

Chalfont St Peter Village Voice August 2008

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Chalfont St Peter website:
www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice

THREE Chalfont St Peter men, have taken on the task of reviving the Layters Pond (right) not only to clear it as a beauty spot, but also to save the wild life that inhabit its waters.

Cliff Smith, Brian Rance and Reg Taylor played in and around Layters Green Pond as schoolboys over 60 years ago and in the



winter even skated on its surface. It was part of their childhood and when they saw the overgrown state and clogged waters, they wanted to return it to its former beauty and make it safe for the ducks, fish and terrapins that live in and on it. Over the years local people have put these pets in the pond, when they were no longer able to keep them and now it is home to two Aylesbury ducks, who rely upon it's waters for their transport (Aylesbury ducks don't fly) and share them with a flock of migrant ducks and their chicks, a coi carp that has grown considerably since it took up residence, (when its owner had to fill in his pond) lots of goldfish and two terrapins. All have grown considerably since their arrival and the pond-clearers thoroughly enjoy watching them.



Brian Rance

The three men were concerned for the ducks particularly, because with the clogged waters and the hot weather, the ducks couldn't escape quickly if the foxes came calling and also the fish needed plenty of water. You can see from the photographs the amount of weed that has been removed, several tons over the period of clearance and now the waters are deep enough to sustain their residents, to about one and a half metres in places.



Not only the reeds needed clearing but Reg Taylor, who is a logger, lopped a huge branch weighing about 2 tons, off one of the trees and cut it up for logs, which disappeared promptly when locals saw that they were available. The pond looks more spacious as a result of the 'surgery' and the men mentioned that in their youth the pond was far more exposed, but over the years the tree roots travelled underground towards the water and now there is a crescent of lovely trees at its edge.

Reg Taylor

Cliff Smith

The the men have three young helpers,

Debbie, Jamie and Jo Evan, who live locally and add their youthful energy to the team's efforts. Between them, they have shifted tons of weeds and even a part of an old bicycle, see above, and brought the space and beauty of Layters Green Pond back for both local people and local wildlife to enjoy.



ONLY NATURAL at 41 St Peter's Court (The Precinct) is much more comprehensive than you might imagine.

All the natural products that you can see in the shop, are just part of the provision for well-being that is on offer.

Parviz Sachdev

Parviz Sachdev D.Hom M.J.M.A(UK) has qualifications in Homeopathy, (nutrition), Allergy Testing, Reiki, Hot Stone Therapy and she has therapists Sue Griffith who offers Swedish Massage, NLP, Indian Head Massage. Reflexology, while Terry Breeze is a McTimoney Chiropractic and Preston Lee is an Osteopath and uses the Bowen technique as well.

This team of fully qualified therapists can make a huge difference to the comfort of Chalfont St Peter people, if they need aches and pains relieved and their health kept up to a high level of energy.

Homeopathy is an alternative treatment for a range of medical and psychological problems. It is a natural healing process, providing remedies to assist a return to health by stimulating the body's natural forces to recovery.

Aromatherapy addresses the overall balance of mind, body and spirit, using skilfully blended individually chosen essential oils.

Indian Head Massage is an invigorating treatment which stimulates the circulation of blood and lymph in the head, neck and shoulders. It helps to relieve eye-strain, headaches and muscular tension, restores joint movement and muscle tone, improves concentration and can boost the immune system.

Allergy Testing helps to ensure that we are eating and drinking the right things for our personal system. Many of today's common illnesses can be traced back to simple allergies. Get your diet right and you will feel the difference.



McTimoney Chiropractic is a relatively gentle whole body manipulation method aimed at restoring the body's structural integrity and nerve functioning, by adjusting the alignment of the bones, so that the body can return to healing and maintaining itself.

