



Peppard News

A community newspaper for the parish of Rotherfield Peppard

Winter 2012

Dear Santa,

Your magic also could you make poor kids have brilliant life when there older. FROM KARAN OZGU
thank you!

Dear Santa,
This year I don't want all the new gajets that have come out this year. The only things that I want this christmas is for all the war to stop in afghanistan

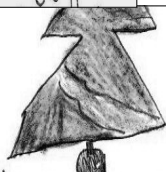
Dear God
Please look after everyone at Peppard School
Amen
Lily Jelowitz

Peppard News is absolutely delighted to reproduce for you some excerpts from letters to Santa Claus from the children of Peppard School.

This year
Fountain and KSI are doing the magical Christmas
Eggs No it is on Thursday 6th Dec at 6.30

Dear Father Christmas please may you help the people in the floods. Love Louie year 1

Dear Santa



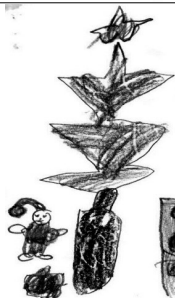
I hope you have had a nice year and thank you for my presents last year, I really liked them. I hope your elfs have had a good rest.

Dear St Nicholas,

For Christmas I would like...

Firstly for our school, I would like some new laptops, then some new school equipment. Then for the Village I would love some help for people who need it.

I would also like people in Africa to have fresh and clean water for drinking. I would like them to have nice food so they can not be hungry and starving.



Dear Father Christmas please may you help the people in Africa how need water and food.

Love from
Amber Lily xox

Editorial

We approach the end of another year; a year in which we have enjoyed major celebrations – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympics, the Paralympics and our own local celebrations on the Common.

But whether you want to believe it or not, Christmas is close and our front page focuses on letters to Father Christmas contributed by pupils of our village school.

I am particularly pleased that our young people have taken the time and effort to let us share their Christmas ideas and

thoughts. I offer them all my sincere thanks and hope that this is the first of a series that could lead the way to a regular *Junior Peppard News*.

Moving away from youth, our community contains many people who have led interesting lives. In this issue we introduce a new column, Peppard People. We begin with a chat with Dr Julia Milligan, a former Henley GP, who lived in Peppard as a newly qualified doctor.

Tony Treglown, Editor

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Peppard People

Dr Julia Milligan

As a young trainee GP, Julia used to drive past the White House and wonder who could possibly afford to live there. Brought up in Middlesbrough, she completed her medical degree in Leeds and did her two six-monthly hospital house jobs in Leeds and then Bath. She had already decided as a medical student that she wanted her future career to be in general practice and subsequently became one of the very first doctors to join the newly established GP training scheme resulting in the MRCGP qualification (Member of the Royal College of General Practitioners). Thus in 1976, Julia commenced her two year placement with the Sonning Common General Practice. There was no support network for new doctors in those days, so as a young, single newcomer to the area she took up residence in the Nurses' Home, Esther Carling House, of Peppard Hospital.

Although closed as a TB hospital, it was still functioning as a hospital for those patients of the Sonning Common and Netlebed practices who needed full time nursing care under the watchful eye of their GP. This arrangement formed the basis of the eventual Peppard Ward of Townlands Hospital in Henley.

It was tough for Julia at the beginning: she was working hard, knew no-one, had no social life and lived in residence with the Matron very much in charge – even though Julia was, of course, a qualified doctor. She felt very isolated until she became friends with a psychiatrist, also residing in Esther Carling House. Julia completed her training in 1979; she continued working in Sonning Common for a couple of years and then worked in Hambleton before she eventually joined the Hart Practice in Henley in 1984.

She and Aidan Bristow were married in 1997; second marriages for both. She has four children, of whom three are doctors, and Aidan has two; between them they have six grandchildren so family get-togethers become quite a party. They also fill the house with pets – Julia has four cats and Aidan has a dog, a second died recently.

They had lived in Kennylands Road in Sonning Common but Julia had never liked the house. A planned move fell through at almost exactly the same time as the White House came on the market. She had remembered it as the white and blue house and describes it as a friendly house.

Built in the 1930s, but never part of the hospital, she thought it would be a marvellous project for Aidan who was, by then, retired. It was in an extremely neglected state with no mains drainage and no heating. In fact, they had to resort to the legal system to install mains drainage. Julia and Aidan lived in a two-bedroomed annexe for the year it took to get all the planning permissions they required to renovate and integrate as one house and then a further nine months for the work to be carried out. She remembers one of the most happy and stress free Christmases 'camping' in the annexe with all the family and no television.

Now retired, Julia is looking forward to travelling and catching up with old friends. Having worked twelve hour days for many years she loves the freedom of time - to visit her children, one of whom lives in Hong Kong, or even tidying out a kitchen cupboard. More than anything, she is going to enjoy spending more time in her friendly house.

Our Schools

Peppard C of E Primary School

Peppard Common RG9 5JU

Phone: 01491 628354

Headteacher

Mrs Christine Grieve

Chairman of the Governors

Christine Bradbury

Peppard School

We returned to school after a very damp summer. All the children settled in well and within the first two weeks we waved off our Year 6 children to their annual residential trip to The Manor in Shropshire. Despite being a very small group of only 5 children, they had a wonderful time and were all brave enough to try all of the activities – even walking backwards on high ropes....blindfolded!

Our Year 5 children have also been away, their annual trip to Bridgwater in Somerset was at the end of last term. This was an action packed three days including a visit to the beach, a stream walk and some wall climbing! All children were beautifully behaved.

Harvest this year was a little different, no collection of goodies for villagers or Feed the Children, instead we had a collection during the service which raised £100 for Seeds for Africa.

During this term we have been very busy showing around prospective parents with children starting school next September. This culminated in a very successful Open Morning, with lots of visitors shown around the school by current FOPS members. FOPS also provided the very scrummy homemade cakes!

