

The Mouthpiece

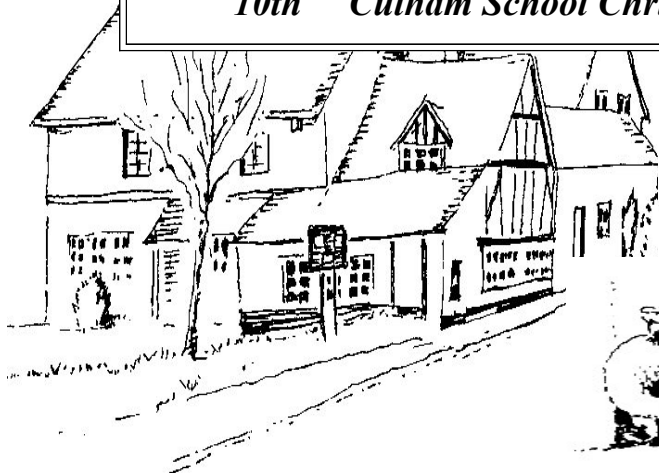
Culham's Newsletter No 331

Village Diary - November 2011

- 5th Culham School Stall, Market Place, Abingdon*
- 10th Culham School Open Day, 9.30 - 11.00 am & 1.30 - 3.00 pm*
- 11th Remembrance Service - St. Paul's Church, 10.50 am*
- 13th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 14th Parish Council Meeting - The School, 7.30 pm*
- 11th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 15th DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY'S MOUTHPIECE*
- 20th Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 25th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*

December

- 10th Culham School Christmas Bazaar, 3.30 pm*



November's Church Services

Date	Time	Place	Service
SERVICES AT CULHAM			
Friday 11th	10.50 am	Culham	Remembrance Service
Sunday 13th	10 am	Culham	Family Communion
Sunday 20th	6 pm	Culham	Evening Prayer
<i>Join us for coffee after morning services at Culham or for informal prayers on Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.</i>			
SERVICES ELSEWHERE			
Sunday 6th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Tuesday 8th	10.30 am	Long Wittenham	Home Communion
Sunday 13th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 20th	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 27th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion

Help Wanted - The Mouthpiece

Distribution and Delivery

Following last month's appeal, we would like to thank those people who have volunteered to help with delivery and distribution. In particular, we welcome Maggie Graham's offer to look after the distribution of 'The Mouthpiece' to those who deliver it. Our thanks are due to Adrian Waters who not only took charge of Distribution, but lately delivered to The Glebe as well.

However, we would like some more help with **editing**. If you can use Microsoft WORD and emails you could be an editor. If you are interested please get in touch with Brian Bracher (Tel 525885) or John Mason (527440). If you value receiving a **free** monthly newsletter, then we do need a bit more support.

Village News

Angela Griffiths

It is with great sadness that we learned that Angela passed away in September. Since retiring from work as a medical secretary at the Radcliffe Infirmary, she became increasingly involved with village life. She brought expertise to our annual Plant Sale, became Secretary to the Friends of St Paul's Church and helped to deliver The Mouthpiece. Angela and Bob moved to Culham in 1978: Bob served on the Parish Council and was its Chairman for many years. Angela was well-liked and her humour and vitality will be greatly missed.

Church Activities in September – Culham PCC

September saw two special Sunday evening events at St Paul's Church. On the 18th we were joined by the choir of St George's Church, Wash Common, Newbury where our organist, Keith Glenny, is choirmaster. Their excellent singing filled our lovely church with splendid sounds, enjoyed by some 40 people. Everyone who sings in our church praises its acoustics and we welcome anyone who would like to try them out.

On the 25th we had a Harvest Festival Service followed by a Harvest Supper. It was great to see so many families with children there, enjoying the evening. As well as the excellent supper, Andrew Churchill Stone proved very successful as the auctioneer at an 'Auction of Promises'. Many thanks are due to all those who helped to organise this successful event, especially to Jane Lay for the delicious Harvest Supper.

Carol Service – Andrew Churchill Stone

Following the success of the informal choir we put together for the Carol Service last year we would like to try to do the same again. The Carol Service will be on **Sunday, 17 December** in the evening and the idea is to form a choir to lead the singing and sing one or two 'performance' items. There would be one rehearsal on the morning of Sunday 10 December although we may also gather before the service on the day. If you are interested in joining us please contact me at 18 High Street, ring **533011** or email a.churchill.stone@givemail.co.uk.

Christmas at the Railway Inn - Pauline Davidson

Pauline is still offering Christmas Lunches for Culham's senior citizens at The Railway Inn this Christmas on Saturday 10th December from 2 pm to 6 pm. For more details, please ring **528046** or email info@railwayinnculham.co.uk

Culham Parochial School - Caroline Evans & Cheryl Fairley

Culham Parochial C of E Primary School are having their annual Open Day on **Thursday 10th November** during school hours, from **9.30 - 11.00 am and 1.30 - 3.00 pm**. We would love to welcome any prospective parents to come and look around, as well as any of the local community members to see what wonderful work the pupils have been doing over the last year.

