

Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Is Peppard the New Champagne?

Summer 2013

The sparkling wine produced from the vineyard in Wyfold, by Cherry Thompson and Barbara Laithwaite, has just won the UK's top sparkling wine competition: 'The Judgement of Parsons Green'. Why the odd name? Many years ago there was a famous

tasting called 'The Judgement of Paris' when some top Californian wines for the first time scored higher than the finest wines of Bordeaux.

The tasting held in Parsons Green, London, aims to convince people that English Sparkling is now so good it can actually out-score Champagnes.

Wyfold and seventy-nine other top English Sparkling wines were put up against three well-known Champagnes. The tasting was 'blind' (all bottles masked) and the fourteen judges (seven of them Masters of Wine) put the Wyfold 2009 first. In second place was the Theale 2007 from the tiny vineyard at Laithwaites HQ. The tasting's organizer, Stephen Skelton MW, said these two were "clearly out in front" of the other entrants. He pointed out that

the top thirty wines were all made from the traditional champagne grape varieties – chardonnay, pinot noir and pinot meunier – and made by experienced winemakers. Wyfold's winemakers - the Roberts family - are the most experienced in Britain.



End of a successful harvest

The vineyard idea first came from Cherry's late husband, Harvey. He used to look over their back gate at this sloping field of stones where the wheat always seemed to ripen faster than anywhere else.

Barbara and Cherry formed a partnership and started planting the vineyard in 2003 with the help of family and friends. Grape growing to high standards requires endless hours of meticulous, year-round attention. Friends and young people from Laithwaites HQ at Theale continue to provide invaluable

help. There are regular work parties during the light summer evenings; a couple of hours work followed by a nice barbecue in the vineyard.

Planting a vineyard is a commitment for at least twenty five years and Cherry and Barbara – both in their sixties – are so

glad their sons, Ben

Postlethwaite and Henry Laithwaite - best mates since Peppard School - are joining them in the venture.

Good sparkling wine takes lots and lots of time in every way; at least three years from harvest for a good *methode champenoise* wine to be ready to drink. 2009 is

Wyfold's first vintage to be released commercially. 2010 and 2011 are quietly bubbling away in their bottles and will be released when they are ready.

Priced reasonably, the 2009 is very much a wine for special celebrations...and something beautiful of which Peppard can be proud.

Contact CherryThompson@mac.com or barbara.laithwaite@directwines.com or go to www.laithwaite.co.uk. Please also contact them if you'd like to visit the vineyard or join an enjoyable workparty!

Barbara Laithwaite

Editorial

The keyword in this Editorial is 'first'.

Congratulations to Barbara Laithwaite and Cherry Thompson whose sparkling wine from their Wyfold boutique vineyard came first of eighty English sparkling wines. A great achievement!

A surprise 'first' for you in this edition is a separate *Junior Peppard News* insert, homing in on the enthusiasm of our three Junior Editors at Peppard School. I must point out that this is very much an experiment. Because of cost implications a separate insertion in future issues cannot be

guaranteed. However, I hope it might encourage other young people to play a part in our community newspaper. Any constructive feedback on the experiment would be greatly appreciated.

My final 'first' is to claim (rightly or wrongly!) that *Peppard News* is the first community newspaper to carry an interview with our newly elected County Councillor, David Bartholomew. We look forward to regular contact with him and wish him luck in his new role.

Enjoy your summer!

Tony Treglown, Editor

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Our Schools

Peppard School

We have had some small renovation work carried out to make us more disabled friendly. Thank you for bearing with us during this necessary work.

The children are practising like mad for when they will be opening the Fair with a song and a dance (see Friends of Peppard School article). We are planning a couple of school trips this term involving water, as our topic for the term is Aqua; maybe a trip to the London Aquarium and/or a trip to the river in Henley.

Term 6 begins on Monday 3rd June. We have a New Foundation Parent's evening planned for 17th June followed by a couple of sessions for the new children to come in and spend some time with us and to meet their teacher, Miss Bryant. The School Summer Production this year is *Cinderella & Rockafella* which will be performed on Monday 15th July at the Kenton Theatre in Henley - always a huge event - and rehearsals will be taking place over the coming weeks. Tickets will be available nearer the time. This year's Sports Day and evening event on the Common is planned for Friday 28th June from 17.00. We have a change this year with the Leavers' assemblies, which will be on Thursday 18th July; the Church service will be on the last day of term, Friday 19th July, at 10.00. Term finishes at noon.

Our autumn term begins on Tuesday 3rd September when we will be welcoming our new Head, Mr Nick Steele.

Fiona Hilton

FOPS

We are excited about the upcoming Village Fair on 8th June, as it's always a fabulous event and a great fundraiser for the local Parish. We are delighted to be able to play a role in the event and we look forward to seeing you there.

Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU
Phone: 01491 628354

Interim Headteacher
Miss Amanda Rogers

Chairman of the Governors
Christine Bradbury

The organisers have confirmed that they are still looking for a local resident who may be interested in being the MC for the day. They are looking for someone to help create an exciting and fun atmosphere, whilst introducing and announcing the various activities, etc, that are going on. There will also be some awards to present at the end of the day. If you are interested please leave us a message: Lizauppton@hotmail.com, grantlaura@btinternet.com

The school will be opening the event as well as providing games and activities for children of all ages. We will be running a preserves competition, so please bring your entries along on the day. There will also be inflatables, live music, crafts, animal attractions, BBQ, teas, bar, raffle, auction, inter-school tag rugby tournament and much more.