Now we are back after half-term, ploughing ahead with plans for Christmas. KS1 are rehearsing for their Christmas play, *The Magical Christmas Jigsaw*. Our Choir

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Our Young Achievers

is as always booked up to sing at various events, not least of all, they are taking part in *Sing for Sue* on Monday, 10th December, singing for an hour from 15.00 outside Henley Town Hall to raise funds for Sue Ryder. I'm sure they would appreciate your support!

Fiona Hilton

Peppard Toddler Group

We would like to thank Wendy Hodges and Jo Williams, who left at the end of the summer term, for all their help setting up and helping out. We have missed their company this autumn term. We welcome new committee members to our toddler group: Julie Fuller, Jane Field and Nikki Stubbs. Thank you for joining us, we could not run without parent help. Thank you also to Anne Freeman for help with the teas, despite her granddaughter, Hermione, having moved on to pre-school!

We have enjoyed Halloween and Bonfire Night themes in our craft and story times and our Winter Term will end with our annual Christmas party on Tuesday 18th December with Christmas fairy craft, Christmas snack, story and song time. Fancy dress is optional but popular! Spring term starts Tuesday 8th January.

Peppard Toddler Group is a friendly Volunteer Mum run group, open Tuesday mornings 09.45-11.45 term time including half terms; we have a weekly craft, play dough table, play house, reading corner, baby corner, snacktime with fruit and biscuits for the children and hot drinks and biscuits for the Mums, Dads and Carers. We finish with a story and singing on the animal rug. All are welcome, from babies to pre-school age – with Mums, Dads, Grandparents or Carers. If you would like more information please call Caroline Jones on 01189 723547 or just come along to a group.



Sam & Will proudly display their medals gatta!

Gold Medals for Peppard Teenager Sam

Sam Kirschstein-Smith featured on the front page of the Autumn edition of *Peppard News* paddling the kayak which carried the Olympic torch bearer on Dorney Lake. A proud moment but his achievements since that time have been much greater.

On 1st and 2nd September he competed in the National Regatta, coming away with no less than 5 gold and 2 bronze medals! Of his achievements, Sam is most proud of the gold medals for his individual 1000m in his age group and for the 200m with his partner in the under 18 category: both Sam and the other paddler Will are still only 16 so were competing against many others older than themselves. Sam's parents were there to give him encouragement, along with 20-25 of his fellow club members from Reading Canoe Club.

On 5th September Sam started at Henley College to begin his AS level course. He travelled to Hungary on 13th to compete in the International Olympic Hopes Regatta on 14th-16th where he was one of a team of 24 from Britain aged 15-17. Kayaking, Sam tells me, is the dominant sport in Hungary where children begin

paddling at a very young age, unlike in Britain where it is a minority sport. 2000 competitors came from 27 countries so this was serious stuff!

Again Sam was paired with Will, from Worcester, and with whom he has only trained on five occasions before going to Hungary. They got through to the final in all three races and gained a bronze in the 1000m. No mean achievement for a first time at an international re-

Keep it up, Sam, we look forward to recording more of your successes!

Sue Nickson

Rowing Successes for Jenny

Seventeen year old Jenny Norman lives in Gallowstree Road and is a sixth former at Sir William Borlase School in Marlow where she is studying for three A levels. Her main hobby is rowing and as a member of the Henley Rowing Club she trains two hours on weekday evenings and eight hours at weekends. Her interest in rowing goes back to when, at the age of eleven, she started coxing at the club where her older sister rowed.

Jenny has taken part in several races; National Schools and National Championship Regattas. While in the junior under-14 team she came second rowing in a double in the Upper Thames Head, and won a silver medal in the National Championship in a quad boat. She is now in the under-18 team and won a gold both in the National Schools and National Championships Regattas at Nottingham last year.

Jenny is well supported by her family; both her parents have become involved with the rowing club and she plans to continue her hobby when she goes on to university.

Sue Nickson

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The Councils

New Notice Boards

Two new notice boards have been installed by the Parish Council at the bus shelter outside the Unicorn Pub to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

One of the oak notice boards is headed *Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012* and is intended for community notices. The other, headed *Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council* is for council notices and has a lockable glass cover. These replace the old ones which had become worn and unsightly. New pin boards will also replace existing boards at other Council notice board sites. A group of Parish Councillors installed the new boards on 24th October.

David Hammond



Part of the group who installed the new boards: Councillors Clive Mills, Nick Launders and Terry Ryan with Parish Clerk Linda Collison. Hadley Cooper and David Hammond also helped.

OCC News

The new Peppard School programme is progressing: the land is secured and I attended a meeting with the school's governors, officers and Cabinet Member for Schools to discuss funding.

I met David Hammond and Linda Collison, from the PC, and a traffic management officer to discuss the speeding problems in Stoke Row Road and the consequent accident rate at the Gallowstree Road/ Stoke Row Road junction. The police are undertaking random speed checks in on-going police operations.

Sadly, my nearly 12 years of having the honour to represent and serve the residents of the Sonning Common Division was not enough to convince the Conservative Members at a recent selection meeting to re-nominate me to stand for election next May. Consequently, I cannot continue to represent the area of my birth.

Parish Council

Chairman: David Hammond
01491 628774 / 07798 763795

Parish Clerk: Linda Collison

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

e-mail: clerk@rppc.org.uk

Website: www.rppc.org.uk

SODC Councillors: Paul Harrison
0118 972 2665

& Alan Rooke—01491 572919

OCC Councillor: Carol Viney
01491 680887

Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council usually meets on 2nd Monday of the month at 19.30 in the Pavilion. Parishioners may attend and observe, and may briefly raise issues of concern to them. All may attend intermediate planning meetings as well - see Diary for dates and times.

In an ironic twist, the selection meeting took place in Dunsden Village Hall, once Dunsden Primary School which my late Father had attended as a small child in the 1930s.

