

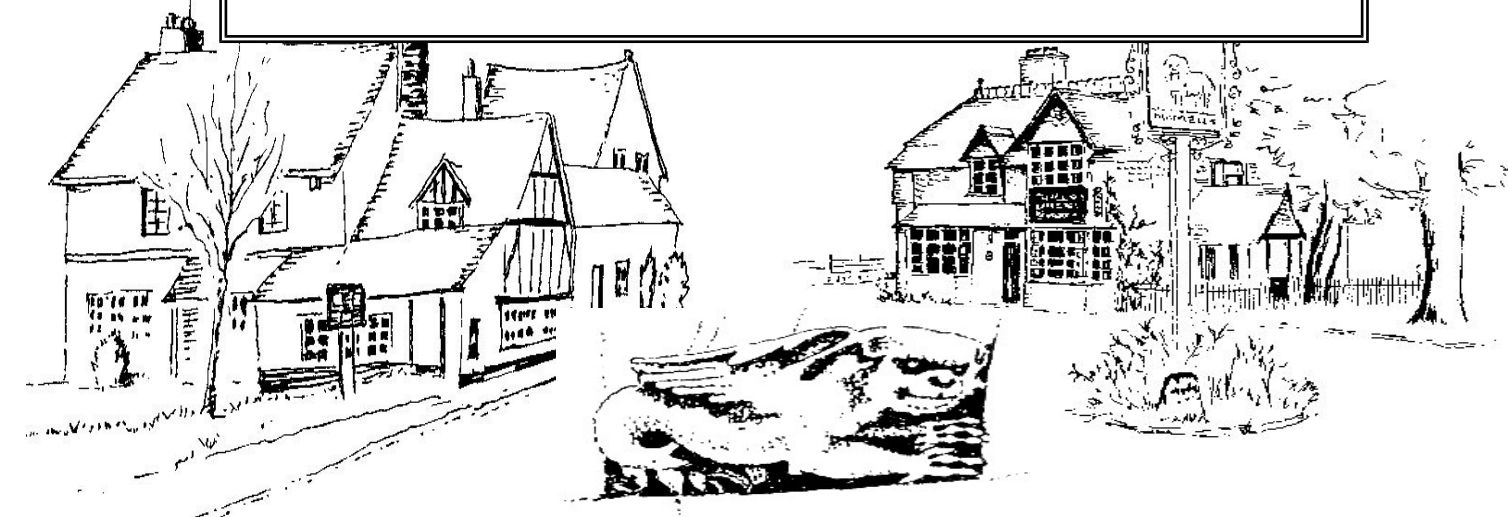
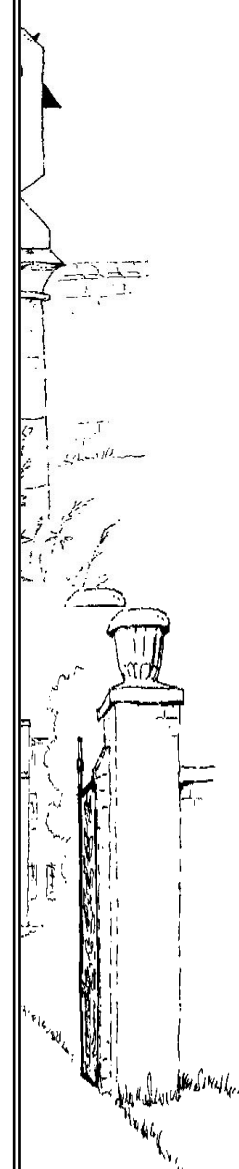
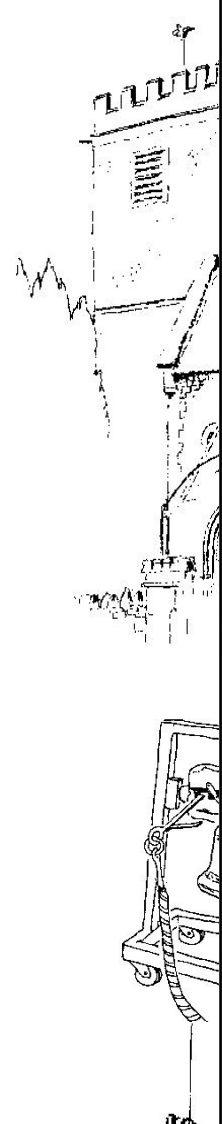


