



Hospital sold?

It looks like Chipping Norton's old hospital has been sold by the NHS for more housing.

The News has learned that London developer St Charles Homes, is interested in putting 14 new houses on the site, and is fixing a September meeting with District Councillors before consulting the public.

Preserving the old hospital

The Old Hospital building is of heritage interest in a conservation area and close to people's hearts having been given to the Town 100 years ago. Councillors wanted it preserved, ideally for community use. It is three years since West Oxfordshire did a public consultation about the Hospital, Ambulance and Castle View sites – but failed to publish any guidance. We wait to see how any proposals might use the buildings.

Little chance of community gain

The old Ambulance Station, Care Home and Chestnuts house remain derelict and possibly a public danger. They are not part of this deal – being sold separately by the County Council. Local councillors had suggested that all sites, including the Hospital might be sold together to get a better 'gain' for the Town with some significant community facilities. But now a piecemeal sell-off could simply mean more houses or flats.

County 'neglect'

CN District Councillor Rob Evans said, 'After saying they desperately needed funds from these sites to develop our new hospital and care home, the County and NHS have completely failed to get together on a joint community solution for these prime sites. Our

Five Chippy generations



Gordon Smith's 96th birthday in July saw five generations gather including great great granddaughter baby Grace. See p 13

town library may have been refurbished this summer but we have said for a decade that what we need is a new library. These sites would be ideal. The County have also scandalously neglected Chestnuts which could have given them 10 years of rental income.'

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- Welcome for Greystones tip proposal

Features: 30 September Rotary Jazz and Music
6 October TCN Autumn Fair ~ Chippy's Pre-School
The Way We Were ~ Chippy Country File
Plus all the usual arts, sports, clubs, schools and letters

AUTUMN EVENT

Transition Chipping Norton's AUTUMN FAIR

This year's **Autumn Fair**, run by Transition Chipping Norton, will be held on Saturday 6 October to celebrate the local community and its abundant array of produce, crafts and services. It will be even bigger than last year's, filling the Town Hall, Co-op arcade and Market Place.

It's harvest time, so **FOOD** will be at the forefront. Rediscover the joy of local, seasonal produce with delicacies such as Kingham Green cheese, Hook Norton honey, plus home-made bread, soup and quiche.

Chippy's Community Orchard Group will be displaying some of their crop and apple expert Andy Howard will be on hand to identify your apples and answer any apple-growing queries. Rik, the apple presser, will be hard at work, so bring your excess apples and some empty bottles and go home with your on fresh apple juice.

Get inspired!

If you've been toying with the idea of taking on an allotment, keeping bees or poultry, or starting a compost bin, this is the perfect opportunity to get expert advice before you start. Seasoned gardeners can also visit the tool maintenance tent for tips on keeping those essential garden tools razor sharp and in peak condition.



Get baking!



Do people rave about your apple and courgette cake, damson spread or chutney? Then why not enter our competition? Categories are: 1) Creative Ways with Pumpkin; 2) An Apple a Day; 3) The Store Cupboard. Winners will receive £20 gift vouchers from sponsoring retailers. Entry forms are available from the Library, Oats, Gills or Harpers.

It's a family affair!

Keep the kids amused with activities such as clay tile decorating, bath bomb making, origami and textile crafts, bee hotel building, colouring and mask making, plus lots of apple-related fun! We also want children of all ages (even adults!) to join our fancy dress parade and competition, which will be led by the **King Stone Rappers**. The theme is 'living scarecrows', so be imaginative – the scarier, the better! Pick up a flyer at the Library, Oats or Four Shires Leather & Shoes.



The whole Town joins in!

Chippy's shops will be joining in the fun with special offers and free tickets to the big 'Town Raffle', with prizes including a **first prize of £100 cash!** Also expect live music, dancing displays, refreshments, plus plenty of opportunities to kick-start the Christmas shopping!

The fun starts in Chipping Norton Town Centre at 10am and continues all day. Overflow parking will be provided so there'll room for everyone. See you there!

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Best A levels for years

Chipping Norton School celebrated the best A level results for years with more than 80% of the 2012 cohort achieved A*-C grades and over 56% of grades were A*, A or B (51% last year).



Snapshots of happiness: Top Zoe Green & Aaron Byrne, Bottom Tom Westbury and Tilly Goodwin with their results

Particularly pleasing were results in English, maths, chemistry, art, geography, drama, electronics, sociology and philosophy strengthening the School's reputation for academic quality.

High achieving students included:

Emma Yapp (A*A*A*), Florence Layer (A*A*AA), Eva Suraway Stepney (A*A*A), Aaron Byrne (A*AA), Tom Westbury (AAAA), Tom Napier (AAA), Tilly Goodwin (AAA) Josh Tingey (AAAB), Jess Chisnall (A*AB), Zoe Green (A*AB), Lucy Alderson (AAB), Bradley Glass (AAB), Kate Harvey (AAB), Jack Segal (AAB), Rachel Thewlis (AAB).

Headteacher, Simon Duffy, was delighted and congratulated everyone on results and effort, He ADDED, 'this is a great time to be at Chipping Norton School. Not only are students enjoying the new ten laboratory Science facilities and sixth form study suite, but our new Academy status has enabled it to access additional funding'. In June they secured another £500,000 for more improvements.

Plans for new GP surgeries

Plans for the new, larger, purpose built GP surgeries in Chipping Norton have been revealed. Both West Street and White House surgeries will close their existing sites and move by January 2014 to a new building behind the new hospital on the London Road. A display of the plans was on



show in the Town Hall in July. The News team went to look and talk to Dr David Edwards (from White House) and Dr Simon de Vos (from West Street). Canon Stephen Weston who chaired the Hospital Users Group recently, was also there looking at proposals. Both surgeries will use the same building but remain separate. There will be more space and improved facilities as well as a dedicated car park separate from the hospital and care home. The aim of both practices is to increase specialist clinics and extend services to help save

visits to hospital. Facilities will also include meeting rooms for group clinics, workshops or conferences.



What the new GPs surgery building should look like

More could be added: Dr Edwards said they would be interested in seeing the premises used for full dispensing and pharmacy (collaborating with one of the town pharmacies?), housing health visitors (currently in the ACE centre), nurses and other specialists. Links for out of hours, first aid and/or minor injuries could be possible. Transport for some patients, used to walking to the town centre, might be an issue. The X8 bus will stop at the surgery behind the hospital. The main S3 bus stops on the main road nearby.

Join the Chipping Norton Set

Anyone want a shortcut to join the Chipping Norton Set (that ill-defined group who live in big houses enjoying country suppers)? It appears you can become a local Lord of the Manor for £6,750: Manorial Auctioneers from London are selling the Lordship of the Manor of Showell, near Heythrop. You can use the title on passports, cheques and credit cards and style yourself Mr Smith, Lord of the Manor of Showell. Former Town Mayor John Grantham was quoted in the *Witney Gazette* as saying, 'It's a lot of money for nothing – it's only a title' and the current Mayor, Martin Jarratt, was quoted saying 'we have enough Chipping Norton Set members already.'

Co-op 1, Sainsbury's 0!

Sainsbury's has announced that it will not appeal against the refusal of its planning application for a superstore on the Parker Knoll site. West Oxfordshire's Uplands Planning Committee rejected the plan on 5 March. Sainsbury's then had 6 months to appeal to the Secretary of State. However, on 2 July, the day West Oxfordshire approved the Co-op's revisions to its previously approved town centre expansion, Sainsbury's press release stated, 'We were disappointed ... particularly in light of clear evidence that many Chipping Norton residents have to drive out of the town to do their weekly food shop. We would like to thank the many local people who have supported our plans.' The proposal was against national and local policy that aims to concentrate retail uses in town centres. Uplands Committee voted to refuse following an overwhelming objection from the Town Council and objections from local businesses and organisations, including a campaign by SCOOTs. The Planning Officer reported 675 letters of objection and 121 in favour. It is unusual for a national retailer to give up the fight, and so perhaps the company has accepted the strength of the planning policy case. A spokesperson for Sainsbury's told the News they had 'no intention of pursuing the superstore

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proposals at the current time and are not looking at any alternative proposals'. Indeed Sainsbury's dedicated website has been taken down.



What next for the empty Parker Knoll site?

So, what now for the site, empty since Parker Knoll closed? With existing town businesses unable to find new premises, the WODC considers this one of the last remaining locations for new employment development, allocating it for business use in the emerging Local Plan. The site is owned by an off-shore investment company. Sainsbury's option on the site 'is due to expire shortly' and Sainsbury's were 'not aware of any alternative development proposals'. Will the landowner hold out for a high value land use such as residential, fighting the planners all the way, which would suggest a long wait? Or could a new owner with a more flexible approach, perhaps develop piecemeal over time? There could be a role here for Chippy's Neighbourhood Plan in identifying opportunities reflecting local needs. Chipping Norton Mayor Martin Jarratt told the News, 'The Town Council would like to see the site developed for industrial use, as originally designated when the site was sold by Parker Knoll. We hope that WODC guidelines will now be adhered to by the owners, giving both small and medium sized businesses the chance to develop there.'

The proposed Co-op extension and two-storey car park which will mean a further 76 town centre parking spaces seem to be generally welcomed. Will Sainsbury's invest further in their existing town centre store? They said, 'Our Market Place store opened in 2009. We are very happy with the store and no additional investment is planned at this time'.

Town Councillors in action

Chipping Norton's town councillors give their time freely as a public duty. As elected members they have to sign a code of conduct and declare interests. New Codes are being implemented nationally, and most parishes in West Oxfordshire including Chipping Norton have agreed use a new one (see www.westoxon.gov.uk). It demands selflessness, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and integrity, and leadership – with specific obligations about treating all with respect, not bullying, impartiality, not disclosing confidences, and respecting professional advice. Councillors must now register their 'pecuniary interests' with the Town Clerk, to avoid conflicts. This means declaring all property, shares and business interests they own in the area – including their own homes. They have to register similar interests of their spouses or partners. All this can be inspected by the public via a request to the Town Clerk. This rule has caused some rumpus across England with some parish councillors resigning in protest.

Membership of the Town Council's committees and on representative bodies has also been published including: Finance & General Purposes; Cemetery & Pool Meadow; Recreation/Greystones; Town Hall & Publicity; Grants to Voluntary Bodies; Traffic Advisory; William Fowler Allotments; Field Reeves; Youth Management; Community Safety; Public Transport; Staffing; Health and Safety; and Planning and Policy. More from cntc@btconnect.com or see www.chippingnortontown.info.

Top marques for The Fox

Hook Norton Brewery owns and supplies over 40 pubs in the area with its famous beers and recently presented the Fox Hotel in Chipping Norton with the Hooky Diamond Award.



This is for consistently maintaining the quality of its draught beers as inspected by Cask Marque, an independent organisation funded by the Industry to check quality in the UK in over 8,000 pubs. John Priest and partner Louise Hunt run The Fox and are pictured here behind the pumps. They scored 20 out of 20 for the condition of their beers as tested for Temperature, Appearance, Aroma and Taste. The Fox was Top of the Brewery's 40+ pubs.

A spokesman for the Brewery said, 'We are always pleased when one of our pubs does so well.' John summed up, 'Lou and I have been getting these results for some time now. I am really chuffed.'

Join the Entente Cordiale

Chipping Norton's Twin Town is Magny-en-Vexin, a delightful place in the Val d'Oise, northern France and Jo Graves from the CN and District Twinning Association would like anyone interested in 'twinning' to join them for some autumn events and find out more. First is Film Night with Food at the Blue Boar on Tuesday 25 September at 7.30pm. Jo says the group also warmly welcomes all members and any others interested to their AGM to be held at Highlands on Tuesday 9 October at 7.30 pm. If you like quizzes this is the night for you – they are having one!!! No French Twinning Association is complete without considering 'La Cuisine et La Gastronomie', so they are having their annual Christmas lunch at Chipping Norton Golf Club on Sunday 25 November. Jo said 'The Magnytoises are lovely people – we're off there next year – why not join our Association and come along?' For more information please contact Jo Graves on 643976.

Andy – 100 years young!

Andy Andrews was the subject of the *In the Spotlight* feature in July's *News*. He was 100 in August celebrating with the perfect birthday party for a centenarian: a beautiful sunny day, entertaining singer, jazz band, birthday cake laced with rum ... and belly dancers! This was the surprise party organised by Sylvia Evans of Henry Cornish House where Andy now lives. The cake arrived to strains of the Melody Room Jazz Band accompanying everyone



singing 'Happy Birthday'. Andy gave a brief speech of thanks and spontaneously sang a Danish song he learnt from his mother. A packed room of residents, carers and guests enjoyed all the entertainment which went on until early evening when there was an even bigger surprise – belly dancers. What a way to celebrate your first one hundred years! We will see the band again in September for Chippy Jazz and Music Day appearing as Dickie White Allstars.

Neighbourhood Plan progress

Around 400 local residents completed the recent survey on what they thought about Chipping Norton. Views on parking, shopping, housing, and growth. Initial results are at www.chippingnortontown.info (Neighbourhood Plan tab). In September the Steering Group will hold four Focus Group Workshops, each involving 6-8 individuals. They will cover young people (under 25), working age people, retired people, and local businesses. An independent facilitator is being contracted to help. The outcomes of all this community engagement activity, and analysis against the 2003 Town Appraisal, will then be presented in a 'State of the Town Report'. The project will then move on to future policies and plans. To find out more, contact the Town Clerk, Vanessa Oliveri (642341).

Newsagents move back soon

It is now several weeks since the Cotswolds Newsagent on Topside moved along from its traditional position to use the old Rawlins store on the other side of the Post Office. Could this be a permanent move? In fact the old store and its building are having major work done. Jeremy Catling told the *News* about the extensive work: the shop was originally built with its neighbours to house merchants who traded in the market in the 17th century. Some parts of it, notably the ceiling, now need reinforcement and windows need replacing. Access to the rear will include a stairwell to enable the upper floors eventually to be used as residential accommodation instead of storage space. All changes are expected to be completed by end of September. A new name for the shop is being considered as a wide variety of items are sold apart from newspapers.

Beer and Giant Vegetables

The Red Lion Beer Festival in Chipping Norton will take place on Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September. They will be serving a selection of real ales and ciders as well as a BBQ and raffle in aid of Katharine House Hospice. Chaser will be playing on Saturday afternoon. On the Sunday The Red Lion will also be holding their Giant Vegetable Competition. They are hoping to have a selection of charity stalls on the car park at £5 a pitch with ALL proceeds going to charity. If you would like to book a pitch, please contact Sheila at The Red Lion (644641). More details and a list of ales will be available soon.

Wedding Cars glide into Town

Two local entrepreneurs have cemented a friendship by setting up business together. Seymour Mincer (known to readers for his exciting reports of the Chadlington UI0s



football team) and Tahirul Hasan (who is also on Chippy Town Council) first met when Hasan taxied Seymour to the airport on several occasions. Seymour learned of Hasan's dream of driving a Bentley and has made this dream a reality. After six months' research a classic Bentley Turbo R four-door saloon was found and purchased for exclusive use as a wedding car service in Chipping Norton and the surrounding area. As



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Seymour says, 'It's unique – the only Bentley in town offering this service'. Hasan's VW Sharan is also available for additional transport needs. Check out the website www.chippingnortonweddingcars.co.uk for more information.

