

# **The Mouthpiece**

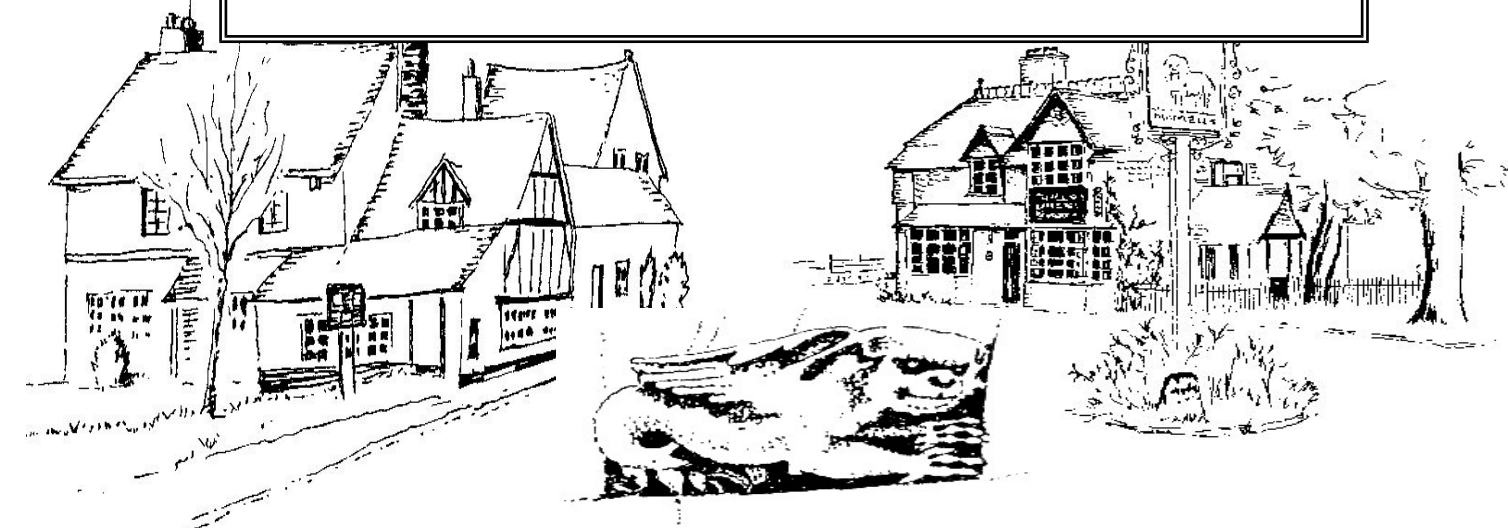
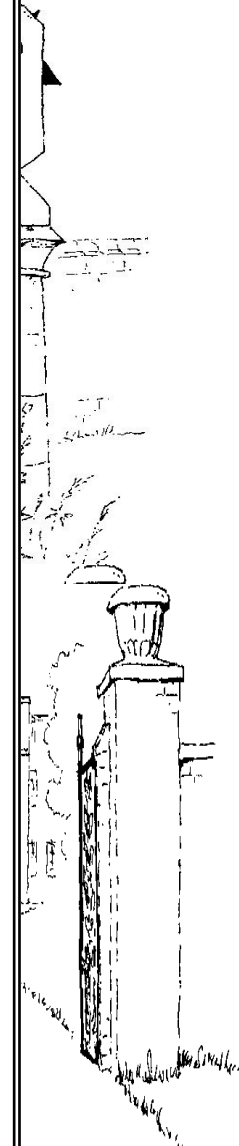
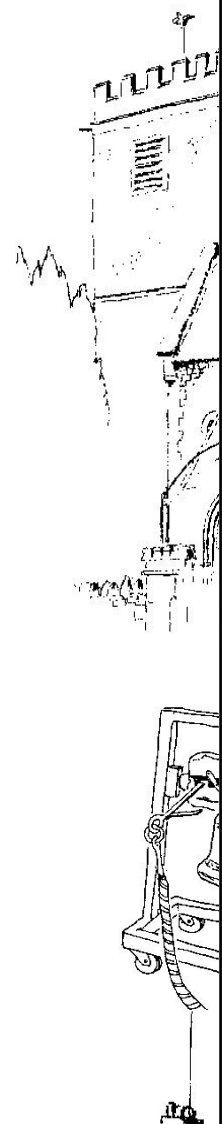
*Culham's Newsletter No 348*

