

The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter No 287

Village Diary for July 2007

8th Family Communion – St. Paul's 10am

9th Parish Council Meeting, The School, 7.30pm

13th Mobile Library, The Glebe 2.15 pm – 2.25 pm

15th Evening Prayer – St. Paul's 6 pm

27th Mobile Library, The Glebe, 2.15 pm – 2.25 pm

Village Diary for August 2007

10th Mobile Library, The Glebe 2.15 pm – 2.25 pm

12th Family Communion – St. Paul's 10am

15th Deadline for September Mouthpiece

19th Evening Prayer – St. Paul's 6 pm

24th Mobile Library, The Glebe 2.15 pm – 2.25 pm

SERVICES OF WORSHIP JULY/AUGUST

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SERVICE
SERVICES FOR CULHAM			
<i>July:</i>			
Sunday 8 th	10am	Culham	Family Communion
Sunday 15 th	6pm	Culham	Evening Prayer
<i>August:</i>			
Sunday 12 th	10am	Culham	Family Communion
Sunday 19 th	6pm	Culham	Evening Prayer
<i>Join us for coffee and a chat after morning services at Culham Church! All welcome.</i>			
<i>Come along for informal prayers with Revd Anne Ilsley at Culham Church on Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00am.</i>			
SERVICES AT CLIFTON HAMPDEN, THE WITTENHAMS & DORCHESTER			
<i>July:</i>			
Sunday 1 st	8am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
	10.15am	Dorchester	Morning Prayer
	6.30pm	Dorchester	Pilgrimage
Sunday 8 th	8.30am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10.15am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist
Sunday 15 th	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10.15am	Dorchester	Family Service
	6pm	Dorchester	Evensong
Sunday 22 nd	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Dorchester	Team
Thursday 26 th	2pm	Long Wittenham	Pram Service
Sunday 29 th	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
	10.15am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SERVICE
August:			
Sunday 5 th	8am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
	10.15am	Dorchester	Morning Prayer
Sunday 12 th	8.30am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10.15am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist
Sunday 19 th	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10.15am	Dorchester	Family Service
Thursday 23 rd	2pm	Long Wittenham	Pram Service
Sunday 26 th	8am	Dorchester	Holy Communion
	10am	Little Wittenham	Family Communion
	10.15am	Dorchester	Sung Eucharist

**From Our Vicar
Ilsley**

Anne

For all of us there are times in our lives when really important stuff is happening. They include sadness's and joys. Part of the great privileges of my job is to be involved with many of your landmark occasions and one of the first things that I did when I heard of my mother's death was to send an e-mail round, giving the news and saying please be kind to me when you next see me - but not too kind! The response to this request has been fantastic and I want to thank everyone for their cards and offers of condolences.

One initial reaction was to say; 'let me simply be the bereaved relative in this situation'. I didn't want to preach at my mother's funeral, but when my younger sister Jill picked part of the 8th chapter of Romans, I knew that I should try. The 8th Chapter of Romans by St Paul is my favourite in the bible, largely because in reading this chapter, I suddenly understood that faith is about receiving God's grace rather than earning his favour. I was 38 at the time and had spent many years turning my back on God. As a teenager I had made a very sincere confirmation aged 13, but then felt that I just couldn't be good enough to be a Christian, so why make the effort?

Reading Roman's those years later, I was released from that burden to do it all myself, and enabled to receive God's love and forgiveness as a gift. It doesn't let me off the hook from working at my faith, keeping that relationship going, but this sense of release and freedom has marked my journey ever since and I wanted in some small way to be able to communicate this to those gathered at my mother's funeral.

One of the things that I had to miss because of my mother's death, was Culham's plant sale. I had been looking forward to joining in with what is an important day for the village, so please accept my apologies. I believe that what goes on at a local level is important and it takes commitment to maintain a sense of community. I believe that the school can be an important focus for community as can the local church. I want to provide ministry at a local level and our membership of a group of churches; The Bridge Group and of a team; The Dorchester Team, is designed to provide this with the support of these larger groupings.