Blissful celebrations



Tony and Nellie Perry celebrated their diamond (60th) wedding on 11 August at an enjoyable party with friends and family at Chipping Norton Football Club. They met whilst working at Bliss Tweed Mill, when Tony returned from the Durham coal mines where he'd done service as a Bevan Boy. When Nellie finally agreed to go out with Tony her mother told

*Tony & Nellie – now
and then*

him 'not to keep her out too late' which he didn't! They were married in St Mary's Church in 1952. They have lived all their married life in Chipping Norton having two children Carol and Robin, who have given them three grandchildren, four great grandchildren and one great grandchild, Cadence, who is six. They were absolutely thrilled to receive a card from The Queen.



Getting ready for the snow!!

As summer continues Chipping Norton Town Council are planning ahead for this winter. As most know, we rely on OCC/WODC to keep the main roads clear of snow and ice but the side roads are the responsibility of the Town – and that means all of us. Town Cllr Mike Tysoe told the News, 'We had a few days last year when the Chippy Snowmen burst into action spreading salt before the snow and then clearing and salting again once the snow had stopped. It went as well as we had hoped but we know we don't have a perfect system yet. As last year, we hope to have strategically placed stockpiles of both bulk and bagged salt/full grit bins and the assistance of Guy Wall of Machinelink with his machines. We intend to supply more grit bins this year. So far we have requests in from Glovers Close/Insall Road/bottom of Hailey Road/Distons Lane. However, salt bins need volunteers on standby to use the salt and help clear the roads. In the roads mentioned we have some volunteers but more are needed throughout the Town'. The Town Council are asking for more volunteers to be Snowmen and/or on standby to assist in gritting and/or clearing. Secondly, are there other roads where residents feel a grit bin is essential? Please remember that funds are limited. Please email Chipping Norton Town Council (cntc@btconnect.com) or contact the Guildhall on 642341.

... and Christmas shopping!

An early diary date! This year's Christmas Evening in Chipping Norton (late night shopping, stalls, events, razzmatazz, etc) is being planned for Friday 7 December.

Station parking needed

There's lots more car parking planned for railway users at Charlbury – but no more for Kingham. The Cotswold Line Promotion Group says that Kingham car park gets full and cars park dangerously on the verge and road. Churchill and Sarsden Parish Chairman Martin Bradshaw agrees. But First Great Western say they have 'no plans' for Kingham expansion, in spite of spending £470,000 at Charlbury for 83 more spaces.

Licence to 'rave & disco all day'

The Management Committee at the new Glyme Hall (which hosts the youth club) want a premises licence to use the hall for various functions such as plays, films, indoor sporting events, live music, recorded music, performances of dance, and the supply of alcohol at the functions held there. Their 'blanket' application covers hours from 8am to midnight for all types of bookings. This produced a lively debate at Chipping Norton Town Council in July with some concern that this was a 'licence to rave and disco all day' with alcohol also on the premises. The Glyme Hall Committee (which included at least two 'conflicted councillors' at the meeting who joined in the debate) want to get as much use for the Hall as possible to make it financially sustainable. One Councillor pointed out the Hall was in competition with their

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own Town Hall (so all Councillors have a conflict!) and also wanted to know who the 'nominated responsible person' was for the licence (it seems it's the whole Committee). Calm and reason appeared to prevail with all this seeming a good idea if it was used responsibly. WODC will decide.

Broadband for Chippy

So, BT has told us it will deliver its version of superfast broadband in Chippy next year. Not surprisingly, it comes soon after local company, Cotswolds Broadband, announced it was planning to invest in the UK's largest rural broadband scheme. What to make of it? Well, cynicism aside, BT's solution (where the fibre only reaches the street cabinet, then it's good old copper from there) will make a big difference from where we are now. But, the rest of the world, including parts of urban Britain, are getting a much better, complete fibre solution, offering greater bandwidth for businesses and households alike. And BT's solution will extend only to Chippy and leave our surrounding villages with nothing for years.

The Cotswolds Broadband scheme – 'Fibre to the People' – will deliver a fibre network that will pass 95% of homes and businesses in our area. Internet Service Providers will use the network to offer local people the same broadband and phone deals they'd get in our neighbouring towns. In the end, local consumers are not bothered about the technologies. But they do care that the price they pay for living and working in rural areas does not become unaffordable. Fibre and copper don't seem like a 'VHS v Betamax' battle of our day yet, but who'd want to be on the losing side this time?

Neil Homer Transition Chipping Norton

Presidential bookseller



Patrick Neale, co-owner of Jaffé & Neale bookshop, has become President of the Booksellers' Association, representing some 600 independent bookshops and major booksellers across the UK. The Association employs 15–20 people in London and Patrick plans to spend between two and five days a month there on top of his already busy life in and around Chippy. He said the rise of e-books and

Amazon's Kindle is a challenge for all booksellers and one of his objectives as President will be to see how independent booksellers can best capitalise on the e-book market. In addition he will promote collaborations with major organisations to keep the High Street vibrant and alive.

Patrick's enthusiasm for everything to do with books is infectious, and it is clear that innovation is the key to success – for example he and his partner Polly Jaffé took the shop (not literally!) to the Wilderness Festival at Cornbury with 12,000 people passing through, and will also be at The Big Feastival on Alex James' farm. Coffee and delicious cakes bring people in to browse and regular appearances from local and national authors are a big draw. So it's a challenging role in this electronic age, but Patrick is the man for the job, looking forward to his two-year tenure as President and no doubt sharing some tricks of the trade with other booksellers across the UK.

Roger Sinclair

'Welcome' for Greystones tip

In July 259 people attended public WODC exhibitions in Chipping Norton and Charlbury to view ideas for a major new recycling centre at Greystones on the edge of town. Of the 200 people who completed questionnaires, 94% were in favour. A planning application is



District Cllr David Harvey, Cabinet Member for the Environment with Greystone plans

expected in the early autumn. Potentially the recycling centre could open in early 2013. The Centre is projected to generate the District Council an income of around £22,000 a year and pay for itself within eight years. At their July meeting Chipping Norton Town Councillors seemed to welcome the idea – with some caution over access and impact on surrounding land. One councillor said general household waste might also possibly be collected there – if WODC can come to an arrangement with Oxford County Council, who are responsible for household waste centres.

The County closed their major waste and recycling centre at nearby Dean Pit in 2011. At the time the official County report said 'usage had reduced' and Dean Pit was 'not viable' as they were in favour of 'consolidating' to larger centres. Closure was also influenced by local residents, including Lord Chadlington, who had petitioned strongly to have Dean Pit closed, considering it to be in an 'inappropriate location'. So it looks like Dean residents, including Lord Chadlington and the Prime Minister, should soon be able to take their garden and household recycling to Chipping Norton's new centre instead (deemed economically viable by WODC, not the County).

Vets plan major move

A major expansion is planned for Chipping Norton's veterinary hospital, currently based along Albion Street, in a move to a larger new building along the Banbury Road – next to the allotments on the edge of town. Detailed plans are being adjusted after WODC raised issues at their July Planning meeting but the scheme should still go ahead. Janine Whitehead explained the reasons for the big move: 'Our current building was designed in the 1970's for only two vets (now six!) and we need more dog kennels and have very little admin or storage space. The new hospital is for six vets, four consulting rooms, two operating theatres, separate dog and cat waiting areas, two dog wards, a cat ward, exotics accommodation, and improved isolation facilities. There will also be purpose built imaging rooms, plenty of storage and office space, and improved overnight accommodation for vets and nurses on call. We are also planning to have a small boarding cattery in the grounds for clients going on holiday.'

The vets treat dogs, cats, all species of smaller domestic animal, all farm species, camelids, horses, zoo animals, pheasants and other game birds, and a wide range of exotic

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species including reptiles, parrots, and birds of prey. The new site will have extra car parking space for horse boxes and outdoor space for large animal inpatients. Car parking at the current site is a problem and could get worse with the Co-op redevelopment. Janine said, 'Chipping Norton Veterinary Hospital is a training hospital, we help train nurses and have vet and work experience students placed here almost constantly. With more space we hope to offer training to more young people, and have more scope to help local animal welfare charities.' Both the current and new hospitals are tier-III top graded veterinary hospitals.

Janine continued, 'We were very encouraged by the planning result: the Committee, Town Council, and local community are generally in support. The Committee acknowledged our need to move, approving the project in principle, but they felt our first design was not in keeping with the area. We are improving the design and hope to submit another application soon. Our present building is no longer meeting the needs of our growing practice so we want to press on with the new development as quickly as we can.' Chipping Norton Town Council also raised some issues about site plans affecting trees and pathways – which may have to be looked at.

Footballer's tribute

Sunday 12 August saw crowds at Chipping Norton Football Club to remember popular local Shaun Weller who died in May, aged only 22, after a brief illness. The Shaun Weller Memorial Football match was organised in tribute to Shaun, pictured, who had lived all his life in the Town, attending



CNS and latterly working as a window cleaner for Dave & Dave. Shaun himself played football for Chipping Norton Town for several years and was a keen Oxford United supporter. The Memorial Match, kicked off by Shaun's two-year-old daughter Tiana, was between the Town First Team and the Oxford United Legends (including veterans Alan Judge and Joey Beauchamp supported by the younger legs of Andy Gunn and Peter Rhodes-Brown). The match, played in bright sunshine resulted in a 5-3 win for the Legends. A creditable performance by the home team saw goals scored by Rhys Warner-Carter, Reece Bayliss and Warwick Tompkins. The event had raised £1760 at time of writing and prompted many fond memories of this popular young man.

'Royal' mail

Abbeyfield residents at The Old Bakehouse in Chadlington had a right Royal surprise when they received a letter from Buckingham Palace in July thanking them for sending the Queen their memories of Coronation Day 60 years ago. The then House Manager Wendy Bailey had sent a card with their recollections of the excitement of the event and the novelty for some of having a TV set to watch the ceremony. The card sent was made by one of the residents, proving it's good to

keep up with hobbies and interests especially when it gets the Royal seal of approval! The Day itself was celebrated with a bit of a do with friends, family, staff and many Chippy guests joining a BBQ. Guests came in enthusiastic dress as well some in fancy dress to complete the flavour of the occasion.

Wonder at the Rollright Stones



Shaun Skeats
Wonders of the Universe: a prize-winning photo of the King's Stone with Hale-Bopp

The Rollright Stones have been named as one of Seven Wonders of the Cotswolds, a list compiled to celebrate 45 years of the region as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Stroud Farmers' Market, Westonbirt Arboretum and Cotswold limestone also made the final seven. The Cotswold Conservation Board, which led the search, said it had been a 'fascinating campaign'.

Some 80 nominations were received from the public since the search started last December. The Stones, which date back 5,000 years, feature two groups of stones, the Whispering Knights and The King's Men and the single standing King's Stone. They are a major visitor attraction and are used regularly for events, such as ...

A Neolithic tea party!

Despite distraction of the the Olympics and passing thunderstorms the 'Neolithic' Tea Party on Saturday 4 August at the Rollright Stones was a great success with over 140 people visiting the monuments during the day. Dowsing



displays and tuition by Ron Dudley Smith and the Giant Cheese Lucky Dip turned out to be favourites whilst local astronomers gave everyone a chance to look at sunspots (see picture on p20). As a first 'see how it goes' event, favourable comments from everyone ensured another similar event will be held. All of the hard work was done by Trustee Sarah Withey and her son Bert, pictured manning the tea tent. A terrific idea which will become a regular event.

Robin Smitten

Police Commissioner election

Chipping Norton residents may be surprised to find electoral registration forms arriving two months early this year. The Electoral Register needs to be updated in time for voting for a Thames Valley 'Police and Crime Commissioner' on 15 November. For more information see www.westoxon.gov.uk/register or call 01993 861410. Chipping Norton Town Council discussed this at their July meeting and some expressed regrets that this looked like becoming a party political contest. The Conservative candidate is Anthony Stansfeld, a councillor from West Berkshire, and Labour has selected Amersham barrister Tim Starkey. The Lib Dems hope to select their candidate next month and the Greens are not entering due to cost concerns. Martin Young, from Headington Hill, intends to run as an independent.

Pavements, potholes, problems



A spate of pothole and pavement problems in Chipping Norton town centre has got the attention of Town and other councillors, who are raising issues with County and District Councils. This pothole at the New Street car park entrance (pictured



before and after!) was one of a number recently dealt with. Town Clerk Vanessa Oliveri told the News: 'The procedure with potholes is to report it to Oxfordshire County Council via phone or online on the OCC website. You state the problem, where it is, and your contact details. You are then given a reference number. OCC will contact you stating that they have logged your complaint and the matter will be dealt with, or an officer visit to assess, in so many days. The revised system of reporting faults at OCC has improved, for instance I reported the large pot hole by the Town Hall and within days it had been repaired.'

C&G to become Co-op Bank

Topside's Cheltenham & Gloucester branch is set to become a Co-operative Bank branch, under a national deal agreed in late July. After being bailed out by the Government, Lloyds Banking Group were told by the European Commission to sell hundreds of branches, including all C&Gs, to improve competition in banking. In July, Lloyds agreed to sell these to the Co-operative Group – which is associated with, but not the owner of, the Midcounties Co-op which runs a supermarket, pharmacy, travel agency and post office in Chippy. Lloyds hopes to complete the sale to the Co-operative by November 2013, and branches will then take the Co-op name in 2014. C&G accounts will automatically

transfer to the Co-operative Bank along with branch staff, and no closures are planned. The Co-operative Bank is known for its ethical stance, refusing to finance certain businesses, but may offer poorer interest rates on some types of accounts.

Ringling in the Olympics

The nearest the Olympic torch got to Chipping Norton was Woodstock where it was met by MP David Cameron, the Duke of Marlborough, and a crowd of 13,000. A large number of Chippy residents made the trip and joined in the Olympic enthusiasm which built up across the country (see letters). In Chipping Norton itself Joe Johnson (pictured), one of St Mary's bell ringers, rang the Town Hall bell at 8.12 on 27 July – joining in the national ringing of bells started at Big Ben to welcome the Olympics. The Sanctus bell at St Mary's Church was also rung.



