked Fred to take over the Chair. Fred's first reaction was to say 'No' but in the end he relented. He has overseen many changes at FISH, perhaps the most significant is moving the office to larger premises in Kennylands Road.

This New Year Fred made a resolution to take more holidays. One ambition is to see all seven wonders of the natural world: he has seen four and there are three to go – the harbour of Rio de Janeiro, the live Mexican volcano of Paricutin and Mount Everest. Fred claims that he is now too old for Mount Everest but such is his energy and drive that it wouldn't surprise me at all if *Peppard News* carries a feature in the future of Fred's climb of Mount Everest.

Rita Hadgkiss

# Snippets

## Mrs Mollie Walker

The oldest resident in our village celebrated her 107<sup>th</sup> birthday earlier this month! Her daughter tells me her mother is fit and well and acquired a new dog in the autumn. I am sure everyone in the village will join the *Peppard News* Team in wishing Mrs Walker belated best wishes for her birthday!

Sue Nickson

## Police Warning - Bank Scam

Thames Valley Police are urging residents in this area to be on their guard against fraudsters targeting unsuspecting victims and convincing them to hand over large sums of money. A telephone caller has claimed to be a Police Officer, fraud investigator or bank employee. The fraudster has convinced the victim to withdraw money from their bank account by saying he needs them to work undercover or because their bank account has been compromised. The victim hung up on the fraudster and then dialled their bank not knowing the fraudster has kept the line open. The victim was then speaking to a woman who falsely claimed to be from the bank and repeated the deception.

Some victims have been convinced to withdraw cash from their bank accounts, seal it in an envelope and hand it to a courier who called at their door later that evening. One woman was tricked into transferring cash into another bank account. If you receive one of these calls end it immediately. Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via their website. In an emergency dial 999.

## On Your Bike 2016

Throw off the excuses, get On Your Bike and join the annual feel-good family ride through Oxfordshire's leafy lanes (tarmacked).

How far? You choose: 6, 12 or 20 miles. There's also a supervised playground cycle for youngsters who are still a bit wobbly on their wheels. Pedalling starts at Sonning Common Primary School, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30. Charity partner: Sue Ryder. Organised by Sonning Common PTA; 0118 972 4487 or [info@onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk](mailto:info@onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk)

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# Our Churches

<b>All Saints'</b> Church of England <a href="http://www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk">www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk</a>	Rector:	To be announced	
	Associate Priest	Rev'd Susan Cooper	0118 437 5734
	Churchwardens:	Adrienne Heriot Margaret Woodward	01491 629254 0118 972 2296

## Is Easter Early or Late in 2016?

Each year we ask that question: it's strange that we never seem to say that it's just at the right time! Even as those in authority debate the issue of setting a fixed date for Easter rather than continuing the centuries old tradition of it being the first Sunday *after* the first full moon *on* or *after* March 21st, we find ourselves in Lent with Easter fast approaching, and, yes, it's early this year!

Regardless of the complications of the calendar date for Easter, this is a time for deep reflection and prayer, as we ponder Christ's death and resurrection during these 'wilderness' weeks. Perhaps, rather than giving something up for Lent, such as chocolate (Oh No!) or any other thing we enjoy, let's consider what we could put back in. If you fast, could the money saved go towards helping refugees? If you give up your latte in the nearby café maybe that time could be used for prayer for guidance in how to sustain the planet.

Why not take some time to join us at Lenten Studies on Tuesdays, 14:00-15:00, at the Church of Christ the King where we will be considering and discussing such matters.

In these ways we give a little back, in thanksgiving for the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us and rose again on the day we celebrate as Easter Sunday. Blessings to you all and Happy Easter!

**Rev'd Susan Cooper**

## Psalm 135 V.3

In keeping with a tradition that began at the millennium, the first Sunday evening service of the New Year was Choral Evensong. We were most fortunate that the choir was augmented by singing friends from nearby churches. The arrangements for the evening required the augmented choir to come together at the church for just one rehearsal at 17:15, prior to the service commencing at 18:30. Singers had been previously advised of the music to be sung and were familiar with the pieces as they are favourites and wonderful compositions. We were conducted by our Organist and Director of Music, David Butler and accompanied on the organ by David Old, another local and talented musician. The service this year was led by Revd Susan Cooper. It is a great privilege to participate in a church choir and particularly in a service like this where singing friends come together to make wonderful music and sing praises to the glory of God as the Psalm says, *O Sing Praises Unto His Name, For it is Lovely.*

**Isobel Brooker**

## RSCM Epiphany Festival

Four members of the Choir headed off to Oxford to take part in an Epiphany Festival at Christ Church Cathedral in January. The event was arranged by RSCM Oxfordshire with the music directed by Dr. Stephen Darlington and led by the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral. More than 80 singers gathered from all parts of the diocese. An afternoon rehearsal was followed by mince pies and tea, which preceded the service of readings and music.