The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter No 347

Village Diary – June 2013

- 2nd Village Tidy-up – 12 to 2 pm, meet at School*
- 7th Mobile Library – The Glebe, 1.40 to 1.50 pm*
- 8th School Car Boot Sale – The Green, 1 to 4 pm*
- 9th Family Communion – St Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 9th Friends of St Paul's AGM – Church, 11 am (followed by BBQ)*
- 10th Parish Council Meeting – The School, 7.30 pm*
- 15th DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUGUST'S MOUTHPIECE*
- 15th Summer Fete - The School, 1 to 4 pm*
- 16th Evening Prayer – St Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 21st Mobile Library – The Glebe, 1.40 to 1.50 pm*
- 29th Craft & shopping – Culham School, 12 to 4 pm*
PLUS Open gardens round the village



CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SERVICE
SERVICES AT CULHAM			
Sunday 9th	10 am	Culham	Family Communion
	11 am	...	<i>Friends' AGM then BBQ</i>
Sunday 16th	6 pm	...	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 Ilsley at Culham Church on Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.</i></p>			
SERVICES ELSEWHERE			
Sunday 2nd	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Sunday 9th	8 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 16th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	10.30 am	Little Wittenham	Team Communion

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VILLAGE NEWS

Friends AGM and BBQ - Philip Owen

The annual AGM of the Friends of St Paul's Church will take place in the Church at **11.00 am on Sunday June 9th**. Please attend if you would like to hear about the well-being of the Church Building and if you would like to share your views or listen to others on supporting the Church Building going forward.

The aim of the Friends is to raise sufficient funds to maintain the fabric of the Church building, and where possible to make improvements. It is a registered charity run by the Trustees united in their common aim of preserving the village church. St Paul's is a beautiful and historic structure, is important as part of Culham and deserves our support. The Friends have been pleased to support the Church with funds for repairs and improvements since 2000 approaching £10,000. We are currently focussing on building up sufficient capital to meet expected costs in the coming Quinquennial Review.

Immediately after the AGM there will be a **barbeque**. If you would like to attend the BBQ please purchase a ticket from one of the committee members or just email me on pandj@btinternet.com to reserve yourself a place. The tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for children.

Plant Sale & Church Fete (late news)

So far we have collected £1160 at the plant sale on 18th May and the Friends' Tombola raised £130. More news next month, but thank you to all those who helped in so many ways!

Accommodation to Let

1 x bedroom with en suite, good size room with shower, toilet and sink, shared kitchen and wash room, off street parking, bus stop within 200 yards. Please contact **Paul 07973 444461**

FROM THE MOUTHPIECE

Thank you!

Jon Woodley-Shead has been one of our editors for the last 18 months, but finds that he can longer fit this in with all his other activities. We would like to thank Jon for all his contributions and help to our village newsletter.

We would like an extra editor and if you would like to try editing an issue, please contact Brian Bracher. If you're familiar with WORD and Email, then you could do it!

Mouthpiece Advertisements - Brian Bracher

We have finished our annual round of collecting advertisers' fees and would like to thank all those who paid up so promptly: it did make life easier!

Without income from our advertisers, the Mouthpiece will run out of funds and could close, possibly during the year 2013-14.

We have streamlined the advertising process this year and we now need someone with experience in WORD, EXCEL and EMAIL to organise the advertisements in the future.

I will **not** be able to continue doing this next year, so if you can help, please ring me on **525885** or email me at brian@thebrachers.com.

Culham Parish Council Notes for May 2013 – Andrew Steele

From the District Councillor

John Cotton had received the letter from SODC in reply to the Vale's consultation on the Local Plan that afternoon. He will circulate the letter to the CPC and others who queried the District Council on the proposed Abingdon southern bypass going through Culham. He pointed out in particular that the reply states that 'SODC wishes to see the plan amended to remove the safeguarding of the land in Culham Parish'. SODC has also made the point that CPC should in future be kept informed on the consultation exercise. This did not happen with the originally released Plan or consultation details.

Other items

CPC has responded to the Vale's Draft Policy Consultation with a petition about Policy 11 (the removal of the safeguarding of Culham Parish land). Various letters of complaint have also been submitted by individuals in the Parish. The response to the Draft Plan Consultation is eagerly awaited.

The police have been in attendance at the village school in response to complaints about parking during the morning arrival time. A number of warnings about illegal parking have been issued.

