

# **The Mouthpiece**

*Culham's Newsletter No 317*

*Village Diary for June 2010*

- 11<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library, the Glebe, 1.40 pm - 1.50 pm*
- 13<sup>th</sup> Evening Prayer at St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 14<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting, The School, 7.30 pm*
- 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline for the July/August edition of Mouthpiece*
- 20<sup>th</sup> Family Communion at St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 25<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library, the Glebe, 1.40 pm - 1.50 pm*
- 25<sup>th</sup> Friends of St Paul's AGM & Barbecue, The Church, 7 pm*

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Services of Worship</b> | <b>June 2010</b> |
|----------------------------|------------------|

| Date  | Time     | Place            | Service            |
|---|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>SERVICES AT CULHAM</b>   |          |                  |                    |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 6pm      | Culham           | Evening Prayer     |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>   | 10am     | Culham           | Family Communion   |
| <p><i>Join us for coffee and a chat after Sunday morning services at Culham Church! All welcome.</i></p> <p><i>Come along for informal prayers with Revd Anne Ilsley at Culham Church on Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.</i></p> |          |                  |                    |
| <b>SERVICES ELSEWHERE</b>   |          |                  |                    |
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 8 am     | Clifton Hampden  | Holy Communion     |
|   | 10 am    | Long Wittenham   | Family Service     |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 10 am    | Long Wittenham   | Village Feast      |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>   | 8 am     | Long Wittenham   | Holy Communion     |
|   | 10am     | Clifton Hampden  | Holy Communion     |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>   | 8.30 am  | Little Wittenham | Holy Communion     |
|   | 10.30 am | Dorchester Abbey | Ordination Service |

|                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>June services are different!</b> | <b>Revd David Haylett</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|

If you look at the list of services for the Bridge Group during June, you will see that services which normally take place on the SECOND Sunday are being held on the THIRD Sunday, and services which normally take place on the THIRD Sunday are being held on the SECOND Sunday.

Why? Because the Second Sunday in June is the Second Sunday after Trinity. For generations the second Sunday after Trinity has been kept in Long Wittenham as "Feast Sunday" commemorating the dedication of St. Mary's Church some 900 years ago.

Before the Second World War disrupted everything there would be a Fair in the High Street around the Cross area and a special service would be held at the Cross. In the 1980's we revived the tradition of holding (a part of) the Service at the Cross and we have continued, with a minor interruption, ever since.

On normal Second Sundays St. Mary's does not have a Service so to keep up the Feast Sunday tradition we have swapped the two Sundays around. Hopefully our friends from Culham, Clifton Hampden and Burcot will join us to celebrate over 900 years of Christian Worship in St. Mary's.

### **Ordinations**

27th June is an important day in the life of the Dorchester Team, as David and Hannah (the Team's two curates) will be ordained as priests in the Abbey. The Abbey often hosts ordination services, but it will be only the third time in 25 years that Team clergy are among those being ordained. We very much hope you will come and support all those being ordained at that service, and stay to celebrate with us in the Cloister Garden afterwards.

|                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>From our Vicar</b> | <b>Revd Anne Ilsley</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|

I am writing just after an exceptionally successful Plant Sale and Church Fete. You will see elsewhere that we raised a record amount towards the running of the church and that is very good, but I was particularly pleased to enjoy what was such a good hearted event with the sun coming out and so many of you helping to make the afternoon a success. We even gave a good time to a father from Southampton and his children while they gave mum time to enjoy a reunion with old friends.

Later on the phone to my daughter in Wellington New Zealand, I was explaining the intricacies of Welly Wanging, which gave her a brilliant idea for their school fete later in the year. I suppose Welly Wanging in Wellington does have a ring to it! Before I leave this subject I must say a huge thank you to everyone who helped, but in particular to Janet Bracher who was chief organiser. THANK YOU Janet.

The Friends of St. Paul's were also involved with the Plant Sale and money from the tombola goes to their funds, which are raised for the maintenance of the church building in particular. The very good news last month was that the work identified by the Quinquennial Survey has been completed, however we cannot afford to relax fund-raising by The Friends, or we shall be unprepared for the next round of repairs. Also it would be very good to have funds to enable us to make improvements, especially if they allow the church building to be more flexible and available to the community. If any of you have ideas about what you would like to see done in this regard, modest and incremental ideas are particularly welcome! Please do get in touch with me.