Reflexology is a treatment which involves pressure massage to reflex areas found in the feet. This gentle, effective therapy produces a state of relaxation, while stimulating the body's own healing mechanism. Each organ in the body is reflected at minute pressure points on the feet. Tiny deposits and tensions felt in the feet block vital energy pathways, resulting in illness. Releasing these by pressure massage helps to eliminate toxins and improve circulation.

Only Natural

Reiki is an ancient method of healing channelling energy through the hands, which can bring great physical, emotional and spiritual relief. Reiki works on many levels and allows areas of imbalance to be brought back to their balanced state. A Reiki session will create feelings of deep relaxation and inner peace.

To telephone for an appointment, you can call 01753 889441, or of course you can just call in and have a chat, to see how you can get back to feeling well and in good form.

THE SUMMER SHOW of the **Chalfont St Peter Garden Club** is on Saturday, 16th August in the CSP Community Centre from 2 - 4.45pm. This is an open show and non-members are therefore welcome to enter.

The Show Secretary, Grace Hunter, can be contacted on 01753 884006.

The Garden Club's Annual Show is a yearly reminder of the skills of our local gardeners and gives visitors a marvellous afternoon's enjoyment.

There are 124 classes to enter including those for novices and for children, so everyone is encouraged to have a go.

Tea and cakes are available there are and lots of people around to discuss the exhibits or just pass the time of day. A great meeting place. Do put the date in your diary. **Garden Club outings:** 23rd July – Nyman's Garden (NT),

Haywards Heath – garden/lakes/arboretum. 3rd Sept – Losely House/Park, Guildford – lake/walled garden/gift shop. 1st October, Dyrham Park (NT) Nr Bath – William and Mary country house/life below stairs – exhibitions/lakes gardens. It's well worth joining this very friendly club. The Secretary is Susan Mills - Telephone 01753 885496 The Garden Club email is info@gardenclub.org

THE CSP WI meets on the second Wednesday in the month at the Church Hall, Church Lane at 2.15p

CHALFONT COMMON WI meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Tony Graham room in the CSP community centre. 7.30 for 7.45pm



A **Team of** sports enthusiasts has raised a huge sum for Birth Defect Foundation (BDF New Life), in excess of £50,000. I have been told this by Chalfont St Peter resident Norman Keen, who has lived and worked in Chalfont St Peter for over 60 years, as one of them is his grandson.

It all started in 2004 and the the 8 participants were sponsored by a generous benefactor who bought them each a bicycle and team leader, Oliver Mansfield from Holmer Green, arranged that they walked and cycled round the Isle of Wight and raised £8000.

The same 8 fund-raisers then cycled from Holmer Green to Portsmouth and back and did 240 miles in 22 hours, raising £14,000 for the charity.

Then joined by two more men, they left Cricklade each in a canoe and rowed to Marlow, arriving 4 hours ahead of schedule. The round trip has raised £23,000 so far with more still to come in.

There is also appreciation to both Budgens and the Isle of Wight farm near the A413, plus other local outlets, who contributed food to help the men keep up their stamina. Oliver Mansfield said that all the money goes to the babies and kids, as they choose where the money goes and can meet the children that they've helped. One 13 year old girl had never been shopping because she needed a wheelchair and the team were able to purchase one and then take her out shopping, which he said was tremendously rewarding.

Mr Keen's neighbours in Laurel Road and Fieldway, have been very supportive of the fund-raising and this has been a great encouragement to the group and if you would like to help also, you can contact www.justgiving.com/thames100

CHILTERN Open Air Museum in Gorelands Lane, Chalfont St Giles will be open daily until Friday 31st October.

For details of the Museum's special events during 2008, click on <http://www.coam.org.uk/Events/events.htm>

9 & 10 August [Classic Vehicles Show](#)

16 & 17 August [The Great War \(The Great War Society\)](#)

23 - 25 August (Bank Holiday) [Meet the Roman Army \(Roman Military Research Society\)](#)

30 & 31 August Meet [Sovereign the Shire Horse](#)

[For more general details about the Museum visit www.coam.org.uk or e- mail coamuseum@netscape.net](#)

THE ST PETER PLAYERS again provided super entertainment with their performance of **The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery**. With that long title it is a wonder that anyone had the energy to produce the murder mystery, but they did, very entertainingly.