September's Salford Fete

Why not round off a summer of fantastic celebrations with an afternoon at Salford Fete on Saturday 8 September. There's a grand start from Hook Norton's beautiful shire horses at around 12.30, then for dog owners and dog lovers – the Fun Dog Agility competition at 12.45 and Fun Dog Show at 2pm. All dogs, whatever their shape, size, or age are welcome, provided owners are reasonably well behaved. Entry forms at the gate up to 15 minutes before each event. Boys and girls who like big toys won't want to miss the farm machinery, including a mini JCB. The young and young at heart alike can sit on the tractor or combine harvester and test their skills on the JCB. The more artistically inclined may want to decorate a ceramic tile with local potter Liz Teall, who will fire the tiles after the fete and return them to their creators. Other attractions include the popular Slow Bike Race at 1.30, the Tug of War at 2.45, and the children's Round-the-Village Race at 3.15. Charlbury Morris Dancers will be performing between events and there will be a barbecue, teas, traditional games, stalls, raffle and Village Show. Entrance is free, with all proceeds going to Salford Church and Village Hall and the Lawrence Home Nursing Team. For more information, contact Willie Ross: 641414 or w.ross10@btinternet.com.

!!!! Reminder !!!!

CHIPPY NEWS CHILDREN'S COMPETITION
for the best story & photo about a summer excursion
WIN A FAMILY DAY OUT AT COTSWOLD FARM PARK
Closing date for entries is 5 September

Open to all children up to the age of 16
Entries (including name, age & contact details) should be emailed
to chippymail@aol.com or posted to The News, Hill Lawn House,
22 New Street Chipping Norton OX7 5LJ

Full details on p5 of last month's News

Vernon House delays

A large hole, pictured below, now exists in the place of the old Vernon House up the Burford road. Work has started but there will be some delay while a revised planning proposal is



being submitted to increase the number of affordable flats for over 55s from 21 to 24, and add an extra storey and more windows. Residents who were planning to move from Churchill House to the new flats will have to wait much longer. The increased height and disruption could well mean a difficult time for neighbours as well.

News from St Mary's Church

It hasn't escaped our notice that the Olympics have taken place! After all, in the New Testament, the Christian is urged to 'run with perseverance the race marked out for us'. However, as I send my usual report from St Mary's, I feel a bit like trying to describe the great opening ceremony of the games or those Golds for Team GB to someone who wasn't there, or didn't tune in to TV. The pupils, staff and many parents of St Mary's School came to the end-of-term service on 20 July – but if you weren't there . . . Then there was an Olympic theme for our July 'Explore' with an introduction by our would-be Mo Farah . . . And so on and so on. Life at St Mary's is only for participants. But we always welcome spectators, and like the early days of London 2012, there are a few empty seats. As for the above, and some other 'events' at St Mary's this month, I'm glad I was there!

Gerald Forse

The Moonrakers are coming

No, this is nothing to do with the night sky, but an opportunity to enjoy a wonderful musical evening of Celtic traditional music. The Friends of St Mary's Church in Chipping Norton are hosting this concert by the Moonrakers on Saturday 6 October at 7.30pm in the Church. Moonrakers (www.moonrakers.net) are four consummate musicians playing harp, fiddle, whistles, guitar, Irish bouzouki and female/male vocals. They specialise in Irish, Scottish, Welsh and English traditional and contemporary tunes and songs. They are rapidly creating a buzz in the world of acoustic music, with three albums with glowing reviews ('Just OZZES quality' – *Living Tradition*) and appearances at many festivals, arts centres and churches. This 'fine organic collection of apt musicianship' (*Earbuzz*) displays 'a true respect for the British folk tradition' (*eMusic*). Tickets £10 (£8 conc) and from the Church Office (646202), Jaffé & Neale Bookshop or Jo Graves (643976). All proceeds for the upkeep of St Mary's Church. For information contact Jo Graves on 643976.

Amazing changes at Library

As I write this article mid-August, your library is closed for complete refurbishment and we are all looking forward to seeing the amazing changes when we reopen on 20 August. Chipping Norton Library, as a 'core' library, needed to be upgraded to 21st century standards, hence the need to rethink our layout and requirements. The first major change you will notice is the new self-service machines for those who like to do their own issuing and returns. By making the staff counter smaller we have been able to create more shelf space yet still keep our public computers and photocopying facilities. Our shelving will be more flexible and modern so that we can use the library space for additional activities in the community. The staff are all excited – and above all you will still find all of us there, ready to help you, our customers. Do pop in and check us out. The Children's StoryLab will continue right through to the end of September, so don't forget to keep the children reading and collect your stickers and medals to prove you're champion book lovers.

Judith Bucknall Library Manager

Community Orchard news

Watch out for a new release of *Anna Karenina*, the introduction of which features 18 British master scythes masquerading as Russian peasants – actually on Salisbury Plain! One of them, Clive Leeke, ran a course for us in June; and the Orchard now boasts two scythes, whilst two individual members are also owners. Scything days are planned. Volunteer, if only to rake. We are also relying on mowing from our farmer member Tony Hillman. Fruit yield has been disappointing this year, in company generally with the region; but all fruit trees and the hedgerow are thriving, and rhubarb and currants are well established thanks to the rain. See us at the Autumn Fair on 6 October in the centre of Chippy, and later on Sunday 21 October it's Apple Day at the Orchard with Wassailers at noon and feasting up until 2pm. The Orchard is for all the Community. For more contact 643691 and see the appeal for apples in letters.



Heather Leonard

Help the Country Market

Chipping Norton Country Market urgently needs Producers and Helpers. Originally part of the WI, the long-established Country Market functions every Saturday from 9–11am in the Lower Town Hall, and on the third Saturday in the month it joins the Farmers Market from 8am–1pm. Potential new customers are always welcome to come and see what we have available – all at reasonable prices. Please feel free to visit without obligation. If you are interested in becoming a Producer or Helper, come along any Saturday and have a chat with the regulars who produce all sorts of baking, crafts, flowers, vegetables, jams, marmalade, meat and sausages, and eggs, and perhaps you can come up with some new ideas.

Elizabeth Milhofer

Three legged glory



Chipping Norton's charity 'Three Legged Race' was resurrected very successfully this year. The sun shone, spectators gathered in droves and ten teams (all pairs in fancy dress) set off at two minute intervals.

Above: record breaking winners, right: the 'alternative' couple

Traditionally hosted by The Red Lion in Albion Street, the race raises money for local charities, and, of course, entertains, and bemuses unsuspecting locals and visitors. Each team weaves around town



on a planned course visiting all the Town's drinking establishments. The church also provided a much needed water stop where competitors met the two horses of the Hooky Brewery dray! Second place went to Rod & Paula missing out on Chippy Gold by just one minute, with winners Stella & Sam finishing in a record breaking 34 minutes. Tash & Chunk, dressed as rugby players, finished the race in just under 4 hours – the longest recorded! Medals and a new three legged race trophy were awarded, plus prizes for best fancy dress costume: Cowboy and Indian came first, Cop & Robber (Carol & Michelle) second and the 'alternative' couple (Peter & Pen) claimed third.

Around £800 was raised, with more coming in, to be split between Katharine House Hospice, Lawrence House Nursing Team, and Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance. For

competitors reading this who've not yet paid in sponsorship money, please hand it in with your forms as soon as possible. A special thanks to Mick & Sheila at the Red Lion for hosting the event, and to all who helped to make the race happen. Last but not least, an extra special thanks to all those who took part, we hope you will do so again next year!

Carl Perkins

Secret woodland walk

The Wychwood Project have organised a 10km woodland walk in the 'Secret Forest' of Wychwood at Cornbury Park. It's on Sunday 7 October at 10am at Cornbury Park, Charlbury, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Rotherwick. The wild woodland and beautiful parkland is not normally open for public access. The family-friendly event is suitable for all ages. Cost £10 for adults, £5 for children (no dogs allowed) but free to Wychwood Project members and those who join on the day. For further details and to sign up, phone 01865 815424 or email wpoxfordshire@gmail.com.

Keep our trees!



The recent removal of two trees in Chipping Norton town centre (near Bitter & Twisted), sparked off concerns at the July Town Council meeting about the Town losing more trees without consultation and replacement. The County Council removed the trees, according to County Cllr Hilary Biles, because they were diseased and could be dangerous.

The tree is no more ...

'Where possible', the County will replace ones removed. Recent issues with chestnut trees on the roads into town raised concerns that the other large chestnuts in the town centre (such as outside Jaffé & Neale) might be as risky. Councillors also mentioned trees removed along Banbury Road. Town Councillors suggested they might look at a schedule of trees in the Town and wanted to ensure the County updated the Town on any future actions.

Methodists' farewell to minister

On 4 August Chipping Norton Methodist Church was packed for a Farewell Service for our minister, Rev Alan Swann. The members of the church are grateful for all he has done here in Chipping Norton, and in the circuit as a whole. They send their best wishes to him and his wife Julie in their new circuit in Lincoln. On 5 August 12 new members were welcomed into the Church. The new minister, Rev Soba Sinnathamby, and his wife Navamani, have arrived from Wales and Soba will be leading the Harvest Festival on 16 September at 11am. All are welcome at this service, and for lunch afterwards. Services are held at the church on West Street each Sunday at 11am including a crèche and Junior Church. For more information about services and church activities please contact Senior Steward Martin Hannant by phoning 643653 or by email to martinhannant@fsmail.net

CHIPPING NORTON GROUP
of
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Welcomes local MEP

Catherine Bearder

to talk on

***Human Trafficking:
a local & international
problem***

**Thursday 11 October
at 7.30pm**

Lower Town Hall
Chipping Norton



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FREE ENTRANCE

*"fighting against and raising awareness of the disgrace
that is this modern-day slave trade"*

Old Oxford House transformed



The former Oxford House pub on Horsefair has undergone a recent rapid transformation. Despite being an inn dating back to 1744, recent trade had been slack and the building vacant for some time following its last incarnation as Off The Beaten Track. It was sold at auction in May 2010 to a Solihull man to whom planning permission was granted in April 2011 for conversion to five one- and two-bedroomed flats with ground floor office use. The scheme, says Andrew Thomas of Grayling Thomas Architects of Oxford, opens up the historic carriage entrance and reinstates the central courtyard, from which the flats are accessed. This historic building is not Listed, but is prominently in the conservation area, so any development has to respect local character. WODC imposed conditions to ensure that materials and details were appropriate, including requiring the details of the proposed timber windows to be approved.

The property was sold on, with planning permission, to a new owner believed to be a Chinese London-based property developer. Recently a team of Chinese-speaking builders have been hard at work transforming the interior. The new owner was not available to speak to the News. It is not clear yet whether UPVC windows and some of the conversion details accord entirely with the approved plans. Whilst it may be good news to see investment in a run-down property, some fear that one of Chippy's distinctive landmarks is being transformed into a rather bland façade fronting this busy junction. This pub is one of five in the Town recently lost to residential development, the Waggon & Horses being the first, followed recently by the Albion Tavern, demolished to build seven new homes, and The Bell, currently undergoing conversion to two homes with a further two in its grounds.

Electrical items' recycling

Since the demise of Dean Pit in 2011, and the Town awaiting a possible new tip at Greystones, there has been nowhere nearby to take small electrical items for recycling. In July West Oxfordshire District Council announced that 'residents can now recycle small electrical items at new depository banks being rolled out across the District'. The press release gave details of a 'host of new WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) banks' in Witney (3), Ducklington, Eynsham, Clanfield, Carterton (2), Burford, Woodstock, and later Charlbury. But why not one in Chipping Norton? When The News asked WODC, spokesperson Sam Henry was only able to say that 'discussions are taking place to find suitable locations in Chipping Norton'. All this is still only for small

items – larger items such as TV monitors, washing machines and anything that doesn't fit in the chute of the banks should be taken to a household waste and recycling centre (tip). Alternatively, for a small charge, you can order a bulky household waste collection through the District Council by calling 01993 861025 or visiting: www.westoxon.gov.uk/bulkywaste.

Boys nuts about knitters!

Number 24 Café's knitting group were recently joined by three lovely (male) bikers from Northampton who popped in for coffee and cake and were so impressed by the buzz and fantastic craftsmanship of



our knitters that they decided to try their hand at a few rows of plain and pearl! Though perhaps more accomplished on two wheels, the 'boys' did themselves proud and got to grips with wool and needles and impressed everyone with their enthusiasm! Which just goes to show that knitting, crochet, etc is open to everyone! The knitting group meets every second Tuesday at 10.30 and welcomes the young and not so young ... and especially bikers! A plea from the knitting group: if anyone has any spare orange wool to donate to the group for the Autumn 'knit a hat' for the charity for the homeless, St Mungo's, please pop in to Number 24 Café. All wool donations gratefully received!

Helen Pearce

Lido lottery results

July's results from a total of 151 tickets sold, and a prize fund of £226.50 were: 1st prize: £113.25 Cerina Hawtin (78), 2nd prize: £67.95 Linden Lyne (13), 3rd prize: £45.30 Val Smith (182). August's results from a total of 147 tickets sold, and a prize fund of £220.50 were: 1st prize: £110.25 Joan Thomson



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LOCAL NEWS

(83), 2nd prize: £66.15, Diana Cramp (20) and 3rd prize: £44.10 Mary Smith (65).

Five Chippy generations



Chipping Norton's Pauline Baker kindly sent the News our celebratory front page picture taken at the 96th birthday on 12 July of her father, Gordon Smith. The most remarkable thing was that the birth of Gordon's great-great-granddaughter, Olivia Grace, on 18 June, had made the five generations: Gordon himself, Pauline Baker, Sallyann Baker, Dani Mullins and Olivia Grace Mullins. Pauline said, 'We had a lovely party for him at his home in Churchill Road which he shares with his granddaughter Lynn, Matt and great-grandsons, Logan and Ozzie Baker'. The photo above includes more of the family which Gordon says is what keeps him going.!

Aladdin's Cave at Cornbury

Organisers of the Stately Car Boot Sale are unearthing forgotten treasures to go on sale on Saturday 16 September to raise funds for two local charities – Macmillan Cancer Support and Rosy (Respite nursing for Sick Youngsters). Over 100 personally invited, exclusive car booters will be selling their up-market treasures at the Cornbury Park Estate. These 'to die for items' will include smart things for the household, soft furnishings, posh knick-knacks and vintage designer clothing. Event organisers say 'The event is going to be a treasure trove for shoppers who will be able to unearth some terrific items. It is encouraging to see how much people are willing to support the event and the two fabulous charities'. Open to the public from 10am-3.30pm, entry price £5 with free parking, 4,000 are expected to attend. Visitors can have a great day out with a farmers market, lots of children's activities, music and entertainment as well.

Another shopping survey

The future of Chippy's shopping centre remains a big talking point. The Co-op expansion is all set to go ahead but there are still up to 10 empty shops – the latest from the closure of Watsons Cafe down New Street. After all the 'analysis' done at the time of Sainsbury's unsuccessful supermarket bid, West Oxfordshire residents are being invited to help with a new shopping study to shape the future of town centres. This is part of WODC's overall Core Strategy. It will include a telephone survey among residents to discover where they shop and what they like and dislike about town centres in the District. Results will help the Council consider whether new

shops are required or where improvements are needed. More information on the Core Strategy development plan is available on www.westoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy or contact the Planning Policy team on 01993 861665.