To advertise this more, we will be having a stall in the Market Place on **Saturday 5th November** promoting our lovely little school. Please come along to give the teachers and pupils your support! See www.culhamvillageschool.co.uk

For your Diary

*We welcome all our friends and neighbours in the village (and beyond!) to join our **Christmas celebrations** listed below.*

Friday 2 December, 3.30 pm:	Christmas Bazaar - in school
Friday 9 December, 2.00 pm:	Community Christmas Carols - in school
Monday 12 December, 1.45 pm:	School Nativity dress rehearsal - in church
Tuesday 13 December, 6.00 pm:	School Nativity - in church

Culham Pre-School – Lea Allmond

This term the children have been enjoying some lovely outings in the unexpected good weather!! We have been to the river to see the boats and collect conkers; we have also been to Peachcroft Farm to see the turkeys, the geese and the amazing pumpkin fields.

We have been looking at all types of fruit and vegetables and making home-made bread and apple crumbles. The children have also had the opportunity to visit a neighbour in The Glebe to see the chickens and collect freshly laid eggs: they then made some lovely sandwiches

with them. After the Abingdon fair the children also enjoyed making popcorn and toffee apples!

We'd just like to say thank you to our friends and neighbours for allowing the children to visit their gardens and supplying apples, eggs, etc for us.

Culham Parish Council Notes, October 2011 - Andrew Steele

Update from OCC (Lorraine Lindsay-Gail)

The area stewardship fund has been fixed at £1m and is available for fourteen locations in the Berinsfield/Benson/Wallingford areas. The fund is not available for road pothole filling but can be applied for against items that don't usually get fixed. After some discussion a potential upgrade to the traffic lights at the Waggon was suggested. This would allow a pedestrian control of the lights for crossing the road.

OCC are 'rationalising' their holdings in a similar manner to SODC. This may allow some properties to be sold.

The Viridor MBT (Mechanical Biological Treatment Facility) at Sutton Courtenay has been turned down by planning but a bio-digester has now been applied for.

The incinerator proposal for Ardley is now at the appeal court.

The minerals and waste consultation is on-going until 31 October.

Other news

Dr Toby Price has decided to stand down as CPC chairman and councillor after 10 years' service.

CPC is investigating the possibility of finding grants etc. for using the Waggon and Horses as a community run/owned pub – but it is early days yet!

The salt bin and salt destined for placement close to the school have been ordered.

The burial ground slope improvement is to go ahead.

A 'Community Building Committee' (of three) has been formed informally. Anyone wishing to assist or join the committee please contact any Parish Councillor in the first instance.

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

Talking Point – Revd. David Cleugh

How do we deal with our enemies?

As I am writing this there is some discussion in the international community about how we might engage in dialogue with the Taliban in Afghanistan. This process is fraught with danger - a former president of Afghanistan has recently been killed by a suicide bomber who was representing the Taliban in talks. A first look at the difference in value systems between the Taliban and the West looks like a gulf too wide to bridge. We will have to wait to see how these talks progress and whether they will bear fruit.

An example closer to home, and for that matter further down the road to peace, would be our government engaging in talks with the IRA in Northern Ireland. Although the situation there remains far from perfect, the years of relative peace since agreement in 1998 show real progress in the situation there.

For me this raises the question about how we talk to those with whom we fundamentally differ. Is it possible to agree to disagree on some matters whilst working together on those areas on which you agree? This all takes a degree of trust. If we cannot trust the person with whom we are negotiating, then we cannot continue. How do we build up this mutual trust? This is a risky business but potentially rewarding. In getting to know those who are different from us we open up a space for discovery - we better understand the person on the opposite side of the argument and how they come to hold their views and hopefully they better understand our position.

We probably all have some situation in our lives where there are people we find it difficult to talk to, sometimes because our views differ, or we come from different cultures or through a falling-out. How and when we start the process is difficult to judge, but all journeys, no matter how long, begin with a single step.

Local Police – Rebekah Kent

Our nearest “**Have Your Say**” Meetings in November are:

Wednesday 2nd November outside the Post Office, High Street, **Dorchester**, 11:00 – 11:30 & Tuesday 22nd November outside the Doctors Surgery, Fane Drive, **Berinsfield**, 11:00 – 11:30

Crime Mapping The Home Office national crime mapping website gives the public access to street-level crime information as well as information on their Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Neighbourhood Priorities and Events or details of ‘Have Your Say’ and other neighbourhood activities. To find out more please visit our web site www.police.uk, type in your local postcode or neighbourhood name and then click on ‘Find out more’.