The brief was for the Players to be fairly inept and comedy was well to the fore as the cast cleverly acted the part of this rather self-important, but not very efficient 'troupe' of local ladies from The Townswomen's Guild. Our regular St Peter Players turned their hand to this production and completely fooled everyone as to the perpetrator of the crimes. The interesting thing is that the story was very much along the lines of '**And Then There Were None**', an Agatha Christie play that David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr must have seen before they wrote their 'version' of the story. The Agatha Christie play was performed at Windsor not long ago and is due to be back there later this year and is worth a visit, but it certainly isn't a comedy, which is what made 'our' play so entertaining.

Another enjoyable feature of the evening was the super meal at half time. Everyone seemed to appreciate it judging by the comments around the room. The Players are great hosts and they included the audience not only in the meal, but also in guessing the culprit and answering questions that were to challenge the audience perceptiveness, though we failed them notably, as far as I know we were all off the mark.

Director of the show, John Draper's comment was "This has been a huge challenge for the players but the whole group has risen magnificently to meet the challenge", to which I have to agree.

Finally and importantly, you all know the wonderful Christmas shows that The St Peter Players provide and this year The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe will be at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, December 9, 11, 12 and 13.

The Players celebrate their 60th anniversary this year and this story is an appropriate choice, as it was written sixty years ago. This famous children's story by C.S. Lewis was the number one favourite book before Harry Potter and still remains the second favourite. The Players' production is the dramatised version by Adrian Mitchell with musical score by Shaun Davey.

A poster/flyer design competition (children 6yrs and over) will be run to use in the advertising of this production.

This challenging project gives a great opportunity for people with varying skills to join the Players. They need adult actors/actresses, people to design and help make the costumes and assistants to help the stage manager with the set. They also would welcome any interest in Lighting and Sound. They are also looking for four main children, two boys and two girls, 12 years and over, as well as other young actors/actresses.

Play readings and workshops will be held during August, with auditions in early September. Anyone interested in being involved in this production in any capacity including the art competition and ticket reservations, should contact the Director, Ruth Corner on 01494 874431 after 23rd July.

VOPAG is having a special event - "**Looking Ahead, Planning for the Future**" on 15th July. This will be held in the hall of the COMMUNITY CENTRE from 10 am to about 1 pm. We have a speaker on Inheritance Tax and 'Making a Will, and also the BCC Community Development Officer will talk on Adult Social Care. Various of the Care and Residential Homes in Chalfont St Peter and Gerrards Cross will have information stands. There will also be stands from Dial -a-Ride, and other organisations who help us stay in our own homes for as long as possible. VOPAG is a great support for activities and useful facts for everyone over the age of 55.

CHILTERN SOCIETY APPEAL FUNDS VITAL REPAIRS TO MILTON'S COTTAGE



Standing in front of a bust of poet John Milton, John Taylor, Chairman of the Chiltern Society presented Eddie Dawson, Curator of Milton's Cottage Museum with a cheque for £8,300 as the first instalment resulting from an appeal to Chiltern Society members.

The money will be used for vital repairs and cleaning the frontage of the Grade One Listed cottage to restore it to its original condition using lime mortar. This year is the 400th anniversary of the birth of the poet who moved to Chalfont St Giles to escape the great plague of London in 1665.

Eddie Dawson thanked Chiltern Society members for their generosity which he said would help secure the exterior fabric of the cottage for further generations to appreciate.

If anyone else would like to contribute to the Milton's Cottage

Appeal, please visit the Chiltern Society website www.chilternsociety.org.uk for more information about the appeal and the Chiltern Society.