One particular example of this will occur on July 8th, when we have invited members of churches in the Dorchester team to come to a 'Prayer & Share' day to think together about how the church offers pastoral care to those going through difficult times. I'm aware that there are many people within our villages giving such care, often quietly behind the scenes. Perhaps we could learn from them. Perhaps they would appreciate support in what they do. One thing I'm sure of, that even with David's assistance, there would always be more that we could do than the clergy could do on their own.

I don't want, however to abrogate any responsibility. I want to share it, as I believe was the pattern in the early church. If you do feel that you, or someone known to you, would benefit from speaking with either David Haylett or myself, please feel free to ask for us to make contact. Our contact details are on the back page. Finally let me wish you all a good summer, including any time away that you may be looking forward to.

Yours Anne

VILLAGE NEWS

Culham Plant Sale

Ingrid Reichardt

The PCC would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the Plant Sale which raised £765.15 in aid of church funds plus £60 for the tombola organised by the Friends of the Church. The grand total was therefore £825.15, compared with the £707.78 raised last year, which was itself a record.

	£
Plants	360.25
Teas	73.75
Cakes	75.30
Raffle	111.40
Bric a Brac and table cloths	79.32
Books	39.63
Treasure Hunt	25.50
Total:	765.15

+ Tombola

60.00

Thank you

Bob Griffiths

I retired from the Parish Council at the beginning of May, having reached my allotted span of three score years and ten, and am getting used to being an ex-Chairman. Being an ex-Chairman is rather like being Monty Python's ex-parrot, but less serious; I am not pining for the firds.

Unbeknown to me, a collection was made in the village for a retirement gift. There was a knock on my door one evening, after the June Parish Council meeting and, when I opened it, I was confronted by all the Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk with a gift of garden vouchers for me. I was taken aback by the surprise of the gift and by the generosity. Thank you everyone.

British Red Cross Week

Kath Pearce, Charles & Ingrid Reichardt

We would like to thank everyone who contributed in Red Cross Week. We collected a total of £118.19. The money will be used to help those in crisis situations.

Ride & Stride

Jean Diggins

This year's Ride & Stride is on 8th September and is in aid of the Historic Churches Trust. Cyclists, walkers and help in manning the church on the day will be most welcome. Sponsorship forms and further details are available from Jean Diggins on 01235 520540.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES 2007	JUNE
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Greene King sold The Lion pub on 01 Dec 2006 to Admiral Taverns. We are awaiting a reply from them concerning the fate of the pub.

Council is awaiting information on the state of the Old Culham Bridge from SODC.

Council is awaiting information on extra dog fouling signs for the village from SODC.

The county minerals issues and options statement response has to be in by 15 June. After extensive discussions with John Howell (OCC), the conclusion on gravel extraction in the county is that nothing is certain until about 2010. Until the next phase of consultation, there is a non-public consultation of stakeholders only (Parish Council is one of these). The major area close to Culham is a 155Ha site between Clifton Hampden and Appleford. The vast majority of material from this area is likely to be taken by conveyor to the Hanson site at Sutton Courtenay. The main concern of the Council was the potential for increased amounts of traffic on the local roads. John will take our concerns forward in the current round of consultation.

The Abingdon traffic scheme was discussed in detail. The initiative was originally put forward by Abingdon Town Council and Vale of the White Horse District Council to improve the centre of the town for pedestrians by reducing traffic. Apparently this has been achieved but at the expense of the surrounding villages which are suffering increased traffic flows as a result. John will let us have contact details of the officers from whom we can obtain details of the scheme, its effects and, hopefully, an assessment of the economic benefits of the scheme.

A donation of £100 was made to the South Vale and Carers Association.

Date of next meeting: Monday 9th July 2007 19:30pm

CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHOOL GRAY	CATHY
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Six children will be transferring to various secondary schools at the end of the term and we would like to wish them all the very best for the future. We hope that they have enjoyed their time at Culham School and, if past experience is anything to go by, we are sure that we shall see them often at future school events.