I received loyal support from the few Members able to attend from our locality but unfortunately, Shiplake, a very much smaller village, has many more Conservative Members. Although only around 30 members were present, they decided to have a representative from Shiplake for what will become the newly enlarged Sonning Common Division.

What concerns me is that Shiplake looks to Henley for its services while Rotherfield Peppard looks to Sonning Common, a uniquely independent self-sufficient village which serves the surrounding villages and is also a much larger active community. It is the largest village in the area and I trust whoever is elected next May will familiarise themselves with both Rotherfield Peppard and Sonning Common, which together make up some two-thirds of the electorate of the new Division. Until then I will continue to give my full attention to serving all parishes in my Division.

Carol Viney

Editor's Note: *Peppard News* will be very sorry to say Goodbye to Carol who

has worked unstintingly for us all during her tenure. We offer our sincere thanks to Carol and give our best wishes to her replacement.

2012 Village Tour

During the Conference recess I undertook another Village Tour around the constituency. During the course of the two weeks we travelled some 350 miles and met just over 200 people. At each village or town we stopped for about 30 minutes to meet people and to discuss the issues they wanted to raise with me.

By far the biggest issue raised was Broadband. Another area which came up frequently was the economy. This is particularly relevant in a week which has seen the latest unemployment figures issued. The total number unemployed in this constituency is now 663. Since the General Election, the number unemployed in the constituency has come down by some 25%. That makes it the fifth best performing constituency in the country. Nationally the number of people out of work fell by 50,000 in the three months to August. Employment reached a record high of almost 30 million. The number of people in employment has not been higher since 1971. Whilst not under-estimating the difficulties faced for those who are unemployed, overall this is good news.

John Howell

The Parish Council is planning to adopt the red telephone box situated outside Peppard School. The Flat Earth society has kindly volunteered to restore the 'phone box to its former glory - but we are still looking for an innovative use for the box. If you have a constructive idea for how the phone box could be used we would love to hear from you before the end of February 2013.

A reminder that there are four salt/grit bins in the village for use when the snow and ice arrives. These can be found next to bus shelters on Stoke Row Road and Colmore Lane junction; at the junction of Blounts Court Road and Priory Copse; and outside Peppard School.

And finally Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you All

Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council



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Know Your Councillor

Clive Mills

Clive still considers himself very lucky to live in Peppard. As a civil engineer, his work normally meant his moving every few years. He and Jane have now lived here for 33 years and provide a 'family' home for their adult children and grandchildren. His two daughters and one son all live less than an hour's drive away so he is able to see them and his six grandchildren, all of whom are under 10, frequently.

He says he did the job he always loved – even as a child he loved building things and that was always what he wanted to do. For many years he worked for Associated Asphalt, eventually becoming a director of the company. He became a Fellow of the Institute of Civil Engineers and in his spare time was chairman of the ICE Thames Valley and then chairman of the southern branch of the Civil Engineering Contractors Association. Eventually there was a company takeover and he left to become a self-employed consultant before finally retiring in June 2011.

Sadly Jane has been very ill for the last year and has had to undergo chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery but happily the prognosis is good and Clive is optimistic about their enjoying a happy retirement together. Indeed, next year one of his daughters celebrates her 40th and it is Clive's 70th birthday, so he has rented a Devon farmhouse in which all the family can celebrate together.

He has always wanted to be involved locally and was a Governor of Grove Road School in Sonning Common before becoming Chairman. He joined Peppard Council three years ago prompted by the speed of traffic and the total lack of facilities for young children and a desire to protect our environment. He didn't agree with the County Council's plan to change the speed limits and, as the community survey has now proved, shares a general

concern over a lack of playground in the village. He supports the need for a facility but recognises that there is no simple solution.

He is chairman of the Planning Committee – he is happy to put his professional expertise to good use and is also on the committees for the Sports Pavilion and the green. He believes communication is key and so has taken on the role of liaising with *Peppard News*, and would like to see an inclusive village website.

In former days he loved sports, particularly rugby, judo and squash and admits to being very competitive. He now channels that energy into helping his grandchildren in their sporting endeavours. He has always thrown himself into activities and now applies that to music – he learnt the piano as a child but is now learning to play the clarinet and saxophone. All this and singing in Not-takwire too!

With what time he has left, he loves to travel and he and Jane regularly go off for weekends in their caravan – and once Jane's health allows, they plan longer trips. No doubt he will become as passionate about travelling as he has been about so many other things.

Seeing Red

Over the years members of the Peppard Flat Earth Society have been involved in a number of restoration projects for the benefit of the School and the Church. Now they have their paint brushes poised to give a new lease of life to the telephone box on the common - that is as soon as the ownership and maintenance is transferred from BT to the Parish Council.

Alan Smith

Hallelujah! It's Christmas!

This year the centre-piece of the South Chiltern Choral Society's Christmas concerts at Chiltern Edge School will be the magnificent music of the most famous oratorio of all, Handel's *Messiah*. The choir, conducted by Gwyn Arch and accompanied by Ian Westley, will be joined by three young professional soloists, Lisa Wilson, Lindsay Bramley and Adam Kowalczyk, plus the slightly older Stephen Holloway. There will, of course, be traditional carols for the audience as well, so why not start the Christmas season here?

