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CHALFONT ST PETER

VILLAGE VOICE May 2010

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Layers Green Pond

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www.chalfontstpeter.com/villagevoice



15th May 2010

*Come and make some new friends,
explore the countryside around Chalfont St Giles
and enjoy an optional pub lunch.*

*Meet at Gold Hill Baptist Church,
Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9DG
at 10.00am sharp*

SATURDAY walk with New Connections. A social network for singles over 30. Contact Katrina Reading, 01753 887173 www.goldhill.org See information on the left.

OUR MP Cheryl Gillan is doing a Walkabout in Chalfont St Peter on Saturday 1st May, 10am-noon, starting at the Gold Hill Clock.

VOPAG - for the over 55's, meets next on Tuesday, **May 18** in the Parish Council Building in Gravel Hill. This group welcomes the over 55s to gather each month at the Parish Council Offices, Gravel Hill, at 10am for coffee and 10.30 for the speaker. Local issues are also discussed, so you can offer your point of view.

PLEASE be aware of a computer virus currently circulating through unsolicited emails claiming to be from DHL. These emails ask the recipient to open an attachment in connection with delivery of a parcel. Please be aware that it is not from a DHL company and the content is false. If you have received this email, do not open the attachment as it contains a virus which may harm your computer.

Whilst it is not standard policy to circulate information about spam or hoax emails via Ringmaster the information below provides some good advice about actions you can take to protect yourself.

- * Never open an email that you do not recognise, just delete it
 - * Never click on a link within an email unless it is from someone you know and trust
 - * You are advised to ensure that you have an active personal firewall and up-to-date antivirus software running on your system at all times. This will help detect and remove these types of threats.
- For further advice and assistance, contact your Internet Service Provider.

Useful information on all aspects of data security and how to protect yourself can be found at <http://www.getsafeonline.org>.

ST JOSEPH'S Parish Day was a real success last year, so for the second year running it will be held on the first Bank Holiday in May, Monday 3rd. from 1-5pm. It is planned to have a day of fun for all ages and there are lots of games as well as stalls.

A popular feature last year was the hanging baskets, which were eagerly snapped up. The best option is to order one in advance and you can get a form from their website events@stjosephs.org.uk There should be some available on the day, but you can't rely upon it. Anyway, go along and enjoy the day.

THE CSP and GX branch of The Children's Society will hold its spring Fayre on May 22nd at Chalfont St Peter Church Hall from 10am till Noon. Pony rides, family games, children's activities, gift stalls, plant stalls and cake stalls plus a soft toy tombola are amongst the attractions on offer. For further information please call Isobel Silman 01494 873562 or Wendy Reid 01753 888864.

CHALFONT St Peter Garden Club meets next on Wednesday May 19 in the Church Hall, Chalfont St Peter from 8-10pm when Ian Hawes will present – Badgers & Wildlife rescue. Visitors welcome.

BY now most people in Chalfont St Peter will be aware of the new Tapas restaurant – **El Boncena** that has opened in Market Place. We went along and had a super evening meal and there are lots of items on the menu that we still want to try. They do a lovely Spanish-style breakfast from 9am and lunchtimes can be enjoyed with friends to share the variety of tasty items lined up along the table. Telephone 01753 890955.

ALL SAINTS' Church Music Festival 2010 - The first of three events planned for this year takes place this month. **ALEXANDER ARDAKOV** - a Russian Concert Pianist, will give a recital at All Saints' Church, Oval Way, on **Friday 7th May** at 7.30pm. Tickets are now available from Anne Hatton (01753 882425) or Paddy Hague (01753 883384) at £10/ person to include Bucks Fizz & Canapes.

HOUSE of Cards is celebrating its 20th Anniversary of trading and giving free pens at its Market Place shop.

MAY 9th Solo Violin Concert - Persephone Gibbs 'a rising star of the baroque violin' *Time Out*

We wish to invite you, your friends, and family to join us at Jordans Quaker Meeting House on Sunday afternoon May 9th for a concert from the talented Persephone Gibbs, who has been described by *Time Out* as 'a rising star of the baroque violin'. It will start at 3pm with tea afterwards. She'll be playing a selection of music from Baltzar, Paganini, Bach, Vilsmayr, Telemann, and Biber for around an hour and 15 minutes. Admission is free, but any donations will be gratefully received and go towards the ongoing work of the New Jordans Programme.

THE Chairman of the Roads Committee, George Eykyn, has asked that this information, which relates to traffic in the estate, and the Holy Cross planning development, be passed on.

