

# **The Mouthpiece**

*Culham's Newsletter No 320*

## *Village Diary for October 2010*

*1<sup>st</sup> Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40pm-1.50pm*

*5<sup>th</sup> The School's Harvest Festival St. Paul's Church 2.15pm*

*10<sup>th</sup> Family Communion St. Paul's Church 10am*

*11<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting, The School, 7.30pm*

*15<sup>th</sup> Deadline for the November's Mouthpiece*

*15<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40pm - 1.50pm*

*17<sup>th</sup> Evening Prayers St. Paul's Church 6pm.*

*22<sup>nd</sup> Police 'Have Your Say', Lock Car Park, 6 - 6.45 pm*

*24<sup>th</sup> Cleaning the Pond 10am*

*29<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40-1.50pm*

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## Services of Worship

October 2010

Date	Time	Place	Service
<b>SERVICES AT CULHAM</b>			
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.15 pm	Culham	School Harvest Festival
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Culham	Family Communion
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm	Culham	Evening Prayer
<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 Ilsey at Culham Church on Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.</i></p>			
<b>SERVICES ELSEWHERE</b>			
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Harvest Festival/Holy Communion
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Harvest Festival/Family Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Marsh Baldon	Team Communion

## Talking Point

Rev. David Haylett

Something which seems to have been in the news for several weeks now is the flooding in Pakistan. Our television news has been dominated by pictures of homeless people, struggling through water carrying what few possessions they managed to have salvaged from their homes before they were inundated by floods, or even swept totally away. People, who by our Western standards lived on, or below the poverty line, reduced to a few pots and pans, the clothes they stood up in and perhaps some simple bedding. 20 million people made homeless.



Today I found myself faced (not for the first time) with a dilemma, the gospel reading I was preaching concluded with one of the "hard sayings" of Jesus; "none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions." (Luke 14:33)

So what would happen if those of us who call ourselves “Disciples” or “Christians” did as Jesus commanded and reduced ourselves to absolute and total poverty? I cannot help feeling that total economic chaos would be the result.

Do you ever wander along a High Street looking in the shop windows?

- What would you fancy having? What would you really like to have?
- Do you want to have that even if it means not having something else?

There is a saying that “you cannot have your cake AND eat it”. To have the things we want may well mean giving up some other things.

I travel around in a car. It is a car which I bought when it was only one year old, so it cost me quite a lot of money. Without a car, I would have to walk to churches to lead worship. I could not take the 8am service in the Abbey, and then a 10am service somewhere else.

I live in a house which we now own. We have managed to pay back all the money we borrowed from the building society. So if I have these possessions, I cannot be a real disciple, can I?

In chapter 4 of Luke’s Gospel, we read “(Jesus) entered Simon Peter’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her.” We also know from the Bible that Peter owned a fishing boat because he would go fishing to earn money.

The same story which tells us that Peter had a house also tells us that Jesus stayed there and had a meal. The point is that Peter had not given away all his possessions but that he was willing to use his possessions to help the work of Jesus. So the message is that we can drive our cars to the houses we own, but we must be prepared to remember that we may be asked to use those cars and houses to help the work of Jesus.

Following Jesus means giving up the “I want” way of living and putting the sign of God’s love – the cross – at the centre of our lives. So following Jesus could well cost us a lot, something our throwaway society might find difficult.

But it is worth it, God is the only one who can give us the lasting peace, happiness and forgiveness we long to have. With God we can become like our true selves, we can reach out to others and help them, we can have the courage to stand up for what is right. And no matter how difficult and dangerous it may become Jesus has promised he will be with us as a friend who knows what it is like to face difficulty and danger – because he has done it himself.