Concerts - Saturday 15th at 19.30 and Sunday 16th December at 14.00. Tickets: £12 inc refreshments; Under 18s £6; Under 5 Free. Box Office: Mary Esslemont 0118 9874346 For more info:

www.southchilternchoralsociety.org.uk

Snippets

Green Gym:

On Saturday 1st December (09.30 – 12.30) we will be scrub clearing on the ski-slope on Peppard Common: meet in the car park by Peppard cross-roads. Contact 0118 972 3528

On Saturday 29th December (09.30 – 12.30) we will be cutting back rhododendrons in Borocourt Wood: park by the wood on the Gallowstree Common to Stoke Row Road. Contact 0118 972 3528

Julia Booker

The New Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire project is looking for some new friends to engage with and champion the new Museum being built in Woodstock. Friends of the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum is a social organisation that provides a place for people and families to meet, be entertained and work together towards a good cause. Further information from Ursula Corcoran, Museum Director, SOFO on 0781 623353. For more info see www.sof.org



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Our Village

History of Kingwood Farm

Since purchasing Flint Cottage in early 2004, I've been interested in exploring its history. It was originally called Kingwood Farmhouse and is situated on the site that subsequently became Peppard Chest Hospital. I had heard that the farm's operations and produce were an integral part of hospital life until after the Second World War. The small farmhouse was built c1885 off the Stoke Row Road, near the Unicorn. The house is in what is now called Dove Lane, named after Norman Dove, who was the hospital administrator for many decades.

There were originally 100 acres of farmland surrounding it. Maps from 1900 show its western boundaries went a little up Wyfold Lane to beyond The Greyhound in Gallowstree Common. The eastern boundaries were along Stoke Row Road from what is now the entrance to Dove Lane, including Carlings Orchard down to the crossroads by the Peppard Stores.

The farm became notable in 1902 when Dr Esther Lillie Colebrook was exploring alternative treatment for tuberculosis and purchased the farm and 50 acres of farmland. The young Dr Colebrook was a pioneer in developing the open-air treatment of tuberculosis. In *Peppard Hospital, A Brief History* by Dr Esther Carling (as she later became) she described the farm:

"Kingwood Farm....was now on the market. Its fifty acres of land, its position between two commons with nearness to woods and attractive country made it seem suitable. True it had no water supply and in years of drought little carts with barrels had been seen wending their four-mile way to Henley to draw supplies from the river."

So, in 1902 she purchased the farm with 50 acres. The hospital was also at the forefront in assessing milk values during wartime. The quality of the herd at the farm was excellent and Dr Carling was an advocate for clean, safe milk.

The growing hospital had to deal with rationing during and after WW2 and it was during this time that the farm became a real asset. Every day, the farm was able to produce over 100 gallons of high quality milk, 100 eggs and fresh fruit and vegetables for the patients and workers.

The farm closed in about 1945, the buildings remaining intact but unused. The farmhouse became staff housing for nurses and at some point was renamed Flint Cottage. The greenhouses and orchards continued to provide produce for the hospital's kitchens.

A lovely lady, Sheila Hayward, who lives in Sonning Common, remembers the farm well. Sheila was courted by, and married, Joe Hayward, the youngest of the farmer George Hayward's four sons. She visited the farm over a long period. Apparently George took on the farm when the sanatorium first opened and continued farming until the day it closed. Sheila remembers the pigs that were fed all the scraps, the herd of cows, the vegetable gardens (including a lot of lovely strawberries!) and orchards. The pigs and their sheds and the cow sheds were all behind the house. There were two large carthorses that lived in the stable; this was still intact as a storeroom when we bought the house.

There was a small sitting room with a big black range and furnished very simply, also a water pump in the kitchen with a bucket for drainage. This was the only living space. It is hard to believe that a family of 6 with 4 strapping young men lived in a room of 3x3 metres!

Sheila recalls the path towards the pub (now Carlings Orchard) was only ever used to take out the deceased! It was the only time that gate was opened. What a sobering thought when we walk across the orchard to and from The Unicorn!

On a more upbeat note, it is heartening that part of the original orchard still remains. The daffodils planted in the late 1940s continue to flower every spring among some of the old apple trees that have stood for many more years and witnessed much of this change.

Helen Chilvers

Health Walks

We have just completed another very successful year. Our 10 walks each week have attracted a total of 185 walkers who have completed a total of 5520 walks, that is an average of 29 walks per person. However, some of our walkers have far exceeded this, with 8 walkers completing over 100 walks this year. Health Walks appeal to people of all ages, currently our oldest walker is over 85 and our youngest walkers are brought in buggies by their parents. Everyone is welcome on these free walks.

Health Walks are recommended as they help you to: lose weight whilst making you feel good, strengthen your heart and lungs, improve your muscle and bone strength, lower your blood pressure and reduce stress. Of our walkers 65 have a heart condition, high blood pressure, diabetes, COPD or asthma. 20 of these took up walking as a result of a GP's recommendation.

Walks are graded by distance, terrain and stiles, to help *you* judge which are suitable for your fitness level. We have two trained leaders on every walk, one to accompany the faster walkers and the other to bring up the rear with the slower walkers.

Our current timetable is available from the Health Centre, the Library, the Herb Farm or from our website

www.sonningcommonhealthwalks.co.uk/timetable If you would like more information please contact Chris Brook on 0118 9242515

Commons News

Winter is upon us, and the bare trees give the woods a more open aspect, which can make a woodland walk more interesting. The Kingwood volunteers have been working on paths, rides and glades, to keep them open. They celebrated their first anniversary with a return visit to the circular path near the Red House car park that was the site of their first work party in October 2011. The newly cleared and widened route takes you past apple trees that date back to the wartime occupation of this part of the common. A resident of those days showed us the site of the military parade ground, the flagpole now marked by an old silver birch. The Kingwood volunteers meet on the first Saturday of every month for a morning's work. On Saturday 1st December the group will be rewarded with mulled wine and mince pies at midday, after the normal work session. In the spirit of seasonal goodwill, these will be extended to all our supporters, even those who (for perfectly legitimate reasons) do not do any work! So please come along on the day and join us for a spot of something warming.

Two drop-in days hosted by the Conservators on Kingwood Common to present

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management proposals for public scrutiny resulted in some very worthwhile discussions with local residents, walkers, wildlife and history enthusiasts and indeed wildlife - on both occasions, we found a small Common Lizard basking among our bags behind the gazebo! The consultation is still open, so if you have not seen our information pack, please ask for one – see below. And if you haven't returned your questionnaire, please do, it's not too late.