Traffic in the estate

Residents will recall that concerns were voiced at this year's AGM that our normal levels of traffic might be raised significantly because of the office development at the bottom of Chiltern Hill. Since then traffic levels have been electronically measured. These show that there has been no significant increase in traffic volume since measurements were last made at the time Chiltern Hill was reopened. We now have a baseline measurement against which to compare traffic levels in the future, once the offices are open and staffed.

Holy Cross development

Chiltern District Council has emphasised that objections relating to the Holy Cross development (reference CH/2010/0293/0A), sent in by email must carry the sender's name and address.

If you have emailed an objection to CDC without adding your full name and address, your objection will not be accepted. CDC should have acknowledged your email, and replied asking for your address. If you have not received an acknowledgement of your objection by Monday 12th April, this may be the reason.

There is still time to rectify this by:

1. Telephoning to ask why you have not received a reply - 01494 732046.
2. Emailing again to planning@chiltern.gov.uk making sure that your full details are included.

It is normal for the council to request names and addresses, as a safeguard against bogus objections. All objections should be received by the council this week. To date some 450 objections have been received, but it has been estimated that 55-70% of these may be rejected for the above reason.

Proposed newsletter

Could I take this opportunity to invite residents to submit articles and news items for a Chalfont Heights newsletter? The first edition is provisionally planned for the end of May. This newsletter might be of interest to residents keen to offer their views and/or invite contact from others over particular "hot" issues (eg. traffic, house-numbering, planning, aircraft, protecting vehicles and property on the estate). Offers to provide material for the newsletter gratefully accepted -- to me as the collator, please. Photographs or other visual material would also be good. Many thanks.

AT the April meeting of **St Joseph's Furniture Market** the following donations were made:

Thames Hospicecare	£500
National Kidney Research Fund	£250
M. S. Maidenhead & Slough	£250

The Furniture Market is open each Saturday 9am-12.30pm, in the market store behind the Church Hall. Park in the church car park – the entrance is in Austenwood Lane.

ON Saturday, May 8, from 10.30am to 4pm, the Bucks Vision, Chalfont Division, Blind and Partially Sighted Show will be on in the Church Hall, Church Lane. It will include arts and crafts produced by members and displays of sight aids. Admission £1 and refreshments are available. For more information visit <http://www.bucksvision.co.uk> or call Peter on 01494 875634.

SOUTH BUCKS Choral Society has been established for 28 years under the leadership of conductor Iain Ledingham. New members having a reasonable knowledge of music and sight reading are most welcome. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays at 7.45pm in St Joseph's School, Priory Road in Austenwood. Further details please contact the secretary on 01753 883684 or the chairman on 01753 884682.

THE Thursday Coffee Club is on from 10.30-11.30 in the Community Centre and is a great way for senior citizens to meet and greet, make new friends. Do go along and enjoy the company.

CHALFONT COMMON WI meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Tony Graham room at the Chalfont Community Centre at 7.30 for 7.45 Visitors most welcome.

A BARN Dance will be held on Saturday 15 May from 7-10 in the Chalfont Community College. Live Band "Larkrise Ranters" Tickets £5, to include light refreshments, from office@goldhill.org or 01753 8871773.

FRIENDS of Chiltern Open Air Museum have the following activities planned.

Wednesday, 26 May 2010 – 7 pm Guided Walk round Old Chesham – approx 2 hours.

Sunday, 4 July 2010 Outing to Fawley Hill Railway near Henley on Thames. 40 places available @ £10 ea.

More info: ring 01494 793017 - email: richard.ogden@btinternet.com

CHALFONT St Giles & Jordans Literary Festival runs from 5th – 16th May and offers an amazing selection of Talks, discussions and interesting people. Linked in with this is Chalfont St Giles Gardens Open Day on Sunday 9th May. 12 gardens and Flexmore Farm, all in Chalfont St Giles Village, will open to raise funds for the Memorial Hall and the Community Library. This is the 16th year that this event has been held and once again it is an opportunity to see some of this attractive Chiltern village's most interesting and beautiful gardens. All these gardens are within walking distance from the village green and have been selected for their variety and horticultural interest. Plants will be on sale at many of the gardens and admission is by ticket only. Flexmore Farm has pigs and a herd of buffalo. Stalls at the farm will offer a variety of items, including plants and wooden garden ornaments. Cost is £4.50 for a good day out and the gardens will be open from 11am-5pm. Tickets will be on sale at the CSG community library before the day and a map is provided. Entry is free to accompanied children under 16.