The main way that The Friends raise money is through their membership subscriptions. If you are not aware of this organisation and would like to find out more about it, please speak to their chairman, Rob Kennedy, or do feel free to contact me. I'm always pleased to visit parishioners and to respond to 'More tea Vicar?' If you are not a church-goer, but want to see the church building looked after, joining The Friends is the very best way to see that happen.

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Village News</b> |
|---------------------|

**Mr John Lee****Lea Allmond**

It is with great sadness that we have heard of the passing of Mr. Lee. He was truly a gentleman and during the early 1950's Mr. Lee and his family were one of the first to take up residence in The Glebe. Mr Lee could be seen daily cycling in the village, always stopping for a chat and to pass the time of day.

He would often comment on the fact that he loved to see the children playing in the Glebe and at school, saying it reminded him of when his own children were young.

I am sure many of the villagers had very fond memories of Mr. Lee, particularly Adrian Waters and Steve Allmond who both remember being taken to Mr. Lee's for their haircuts.

More recent memories for us were last summer when the residents of the Glebe held a summer picnic and shared lunch. Mr. Lee was one of the inhabitants of the Glebe who participated and we also have fond memories of the Glebe New Year party held at Jon and Dee Woodley-Shead's house, where Mr. Lee entertained us with stories of the past.

Mr. Lee will be remembered fondly and missed dearly by all of his friends and neighbours. Our thoughts and sympathies are with Mrs. Lee and her family at this sad time.

**Culham Plant Sale & Church Fete****Culham PCC**

We are very pleased to say that the amount raised at the Plant Sale and Fete this year was £1225, which includes £121 from the Friends' Tombola stall. This was a record-breaking

amount - we made £1004 last year and £1188 the year before. We were very lucky with the weather which was better than forecast, but luckier still to have so much support. This event would not be possible without the Friends of St Paul's and all those who helped in so many ways. Thank you, one and all.

#### **Friends of St Paul's AGM & Barbecue**

**Rob Kennedy**

The Friends of St Paul's Church will be holding their Annual General Meeting in the church at **7 pm on Friday 25th June**. They have raised thousands of pounds for the maintenance of St Paul's, so if you value your village church please come to this meeting. It will be followed by a barbecue at 6 The Green, which will cost £7 for adults and £3.50 for children. All are welcome!

#### **Councillors' Annual Reports**

**The Mouthpiece**

Following the recent Annual Parish Meeting, we have been sent Annual Reports by our District and County Councillors. Extracts from these may be found below.

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Oxon Councils launch £99 Insulation Deal</b> | <b>Gordon Glass</b> |
|---|---------------------|

Councils in Oxfordshire have secured funds to subsidise home insulation for local homeowners, bringing the standard price of cavity wall or loft insulation down to just £99.

Under the deal, local homeowners and private tenants can get cavity wall or loft insulation fitted for a standard price of £99 each. At this price insulation pays for itself fast in reduced energy bills. The £99 deal is subject to funding and offered on a first come, first service basis. If you are 70 or over, or receive means-tested benefits, you may get the work done free.

The insulation offer is being managed exclusively by Cocoon, a long standing partner of the Council. Cocoon offers a fast on-line self-referral option at their web site [www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk](http://www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk). To find out more, call **0800 8048 777** and ask for the 'Oxon Deal'.

*Please note that funds are only expected to last 3 - 6 months.*

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Culham Parochial Primary School</b> | <b>Steph Fawdry</b> |
|--|---------------------|

Where is the time going? I am sure the last time I looked it was Christmas! Thank you to those of you who were thinking and praying for us with regards to the Federation with St Nicolas but as you may have seen in the Abingdon Herald we were unsuccessful. As a result we are now looking for an Acting Head to continue to lead the school and prayers for a fruitful outcome would be much appreciated.

The children, this term, have been learning more exciting new things. In Class 1 they have been learning about habitats and last week the school was full of mini-beasts in pots, containers and jars, discoveries made by the children. KS2 children have been learning about the weather - sadly they have been unable to produce constant sunshine and warm temperatures for us, but they are working on it!

This year, as we may have mentioned, is our 160th Birthday and we are planning on celebrating this in style towards the end of the summer term. If you have any photographs, information or memorabilia from the school's history please do get in touch as we would love to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued support of this lovely school in the heart of your village

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| <b>Parish Council Notes for May 2010</b> | <b>Andrew Steele</b> |
|--|----------------------|

As from Monday 10th May 2010, Toby Price has been nominated Chairman of the Parish Council.

We have been informed that planning permission is required for the replacement slope in the burial ground. CPC is challenging this.

Soakaway on The Green: this has been repaired with a new manhole cover.  
Cutting of The Green will start when Cllr Thomas's tractor is available.

