

# The Mouthpiece

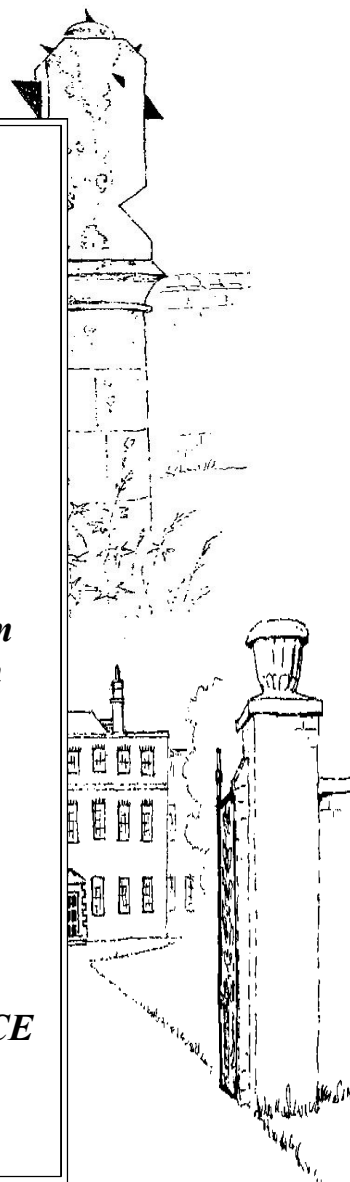
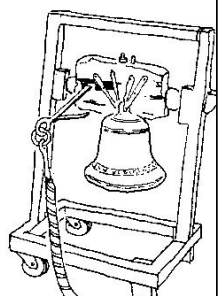
*Culham's Newsletter No 328*

*Village Diary - July 2011*

- 8th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 10th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 11th Parish Council Meeting - The School, 7.30 pm*
- 17th Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 22nd Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*

## *August*

- 5th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 14th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 15th DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER MOUTHPIECE*
- 19th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 21st Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*



## Church Services

### JULY SERVICES - CULHAM

<b>Sunday 10th</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Family Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	<b>6 pm</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>

### SERVICES ELSEWHERE

Sunday 3rd	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Feast
Sunday 10th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Tuesday 12th	10.30 am	Long Wittenham	Home Communion
Sunday 17th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
Sunday 31st	10.30 am	Marsh Baldon	Team Communion

### AUGUST SERVICES - CULHAM

<b>Sunday 14th</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Family Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	<b>6 pm</b>	<b>Culham</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>

### SERVICES ELSEWHERE

Sunday 7th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Tuesday 10th	10.30am	Long Wittenham	Home Communion
Sunday 14th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 21st	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th	8.30am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion

***Join us for coffee and a chat after Sunday morning services at Culham Church!  
Informal prayers at Culham Church - Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.***

## Village News

### Ladies of Culham – Mary Rickford

As we come to the end of our first year I would like to thank all of you who have given your support to the "Ladies of Culham" in attending the meetings, helping at events, and offering your homes as venues. This last year we have enjoyed a variety of activities including talks on various subjects, a quiz night, carol singing the church, a theatre trip, social evening, arts and culture exhibition, and of course participating in the royal street party! During July or August we have another activity planned, details of which will be posted on the notice board and announced via e-mail nearer the time (if you would like to be added to the mailing list please e-mail [mary@therickfords.com](mailto:mary@therickfords.com) or call 01235 528052).

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

We are very pleased to say that the amount raised at the Plant Sale and Fete on 21st May was **£1157**. The plant stall raised £503 – almost a record! We are delighted with the results which compare well with £1004 and £1225 in the last two years. We were very lucky with the weather, 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.*

### **Culham 4<sup>th</sup> June Car Boot Sale - Joan Woodley**

This SCS event made £275: “thank you” to all who contributed to make the day a success.

### **A message from the Chairman of Culham Parish Council - Toby Price**

It has come to my attention that during the interview that I gave as Chairman of the Parish council on BBC Radio Oxford following the decision to keep Culham School open, that I implied that the Parish council had made significant contribution to this decision. On reflection my use of the word ‘we’ during the interview was inappropriate and confusing at best, as this implied I was talking about the Parish council. This was not intended, but I was then talking as a villager and not as a parish councillor. I am sorry if my faux pas has caused offence to members of the village, especially to those who worked so hard to keep the school open.