*Village Diary - July 2013*

- 5th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 8th Parish Council Meeting - The School, 7.30 pm*
- 14th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 19th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 21st Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*

## *August*

- 2nd Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 11th Family Communion - St. Paul's Church, 10 am*
- 15th DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER MOUTHPIECE*
- 16th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*
- 18th Evening Prayer - St. Paul's Church, 6 pm*
- 30th Mobile Library - The Glebe, 1.40 - 1.50 pm*



## CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY & AUGUST

<b>JULY SERVICES - CULHAM</b>			
<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>
<b>SERVICES ELSEWHERE</b>			
Sunday 7th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Sunday 14th	8 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 21st	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th	8.30 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
<b>AUGUST SERVICES - CULHAM</b>			
<b>Sunday 11th</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>CULHAM</b>	<b>Family Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 18th</b>	<b>6 pm</b>	<b>CULHAM</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>SERVICES ELSEWHERE</b>			
Sunday 4th	8 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	10 am	Long Wittenham	Family Service
Sunday 11th	8 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Long Wittenham	Evening Prayer
Sunday 18th	10 am	Long Wittenham	Holy Communion
Sunday 25th	8.30am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
	10 am	Clifton Hampden	Family Communion
	10 am	Little Wittenham	Holy Communion
<b><i>Join us for coffee and a chat after Sunday morning services at Culham Church!</i></b>			
<b><i>Informal prayers at Culham Church - Thursday mornings, 8.15 - 9.00 am.</i></b>			

### Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust – Ride and Stride

This is an effective way of raising funds for your Church as 50% of the sponsorship money comes back to the church designated by you. Each cyclist or walker aims to visit as many churches as possible.

There will be a list of churches open on **14<sup>th</sup> September** between 10am and 6pm. when the official Ride and Stride takes place 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 for your church.

Sponsorship forms will be available from Ingrid Reichardt Fair Green, Abingdon Road, Culham (opposite the Waggon and Horses). Tel: 01235 520534.

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**7-8 Radley Place, Radley Road Industrial Estate, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3RY****Tel: 01235 523353 [www.joncare.co.uk](http://www.joncare.co.uk)****VILLAGE NEWS****Culham Community Questionnaire**

Following the various events and discussions, we now have hundreds of community questionnaires just waiting to be filled in by you!

The purpose of the questionnaire is to really establish just how practical or viable our ideas are. For example, will we use the facilities enough to merit creating them? Are we willing to pay to keep certain projects going? This will form a vital community viewpoint and allow us to shape Culham for the future. The questionnaires will be hand delivered to you by a volunteer from the Culham Community Group in early July. They will be able to explain more about it then.

Please, please can you take the time to fill in this questionnaire. Those who helped to pilot it managed to complete it in 10 minutes so no need to take the day off work!

The deadline for returning your questionnaire is **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2013**. We look forward to reporting back with our collective thoughts...

***Culham Community Group***



## From The Mouthpiece

### Advertising - 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**.

**HELP!** We would like an extra editor and if you'd like to try editing an issue, please contact Brian Bracher on 525885. If you're familiar with WORD and Email, then you could do it!

## Culham Parish Council Notes for June 2013 – Andrew Steele

From our OCC Councillor – Lorraine Lindsay-Gale

Lorraine's full report will be made available on the village website but the main points are:

- 1) An announcement about a Superfast Broadband supply in Oxfordshire will be made in July. Those lucky enough to have access will get a 20mb/s speed. (CPC put in a special request for Culham as we are on the fringe of the SODC area in an often neglected spot).
- 2) The 2011 – 2030! Transport plan LPT3 amended document was adopted as policy by Oxfordshire County Council in July 2012. Details on the OCC website.
- 3) The OCC Community Budget consists of £10k per Councillor and the Stewardship Budget consists of £16k per Councillor. The type of expenditure is to be reviewed. (CPC requested monies for the installation of a 'stop' safety gate to be installed outside the double gates of the school on the High Street).
- 4) The Older People's Joint Commissioning Strategy 2013 – 2016 is under review by NHS, SODC/OCC and older people themselves after the consultation was closed in January 2013.