Community Messaging This free service provides information to subscribers about crime and police activity in their area via phone or email. It also includes information on what we and our partner services are doing to bring offenders to justice or combat anti-social behaviour, and information on opportunities for local residents to raise concerns with their local policing teams.

More information can be obtained via our website, and you can sign up here too:

<http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx>

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can email WallingfordAreaNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. Alternatively call us on the police non emergency number **0845 8 505505** or visit the force website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk to view information on your neighbourhood.

Newington Nurseries - Anne Hendry

Open Day

We are having an ‘Open Day’ at the nursery on **Saturday, 5 November**, and will be handing out samples of tasty food! If you’re free that day, please come along.

Heathers - Acid or Alkaline?

Heathers seem to confuse us. Do they like acid soil? Do they like alkaline soil? It depends on the species in fact. Some require acid soil conditions to thrive. Others will grow in neutral and alkaline soils. Flowering time also causes headaches. Again, all is dependent on the species.

Calluna vulgaris heathers are acid loving plants as are *Erica cinera*, *E. x stuartii* and *E. vagans* as well as the taller-growing *E. arborea*. *Callunas* and *E. vagans* flower late summer to early autumn whereas *Erica cinera* and *E. x stuartii* can flower from early summer onwards. In contrast, *Erica carnea* and *E. x darleyensis* cultivars thrive in lime tolerant conditions and flower from early to mid winter until early summer. In other words, these very under-rated plants provide year-round interest and colour.

A heather bed should be positioned in full sun, away from deciduous trees. Foliage heathers colour much better when planted in a bright and sunny position. Try and plant in groups of 3 or 5, or more, to create impact. Plant heathers deeply with the lower foliage resting on the soil surface. Bark mulch the bed to keep weeds at bay. Pruning is done annually making heathers really low maintenance plants. In general, trimming retards the flowering by two to three weeks. Prune as follows:

- **Calluna vulgaris** - February or March, prune long flowering spikes back to plant. Trim off all flower heads.
- **Erica carnea** - Every other April or May, trim flower heads with shears. Trim the more vigorous cultivars hard to stop the centre going bare.
- **Erica cinerea** - February or March, trim off dead flowers particularly long flowering spikes.
- **Erica x stuartii** - April or May, trim off dead flowers.
- **Erica arborea** - After flowering, trim half of previous year's growth for the first four years to encourage bushy growth; trim off broken branches. Stake for support.
- **Erica x darleyensis** - Trim each June. Do not be afraid of limiting growth.
- **Erica vegans** - Leave flower heads on for russet colours during winter. Trim every March. Do not be afraid of limiting growth.

Anne Hendry, Newington Nurseries, Newington, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 7AW
www.newington-nurseries.co.uk Tel 01865 400533

newington nurseries

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

orchids now available online!

newington nr stadhampton OX10 7AW ♦ www.newington-nurseries.co.uk ♦ tel 01865 400533 ♦ closed on Mondays except Bank Holidays

Out and About

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory - 'Talking Science' lecture series

Friday 25 November at 10:30am (schools only), 1:30pm & 7:00pm (Audience: 14 - 16+):

'X-rays to antimatter' by Dr Michael Wilson (RAL)

Over the past hundred years physicists have developed increasingly sophisticated techniques to see inside the body, with each discovery improving the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and illness. Follow Michael Wilson as he journeys from the early discovery of X-rays, through today's magnetic resonance imaging and beyond to the future: antimatter.

To book your place at any Talking Science event, please call 01235 445 959 (24 hour answer phone) or email rtalkingscience@stfc.ac.uk

Concert Performance - David Mckenzie

All Saints Singers, Sutton Courtenay, will be performing MOZART'S REQUIEM at the Church in Sutton Courtenay on **Sunday 27th November at 7.30 pm**. Their last concert received splendid reviews from the Oxford Mail. If you want tickets for this wonderful masterpiece please ring 01235 848205 or contact either Burgrey Stores, Sutton Courtenay or The Bookshop, Abingdon

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 December/January issue of The Mouthpiece by November 15th please, to:

Brian Bracher, 25 High Street, 01235 525885 or email: brian@thebrachers.com

John Mason, 20 High Street, 01235 527440 or email: johnu.mason@gmail.com

Advertisements to:

Brian Bracher, 25 High Street, 01235 525885 or email brian@thebrachers.com

Issues of the Mouthpiece appear on the village web site www.culhamvillage.org.uk

Solar Electric Panel Installers	
 <p>AES ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut down on fuel bills • It's the Green Option • Solar electricity is now a great long term investment • Local accredited installer 	<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>  
01865 391241 office@aespv.com www.aespv.com	

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