The Speakers for the Literary Festival will deal with subjects such as The Pirates of Barbary, The Making of the British Army, The Craft of Bookbinding, Medicine and Surgery in the Crimea, Operation Mincemeat, What's the point of Art History, Mary Seacole, Drury Lane to Dimapur – Wartime Adventures of an Actress, Choose Your Weapons – a History of the Foreign Secretary, The Rose of Sebastopol, An Evening with Louis de Bernieres, Small Wars, Charles Dickens, Florence Nightingale and the Crimean War.

The speakers at this Festival are very well known/famous and you need to go to the Library to collect a programme to see just how special this week is going to be. www.chalfontstgiles.literaryfestival.org.uk
The Saturday Forum on May 8 in the Memorial Hall, School Lane from 2.30-4.30pm is on War Reporting, with a panel of great talent and some extra presentations as well. The Children are not forgotten - the Infant Schools will have Katharine Cawkwell Storytelling to the children during school hours.

THE Gerrards Cross Flower Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month, except in August, in the Colston Hall, The Memorial Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross at 2.15pm. On May 19, Janet James (national) will present "This Colourful World". Guests are always welcome and of course new members. For more details telephone Pam Houchen: 01753 884190 or Chris Edgerton: 01753 884940.

ST PETER Players next production is 'The Cemetery Club' at the Community Centre, June 17th, 18th & 19th. This is a very funny play about three Jewish widows living in New York, who meet for tea once a month and go together to the cemetery to talk to their husbands! A visiting butcher and a calculating friend turn their comfortable lives upside-down. We see them laugh and cry.

BUCKS CC has issued a speed limit review order showing changes to speed limits on various roads, including some in Chalfont St Peter. This comes into operation on 17th May and the roads that affect us are: **A413 Gravel Hill**, from a point 71 metres north of its junction with Deanacre to a point 63 metres south of its junction with Joiners Lane. **Lower Road** from its junction with Kingsway to a point 12 metres south of its junction with Claydon Lane (to include the cul-de-sac containing house numbers 91 to 105).

Rickmansworth Lane, from a point 46 metres north east of its junction with Cross Lanes to a point 190 metres northeast of its junction with Nortoft Road. **Lower Road**, its entire length southwards from a point 12 metres south of its junction with Claydon Lane. **Narcot Lane** from a point 6 metres north west of the bridleway/access road to Bramleys Farm, Chalfont St Giles to a point 62 metres north of its junction with Pinetree Close, Chalfont St Peter. **MC36 Potkiln Lane** CSP from its junction with Longbottom Lane to its junction with the public footpath through Birchland Wood (a point about 70 metres southwest of the southern side of the railway). **Russett Hill** CSP for its entire length. **A413 Amersham Road/Gravel Hill** from 52 metres south of its junction with Turners Wood Drive, Chalfont St Giles to 71 metres north of its junction with Deanacre, Chalfont St Peter.

PLEASE support the Coffee Morning at GX Methodist Church, Oak End Way (opp. The Ethorpe) in aid of the Leprosy Mission. Date is Saturday May 15 from 10am-noon.

How can we help someone affected by Leprosy: £5 will buy two pairs of protective sandals, £8 will buy six chickens (to start a small business), £20 will pay for medication, £30 will pay for a hospital bed for one week, £35 will pay for an eye operation, £50 will buy a cow (to start a small business), £60 for surgery to correct a clawed hand or dropped foot, £70 will pay for a day's survey to detect new cases, 75, will pay for a sewing machine, £80 will pay for an artificial leg, £100 will train a doctor, £125 will pay for a full course of treatment and after care. £200 will pay for 12 month vocational training course and £350 will buy a low cost house. **Good reasons to go along and encourage friends and neighbours to support this charity.**

BINGO is in the Community Centre on Friday evenings 8 – 9.30 pm in the Mary Smithells room in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. All welcome.

CHALFONT St Peter Parish Church has a Prayer Group that meets every Tuesday from 10-11am in the Lady Chapel of the Parish Church. An informal, friendly group that sings prays and talks together. All are welcome to join in. Contact Ann Whaley on 01753 883684.

CHALFONT Fine Arts meets on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month (apart from July, August & December) for a lecture on Fine Arts in the Main hall of the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. In addition outings are arranged to exhibitions and historic buildings during the year. Two study days are also held at the Centre when a particular subject is explored in more depth. Contact is Pam Dodd - Telephone : 01494 725831 Email : pam@pjdodd.net Web Site : www.chalfontfinearts.co.uk

RECYCLE your cycles. Cycle Aylesbury promotes cycling by encouraging people to swap their bikes. Re-cycling your old bikes with Cycle Aylesbury this summer will not only help the environment but give people the opportunity to swap their old bike for another!