Liza and Laura

Peapods Nursery School

We are now open and enjoying lots of fun, the children have all settled in well and are already familiar with the daily routines. They are learning to take care of their environment, assisting the staff with jobs - watering the plants, serving snacks, tidying up and washing toys and equipment. The children have been planting our raised beds, going on nature walks, playing with balls in the field and spending a great deal of time in the garden digging in the sandpit,

riding on the bikes and playing with water. Our topic this term is *All About Me* which will help us to get to know the children, their likes and dislikes, the important people in their lives, so we can plan activities that interest and engage them.

If anyone would be interested, we are in the early stages of looking into opening an After School Club if there is sufficient demand.

If you would like more information or to arrange to visit us, please contact me on 01491 628 395 or

louisa@peapodsnurseryschool.com

Louisa Hopcroft

Peppard Parent Toddler Group

For the first time in seven years we were forced indoors for our annual Easter Egg Hunt by the cold - unlike 2012! There were Easter baskets and cakes at snack time; then the children had a lovely time finding hidden eggs. They were shared out between all the children. We then played under the big coloured parachute and sang some songs.

Thanks to committee members, without whom the group could not run, and also to Anne for her continued support. We are now open until Tuesday, 16th July and will finish the summer term with a party and a Mum's night. While the group is closed there is an informal gathering at Binfield Heath Park on Tuesday mornings over the summer holidays - bring a picnic if the weather is nice!

We are at Peppard War Memorial Hall on Tuesdays in term time, including half terms, from 09.45-11.45. We are a friendly volunteer Mum led group and we welcome any newcomers. Please phone me on 01189 723547 for further information, or just turn up.

Caroline Jones

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Our Young Achievers

Paris Marathon Run For Diabetes Research

Twenty-one year old James Green lives in Peppard with his twenty-four year old sister, Helen, who developed Type 1 Diabetes at the age of five. James decided to run the Paris Marathon on 7th April for the charity, Juvenile Diabetes Research, and all the family were there to support him. He completed the run in 5 hours 59 minutes and so far has raised £2,235 for the charity!

James only started training for the run just after Christmas, gradually building up from three to twenty mile practice runs before the event. The weather was fine but not warm on the day so was ideal for the 40,000 plus runners who took part.

James attended Shiplake College and gained a degree in War Studies at Kent University, finishing last year. He is currently working part-time in a sports shop and has applied for officer training in the Army Air Corps as he would like



James Green with his father after the marathon

to become a pilot. He has played golf since the age of twelve and, while at Shiplake College, became the under-16 National Schools Champion as a rowing cox, aged fifteen. I did not meet Helen but James and his parents explained that her diabetes is well managed by an insulin pump.

James would be delighted if you feel able to help him raise more money for Juvenile Diabetes Research which you can do right up to 7th July at www.justgiving.com/James-Green15.

Sue Nickson

Jonathan Excels at Rowing

Seventeen year old Jonathan Jackson has lived in Peppard all his life. He attended Sonning Common Primary School and Gillotts in Henley before moving on to Henley College where he is studying for three A levels. He is passionate about rowing and is a member of the Upper Thames Rowing Club. Jonathan took up rowing at the age of twelve, a hobby which now takes up most of his spare time. When he has taken his A levels, Jonathan hopes to row for the Leander Club for a year, and will look for a rowing scholarship at an American university. He explained that these are much easier to come by than in the UK. Jonathan was recently one of thirteen youngsters in South Oxfordshire whose achievements were recognised at the annual Young Achievers Award ceremony in Benson.

Jonathan trains six days a



Jonathon Jackson (front) with Nick Vail

week, on the river, as well as indoors, using weights and rowing machines. During the week in term-time he can fit in one or two training sessions a day between lectures and has to get up at 06.45 on Saturdays and Sundays to get to the Rowing Club to train. Jonathan is the youngest and lightest member in the eight man boat and takes the bow position. At the time of meeting him he was due to spend a week at a training camp in Belgium over the Easter break.

Jonathan gained a silver medal at the National Championships in Nottingham aged sixteen and, as a level two rowing coach, has coached younger children. He is well supported by his parents who make sure he has the diet he needs and drive him to training sessions at weekends. He will be representing his rowing club for the fourth time this summer at the Henley Regatta. He is clearly one to watch!

Sue Nickson

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The Councils

Parish Council News

There was an excellent turnout at the Annual Parish Meeting on 20th April. It was an opportunity for local people to say thank you to Carol Viney and to welcome David Bartholomew, who is our new County Councillor. Carol was thanked for her help in getting funding for the new gate at the rear of Carlings Orchard. This will now make it a much safer place for young children, who will not be able to run out into Wyfold Lane.

The County Council elections were based on new boundaries agreed last year. We are now grouped with Shiplake as well as Sonning Common and six other parishes to form the new Sonning Common Division. In the South Oxfordshire District Council elections there will be another new boundary – the new Woodcote and Peppard Ward will not include Sonning Common. A public consultation will take place shortly on whether the current parish boundaries in the district should be changed. If you have views on this, please let the council know.

Following the resignations of Nick Launders and Clive Mills, the Parish Council needs to recruit two more members. If you know someone who would be willing to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk – Linda Collison: clerk@rppc.org.uk or 01491-629676.

Information about Parish Council Meetings and much else is on the Parish Council website: www.rppc.org.uk.

David Hammond, Chairman

Telephone Box Ideas

The telephone box near Peppard School is to be refurbished by the Flat Earth Society for community use. What should it be used for?

A number of ideas have been suggested amongst which are – storage for grit bin shovels, something in memory of the Flemings, storage for walking sticks/ umbrellas for walkers, a place to display Common Land rules, greenhouse for local wild flowers, etc.

How would you like to see it used? Email your ideas to clerk@rppc.org.uk who will keep *Peppard News* in the picture.

Linda Collison

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: David Bartholomew
07769 808773

e-mail:

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.

SODC Report

Paul Harrison, our SODC Councillor, has sent us a report setting out their work over the year. We have summarised some of its key points.

