

The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter No 310

Village Diary for October 2009

- 2nd Mobile Library, The Glebe, 1.40pm - 1.50pm*
- 4th Harvest Festival, St. Paul's Church, 4pm*
- 7th Parochial School's Harvest Festival, St. Paul's 1.30pm*
- 11th Family Communion, St. Paul's Church, 10am*
- 14th Parish Council Meeting, The School, 7.30pm*
- 15th Deadline for the November Mouthpiece*
- 16th Mobile Library, The Glebe, 1.40pm - 1.50pm*
- 18th Evening Prayers, St. Paul's Church, 6pm*
- 30th Mobile Library, The Glebe, 1.40pm - 1.50pm*

Services of Worship	October 2009
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Date	Time	Place	Service
SERVICES AT CULHAM			
Sunday 4 th	4 pm	Culham	Harvest Festival
Wednesday 7 th	1.30 pm	Culham	School Harvest Service
Sunday 11 th	10 am	Culham	Family Communion
Sunday 18 th	6 pm	Culham	Evening Prayer
<i>Join us for coffee and a chat after Sunday 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 - 9.00 am.</i>			
OTHER SERVICES			
Sunday 4 th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Harvest Festival
Sunday 11 th	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Little Wittenham	Harvest Festival
Sunday 18 th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Thursday 22 nd	2.30 pm	Long Wittenham	Pram Service
Sunday 25 th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer

A Letter from our Vicar	Anne Ilsley
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I'm sure that many of you will have been aware of the summer festivals, such as Glastonbury and The Reading festival, but did you know that there are also Christian festivals over the summer? Notably Greenbelt and New Wine in Somerset. '**Glastonbury for God?**' was the headline for a piece in The Independent on August 6th by Jerome Taylor. John Coles from New Wine reflecting on the article said:

'If we are to see people coming to faith in Jesus, and to experience the 'life in all its fullness' that he came to bring, then the battle has to be waged on a number of different fronts at the same time. It must be waged in the public arena at the level of reason and debate about public morality and justice in society; it must be waged at the level of loving friendship and personal evangelism pointing people to the person and work of Jesus; and it must also be waged in prayer and intercession that God will open eyes and ears so that people will recognise the love of God and hear the wisdom of the voice of

God. If the nation is to be changed then we need to engage in all three arenas at the same time'

While a Christian festival might not be your style and John Coles' militaristic language may make you uneasy, when speaking about The Church and Christian faith, it is the complexity and variety of the task that makes my life as a priest in the Church of God so interesting. (It was the Church of God that I was ordained into, rather than the Church of England, although that is where I serve.) It is this complexity and sheer size of the task set for the Church, which makes it so vital that we share the load. Working in a team of clergy is such a boon to me and working with all of you both from within the church and from without, laity and members of the community is essential.

At St Paul's we are coming to the end of the schedule of works for repairs, following on from our Quinquennial survey. I am so grateful for those in the PCC who worked so hard to arrange the works, and for The Friends of St Paul's who gave generously towards the cost. We were also promised a grant by The Historic Churches Trust, who fund-raise each year through the Ride and Stride event. We had our very own entrants this year; Helen Rockall, Sarah Rockall and Julie Lever. 'Thank you' to you all!

So many people to be grateful to, but forgive me for singling out one, namely Revd David Haylett, whose priestly ministry has been so essential to me especially in recent months. It is standard practice these days for the bishop to give a licence for those of us in ministry for a set term. I am very pleased to say that Bishop Colin has renewed David's licence for a further 5 years.

If the 'rah rah' of a summer festival is not *you*, you would be very welcome to join me and or David for a quieter way of connecting with God in Morning Prayer. I give the times and places in The Bridge Group of Churches below.

Monday	8.30am	St Mary's, Long Wittenham
Tuesday	8.15am	St Peter's, Little Wittenham
Wednesday	8.15am	St Michael's, Clifton Hampden
Thursday	8.15am	St Paul's, Culham
Friday	8.30am	St Mary's, Long Wittenham

Village News

There will be two extra church services at St. Paul's Church to celebrate Harvest time this year. Everyone is welcome to join us at a short afternoon service on Sunday 4th October at 4pm and the Parochial School will be holding its own midweek service in St. Paul's at 1.30pm on Wednesday 7th October. We look forward to seeing you at St. Paul's!