## Vacancy

We hope to have some applications for a new Rector for the Benefice and that the short listing has taken place.

If this is the case then interviews will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> March.

## Looking Ahead

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 14:00, the Women's World Day of Prayer will be hosted by All Saints'.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 20:00, the Annual Parochial Church meeting will take place at All Saints'.

Weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June, events are being planned to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

More details will follow in the next edition and in the Church parish magazine which is available in Church.

**Margaret Woodward**

## Bread and Soup Lunches

Come along to Christ the King Church Hall for bread, vegetable soup, fruit, tea or coffee on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 12:30.

There will be a presentation from a Salvation Army Captain about working in the community in Reading.

Then, on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 12:30 there will be a presentation from a local couple about the Home of Hope, Malawi, an orphanage in Africa with which they have connections.

Come to both or just one. There will be an opportunity to give a donation to the charity being supported on each occasion.

Give us a call to let us know you will be coming so that we make enough soup! You will be made very welcome! Lifts can be arranged.

**Sue Nickson 0118 972 4520**



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## Help!

For over 40 years there has been a local Christian Aid Week house-to-house collection. We took over the organisation of the collection in 2003, and have decided that it is now time to pass on the baton.

**St Michael's** Catholic Church  
 Father Michael Doyle 0118 972 3418  
 Deacon Francis Andrews 0118 972 2354  
 Deacon Brian Theobald 0118 972 2796  
 e-mail: stmichaels.rc@hotmail.co.uk

Christmas seems a long time ago but our church was packed for our Christmas services as people began their festivities by gathering together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It was a great delight to not only see our regular parishioners present but to be able to welcome many other people from the village and surrounding area and those who had travelled from far and near to be with family for the holiday.

Sadly we had to say goodbye to Fr Paul Rowan who had been with us for just over three years. Many people will remember

We would therefore be very happy to hear from anyone who is prepared to take on the organisation of this worthwhile task. This year the CA week collection will take place during week commencing Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, and it is

hoped that by early March there will be a new organiser in place. If anyone is interested in taking up this organisational challenge, please contact Ian or Pat Fraser on 01491 629631, or email Patricia.Fraser@btinternet.com.

him for his informative but challenging talks and sermons. Until a new parish priest is appointed we will be served by Fr Michael Doyle who is already known to us.

Just before Christmas we launched one of our parish charities of the year – Mary's Meals. This charity provides a hot meal for over one million hungry children every school day. The aim is to encourage education that can lift them out of poverty in later life.

In January, many from St Michael's were able to join the service for Christian Unity at All Saints'. It was a lovely opportunity to meet new people and catch up with old friends.

Our thoughts have already turned to Lent and Easter. We will begin Lent with a Mass on Ash Wednesday (19:30 10<sup>th</sup> February) and in Holy Week will hold a penitential service (19:30 21<sup>st</sup> March), Maundy Thursday Mass (19:00 24<sup>th</sup> March), Good Friday service (15:00 25<sup>th</sup> March) and the Easter Vigil (21:00 26<sup>th</sup> March). Easter morning Masses will be at 09:00 and 10:30. We also intend to run a series of talks and reflections between now and Easter. To see what is happening and to confirm times nearer the date please visit our website at [www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)

As always everyone is welcome to come and see what we do within our parish community at any time.

**Brian Theobald**



Kevin and Linsey Potter  
 0118 972 4519  
[www.springwater.org.uk](http://www.springwater.org.uk)

My wife, Linsey, and I have recently become ministers at Springwater Church. We have particularly enjoyed the spectacular autumn colours and crisp blue skies with their golden sunsets, made all the more noteworthy because we arrived at Springwater in August, from a very dry North America. Initially, we were to undertake a short sabbatical, but connections developed and we stayed.

Previously our family lived in India, Reading and latterly the USA, where we

assisted border communities impacted by the US/Mexico drug wars and more recently advocating against human trafficking and supporting survivors in the greater Los Angeles area. Human trafficking is a major problem in our cities, towns and villages and needs full community participation to keep children safe. Currently, our daughter is based in Europe assisting Oasis Belgium, which supports women and children vulnerable to human trafficking. Contact us if you would like to learn more.