Finance has been a key area of uncertainty and the budget was cautious to reflect this, whilst including growth. Nonetheless, your Council Tax has been reduced by 2.5% for the second year running, including growth.

The number of District Councillors representing residents and the Local Government Boundary Commission have been looked at, and a reduction from forty-eight to thirty-six Councillors agreed. The net effect is that the current ward, which includes Sonning Common will be split and will be now joined with Woodcote, Nettlebed and Nuffield forming the Woodcote and Rotherfield Ward, which also includes all those parishes from the edge of Henley through to Nuffield, Ipsden and Woodcote.

The Local Government Boundary Commission will be reviewing the parish boundaries. From bitter experience with the District Council's boundary review, Paul recommends that you make your views known at the initial consultation phase even if it is to keep the existing

parish boundaries. Don't wait until the Boundary Commission have completed their initial review. To view the proposed boundaries see

www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk/ and to register your views go to www.lgbce.org.uk/current-consultations

We encourage you to read this report in full which is available on our website: www.PeppardNews.co.uk

John Howell, MP

In his latest newsletter our MP looks at a number of Government policies outlined in the Queen's Speech. Items of local interest are:

A local issue that I am often approached with is the state of our roads. This comes under the remit of the County Council and as such I do not have any control over this. However I am in regular contact with the Highways team at the County Council to raise matters on behalf of residents. Whilst they battle against weather conditions in trying to repair potholes, I was interested to learn that they have filled some 36,000 potholes in the last year alone.

Although in this constituency the fear of crime is much greater than crime itself, I am sure that the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill will be welcomed as will be the Offender Rehabilitation Bill. The former will help to do more to keep our neighbourhoods safe and secure, and the latter will transform the way offenders are dealt with once they leave prison, tackling persistent re-offending.

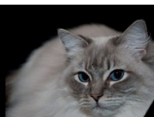
I also want to mention the Water Bill. River flooding, sewer flooding and drought are all of concern for residents and businesses and not least our farming community. The Water Bill will make the sector more resilient in the face of natural hazards and also increase customer choice. As with all legislation, measures take time to come through. However, in the short term, I hope that many of you are responding to the current consultation by Thames Water on their proposed investment plan for 2015-2020 which they will present to Ofwat in December. You can comment online at the following address www.thameswater.co.uk/haveyoursay.

For more information go to www.johnhowellmp.com.



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Know Your Councillor

David Bartholomew

A warm, personable and unpretentious man – that was my immediate impression of David Bartholomew. He only took office as our new County Councillor last week so his feet have barely touched the ground. He has already attended an induction day, his first full meeting on Tuesday and, in the same week, a full training day.

He lives in Shiplake but grew up in Hemel Hempstead where he met his wife at school. He made several moves before eventually settling in this area. He was lucky enough to be in a position where he could choose where he lived and he and his wife agreed that Henley was where they wanted to be. They have subsequently lived here for 25 years, bringing up three sons.

In 1986 he set up his own advertising, design and marketing company and enjoyed enough success to enable him to cast his eye around for other opportunities. He knew he wanted to do something different but wasn't sure what. He could dedicate less time to work and make a commitment to his other great interest – politics. At the age of 56, he felt he wanted to change direction before he was much older and felt the urge to 'do it now'. He says a phrase used by former Prime Minister John Major, during his appearance at the Kenton Theatre last year, sums up the philosophy that David identifies with: 'as Conservatives, we ask how we can help people to help themselves'.

He decided upon the County Council as he felt this enabled him to be in a field that makes a real impact yet stays close to the community and environment. He understands that with nine parishes he has his work for him and during his election campaign he attended all their parish council meetings to help him know and understand his constituency – he also came along to the Annual Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council meeting.

Even in such short a time he has been co-opted onto two council committees – the Planning and Regulation Committee and the Education Scrutiny Committee. Education is a major cause that he is passionate about – he believes that education is the most important thing in life: a good education can never be taken away.

Visiting parish council meetings is not David's only way of getting to know the area. He loves cycling – with a club, with friends, or simply on his own. He has ridden most of, if not all, the highways and byways of South Oxfordshire and beyond. When not cycling, he enjoys indoor rowing and competes in the national championships. As if this is not enough to keep him fit, he joins in with the Wargrave and Shiplake Regatta.

Not a great traveller, David relaxes on holidays with his wife in Devon or Cornwall or they cross the Channel to France. This summer though, he hasn't made plans yet because of his new role but he does hope to take a break in August. I hope David manages to find the right balance between work, politics and leisure and that his obvious enthusiasm isn't diminished by life in politics.

Rita Hadgkiss

Snippets

Local Author Achieves Success

My name is Peter Mowbray; I was born in Henley and grew up in Bix where my family ran the old pub, The Fox. I currently live in Kingwood with wife, Sally, and my two sons, Oli and Ross. I work for a conference production company based in Highmoor.

Recently published is my novel based on the life of Catherine de Medici, a sixteenth century Queen of France. It traces her story from the middle years of

her life as Queen Mother. Her life was steeped in suspicion, deception and a thirst for power during a time of great religious conflict throughout France, culminating in her greatest atrocity, the massacre of Saint Bartholomew's day. She was certainly a complex character, and has become cast as one of the most evil women in history - not without good reason!

I actually wrote the novel many years ago in longhand but never got around to typing it up until I recently completed a diploma course in historical writing, and felt that I could maybe bring a few new ideas to my old story.

I've had some great feedback about the book so I have now started a sequel to complete the story from the massacre in 1572 to the time of Catherine's death in 1589. This proposed title is *The Second Jezebel* which will hopefully be completed later this year.