Lynn Hancock

Mouthpiece Distribution

For many years Lynn has looked after the distribution of the Mouthpiece – taking the final copy to the printers, retrieving 188 stapled copies and delivering them in bundles to 9 or 10 people who deliver individual copies to your homes. She also delivered a good few copies herself. This wasn't her only voluntary activity - when the Lion had a monthly draw for its '200 Club', Lynn was the person who collected members' contributions.

Lynn has now decided to retire from her role as the 'Distribution Manager', and we would like to thank her for all that she has done for us and for the village. Fortunately Adrian Waters will be taking over from Lynn, starting with this October issue, and we would like to thank him for volunteering. Adrian's contact details are the same as Rosemary's & may be found in the 'Who's Who' page at the end of this issue.

News from the village Pre-School

Lea Allmond

This term the children are looking at the theme of autumn and shall be making trips around the village to collect conkers and different leaves for their art work.

We have said goodbye to the following children and wish them all good luck in their 'big school' Sophie, Anya, Octavia, Alice, Luke, Etienne, George and Liv. We have also welcomed into our setting Willem, Roman, Cato, Caliegh, Sacha, Rhys and Ambre. We hope that the children and their families will have an enjoyable time with us.

Parish Council Notes September 2009
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Andrew Steele

A process of negotiation has been initiated by OCC with regard to raising the speed limit along the A415 in the area of the traffic lights, currently the 30mph limit zone. In response to a letter from OCC, CPC will write objecting to the change on the grounds of safety, the proximity of the school and the difficulty of policing the higher speed limit.

The latest news on the proposed incinerator at Sutton Courtney is that OCC has opted for the Viridor proposal to construct the incinerator at Ardley. However WRG has, at the time of writing, not withdrawn their application to build at Sutton Courtenay and it is still possible that that proposal might go ahead. There is a further meeting on 19th October at which planning approval will be sought.

A quote has been obtained for improvements to access into the burial ground. As it is greater than £500 CPC must obtain two more competitive quotes. The proposal is to introduce a stepped feature opposite the entrance and to level the ground inside the gate.

The information about the CPC activities (Freedom of Information Act) is now on the notice boards and (soon) on the village web site.

Adkins solicitors are looking into the repair of the sunken soak away on The Green. With an increase in inconsiderate parking on the roads around Culham School, CPC will write to the PCSO's and the school to try and get the area made safer for people attending the school and those having to cross the road(s).

There was no report from the District Councillor.

The County Councillor was in attendance during the public debate about the raised speed limits on the A415 (see above) and presented information about the incinerator (see above). Also a bio-gas digester has been approved for use in Warborough. This is the first in South Oxfordshire.

Next meeting: Monday 12th October 2009 at 19:30 at the school.

NB The plan by OCC to the increase speed limit on the A415 has been dropped.

Thames Valley Police Update

Paul Webber & Sarah Talbot

Police Surgeries

Thank you to all those who attended the Clifton Hampden Police Surgery in August. These surgeries are both important both to us and the village in sharing ideas, concerns and information, making the area a safer place to live and visit. The main issues raised were traffic related such as speeding and weight limits. **The next Police Surgery for Culham will be for November/December.**

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 – amended by CNEA 2005.

All Police Community Support Officers now have Fixed Penalty Notices for the following offences: these are supplied by South Oxfordshire District Council to promote a cleaner neighbourhood.

- Dog Fouling
- Graffiti
- Fly Posting
- Dropping Litter

All four are £80 fines or £50 if paid within 10 days. For more information please visit www.southoxon.gov.uk

Non-emergency Contacts

Please use the **0845 8 505 505** 'non emergency' line as it is not always convenient to answer mobile calls from the public and these calls will not be logged in the correct way. We each have a voicemail service set up on this '0845' number for people to leave messages and for us to access when we are available.