Auction boost for Lido

Jeremy Clarkson was in top gear again at The Lido's Auction of Promises in July raising over £16,000 from a packed Town Hall. Organiser Ken Norman thanked individuals and companies who donated, and all who came and bid on the night. Trustee Claire Jarvis told the News the funds come at a critical time when, after the big refurbishment project, reserves were at their lowest point for several years. Poor weather also gave the season a slow start. Claire said they had greater confidence about planning for next year and thanked Ken for his 'energy, creativity and sheer determination in making the auction such a success.'

This year saw an enthusiastic take-up for water polo at the Lido (thanks to Kellogg's, the ASA, and teachers). The Lido plans to offer weekly sessions in 2013 for youngsters and maybe extend the scheme to adults.

Come on cyclists



With Team GB's amazing Olympic cycling show, perhaps the next Bradley Wiggins or Victoria Pendleton are lurking in or around Chipping Norton. If so, the new cycle racks in Chippy town centre are ready, waiting for you!

Not many bikes to be seen actually chained to them yet, but perhaps the racks are part of WODC's strategy for Olympic legacy.

Helen & Douglas House news

This year the world's first children's hospice – Helen House – is celebrating its 30th anniversary. To celebrate, the team at the Chipping Norton shop are hosting a coffee morning on Saturday 29 September, 10.30am-12.30pm in the Upper Town Hall. As well as delicious refreshments, there will be books and bric-a-brac for sale and children's activities. Please bring your friends and family to help make this an occasion to remember. Earlier in September, on Saturday 15 (10am-4pm), Helen & Douglas House has its annual Open Day in Oxford with care team staff on hand to tell people about their work. There will be a marquee with tea, cakes and plenty of music including popular children's musician Nick Cope. The Mercedes F1 car will also be there along with some beautiful falcons. St Mary's Church, Horsefair, Banbury (24 September to 17 October) has a free photo exhibition that reflects the faces and stories of the children, young adults and their families who visit Helen & Douglas House. You will not want to miss this stunning and moving collection.

Alison Hooker, Community Fundraiser

Antiques Road Trip



Some readers may have spotted the cameras in town on Monday 6 August. BBC2's *Antiques Road Trip* chose CoCa in West Street as the destination for antiques expert James Lewis. They filmed James Braxton dropping off Mr Lewis in a bright yellow VW convertible. He had a good rummage around CoCa and found various items of interest, in particular a tiny carved figure of a little old lady, believed to be Japanese. After much haggling a price was agreed and James Lewis went away with the bargain of the day! We expect this episode to be shown in January but watch this space for more information.

Craft and Well-Being Fayre

Drop in to the Town Hall 10-2pm on Saturday 22 September for an interesting new Fayre. Rona Macrae has just qualified as a Reflexologist, and she and some of her friends decided to hire the Town Hall to show off her and other people's skills and wares. On the list are R&R Reflexology, Chipping Norton Tea Set, VIP Hair Extensions and Beauty Treatments, Herbal Pantry, Plaques for All Occasions, Pauline's Flowers, and more. If you are a local person who would also like to show off your skill and products why not set up a stall (small charge). The team are offering charities space for free – so come and join in. Contact Pam.Jefferies@mail.com

Katharine House update

Start knitting! Chipping Norton's Katharine House supporters can help again this year by knitting some Christmas novelties: mini puddings, robins and Santa hats. Patterns at www.khh.org.uk. Hospice Christmas cards and the 2013 Hospice Calendar, featuring local scenes, will be on sale from mid September. Events coming up include: 'Travelling Light', Saturday 29 September, 7.30pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, Banbury: an entertainment in words and music from the Poetic Licence Group. Thenford Gardens and Arboretum Open Afternoon, Saturday 6 October. Hospice patrons Lord and Lady Heseltine will be opening their gardens and arboretum in aid of the Hospice. Only a few tickets remaining! Banbury Camera Club Exhibition, 23–28 October, Michael Heseltine Gallery, Chenderit School, Middleton Cheney. 5 Ways Barbershop Chorus Concert, Friday 2 November, 7.30pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church: from 19th century minstrel songs through to popular songs by the Everly Brothers, the Beach Boys and Walt Disney! Details from Katharine House on 01295 812161 or the website, www.khh.org.uk

What makes us laugh

Cancer Research UK are presenting 'Another Evening with the Professor' on Friday, 21 September at 7.30pm in Chipping Norton Town Hall. After last year's successful talks Ronald Speirs has agreed to take a semi-serious look at 'The science of humour and what makes us laugh'. Ronald is a retired Professor of Physiology from the University of London and Tutor at the Royal College of Surgeons. He is much in demand as a speaker and fundraiser for different charities. All proceeds from the night will go to Cancer Research UK. Tickets £10 – to include interval refreshments. Available in advance from Gill & Co and Porcupine, and on the door.

Fire at Manor House

In July a blaze broke out on a Friday evening in the unused Manor House Gallery along West Street. Valuable furniture, antiques and other items stored there were destroyed. Five



appliances and police attended and the road was closed for some time, taking three hours to ensure that the fire had ended. The manor house itself is being renovated. The blaze may have been started by a hot spotlight igniting a duvet.

New cat rescue charity

Sunshine Cat Rescue is a new local charity, based in Milton-under-Wychwood, run by volunteers committed to helping rehabilitate and rehome lost or unwanted cats and kittens. The fosterers and homing team have a wealth of experience in animal welfare and, in addition to



fostering and rehoming, the charity offers advice to anyone needing guidance in caring for their pet. The website gives details of those lucky cats and kittens who have already found a new home through the organisation, but sadly there is a growing list of cats and kittens who are still waiting for the chance to find a new loving home. If you are able to help or are interested in finding out more about Sunshine Cat Rescue, including forthcoming events, visit the website www.sunshinecatrescue.org.uk or phone 01993 831279. The charity also welcomes offers of sponsorship for cats in its care, food donations and goods for fundraising events.

Karen Slater

Beautiful sunny garden



Over £1,400 was raised for The Friends of Chipping Norton Theatre when 22 July produced perfect conditions for visitors to Chivel Farm garden, Heythrop, whether they were relaxing on the terraces admiring the views and munching cakes or walking around the borders delighting in the scents and sights there – or dressing up in some of the Theatre's fabulous costumes – see picture! The Friends wish to thank all those who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful afternoon, especially Mr and Mrs Sword

for opening their garden to the public. The next Open Gardens fundraiser is on 16 September and involves seven gardens in Sibford Gower and Burdrop near Hook Norton. Come and enjoy a variety of gardens and perhaps pick up some ideas of how to maintain autumn colour in your own plot. See advert on p5 for details.

Kingham Farmers Market

Kingham's last Farmers Market of the summer is on the village green on Sunday 2 September 10am-1pm, with new stalls selling brownies, cupcakes, charcuterie, soft goat cheeses and a new range of meats. The next market is on Sunday 2 December in the Village Hall.

Police and crime report

Reports from Neighbourhood Officer PC Mick Anderton and local press:

Celebrations and clean up After a good Queen's jubilee locally, police on 9 June helped organise the 'Chippy Clean Up' which was deemed a great success. Assisted by residents in the Walterbush, Hailey Avenue, Hailey Road and Cornish Road areas, local people collected litter and cleaned their streets.

Heythrop Hunters in court The Heythrop Hunt and four individuals are going on trial in December on a 45-charge indictment brought by the RSPCA for breaches of the Hunting Act. Individuals include Huntsman Julian Barnfield, Joint Master Vanessa Lambert, Duncan Hune of Chipping Norton and Richard Sumner.

Ordered to sell up 60-year-old career criminal William Vinson from Cotswold Terrace, serving nine years for 101 distraction burglaries, has been ordered to sell his house to compensate his victims. His ill-gotten gains were estimated at nearly £150,000.

Drugs offences After intelligence from the public a drugs warrant was executed in Chipping Norton in June. A 51-year-old man and 51-year-old woman were arrested on suspicion of cultivating cannabis. In August Christopher Taylor of Hailey Crescent pleaded guilty to possessing cannabis and failing to

surrender to court. Police expect more drugs warrants shortly.

Jewellery recovered In August a 39-year-old woman was due to appear on burglary charges. She stole valuable items of jewellery from her landlady as a tenant in a private house in Chipping Norton on two separate occasions over several months. Fortunately all the stolen items were recovered from a local jeweller with the kind and resourceful assistance of members of staff.

Theft and damage offences In July Martin Hall of Burford Road was given a community order and paid costs and compensation for trespassing into a house, stealing a hammer and damaging a car windscreen. James Clark of Cornish Road was given a 12-month conditional discharge for stealing cigarettes from the Fabulous Bakin' Boys changing rooms.

Romanian burglars charged Two Romanian nationals have been charged with a range of burglaries in the Thames Valley including in July at Enstone, and in Shepard Way and New Street in Chipping Norton.

Chippy Country File

The first in an occasional series by local ornithologist Frances Buckel

Is Chippy chirping? Or going for gold??



Spot a goldfinch in the garden

Did you hear a cuckoo this summer? Cuckoos in England have been faring particularly badly, declining by 51% according to British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) surveys. Turtle Dove, Yellow Wagtail, Nightingale, and Spotted Flycatcher are now rarely seen near Chipping Norton and even Starlings have declined by over 50%. Survey results have highlighted the alarming declines in our summer migrants, which make the long journey from Africa to brighten up our spring, but in ever decreasing numbers. These species may face difficulties on their African wintering areas, their European breeding grounds, and along the routes back and forth between the two; more research is urgently required to pinpoint the problems. But it is not all doom and gloom. House Sparrows are approaching a six-year high in gardens. Numbers declined sharply in 2006, but are now making a steady recovery. This recovery is fragile and needs support. Chippy gardeners can create a more hospitable environment for House Sparrows by cultivating thick vegetation, cleaning feeding stations regularly and by putting up groups of nest boxes in which House Sparrows can breed.

The Olympic Games gave a hoard of gold medals, and gardens can also have gold with a record number of householders seeing the stunning goldfinch, easily recognisable, with their bright gold wing bars and blood-red faces. Numbers of this species in gardens have reached an all-time high as bird enthusiasts provide foods such as nyjer seed and sunflower hearts.

Helping birds can be fun as it gives an opportunity to see them better and really does give them a boost.



Chipping Norton Pre-School – 40 years on

The Pre-School is a cornerstone of the Town's community. This summer sees it going LIVE with a new website and celebrating over 40 years of being a 'warm and friendly early years provider'.

Secretary of the Management Committee, Bridget Gray, sent this enthusiastic report:

Who is Chipping Norton Pre-School?

CNPS is a registered charity run by a group of volunteers on the Management Committee, and is part of the Pre-school Learning Alliance. Our building is owned by us, but leased on land owned by Chipping Norton Academy (Top School), with whom we enjoy a very positive relationship. CNPS is staffed by very experienced and qualified early years' practitioners, some of whom have worked at the preschool for over 20 years. We are funded through grants we apply for and the parents' fees (age 3+ children qualify for early years funding). Some generous local societies such as the Lions, give us grants for equipment – earlier this year we bought a water butt with guttering to develop maths language whilst playing with water.



We are now on the web

Please visit our new website www.cnpreschool.co.uk. Making the website has been a huge achievement. We are delighted with the modern design and really pleased with the response from parents. Committee members are learning to edit the site, so do keep an eye on it as we plan for it to grow and grow with more photos, information and links.

Work over the summer

CNPS will look fresh and bright for the new term with a new coat of paint to the whole building – inside and out. We have also completely re-furnished the office with purpose-built desks and shelves, enabling us to get the quiet room ready with new furniture. The sensory garden has been pruned and weeded. The major painting and repairing work is contracted to local builders but all the rest of the work, and the tidying, sorting and cleaning is done by staff and Committee members in their own time. Thank you! Pre-School staff are also busy this summer reading the revised EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) to be implemented in September. We are all looking forward to embracing this. We are planning lots of exciting experiences and activities to do with the children whilst following and extending their own interests.

What makes us so special?

I've had a relatively short relationship with the Pre-School, just about three years so far, I have been on the Committee for this time and it has been a fantastic experience. The early years of a child's life are fundamental in their development and I can confidentially say that CNPS is playing a huge part in ensuring our local children can achieve their full potential as they develop into young people and adults. CNPS is also unique as many of our current parents also went to CNPS as children. Some Committee members have even had parents who once sat on the committee themselves. Currently we have one family with a third generation member of staff!

Enthusiastic parents

CNPS is clearly loved by parents and staff alike and if you are ever lucky enough to visit us, fundraise for us or send your child to us, we are sure you will agree too. But don't just take my word for it, here are some comments from our parents

'...The children have loved coming and if anyone ever asks me where to send their children yours will be the place I'll send them to. You are a lovely bunch of ladies, with hearts of gold and the patience of saints, thanks once again lots of love and hugs...'

'... is going to miss you, thank you so much to all your brilliant lovely teachers. I highly recommend this pre-school to anyone. Thank you xx'

'Both of my children felt happy, safe and valued during their time at Chipping Norton Pre-School. The loving, welcoming, dedicated staff make this a wonderful place. Just the simple step of greeting each child by name every morning gives them a sense of self-worth – they really blossomed under your care.' Karina Bell

David Cameron need look no further for his 'big society' than at CNPS, its staff, Committee and parents! The Committee, made up of current and past parents at the preschool, work closely with the manager on training, staffing, new equipment, and all the housekeeping issues such as paying bills etc.

Contact Chipping Norton Pre-School, Burford Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5DZ 01608 643376. Registered charity number 278247

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CHIPPY JAZZ AND MUSIC

Sunday 30 September

With a new name and more music this is the 15th year of Rotary's popular annual event

So why the name change? *The News* asked Simon Hamilton of Chipping Norton Rotary Club, why Chippyjazz is now CJAM – this is his explanation: 'It is to highlight that the day is not just jazz – this year there'll be other types of music include swing, big band, blues, gipsy jazz and also some gospel. All the music is of similar genre but will be enjoyable for everyone whether new to these types of music or enthusiasts.' The day will start with a Folk, Gospel and Blues-style Church Service at St Mary's at 10.45am. This is followed by twelve groups of musicians playing in the town centre from around 11am-11.30pm. You will find them outside in the street, in pubs, coffee shops and hotels. They include the ever-popular CNS Allstars, The Soft Shoe Trio, plus a trio from the Grand Union Syncopators and Fiddlebop, playing jazz with a gypsy flavour – the names alone are enticing!

These are all free though donations to the charities Rotary is supporting, will be very gratefully received. There are three ticketed events:

Lunchtime at the Chequers Pub: featuring Spats Langham, well-known for his virtuoso banjo and guitar-playing and much esteemed on the traditional jazz scene. £5 at the door or in advance from the Chequers

The Youth Jazz Band Afternoon Concert: including the Reading Big Band, winners of the Jazz section of the Music Festival here in March and our popular CN Allstars will be in the Town Hall in the afternoon. Entry £2 – pay on the door.