For more information about volunteering or any matter concerning the commons, please contact Elizabeth Smeeton, Clerk to the Conservators, Nettlebed and District Commons

Tel. 01491 641199 or via our website
www.nettlebed-commons.org

Elizabeth Smeeton

Hand Grenade

On 26th October, Thames Valley Police removed and disposed of a hand grenade found on Kingwood Common. We have heard of a previous similar incident, and are asking for any information or memories of this.



This is a new dimension to the risks posed on Kingwood Common that have been raised (to no avail) with the Conservators and Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council. Areas of broken glass, protrusions of sharp steel, broken and open drains, and any further remains from the WW2 camp, pose no threat to users of the many well used paths. However for wildlife, pets, and any adventurous youngster the risk is real. As is obvious, a camp as at Kingwood would most likely have had underground facilities/storage!

Please take care!

Mark Saunders

New Machine

A new self-service machine for issuing and returning books is to be installed at Sonning Common Library in February.

OCC is installing these machines across the county's library network as part of its restructuring of the service.

Last December, Councillors voted to cut its staffing budget in half for the village's library from April 2015. Changes are to be phased in gradually and the council hopes that by then the library will be staffed half by professionals and half by local volunteers.

In October the Friends of Sonning Common Library met with Jillian Southwell, the County Council's library service manager, to continue discussions on securing a sustainable future for the Library.

Ros Varnes

Greys Court

Opening for the first time at Christmas, Saturdays and Sundays, 1st-2nd, 8th-9th and 15th-16th December, 13.00-16.00; Adult £7, Child £3.50

Get in the spirit and visit the house decorated for the festive season. Visit our shop or take home a membership as an extra special gift. Check our website or call us to find out about events in December including wreath-making, table centrepiece making and *Carols at the Court*. Tel. 01491 628529 or www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greys-court Facebook and Twitter @ntgreyscourt

Jane Greenhaf

Inspirational Woman Recognised

Peppard resident, Sue Ryan, has been named Creator of the Year at the annual Sue Ryder Women of Achievement Awards.

Sue founded the Henley Literary Festival six years ago and, since then, the event has flourished. Thanks to Sue's efforts thousands of people can now enjoy live literature in Henley. Sue believed that Henley was the ideal setting for a more intimate festival to bring about a special relationship between authors and the public so, without pub-

lic funding and at a personal financial risk, she launched into organising what is now one of the UK's premier literary festivals which supports both local writers and new talent. Sue continues to donate hours of her time to direct the operation.



Sue Ryan receives her award from event sponsor Rick White, Invesco Perpetual. Photo courtesy of Creative Commercial Photography.

The annual Sue Ryder Awards are inspired by the hospice charity's own inspirational leader, Lady Ryder, and aim to recognise local women who have made a difference in the fields of community, sport, the arts or in the corporate world.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Firstly, I must thank all the door to door collectors and businesses who have accepted the responsibility of a box of poppies and collecting tin. The people of Peppard, Greys and Stoke Row have responded generously to the appeal this year with a total exceeding £3,000 so far.

The demands on the Poppy Appeal continue to grow as conflicts in the world show no sign of abating. Therefore please accept our thanks, both for your donations and for wearing your poppies. Money will not help the fallen but it will help their families and their comrades with life changing injuries both of body and mind. Our responsibilities will remain for generations; our school children are responding too with countless questions and real concern. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for remembering them.

Nick Lauanders

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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

When this issue of *Peppard News* comes out we shall be in the Church's season of Advent, the four Sundays immediately before Christmas. Advent is derived from the Latin, meaning 'coming' or 'arrival' and is the beginning of the Christian Year and of course it prefaces and looks forward to the Nativity. Back in 5th century Gaul you'd have celebrated the season by fasting on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays but we don't seem to do that any more!

There are so many things we *do* have to do that quite often we lose sight of the Advent season of preparation whether it is by an endless round of less spiritual preparation, or an endless round of sermon preparation. Do try to pause and catch your breath remembering that all this is about Jesus' birth which is an historical event, still worthy of celebration over two thousand years later.

Details of the special Advent and Christmas services at the Parish Church will be found elsewhere in this issue of *Peppard News*. Look out for the *Advent Sequence* of Hymns, Advent Carols, Readings and Anthems on Sunday 9th December at 6.30, replacing Evening Prayer.

An event that slipped quietly by (almost!) was my 10th anniversary as Rector of Peppard on All Saints' Day, 1st November. How time flies when you're enjoying yourself...

A very Happy Christmas from me and my family, to you and your family.

Graham

Musical Success



This picture is of Stephanie Franklin and Isobel Brooker wearing their RSCM gold medals pictured outside All Saints' Church. The Awards were presented during Evensong at Christ Church Cathedral on 10th November. Bronze Awards were presented to Claudia and Emily Ainsley, Amanda Coull and Eleanor Cunningham, and a Silver award to Ian Heriot also at this Service.

Looking Ahead

The Henley Choirs' Festival will take place on Saturday 26th January at St. Mary's Church, Henley. The joint work will be Part 1 of Handel's *Messiah*.

Margaret Woodward

Harvest Lunch

On Sunday 30th September All Saints' held a very successful Harvest Lunch at Peppard War Memorial Hall following their Benefice Service. This deviated from our normal Harvest Lunch in that it

was a Bring and Share lunch. This was preceded by a quiz organised by Rob and Barbara Crawshaw. Approximately 46 people sat down and enjoyed interesting conversations and excellent food.

Margaret Woodward

Advent/Christmas Music

Sunday 9th December at 18.30 there will be a service of readings and music for Advent at All Saints' Church

Tuesday 18th December at 19.45, the choir will lead the community carol singing at The Unicorn Pub.

Monday 24th December (Christmas Eve) a Nativity Play with Carols will be held at 17.30. At 21.30 there will be the First Communion of Christmas with Carols. On Christmas Day at 11.00 there will be a service of Seven Lessons and Carols.