### **From The Rev. Anne Ilsley**

This year we have agreed in the Parish Church Council and with Culham Parochial C of E School to invite all in the village to join the School’s Harvest Service at 2.15pm on Tuesday October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will continue the theme of thanksgiving in our Family Communion at 10am on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

And lastly I really want to say is **What a fantastic time we had at the Pandemonium Concert**. Quite apart from the wonderful musicianship and entertainment value of Pandemonium and the excellent spread provided by church members and members of the Friends of St. Paul’s, it was lovely to see a mixed age audience, with children moving to sit in the aisle to get closer to the action. Thank you, to all of you who came along. Thank you to Andrew Churchill Stone who brought Pandemonium to do the concert and thank you to

Pandemonium. Over £600 was raised for St. Paul's and the friends of St. Paul's, but most of all we had a very good evening.

<b>The Village News</b>
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**Crib Players Wanted**

**Pauline Davidson**

Would you like to play crib? The Railway Inn has a team but could do with a few more players. If you are interested, please contact Pauline or Roy on 01235 528046 or email [info@railwayinnculham.co.uk](mailto:info@railwayinnculham.co.uk).

**Peking to Paris Rally for 'Smile'**

**Janet Beaumont**

'Smile' is a charity which repairs cleft lips and palates all over the world, free of charge. Liz and David Wenmam of Kingfisher Barn, Culham, are attempting this 14,597 Km rally, which passes through 11 countries ending in Paris on 16th October, to raise funds for the Smile Charity Train. All monies go to Smile Train with no deductions made for the trip, nor for administration. For more information on the rally, use your PC and Google "Peking to Paris" or visit [www.pekingparis.com](http://www.pekingparis.com).

Please support this life-enhancing charity: contributions can be sent "care of", Kingfisher Barn, or by Internet - details from the Rally's web site.

**Volunteers needed**

**Bob Cragg**

Volunteers are needed to help clear the encroaching reeds from the north (The Green) side of the village pond. The planned date is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October starting about 10am. For the benefit of those who have not been involved in pond clearing before, I suggest you wear old clothes, strong gardening gloves and wellies or waders. A garden fork is useful for loosening the roots and an extra wheelbarrow or two would be welcome.

**Garage Sale**

**Elizabeth Harrison**

**Saturday 2nd October** from 10 am to 12 noon:  
Garage Sale, East Wing, High Street, Culham.

Household Items, Bric-a-brac, Paperbacks.  
*(Please park on High Street or in the Lock Car Park & walk down the drive.)*

**Police 'Have Your Say' Meeting**

**PCSO Rebekah Kent**

The next 'Have your say' meeting in Culham will be on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010** in the car park by the bridge from 6 pm to 6.45 pm.

**Pre-school news****Lea Allmond**

After a long summer break the children have all settled back into the pre-school setting enjoying many activities, including cooking, planting and painting all based around the theme of 'all about me'.

We have welcomed Romi, Ruby and Emily and hope that they have an enjoyable time with us. Many of our children left us in July to go on to their new schools. We wish them all well.

We shall be enjoying walks around the village this term, to the Church and also to the river. We will also be taking a trip to Peachcroft Farm in Abingdon at the end of term.

**Culham Parish Council (CPC) notes - September 2010****From SODC**

No report but our new acting District Councillor is John Cotton.

**From OCC**

Every department in OCC is facing cuts of 25-40% across the board. There is a government spending review in October and it is expected that there will be a requirement to cut around £200million from a budget of about £1bn. Currently about 65% of OCC income is from central government, 29% from Council Tax and 6% from charges and income.

There has been a perceived improvement of the behaviour of motorcyclists who gather at the Berinsfield roundabout (Herley's Diner) after intervention from OCC and the Police who gave advice and training at the venue.

CPC will obtain further quotes for the work in the burial ground to improve access by installing a ramp and side walls within the entrance area.

Potholes along the Burycroft and on Tollgate Road will be reported, again, to OCC highways. One or two other potholes have been filled in.

A part of the play equipment (towers and bridge) in the play area will be removed as the posts are rotten. It will not be replaced this year but will be reviewed next year in the light of the available precept/funding. The installation of a BMX track on the playing field is being investigated.

CPC will write to Long Wittenham Parish Council giving our support for the campaign against the construction of 2000 houses north of the Ladygrove estate in Didcot.