Peter Mowbray

Peppard Litter Blitz

Sweet papers, fag ends,
Crisp and cigarette packets,
Bottles glass and plastic,
Tea bag and sandwich box,
Dustbin lid and iron bar,
How did they get there?

Little bag of doggy poo,
A nappy that's been worn.
This really is not nice!

Motorists and joggers
Hoot, wave and cheer.
"Well done!" they shout
But they're too busy
As they hurry on past.

Two hours and I've done my bit
And it's coming on to rain.

A job well done, I think
For another year.

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And keep our village smart!

Sue Nickson



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Our Village

Educational Trust Gives Chance of a Lifetime

In August I went to Romania with twelve other girls and two teachers on a World Challenge Expedition for twelve days. Upon arrival we had to work out how much to spend each day. When we got used to the town where we were staying, we went to Bran castle where Bram Stoker set his book *Dracula*.



Eleanor Cunningham

Our main objective in Romania was to help with a local charity called FAST where they help impoverished families get back on their feet. Half of us went to help lay a gravel path for a family whose Dad had stomach cancer and was in hospital. I was a bit nervous about the experience as I didn't know how to react. The seven children were so friendly and even offered to help, racing around with the wheelbarrows and asking to play with them. After three days, we had to say goodbye and all of us, including the family and teachers, were in tears as we said our final goodbye to the village.

The next agenda was the trekking. We set off the next afternoon and got to the campsite early evening, where we still had to put up the tents and make dinner. We camped for two days and started our descent in the pouring rain. Luckily for us there was a small motel at the bottom of the mountain and the owner allowed us to stay the night.

This experience was amazing and unforgettable, full of tears, laughter and appreciation of life. We all had to raise most of the money ourselves which was a challenge in itself and if the Rotherfield Peppard Educational Trust had not been so generous, then I may not have gone. I have helped turn one family's life around for the better and even now, nine months on, we still raise money here in England to help in any way possible.

Eleanor Cunningham

Anyone for Tea?

Local charity, FISH, is holding an Afternoon Tea at Sonning Common Village Hall on Wednesday 19th June. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served from 14.30 to 17.00 and will give local residents a chance to get out for an afternoon and chat to friends and neighbours. Transport can be provided for those who cannot get there under their own steam and we're hoping to attract both new and existing users of FISH.

Open to anyone from Sonning Common, Peppard, Kidmore End, Gallowstree Common and Binfield Heath who wants to meet new people. The event will be free, although donations will be welcome.

If you would like to come along for a cuppa and a chat, do let us know by contacting the FISH office on 0118 972 4520 between 09.30 and 11.30 weekdays. If you need transport, the office can

arrange this – just let them know when you call.

Anyone interested in helping out on the day, perhaps by baking a cake or wielding a tea towel, please call Claire Harding on 01491 629551 or 07803 372162.

FISH is a registered charity run entirely by volunteers and we are always looking for new people to help support and expand the services we offer. Find out more at www.fishvolunteercentre.co.uk

Fred Nickson

Peppard War Memorial Hall.

As the new Chairman of the War Memorial Hall, I feel very privileged both to work with a fantastic group of volunteers and help look after a very valuable asset to our Community.

The Hall is used by many local organisations, such as the Bowls and Table Tennis Clubs together with the local Horticultural Society, Women's Institute and

Luncheon Club. We are pleased that the Chiltern Players are making a welcome return with their fantastic productions.

We have a number of other interesting groups, so please get in touch if you wish to learn more. If you wish to make a booking for a private party or any other activity please contact Maggie at the Hall. Details can be found on our website: www.peppardwarmemorialhall.btik.com

Much renovation work has taken place and the current project is to install ambulant disabled toilets, which we hope will be funded in part by the Parish Council which has shown great support for the Hall over the years.

Clive Mills

Commons News

Early summer is the best time to hear the dawn chorus - so if you happen to be stirring at first light it is worth opening your ears to the sound of birdsong coming from nearby. You don't have to be fully awake to enjoy the experience - it's as easy as lying in bed with your eyes closed!

We are all familiar with the call of a red kite, a cuckoo, or a woodpecker – but did you know that ravens and woodcock can also be heard and seen around our woods and glades? If you enjoy watching birds, do let us know if you see something special on the common. The same goes for butterflies, beetles or wildflowers – whatever catches your eye, make a note, or take a picture, and send it to us. Thank you!

The KPCV group continues to meet on the first Saturday morning of each month doing our best to keep footpaths clear, especially of brambles, which are rampant at this time of year. For more information contact Sheri Kinghorn: shkinghorn@aol.com or our website www.nettlebed-commons.org

Calling all children! A great day out is in store for you on Sunday 9th June when the ever-active Chilterns Commons Project will be hosting a Hands-on History Day at the Chiltern Open Air Museum. It's all about life on our Commons in days gone by. It's free, you can bring a picnic or get delicious food at the café. Come and have

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Elizabeth Smeeton
Clerk to the Conservators

Peppard Village Fair

This bi-annual event will be held on Peppard Common on Saturday 8th June 14.00-17.00. This is a lovely family event with something for all ages – games, tombolas, raffle, live music, inflatables, animal attractions and much more. This year the BBQ will be provided by Ruchetta and there will also be teas, cakes and a bar. The centre piece tag rugby competition will involve local primary schools. There will be live crafts as well as a craft and gift fair. You may also wish to enter the preserves competition. Entries should be brought along on the day with ingredients listed on the label. Whatever the weather we will be going ahead!

This year the fair has had very generous sponsorship from Johnson Matthey, AB Walker, Lawrence Hamblin, Ruchetta, Sonning Common Vauxhall and Davis Tate whilst others have donated very generously to the raffle and auction. If you would like to take part or help please contact either: Ian on 01491 629631 or Louise on 07921 826414

Louise Adams

Sonning Common Library

Every summer libraries around the country have a 'Summer reading challenge' aimed at keeping children reading over the holidays, and getting them to use their library. The children sign up to read at least six books over the holidays, they are rewarded as they progress and receive a medal and a certificate at the end.