This autumn has therefore been extra special, we have been close to our

daughter and son and had a wonderful blast of colour that has recharged the soul. It is with a sense of anticipation that we now look forward to spring and summer and issue a personal invitation to come and visit us at Springwater Church. Join us one weekend as we too transition into a new season.

We meet on Sunday mornings at 10:30, and there are various activities ongoing in the community. You can read more on our new website [www.springwaterchurch.co.uk](http://www.springwaterchurch.co.uk) which will go live in early March.

As I sit and watch the sun go down and the sky light up with golden hues, I thank God for the beauty in this new adventure.

**Kevin Potter**

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# Clubs and Societies

## Squash and Racketball Club

Chiltern Edge Community Association Squash and Racketball Club has two courts with changing rooms and showers. The annual membership is £15 and tokens for the court lights cost £2.50 from 'Occasions' in Sonning Common. For full details see [www.ceca.appointy.com](http://www.ceca.appointy.com) or e-mail [giles@viney.org](mailto:giles@viney.org).

**Giles Viney**

## Peppard Stoke Row Cricket Club

The club is on the look-out for new members ahead of a busy summer. The club runs three Saturday sides playing in the Wintech Berkshire Cricket League, two Sunday sides and Junior Cricket from Under 9s to Under 19s.

Indoor nets continue every Sunday at The Oratory School for players of any ability who wish to get involved. Seniors train between 13:00-14:00, Under 15s and 13s (14:00-15:00) and Under 11s and younger (15:00-16:00).

The first friendly fixture of the season will take place against Checkendon at Peppard Common on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April.

Games continue until the end of September, while the league runs from Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

A memorial game in honour of 'Mr Stoke Row', Les Clark, will take place at Newlands Lane on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May. All are welcome.

Interested? Please contact Chairman Gerry Bacon on 07785 771847, e-mail [baconwithers@tesco.net](mailto:baconwithers@tesco.net); or director of junior cricket Andy Watts on 07572 287818 e-mail [andy.watts@oxfordadvisory.com](mailto:andy.watts@oxfordadvisory.com)

**Richard Ashton**

## Wanted! An Early Riser



Wyfold RDA is looking for an early riser who could come and help feed our eight ponies (including Charlie) on a Friday morning at 08:30 at our centre at Wyfold Court. If you feel that you could help with this task please contact Gill Rushworth on 01491 628260 or [gillr400@btinternet.com](mailto:gillr400@btinternet.com). More information about our wonderful charity is available on our website at [www.wyfoldrda.org.uk](http://www.wyfoldrda.org.uk)

**Gill Rushworth**

## Sonning Common & District Tennis Club

Are you and your family new to tennis? Do you want to keep fit and have fun? Why not come and join our club? Two quality courts available all year at Bishopswood Sports Ground. Ideal for beginners and young families for less than £1 a week. Contact Dave Pinder, 01491 680324, [d.pinder@btinternet.com](mailto:d.pinder@btinternet.com) or Judy Pitson, 0118 9723294.

**Dave Pinder**

## Peppard WI

After all the excitement of the NFWI Centenary celebrations, Peppard WI has settled down to plan the year ahead. Our excellent Treasurer has balanced the books and money is not a great issue for us at present. However we are taking a long hard look at ourselves to ensure our WI is fit for purpose in 2016.

My mother joined the WI in the 1930s. She was a young mother who was not expected to work outside the home. She was bringing up a large family in a rural area and money was tight. She walked two and a half miles to the hall where the WI was held. She met ladies in a similar position and made lifelong friends. The WI taught her skills, which helped her to provide clothes for her children and soft furnishings for her home.

I drive to Peppard WI from Emmer Green and as I have worked all my life, my financial position is somewhat different from hers. My interests are also different but the WI has helped me to play bridge and develop my Creative Writing skills.

I cannot always attend WI meetings; sometimes I am cruising or visiting friends and family abroad. Life is very different in the twenty first century. However my need for friendship and support is still as great as my mother's, and I still find that in the WI today. That is why, although I am standing down as President in March, you will still find me at most meetings, doing my bit and enjoying my friends.

So ladies if you are at a loose end one second Wednesday in the month, give us a try. You can come three times as a visitor before we ask you for a subscription and you will find a warm welcome awaits you and you never know, you may find an opportunity to develop a skill you didn't even know you had!

**Irene Lindsay**

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## Rotherfield Peppard Educational Trust

**Fund for support of educational activities**

The Trust supports educational activities undertaken by under twenty-fives 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

Please note Betty Butler's new telephone number 01491 681780.

