

The Mouthpiece

Culham's Newsletter

July & August 2017



For your diary:

Sat Jul 1st: 13:00 "Culham 17", Culham Village Green

Sun Jul 2nd: 16:00 Parish Communion, St Paul's

Sun Jul 9th: 16:00 Messy Church, St Paul's

Mon Jul 10th: 19:30 Parish Council meeting, The School

Wed Jul 12th: 17:30 "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies", The School

Sun Jul 16th: 11:00 Parish Communion, St Paul's

Events taking place at the **Earth Trust**, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ except where otherwise stated.

www.earthtrust.org.uk

Summer Picnic, Sunday 2nd July, 11am-4pm

Help us celebrate our 35th Birthday at this year's summer festival! Party games, live music, a smoothie bike and more! £6 adult, £3 child, £15 family (discount for online bookings at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson).

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Wednesday 19th July, 6.30pm-9.30pm

Earth Trust is delighted to welcome The HandleBards, the world's first cycling theatre company! Since 2013, their two troupes (one all-male, the other all-female) have pedalled over 6000 miles across the UK to perform their unique brand of "charmingly chaotic, environmentally sustainable, bicycle-powered Shakespeare". Join the all-male troupe in the beautiful gardens of the Earth Trust Centre, at the foot of the Wittenham Clumps, for A Midsummer Night's Dream as you've never seen it before! Bring a picnic and settle down for an evening of "gloriously eccentric" outdoor theatre.

£18 adult, £14 child; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Drawing from Nature for Families, Sunday 23rd July, 10am-1pm

Let your creative side loose in the great outdoors, and get top tips for inspiration and improvement from local artist Gareth Lloyd. £10 adult, £5 child; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Creepy Crawly Comics, Monday 24th July, 10am-3pm

You'll be the bees' knees at creepy crawly comic drawing after attending our session with popular cartoonist Neill Cameron, whose work features in The Phoenix comic. You'll explore the Earth Trust garden, then create a nature themed comic inspired by what you discovered. For 7-11 year olds. £30 (ask about our discount for siblings); booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Woodland Adventure, Tuesday 25th July, 10am-12pm

An expedition for 5-8 year olds. Use your detective skills to explore, build and play in the woods! £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free.

Night Safari, Tuesday 25th July, 8pm-10pm

Join us for this night-time expedition to discover Thrupp Lake's wildlife, who knows what you might find? On the evening, you'll also set up live traps ready for tomorrow's event. £7 adult, £4 child; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Wildlife Wednesday at Thrupp Lake, Wednesday 26th July, 10am-12pm

Our roving Wildlife Wednesday visits a different Earth Trust community nature reserve each school holiday. Come out and play and learn about your local wildlife! £2 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free.

Tree Climbing, Wednesday 26th July, 10am-5pm

Use ropes and harnesses to explore Little Wittenham Wood's treetops in 1hr sessions with The Great Big Tree Climbing Company. £20 per participant; booking essential: online at <http://www.bigtreeclimbing.co.uk/tree-climbing-events/>

Basket Weaving, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July, 9.30am-5pm

You can create several small baskets or one larger structure in this two day workshop with Catherine Tregaskes. £115 per person; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Clumps Club, Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August, 9am-5pm

Experience some wild adventures in this holiday club for 7-11 year olds! Different outdoor activities each day (see our website for details). £30 per day (book all 5 and get one FREE); booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Talking Point by Revd Michael Lakey

Most people usually attribute the saying “a week is a long time in politics” to former Prime Minister Harold Wilson, and this week it feels as though that saying has never been truer. Only a few days ago, we were all horrified at the terror attacks in London. I write this on the morning after the election, and as I write the result appears to be “no clear result”. This is a political change that leaves uncertain at this stage who will govern us, not to mention who will negotiate exit from the European Union or what sort of exit they will negotiate. Whatever we might feel about the election result, elation or dread, anxiety or hope, I think we can agree that we rarely see weeks like this one. (Speaking personally, I have had to rethink what I was going to write three times, just to keep up with events!)

Sometimes, when it feels as though there is a tsunami of news heading our way, whether bad or just confusing, it can be tempting to close our doors to the world and switch off the television. I read an article last week in which the author and researcher argued that constant exposure to a 24hr news cycle, and particularly exposure to other people’s opinions about the news, coincided with a greater than average likelihood of experiencing depression or anxiety at some point. So when, from time to time, we look at the world, throw up our hands and try to retreat into an enclosed, controllable, safe space in which simple things like home, family, “a bit of peace” and a “quiet life” can be had, we are doing something quite natural. These are good things and it is good for our health and well-being that we enjoy them.

