

# **The Mouthpiece**

***Culham's Newsletter No 279***

***Village Diary for October 2006***

***1st Harvest Festival Family Service at St. Paul's, 10 am***

***2nd Parish Council Meeting, The School, 7.30pm***

***6th Mobile Library, The Glebe, 1.50 pm-2.10 pm***

***15th Deadline for November's Mouthpiece***

***15th Evening Prayer at St. Paul's, 6pm***

***20th Mobile Library, The Glebe, 1.50 pm-2.10 pm***

***28th Village Lottery, The Lion***

***31st Bag2school collection, Culham School, 9.00am***

## SERVICES OF WORSHIP

October 2006

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SERVICE
<b>Sunday 1st</b>	8.00 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	8.00 am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service - Harvest
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Family Service - Harvest</b>
	10.15 am	Dorchester	Morning Prayer
Sunday 8th	8 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	8 am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion+ Baptism
	10.15 am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist
<b>Sunday 15th</b>	8 am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion, ashes after
	10.15 am	Dorchester	Family Service + Baptism
	<b>6 pm</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
Sunday 22th	8 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	8 am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Communion
	10.15 am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist, baptisms after
Thursday 26th	2 pm	Long Wittenham	Pram Service
Sunday 29th	8 am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Warborough	Team Communion

## VILLAGE NEWS

**Culham Village Lottery**

Lynn Hancock

Congratulations to Jan Postlethwaite, winner of the August draw.

**New Beat Officer**

At the September Parish Council meeting, the new area beat officer, Jess Rowling, reiterated the importance of informing the police about 'minor' incidents in order to help maintain an accurate record for the village. Non emergency calls to Thames Valley Police should be made on 08458 505 505.

**CCRC - the future**

As reported in Parish Council notes, the CCRC is likely to be disbanded in the near future. It is currently run by three people and included the organization of the village lottery and the maintenance of the playing field. If you would like to volunteer to assist in the continued running of the club, please contact any Parish Councillor or the Clerk of the Parish Council.

### **New Vicar's Ordination**

At the end of the vicar's letter there is a general invitation to the Ordination of Revd Anne Ilesley on Wednesday 18 October. It is open to all, but please note that individual invitations will be sent to the Parish Church Council, Committee of the Friends of St Paul's and representatives of the school and pre-school, etc

### **Bag2school**

**Sarah Wilkinson**

Thank you to those who collected unwanted clothing, bedding, linen, curtains, shoes, belts and soft toys for the last collection which raised over £80 for Culham school funds.

There will be another Bag2school collection on Tuesday 31 October. If you wish to participate, please ensure all bags are in the school playground by 9.00am on the collection date. You may use blue Bag2school bags (obtainable from Sarah) or normal black bin liners. For further information please contact Sarah on 01235 550584.

### **The Mouthpiece**

One of our editors, Sarah Wilkinson, will shortly be leaving Culham and this is the last issue that she is producing. Sarah has been helping us since late in 2004, and we have been very grateful for her expertise. We wish her and her family all good wishes for the future.

### **Village Web Site**

**[www.culhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.culhamvillage.org.uk)**

*This is mentioned in "Who's Who" on the back page of the Mouthpiece. It contains copies of the Mouthpiece from the December 2005 issue. To read them on a PC, you need "Acrobat Reader".*

### **FROM OUR VICAR**

**Revd. Sue Booy**

This week I did my first Supermarket Shop on the Internet! I went to Sainsbury's without traveling outside the study! It was really useful because I was busy – but I didn't get to meet many people (except for the van driver who delivered the goods!).

Thinking about this reminded me of childhood visits to my grandmother in Hull. She shopped every day and when we stayed we went too. Walking the 10 minute journey with her we met her friends who seemed to know all about us and we were introduced proudly as we shifted from foot to foot! We visited the Butchers, the Bakers, (not the Candlestick makers!) the Greengrocers and quite often the sweet shop. Here, if we were lucky, sherbet lemons, Fox's Glacier mints (grandpa's favourite) and Callard and Bowser's Butterscotch were all available in paper bags out of jars. Gobstoppers were also available – as was bubble gum but we weren't allowed those!!

The daily task of shopping like this built community in a way that entering lists on computers simply can't match. There are good reasons to lament this but above all it should perhaps prompt us to wonder where we do build community today – and how we can contribute to this?