Please come and join us for any of these Services. Full details regarding the above can be found on the Church website and also on the notice board in the Church Porch. If any adult is interested in joining the choir at All Saints', we would love to hear from you.

Record Breakers

On Saturday 8th September, the annual Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event took place once again, when our team members were out on their bikes and on foot, visiting as many churches as possible to justify their sponsors' support. Well, they really excelled. Over 200 churches were visited, and as a result of our team's efforts the charity will have received a cheque for over £3000. This is a record-breaking contribution by the All Saints' team and each team member is to be congratulated; thanks of course also go to all those people who so generously sponsored our team.

As a result of the efforts of all the teams from over 500 Oxfordshire churches tak-

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ing part in this event, the Trust will once again be in a position to make substantial donations to churches in the county urgently in need of repair. Over recent years the Trust has donated hundreds of thousands of pounds towards the maintenance of the county's churches. 50% of the total raised by an individual team is returned to their own church, to be used towards their church maintenance.

Ian Fraser

RSCM Choirs' Festival

On Saturday 20th October, Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) affiliated choirs from the Diocese of Oxford, combined with the Chapel Choir in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, for the Oxfordshire Annual Choirs' Festival Evensong, marking the 350th anniversary of the pub-

lishing of the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*. A large contingent from the Choir of All Saints' sang and several members of the congregation, along with their friends, came for the service. In all there were nearly 400 hundred singers from various choirs participating in the Festival. The Director of the Festival was Timothy Byram-Wigfield, who has been Director of Music at St. George's Chapel since 2004, and the organist was Richard Pinel, Assistant Director of Music at the Chapel since 2009.

The RSCM Oxfordshire Committee decided over two years ago that this year's Annual Choirs' Festival had to be special as it was marking such a significant event. A wonderful afternoon was had by all.

Margaret Woodward

St Michael's Catholic Church

Revd Paul Rowan 0118 972 3418
Revd Francis Andrews 0118 972 2354
e-mail: stmichaels.rc@hotmail.co.uk

Our parish priest Father Bob Devaney left the parish on the 8th November to take up a chaplaincy visiting hospitals in the Warwick area. We have been very privileged to have had his services over the past few years and wish him all the best in the future. On the 17th November we welcomed Father Paul Rowan, who is also a lecturer at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill.

**Shirley Rixon, St Michael's
Parish Pastoral Council**



Revd Chris Lewis
0118 972 4519
www.springwater.org.uk

Induction of New Minister

Springwater inducted their new minister Revd. Chris Lewis, and his wife, Mags, to the pastorate on Saturday 10th November. It was a vibrant occasion enjoyed by everyone who attended, with guests travelling from near and far to share in the celebration. The church had been without a minister for four years following the retirement of the Revd. Phil Cheale. Revd. Barry Kirk had acted as the interim pastor and moderator during this period and he led the induction ceremony, which was a blend of traditional and contemporary worship. Two of the core leaders of the church, Sue Scrace and Andy Shakeshaft, led the congregation in prayers and informed all present of the journey in selecting and appointing Revd. Lewis and Mags to Springwater church.



Rev Chris Lewis

The ceremony included the official act of induction where questions of intent and calling were asked of the Lewis's, concluding with the congregation stand-

ing to give their support to the couple. A number of church leaders and ministers prayed for the Lewis's, among whom was Revd. Sue Wade, chairperson of the South Eastern Region of the Congregational Federation. The right hand of fellowship was extended to the Lewis's from Revd. Kirk who handed to Revd. Lewis a key to the church symbolising the key to leadership of the congregation.

Revd Lewis thanked Revd. Kirk for his care, commitment and guidance of the church during the past four years and ended the ceremony by speaking a blessing over the congregation. Revd. Lewis commented, 'As we enter this new season in the life and ministry of the church here at Springwater our desire is for God the Father to move among us powerfully, creatively, and compassionately, and to proclaim Jesus as truth. We are expecting great outpourings of the Holy Spirit and praying for the church to grow numerically and spiritually as we participate in the advancement of the Kingdom of God here in our locality and beyond.'

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Susan Duke ITEC

Clubs and Societies

1st Peppard Guides

Our Autumn/Winter term is full to the brim with activities. We are doing the craft badge, performing arts badge and each patrol has chosen a Go-for-It programme which they run themselves. The patrols are having fun with Experiment, Chocolate, Survival and Parties! We have welcomed lots of new recruits due to having more leaders and hope to welcome more after Christmas. I can be contacted on e-mail squirreljo@yahoo.ie

Jo Waugh

Creepy Crawlies at Club SC

In celebration of a first half term in a revamped youth club, Club SC treated its members to a thrilling Fright Night and Halloween party. Spiders, scorpions, snakes and lizards amazed members who were brave enough to hold them, whilst others participated in decorating 'monster muffins' and playing the 'gunge game'! Members donned fancy dress and were decorated with professional stage make-up to create artificial wounds and scars to add to the fun. A spooky kooky time was had by all! Club SC is open on Wednesday nights for years 6,7 and 8 and Thursday nights for years 9,10 and 11 from 19.00-21.00. We are always looking for volunteers. If you can help in any way please e-mail clubsc@hotmail.co.uk

Becky Jenkins

Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club

The Lions Club will hold their 29th Annual 10k Charity Road Run on Sunday 13th January. Entries for this popular run are now being received and, for the first time, runners will be issued with timing chips to automatically record finish times and places. All finishers will receive a medal and trophies will be awarded in various categories. Minimum age limit for

entry is 15 years. Entry fee: £15 (£13 for affiliated Club runners). Instructions and entry forms are available to download from www.lions-gwd.org.uk

Peppard Lunch Club

Are you retired, perhaps a little bit lonely sometimes? Would you enjoy a regular social occasion where you can make friends, enjoy good conversation and have a tasty home-cooked lunch at very modest price? If so, you might find that our Lunch Club has a lot to offer. We meet once a month in the Memorial Hall, usually on the third Wednesday of the month and we could accommodate a few more members. To find out more, ring Sally Longhurst on 0118 972 2808. If you know of somebody who you think might like to give us a try, why not suggest they ring for more information, too?