This 'wheelie' good idea follows on from the successful 2009 Bike Swap days. A number of Swap days are planned for Aylesbury, so why not take advantage and sort out all those dusty bikes from the back of your shed, the bikes that are now outgrown or the broken bike that you always meant to repair.

Cycle Aylesbury, working in conjunction with Sustrans, the UK's leading sustainable Transport Charity, will also be offering FREE cycle checks, on a first-come, first-served basis, with a qualified cycle mechanic.

To donate your bike please contact us on cycling@buckscc.gov.uk Bike recycling days are a just a few of many events planned for this summer. For more details please visit the Cycle Aylesbury website at www.cycleaylesbury.co.uk

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT FIRST DRAFT AVAILABLE NOW The Chalfont St. Peter Village Design Statement is the local planning document for our Parish created by the residents. When it is adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) by the Local Planning Authority it will be a material consideration in planning decisions (backed by the courts), and by planning inspectors).

Chalfont St Peter is facing huge pressures with regards to development and a Village Design Statement that has been agreed by the entire community is a very powerful document that creates a truly democratic framework for the future of the village.

It is vital that Chalfont St Peter has a democratically agreed definition of its character and a Village Design Statement is the body of evidence defining that character. In the future this will help guide designers, architects and planners to work in harmony with the wishes of the residents of the village covering things such as the size and design of the buildings, the layout of the open spaces and the gardens, the trees, hedges and verges, the river, flora and fauna, the signs, kerbs and shop fronts and all the elements that go to make up the environment that we live in. The Chalfont St Peter Village Design Statement also takes into account sustainability issues with regards to the environment, such as the environmental impact of new and existing development and new energy technologies so that Chalfont St Peter can do its part for the global environment.

The first draft of the Village Design Statement has evolved from two major public meetings, a questionnaire sent to every house in Chalfont St. Peter and the hard work of a dedicated group of individuals who collated the information gathered from the public meetings and the survey, also adding their own dedicated research.

We now invite your comments on this first draft so that it may be finalised for publication.

Please click here for more information:

http://www.chalfontstpeter-pc.gov.uk/village_design_statement_and_parish_plan.html

HAVE you ever thought about Fostering?

There is a recognised shortage of 10,000 Foster Carers in the UK. PACT, founded in 1911, is also known as the Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work inc. We are a registered charity working to improve life chances for children. The focus of our work is within Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and aims to build and strengthen families.

We are an approved Adoption and Fostering Agency. We have a history of finding safe, loving families for children in care. Here are a few facts about Fostering:

1. Did you know you don't have to be married to become a Foster Carer?
2. You don't have to have children already although you do need to have experience of caring for children.
3. Did you know you get paid a Fostering Allowance of £335.70 a week to be a Foster Carer which is tax free and won't affect any other benefits?
4. Most of the children who need fostering are known as 'hard to place' children, they will usually be 8+ years of age.

Fostering is a hard but very rewarding job. If you think you might have what it takes to become a Permanent Foster Carer or you want to find out more then contact PACT now on **0800 731 1845** e-mail

fostering@pactcharity.org

CHALFONT ST PETER W.I. report: April 9th, the first warm sunny day this year, saw 25 lucky ladies going to Highgrove for our Long awaited "Garden Tour". We had time for a coffee stop in Tetbury before the 11.5 a.m time given to us. We had an introductory film of H.R.H Prince Charles welcoming us to his garden. Our splendid guide then walked us round answering all questions and keeping us in order! We were so fortunate with the weather, our guide and our visits to Tetbury. April 13th was the date of the Bucks.Fed.Spring council meeting in Aylesbury. 8 of us went to the Civic centre for that. the last visit there. Our Bucks..90th celebrations,this year were outlined.a huge picnic in Stowe is planned for August.

The speakers included Ruth Bond.NFWI Chair,Professor Averil Mansfield and Edwina Currie. an excellent meeting. On April 14th we held our meeting in the Church Hall. Mrs Eastgate showed us her "Eggs in the Faberge Style " all little masterpieces in their own right. We are planning to take part in the BIG FRIENDLY COFFEE MORNINGS WEEK.7-11 June. Watch this space. Next meeting May 12th.Church Hall at 2.15pm.all welcome.