Our supermarket shopping does open up contact with the World community and an opportunity to build that community by the care we take when shopping. The decisions I make about what to buy

and what to leave on the shelf (virtual or otherwise!!) affect the world community today much more dramatically than in my grandparents time. There are some questions that we might think need to be answered. How far has this food traveled to be on the shelf and what effect has that had on our world environment? What were the producers of the food paid? How many people go hungry because my luxury food is grown on land that could produce subsistence crops? Would it make a difference if I bought a product with the fair-trade mark? (If you want to find out more try looking up [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk))

At our harvest time these are just some of the questions that are worth asking for the sake of our neighbours in the world community. The very computer that could, if I allowed it, damage my knowledge of my home community can tell me a lot about the world community and the food it produces. Here's a challenge – Renson grows bananas – what country does he come from and how old is he? Another thing you can find out about on the internet is Farm Africa ([www.farmafrica.org.uk](http://www.farmafrica.org.uk)) – their work is based on building up community, looking for realistic markets and realising their vision of a prosperous rural Africa.

### Harvest Festivals

Harvest will be celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> October in Long Wittenham and Culham, both at 10 am. Everyone is welcome to join in to give thanks for our harvest. (*Note that at Culham, the pupils of the Parochial School will be taking part in the service.*)

### Licensing of Revd Anne Ilsley

You are invited to the licensing of the Reverend Anne Ilsley to the Bridge Group of Parishes in the Dorchester Team by the Right Reverend Colin Fletcher, Bishop of Dorchester & the Installation by the Venerable Julian Hubbard Archdeacon of Oxford on **Wednesday 18 October 2006 at 8.00 pm** at Dorchester Abbey. Refreshments in the Abbey will follow the Service. If you would like to come to this service, please telephone, email or write to the address below no later than **Wednesday 4 October**: James Colman, Rustlings, Watery Lane, Clifton Hampden, Oxon OX14 3EJ. t:01865 407639 e: [patlay@waitrose.com](mailto:patlay@waitrose.com)

### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Notes from the October meeting

The new Area Beat Officer, Jess Rowling, was on hand with a colleague to introduce herself to the community. Since April, Culham has come under the 'Wallingford' police area. Recent statistics on Culham include 14 reported incidents in the period April - June 2006. Whilst the incidents did not include any burglaries to property, there was one to a 'non-dwelling'. Jess was asked to update the Clerk regularly with the quarterly statistics for the village. A Neighbourhood Policing Initiative is soon to be launched to attract community involvement. The Parish Chairman will attend the meeting.

Toby Price has resigned as Treasurer of the CCRC and has informed the Charity Commission. This may inevitably lead to the disbanding of the CCRC (currently run with three officials) and will have an impact on the village lottery. Options for the future of CCRC will be discussed at the next PC meeting. Please also see item elsewhere in The Mouthpiece.

The November meeting will discuss the grass cutting contract let by PC for various areas in the village.

On 5th October there will be a Town/Parish council forum at SODC headquarters on Crowmarsh. This will be attended by two Parish Councillors.

Parish Council would like to record their thanks to John Storrs, Paul Hancock and Bernard Wallis for their work in clearing the footpath between The Lion and the cut.

The cutting back of hedges along the Burycroft is being pursued.

The phone box on The Glebe has been reinstated by BT and is usable but does not take coins. Emergency calls, the operator and certain free numbers can be dialled. It also takes certain credit/debit cards.

Some success has been achieved at the lock car park with the recent introduction of a new manhole in the SW corner which should make it easier to clear obstructions which previously caused flooding in this area.

Some repairs have been made to the Causeway footpath into Abingdon.

### **News from John Stimson**

The LDFG, Local Development Framework Group, which is the replacement for the Local Plan, has approved space for 10200 houses in South Oxfordshire by 2026. Details can be found on the SODC website at [www.southoxon.gov/planning-policy](http://www.southoxon.gov/planning-policy).

Culham No. 1 and No. 4 sites are awaiting the imminent issue of planning enforcement notices, three of which cover the whole site and will lead to a reduction in the amount of under cover and outside cover allowed.

Next meeting: 7:30pm Monday October 2nd 2006.

### **CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHOOL NEWS**

**Cathy Gray**

During September the school took part in the Big Oxfordshire Travel Survey 2006. This survey aims to collect information about the way children travel to school and to see whether measures taken to promote more environmentally friendly methods of travel to and from school are having any effect. You will have noticed that a number of our children are now cycling to school and parking their bicycles in the new school cycle shed. Each child wishing to cycle has been issued with a fluorescent yellow vest to enable them to be seen clearly.