PC 5578 Paul Webber + PSCO Sarah Talbot C9904

The 1981 Culham Calendar

Brian Bracher

Following our notes on the 1981 Culham Calendar last month (as supplied by Cliff Rowe Evans) we were pleased to receive two identical pictures from John Storrs. They are each



printed on cardboard, of size about 14½ by 10 inches, as shown above. All the items in last month's article can be seen in the picture and if anyone can supply any more information, please let us know. We'd like to thank John for his interest. .

Acer

Imagine the archetypal Japanese garden, characterised by simplicity, refinement and calm. The garden is an idealised representation of nature arranged to create a sense of well-being and to serve as a refuge from the stresses of the world. An Acer throws gentle shade onto the house, helping to keep it comfortable through the heat of the day and provides delightful colour effects through spring summer and autumn. A decorative bridge crosses running water and bamboo screens provide sympathetic divisions between the different sections of the garden. Don't you just wish you were there? With the right plants you could achieve a similar feel in many British gardens.

Perhaps your most important ally in achieving this is the Japanese maple or *Acer palmatum*. A deciduous tree with a history of cultivation well in excess of 300 years, Japanese maples have been grown in temperate areas outside Japan since the 1800's. They are well suited to garden conditions because of their compact root systems which are unlikely to undermine paths, structures or compete with other plants. Many Acers have characteristics that are striking through the different seasons, including intense autumn colour, brightly coloured winter bark and fresh new growth in spring. Their style and compactness makes them ideally suited to courtyard gardens, so much so that *Acer palmatum* 'Red Pygmy' ranks second on Channel 4's '10 plants for courtyard gardens'

Some Acers will grow into small-medium sized trees at maturity. 'Osakazuki' (brilliant red autumn colours), for example, may reach a height and spread of 6m. 'Bloodgood' (height and spread up to 5m) is always popular and the dark red-purple leaves take on a fantastic vivid red in autumn. For very finely cut leaves as well as colour, look to 'Garnet', 'Burgundy Lace' or 'Dissectum' (leaves turn gold in autumn). These are also on the bigger side for Acers. For very confined spaces or containers, look out for 'Red Pygmy', 'Corallinum' or 'Crimson Queen'. Acers are adaptable plants, but are unhappy in wet or dry conditions and find very alkaline soils difficult to cope with. Some shade is an advantage for green-leaved or variegated varieties, but red leaves do need sun to develop deep reds to their full.

As we move into October, the next event in the natural calendar is the turning of the leaves, prior to their fall. This small selection of Acers can provide a wonderful reflection of autumn right on your doorstep. Couple this with some Far Eastern flavour and you can create some garden magic to come home to!

Autumn plant sale – 3 plants for the price of 2 during October! Also visit 'The Escape Café' at Newington Nurseries! You can find us near Stadhampton on the A329 towards Shillingford.

Newington Nurseries, Newington, Nr Stadhampton, Oxon, OX10 7AW
 Tel 01865 400533 www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

Out & About

Friday 9th October: Rutherford Appleton Laboratory "Talking Science" Lecture.
'Fusion Star Power' by Dr Kate Lancaster

1:30 pm & 7:00 pm - Audience: 16+

This fascinating lecture will lead us into the world of fusion, how it was responsible for life on Earth and how scientists plan to harness the incredible power of the stars as a future energy source here on Earth.

To reserve seats for any RAL Talking Science Lectures please either ring 01235 445959 or email stfctalkinciscience@rl.ac.uk

NORTHMOOR TRUST EVENTS

Fungus Foray - Find the fabulous fungi that are fruiting in the forest.

Date: Sunday 4th and 11th October and Sunday 8th November 2009

Location: Hill Farm, Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4QZ

Time: 10:30 am – 1 pm

Cost: Adults £5, Friends & children free

Booking: Booking essential, please call **01865 407792** to reserve your place.

Storytelling Course - Learn the art of spinning a good yarn with master storyteller, Peter Hearn.

Date & time: 11th October - 29th November. Sundays 2 pm – 4 pm (8 sessions)

Cost: Adults £85, Friends £68

Location: Fison Barn, Hill Farm, Little Wittenham, Oxon, OX14 4QZ

Booking: Please call **01865 407792** to reserve your place.

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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