Some of the play equipment has been assessed for repair and it appears to be untenable. Other quotes are being sought before proceeding with installing replacement units. A resolution was made to involve the school in the selection of the equipment from a shortlist.

The Affordable Housing Survey carried out by the Oxfordshire Rural Housing Partnership will go ahead. Each household will receive a questionnaire after the document was agreed by CPC.

A quote received for repairs to the shed is being confirmed before acceptance.

The County Minerals and Waste Development strategy meeting was attended by several local councils. OCC explained where the potential sites would be located and feedback from the meeting will be collated and disseminated.

The paperwork required by the Charity Commission to close the CCRC has been sent off. The remaining funds have been earmarked for the play equipment replacement.

CPC will ask OCC for the traffic/accident statistics along the A415 between Abingdon and Culham before requesting a change to the speed limits along that section.

CPC would like to reiterate that the exercising of dogs in the playing field is an offence under the bye-laws. Instances will be reported to the environmental section at SODC

Next meeting: **Monday 14th June 2010 at 7:30 pm at the school.**

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Extract from the District Councillor's Annual Report</b> | <b>Pamela Tomlinson</b> |
|---|-------------------------|

This year the council introduced the new waste collection to 56,000 households, a huge challenge for the council and residents. We received a national award for the communication methods to residents. We worked with the contractors for nearly a year prior to the actual start date. Recycling rates have gone from being 48% to 70% which means less land fill and more money for the council in the form of recycling credits. There were problems to overcome in some parts of the district which we have been discussing with those residents concerned. Then we had the hardest winter with snow which caused further problems but everyone working together enabled us to get back on track and continue the high recycling rates.

It is vital that we all do what we can for the local economy that is reasonable and achievable. We are involved in South Vale UK which is Harwell, Culham, Milton Park, OCC, OEP working together to achieve inward investment. This will create more jobs especially taking into consideration all the new houses being built at Didcot and around the district.

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Extract from the County Councillor's Annual Report</b> | <b>Lorraine Lindsay-Gale</b> |
|---|------------------------------|

**The Incinerator:** The single biggest issue for the County Council over the past year has been where to build an 'energy from waste' incinerator. After many years of consultation two contractors were short-listed. WRG submitted a planning application to build at Sutton Courtenay, Viridor to build at Ardley near Bicester. In September the County Council Cabinet resolved to give preferred bidder status to Viridor. Planning applications from both companies were heard at the Planning & Resources Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Both were refused permission. Viridor has lodged an appeal against the decision and this will be heard at a Public Inquiry between 6<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July 2010. They have also put in another planning

application for the incinerator on the same site using the same technology which will run concurrently, or may even be heard before the Inquiry. The possibility that an 'energy from waste' plant could be built at Sutton Courtenay caused considerable concern among some residents in this area. This situation is not yet resolved since WRG still have the option to seek planning permission for an incinerator and are no doubt awaiting the outcome of the two Viridor hearings. The County Council continues to negotiate on the terms of a 25 year contract with Viridor.

|                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Oxfordshire Advocacy</b> | <b>Rebecca Norris</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|

Advocacy at its heart is really very simple. It is making sure that people get their wishes and choices heard and taken into account on matters of importance to them.

This can be difficult due to comprehension difficulties, health problems etc. However as a volunteer for Oxfordshire Advocacy, through frequent training and support, you can ensure that their voices are heard!

Volunteers attend a training course which leads to a formally recognised qualification with the Open College Network. They also receive expenses. Oxfordshire Advocacy (Reg. Charity No. 1131403) provides a service throughout Oxfordshire so there is flexibility over where volunteers are required to travel. If you'd like to be a volunteer advocate, or want more information, please contact us by email at [oadg@oadg.org.uk](mailto:oadg@oadg.org.uk) or ring 01865 741200.

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Newington Nurseries: Fragrant Lavender</b> | <b>Anne Hendry</b> |
|---|--------------------|

Lavender has been grown in the British Isles since the Middle Ages and is probably one of the most used plants in British gardens. It's a versatile and adaptable plant making it a favourite in many a garden situation.

*Lavandula* is part of the mint family and there are over 30 species within the genus. However, whilst the French and Spanish varieties (eg. *Lavandula dentata*, *stoechas* and *latifolia*) produce rather beautiful foliage and flowers; it's the English varieties that are most suited to our climate. *Lavandula angustifolia* is the hardiest and most long-lived but *Lavandula x intermedia* (a cross between *L. angustifolia* and the more tender *L. intermedia*) is also another option. *L. angustifolia* cultivars reach around 60cm in height whilst *L. x intermedia* types will get to nearer a metre.