On 28<sup>th</sup> September the school held a Modern Foreign Language evening for parents. They had the opportunity to see the type of language work being done in school and to use some of the resources whilst sampling a glass of French wine.

We are again collecting Tesco Sports Vouchers and would be grateful for any donations.

### **CULHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS**

**Lea Allmond**

This term we have welcomed 5 new children: Evane, Joshua, Lottie, Abigail and Joseph. We hope they will have a happy time with us.

We shall be working in partnership with the school's Foundation stage children following the theme of families and neighbours.

### **OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL and SOUTH WEST OXFORDSHIRE NHS**

Oxfordshire Children's Information Service has free information and advice about childcare, sports and leisure and a range of family service. Contact them on 06452 262636 or [www.oxoncis.org.uk](http://www.oxoncis.org.uk)

Do you look after someone with a learning disability at home? Find out about the support there is for adults with a learning disability and their carers. Contact your local Learning Disability Team for Adults on 01235 469615.

South West Oxfordshire NHS Primary Care Trust has set up a Patient Advice and Liaison Service. To find out more call Freephone 0800 052 3225.

## NEWS FROM NEWINGTON NURSERIES

## Green Fences and Green Walls

Turn necessity into beauty in the garden this month. Every property needs boundaries to mark its limits. Hedges - 'green fences and walls' - are a wonderful way of putting one in place and at the same time bringing a host of other benefits to the garden.

Just look at what they offer over the alternatives. Hedges provide a wonderful, living shield between you and the world beyond. Depending on species, you can have year-round foliage or seasonal interest. Wildlife can find refuge in hedges and they filter wind without creating turbulence. A thorny hedge is an effective discouragement to unwanted visitors and all hedges are a barrier against the dust, dirt and litter that can otherwise come into the garden.

For beautiful and practical garden boundaries, look at this selection of fabulous hedging plants: evergreens such as conifers, yews or box are perfect for smart, year-round green boundaries. For some seasonal plant magic, go for deciduous plants, for example hornbeam or beech. Thorny plants like Berberis or Cotoneaster will improve your security (some insurance companies now recommend them). For flower-rich hedges go for Rosa rugosa or Fuchsia; their attractive, colourful blooms will be a source of pleasure every year.

Planting a hedge is straightforward if you follow some simple steps.

- Dig a 90cm strip (150cm for boundary hedges).
- Fork in plenty of compost or well-rotted manure (a barrow load per metre is ideal and should help to avoid subsequent droughting problems).
- Use either bare root or container grown plants.
- Plant along a string line approx 45cm apart for deciduous and 90cm for conifers.
- If your garden is in an exposed position, protect young conifers with a plastic mesh windbreak.
- Water all plants well, apply general fertiliser in early spring and water regularly over the next growing season.

If space is short, a formal hedge, neatly clipped, can have a small footprint. Hawthorn, for example, can be clipped back to about 45cm wide. In any case, hedges can be used as a support for climbing plants and make a superb backdrop to a border.

Hedges don't need to be made up of a single species. Ideal if your garden fronts onto fields or a lane, a mixed hedge, perhaps including hazel, ash and blackthorn, will provide a suitable bridge between the garden and the ground beyond. If you've got the space to let it grow a little wild, blackberries and clematis climbing through a tangle of branches will create a wonderful sense of deep countryside wherever you are as well as providing more options for wildlife.

At the opposite extreme, box or yew hedges can make a very formal statement either neatly clipped or with the inclusion over time of a variety of interesting shapes.

For further inspiration and advice, visit us at Newington Nurseries on the A329 near Stadhampton.  
Tel: 01865 400533 ~ [www.newington-nurseries.co.uk](http://www.newington-nurseries.co.uk)

## OUT AND ABOUT IN OCTOBER

### **Tues 3rd & Wed 11th October 7-9.15pm Creative Writing Workshop**

Come and try your hand at writing creatively on some novel themes .3rd October - Open to all (Adults), 11th October - Open to practising writers. Contact Ann Lechelle on 01865 728953.

### **Thursday 5 October 7.30-9.30pm A Log Fire Evening at the Abbey at Sutton Courtenay**

Jesus and Muhammad'. More details from the Abbey at Sutton Courtenay 01235 847401. E-mail: admin@theabbeysc.demon.co.uk. Website: www.theabbey.uk.com

### **Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 October Autumn Festival Weekend University of Oxford Botanic Garden**

Autumn, a time to remember fine blooms, look forward to colourful scatterings of golden leaves and to help wildlife to find safe homes for the winter.