### Peppard Tennis Club

The club kindly invites all existing and prospective members to the AGM on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 19:30 in the clubhouse. This presents an ideal opportunity to support your club, meet the committee and other members and become involved in the club's future.

With the weather gradually getting lighter and brighter there is some great tennis being played on club evenings. Club night takes place from 18:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays and is open to all adult members and anyone interested in joining.

Six courts are available and four of these are floodlit. Please contact 01189 474051 for further enquiries.

**Richard Dilger**

### Chiltern Players

Our next production is *Up The Beanstalk Again* by Alan Marshall: it will be at 20:00 at Peppard Memorial Hall on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets £8 from 0118 972 2632, [Chilternplayers@gmail.com](mailto:Chilternplayers@gmail.com), Occasions in Sonning Common or on the door.

A bitter-sweet comedy/drama that exposes the meanings of love and loneliness. The play centres on the relationship between a one-time actor, who latterly played pantomime dames and his lifelong former actress friend.

**Geoffrey Stokes**

*Unfortunately we don't have space for the Sonning Common & Peppard Table Tennis Club report this time. It is available for all to read on our website [www.PeppardNews.co.uk](http://www.PeppardNews.co.uk)*

### Peppard School Karate Success!

A few students from Peppard School had their first ever karate grading and they all passed, here's what they wrote about their experience!



*Children in photo: Back row Ollie, Daisy, Joseph Front Row Sienna, Ruby, Dylan, Freya*

Dylan, aged six, says 'It was exciting to go up to the next level in Karate and get my orange belt. I like Karate because I can defend myself and because lots of my friends go there. It's fun to get butterflies when you do your grading.'

'I go to Karate after school on Mondays. I love Karate because it is fun and we play lots of games and I really like my Sensei. We line up when we do everything. My favourite move is Maegeri (front kick) and my favourite game is bulldog. Recently I got my orange belt because I did my kata which is a group of moves. It made me feel very happy.' Sienna, aged seven.

Yudansha Karate Club is held on Mondays at 15:45-6:45 in the Peppard War Memorial Hall.

**Sensei Jazz, 07891 511 788**

### Club SC

Before Christmas, Sam Brown and her International Ukulele Club kindly put on a concert-come-workshop. We all had a fabulous time learning to play *Jolene* and *You are My Sunshine* and were amazed at how quickly we learnt to play. Sam donated a ukulele and some music which has since been used by our members during club nights - perhaps we'll set up our own ukulele club!

In December Club SC joined with other youth clubs under our umbrella organisation of Oxfordshire Youth to go Midnight Ice Skating. This was an exciting opportunity for our members to have a wonderful time on the ice. Most even managed to stay upright!

The young people enjoyed wonderful Christmas 'pizza parties' which were sponsored by Nottakwire. The club is so very grateful for their continued support.

We have many activities planned for the next few months including a trip to Reading's new trampoline park Bounce Box, a circus skill session with Ojamaflip, a Chinese New Year party and professional football coaching sessions. 2016 is going to be an exciting year.

Club SC are currently looking for volunteers to help on Thursday evenings from 19:00-21:00: this could be running our tuck shop, supervising arts and crafts, supervising sports sessions or just being an extra pair of hands. We can offer training, development and support in return. If you can help for even one session a month please email [beckyclubsc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:beckyclubsc@hotmail.co.uk)