The European School has appealed against the refusal of retrospective planning permission for the fence along the A415.

There has been no response from Adkins about the state of the house on the corner of High Street/Tollgate Road and the state of the road leading to the Church.

**Next meeting Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October, Culham School 7.30pm**

## Got something to say? Be a part of Oxfordshire Voice

Have you ever commented on a story on a newspaper or radio website? Do you want the opportunity to regularly comment where it can make a real difference to your area? If you answered yes to these questions then you might be interested in Oxfordshire Voice.

Oxfordshire Voice is a citizen's panel made up of Oxfordshire residents who have volunteered to give up some of their time to answer four questionnaires a year created in partnership between NHS Oxfordshire and Oxfordshire County Council.

The panel is carefully recruited to be representative of the population of Oxfordshire but there are some areas where we need to recruit more people these include:

- people, particularly men, aged 16 to 34
- people in full time work
- people who live in the area covered by Cherwell District Council
- people who live in the area covered by Oxford City Council
- people from Black and other minority ethnic groups living in Oxfordshire.

You can have your say on line or by post – whichever you prefer. You could be invited to take part in other activities like online discussion forums or group discussions if this is something you are interested in.

Previous topics the panel have answered questions on include: where people think the council and NHS should save money and what the priorities should be, alcohol and drinking patterns, whether the police and other public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour and people's experiences of local health services and transport issues.

What the panel says is used by the Council and NHS to help develop services and change the way things are done. For example, one set of results asked for more support for pregnant women. As a result NHS Oxfordshire developed a service for new mums just out of hospital with their babies, to provide breastfeeding support. Feedback about transport issues has been used in the council's transport plan.

So, if you want to be part of Oxfordshire Voice and tell us what you think and make a real difference to your county – all you need to do is complete a short survey. You can access it online at: <http://bit.ly/9hxa3c> or you can fill in a paper version. To request a paper copy please call Annika Howard, at NHS Oxfordshire, on 01865 334643.

<h3>Out and About</h3>
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'Talking Science' lecture at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL)

**Friday 15 October 2010, 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm** (audience: 14+)

"50 years of the laser and its implications in medicine"

by Taj Bhutta & Mahmood Bhutta

*In 1960 Theodore Maiman produced the first working optical laser. Fifty years on lasers are in every school, household and office, and are used in applications in medicine, communication and manufacturing. They may even play a role in future energy resources. As well as the history, brothers Taj and Mahmood will demonstrate exactly what a laser is, what lasers do and how they are being used in medicine and medical research today.*

To reserve seats please ring 01235 445959, email [rltalkingscience@stfc.ac.uk](mailto:rltalkingscience@stfc.ac.uk) or book online at [www.stfc.ac.uk/forms/ebform.aspx](http://www.stfc.ac.uk/forms/ebform.aspx)

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 7.00 pm:** The Oxford Council for Christians and Jews Presents:

**A Jewish Way of Life Exhibition & an Interfaith 'Any Questions' Panel,**  
hosted by Phil Mercer, BBC Oxford  
at Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

*A private evening for invited guests of Oxford CCJ, Board of Deputies of British Jews and The Oxford Jewish Congregation with wine and canapés reception.*  
If you would like a ticket please email [ceo@ccj.org.uk](mailto:ceo@ccj.org.uk) or call 0207 015 5160

### **Pottery Open**

The Pottery will be open on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 from 12noon till 4.30pm for a sale of old stock and seconds. Have a go at throwing a pot (£5 donation to Pakistan Appeal), I'll glaze and fire it for you.

**Pottery at the back of the house. Follow signs "Pottery"**

**Charlotte Storrs Stoneware**  
8 The Green, Culham, Abingdon OX14 4LZ  
Tel/Fax 01235 520 395  
[www.charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk](http://www.charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk)

<b>End Piece</b>
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***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 issue of the Mouthpiece by **October 15<sup>th</sup>** please to:-

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