**Next meeting Monday 8th July 2013 at 7:30 pm** at the school.

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

## Culham Pre-School – Lea Allmond

The children have been very busy this term planting different flowers and vegetable plants. Some have been planted into wellington boots!! We are hoping that when our potatoes have grown we shall enjoy a baked potato lunch. We are also looking forward to our trip to Milletts Farm where we shall be strawberry picking, playing and picnicking.

Our recent fundraising event - the sponsored toddle - has taken place. It was very successful and we would like to thank all of you who came out and supported the children, waving and cheering them on.

As our school year is coming to an end we shall be saying goodbye to our older children, who will be moving on to their new schools. We shall celebrate this with an end of term picnic.

**Talking Point – Revd David Haylett, Associate Vicar**

When I was very small, probably only two or three years old, my grandmother gave me a picture with a typical Victorian image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. A fair skinned, light auburn haired good-looking young man, dressed in an impossibly white robe considering he was carrying a lamb across a field of sheep.

The real Jesus would have been a dark-skinned, dark-haired man, and a real shepherd would be most unlikely to be dressed in a spotlessly clean garment. Sheep are dirty, mucky animals especially when you have to pick them up and carry them around. But such is the fantasy image we create of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

It is amazing how many people in history have been shepherds at one time or another. Saint Cuthbert of Northumbria was a shepherd who looked after his flocks on the Jedburgh hills of Scotland before he responded to the call to serve God. Cuthbert became a great leader of the Church in the North of England.

Moses tended his father-in-law's flocks before becoming a shepherd to the Israelites, leading them through the wilderness from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. King David started out life as a shepherd boy and later became King of Israel.

So perhaps it is no surprise that Jesus took the image of a Shepherd as a model for his teaching. It was a model that his contemporaries would understand.

But let us consider the shepherd from the point of the sheep (you and me). Why do sheep need a shepherd?

Firstly for protection. It was the shepherd boy David's skill with a sling and a pebble, long practice at protecting his sheep from marauding wolves and other predators, that enabled him to kill Goliath the Philistine. Sheep also need protecting from themselves. They can be pretty dumb animals, continuously grazing the same area until it becomes bare scrub. They need a shepherd to lead them on to new pastures. If they have a heavy fleece and roll over they are often unable to right themselves and need the shepherd to haul them back onto their feet.

But Jesus points out another danger. There will be others around who will offer their services as a shepherd, but be careful who you choose as your shepherd. Be alert, Jesus warns, you will hear my voice and will follow me. It is easy, too easy perhaps, to be tempted to follow another shepherd, who promises that the grass will be greener on the other side. It always is, until you get there! The voice of Jesus is the only safe voice for sheep to follow.

The words of Psalm 23 are much loved and very helpful. "The Lord is my shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me lie down in green pastures." Jesus is the Good Shepherd who offers the hope that is able to lead us through the valley of the shadow of death.

Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me."

## Earth Trust Events in July and August – Julia Benning

*There are lots of events in July and August at Earth Trust, for all ages and interests. For more information please visit [www.earthtrust.org.uk](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk)*

### JULY

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm, Botanical Art.** Learn how to capture the beauty of plants through botanical illustration. Rosemary Wise, Botanical Illustrator for the University of Oxford will lead the course. Ideal for beginners and those looking to refresh their skills. Please bring your own watercolour brushes. Lunch included. Adults £60

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, 4.30pm-6.30pm.** Talk: How Plants Talk. Ever wanted to find out more about plants and how they communicate? Find out why an dhow, as well as learning to spot their subtle signs. Adults £5, Children £2.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am-3pm.** Landscape Art. Take a short morning walk with celebrated artist Anna Dillon before learning how you can use the views of the Wittenham Clumps to create vibrant landscapes in a practical art session. Lunch included. Adults £60.