ST JOSEPH'S Furniture Market is open every Saturday morning from 9.30 to 12.30. It is situated in Priory Road, the first building past St Joseph's church car park. All proceeds are donated to charity.

Autumn 2008 – Courses at Gold Hill Baptist Church These courses are suitable for those of all faiths or no faith.

MARRIAGE COURSES

Mondays – 10.00am to 12.00 noon - 15th Sept to 13th Oct

If your partner is reluctant or unable to attend a marriage course, this one is for you!

Mondays - 8.00pm to 10.00pm – For couples. 15th September to 17th November (fortnightly)

RECOVERY FROM DIVORCE OR SEPARATION Mondays - 7.30pm to 10.00pm – 6th October to 17th Nov

PARENTING COURSES Suitable for parents or carers.

Wednesdays 8.00pm to 10.00pm 0 – 6 year olds 17th Sept to 19th Nov

Wednesdays 8.00pm to 10.00pm 7- 13 year olds — 8th Oct to 4th Dec

Thursdays -10.00am to 11.30 am 0- 6 year olds – 9th Oct to 3rd Dec

For further information on any of these courses, please contact Katrina Reading on 01753 887173 or email

katrina.reading@goldhill.org. N.B Places are limited and pre-booking is essential.

SID KIPPER: "IN SEASON" at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9QX
Friday September 5th at 8 pm. In aid of Friends of Chiltern Open Air Museum Registered Charity 286534
Tickets: phone 01494 871465; £10 (£5 for under 16's)

Sid Kipper, wisecracker and sayer of sooth, will take you on a side-splitting spin around the year in his improbable native village of St Just-near-Trunch. From the New Year's hangover, through all the silly seasons with their feasts and festivals, to the bitter end of the year with the Scottish revels of Hog Monday, Sid notes each passing event with a song, a story, or a saying. Easter is marked by a pancake song, 'Three Jolly Tossers'; haymaking by 'Sing



Cuckoo Doodle-Do'; and Halloween by 'The Ghost of the Old Goat'.

We hear of curious customs like All Idiots Day, the Giving Of Bloomers, and Mucklemas; of unhappy anniversaries such as Old Soaks Day and Cyril Cockle's birthday; and seasonal labours from ploughing to harvest. There's even a morris dance for June Day. With choruses, curiosities,

and cruel and unusual instruments, this evocative evening will reconnect you with nature's rhythms, remind you of high days and holidays, and make you grateful for modern conveniences such as inside bathrooms and tractors. So join Sid for an Annus Kippernicus that you won't forget in a hurry. Rather, you'll want to savour it for some time to come.



CHALFONTS Children's Centre is open to families with babies and children up to the age of 5, we are offering a varied timetable of activities in various locations in the Chalfont's. Activities in Chalfont St Peter include a sign and rhyme. Other activities held locally: in Chalfont St Giles "Fish and Skips" musical fun every Wednesday, and pop in and play on Thursday afternoon. Chalfont's children's centre is part of a growing network of centres across the country providing a range of services tailored to meet local needs. Parents/carers have the opportunity to enjoy affordable, fun activities together with their children under 5, and to access information and support from a wider range of services, including health. Please pick up your timetable now! They are available from all libraries in the Chalfont's, and Chalfont St Peter community centre, Gravel Hill. Alternatively please contact Caroline - Children's Centre's Co-ordinator on 07867 674024 or Bethany on 07826 892196 for further details. We look forward to seeing you and your under 5 year old soon,

THE MISBOURNE ART SOCIETY programme for: Sept 6th - Portraits in Pastel - Demonstration by Roger Dellar
October 4th - Round the world with a sketch book. Illustrated talk by Robina Hattersley.
November 1st - Landscape in the style of Turner. Illustrated talk, Peter Atkins
NOVEMBER 20TH- 22ND ANNUAL EXHIBITION IN PARISH HALL, CHURCH LANE