A broken pole in the play area of the playing field will be replaced.

The audit of the accounts for 2012/13 was approved and signed off by CPC

Parish Plan

The final draft has been sent to SODC for final formatting and layout before quotes for printing are obtained

Finally - please remember it is an offence (and of course dangerous) to cycle on pavements and to park partially or wholly on pavements so please do not do so. Also please do not park across lowered access to properties - Thank you

Next meeting: Monday 10 June 2013 at 19:30 at the school.

As ever all villagers are welcome to attend - please come along even if you have no specific items to present/discuss.

Parish Council Village Tidy-up Afternoon - Sam Casey-Rerhaye

Fed up with litter around the village? Please come and help a general litter-pick on **Sunday June 2nd, from 12 noon - 2pm** (approx). Visibility jackets, bags and litter-pickers will all be provided. All ages welcome. Please meet outside the school. The more, the merrier (and the easier it will be!). We will reward ourselves in the Waggon & Horses afterwards!

If the weather is dreadful, we'll cancel, please phone Sam on **799489** in the morning if in doubt.

Culham Pre-School – Lea Allmond

The children at Pre-School have been enjoying the sunshine and spending a great deal of time in the garden. They have been very busy planting sunflowers and potatoes. We shall be having a competition to see who can grow the biggest ones. We have also grown some cress and produced egg and cress sandwiches. We are looking forward to our annual trip to do strawberry picking (and eating) at Millets Farm followed by a picnic.

Early this month we shall be doing a sponsored toddle around the village to raise funds to purchase new toys and equipment - if you see us out and about please give the children a wave to cheer them on!!

If anyone has any old decorating brushes they no longer need we would be happy to receive them - also any unwanted teddy bears/cuddly toys for our school fete.

We are now open on Monday and Tuesday afternoons: please ring 01235 530010 for more information

From Culham Parochial School

Dear Community,

As many of you will be aware we have recently had an Ofsted Inspection. We are extremely happy to say that the school has been graded as 'good' in all areas. This shows huge strides forward since the previous inspection 2 years ago and underlines the local communities' conviction in keeping the school open. We are now beginning to look forward, building on this success and continuing on our path towards 'outstanding'.

Our Parents and Friends Association have been working tirelessly to develop our outdoor space for the children. They have already had a work day earlier in the year, clearing out the pond, compost heaps and garden areas. They are presently in the process of putting in new seating, raised beds and developing the pond area so it can be easily accessed by all. They also have designs on a sensory garden area and a raised staging area. Their efforts have transformed the outdoor space and the children are extremely excited about what this will offer them in the very near future. The Parents and Friends have organised another work day on Sunday 2nd June- if you are available then your help and support would be most welcome.

We have lots to look forward to in the coming weeks as we lead up to the end of the school year. The children are having a butterfly party to release the butterflies that they have grown as part of their life cycles topic, we will be having a Key stage 2 play entitled 'Moving On' later in the year, the School Council are organising an Oscars style awards ceremony, the children are presently preparing for their sports day and we are already making plans for our leavers assembly on the last day of the year. I hope you will be able to share in many of these experiences with the children.

Regards,
Mr M Attree, Headteacher

Culham School Events in June

Sat 8th June, 1 - 4 pm: Village Green – Car boot sale

Sat 15th June 1 - 4 pm: Culham School Summer Fete

Sat 29th June 12 - 4 pm: Crafts & shopping at Culham school, and open gardens in Culham Village.

Offers to open your garden (whether big or small) would be very welcome!

Talking Point - Revd Anne Ilsley

We live in a culture that doesn't value the elderly, yet so often, for me, it has been those long in years who have been people to admire or look up to.

My grandparents for example. On one side 'Granny' and 'Grandpa', an example of faithful love towards each other and of Christian commitment. 'Grandfather' Leonard on the other side, who had a full head of shocking white hair (attributed to always wearing a hat) and who despite this unscientific claim was a medical scientist, an example of dedicated service in his profession.

It is not just in my own family that I meet such inspiring seniors. I remember a newly widowed woman from over 20 years ago, whose joy that her husband was with God, was both striking and believable, despite her recent bereavement! Another woman from the same time slept on a mattress on the floor next to her husband, there being no room for a proper bed in their small living room, where now his hospital bed needed to be. She alarmed me by saying she had been up on a ladder on her own painting the windows. She was in her 70s; I in my 30s. Perhaps now I would be less shocked! (Not that I'm recommending taking health and safety risks!) Then there is the elderly lady who decided to dedicate her last years to praying for her community and her church. How much do we unknowingly benefit from the prayers of such people.