Evening Concert: Tony Jacobs and Company with guest artist Spats Langham are performing a concert of 20s, 30s and 40s vintage swing, jazz and cabaret. Tony Jacobs and his musicians are very popular entertainers of cabaret, jazz and



Top: The CNS Allstars performing last year; above: the Reading Big Band; right ~ Tony Jacobs who will perform at evening concert in the town Hall

All profits from the day will go to Thames Valley Air Ambulance, Riding For The Disabled and St Mungo's and the Rotary Foundation which supports many other good causes.

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WHAT'S ON THE THEATRE CHIPPING NORTON
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LIVE:
 Fri 7 Sept, 7.30pm **AL MURRAY (SOLD OUT)**
 Sat 8 Sept, 7.45pm **CLASSIC CLAPTON (Eric Clapton Tribute) £15, £13**
 Thur 13 - Sat 15 Sept, 7.45pm **THE RIVALS £13, £11 conc, Friends 2 for 1/half price**

LIVE THEATRICAL SCREENING:
 Thurs 6 Sept, 7pm **THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT TIME**
Screened Live from the National Theatre, approx 150mins including intervals.
Tickets £15

Wed 19 - Sat 22 & Thurs 26 - Sat 29 Sept, 7.45pm & Sat 29 Sept, 3pm
Chipping Norton Theatre's own production of
FRANKIE & JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE
A Modern Classic of Bittersweet Laughter and Love
Tickets: £14, £12 conc, £8.50 schools

Wed 12 Sept, 7.30pm
The Theatre chipping Norton presents
A FILM LOVERS' FESTIVAL
 A fantastic evening for cinema lovers and film buffs. Centered around a rare opportunity to see funny, touching and finely crafted winners and nominees from the short film categories of the 2012 ~Oscars, this evening will also include projection room tours, silent film with live musical accompaniment, cinematic merchandise and a glass of bubbly!
Tickets: £12, £10 conc. All proceeds in aid of The Theatre

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 10am-11am for rising 6 years (School Year 1) 11.15am-12.15pm rising 7 years (School Year 2) **Autumn term: Eight sessions £44 Spring term: Ten sessions £55**

CALL BOX OFFICE FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK 01608 642350
www.chippingnortontheatre.com

THE ARTS

Successes over Summer

A round up of some successful arts achievements over the summer

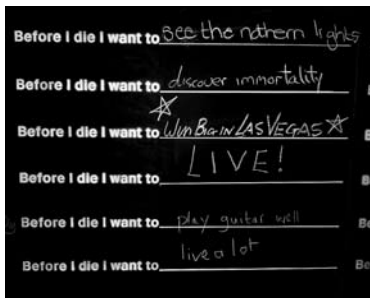


'Treading on Eggshells' shoes win top prize at Art's Kool – Harry Barker, 13, from Kingham Hill School won The Nancy McCulloch Memorial Award at Art's Kool this year with his work entitled 'Treading on Eggshells'. He created an amazing sculpture of a pair of high heeled shoes covered completely in fragments of egg shells fading in colour from front to back.

Caroline Ritson wins The Big Oxfordshire Artweeks Poll - To celebrate the 30th anniversary of Oxfordshire Artweeks, 30 artists taking part entered a competition for the image which best captures the spirit of Oxfordshire. The people of Oxfordshire have voted Caroline Ritson's work 'Green man found on Wittenham Clumps' the winner. Caroline is inspired by the myth of the green man and paints in rich detail the faces she finds in hedgerows and foliage. She exhibited at Chipping Norton Theatre during Artweeks.

Before I Die – an interactive public arts project

Most people who visited this project in the Theatre Gallery over the summer, got involved by writing their plans and dreams on the large blackboards on the walls. Judging by what was written, visitors of all ages took part, and the comments in the visitors' book voted it a great success.



Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Amazing, the only way to describe the production of this musical by pupils of year six of St Mary's C of E (Aided) School which was staged for two nights in July. A colourful and vibrant

ensemble piece, ideally suited to the talented young people who enthusiastically entered into this strong performance. Hugely enjoyed and well received by the packed theatre audience. Fantastic! (CNN reporter Amanda Horlor)

What's on in September – here & near

Here at The Theatre

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time – this is a National Theatre Live event. The audience can see this play screened LIVE from the NT. An adaptation of the award-winning book by Mark Haddon 7pm 6 September.

A Film Lovers' Festival – A rare opportunity to see winners and nominees of the Short Film categories from the 2012 Oscars, a silent film accompanied by live music, a projection room tour and more! 7.30pm 12 September.



Frankie played by Caroline Lawton born in South Carolina, USA with distinguished credits on both sides of the Atlantic

Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune A Theatre Chipping Norton production of Terrence McNally's play of bittersweet laughter and love set in 1980's America 7.45pm 19-22 Sept. and 26-29 Sept (and 3pm on 29 Sept)



Johnny played by Marcus D'Amico RSC actor who started out as Oliver in the West End & has since won many awards both here and in the USA

Autumn Take Part Programme There are a variety of activities to get yourself involved in, including *Unlocking Your Creativity* for adults over 18 – a six-week course of drama, art and writing exercises aimed at building you confidence in being creative which starts 1 October 7-8.30pm. Dance 50+ is about rekindling the joy of moving to music yet also helping to keep you fit and mobile. 10 sessions 9.45-10.45am in term-time. Visit www.chippingnortontheatre.com for further details of all events, or call 642350 to book.

Also here in Chipping Norton

'**Singing for Fun**' an evening group for adults no previous experience necessary. Details from Rachel 07730 542272. CN Methodist Church 7-8pm Thursday 27 September.

And then nearby just a gentle drive away

At Bradwell: Christopher Wren – His Life and His Buildings Cotswold Decorative and Fine Arts Society's September lecture is about Wren, scientist, astronomer and architect, featuring his buildings in London, Oxford and Cambridge, before focusing on his London churches. Speaker Tony Tucker is Chairman of the City of London Guide Lecturers Association. Non-members welcome (£8 suggested donation). Details www.cotswolddfas.org Bradwell Village Hall, OX18 4XF, 10.15am coffee/tea for 11am 12 September

Charlbury: Charlbury Art Society – in conjunction with Charlbury Street Fair – holds its annual Autumn Exhibition and sale of paintings and crafts in the Morris Room, the Corner House, Charlbury, Friday 14 September, 7-9.30pm and Saturday 15 September, 10am-5pm. Entrance 50p, children

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THE ARTS

free. New members are welcome to exhibit – contact Marion Coates on 810116 or visit www.charlburyarts.co.uk

Broadway: North Cotswold Arts Association ‘What fantastic talent’ a comment written in the visitors’ book at the NCAA’s Summer Exhibition in Stow-on-the-Wold. It was a colourful, lively display, with sales going well. Visitors had fun voting



for their favourite picture with Sandi Garrett’s ‘Fidget’, a Lurcher, the overwhelming favourite. The NCAA holds monthly meetings in Broadway Village Hall. It aims to foster enjoyment of the Arts and includes all forms of traditional art as well as photography and other crafts. 12 September sees a demonstration by KMS Printers. 2-4pm – all welcome, £5 for visitors includes tea and cake! Call 01451 822550 for details.

Moreton in Marsh: Two Exhibitions. *Double Vision:* collaborative and individual work by Raymond Arnold and Ian Westacott Intricate etchings of trees and more, drawn straight onto the etching plate, then a complicated printing process to produce stunning results. Until mid-September. *Horizon:* paintings by R S (Steve) Mitchell, a leading scenic and concept artist who also produces panoramic paintings of spectacular locations visited as a scenic artist in films including the *Harry Potter* series and *Captain Corelli’s Mandolin* 29 Sept-4 Nov. Both at The Celia Lendis Art Gallery, High Street, Moreton in Marsh. See www.celialendis.com for details

Great Rollright: *Seven Ages*, a comedy event – Kevin Tomlinson and Abi Hood’s a new show. In recent years, Kevin Tomlinson has become a great ambassador for both improvised theatre and masks, and *Seven Ages* combines the two to brilliant effect. Tomlinson’s purview is Shakespearean. He takes Jaques’ famous speech on the seven ages of man from *As You Like It* as the basis for a series of episodes depicting human development. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Great Rollright Village Hall 7.30 for 8pm Saturday 29 September Tickets (£9/ 5 u16) and more information from Sarah (730888) or Ian (737568).

Great Tew: *Sinbad and the Diamond Princess*, a Summer Panto with all the usual suspects: a young treasure hunter, a princess, her villainous uncle and his henchman, Sinbad’s overbearing mother, an old sea dog, a couple of holiday reps and a camel – to mention a few! The last night is a Gala Evening with a three course meal and an auction. John Mitchinson from QI is our auctioneer! 6-8 September The Tew Centre, Great Tew. Visit www.tewcentre.org.uk for details. Tickets from FibreWorks and RJ Hair.

Woodstock: Blenheim Palace Literary Festival (formerly the Woodstock Literary Festival) stakes place at various venues around Woodstock as well as the Palace. Fiction and non-fiction covering a wide range of subjects by well known authors and speakers including A N Wilson, John Julius Norwich, Lucinda Lampton and Mary Robinson, some of whom appeared at the ChipLit Festival in April, 12-16 September. Details www.blenheimpalaceliteraryfestival.com

Novel by a local author

The Choir Mistress A dark and witty thriller strongly laced with a rich and wicked humour. says its author Carol Bunyan, This is her first novel and the story, set in Oxfordshire, should appeal to the many singers in Chippy who belong to various choirs. Carol was at the ChipLit Festival and is a member of the Voice Box choir in Witney but adamant that the book is NOT based on her own choir! Carol has written many plays for theatre and television and is one of the tutors for the performance workshops at Chipping Norton Theatre.

Do you know what a ‘Nort’ is?

Chipping Norton Amateur Dramatic Society has existed for over 45 years, entertaining with plays, poetry, variety shows and, most famous of all, their annual Pantomime. The Society has always been known as the ‘Nortonians’ or ‘Norts’ for short. So now you know what a ‘Nort’ is! For the last three years the pantomime has been a family show adapting well-known stories such as *A Christmas Carol*, *Treasure Island* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Performing this show at the beginning of



The Norts cast snapped rehearsing A Christmas Carol back in November 2009

November usually beats the bad weather and gets everyone in the mood for Christmas! It is now held in the Methodist Church in West Street, coming full circle, as this is where Norts originally started.

This year the Norts are performing *The Wizard of Oz* adapted by John Morley, well known for writing a good show for family audiences. Rehearsals are well under way and the cast includes Martin Hannant as the Wizard and a local young starlet, Katie Ware, as Dorothy. You can expect all the usual characters, plenty of songs and humour. Put the date in your diary and you never know you might just see the Tin Man, Lion or Scarecrow walking down The Market Square! 8-10 November. Methodist Church Chipping Norton

Do you want to tread the boards or help backstage? The Norts’ Spring production is an adaptation of Mary Shelley’s novel *Dracula* by author John Godber. This is an ambitious production with a large cast. If you feel that this is the time to tread the boards, please get in contact. They always welcome new members whatever their interest in theatre – on stage, back stage, front of house, costumes, make-up etc. Call or email our Chairman Andrew Pitman, 01993 830930 or andrewpitman123@btinternet.com or drop in to a rehearsal at Highlands, Burford Road Chipping Norton. Mondays at 7.30pm from the beginning of September.

CLUB NEWS

CNAAG heads into autumn



Photo: Alexandra Browne

John Vincent takes a look at the Sun through the specially adapted solar telescope of CNAAG's Mel Gigg at the Rollright Stones Neolithic Tea Party in August – see p8

Chipping Norton Amateur Astronomy Group members have been taking advantage of every clear night. Several very late sessions have seen us crawling into work bleary eyed but the outstanding observations makes it worth the effort. Our regular third Monday meetings in The Fox continue with July and August nights 'in house' before we gear up for autumn and a flurry of professional speakers. In July we were involved in filming BBC's *The One Show* and already have plans for January's *Stargazing Live*. 18 August found us at our second event this year for the National Trust at Stonehenge searching for elusive Perseid meteors. We look forward to continued involvement with local schools and clubs, our Autumn Moonwatch at the Rollright Stones and many nights observing under Chippy stars. To anyone with an interest in space and astronomy, contact CNAAG at www.cnaag.com

Robin Smitten

Summertime with CNWI

At the July meeting of Chipping Norton Women's Institute members heard an excellent talk by local vet Peter Aylmer. Although now dealing with mainly domestic animals, Mr Aylmer has treated many creatures over the years, does conservation work at Burford Wildlife Park and retains a link with the remote South Atlantic island of St Helena – indeed a richly varied career. On 8 August everyone enjoyed a sociable supper and puzzled over confusing questions, picture clues to some local places and even a mini-Olympic quiz. John Grantham will talk about Chipping Norton's common and pastureland on 12 September. Visitors and new members are always welcome to join us in the lower town hall at 7.15pm.

Prudence Chard 642903

Railway Club remember Brunel

Following the summer break, two meetings to report, each with a 'gold medal' Speaker. In July, Peter Lugg returned to relate the life and times of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Who did not appreciate Kenneth Branagh's portrayal in the Olympic Opening Ceremony? Brunel was the pre-eminent engineer of the Victorian age; perhaps best known for his lasting legacy, the construction of the Great Western Railway. Peter's enthusiasm for his subject was mighty, unlike his hero, who at 5' 3" was known as 'The Little Giant'. As a small boy in the 30s, Peter was taken by his father to meet a retired Stationmaster who had actually met and talked with Brunel! To quote Jeremy Clarkson, 'Darwin told us where we came

from, but it was Brunel who took us where we wanted to go'.

In August, new speaker Colin Boocock sent us on a journey across India by train; from New Delhi to Calcutta with amazing PowerPoint pictures, showing trains, scenery and locals. Colin is a much travelled retired Railway engineer. We hope to see him again, with many more worldwide destinations.

On 4 September we welcome our old friend Dave Baker with more archive railway films. Our autumn visit to the Churnet Valley Railway in Staffordshire is on 7 October, for their 'Farewell to Summer' event. Non-members accepted, please ring 641586 for more details. We are very pleased with our 2012 programme; new members and visitors always welcome, with free tea/coffee and biscuits during the interval.

Estelle Brain 641586

NOOG – From ferns to forests

North Oxfordshire Organic Gardeners' summer visits took us first to suburban Kidlington where self-confessed fern fanatic Alistair Urquhart has created a charming shady mini-woodland to house the several hundred fern species he's collected over most of his adult life. His enthusiasm was infectious. His wife Margaret's half of the garden is an imaginative and colourful display of ornamental plantings: two stunning gardens in one visit! Our August tour went to the other extreme: Nicholson's Nurseries where tens of thousands of trees are grown for uses from hedging to forestry. We were impressed not only by the immaculately managed stands of saplings and young trees but also by their systems for harvesting rainwater, producing solar electricity, and generating heat from recycled wood chippings.

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Inspirational in many ways. On Wednesday 5 September Craig Blackwell will talk on 'The landscapes and habitats of Oxfordshire' 7.30pm in the Timberyard Room, Little Tew. All welcome. Details: 683624.