## **The Future of Culham School – Andrew Churchill Stone**

As many of you already know, we were very pleased to be at the OCC cabinet meeting on 24 May when it was decided that the school can remain open. Matt Attree, who has been Head of Teaching and Learning since September and Acting Headteacher since March has agreed to lead the school from September this year and Council accepted this proposal, along with our proposals for the school budget.

This campaign to keep the school open has enjoyed widespread support from the whole community and this was one of the things that persuaded OCC that we should stay open. On behalf of the governors, the staff and pupils I would like to thank all those who have supported us through this difficult period, whether through SCS or otherwise.

I know that the school has a vital role in our community and we believe that the school has an exciting future ahead of it. We do need to increase the numbers of children in the school and deal with a deficit budget over the next three years. We have already taken some steps on these fronts but your continued help and support is going to be vital and will be much appreciated. At the same time, Mr Attree and the governors are committed to the highest standards of education for the children at our school and we have already begun to build on the excellent foundation we already have in order to achieve this.

My thanks to you all again and I firmly believe that, with the support of the community it serves, the school can be a force for good and a source of quality education for our children for many years to come.

### **Culham Pre-School - Lea Allmond**

We are having a very exciting time at pre-school this term, the children are growing different herbs, flowers and mushrooms. They are also growing their own butterflies and looking at the lifecycle of caterpillars. We have enjoyed a day out to Millets farm for fruit picking (and tasting) play and picnic.

By the time you read this the children will have also completed their sponsored toddle around the village. Monies raised from this event will be used to purchase toys, equipments and resources. We shall be holding our end of term picnic and taking this opportunity to say goodbye to the children who shall be moving on into the main school. We hope you all have an enjoyable summer.

### **Talking Point - Revd Sue Booy**

Journeys have been very much a feature of my life during the past year. The roads I have travelled have been many and varied – from endless stretches of empty South African desert, over stony

mountain passes and engulfed in red mud in both Kenya and Lesotho. Many of the memories of these journeys are important because of the people with whom my experiences and conversations were shared. Some stick in the mind because of their great beauty, some because they were so moving and others because they were frankly frightening. Each has helped make me a little bit more 'me' and to appreciate the more local journeys alongside the river or up the Wittenham clumps! We travel further, faster and more often than our ancestors. Journeys are often a feature of our time off and holidays – times to recharge the batteries, to reflect, to do something completely different or to take time to do what feeds the essential 'me' – our minds and spirits.

Some of the earliest holidays taken by our predecessors were the Pilgrimages that they undertook – normally in company – to the places of spiritual significance of their time. These journeys were often fraught with danger but reaching the destination was all the more significant for that and for the same reason pilgrimages were also times of great companionship and spiritual refreshment. People still undertake pilgrimages to religious places today and their point remains the same – to undertake a significant outward journey that will reflect and help the internal journey that each of us makes from birth to death – a journey of relationship with the eternal – with God.

That is the essence of a pilgrimage: a journey that is both outward and internal in which we learn and grow through our relationships with others, with the path we travel and with God. It doesn't have to be long or far away nor does the landscape have to be different or special. You might undertake a pilgrimage through your own week intentionally setting out particular destinations and resting places, make a visit to a place of significance to you perhaps using a different means of transport or be intentional about a favourite (or new) walk and turn it into a pilgrimage! Whatever you choose, enjoy it and be blessed!

## **Culham Parish Council Notes, June 2011 - Andrew Steele**

Jon Woodley-Shead and April Jones have been co-opted onto the CPC

The burial ground fee structure has yet to be finalised and the slope ground stabilisation details have yet to be decided.

The fortnightly safety check of the playing field has shown that the monkey bar play feature has become unstable and will be removed. Councillors will look at the play equipment at other local villages to get an idea of possible replacement equipment layouts.

Culham Parochial School has had a clean bill of health from OCC and will continue as a viable school with no specified timeframe for its future.

CPC has joined the open spaces society.

The St Edwards football club has investigated the facilities on the Glebe and have said they are no longer interested in spending time/effort to bring the area up to playable standards.

CPC is considering re-applying for planning permission to build a pavilion on the Glebe, last investigated around 11 years ago. Initially funding and costs will be assessed.

The ORCC housing needs survey report has been received. There was a 32% response from Culham residents (from 160 households). This compares favourably with other similar surveys. Overall the report recommended that seven affordable homes should be built in any development within Culham to serve the local need. These range from a 3 bed house down to 2, 1 bed house/flats.