It is part of the great joy of the job that we do as clergy that we officiate at some important family occasions. On these occasions it is your valuing of the older generation that is so much in evidence. For it is on these occasions that great attention is paid to making sure that the people who we love the most, are able to be present. So often it is a grandparent or great grandparent who must be there, or who is sorely missed. Sometimes the loving connections that we have in our own experiences are counter to the cultural atmosphere. Let us remember that many of those who are older are someone's much loved grandparent and if they are not a grandparent, perhaps they would love to be adopted as one.

SODC Activities – Daniel Barber

Rounders Activators required

Are you interested in Rounders or did you enjoy it at school? If so, South Oxfordshire District Council are looking for people enthusiastic about sport in their local community to become Rounders Activators. For more information please contact Hendriette Thorn on 01491 823175 or at hendriette.thorn@southandvale.gov.uk.

Uptonogood Bike Event & Family Fun Day

With Mountain Bike events including family rides, to an adult-only endurance ride and a 'little wheels' ride, there is a bike event to satisfy the whole family! The event will take place in Upton, South Oxfordshire on **Saturday 15 June**. For more information please contact Bob on 07890 316126 / 01235 851222, visit the www.uptonogood.org.uk website or email info@uptonogood.org.uk.

Earth Trust Events in June – Julia Benning

At the Earth Trust, we believe the best way to look after the places we love is to change the way we live. We provide great opportunities for people of all ages to discover nature and the countryside. Our programmes of events, courses, children's learning and volunteering can inspire everyone to make a small difference and look after our local environment.

For more information please visit www.earthtrust.org.uk

Thursday 6th June, 7.30-9.30pm. Wallingford Castle Meadows History Walk. Local historian Judy Dewey will bring the history of Wallingford Castle Meadows to life! Adults £5, children £2

Saturday 15th June, 9-11pm. Bats at Thrupp Lake, Radley. Join a local bat expert on a walk at dusk to find out more about bats. Adults £5, children £2

Sunday 16th June, 10am-4pm. Summer Vegetable Growing. Cultivate will share their passion for hands on veg growing with you. During the day you can find out how these local producers grow ecologically-friendly produce and get involved yourself. Lunch included. Adults £55

Sunday 16th June, 2-3.30pm. The Other Side of The Clumps. Find out how Earth Trust manages the woodlands, hay meadows, ponds, hedges and other habitats on and around the Wittenham Clumps with Chris Parker, Head of Land Management. Free to Earth Trust Friends (who receive priority) otherwise adult £5, children £2

Sunday 23rd June, 3-5pm. Wittenham Clumps: A Walk Through History. Explore the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman settlements that once thrived on the Clumps. Back at the Earth Trust we'll look at excavated artefacts and images of the evolving landscape through time. Adults £5, children £2

Sunday 23rd June, 10am-4pm. Ancient Fire Lighting. Become a caveman and create fire by friction like our ancestors. Learn practical skills to make a fire in all weathers without matches or a lighter. Adults £50

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Local Police – Sarah Jones

Here is the latest Benson and Berinsfield neighbourhood update from Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Rebekah Kent and PCSO Sarah Jones.

Local priority

The local priority for Benson/Berinsfield is Burglary and Attempted Burglary. The neighbourhood team have been and will continue to carry out high visibility patrols to help combat and deter these incidents. We would urge all home owners to make sure that properties are left secure and items such as car keys and valuables are not left in the view of a window. Please report anything which you feel is suspicious and may be of interest to us.

Speed indication device (SID)

We have carried out speed checks, using the SID, across the area following concerns that vehicles were travelling in excess of the 30 mph speed limits. On 6th and 24th April we carried out hour-long checks on Oxford Road and the A415 at Clifton Hampden, recording 41 and 22 vehicles respectively travelling at 35 mph and above. The registered owners of these vehicles will be sent letters advising them that if they are caught another time they may be prosecuted.

THE MOUTHPIECE

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

Contributions to the JULY/AUGUST issue of The Mouthpiece by JUNE 15th please, to:
generalmouthpiece@gmail.com

or

Brian Bracher,	25 High Street, Culham	Tel 01235 525885
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