

The Mouthpiece

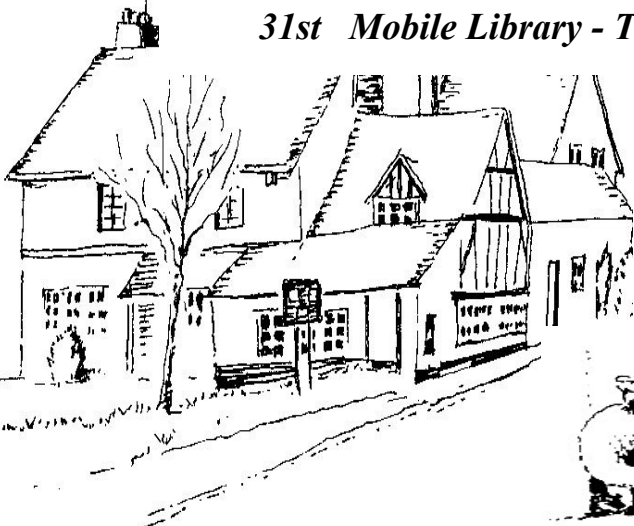
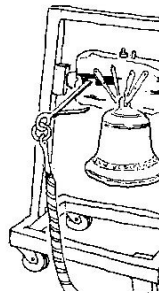
Culham's Newsletter No 338

Village Diary - July 2012

- 6th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 8th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 9th Parish Council Meeting - The School, 7.30 pm*
- 15th Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 20th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*

August

- 3rd Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 12th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 13th Parish Council Meeting - The School, 7.30 pm*
- 15th DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER MOUTHPIECE*
- 17th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 15th Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 31st Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*



Church Services in July and August

JULY SERVICES - CULHAM			
Sunday 8th	10 am	CULHAM	Family Communion
Sunday 15th	6 pm	CULHAM	Evening Prayer
JULY SERVICES ELSEWHERE			
Sunday 1st	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Sunday 8th	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Tuesday 10th	10.30 am	Long Wittenham	Home Communion
Sunday 15th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 29th	10.30 am	Chiselhampton	Team Communion
AUGUST SERVICES - CULHAM			
Sunday 12th	10 am	CULHAM	Family Communion
Sunday 19th	6 pm	CULHAM	Evening Prayer
AUGUST SERVICES ELSEWHERE			
Sunday 5th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Sunday 12th	8 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Tuesday 14th	10.30am	Long Wittenham	Home Communion
Sunday 19th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 26th	8.30am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	10 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
<i>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.</i>			

Backhaus German Bakers
At Culham (The Lion) every Tuesday from 12 noon until 5 pm.

~40 types of bread: 100% rye - gluten-free & yeast-free breads - 100% wheat bread, with & without seeds.

No chemical improvers or GM products. Salt content ½ that of English white bread.
 Rolls and cakes - German sausages - liver sausages - meat loaf - salamis & much more

Village News

Red Cross Collection - Kath Pearce

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the British Red Cross collection this year. A total of £118.18 was collected: many thanks for your generous donations.

Events at the Waggon & Horses – Hamish Forsyth

Monday nights - Steak night from £6-50

Tuesday nights - quiz night, 8:30 pm

Live Music in July:

Saturday 14th - 'Nameless', Saturday 21st - 'Sub-Way', Saturday 28th - 'The Dirty Earth Band'

Saturday 25th August - Autumn charity BBQ.

For more information please ring **01235 525012**

For Your Diary:

September Concert - Friends of St Paul's Church

The Friends plan to put on a Concert of 20th Century English songs by a visiting group of singers, probably on Saturday 22nd September, to raise funds for church repairs. More information later.

Also: 'Ride & Stride', 8th September - Ingrid Reichardt

The annual 'Ride and Stride' event in aid of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust will take place on **Saturday 8th September** 2012. Each cyclist or walker aims to visit as many churches as possible between 10 am and 6 pm. It is an effective way of raising funds for your Church as 50% of the sponsorship money comes back to the church designated by you. There will be a list of churches open on 8th September between these times but if you are busy on that day you could take part on a different day. However the churches you may want to visit may not be open and you would have to sign your own sponsorship form. People sitting in the church and signing sponsorship forms can also be sponsored, so if you feel less energetic and like to meet riders or walkers you could also raise money in this way. Sponsorship forms will be available from **July 5th** onwards from **Ingrid Reichardt** at Fair Green, Abingdon Road, Culham (opposite the Waggon and Horses). Tel: 01235 520534. Ingrid will also bring them to the Church for every service.

Talking Point - Revd David Cleugh

This summer sees the Olympic games returning to Britain for the first time since 1948 and they are sure to be at the forefront of the news agenda. Those who organise the games see their role as being greater than just providing a sporting event. To quote from the Olympic Charter: "Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles."

Most of us will never be able to compete at the Olympic level of competition, but there is something to be learned from the Olympian spirit. The ideal of people from many nations coming together in a festival that celebrates a common love of sport is a good example for us to follow. I'm writing this as the excitement of the Jubilee celebrations is still fresh in my mind. I was fortunate enough to attend several events in different places. If I was to highlight one similarity between those that I attended, it was the shared sense of coming together as a village. This was one of the few times I have seen people from different parts of the community come together with common purpose and the atmosphere which it created was wonderful.