Sally Longhurst

Tennis Club

We have had a busy time in the last few months. We are awaiting the arrival of more floodlights on the bottom courts, to enable us to run more tennis lessons/sessions for both adults and Juniors. We recently ran a charity Save The Children Tournament and made £280 to help their worthwhile cause.

We now have a new Head Coach who is introducing many new sessions for all standards of players including Ladies' mornings and sessions for people who are just plain out of practice and need a little help to get back to playing again. Our general club sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 18.30 under floodlights. We have entered Ladies', Mens', and Mixed teams into the local Berkshire League, so if any one is interested in competition tennis come along as a guest and have a hit with us. Any coaching enquiries please

phone Ollie on 075407 24400 or Kim Fry on 0118 9474051.

Chiltern Players

Our next play reading session will be held on Wednesday, 5th December at The Ref-ormation pub. The evening, which starts at 20.00, will be led by Jill and Roger Kendal who have chosen a mystery drama to bring this year's new play reading venture to a rousing conclusion. Following the enthusiastic response to the monthly sessions, the play reading evenings will continue as a regular event. Watch this space for more details.

This is an exciting opportunity for all those who love drama to share their passion with like-minded people. Experience is not necessary and anybody is welcome to come along. For more information, call 0118 972 4705 or e-mail member@tichenerj.freemove.co.uk.

Carol Evans

Brownies and Rainbows

There are two Brownie units – the 1st and 2nd Kidmore End Brownies – for girls aged 7 to 10, which meet in Sonning Common. The units include girls from Peppard. There is also a new Rainbows group (girls from age 5 to 7). We are part of the Girlguiding Organisation, which also includes Guides and the Senior Section groups. The UK organisation provides approximately 2.5 million hours of girl-only time each year (!), giving girls the chance to try new things and discover new skills in a safe environment. Although you can still contact your local Rainbow, Brownie or Guide leader, if your daughter is interested in joining one of the units, as from 30th November, a new online registration scheme is being introduced. If you want to know more about joining, then please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested or call 0800 1 69 59 01. You will be able to put

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your daughter's name on a list of up to three units in your area. When a place is available, you will then be contacted by email. The waiting lists to join Brownies and/or Guides, are generally very long – sometimes girls are added to the waiting lists years before they reach the age of being eligible to join. One of the ideas behind the online system is so that if a first choice of unit is not available, there may be another local unit which has a place. So if you are interested you should register your daughter's name early.

Helen Scarrott

Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society

We hold regular talks on all matters horticultural in the Peppard War Memorial Hall from 19.30-21.00. Guests are welcome free-of-charge for our first two meetings in 2013.

January Talk: Growing Vegetables My Way - Graham Talbot is a well known horticulturist who has been growing and exhibiting vegetables for over 30 years. This gives us the opportunity to select our seed varieties for the coming season (8th January).

February Talk: Quiz Night - We welcome back Les Cooper who will stretch our horticultural knowledge to the limit. Always a fun evening. (12th February).

More information available at www.cehs.info

Rod Norman

Peppard WI

Winter is on its way again, although when writing this the trees were in full leaf, and are yet to amaze us with their autumn colours. The Peppard WI is still going from strength to strength, and we are looking forward to another Christmas Party on the 12th December with husbands

and friends joining us for a fun afternoon. The children from Peppard School are coming to us again this year to sing some Christmas Songs and Carols. They are always delightful. It is a special time for the children and for some of us who have never grown up.

On the Wednesday 9th Christine Brook is coming to give us talk about First Responders; the service provided by local volunteers to help ambulance crews who may be further away when an emergency occurs. A very valuable service.

We are now starting to prepare our list of speakers for next year. Watch out for our posters to see if there is any thing that would interest you.

We wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and good wishes for 2013. As usual our meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month. Give us a try.

Di Ducker, President

Wyfold RDA Christmas Celebration

We are holding our very popular Christmas Celebration this year on Saturday, 8th December from 17.00-19.00 at our stables and centre at Kingwood. There will be all the usual attractions, including the children's nativity and Father Christmas in his chariot, together with some new entertainments, all accompanied by the ever popular Woodley Concert Band, who will lead the carol singing. Why not get into the Christmas spirit with a glass of mulled wine, while supporting this very worthwhile charity, particularly in the year of the hugely successful Paralympics?

Tickets at £5 (children under 12 are free) can be obtained from Roger Hadaway – 01491681273 or rc.hadaway@btinternet.com or from any member of Wyfold Riding for the Disabled.

Film Club

The winter season got off to a great start in October with 83 people attending. The audience was asked to vote for next year's films from a selection of 30 and the ones chosen as a result are listed on an insert in this copy of *Peppard News*. Although it wasn't possible to do this for *Gosford Park*, we normally put English subtitles on as we find this is popular with those who are hard of hearing. And we now have an enlarged team of cooks who provide the meal in a bowl which is an important part of what has become a popular evening out.

John Hasler

Sonning Common & Peppard Table Tennis Club

Our teams are approaching mid-season with mixed fortunes for its seven teams. The A and B teams are both in the top division but the A team will need to pick up some wins soon if they are to pull clear of relegation trouble. The B team, however, have a win under their belt thanks to a recent excellent 7-3 success.

In Division 2, the C team are also struggling near the foot of the division while the D team are mid-table in Division 3. The E team started well in Division 5 but have since lost two matches to lie in 3rd place, while the F team are mid-table in the same division. A new-look G team, with three new players who joined the club in the summer, are doing very well and are currently 4th in Division 6.