Lindsay Johnstone



Chippy Tai Chi

Tai Chi in Chipping Norton starts Tuesday 11 September at St Mary's School 7-8.30pm. Gentle exercises in a friendly environment.

Come and learn about these Chinese health exercises, which are not only very beneficial for your physical condition, but will also help you to relax. The Hook Norton class in starts on Wednesday 19 September 10.30-11.30am in the Memorial Hall. Contact Zita: 644894 or 07940 304110.

WOWI meets Olympic Beth

We were incredibly lucky in August to hear from Olympic athlete Beth Storry, goalkeeper for Great Britain's hockey team. Beth told us all about the Olympics, her punishing training schedule, and how she likes to switch off by practising her baking. It was an honour to meet her and we wish her all the best for the future. At our next meeting, on 17 September, we will be holding a clothes sale. The evening is free to WI members, £3 to non-members. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea or a glass of wine while you choose a new outfit.

West Oxfordshire WI meets at 7pm on the third Monday of the month, at St Mary's Parish Rooms, Chipping Norton. We are a friendly, energetic group with a varied programme. In October we will be holding a singing workshop, and in November we'll be making door wreaths for Christmas. For details visit www.westoxfordshirewi.co.uk or call 646830.

Clare Mackintosh

Lions dash, dance & race!

The Lions have an exciting programme for the months ahead. Our 26th Birthday Charter Dinner and Dance is on 13 October at the Crown & Cushion with dancing to the band 'Stiff Upper Lip' All welcome – call the numbers below for tickets (£30).

Nearer Christmas we shall be in the Co-op selling Trolley Dash tickets to pay for local senior citizens to see the Pantomime at The Theatre. We offer Panto tickets to local Clubs and also individuals so if you are an able bodied senior citizen and would like to see *Cinderella* at 4pm on 12 December please apply to Robert Caswell 646003.

To complete a busy autumn we are letting our manes down at Reindeer Race Night on Saturday 1 December. This is based on our horse race formula but with reindeers racing instead. Small companies can sponsor a Race costing £50 for

New Club in Chippy seeks Volunteers!

Lights Up – Living Well with Dementia through The Arts

join us in Arts Activities on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday morning of each month

Please contact Val McKay: 01451 810637, 07717 374484, or vmckay949@btinternet.com, for information without obligation.

joint sponsorship (three free tickets) or £100 for sole sponsorship (six free tickets). All welcome – details from Robert Caswell (646003) or Graham Raven (645134) tickets (£3) from any Lion.

With all this, we need more members – to join please contact any Lion who will bring you along to meetings. We meet at The Chequers on the first Tuesday of the month.

Liz Nason

Horticultural summer

Despite the poor weather, the Horticultural Association have been very fortunate for their summer trips, the worst being dull and overcast. In July a large group, (a 57-seater coach and three cars) had very pleasant afternoon at Rodmarton, Gloucestershire. After an informative tour of the house, we were free to wander in the gardens with tea and biscuits before departure.



An enjoyable day out at Wrest Part

August saw a very successful day trip to Wrest Park, Bedfordshire, an English Heritage property. We studied the history of the estate in the house and wandered in the garden and the parkland. Buggies driven by knowledgeable volunteers transported those unable to walk far. Everyone felt this outing was one of the most enjoyable we have had.

Several members continue to help with the gardens at Abbeyfield – more volunteers welcome. September will be a quieter month before the start of our autumn/winter season. New members and visitors always welcome – for details contact the secretary, Eileen Forse on 643275.

Banbury WEA

The Workers' Educational Association is one of the UK's largest providers of adult education. Founded in 1903 to support the educational needs of working men and women, the WEA has maintained its commitment to providing access to education and learning for adults from all backgrounds, especially those who missed out on education. Membership is free and open to anyone who supports our aims. The National WEA website is www.wea.org.uk and the branch website is <http://banburywea.moonfruit.com/> Call Jenny Gough (01295 690326) for details of Banbury WEA courses.

Conservative report

Dinner at Ditchley

Chipping Norton and District Conservative Association held its annual dinner at Ditchley Park in July. Chairman Cicely Maunder welcomed Guest of Honour, David Cameron who spoke at length after dinner. The function was well attended and prizes were auctioned, many generously provided by Jim Fraser, Aziz Restaurant of Oxford and Café le Raj, the Crown

CLUB NEWS

& Cushion, Feelgood Distribution and Spice of India all of Chipping Norton. A bottle of House of Commons Whisky signed by David Cameron was also auctioned. We are especially grateful to Joe Johnson of Chipping Norton Builders for sponsoring the ticket printing. Thanks to all our sponsors whose support contributed enormously to the success of this occasion also to the guests who purchased tickets.

Cicely Maunder was presented with a bouquet in recognition of her hard work in orchestrating this event. David Cameron was presented with a fine portrait of himself by local artist Janet Wilkinson.

Friday 2 November sees an Evening with Philip Mould, the fine art expert on BBC's Antiques Roadshow. For information about the local branch please visit www.chippytories.org contact Cicely Maunder (643680) or Richard Anning (641151). If you wish to become a member of the Conservative Party please contact James Kitcher (641500).

Cicely Maunder

Monthly lunch meetings

In July John Horsman, Stakeholder Liaison Manager for Chiltern Railways gave a brief history of the company and described current projects to improve its services. John then answered a range of challenging questions, from delays and pricing policies, to future challenges and tracing items lost on a train. A comprehensive review. In August David Mainwearing a consultant with companies operating in the Middle East gave a fascinating history lesson, explaining problems associated with not only religion, but different legal systems in the Middle East. He also highlighted the challenges of current conflicts where both sides believe right is on their side. All in just over half an hour. Worthy of a gold medal!!

Thursday 13 September we will discuss the Community Engagement Programme for the older generation with Caroline Maclean CAB and County Council Volunteer Manager. We meet at The Blue Boar: £10pp for a meal and coffee. To book your place please contact me on 642423 or email me at mikehowes36@gmail.com

Mike Howes

Single File enjoys the summer



We are a group of unattached people aged 50-70 who enjoy doing things together. Recently we have enjoyed an amusing talk by Gervase Phinn at Banbury, two or three walks (one prefaced by lunch at a member's house) a Proms concert at Bloxham, a visit to Woodstock Museum, a carvery meal at the Crown & Cushion, a visit to the Wildlife Park at Burford and jazz at Chastleton.

The next regular pub nights at the Crown & Cushion will probably be on 14 & 28 September. We are not a dating agency – just a friendly group and new members are very welcome.

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CLUB NEWS

Amnesty International

The real winner of the Eurovision Song Contest: Amnesty International members, have been writing to the President of Azerbaijan asking for the release of Tural Abbasli and other Prisoners of Conscience. Following a Presidential pardon, Tural and eight others were freed. We are delighted and believe our campaigning and the media attention on Azerbaijan during the Song Contest were instrumental in securing their freedom.

Human Trafficking: In October our MEP Catherine Bearder will talk about 'this modern-day slave trade'. Did you know it is happening here in Oxfordshire? Come along and hear for yourselves? 7.30pm, Thursday 11 October. Lower Town Hall. Free. All are welcome as are new members at our regular meetings: details Priscilla Peace on 01451 830459.

Green Gym beats the rain



Time for a well earned tea break!

We managed to keep going every week despite the rain, and at Over Norton it was even useful to see where the puddles were so that we could level the ground for the new play area. Below the Chippy allotments we cut back trees overhanging the Charlbury road and picked up a great deal of litter. Then the sun came out for our annual summer picnic there. Further afield, we weeded the garden at Charlbury Primary School, counted the orchids at Woodstock and pulled up yet more Himalayan Balsam at Woodstock water meadows.

If you would like to exercise in the fresh air, doing something useful, at no charge, do get in touch on 643269, email jennyharrington@btinternet.com or visit our website www.woodchipgreengym.org.uk. We welcome new members of all ages and abilities on Wednesday mornings.

Jenny Harrington

Labour Party debates education

The famous Quiz 'n Chips nights are back with the next on 14 September at The Fox at 7.30pm. £5 admission.

Rob Evans's success at the May elections, together with two gains for Labour in Witney, has left us more optimistic that we can challenge the Tory dominance in West Oxfordshire. In July we discussed the headlong rush by schools towards academy status precipitated by the Coalition Government's promise of secure funding. This seems already to be unravelling regarding sixth form funds. Although our local secondary heads are determined to keep strong school partnerships in West Oxfordshire, they cannot bind their successors. Primary schools are now being encouraged down the academy route. Our regular monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:45 in The Fox Hotel. Non-members, who share our political philosophy, are welcome.

Our constituency meeting last month heard from Liz Brighouse, Labour Group Leader on OCC who outlined the

devastating effect a further £37m of cuts will have on Oxfordshire's services and communities. Look out for our Market Stall on Saturday 22 September when we can introduce you to Tim Starkey our Police and Crime Commissioner election candidate for Thames Valley. Contact Charles Watson 645955 for details of our activities.

Summer at the Folk Club

Many folk clubs close in summer because so many regulars are away; but CN Folk Club decided long ago to carry on regardless. July's meeting saw some outstanding new performers compensating for the regulars who were away. August's meeting, superbly MC'd by Jane Gridley, got close to standing room only. The theme was Songs of the Sea and the evening featured landlubbers to fishermen, Noah's Ark to sunken warships, Arctic Circle to Brazil and so on. There is, as usual, not enough space to acknowledge all the terrific performances, but the club's first experience of bassoon playing, courtesy of Anna Rasgauski, must be recorded!

But this summer has not been at all ALL good. Jill Reynolds, a long-term folk club regular, died of cancer at the end of July. She was part of the backbone of Chippy Folk Club and, together with her husband Dave Wallace, was always contributing fresh ideas, new twists on songs and a unique brand of humour, especially as MC! The Celebration of her life which she and Dave organised at The Blue Boar in March will never be forgotten by those who were there: music, poetry, laughter Words cannot express the respect that Jill generated then and that Dave continues to generate now.

We meet at The Blue Boar every second Monday of the month from 8pm. Anything Goes on 10 September. Everyone welcome. £1 on the door. Sing, Play, Recite or Just Listen. Visit www.chippingnortonfolk.org.uk for more information.

Pen Greenwood 642296



More volunteers needed!

Chipping Norton Girlguiding District is in great need of more adult volunteers. The District currently embraces Chipping Norton, Kingham and Enstone as well as serving much of the surrounding area. There are Rainbows, aged 5-7yrs, Brownies, (7-10 yrs), Guides, (10-14yrs) and Seniors, (14 plus). Most of these units are full and there are long waiting lists particularly in the younger groups. The District needs people to help regularly at meetings (either as a uniformed assistant or a non uniformed unit helper) or give administrative support by helping to keep records, write up accounts or raise funds. You do not have to have been in the movement before; there is training and a support system for everyone. If you were to help with the girls we would organise a Girlguiding CRB check. If you are interested and would like to know more then please telephone, email or talk to one of the existing leaders: Jenny Beacham 658669, jennybeacham@hotmail.com or Alison Dunbar 644480, dunbar@lewisroad3.freereserve.co.uk

Legion remembers Arnhem

The Royal British Legion will be holding a buffet and dance to commemorate Arnhem on 29 September at the Crown & Cushion. Tickets £12 for members, £14 for non-members, available from the Crown & Cushion on 642533 or from Michael Dixon on 643755. Full hot and cold buffet, and dancing to the Eric Stevens Band. Dress smart casual.

A sporting legacy for Chippy?

The Summer of 2012 has seen some great sport – including great success for the London Olympics. Chipping Norton has had its own sporting successes some of which are described below. Let's see it continue this autumn. One aim of the London 2012 games was to achieve a sporting legacy and inspire the next generation. Let us see if there is a take up of more sport in the Town. *The News* welcomes reports and photographs from Clubs and individuals. Our October deadline is 14 September.



Spelsbury celebrates with scarecrows – an Olympic one followed those for the Royal Wedding and Wimbledon

Graham Beacham

Fantastic Four Shires Swimming

The summer brings more success for Four Shires Swimming Club with fantastic results from meets at Gloucester and Coventry. Evie Sanders and Lucy Griffen swam brilliantly in the 50m pool at Coventry City's meet earlier and the squad achieved several individual personal bests at Gloucester. Some swimmers had never entered a registered meet before – a nerve-wracking experience – but they held it together and some even came home with medals. Kirsty Pearson and Felicity Darwent deserve particular mention, both medal winners in their age groups. Our well attended summer party, held for the first time at Chipping Norton Lido saw a good time had by all. Thanks to the Hemsworth family for a tray of chips for all the swimmers. Winners of our Luke Jeffrey Trophy were awarded their cups: fastest boy 50m freestyle swimmer Elliot Crippen and fastest girl Abigail Burchell. Most improved boy was Theo Williams and girl Evie Sanders. She also went home, for the second year with most admired and respected swimmer.

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Since we broke for summer, Kim Wheatman, our head coach, has been officiating at the Olympic open water competitions. He was the finish judge at the Serpentine – a huge honour for Kim after many hours spent at pool or lake events over the last year. We hope that the Olympics has enthused our swimmers to take up more sessions. There is a definite relationship between hours spent training and times the swimmers achieve when racing. We would also like to encourage keen swimmers in the area to join our club. It is a great way to improve your stamina, keep fit and make friends. We have now another session on a Friday evening at Sibford School. For more information please visit www.4ssc.co.uk

Sarah Holland

A summer of golfing good news

Jane Phillips Memorial

Golf: Organised by Assistant Professional Danny Phillips, the Memorial Golf day on 22 June was an outstanding success and raised over £4,000, for the Lawrence Home Nursing Team, co-founded by Danny's Mum, Jane Phillips MBE who sadly died last year. 112 competitors braved the elements and participated in a very lively auction and raffle afterwards. The outright winner was 'Jock'



Jock receives winner's prize from Captain Alistair James & Organiser Danny Phillips

Hutchison with 41 points and the Team Prize went to the Chippy Club team of Brian Kay, George Kay, Chris Dyer and Will Preece with 89 points.

Midsummer Golfathon: In support of two local charities Danny Phillips and Club Captain Alistair James teed off at exactly 4.40 am on 21 June, for their 'Dawn to Dusk' Challenge to play as many holes as possible, in daylight. They completed the final hole at exactly 9.15pm, amassing a total of 108 holes and 6 complete rounds of the course. Danny returned a very impressive 'overall' score for the 108 Holes, which included 1 Eagle, 17 Birdies and a very creditable 16 shots over for the day! £2,000 was raised for the Lawrence Home Nursing Team and £800 for Katharine House Hospice.

Schools Partnership Golf Festival: Forty girls and boys contested the Years 3 & 4 Primary School Tri Golf Festival in June at the Club. Holy Trinity School won with St Mary's second, Enstone Primary and Hook Norton School were runners up. The event is a joint venture organised by Club Pro, Stewart Davis and Assistant Pro, Danny Phillips, with Jo Phillips from the Chipping Norton Schools Partnership & Community Learning Team. Holy Trinity went forward to the final in Oxford.