It is also important to remember that behind all the events that happened was a lot of hard work and planning. Here there is a real parallel with the Olympics, which not only have to be organised but also need athletes to compete. These athletes in some cases spend their whole life training just for one short event at the peak of their fitness to aspire for Gold.

So as we enjoy all that this summer has to offer, let us remember all those who work hard behind the scenes so that we can enjoy the events, that hopefully inspired by their example we might put our own efforts towards the enjoyments of others in another field at some other time.

Local Police – Rebekah Kent

Here is the latest neighbourhood update from Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) Rebekah Kent and Sarah Talbot.

Vehicle Theft. The Local Priority for the Benson and Berinsfield area in June was the theft both of, and from, vehicles: in particular, removal of number plates. It is important that you report such thefts to us (on the police non-emergency number 101) as they can be used in crimes such as stealing fuel from petrol stations etc. On 20 May several cars were broken into at the Abingdon Football Club, Culham where items were taken from vehicles. We will continue to carry out the Clear Car Campaign as mentioned in our previous newsletter.

The nearest “**Have Your Say**” Meetings for July 2012 are as follows:

Friday 13th July – Library Car Park, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield 1800 – 1830

Monday 23rd July – Recreation ground, Drayton Road, Dorchester 1800 – 1830

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Newington Nurseries: “Pelargoniums” - Anne Hendry

Pelargoniums, more commonly known as **geraniums**, are the perfect plant for providing instant summer colour in the garden. Better still, they're drought and heat tolerant. They have adapted to parched and inhospitable growing conditions in their native habitats which include South Africa, Turkey, Iraq and the remote south Atlantic islands of St Helena and Tristan de Cuhna. Most Pelargoniums cultivated in Europe and the United States have their origins in South Africa however. The first-known cultivated Pelargonium was *P. triste* (the Sad Geranium) and this was introduced to the UK from France in the early 1600s. Today, Pelargoniums fall into six horticultural groups.

Zonal Pelargoniums (*Pelargonium x hortorum*) are the most popular type and produce beautiful clusters of flowers on long stalks. They are derived from *P. zonale* and *P. inquinans*. They're called zonal as their round, fan-like leaves have either a dark, coloured spot in the centre or are edged deep brown. Zonal Pelargoniums, like most of the other types, hate getting wet and thrive in hot and sunny situations.

Ivy-Leaved Pelargoniums, derived from *P. peltatum*, have a relaxed growth habit and are used in hanging baskets or in large urns where they can trail to their hearts content. They produce masses of tiny flowers on long, slender stems above thick and waxy, ivy-shaped leaves. Although we use Ivy-Leaved Pelargoniums in the UK, it's the Europeans who use them to best effect in their stunning balcony displays.

Regal Pelargoniums (*P. x domesticum*) are fairly dense in form and produce large flower heads on short stems. They're compact and rounded in shape, producing richly-coloured flowers over a long period. They can be easily identified by their serrated leaves which are virtually obscured by the numerous flower blooms. They were first raised at Sandringham, hence the name regal, and like a little more water than the other varieties.

Angel Pelargoniums' parentage is *P. Crispum* crossed with a Regal variety and were cultivated in the early 20th century. They have increased in popularity over the past 30 or 40 years due to new varieties being produced by specialist nurseries. They grow in an upright manner and are bushy in nature.

Unique Pelargoniums are shrubby plants, often with two-tone foliage that emits a scent when crushed. They derive from *P. fulgidum* and produce masses of flowers. They were cultivated at the turn of the 19th century in the glasshouses of stately homes when the cost of labour was low.

Scented Leaf Pelargoniums are grown principally for the fragrance of their foliage. Some species are grown for their oil, 'geranol', which is used in the perfume industry. The leaves can also be used to make potpourri or used as flavouring in cooking. In contrast, other species give off an unpleasant smell when touched and act as a deterrent to grazing animals. On the other hand, insects are attracted to the flowers and pollinate the plants.

Finally, Species Pelargoniums are the parents of the different cultivar groups. They are found growing with complete ease in their natural yet stark habitats which include lowland, arid deserts as well as harsh mountain environments.

Pelargoniums need plenty of light to thrive and only a little water to survive. Over-watering will cause die-back and rotting of the plant. They need heat and sunshine to succeed in producing a display of flowers throughout the summer. They can be helped along with a high potassium plant food. They're at their most striking when planted in terracotta pots, strategically placed on patios, tops of walls, balconies, garden steps, gravel paths, in fact any sunny areas of the garden.

Over-winter in a frost-free greenhouse (not a heated room in the house), having cut back to half their size. Keep dry during the winter months and provide only the minimum amount of water. Cuttings can be taken late summer: put straight into moist compost and they will take. As a general rule, the harsher a Pelargonium is treated the better it will flower.