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>, 9pm-11pm.** Bats at Riverside Meadows, Wallingford. Join Dominic Lamb and see the bats living next to the river. Learn how to use a bat detector and recognise different species. Adults £5, Children £2.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Introduction to Bushcraft. Get away from it all – this is a fun and relaxing day getting closer to nature. Nick Smart will be showing you lots of bushcraft skills including building a shelter, making fire by friction. Simple campfire lunch included. Adults £50.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am-4pm.** Introduction to Scything. Learn the traditional way to tackle long grass and tall weeds with Clive Leeke. Practical but not back breaking! All specialist tools provided. Adults £50.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1.30-3pm.** Little Explorers: Sensory Buggy Walk for Babies and Toddlers. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12 noon.** Discover and Play: Forest School for Pre-School Children. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>, 10am -12 noon.** Woodland Adventure: an expedition for 5-8 year olds. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

## AUGUST

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am-4pm.** Summer Clumps Club. A week of outdoor adventures for children aged 8-12. There'll be a different theme and loads of fun every day! £25 per child per day.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** An Introduction to Mosaic. Make a beautiful mosaic for your home or garden. Learn about design, shape and scale before getting practical with glass, ceramics and other recycled materials. Adults £55.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** A Day Keeping Sheep. Join farmers Camilla and Roly for a day on the farm, learning and looking after their sheep. Adults £55.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 1.30-3.30pm.** Little Explorers: Sensory Buggy Walk for Babies and Toddlers. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Landscape Photography. Join David Hall for a landscape photography workshop. Bring your own camera and tripod (if you have one). Adults £55.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Wild Plant Dyes. Gain an insight into the wide range of plants that can produce dye. Forage for plants and learn the processes to extract and fix colours. Adults £55.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** An Introduction to Keeping Pigs. Meet the Suntrap herd of Pedigree Oxford Sandy and Black Pigs and spend a day getting practically involved in their daily care. Adults £55.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** An Introduction to Botanical Illustration. Rosemary Wise, botanical artist at the University of Oxford will introduce you to the techniques to get started and then guide you through your own botanical illustrations. Adults £60.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Learn to Nordic Walk on the Clumps. Learn the Nordic Walking technique on the varying terrains around the iconic Wittenham Clumps. Great for all round exercise with reduced pressure on the joints. Adults £55

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Summer Vegetable Growing. Cultivate will share their passion for hands on veg growing with you, get involved and leave with tips for growing your own veg at home. Adults £55.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm.** Getting the Best Seed for your Kitchen Garden. Close to the Veg will show you how to start growing vegetables from your own saved seed. Adults £5.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, 8-10.30pm.** Bats at the Earth Trust. Meet Dave Endacott's rescued bats before going on a night time walk at Wittenham Clumps. Adults £5, Children £2.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Natural Home Decoration. Learn how to make decorative wreaths for any season, dry fruit decorative trees or scented dry flower balls. Adults £55.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Mindfulness Retreat. Mindfulness is a modern, fully scientifically backed approach to meditation. There's no mystery or religion but clear straightforward guidance. Adults £55.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Introduction to Salad Growing. Matthew Loveday will teach you how to sow, propagate and plant your own salad plants. You will gain hands on experience and learn about the range of exciting salad leaves you can grow. Everyone will leave with either a small tray of plants or a plant pot of seedlings. Adults £55.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm.** The Incredible World of the Honey Bee. Discover what makes the honey bee so special in this illustrated talk with an expert from Brightwell Bees. Adults £5.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 10-12 noon.** Discover and Play: Forest School for Pre-School Children. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Willow Garden Sculpture. Create your own willow garden sculpture in this practical workshop. You can expect to make a small animal sculpture or similar. Suitable for anybody new to willow sculpture or looking for guidance with their own willow creations. Adults £55.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Wildlife ID – Become a Wildlife Citizen. Introduce yourself to new skills to identify birds, butterflies, moths, dragon and damselflies, trees, shrubs, plants and grasses. Explore the habitats around the Wittenham Clumps and learn some simple survey methods. Adults £55.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>, 9-11pm.** Meteor Walk for Families. A late night guided walk to look at summer constellations and also enjoy the spectacular Perseid Meteor shower. Adults £5, Children £2.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 12 noon.** Family Bug Hunt. For children of all ages, come and join an expedition looking for bugs large and small. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am-4pm.** Wood Carving for Children. Learn how to make toys and instruments using knives and other hand tools. For children aged 10 and above. Children £25.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.** Family Bushcraft Day. Adults £20, Children £15.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>, 1.30-3pm.** Little Explorers: Sensory Buggy Walk for Babies and Toddlers. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am – 12 noon.** Discover and Play: Forest School for Pre-School Children. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12 noon.** Woodland Adventure: an expedition for 5-8 year olds. Free, suggested donation £2 per family.