This year the theme is *Creepy House*, and it will run from the first weekend in July until the end of September. Sonning Common Library will have special 'creepy-themed' storytimes on Saturday mornings in August at 10.00, suitable for primary age children. There will be stories and craft activities, and home-made cakes for sale. For more information contact the library, on 0118 972 2448

Rosemary Dunstan

Health Walks

I am handing over my Health Walk tasks to others so in future Rosemary Dunstan will keep you up to date with Health Walks activities. See www.PeppardNews.co.uk/VillageInformation/Activities for more information and the timetable.

Chris Brooks

Green Gym

Fifteen years have passed since we started and we celebrated our birthday in April by inviting the other five Oxfordshire Green Gyms for a joint work session at Withymead Nature Reserve in Goring. Dr William Bird, whose original idea it was to use practical nature conservation as a way of maintaining health and fitness, spent the morning working alongside the extra large group of volunteers. At coffee break he cut a special cake and gave a short talk on the future of Green Gyms, which now number nearly 100 throughout the country. We can be proud that the Green Gym, which has proved to be so successful, started round the corner in the Sonning Common Health Centre.

Julia Booker

Peppard People

Dr John Hasler, OBE

When I originally phoned to request an interview, John Hasler had to come in from the garden where he had been planting broad beans, to answer the phone. Gardening is just one of his many activities and interests – and his lovely garden is proof of his, and his wife's, skills.

He is perhaps best known as the leading light of the Peppard Revels. He was Deputy Chairman when the Revels were first established in 1999 celebrating the Millennium and he continued with the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebration and Trafalgar Day and then took over as Chairman for the Revels' Ian Fleming centenary and culminating in Peppard's biggest event yet – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration. One of his

philosophies is to go out on top so after this successful event he handed over the reins.

Just in case the Revels aren't enough to keep the residents of Peppard entertained, John Hasler and others formed the Film Club following the success of showing James Bond films prior to the 2008 Revels. Now there are around eighty people who come along to enjoy the screening with eight cooks to provide the supper.

To keep the residents of Peppard fit and healthy, he is also Chairman of the Sonning Common Green Gym which he says is very good exercise. He also walks with a walking club every Tuesday morning.

John moved into Wyfold Lane in 1966 with his wife Lindsay. It was the ideal location as he was a GP in Sonning Common, first as an assistant and then as a full partner, and Lindsay, a radiographer, worked at Peppard Hospital. He continued at the Sonning Common Health Centre for a total of 32 years but, busy as this was, it wasn't his only role. In the first few years he was also a part time anaesthetist at Reading for two operating lists a week. As well as his life as a busy GP with, in those days, on-call commitments at night and weekends as part and parcel of a GP's role, he also played a key role in GP post-graduate training becoming the Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education for the Oxford region and the Chairman of the Royal College of General Practitioners. Under his guidance, the Sonning Common Health Centre became a national standard bearer for the provision of patient-centred medical care.

He and Lindsay have four sons, all now happily married, and eight grandchildren. Luckily they all live within a reasonable distance so close family contact can be maintained. None of the sons chose a medical career and John attributes this partly to the impact his working hours had on their growing up. However, he is delighted that his oldest grandson is following in his footsteps and studying medicine.

In talking to John Hasler, what struck me most was that he is essentially a very modest man who is only too ready to give others, his colleagues or friends, the credit for so many of his own achievements.

Rita Hadgkiss

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Our Churches

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

There has been quite a bit of coverage in the *Henley Standard* concerning the difficulty the local churches are having in making ends meet. Much of this has surrounded the Parish Share which is the contribution each parish is asked to make towards diocesan expenses.

All Saints' is no exception and this year is asked to contribute £46,128 which, along with Kidmore End and Sonning Common's £44,000, makes the £90,000 quoted in the *Standard* as being paid by my three churches. Just over a quarter of that sum reaches my bank account but my two predecessors' pensions and my own successor's training costs have to be met along with the care of the Rectory.

Traditionally, these three churches have met the Share and maintained the buildings assisted by an occasional bequest or a once-in-a-while appeal but in the past few years this has become harder. At St John's Kidmore End looking beneath the roof tiles at the east end last month, was a day's work and cost £1,980 (of which £750 + VAT was for the hire of the 'cherry-picker' used to gain access).

Forgive an example from the other parish for there are no recent examples I can quote from All Saints' though the Property & Buildings Committee is constantly keeping an eye on All Saints' fabric and we are fortunate to have a willing band of volunteers. Not long ago it was dampness in the Parish Room and currently they are looking into improvements to the lighting. Any contribution, of any size, people might like to make, at any time, can always be 'restricted' to maintenance

thereby keeping the church in good repair not only for ourselves but for those who follow.

Graham

Elections

The Parish Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place on 23rd April during which the two Churchwardens, Adrienne Heriot and Margaret Woodward, were both re-elected for the forthcoming year. The two wardens will officially take office at a service in St. Helen's Church, Benson on the 17th June.

The Electoral Roll was also presented at this meeting. This year it was completely revised which happens every six years. The size of the PCC is determined by the size of the Electoral Roll.

RSCM

Eight junior choristers from All Saints' Church, attended the annual Royal School of Church Music three day course held at New College School, Oxford between the 8th and 10th April. One of our choristers, Stephanie Franklin, was chosen to be one of four House Captains. Evensong was sung daily in the Chapel of New College Oxford, to which members of the public attended. Choristers from 24 different churches were represented at this event.