Anne Hendry, Newington Nurseries (on the A329 on the outskirts of Stadhampton)
Tel 01865 400533 www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

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Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Elizabeth Stevens

Here are some items of interest taken from ORCC's 14-page June Newsletter

Low Cost Computers for Rural People

If you live or work in a rural area, the **Arthur Rank Centre** can supply a fully functioning computer for as little as £130, i.e. at an extra-low price. Internet ready laptops and desktops come with pre-installed Microsoft software. Customers may order and pay online, by phone or by post, and delivery is free, on the UK mainland, to individuals, schools, businesses & community groups.

Email and the Internet provide enormous opportunities for those who find it hard to get out and about, yet computers are usually expensive, and few people want to buy one 'just to see if it might be useful'.

This scheme aims to help such people in rural communities and individuals to take the first step with cheap high-quality refurbished computers.

The ARC is cooperating with two other charities to supply re-furbished computers to you at extra-low charity prices. This deal is only available through the ARC. For further details see www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/communities-and-farming/computers-for-rural-people.

Social Media Toolkits

For those who want to learn about Facebook and twitter - and why they might be useful for your community - we have produced two useful guides that take you step by step through the processes of setting up and using both of these accounts. These 'How-to guides' can be downloaded from the ORCC website www.oxonrcc.org.uk/library/how-to-guides.

Village Friend

Rural communities are being given a boost by a unique new website aimed at improving inter-village communication. It is called VILLAGE FRIEND: it's simple, easy to use and free. It enables local people to create adverts containing community information and to promote local businesses, goods & services. There's even a forum to discuss local issues. People can produce adverts similar to 1-page websites that are recognised individually by search engines such as Google. An advert can contain up to 3000 characters, 8 slideshow images, a Google Map, website and social networking links, all with spam email protection.

Even the "IT-phobic" can produce and update adverts quickly. Visitors to Village Friend can decide exactly what local area to view by using the *Postcode Radius Search facility*. For more information see www.villagefriend.com.

Bulk Oil Buying Scheme – best prices now!

The warmer weather has arrived but it is still a good idea to keep your oil tank topped up in the summer when prices tend to be lower. At the end of May members benefitted from the lowest oil prices since August 2011. ie. 52.82 p/ litre, saving £61.80 on a 1000-litre order. 150 members bought approximately 150,000 litres. To join the ORCC Trading Oil scheme in Culham please ring Michael Chatwin on **532181**.

Out and About - Earth Trust Events

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July

Sunday 1st, registration from 10am. Walk on the Wild Side: a wonderful day out, supporting two local charities, (Age UK and Earth Trust. Two walks: a mainly flat, non-challenging 5K suitable for all terrain buggies and an undulating, possibly boggy, 8K walk. Entry fees: Adult £5, Children £2.50. Adult entrants are asked to raise a minimum £30 sponsorship. Download an entry form from www.earthtrust.org.uk or call 01235 849410.

Sunday 1st, 2-4pm. Guided Walk: Damsels and Dragons at Thrupp Lake, Radley. Meet at 'Sandles' (more details on booking). Adults £5, Children £2.

Thursday 5th – Sunday 8th. Pop up Restaurant! For four days the Earth Trust restaurant will pop-up in a glorious wildflower meadow beside the River Thames. For details see www.earthtrust.org.uk

Saturday 7th, 10am-4pm. Fruit Tree Budding. Learn all aspects of fruit tree budding, make three fruit trees to take home. Adults £50, Friends £40.

Thursday 12th, 9pm-11pm. Guided Walk: Bats at Riverside Meadows. Adults £5, Children £2.

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th, 10am-4pm. Coracle making workshop. Make your own Coracle Boat. Experienced Coracle maker Alistair Phillips will guide you through the process. Fee includes materials, tuition and a paddle but not paint. If you'd like to cover your boat with a more durable plastic sheet an additional £35 is payable. Adults £200, Friends £160.

Sunday 15th, 10am-4pm. Introduction to Bushcraft. Learn to build a shelter, make fire by friction and enjoy some time in the woods. Adults £75, Friends £60.

Saturday 21st, 9.30am-4pm. Introduction to Scything. All specialist tools and equipment supplied. Adults £50, Friends £40.

Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st, 9.30am-4pm. Summer Clumps Club. Different outdoor adventures every day. Shelter building, wild art, drama and games! £25 per child per day.

August

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd, 9.30am-4pm. Summer Clumps Club, as above.

Friday 3rd, 10am-3pm. Family Bushcraft Day. See 15th July for details.

Thursday 9th, 8pm-10.30pm. Guided Walk and Talk: Bats. A night time walk around the reserve learning how to use a bat detector. Adults £5, Children £2.

Sunday 26th. Record Breaking Picnic! Earth Trust invites everyone to bring a picnic and break the record for the UK's largest picnic at a single venue. There will be a carnival atmosphere with stalls, workshops and entertainment. See www.earthtrust.org.uk

Unless otherwise stated all events take place at Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ. Booking is essential, call 01865 407792 or email admin@earthtrust.org.uk. See www.earthtrust.org.uk for more information.

Endpiece

Please note that any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editors. We accept information from advertisers in good faith and cannot be responsible for errors therein.

Contributions to the SEPTEMBER issue of The Mouthpiece by AUGUST 15th please, to:

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