Golf's Lady Captain's Day: Rhiannon Davies won the Lady Captain's Day Competition at the Club in July with 37 points, on Count Back from Chris Reeves. Lynn Norman finished 3rd with 36 points. Laura Howlett was top placed Junior with 34 points. The well stocked Half Way House provided shelter from the heavy showers and no doubt the Bucks Fizz played a large part in strengthening resolve, to complete the back nine. 65 Ladies entered the competition and then attended the traditional prize presentation and lunch, compliments of Ladies' Captain Lyn Usher.

SPORTS NEWS

Danny Phillips – PGA Professional: Club Assistant Professional Danny Phillips has completed his 3-year PGA Foundation Degree Course and has been awarded full Professional Status, by the PGA. Danny is responsible for Junior Academy Coaching at the Club and the Tri Golf introduction programme at local primary schools.

Marius Harte

Top of the Cricket divisions!



Club Photo taken on a very enjoyable President's Day in August which also raised £130 for sports charity

The Cricket Club is having another great season! At the time of writing, both League sides are sitting top of their divisions. September will see if they can stay there. Both teams have relied on their bowlers and team work to win at the start of the season. As the weather improved the batsman have been improving their scores. Performances to date:

Batting 50+ runs: A Underhill 72 not out 2nd XI, J McGeown 64 not out 1st XI, I Widdows 61 1st XI, B Tew 59 1st XI, S Evans 57 1st XI, M Tompkins 56 not out & 53 2nd XI, D Symes 50 not out 1st XI

Bowling 5 + wickets: D Warner-Carter 8-24 & 5-34 2nd XI, J McGeown 6-7 & 5-14 1st XI, S Baxter 6-24 1st XI, R Warner-Carter 5-19 2nd XI

Remaining Home Fixtures are: 1 Sep 2nd XI v Kennington II, 8 Sep 1st XI v West Ilsley, 15 Sep 2nd XI v Radley II

Graham Beacham

New Sunday football team

Chippy locals Adam Hunt, Paul Tyack and Rob Tyack are starting up a men's Sunday Football Team for Chipping Norton Town. Adam told *The News*, 'We have always lived in Chipping Norton, and played football here and the surrounding areas and we thought it was time that we gave something back.' The team will be playing most Sundays starting in September and should play around 20 games. They have been sponsored by a couple of local companies, including Owen Mumford the biggest local employer. More detail and photographs in next months *News*.

Chadlington celebration

A fantastic day of five-a-side football matches to celebrate 100 years of Chadlington Sports Club culminated in the Chadlington Blues winning the U10's Centenary Cup. All four teams (Blues/Blue-ist!/Whites/Whiter Whites!) put on an entertaining display of attacking football which enthralled the enormous crowd of spectators. Many thanks to Nigel Clevelly and the Centenary Day Management Committee for all their great work in staging a wonderful event.

Seymour Mincer

Triumph for Bowls Club

The outdoor season for Chipping Norton draws to a close in mid-September with competitions in their final stages. Our men have triumphed in the Oxford and District League (Division 4) finishing top to progress to division 3. It was a nailbiting end with top place coming from either ourselves, Chadlington or Bloxham, the latter two having to play each other in the last game. Now the sun has started to shine we are turning our thoughts to the Indoor Season! We start off with a Bowls Drive on Saturday 22 September at 2pm. Anyone wishing to try bowls in the comfort of our indoor facilities should contact Bill or Roberta on 643556. New members are always welcome. Equipment and coaching are readily available.

Roberta Jarvie

More competitive sport

It is interesting to hear that the Prime Minister has recently been endorsing the introduction of more competitive sport in to primary schools. I like to see young people getting the chance to taste different sports and be awarded certificates for taking part. However I also believe that they need to experience the competitive nature of sport.

... and finally a big thank you to the Lido and their coaches for helping many children learn to swim in such a fun way over the summer holidays.

Graham Beacham



Daniel Beacham, aged four, showing off his 5-metre swimming certificate.



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Holy Trinity Primary

Sports Week: The children thoroughly enjoyed a fun packed week of sports and races to mark the Olympics. The week began with a colourful opening ceremony, when each class paraded and then performed their opening dance. Children competed in a variety of events including football and hockey tournaments, long jump, hurdles and relays.



Excited pupils welcoming an Olympic Torch and Torchbearer

Multicultural Awareness Week: was celebrated in July with a Year 5 & 6 visit to the Synagogue, a Year 3 & 4 visit to the Mosque, and a Hindu workshop for Foundation, Year 1 & 2. Each class gave feedback at a special assembly on Friday afternoon.

Golf: Congratulations to our golf team on winning their place in the Oxfordshire School Games after qualifying at Chipping Norton Golf Club. After a long day the children came second out of all the Oxfordshire schools.

Cricket: Congratulations to our cricket team who qualified for the Asda Kwik Cricket county final. Our team came second in their division, just missing out on the final qualifier for the next round.

Joseph: Year 5 and 6 performed *Joseph* at Chipping Norton Theatre. Well done to all those involved. It is amazing that children so young can put on such a high quality performance. It will surely be something they will remember forever. Thank you to the Theatre for being so accommodating, enabling us to put on this show.

Staffing: Thank you to Sue Thornley for the great contribution she has made to Holy Trinity for the past two years. She will be missed by all and we wish her all the best for the future. Welcome to our new year 5 teacher Miss Natalie Conoboy.

Year 6 Entrepreneur Project: raised an impressive £824 altogether! £412 has been given to the Rotary Club. Mr Frost from the Rotary Club came to the Leavers' Assembly to explain what they do locally and internationally. The children in Year 6 have asked for the money to be given to a local stroke rehabilitation centre. We will be sending £100 to the school we are twinned with in Gambia and £312 has been sent to IMPS. Well done to everyone and thank you to those who supported the projects.

Everdon Residential: We had a fantastic time at Everdon. We loved exploring the woods, orienteering, shelter building and doing the blind trail. The children were very well behaved (during the day!)

St Mary's Primary

Foundation Visit the Butterfly Farm: *Apple and Hazel class (Reception) report:* We went to Stratford Butterfly Farm and enjoyed

learning about lots of mini-beasts and having the butterflies land on us! We saw how an egg eventually becomes a butterfly and



learnt the words 'metamorphosis' and 'invertebrate'. We ate our picnic by the river and played some games. Then we went for a cruise and saw swans, cygnets, ducks and fishermen.

Coffee morning: St Mary's singing club were thrilled to welcome people from various local groups to our singing coffee morning. Our friends from Penhurst and Highlands were joined by new friends from Albion Co-op and Tall Trees, Shipton under Wychwood.

Charities Week 18-22 June: *Maddy Fisher (Year 5) reports:* This annual event is run by Year 5. Throughout the week there WAS a range of different activities. Each day we sold fruit pots, which were very successful. A stall was set up outside the Year 5 classroom, with bowls full of fresh fruit for children to choose from.

Each class created a picture with the 1ps and 2ps they had collected and we raised £184! We had two movie nights, Key Stage 1 watched *Alvin and the Chipmunks* and Key Stage 2 watched *UP!* We completed the week with a non-school uniform day where we had to wear our Sports Day Olympic country's colour, and a mini fete. In the end we beat last year's total and raised a whopping £1,410 which will go towards St Mary's School's new library.



Year 6 Stars of the Stage: *Jo Graves (governor) reports:* On 12 and 13 July, Year 6 sang and danced their way through magnificent performances of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* at Chipping Norton Theatre. The production was beautifully staged with a simple set and very colourful costumes and make-up. The children's enthusiasm and acting ability were obvious, particularly amongst the principals – superb performances by Joseph and Pharaoh (where did he get that wiggle?) – whilst Joseph's band of brothers were very cleverly characterised and Potiphar had a voice just 'spot on' for the job. The whole production was

SCHOOL NEWS

helped in its continuity by a great team of Narrators who related the story with clarity and expression. Congratulations to everyone concerned with the show.

Olympic Torch at Blenheim: *Martha Harding reports:* On 9 July, Years 3, 4 & 5 went to see the Olympic Torch at Blenheim Palace. We had time to have a walk around to see the activities which had been organised. The first we knew that the torch was on its way was when we could see police on motorbikes and after them it was all the sponsors turn. Finally the torch arrived and there was much cheering and clapping.

Oxfordshire School Games Swimming Finals: *Jake Darby, JJ Simpson and Evie Sanders report:* In July, children from



Year 5 & 6 participated in the Under 11's Swimming Gala at the Oxfordshire School Games. There were individual and relay races for both boys and girls (heats and finals). Everyone swam fantastically well in all

events. Both boys and girls made four out of six finals resulting in the girls being placed 2nd overall, finishing only half a point behind the winners. Ms Smales and Mrs Parsons were extremely proud of us together with all our parents who had come along to support us.

Year 3 & 4 Fencing Demonstration: *Amber Willoughby and Kayla-Marie Burns report:* Years 3 & 4 had a fencing demonstration from Natalie. The hardest bit was when we had to bend our legs for a long time. My favourite part was when we put our arms in position. We all tried the *lunge* and *parry* which was hard at first but it got easier.

Year 3 & 4 annual visit to Hill End: *Chloe Pearce and Tia Hall report:* My favourite part was holding a slow worm because it was so wriggly and sticky (it felt weird). We all loved the walks and seeing the different animals. I liked the water fight because it was great fun and I had the biggest water gun. It was funny when Ben fell in the mud. The maze was really easy but in the night we played zombie tag, which made it much harder. We had a barbeque on the first night.

Singing at Southerndown: There was an exciting end to the school year for the singing club with an appearance at Southerndown. The children entertained a hall full of proud parents and friends at the singing evening. 'I was nervous but excited to sing in front of everyone' said Frankie, aged 7. Mrs Barnes then thanked the children and staff for all their hard work and entertainment throughout the year.

Farewell to year 6: We say a fond farewell our present Year 6. It is with great pride that we send them on their way as they have been delightful children. Committed, determined and focused as learners, they have collectively achieved a great set of SATS results and should be proud of all their achievements along the way.

Chadlington Primary School

Ofsted Inspection: The School is very pleased to announce that it was recently judged to be Good in every category and Outstanding in Behaviour and Safety, in an Inspection under Ofsted's new inspection criteria for 2012. Congratulations to all involved.

Jubilee Celebrations: The whole school enjoyed its own 'street party' in the playground with Jubilee crowns and paper chains that the pupils made themselves and all were thrilled to receive a Chadlington School Jubilee Mug to keep for posterity.



A Greek Masque: The school gave a well received performance at the Chipping Norton Theatre of *A Greek Masque*. This was a real community event and included members of the local community singing and acting alongside the children, performing songs such as *Tragedy*, *You're so Vain* and *Goldfinger* accompanied by a professional live band.

Olympic Sports Day: The Friends of Chadlington School had organised a wonderful Sports Day with a difference...an Olympic Sports taster session following the normal Sports Day. The children were able to try their hand at Martial Arts, Hockey, Gymnastics, BoxFit and other activities like Boot Camp and Circle Dancing, all run by various professionals from around the county on Chadlington Sports Field and capped off with a picnic provided by Sainsbury's of Chipping Norton. Unfortunately we were completely scuppered by the weather but the children still enjoyed their picnic at school, as well as the judging of the Olympic themed best cake competition. We hope to reschedule this special event in September!

Year 6 Leavers: We are always sorry to see our Year 6 class leave us and they enjoyed as always their annual PGL holiday in Wales, rounded off by the Leaver's Barbecue and Church service. We are looking forward however to welcoming our 16 new Reception Year pupils into the Pixies Class in September!

Sainsbury's new Local Charity Partner: The Friends of Chadlington School was delighted to be chosen by Sainsbury's Chipping Norton to be their Local Charity Partner for the next twelve months. They are looking forward to working

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SCHOOL NEWS

closely with the store in all their upcoming fundraising events. Please see the notice board in the entrance to the store for the latest Chadlington School news. The Friends will welcome store manager Tim Taylor onto the committee as Vice-chair for the period of the partnership.

Wilderness Festival: The Friends of Chadlington School were excited to be running their first ever stall at the Wilderness Festival in August providing food for children in the special Children's Area.

Great Rollright Primary

Class 4 residential: Pupils from Year 5 enjoyed a last bonding experience with their Year 6 classmates before seeing them off to secondary school. The visit to Hooke Court in Dorset was a huge success and staff and pupils returned tired but happy (and a little muddy in places). Their action-packed trip included kayaking, den building, campfire meals and fossil-hunting along the Jurassic coastline. Their learning was supported by a trip to Dinosaur Land. The journey down to Dorset was broken by a stop at Bovington Tank Museum, which added an extra dimension to their study this term on World War II.



Rollright Fete: The sunshine we had booked for the day stood us up! So we moved the event to the Village Hall, which meant we could enjoy plenty of indoor space for most of our activities and refreshments. Joining gazebos together outside gave the BBQ, bar and other stalls the cover they needed too and we raised an astonishing £2,250 on the day! A big thank you to all who supported the event,

in particular Hook Norton Brewery and The George in Brailes, amongst others. Congratulations to the winner of the raffle's first prize – a flying lesson at Enstone – who we suspect may wish to wait for clearer weather, before taking to the skies in the pilot's seat.

Fundraising: This year has been a fantastic one for fundraising and the input of a dynamic Friends Committee is self-evident in the social and financial boost contributed to the school. The next event planned for September is The Rollright Music Festival on 15 September.

The National Three Peaks Challenge: Rollright Dads: Rob Mackintosh, Charlie Jones, Ian Drysdale and Paul Roberts plan to climb the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales within a single day. They'll be training through the Summer, no doubt taking inspiration from the Olympics along the way. Their driving route is 462 miles, taking around 10 hours and they will be climbing a total of 11,172 feet. We wish them all the best. In addition to sponsorship for this challenge; there will be a flag designing competition: the winning entries will be delivered to each peak and captured on camera for posterity.

The number of pupils attending the School is steadily growing and we are adapting accordingly. We are looking forward to welcoming new families to the School and building

on our excellent SATs record. See you all next term! Please contact the school office for further details about any of our activities. Tel. 01608 737202

Kingham Primary

Olympic week: *Year 5 boys report:* At the end of term, we had a fantastic week celebrating the Olympic Games, starting on Monday with our own opening ceremony. Each class had a country to represent and we made banners and flags to wave as we processed into the 'arena' to a musical fanfare. The torch came into the arena and everybody celebrated. We wrote our own Olympic oath that got read out at the ceremony.

In class, some children studied record-breaking Olympians, had a visit and talk from an Olympic marshal (wife of Mr Munday who works in year 3) and even completed some Para-Olympic challenges. Years 3, 4 and 5 all got a chance to try archery. We now have a number of Robin Hoods in our school! Year 5 had a lot of fun playing volleyball and table tennis. Our reception children had a whale of a time doing almost all sports including weight-lifting, gym, tennis, hobby horse riding and badminton. Reception and Year 1 had a 'Zoolab', Olympic-themed minibeasts workshops with weight lifting snails and millipede races! It was a busy week!