The CPC external auditor has recommended several changes to current practice which will be incorporated in future assessments. In particular the fidelity guarantee cover will be increased.

**Next meeting: Monday 11 July 2011 at 19:30 at the school.**

## Newington Nurseries - "Agapanthus - The Flower of Love" - Anne Hendry

This outstandingly architectural plant is more commonly known as the Lily of the Nile although its native habitat is nowhere near this majestic piece of water. Actually, Agapanthus hail from South Africa where they grow in abundance; in domestic gardens, in municipal parks, on windy mountainsides, even on the edges of dusty roads. In warmer climes, the rhizomatous root systems of Agapanthus are used to combat soil erosion in mountainous areas (think of Madeira) and swathes of Agapanthus planted as hedging in Australia apparently deter snakes. Agapanthus does however have a more romantic connotation: derived from Greek, *agape* means love and *anthos* means flower. On a more practical note, Agapanthus have been in cultivation in the UK since the late 1600s which contradicts the myth that they are difficult plants to grow and care for.

Agapanthus, botanically speaking, falls into two groups. Evergreen *Agapanthus africanus* (previously *A. umbellatus*) have broad, strappy and fleshy leaves. They produce tall, robust flower stems on top of which sit croquet ball-sized umbels (rounded clusters of flowers) of trumpet-shaped blue or white flowers. *A. africanus*, not fully hardy, are generally grown in pots making it extremely convenient to wheel them into the greenhouse or conservatory as winter approaches then wheeled out again as spring gets underway. The plant's fleshy root system likes to be constrained in pots and this results, by and large, in a more spectacular flower display. Divide the plant every few years to ensure continued flowering (although the plant may be a little shy in producing blooms immediately after division) and a healthy root system.

Deciduous *Agapanthus campanulatus* produce narrower yet still strappy leaves and the flower heads are smaller albeit no less showy than *A. africanus*. They grow at higher altitudes making them hardier than their lowland cousins. They can be grown in pots (which can be left in the garden during the winter) or in garden borders. Both evergreen and deciduous Agapanthus require plenty of sun and fertile soil; provided you oblige, they will reward you with fat, large clumps that can be divided in the spring. Although hardier than their evergreen counterparts, it's good practice to give *A. campanulatus* some winter protection; cover the crowns with a thick layer of home-made garden compost or good quality bark mulch.

All Agapanthus like plenty of water in the summer months as well as regular doses of a high potash plant food. Tomato food does the trick here. Mid-season, use a balanced liquid plant food to ensure that the plants receive all the trace elements that tomato food can't otherwise provide. In no time at all, flower spikes will appear followed by juicy-looking buds that will explode into show-stopping globes of flowers. Plants that associate well with Agapanthus are Crocosmia and Kniphofia, either the red or yellow varieties. Other associations include ornamental grasses such as Miscanthus or Pennisetum, small bamboos such as Pleioblastus (plant these only in pots as they 'run') or the airy Gaura 'Whirling Butterflies' and Verbena bonariensis.

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

# newington nurseries

fabulous pots and plants  
 for the house and garden  
 at unbelievable prices!

garden art exhibition april to september

newington nr stadhampton OX10 7AW ♦ [www.newington-nurseries.co.uk](http://www.newington-nurseries.co.uk) ♦ tel 01865 400533 ♦ closed on Mondays except Bank Holidays

## Northmoor Trust Events

### JULY

Sunday 3rd 10am - 1pm Adults £5 | Children £2

**Guided Walk: Damsels and Dragons:** Discover more about these fascinating flying insects on this guided stroll.

Saturday 9th 10am - 4pm Adults £75 | Friends £60

**Wilderness Cookery:** Spend a relaxing day around a fire learning how to prepare and cook a variety of foods with the minimum of utensils and pots.

Saturday 9th 2pm - 5pm Free entry

**Paradise Wood Open Afternoon:** A National Research Woodland. Discover more about our woodlands, woodcrafts and forestry research. Refreshments available. Timed, guided tours of Paradise Wood will depart from the Neptune car park

Saturday/Sunday 9th/10th 10am - 4pm Adults £200 | Friends £160

**Coracle Making Workshop:** Make yourself a Coracle Boat and then take it away with you! Experienced Coracle maker Alistair Phillips will guide you through the process. Fee includes all materials, tuition, and paddle. You will need to paint at home (paint not included in price).