**Becky Jenkins, Youth Leader**

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# Peppard Diary

MARCH					
Fri	4	Women's World Day of Prayer/All Saints/14:00	Mon	11	Peppard School/term starts
Sat	5	Village Litter Blitz/Unicorn/10:00			RPPC Meeting/19:30/Planning/21:30/Pavilion
		Peppard Unplugged/PWMH/19:30/01189723609	Wed	13	WI/Chusan Britain's first Chinese Island/PWMH/14:00
		SC Library/Mother's Day Storytime/10:00	Thu	14	Chiltn Players/Up the Beanstalk Again/PWMH/20:00/01189722632
Sun	6	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15:30-17:00/01491874220	Fri	15	Chiltn Players/Up the Beanstalk Again/PWMH/20:00/01189722632
		Greenshoots Tea Kiosk/Caversham Court	Sat	16	Chiltn Players/Up the Beanstalk Again/PWMH/20:00/01189722632
Mon	7	Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com			Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com
		Lent Lunch/Christ the King/12:30/Salvation Army/01189724520	Mon	18	SC Business Collab/Butchers Arms/10:30-12:00
Wed	9	WI Annual Meeting/PWMH/14:00	Wed	20	Peppard Lunch Club/PWMH//12:00/01491681780
Sat	12	Sue Ryder/10:30-12:30			SC Surgery/Advanced Care Planning/14:30-16:00/01189722188
Sun	13	Peppard Com Vols/10:00/01491628887	Sat	23	RPPC Annual Meeting/PWMH/10:00
Mon	14	RPPC/Sport Pavilion Charity Meeting/Pavilion/19:30			Sue Ryder Sale/10:30-12:30
		RPPC Meeting/Pavilion/20:00	Sun	24	On Your Bike 2016/www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk
Tue	15	Peppard Tennis Club AGM/19:30			Health Walks 20th Anniversary/SC Vill Hall/14:00
Wed	16	Peppard Lunch Club/PWMH//12:00/01491681780	Mon	25	Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com
Thu	17	Age UK Drop-in/SC Library/10:45	Tue	26	All Saints' Annual Parochial Mtg/20:00
Fri	18	Revels film Club/Best Marigold Hotel/PWMH/19:00/07747762871	Sat	30	RPPC/Planning/Pavilion/10:00
Sat	19	Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com	MAY		
Mon	21	Lent Lunch/Christ the King/12:30/Home of Hope/01189724520	Sun	1	Beating the Bounds/Red Lion/14:00
Wed	23	SC Surgery/Advanced Care Planning/14:30-16:00/01189722188			Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15:30-17:00/01491874220
		Peppard school/end of term	Sat	7	Peppard Unplugged/PWMH/19:30/01189723609
Thu	24	SC Library closed 17:00	Sun	8	Peppard Com Vols/10:00/01491628887
Fri	25	Greys Ct/Nuffield Place/Easter Egg Hunts	Mon	9	RPPC Meeting/19:30/Panning/21:30/Pavilion
Sat	26	RPPC/Planning/Pavilion/10:00	Wed	11	WI/2016 NFWI Resolutions/Quiz/PWMH/14:00
		Greys Ct/Nuffield Place/Easter Egg Hunts	Sat	14	Sue Ryder Sale/10:30-12:30
		Green Shoots Tea Kiosk & Egg Hunt/Caversham Ct	Sun	15	Christian Aid Week
Sun	27	Greys Ct/Nuffield Place/Easter Egg Hunts	Wed	18	Peppard Lunch Club/PWMH//12:00/01491681780
Mon	28	Greys Ct/Nuffield Place/Easter Egg Hunts			Advanced Care Planning Open Day/SC Vill Hall/10:00-16:00
Wed	30	SC Library opens 14:00	Sat	21	Greenshoots/Fawley Hill Steam & Vintage weekend
					Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com
APR			Sun	22	Greenshoots/Fawley Hill Steam & Vintage weekend
Sat	2	Sue Ryder Sale/10:30-12:30	Mon	23	SC Business Collab/Butchers Arms/10:30-12:00
		Peppard Unplugged/PWMH/19:30/01189723609	Fri	27	Peppard School/term ends
Sun	3	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15:30-17:00/01491874220	Sat	28	RPPC/Planning/Pavilion/10:00
Mon	4	Kgwd Pepp Com Vols/09:30-12:30/Shkinghorn@aol.com			Greenshoots Prod. & Plant Sale/Henley Market Place
Sun	10	Peppard Com Vols/10:00/01491628887			
FISH Office: 0118 972 3986 (Mon-Fri, 09:30-11:30)			SC Library/Pre-school Rhymetimes/1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays/10:00		
SC & Peppard Table Tennis Club/Mem Hall/Juniors – Mon 17:00/0118 9463191			Peppard Tennis Club evenings Tue and Thu 18:30		

## Church Services

Sunday Services at All Saints'	MARCH				APRIL				MAY					NOTES
	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B	A Festal Evensong
10.30 Communion (sung)	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	C	B No Service
10.30 Matins					✓				✓					C Benefice Eucharist at Christ the King
10.30 Family Service		✓					✓			✓				25 <sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday
10.30 Sunday School											✓			10:00 Morning Prayer & Litany
18.30 Evensong	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	14:00 Devotional Hour
														27 <sup>th</sup> March – Easter Sunday
														5 <sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day
														20:00 Holy Communion
														15 <sup>th</sup> May – Whit Sunday

**Sunday Services at Springwater**  
**(Peppard Congregational Church)**  
 Family Service: 10:30 - 11:45 ♦ Sunday School 10:30 - 11:30

**Mass at St Michael's Roman Catholic Church**  
 ♦Monday-Friday 09.00♦  
 Saturday 17:30 ♦ Sunday 09:00 & 10:30

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