We continue with our thriving Junior Coaching evenings at the War Memorial Hall on Friday evenings and there is also adult coaching available as well. Interested? Please contact Derek Wavell (d.wavell@talktalk.net) or Nigel Maltby at (n.maltby587@btinternet.com) for more information.

Nigel Maltby

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Peppard Diary



DECEMBER			JANUARY			FEBRUARY		
Sat	1	Green Gym/09.30-12.30/01189723528 Kingwood/Peppard Comm Vols/01491 641199 Greys Court 13.00-16.00 House/Shop open	Mon	24	All Saints'/Nativity/17.30/1st Communion of Christmas/21.30 St Michael's Mass/18.00/Carols/20.30/ <i>Midnight Mass</i> /21.00	Sun	3	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Sun	2	Greys Court 13.00-16.00 House/Shop open	Tue	25	St Michael's Morning Mass/10.30 All Saints'/Seven Lessons and Carols/11.00	Mon	4	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Mon	3	Police Have Your Say outside One Stop/10.00-10.30	Sat	29	Green Gym/09.00-12.30/01189722528	Mon	11	RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion
Tue	4	FISH/Garden Centre/10.00/Details FISH Office	JANUARY			Tue	12	Hort Soc/Quiz Night/Les Cooper/Mem Hall/19.30-21.00
Wed	5	Chiltern Players playreading/20.00/The Reformation Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.15/0118972280	Wed	2	Police Have Your Say outside One Stop/10.00-10.30 SC Library opens/14.00	Wed	13	WI/Odd Odes & True Stories Alan Stockwell/Mem Hall/14.30
Sat	8	Greys Court/13.00-16.00/House/Shop open Wyfold RDA/Christmas Celeb/17.00-19.00/01491 681273	Sat	5	Kingwood/Peppard Comms Vols 01491631199	Fri	15	Peppard Revels Film Club/ <i>Shirley Valentine</i> /Mem Hall/19.00
Sun	9	Greys Court/13.00-16.00/House/Shop open All Saints' Advent Service/18.30	Sun	6	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00	Mon	18	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Mon	10	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55 RPPC Meeting/19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion	Mon	7	Peppard School starts Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55	Wed	20	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808
Wed	12	WI Christmas Party/Mem Hall/14.30	Tue	8	Peppard Toddler Group term starts CE Hort. Soc/ <i>Growing Veg my Way</i> /19.30-21.00/Mem Hall	Wed	23	RPPC/Planning/10.00/Pavilion
Thu	13	FISH Pub Lunch/11.30/Details FISH Office	Wed	9	WI <i>First Responders</i> Christine Brook/14.30/Mem Hall	FEBRUARY		
Sat	15	SC Library Storytime for under-10s/10.00 Springwater Ch/ <i>Get in the Picture</i> /1000-15.00/SCVill Hall	Sat	13	Lions 29th Annual Charity 10K Road Run/www.lions-gwd.org.uk	Sun	3	Circle Dancing/Christ the King/15.30-17.00
Sun	16	S Chiltern Choral Soc/Christmas Concert/14.00/CESchool Greys Court/13.00-16.00/House/Shop open	Mon	14	RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.00/Pavilion	Mon	4	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
Mon	17	Police Have Your Say outside One Stop/16.00-16.30 St Michael's Special Service of Reconciliation/19.00	Wed	16	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808	Mon	11	RPPC Meeting 19.30/Planning 21.30/Pavilion
Tue	18	Peppard Toddler Group Christmas Party Peppard School Christingle/All Saints'/18.30 All Saints' Choir Carols at The Unicorn/19.45 FISH/Thame Market/10.00/Details FISH Office	Fri	18	Peppard Revels Film Club/ <i>Slumdog Millionaire</i> /Mem Hall/19.00	Tue	12	Hort Soc/Quiz Night/Les Cooper/Mem Hall/19.30-21.00
Thu	20	Peppard School term ends	Mon	21	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55	Wed	13	WI/Odd Odes & True Stories Alan Stockwell/Mem Hall/14.30
Sat	22	RPPC Planning/Pavilion/10.00 SC Library/Storytime for Under-10s/10.00 SC Library closes 12.30	Thu	24	Police Have Your Say outside One Stop/16.00-16.30	Fri	15	Peppard Revels Film Club/ <i>Shirley Valentine</i> /Mem Hall/19.00
			Sat	26	RPPC Planning/Pavilion/10.00	Mon	18	Mobile Library/Peppard School/11.45-11.55
						Wed	20	Peppard Lunch Club/Mem Hall/12.00/01189722808
						Sat	23	RPPC/Planning/10.00/Pavilion

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

Rotherfield United Football Club/U5s/Sat.0930-10.30

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services at All Saints'	DECEMBER					JANUARY				FEBRUARY				NOTES
	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	
09.00 Communion	✓	✓	✓	✓	B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A Advent Carol Service B No service at 09.00
10.30 Communion (sung)		✓		✓	C		✓		✓		✓		✓	C Benefice Eucharist at Christ the King, Sonning Common
10.30 Matins	✓					✓				✓				D Choral Evensong for Epiphany
10.30 Family Service			✓					✓				✓		E Service of Christian Unity
10.30 Sunday School		✓					✓				✓			probably at St Michael's Church
18.30 Evensong	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	D	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Christmas Services at All Saints'	
24th December – Christmas Eve	
17.30	Nativity Play and Carols
21.00	Holy Communion
25th December – Christmas Day	
09.00	Holy Communion
11.00	Seven Lessons and Carols
13th February – Ash Wednesday	
20.00	Holy Communion

Christmas at St Michael's Catholic Church	
Monday 17th December	
19.00	Special Service of Reconciliation, including a general blessing, Exposition and time for individual reconciliations. Additional priests to assist.
Monday 24th December – Christmas Eve	
18.00	Mass for families with children
20.30	Christmas Carols, Reading and Music
21.00	Midnight Mass
Tuesday 25th December – Christmas Day	
10.30	Morning Mass

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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