Invitation

A coach trip is being organised to see the dramatic production of the 'Life of Christ' (which is an outdoor performance) at the Wintershall Estate near Guildford on Thursday 27th June. The

coach is scheduled to leave All Saints' Church at 08.00 and return at approximately 17.45. If you are interested and would like further details, then please contact Stewart or Val Morgan. Tel. 0118 9723263 or email stewartmorgan@gmail.com

Looking Ahead

Sunday 30th June there will be no 09.00 Holy Communion Service or 10.30 service at All Saints', but the 10.30 service will be a Joint Benefice Eucharist service at St. John the Baptist, Kidmore End at 11.00.

On Saturday 12th October the Annual RSCM Choirs Festival will take place at Dorchester Abbey. Details of all these events can be found at www.allsaintspeppard.org.uk

Margaret Woodward

Christian Aid Concert

By a Mill Stream: the gentle summer sounds of a mill at work, whether it's a windmill or a watermill, bring daydreams of rural life in past times. This is the theme of an ensemble concert at All Saints' Church on Saturday 6th July at 19.30. Julia Booker (soprano) and Robin Howles (tenor), accompanied by pianist Peter Toye, will be joined by Frances Jones (oboe and cor anglais), who is well known to Peppard audiences for her exciting playing on a variety of instruments.

Some of the songs are about mills (including *Ha'nacker Mill* by two different composers) and Frances will be playing *The Water Mill* (voted among 100 Best Tunes). As is usual for concerts by Robin and Julia, most of the music will be English, but this time they will include a smattering of Schumann - and some Spanish songs for good measure.

There will be a retiring collection for Christian Aid. Please support this concert given by local performers.

Ian and Pat Fraser

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Coming closer to home, a *You and Yours* BBC programme this week on religious affiliations quoted a recent census suggesting that in this country 20% are secular (atheist or humanist), 30% don't know (agnostic), but 50% believe in God or consider they have a Spiritual dimension. Of course census responses need careful interpretation but this last statistic is in stark contrast to the reported level of church attendance.

We at Springwater have some good 'statistics' to share with the community. The Manse, attached to the church in Blounts Court Road, has been remodelled and renovated to make a suitable home for Chris and Mags Lewis, who are now literally at the centre of our church life and a great blessing to us all. A new log cabin has been built in the grounds to accommodate the growing youth work and mid-week meetings, such as Refresh, a creative arts group,

open to all, which gathers on alternate Thursday mornings. Another recent introduction is The Point, a monthly evening event when Chris Lewis tackles some interesting and controversial topics.

Of course our regular activities continue - Sunday morning family service, plus monthly evening Praise and Worship, The Ark on Wednesday and Friday mornings for toddlers 1-3, Bumps and Babies on Wednesdays 13.00-15.00, and regular ladies' and men's groups and evening Life groups.

And we have fun! On Saturday 4th May we had a Big Day Out on Boscombe Beach where children aged from 8 to 80 played cricket and rounders and made sand-castles until the sun went down - it is also true that some senior members were seen nodding off in deck chairs! We are very grateful to FISH for the loan of their minibus for the day.

Chris Mills

More Snippets

Henley's Chatty Chicks

We are a website that provides a forum for the free exchange of useful local information relating to available services and activities in the Henley area and surrounding villages.

Created by Kathy Brooks in October 2012, the group is a focal point for women aged 18 years and over to share their knowledge and personal experiences about local services, businesses and useful information in and around the Henley area. The website also provides a useful monthly forum for free sales of unwanted items and promotion of local businesses.

For more information or to join visit:
www.facebook.com/groups/hcchicks

Protect Our Countryside?

With more and more threats to rural life, including inappropriate development in our corner of the world, the Campaign to Protect Rural England's Oxfordshire branch (CPRE Oxfordshire) needs village representatives to keep a close eye on what's going on. All you need is enthusiasm and passion for protecting our rural heritage but if you have planning experience as well, even better! Interested? Phone me on 01491 612801, or email judith.crockett@btinternet.com.

For more info see www.cpreoxon.org.uk

**Judith Crockett,
Campaign to Protect Rural England**

Starlight Hike

The Sue Ryder Starlight Hike is back and we are searching for people to join us for this 10k night-time walk to sup-

port the incredible care at Nettlebed Hospice. Both men and women can register for the event which starts at 22.30 in Reading on 22nd June. Participants will be treated to fantastic entertainment along the route, plus a breakfast roll at the end.

Karen Silkstone, a Teaching Assistant, is taking part in the walk for the third time. Her husband, Danny, was admitted to the hospice in 1999 and she says the support and care, that she, Danny and their two young sons received from all the staff was truly amazing. Danny sadly passed away aged 31, eight months later.

Each year Nettlebed Hospice needs to raise £1.6 million to keep care like this going. Can you help us reach this target by joining us under Starlight? Registration is £15 per adult (aged 16 and over) and children under 16 go free. To register or to find out more visit www.sueryder.org/starlighthike or call 01491 641070.

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Susan Duke ITEC

Clubs and Societies

1st Peppard Guides

The summer term; time to take advantage of the lighter evenings! We have already started a project called Edible Gardens run by the RHS and with the Village Gardeners. We have planted seeds and hope to see them all come up over the next few months. We are very much looking forward to going camping in August, it's an event called Wellies & Wristbands being held in Lyndhurst. Some of our term will be spent preparing for that but also we thought we would complete our Traditions of Guiding badge: getting back to the roots of it all.