*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](mailto:admin@earthtrust.org.uk). See [www.earthtrust.org.uk](http://www.earthtrust.org.uk) for more information.*

## Local Police – Sarah Jones

### Have you signed up to Thames Valley Alert?

Thames Valley Alert is the new system for receiving crime and policing updates for your area. The state-of-the-art system allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they should like to receive it. A new option includes receiving information via text and more traditional landline and email messages will still be available. You can also filter the updates you receive by specifying the priority level of the messages. To sign up to receive alerts, visit [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk).



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## **OXFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **The Oxfordshire Better Broadband Programme**

Within the next few weeks Oxfordshire County Council will be rolling out its £13.86 million Better Broadband programme; all part of the government's ambitions to deliver faster broadband speeds across the country. The council will name its preferred supplier – expected to be BT – who will take responsibility for installing the fibre optic infrastructure which will enable users of superfast broadband to access information, pictures, films and more much faster and more effectively than along the standard copper wires currently used.

According to the council's broadband team, superfast broadband will make speeds in excess of 20Mbps or above available to subscribers in nearly 95 per cent of premises within the county who wish to connect via a service provider. Even the remaining small minority of communities should have access to a minimum service of 2Mbps. It is communities in this 5% which the Rural Community Broadband Fund is designed to help.

Faster broadband is a key issue for rural areas like ours. Increasingly residents of all ages and businesses will need to be able to access a range of services, educational materials and entertainments online through a fast and responsive broadband service. Good broadband capacity is especially important if there multiple users on the premises between them wanting to access a range of different services.

Currently superfast broadband speeds are more often available in urban areas. We don't want our rural communities to lose out and be seen as unsustainable backwaters by anyone who wants to move in, especially if they have a family or run a business.



We understand from Oxfordshire's broadband campaign team that a detailed plan for the superfast broadband roll-out should be available in the autumn with the first cabling taking place in early 2014. Not surprisingly, with such an enormous engineering programme it will take time but is due for completion by late 2015, possibly early 2016.

The burning question, of course, is who will get it and when. That is an answer that only BT will be able to provide in the autumn when it publishes its roll-out plans. The County Council has undertaken to keep us informed as soon as BT's plans become available.

## Have your say with your Police and Crime Commissioner

If you are a part of a voluntary or community organisation in the Thames Valley interested in having your voice heard by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Anthony Stansfeld, join the Safer Future Communities (SFC) Network. The SFC Network has been set up to enable voluntary and community groups to engage with the PCC and represent the views of their sector to the PCC. Here are some of the areas of work that organisations that are already part of the Network represent:

Crime and reoffending; anti-social behaviour; violence against women and girls; substance misuse; youth crime; victims of crime and equality and diversity.

As a member of the Network, you will be invited to special Network events to interact with the PCC. In addition, you get information on how to participate in meetings of the Police and Crime Panel (which scrutinises the work of the PCC). The next Safer Future Communities Network event will be in July, where members of the Network will have an opportunity to hear from and speak to the PCC.

To join, contact Kanika Lang at [kanika.lang@ocva.org.uk](mailto:kanika.lang@ocva.org.uk) and add your voice to a growing Network of voluntary and community sector representatives.

## 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 **SEPTEMBER** issue of the Mouthpiece by **AUGUST 15TH**, please, to:  
[generalmouthpiece@gmail.com](mailto:generalmouthpiece@gmail.com)

or  
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