Sadly we are also saying farewell to Mrs Longton, one of our part time members of staff, who is moving away from the area. Mrs Longton has worked at the school for the past ten years and will be missed by the children, parents and staff. We would like to thank her for her contributions to all aspects of school life but particularly for her involvement in developing science and ICT in the school. We wish her good luck in her new home.

Next year's intake in the Foundation Stage class is fully subscribed for the year and we have recently admitted three new children into our Year 4.

Finally, we would like to thank the local community for the support they have given us over the past academic year and we hope to see some of you at our barbecue on Sunday 8th July and/or at the Leavers Assembly in St Paul's Church at 9.30am on Wednesday 23rd July.

**CULHAM PRE-SCHOOL
ALLMOND**

LEA

This is the last term of our year and we shall be looking at our favourite stories and nursery rhymes. The children have been planting Beanstalks along with tomatoes and bedding plants - enjoying our wonderful garden.

We have recently enjoyed a Baked Potato Lunch with children and parents - it was a great success. We shall also be enjoying our end of term picnic when we say goodbye to the children who are off to pastures new.

If you are passing the Pre-school please come in and have a look at our garden - we would enjoy your company.

OUT AND ABOUT IN JULY & AUGUST

Culham Parochial School Summer Event

Barbecue, bar, children's games and tombola on **Sunday 8th July 12.30pm** onwards in the school garden. Tickets available from school. £5 adults and £3 children to include the barbecue and a dessert.

Come and join us. Everyone welcome. **Tel: 01235 521766.**

Flower Festival in Toot Baldon Church 7th and 8th July

The church will be open on Saturday from 10am – 6pm and Sunday from 11.30am – 6pm. The flower arrangements will be sold by silent auction running over both days to raise money towards the purchase of land for the extension to Toot Baldon churchyard.

Also, Open Garden Event on Sunday 8th July. Gardens in Toot Baldon, Marsh Baldon and Nuneham Courtenay open on Sunday afternoon. Combined entry ticket to all gardens £3, children free. Homemade teas available on both days.

Abingdon Drama Club presents "The Cripple of Inishmaan" by Martin McDonagh

A strange comic tale in the great tradition of Irish storytelling, at the Unicorn Theatre, Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon on **Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th July at 7.30pm**. Tickets £7 (concessions £6) from Dawson's Music, High Street or from the Ticketline on 01235 524538.

7 to 12 year olds in Culham: would you like to make a pot?

Come to the Pottery at 8 the Green on 8th August from 2 to 4pm if the weather is fine! (I'll have to cancel if it rains, but will then try to find another time.) You can pinch or coil a pot and I'll fire it for you. Wear some old clothes. Numbers limited. Cost to cover materials and firing £2.50.

If you would like to come could you; email me at cs@storrs.demon.co.uk, ring on 520395 or put a note in our letterbox at 8 the Green. I'll need your name, age, telephone number (plus mobile no of parents) or email address. I look forward to seeing you!

Charlotte Storrs, 8 The Green, Culham, 01235 520395, cs@storrs.demon.co.uk

The Abingdon Concert Band

The Abingdon Concert Band celebrates its 30th anniversary with various concerts throughout the summer of 2007:

- 1 July Summer Proms, Abbey Meadows Abingdon 2:30pm
- 15 July, Summer Proms, Wallingford Castle Grounds 3pm
- 29 July, Summer Proms, Mill Meadows, Henley 2:30pm
- 13 October Guildhall, Abingdon, joint concert with Abingdon Town Band

The Abingdon Concert Band, under the baton of Philip Burditt, rehearses Thursdays 8pm at Dunmore Junior School Northcourt Road Abingdon. New players welcome. Visit our web site www.abingdonconcertband.org.uk or email play@abingdonconcertband.org.uk or write to PO Box 672 Oxford OX1 9BY or phone 01235 520145.

ENDPIECE

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

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