But don’t events out there in the wider world have a habit of imposing themselves at a local level anyway? For most of us, this takes the form of what decisions made at a national and international level might mean for household income, community facilities, new housing developments, the well-being of our schools, shops, pubs, pensions, healthcare, savings, benefits, jobs and so on. For others of us, as it did for the poor families of those killed or injured the other day in London, the wider world can impose itself in devastatingly tragic ways. In both cases, those affected can feel caught up with neither escape nor influence in events that just happen to them.

All this is a way of saying that sometimes it can feel as though the entire world is being shaken and that nothing in life is certain or secure any more. At times like that, I think about a line from one of the Psalms, in which the writer says to God, “you have been our dwelling place in all generations”. When I read this, I hear the voice of someone who could face the uncertainties of the world with courage not because he believed that God would swoop in at every opportunity and take the difficulties, complexity or grief out of life. Rather, I read him as being able to take heart despite the fact that the difficulties remain. He is able to do this because he trusts that the person and the love of God are unshakeably certain, even if nothing else is. I pray that in this time of uncertainty and change, you will know that peace.

Church Services

Culham:

Sun July 2nd 16:00 Parish Communion

Sun July 9th 16:00 Messy Church (Family Service, crafts and cake)

Sun July 16th 11:00 Parish Communion

Clifton Hampden and Burcot

Sun July 2nd 08:00 BCP Communion

Sun July 16th 11:00 Parish Communion

Sun July 23rd 11:00 Parish Communion (child-friendly, children’s activities before main service)

Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham:

Sun July 4th Long W 09:30 Family Service, crafts and breakfast

Sun July 11th Long W 09:30 Parish Communion

Sun July 18th Little W 08:30 BCP Communion

Sun July 25th Long W 09:30 Parish Communion

Sun July 25th Newington 10:30 Team Service



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1-9PM

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VILLAGE NEWS

Village website: www.culhamvillage.org.uk

From St Paul's PCC

There has been some vandalism in the vicinity of the Church recently and a gravestone was uprooted and smashed. As far as we are able to tell, the gravestone is that of Henry and Priscilla Reed who were buried in 1857. The gravestone is not the property of the PCC and so we do not intend to repair it but if anyone has any connection to the Reed family and would like to discuss a restoration of the gravestone please contact Roy Epps or any other member of the PCC.

The tiles on the North-facing roof of the main body of the church have slipped and the roof of the church is now leaking. The PCC is working with the Friends of St Paul's and other interested bodies with a view to re-roofing the church in the near future, but the costs will probably run into five figures. Funds are being sought from a variety of sources and donations can be made either to the PCC or through the Friends. Please note that, in the meantime, access to the North side of the church is restricted due to the risk of falling tiles.

The annual **OHCT ride and stride** will be on 9 September this year. Andrew, Joe and Sam Churchill Stone will be cycling in aid of OHCT and St Paul's. Please consider sponsoring them. Please also consider riding (bicycle or horse) or striding between churches in Oxfordshire and seek your own sponsorship.. Half of what you raise will go to St Paul's.

If you would like more details please contact Andrew Churchill Stone.

From Sutton Courtenay WI

The sun is shining and a great time to come and join us at Sutton Courtenay WI.

You missed our speaker Mary Thomson last month who told us about famous and local characters who have lived in SC over the years, including Ex-Prime Ministers and Actors! But don't worry there is so much more to come.

Analiza Jones will be here on **18th July**, with her talk about Making bags in the Phillipines and bringing some to sell too.

August the 15th is our fabulous garden party.

September 19th Nick Jackson will be coming along to give us advice on Wills and Power of Attorney, something we all need to think about what ever age you are.

We meet in the Sutton Courtenay Village Hall, 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

For more information please call Val on : 01235 847612



Culham Parish Council (CPC) notes – June 2017

A large part of the public participation was taken up with the hydro scheme area refurbishment and the SODC local plan. In terms of the hydro scheme, whilst little has apparently occurred in returning the site to the agreed final condition, this is largely dependant on the removal of the large spoil heaps on the site. These in turn are awaiting Environment Agency approval for either spreading on the site or removal from it. Restoration plans will follow once these heaps are removed.

The local plan and its effect on Culham was discussed and it was agreed that a village action plan was needed. To that end a meeting of parishoners (separate from the Parish Council) is in preparation for Monday 19 June, either at the school or at the church. PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR NOTIFICATION OF THIS MEETING and attend if at all possible.

Plans for the Waggon and Horses site include a set of starter homes, a ten bed hotel and refurbishment of the pub with a restaurant to service the hotel along with a revamped public house area. CPC was told that the plans would be passed to it before going to SODC for consideration.

Other items:

The first of three grass cuts within the village this season has been caried out with the second due in a coupe of weeks.

Progress on the design of the church refurbishment/conversion to a community buiding has ben made with drawings and sketches having been created.