Jo Waugh

Peppard Cricket Club

After our successful annual dinner we moved on to our AGM where a healthy picture of the future of the club was painted. This primarily came from the fantastic development of the junior section under the guidance of the Director of Junior Cricket, Andy Watts, and the appointment to the committee of Nicola Watts as our Child Welfare Officer. Andy has already planned and carried out two 'Coach the Coaches' sessions to a group of a dozen volunteer parents, friends and coaches in preparation for the season. An important step in the development of the junior section is participation in the Berkshire Youth Cricket League and, by the time of reading, the first games will have been completed. The Oratory School has very kindly allowed us use of their excellent facilities for the older age groups and Sunday mornings on the Common will be reserved for younger members.

Pre-season work on the square was hampered by snow, rain and a biting wind but nevertheless a tireless band of enthusiasts (or flannelled fools!) were able to coax life from our ageing machinery to get a pitch ready for the first game. The league

campaign for both teams started on the 4th May and those interested in following the fortunes of the club, including junior results, can do so at www.peppard.play-cricket.com/scoreboard/results.asp

As the weather improves, we are looking forward to shedding a few of the sweaters needed to make playing bearable. Meanwhile the beer at The Unicorn beckons!

Ronnie Brock, Chairman

Peppard WI

We held our 94th Annual meeting in March. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, all three officers felt the need to resign. However, we now have a small but enthusiastic new committee in which the posts of minute secretary and treasurer are being shared by four ladies. In May we discussed *The decline of the High Street* which is the subject of the Resolution to be discussed at the National Federation AGM in Cardiff in June. As the new President, I will be attending that meeting as our delegate.

Also in May, we looked at ways in which we can move forward and attract new members. Ladies can come twice as a visitor before committing themselves to paying a subscription. Visitors always receive a warm welcome.

Irene Lindsay

Sonning Common & Peppard Table Tennis Club

The Club has recently concluded its matches in the Reading & District Table Tennis League season. The A team finished next to bottom of Division 1 and are set to be relegated to Division 2. The B team finished just ahead of their A team colleagues thanks to a superb team effort from Malcolm Gregory, Keith Swain and Brian Meheux. In Division 2,

the C team pulled off a fine finish to avoid relegation while the D team also finished just above the drop zone in Division 3.

In Division 5, the E team finished a very creditable 3rd just short of a promotion place, while the F team finished in the bottom two which may see them drop into Division 6 next season. In Division 6, a fine end of season flourish saw the G team promoted in 2nd place thanks to the efforts of Angus Jones, Julian James, Matt Tarrant, Derek Maltby and Steve Knott.

Junior coaching sessions continue at the Club on Friday evenings while adult Summer practice sessions are planned to commence in May/June. Anyone interest can contact Derek Wavell (0118 9476874) - for Junior sessions or Nigel Maltby (0118 9463191) for adult sessions.

Nigel Maltby

Wyfold RDA

A wonderful opportunity for a Disabled Rider occurred when Sara Lee, who is hoping to qualify again this year for the RDA National Dressage Championships, recently had a training session with the Paralympic gold medallist, Lee Pearson, when he held clinics at Checkendon Equestrian Centre. This was extremely enjoyable and Sara made good progress. Lee was very complimentary about her riding which is all thanks to Karen Warnes-Blease who normally coaches Sara and trains the horse, Charlie Brown.

Re-surfacing of the horse riding arena used by our riders has been completed with the help of a donation of £700 from Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club. The special compound used incorporates re-cycled plastic and rubber to provide a soft and cushioned surface on which horses and their disabled riders may walk comfortably and more safely. We are very grateful to the Lions.

Adrienne Heriot

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Club SC

Club SC were very proud to nominate members for the annual Oxfordshire Youth Awards, which raise awareness and recognition of the inspirational contributions made by many ambitious young people today. Club SC nominated Kyle Limbrick for bravery; he is an active member of the club despite suffering from many illnesses including multiple allergies, kidney problems, Coeliac Disease and Keratoconjunctivitis, which has left him partially sighted and for which he receives monthly treatment at Great Ormond Street. Kyle is always happy despite being in frequent pain and discomfort and particularly likes to help out in our tuck shop or play football; he is much admired by members and staff alike.

Recently members were proud to display their photographic masterpieces. Professional photographer, Richard Pinches, gave his time to teach the young people the tricks of the trade. Youngsters learnt about lighting, composition and camera angles before being let loose in the club with cameras to click away. The results were fantastic and gave them the opportunity to try something new.

There continues to be almost 100 registered young members from 10-16 years old. Thanks to the excellent facilities provided at Chiltern Edge School, those coming along have a large amount of space, enabling them to meet friends, play and enjoy activities both indoors or out whatever the weather. Youth Leader, Becky Jenkins, and her team are there to help organise activities for younger attendees who come along on separate evenings. To help keep the club running more volunteers are needed so if you think you may be able to support in this way or wish to know more about us please contact Becky via email at beckyclubsc@hotmail.co.uk

Carol Viney

Club SC Receives Donation

Club SC has been given £400 by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions to help buy equipment for their new activity room.

For more information about Lions email: info@lions-gwd.org.uk or phone 0845 833 9837.

Circle Dancing

Unbelievably we are approaching our sixth birthday and the early days when the circle was sometimes hard to recognise are long gone! The vocabulary, with words like slip-step, grapevine, Yemenite, is now ingrained and the dancers can move as if their feet do the remembering. In the spring, we celebrated its coming with an Israeli ballad, we thought of lambs with a Breton sheep dance, and we reflected on Good Friday with a dance to the Taizé chant – *Stay With Me*. Now we'll be dancing *Dandelion*, the Russian *I Planted a Rose*, and, with optimism, *When the Sun Comes Up Again*. Do come and join us. No partner needed, nor any experience – just enthusiasm.

Ros Jennings 01491 874220

Peppard Bowls Club

Our season has now started and we are meeting up with old and new friends after the cold winter months. We are hoping for a lovely summer in which to enjoy our bowling matches and relax in good company.