Lavenders can be used in traditional cottage garden designs but are also suited to block planting schemes or drifts. Lavender can also be used to make wonderful scented hedges along pathways or used as edging plants around formal borders. The fragrance of lavender is of course part of its appeal and this can be used to great effect to deter garden pests from other plants. For example, planting lavender around roses will help to fend off aphids. Lavender itself does not suffer from pests or diseases although the sight of 'cuckoo spit' (caused by the green capsid bug in spring) may initially cause some alarm but it doesn't harm the plant.

Try any one of the following Lavenders which are deemed to be the traditional hardy and reliable types. *Lavandula angustifolia* can be rather a thug in the garden unless space isn't a problem. The flower spikes can get to around a metre and a half in height and the foliage to some 60cm plus. If a smaller habit is required, try the entirely dependable *L. angustifolia* Hidcote. This produces dark purple flowers on robust stems and gets to a height of some 50 – 60cm. *L. a.* Munstead is another reliable choice producing blue-purple flowers on upright stalks. If pink or white is preferred, then try *L. a.* Rosea or *L. a.* Alba respectively. Both grow to around 50 – 60cm. A good ground cover option is *L. a.* Miss Muffet with its spikes of violet-blue flowers.

There are some rather lovely *Lavandula x intermedia* plants. Try *L. x intermedia* Edelweiss – it forms a perfect dome that is smothered in white flowers. It will reach around 75cm in height. *L.*

*x intermedia* Grosso is a profuse and fragrant flowerer hence its use in lavender oil production. It'll also get to a height of 75cm and fan out into a giant globe. *L. x intermedia* Dutch Group (formerly Vera) has a nice, low-spreading habit and, unusually, flowers well into October.

Lavender responds well to hard pruning which should be done around August-time when the flowers are starting to fade. Ideally, remove around a third of the plant, not just the flower stalks. This can be done with either shears or a hedge trimmer. Once pruned and whilst the weather is still warm, there will be some new growth before dormancy sets in. This will leave the plants looking neat and tidy during the winter months. When pruning *L. x intermedia* Dutch Group however, cut only the flower spikes back when the blooms are starting to fade then cut the plant itself back the following spring.

Lavenders will thrive in warm and sunny situations, in both plants beds and containers, provided that the soil is very free draining. Their natural habitat is the Mediterranean region where the soil is generally rather poor quality – stone, chalk and sand – yet they flourish in that environment so heavy, rich soils are not an ideal planting medium.

Of course Lavender is said to aid relaxation as well as physical and mental well-being. So plant some near the patio and enjoy its fragrance whilst relaxing on the sun lounger!

Newington Nurseries, Newington, Nr Stadhampton, Oxon, OX10 7AW  
Tel 01865 400533 [www.newington-nurseries.co.uk](http://www.newington-nurseries.co.uk)

## 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 July/August issue of The Mouthpiece by June 15th please, to:**

Rosemary Waters, 2 The Willows 01235 559010, email: [therisenpheonix2@btinternet.com](mailto:therisenpheonix2@btinternet.com)  
Brian Bracher, 25 High Street, 01235 525885, email: [brian@thebrachers.com](mailto:brian@thebrachers.com)  
John Mason, 20 High Street, email [johnu.mason@gmail.com](mailto:johnu.mason@gmail.com)

**Advertisements to:**

Brian Bracher, 25 High Street, 01235 525885, email [brian@thebrachers.com](mailto:brian@thebrachers.com)

# ARBOCARE

*Professional Tree Care*  
*Landscaping and Ground Maintenance*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Felling, Reductions &amp; Pruning</li> <li>✓ Stump Grinding &amp; Root Removal</li> <li>✓ Hedge Trimming</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tree Planting</li> <li>✓ Dangerous Trees Dismantled</li> <li>✓ 40ft Hydraulic Platforms</li> <li>✓ Woodchip &amp; Mulch Supplied</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

|                               |   |                             |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <p><b>CALL<br/>FREE</b></p>   |  | <p><b>0808 155 5815</b></p> |
| <p><b>OFFICE</b></p>          |  | <p><b>01235 813 619</b></p> |
| <p><b>24HR<br/>MOBILE</b></p> |  | <p><b>07778 811 136</b></p> |

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <a href="http://www.arbocare.co.uk">www.arbocare.co.uk</a> | <b>NATIONAL TRUST APPROVED</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|