VICTIMS of domestic violence are receiving extra help and support through the court system, following the setting up of a Specialist Domestic Violence Court operating from High Wycombe Magistrates Court. The new court status represents a year's work involving a number of agencies, including the Community Safety Partnership, Thames Valley Police, Women's Aid and the Crown Prosecution Service. Within South Buckinghamshire, there is one court in High Wycombe which is held on a Thursday. There are facilities at Court to enable application to be made for vulnerable victims and witnesses to give their evidence via video link or from behind a screen.

Additionally, specially-trained magistrates, legal advisors and prosecutors will oversee the court process and private facilities can be provided for victims, families and witnesses. Support agencies will also be on hand to engage with victims before, during and after the court process to ensure that the necessary individual support is offered.

Specialist Domestic Violence Court's (SDVC's) provide a specialist way of dealing with domestic violence cases in Magistrate Courts. All agencies work together to identify, track and risk assess domestic violence cases, support victims of domestic violence and share information better so that more offenders are brought to justice. Additionally, SDVC's are a fundamental part of the Government's efforts to improve the support and care we provide victims of domestic violence/abuse, and to raise public awareness of these offences which have a devastating effect on our community.

"Anything that is designed to deal sensitively and efficiently with domestic violence is to be encouraged."

ACHIEVING £27million worth of savings from the Council's Transformation programme remains the goal of Buckinghamshire County Council and has already led to the delivery of £3.4million in the last year. We now have a new proposal to investigate further the possibility of outsourcing some services and transforming others internally.

Despite the ending of the Pathfinder Shared Services Project the County Council remains committed to making significant savings from its back office services. Protecting and delivering high quality frontline services means we must continue to tighten our belts elsewhere.

That is why on Monday, 19 April, Cabinet Members agreed to look at the opportunities and benefits of outsourcing some or all of its property and facilities management and IT services. The Council also will soft market-test the Finance and HR functions to inform the business case for the best way forward. A report will come back to Cabinet with proposals in July 2010. For further information please contact: Viv Saunders, Communications Officer Tel: 01296 382673 Fax: 01296 382005 Email: vsanders@bucksc.gov.uk

THE Thame Gazette last week warned that a scam attempt was being tried in Aylesbury by an outfit which rings up and claims to be the National Crime Survey. This organisation simply doesn't exist. What they say is along the lines that as part of a national survey they are setting up security equipment in 4 houses in your area and of course you are one of the lucky ones. Presumably their intention is to get an appointment to come and look over your house during which they case the joint for later or help themselves to anything interesting lying around. Usually one would keep the householder chatting while the other "had a good look around so that we can advise you properly" or some similar nonsense. They could also of course also be trying to find out who is around during the day and who is not.

We had a call around midday today and so did a neighbour so they seem to have the phone numbers in the address sequence they need to tackle the task fairly methodically. The message is therefore to a) tell them straight away to get lost and put the phone down and b) all should be vigilant in case strangers who could be in casuals, uniforms or smart kit, appear to be doing the rounds. Could you pass this on to other local residents, particularly anyone who might be prone to believing them or letting them in?

Any calls or sightings should, according to the Thame Gazette be reported to Community Safety at AVDC, phone 01296 585615 and/ or Thames Valley Police on 08458 505 505.

YOUNG people in Buckinghamshire will be able to study for a new range of specialised diplomas from September 2011, thanks to the success of the Buckinghamshire 14-19 Partnership in its bid for new qualifications.

New courses being introduced will include Construction and the Built Environment, Public Services, Travel and Tourism, Engineering, Manufacturing and Product Design. These are in addition to currently offered diplomas in Creative and Media, Hair and Beauty, Hospitality, Society Health and Development, Information Technology and Business Administration and Finance.

The Buckinghamshire 14-19 Partnership has been successful in all its applications this year in comparison to a success rate nationally of 70%.

Diplomas are new qualifications designed for students in key stage 4. Students who choose to study for a diploma can do so instead of GCSEs or A levels. The diploma is delivered by a combination of academic study and practical, hands-on experience which means students gain both theoretical knowledge and essential business and life skills.

One young person currently studying the Higher diploma in Creative and Media is very enthusiastic about it: "I heard about the diploma at school. I thought it sounded really different and interesting. I was really glad that I was able to choose it instead of doing normal GCSEs. I always think that studying GCSEs will involve lots of sitting behind a desk and writing. The Diploma involves hands-on work and learning about things in the classroom which I am more interested in. I really want to go to drama school so the Higher diploma in Creative and Media sounded really good. I also get to move around a lot - I still go to my school, but I will also be having diploma lessons at another school."

For further information please contact: Viv Saunders, Communications Officer: Tel: 01296 382673 Fax: 01296 382005 Email: vsanders@bucksc.gov.uk