For more information please contact Emma Williams, Education Officer, emma.williams@obg.ox.ac.uk, 01865 286690, www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

#### **Friday 13 October at 7pm**

#### **Rutherford Laboratory Lecture**

**"Life in Antarctic extremes"** by **Lloyd Peck** (British Antarctic Survey)

*How do humans deal with the coldest, driest, windiest and most isolated continent on Earth? How do animals adapt so they can survive these conditions both on land and in the sea? Why do some species of sea spiders grow to over 30 cm across? Come along and find out the answers to these and other cool questions. Recommended children's age 8+.*

Admission is free but booking is essential as places are limited. To reserve places please either email talkingscience@rl.ac.uk or ring 01235 445959 (24hr answerphone) and leave a message.

#### **Friday 13th October 5pm The Goldilocks Enigma**

#### **Science Oxford**

One of the striking features of the universe is that everything is 'just right'. Slight changes in the laws of physics or the cosmological arrangement would prove lethal. Scientists are split on the explanation for this 'cosmic fine-tuning.' Paul Davies chairs a debate between proponents of each theory and gets to the heart of our understanding of the universe. Tickets from The Oxford Playhouse on 01865 305305: £6 Adults £4 Child (18 and under).

#### **Saturday 14 October 11.00am-4.00pm**

#### **Home-Start's Family Fun Day**

Come along to Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire's 5th Annual Family Fun Day at Sutton Courtenay Parish Hall. It is an ideal time to buy Christmas gifts (sorry to mention it so early!) or simply to come and browse at all the stalls, which this year range from children's rugs and playmats to Christmas decorations and cards, from unique gifts and flowers to handmade jewellery and from bath and beauty products to children's books. Entrance is £1.00 per adult and children are free. There will also be plenty of fun activities for the children to do.

#### **Saturday 14 October 2-4.30pm Drawing Energy: Family Workshop Science Oxford**

Come and explore how the sun brings energy to earth and the many other forms of energy in our lives and out in space. There will be opportunities for detailed drawing using microscopes.

A drop in workshop as part of the National 'Big Draw' Day. Free with admission to Hands On

#### **Thursday 19 October 7.30pm**

#### **Science Oxford**

Guy Boursot, a leading wine expert, will lead an informal, entertaining and informative evening on red and white Burgundy wines with a science bouquet. For tickets and information contact Anne Lechelle on 01865 728953.

#### **Thursday 26 October 2pm The Wicked World of the Bumblebee**

#### **Science Oxford**

It's not all honey and flowers you know! Peep into a bumblebee's nest and you'll find trickery, fighting and mayhem. This lively talk, with chocolate pollen, will get children acting out life (and death) in a bee's nest. And what is a bumblebee anyway? Come and learn all about these fascinating creatures. Presented by Ivan Wright of Shotover Wildlife and organised by Oxford Urban Wildlife Group. Free but donations welcome.

#### **Friday 27 October 5pm The Mathematics of Luck, Risk & Gambling Science Oxford**

Are you lucky or just obeying the laws of chance? Simon Singh looks at the mathematics behind

situations involving luck, risk and coincidence. Tickets from The Oxford Playhouse on 01865 305305: £6 Adults £4 Child (18 and under).

**Saturday 28 October 10.00– 11.00 am Spaces for the Sacred**

**Dorchester Abbey**

From Art to Theology: a talk on *The Messenger* by Professor David Jasper and Richard Wentworth. Admission £3 on the door.

**Sunday 29 October 1.30-3.30 pm Making Waves: a Big Draw Event**

**Dorchester Abbey**

This talk will link *The Messenger* with the newly-uncovered medieval wall painting of Saint Christopher. Led by Rebecca Hind and Holly Slingsby. Admission free, but booking essential 01865 340633.

**Tuesday 31 October at 8.00pm Deanery Eucharist**

**Christ Church Cathedral**

Everyone is welcome to come. It gives an opportunity to meet people from neighbouring parishes over refreshments afterwards.

**ENDPIECE**

*Please note that any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editors.*

**Contributions to the November Mouthpiece by October 15th please to;**

Brian Bracher, 25 High Street, 01235 525885 or email [brianh@bbracher.freeseve.co.uk](mailto:brianh@bbracher.freeseve.co.uk)

Rosemary (Jo) McNish, 2, The Willows, 07933134026 or email [therisenpheonix@tesco.net](mailto:therisenpheonix@tesco.net)

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