BACHPORT, the Fullamoor Quarry Action Group believes that they have a good case against the quarry proceeding. A deision will be made in September 2017.

Parking at the school

Please be aware that parking on corners, blocking dropped curbs, parking on double yellow lines and on yellow zig-zags outside schools puts both your own and other people's children at risk. Please park consid-
erately and do not block resident's driveways and footpaths.

Overgrown Footpaths

There are some paths in the village which are obstructed by overgrown hedges and tree branches. The Parish Council would kindly remind landowners adjacent to footpaths, that it is their responsibility to keep anything overhanging paths to be trimmed back to their property boundary to allow people unobstructed use of the path.

Next meeting

Monday 10th July 2017 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.

Village website address: <http://www.culhamvillage.org.uk/>

Neighbourhood Policing

June 2017 newsletter

Wallingford Sector Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team consists of Inspector Mark Harling, Sergeant Fraser Weller, PC Simone O'Dell, PCSO Sue Harris, PCSO Marie Davenport, PCSO Sarah Jones & PCSO Clare Beale.

'You said we did'/ Priorities

Please can we remind everyone to be extra vigilant around Wallingford Market Place, although incidents have decreased we are still receiving reports of 'purse thefts'. Elderly females appear to be the main targets so please could you all be mindful and remind friends and family. Please keep any purses/wallets out of sight, in bags, zipped up and not left unattended in trolleys etc. We are actively trying to stop these incidents with high visibility and 'plain clothed' officers. We are also working with shops and the towns CCTV to identify offender(s).

We have been made aware of road users not abiding by the 'NO ENTRY' signs/road markings as you enter Warborough Road off the Henley Road, A4074. Police will be monitoring this area.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Incidents of ASB in Saxons Heath, Long Wittenham have been reported to us. Reports include young people causing a nuisance, noisy, damaging gardens and leaving litter around. We are working with the local Parish Council to tackle these problems and are encouraging the people involved to use the green spaces in Long Wittenham where possible, along with playing safely.


Reports of ASB in Blue Mountains have been received this month. The neighbourhood team look into all reports of anti-social behaviour and deal with them appropriately. We shall be increasing high-visibility patrols of the area patrolling this area to try and deter this behaviour and to engage with all the residents.

We will also be patrolling around Berinsfield in particular the 'Spinney' which is a private piece of land on the other side of the A4074 from Berinsfield. We have received reports of 'mini motos' using this piece of land. Please can we remind everyone this is private land and the owner does NOT give permission for anyone to use this area. This issue appears to happen most summers and riders will be issued with section 59s. This could mean the bike being seized by Police.

What the neighbourhood team have been doing

With the lovely weather approaching our diaries are filling up with lots of community events across the neighbourhood. Please let us know if you have any events you would like us to attend. This is great community engagement and an opportunity to pass on any information or concerns in your area.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email WallingfordBerinsfieldCholseyNHPT@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. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive it. The Thames Valley Police Twitter account is kept up to date with what we are up to; please follow us @TVPSouthandVale 



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:
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Rob Gibbs	32 High Street, Culham	Tel 01235 523679

URGENT!!

The Mouthpiece is in desperate need of a new sponsor to print our ten editions per year - Please contact one of the editors if you can offer any help!

Printed (at discounted rate) by Culham Print Room, Culham Science Centre, OX14 3DB

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WHO IS WHO IN CULHAM?

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Gordon Gibbs (Chair)	grgibbs@btinternet.com	32 High Street, Culham	01235 523679
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John Thomas		40 High Street, Culham	01235 521678
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Roy Epps		14 The Glebe, Culham	01235 537525
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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR			
Sue Lawson	sue.lawson@southoxon.gov.uk		07899 963236
COUNTY COUNCILLOR			
Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	lorraine.lindsay-gale@oxfordshire.gov.uk	Nut Tree Cottage, The Green South, Warborough OX10 7DR	01865 858976
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Ordained Local Minister	Revd. David Haylett	familyhaylett@yahoo.com	01865 407382
Hon. Treasurer:	Andrew Churchill Stone	18 High Street, Culham	01235 533011
	a.churchill.stone@mybroadbandmail.com		
Churchwarden:	Roy Epps	14 The Glebe, Culham	01235 537525
Hon. Secretary:	Charles Reichardt	Fair Green, Henley Rd, Culham	01235 520534
FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S CHURCH			
Chairman:	Philip Owen	13 The Green, Culham	01235 555223
CULHAM PAROCHIAL SCHOOL			
Head Teacher:	Mrs Lindsay Priddle	High Street, Culham	01235 521766
Chair of Governors:	Mrs Lisa Penton	c/o Clifton Hampden School	01865 407700
LADIES OF CULHAM (LOC)			
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CULHAM COMMUNITY GROUP			
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