If you feel it is time for you to take up a new and gentle sport then come and visit us at our green behind the Peppard War Memorial Hall. You will be given a very warm welcome.

Call us on 0118 972 1301 or visit www.peppardbowlsclub.com

Betty Freeman

Rotherfield United Football Club

We acquired Bishopswood Sports Ground in early 2012 and it has already proved a fantastic asset for the club. It will allow us to continue to grow and thrive over the generations to come.

We have a flourishing mini and youth section with youngsters from Reception class through to Year 13, and which now includes a dedicated girls' team. Our adult division is establishing itself in the Reading League, with our ambition of having our first team playing in the Hellenic League within the next 3-5 seasons.

The club has plans to construct a clubhouse that will consist of changing rooms, toilets, a teaching/social space as well as a kitchen. Our efforts will soon turn to raising the funds from both the club membership as well as funding bodies such as the Football Foundation and Sport England.

We are committed to maintaining public access to the site. Our main challenges include litter, dog mess and illegal vehicle access. The club is putting considerable effort and expense into the maintenance of the ground and we have undertaken a significant amount of remedial work already. We are defining the boundaries to allow continued access for walkers and cyclists but restrictions for motor vehicles.

The club is working with OCC to dedicate a new public footpath around the club to join two unconnected footpaths. We plan to release land for Sonning Common Parish Council to develop a skate park or similar community amenity.

In September the club is planning to hold another public briefing on the developments at the club and at Bishopswood. In the meantime if anyone has questions regarding the club or Bishopswood they can email info@rotherfieldfc.com

Andy Davies

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Peppard Diary

JUNE			
Sat	1 Kingwood/Peppard Comm Vols/01491 641199.	Sun	14 SC Pre-school/Summer Gdn Party/11.30-14.00
Sun	2 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00	Mon	15 Peppard School/ <i>Cinderella & Rockafella</i> /Kenton Theatre
Mon	3 Peppard School term starts	Wed	17 Peppard Lunch Club/12.00/Mem Hall/0118 9722808
Fri	7 FISH trip to Lords Cricket Ground/Details FISH office	Thur	18 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
Sat	8 Sue Ryder Sale/10.30-12.30 Peppard Village Fair/14.00-17.00	Fri	19 Peppard School term ends
Sun	9 Chilt n Opn Air Mus/ <i>Bricks, Bodger & Broomsticks</i> /10.00-17.00	Sat	20 Sue Ryder Sale/10.30-12.30 Greys Ct/Open Air Th/ <i>The Mikado</i> /19.30/01491 628529
Mon	10 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Meeting/19.30/Planning/21.30/Pavilion	Mon	22 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Tue	11 Greys Court/National Garden Scheme/11.00/01491 628529	Wed	24 FISH visit Gt Chatfield Manor/details FISH Office
Wed	12 <i>WI/Reading Station</i> /Cris Butler/14.30/Mem Hall	Sat	27 RPPC/Planning/10.00/Pavilion
Sun	16 Greys Court/Father's Day Celebration/01491 628529	AUGUST	
Mon	17 Peppard School/New Foundation Parents' evening	Fri	2 Greys Ct/ <i>Babe the Sheep-Pig</i> /18.30/01491 628529
Wed	19 FISH/Afternoon Tea/14.30-17.00/SC Village Hall Peppard Lunch Club/12.00/Mem Hall/0118 9722808	Sat	3 Kingwood/Peppard Comm Vols/01491 641199 SC Library/ <i>Story-time</i> /primary-age children/10.00
Thu	20 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office	Sun	4 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Fri	21 FISH visit Upton House/09.30/Details FISH Office	Mon	5 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Sat	22 RPPC/Planning/10.00/Pavilion Greys Ct/Open Air Th/ <i>As you Like it</i> /19.30/01491 628529 Sue Ryder/Starlight Hike/Green Pk Rdg/22.30/01491 641070	Sat	10 SC Library/ <i>Story-time</i> /primary-age children/10.00 Sue Ryder Sale/10.30-12.30
Mon	24 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55	Mon	12 RPPC Meeting/19.30/Planning/21.30/Pavilion
Fri	28 Peppard School Sports Day/17.00	Wed	14 <i>WI/sightseeing</i> trip to Oxford
Sat	29 Sue Ryder Sale/10.30-12.30	Thu	15 FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office
JULY		Sat	17 SC Library/ <i>Story-time</i> /primary-age children/10.00
Sat	6 Kingwood/Peppard Comm Vols/01491 641199 Concert/All Saints/Christian Aid/19.30	Mon	19 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Sun	7 Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00	Tue	20 FISH visit to Bath/Details FISH office
Mon	8 Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Meeting/19.30/Planning/21.30/Pavilion	Wed	21 Peppard Lunch Club/Summer Tea/details 0118 9722808
Wed	10 <i>WI/Garden Meeting</i> -Pauline Lester/14.30	Sat	24 SC Library/ <i>Story-time</i> /primary-age children/10.00 RPPC/Planning/10.00/Pavilion
FISH Office: 0118 972 3986 (Mon-Fri, 09.30-11.30)			
SC & Peppard Table Tennis Club/Mem Hall/Juniors – Mon 17.00/0118 946 3191		Rotherfield United Football Club/U5s/Sat.0930-10.30	

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	JUNE					JULY				AUGUST				NOTES
	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	A - No service at 09.00 30 th June & 11 th August – Benefice Eucharist at Kidmore End 11.00
10.30 Communion (sung)		✓		✓			✓		✓				✓	
10.30 Matins	✓					✓				✓				
10.30 Family Service			✓					✓						18 th August – Benefice Eucharist at Christ the King 10.30
10.30 Sunday School		✓					✓							
18.30 Evensong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

**Sunday Services at Springwater
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