Sunday 17th 2pm - 4pm **Friend's Exclusive**

A walk around a Wildflower Meadow

This exclusive walk is a great opportunity to see our stunning wildflower meadow in all its glory, and learn about the techniques used to manage it.

Saturday/Sunday 23rd/24th 9.30am - 4pm Adults £75 | Friends £60

**Hay Making: The Traditional Way:** A fantastic opportunity to learn this traditional and skilful craft. Learn how to use a scythe, and develop your knowledge of hay meadow management.

Monday/Friday 25th/29th 10am - 3pm Children £25 per day

**Summer Clumps Club:** Different outdoor adventures and play every day! Shelter building, wild art, drama and games! For children aged 8 –12 years.

### AUGUST

Thursday 11th 8pm - 10.30pm Adults £5 | Children £2

**Guided Walk and Talk: Bats.** Meet Dave Endacott's rescued bats before going on a night time walk around the reserve and learning how to use a bat detector.

Saturday 13th 10am - 4pm Adults £75 | Friends £60

**Woodcraft;** Reconnect with the way we used to live - learn how to carve spatulas, spoons and other useful implements.

*Events take place at Hill Farm, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ. For more information ring 01865 407792, email [admin@northmoortrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@northmoortrust.co.uk), or see the web site [www.northmoortrust.co.uk](http://www.northmoortrust.co.uk)*

## ORCC working to support Digital TV Switchover Programme and its Help Scheme

This September, the analogue television signal will be switched off forever and replaced with a digital signal. TV equipment will need to be digital-compatible, otherwise it will display a totally blank screen.

ORCC is working with Digital UK, an independent not for profit organisation formed by broadcasters, to assist Oxfordshire consumers in the conversion. There are two Switchover dates for Oxfordshire:

14 September (BBC2) and 28 September (all remaining analogue channels, i.e. ITV, BBC1, Channel 4, Channel 5).

ORCC has been appointed by Digital UK to mobilise local organisations and volunteers in Oxfordshire to help their service users and residents in their community to make the switch to digital TV successfully.

ORCC will be publicising the Switchover Help Scheme, run by the BBC, which has been set up to make it easier for older and disabled people to switch to digital TV. People are eligible for the scheme if they are aged 75 years or more, have lived in a care home for six months or more, get (or could get) certain disability benefits, or are registered blind or partially sighted.

The Help Scheme is run by the BBC and can provide easy to use digital TV equipment, a security-checked installer and a A 12 month aftercare service. This will cost only £40 or is free to people who are in receipt of benefits.

Everyone who is eligible for the Help Scheme has received a letter telling them all about it but not everyone may have read it or understood what is on offer and how to get help. These are the people that ORCC will be urging local organisations and volunteers to reach.

Organisations will be encouraged to hold events and presentations, giving advice on how to switch over to digital TV. There is funding available through a Small Grants Scheme to encourage extra events locally. Materials developed to help run events and explain switchover can also be provided.

Key figures - "supporters" - in the community will be asked to check that vulnerable people they know who are eligible for the Help Scheme have understood what is available and are accessing the Scheme if they need to.

For more information about the switchover and how to help, please contact Jayne Bullock, ORCC, Jericho Farm, Worton, Witney, Oxon OX29 4SZ. Tel: 01865 883488. Email: [orcc@oxonrcc.org.uk](mailto:orcc@oxonrcc.org.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 September issue of The Mouthpiece by August 15th please, to:**

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

**John Mason**, 20 High Street, 01235 527440 or email: [johnu.mason@gmail.com](mailto:johnu.mason@gmail.com)

### Advertisements to:

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

*Issues of the Mouthpiece are published on the village web site [www.culhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.culhamvillage.org.uk)*

Solar Electric Panel Installers	
 <p><b>AES</b> ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut down on fuel bills</li> <li>• It's the Green Option</li> <li>• Solar electricity is now a great long term investment</li> <li>• Local accredited installer</li> </ul>	<p>For a FREE no obligation chat or to find out more about solar electricity, tailored to suit your business or home, call us now on 01865 391241</p>  
<p>01865 391241 office@aespv.com www.aespv.com</p>	

<p><i>Hand finished, For all your ironing needs!</i></p> <p>clothes, linen, starching</p> <p>free collection &amp; delivery</p> <p>Kerry Holt 01491 651622 07960 873874</p>	 <p>Press Steam Ironing Services</p>
---	---