Unfortunately Sports Day was cancelled because of unexpected bad weather. Everyone was disappointed.

Our assemblies throughout the term have also been on the Olympic/Paralympic values of respect, courage, friendship, inspiration, excellence, determination and equality and any one of us demonstrating one of these values received an Olympic medal of our own!

Windrush School

What a great term we've had! We have had such a busy term celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Curriculum Enrichment Week and a fun packed sports day ...

Curriculum Enrichment Week: We choose a different theme each year, and this year we thought we'd celebrate the Olympics. It certainly was a popular choice. We have learnt all about the origins of the Olympics, tasted Greek food and made mosaic picture frames. We really enjoyed making our laurel head bands and gold, silver and bronze medals. All in all, we have had a wonderful, busy and fun week.



Olympic Sports Day: Sports day was an all day event at school this year. Following the Olympic theme, the whole school marched through the village to Ascott Playing Field, each school house representing a country from the games; UK, China and USA. We had an opening ceremony making the 5 Olympic human rings. As well as our track and field events,

SCHOOL NEWS

parents and children enjoyed a picnic, and the day finished with Evelyn Smith and Rachel Purvis representing China as the overall point winners on the podium. Congratulations and well done to all the children and families for a great day.

Chipping Norton School

Chipping Norton Partnership success: In a fantastic year, students from Years 1- 13 from Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools have either taken part in or supported a varied range of events.

Sports, Language, Dance and Science Leaders from Years 10-13, have supported Years 1-6 at Schoolympics, and a wide range of workshops, festivals and tournaments. We have also had Able, Gifted and Talented workshops which have been run by Chipping Norton School's English, Maths, Science, History, Art & Design and Technology Departments. This year our focus has been on the Olympic Games using the values 'Respect, Excellence and Friendship' to encourage students to do their best, work hard, respect each other but above all enjoy taking part. Well done to everyone.

Thank you to our community partners, coaches, teachers, students and staff from the Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools for making 2011-2012 a truly fabulous year.



Students from Chipping Norton Partnership working with Mrs Long from CNS Maths Department at the Able, Gifted & Talented Maths Workshop.

We are looking forward to another busy year of activities, including; Family Focus, U11 Girls and Boys Football, Able, Gifted and Talented Design and Technology Workshop and U11 Girls and Boys Hockey Tournament. For further information please contact Jo Phillips Community Learning Coordinator at Chipping Norton School. Tel: 01608 649504.

Swimming success for Isobel: Isobel Meikle in Year 7 is doing extremely well with her swimming this year. At the South East Regional Championships she won four gold medals in the 400m Individual Medley (IM), 200m Freestyle, 200m Backstroke and 800m Freestyle, a silver in the 200m IM and a bronze in the 100m Backstroke. Overall she came second in the 12-year-old age group, behind Emma Cain, an Olympic trialist, and she now has eight National Qualifying Times.

Living for sport: Vernon Samuel, an ex GB Olympian, visited our Year 8 Humanities group in June to inspire them with their Living for Sport project. They have been working very hard over the last few weeks to plan and deliver a sports festival to a group of Year 1 students at Holy Trinity School. Vernon had a busy day which also included triple jump master-classes with Year 7 and Year 10 pupils, and a mentoring session with some of our most talented athletes.

Superschools visit: Joe Thomas – GB 800m runner with a personal best of 1min46 secs – paid our year 7 students a visit in June as part of a scheme called Team Superschools which takes top athletes into schools to work with students. Students had the opportunity to have their photo taken with Joe and have a go at some exercises, which included star

jumps, sit ups and squat thrusts. Students were sponsored to take part in the events with some of the money going back into school to help raise funds for the sports awards.

Cricket Master Classes: In June our cricket players were lucky enough to receive coaching from former England players Phil Defreitas and John Crawley at Magdalen College School, Oxford. Our players were put through their paces in the nets, working on their batting and bowling techniques and their fielding skills.



Oxfordshire wins Football Final: *Sam Humphreys (Year 11) reports:* This year I was delighted to be asked to captain Oxfordshire Schools U16 football team, playing Durham at Nottingham Forest's City Ground in the final of the English Schools U16 National competition. A badly timed tackle from a Durham player early on meant I had to watch the rest of the match on the bench with a sprained ankle – I was gutted! Durham scored first but then we equalised. An own goal put us in the lead 2-1 at half time. The second half saw both sides playing good football and the score was 2-2 at the end of normal time. In extra time we really came into our own, scoring 4 superb goals in twenty minutes and winning the final 6-2! Although I was disappointed not to play much of the final, it was such a good feeling lifting the cup and an experience I will never forget.

Sixth Form Football Season Review: Our senior football team started the season with a friendly against Sibford, winning comfortably 13-0. All our players seemed committed and we won the league with a 100% record, which is a great achievement for the boys.

Our first final was played against a very confident Henry Box side. We started well and held them out for 90 minutes before they equalised right at the end. We then battled hard in extra time and got to penalties where we netted all 5 and won the cup. In our other cup final we drew the game 2-2 and then lost 3-2 in extra time. We had great team spirit which helped us to have a great season.

Kingham Hill School

Open Day: Saturday 13 October 11am-2pm This will include the opportunity to talk with teaching staff and houseparents, find out more about the School's increased provision for day students and five school transport routes (Moreton, Stow, Chipping Norton & Kingham all have free pick-up points) have a look round day and boarding houses, leisure facilities (which includes our Parent's Social Membership free gym & swim option) plus the school grounds and be given a tour of the school by senior pupils – all followed by a delicious informal lunch. Whole family welcome – contact 658999, admissions@kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk

LETTERS

Wanton vandalism

There has been a spate of vandalism in our area. The first incidence happened months ago when the for sale signs for the old hospital were knocked off their posts. To date nothing has been done about that. In the corner of Over Norton Road and Spring Street just across from the old hospital site, there was a young Ash tree about 2



metres high – one of three trees planted along Over Norton Road a few years ago to replace some of the old ones. This was vandalised round the beginning of June. I



I reported this to Ian at the Council Office, and the damaged tree has been dug out recently. I don't know whether it is being replaced by another tree or not. The Over Norton Road was re-surfaced some time round mid-June, and, as usual, there were signs for reduced speed limit and warning motorists the danger of skidding. These signs were also vandalised and were scattered all over the pavements. Finally, part of the entrance of the former Castle View Care Home appeared to be vandalised. Why do these things happen? Are they preventable? Who is responsible? Is the perpetrator likely to be local? Perhaps we can raise some of these questions in the News...

Yen Yang Co

Pollution in Chipping Norton

Isn't it time something was done about noise and particle pollution in Chipping Norton? From the limited enquiries I have been able to make only two official proposals have been voiced: to build a by-pass or to create a one-way system using Albion Street in parallel with the main road. The first is too expensive and the second would create even more problems for Albion Street.

May I suggest a third way: the erection of weight limit signs at the town boundaries, on the grounds of pollution reduction, safety and the protection of the countryside. For the A44 this should be from the point where the A44 turns from north to west and continuing to the Gloucestershire boundary just beyond Salford Hill. For the A361 preferably from just south of Banbury but, at least, from the junction with the A44. South of the town, the limit signs should start either at the town boundary or, preferably, as far as Burford. The weight limit should be set to exclude the multi-wheeled behemoths but allow access to buses and delivery trucks for local trade, delivery and tourism. There could be the suggestion to Warwickshire that they also put up limit signs on the A3400 as far as Stratford. As far as safety is concerned, a fatality at the bottleneck between the Blue Boar and Harpers and a serious accident on the chicane at South

Newington, as well as considerable road damage, are indicators that something urgent needs to be done.

Another aspect is the increasing emphasis on tourism. To put it frankly, the 'heavies' are ripping the guts out of Chipping Norton and more than one visitor has remarked on the fact. If we co-operate with Warwickshire (Gloucestershire too?) on a weight limit scheme, we could cover the North East Cotswolds and Shakespeare Country in a straightforward, cost effective plan, simple to put into effect and to supervise. The ultra-heavy vehicles should be directed, clearly and firmly, on to the motorways which were built for just such a purpose, or at any rate on to roads capable of coping with them. It would be unfair to leave them without clear guidance on their choice of roads, particularly those coming from the Continent. It would not be an insuperable task to compile a list of motorways and 'feeder' roads.

Ann Armstrong

(Weight limits combined with an alternative HGV route are the recommended OCC solutions – but still not yet implemented. Ed)

Dear Fruit Lovers

Apples are needed for our Autumn Fair stall – preferably the varieties grown at the Orchard – so, if you have any of the following please contact me. Ashmead Kernel, Blenheim Orange, Charles Ross, Egremont Russet, Howgate Wonder (lots in orchard actually), Lord Derby, Lord Lambourne, Red Devil, Rev. W. Wilkes, Sunset, Deddington Golden, Davies Seedling (Hempton) and Oxfordshire Greening (Dean). Also bring your apples for identification – and for crushing. Go home with apple juice – please bring your own containers. To donate apples or join orchard activities visit the stall at the Autumn Fair on 6 October or ring 643691.

Heather Leonard, Chair Orchard Committee



www.chippingnortonbuilders.co.uk

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LETTERS

Torch congratulations



Congratulations to the organisers of the Olympic Torch parade through Woodstock. It was our nearest place to have a chance to see it so we were quite excited on the day. There was a colourful procession with police on motorbikes, the sponsors and then of course the Torch. It stayed dry so that was a good omen. We at least feel a bit more connected to the Games so that even though we couldn't get tickets to watch, we can cheer on Team GB knowing we will have something to tell the Grandchildren in a few years time.

Lisa Prince

Help for Cemetery Clear Up

The Town Council's Cemetery Committee has decided to have two 'clear up' days this Autumn. The first one is at St Mary's closed churchyard on Saturday 13 October at 10am. The second one is on Saturday 10 November in the

Worcester Road Cemetery. Please come along and help. Everybody is welcome.

Martin Jarratt, Chairman of Cemetery Committee

Support the Three Peaks Challenge



On 15 September four Chippy dads will be undertaking the National Three Peaks Challenge, to raise money for Great Rollright Primary School. Rob Mackintosh, Charlie Jones, Ian Drysdale and Paul Roberts will climb the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales in just 24 hours. The driving route is 462 miles, which will take the dads around ten hours, and they'll be climbing a total of 11,172 feet. More than half of all the children at Great Rollright Primary School come from Chipping Norton, so we'd love the support of people from the Town. The dads are financing the challenge themselves, so every penny raised will go directly to the School, where it will be used for essential learning resources. To sponsor Rob, Charlie, Ian and Paul, you can drop spare change into the bucket at The Chequers Inn, email robert.mackintosh1@gmail.com or call 646830.

Clare Mackintosh

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If you are unable to get to any of the outlets you can have the News posted to you. Send a cheque for £15 annual subscription, made payable to The Chipping Norton News to Rolie Clarke 63 New Street, Chipping Norton OX7 5LL.

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The Chipping Norton News, with a circulation of over 1800, welcomes financial support from local businesses. For information about advertising (from £25 for an eighth of a page) please contact Terry Kitchin (645502).

The Chipping Norton News is printed on FSC approved paper

THE WAY WE WERE

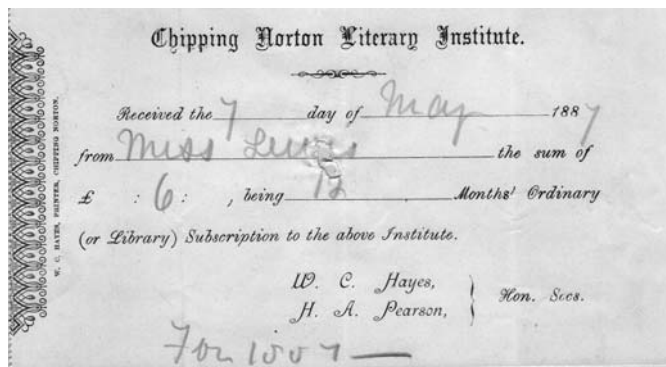
A brief history of shops and businesses in Chipping Norton, from 1836 through to the 1920s by Estelle Brain.

The Late 19th Century – 1870s to 1890

'It is a time of change'. Queen Victoria is a middle-aged, grieving widow; dressed always in heavy mourning and very remote from her people. Chipping Norton is prosperous and doing very well indeed!

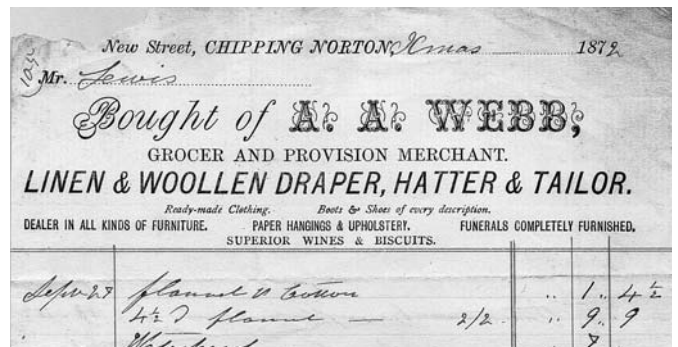
The High Street has seen many changes. I quote from Macmillan's Magazine in 1871; 'Chipping Norton is supplied with all the comforts of life', 'chemists shops abound', 'there is a subscription reading room' and 'there are co-operative stores'. The magazine also reports various sewing machines on offer and the finest sherry from the wood.

Regarding the 'Reading Room', the earliest billhead for Chipping Norton Literary Institute appears in January 1874.



No address shown, (maybe the Guildhall) on a receipt for 3/0d for a 3 month's subscription. By 1887 it has reduced to 6/0d for 12 months and in 1898, 9d for two months. Are you still with me? Even at these reducing rates, surely available to only the more 'educated' townspeople.

A major event in 1871 is the opening of Webb's Department Store, competition for the Co-operative Society. Adolphus Webb is an important figure in the Town. The earliest billhead in 1871 is in New Street and A A Webb is a



'Grocer and Provision Merchant, Linen and Woollen Draper, Hatter and Tailor'. By 1884 they have expanded into the Market Place, described as 'General Drapery, Furnishing and Fancy Stores, including paper-hanging and upholstery warehouse.' Rather quaintly they also offer 'Millinery in all its Branches, Boots and Shoes of every description, Dress and Mantle making and Funerals Completely Furnished'. 1/-d in the pound discount is given for cash in the Drapery Dept, no doubt equalling the Co-operative dividend. Something for everyone then! Here they stayed for many years, changing the name to Webb & Son along the way. There must be many Chippy people who fondly remember Webb's and its demise in the late 1960s.

Also worth a mention is Manchester House, a rival establishment on a smaller scale; owned by Charles A Heaphy and retailing a wide range of goods and services.

The number of shops and businesses in the Town at this time are too numerous to mention here. The billheads are all typically late Victorian, flowery and very ornate in style.

In 1887, good news! The Railway is extended to Banbury; bringing even more prosperity to Chipping Norton.

Next time we move into Edwardian Chippy.

DIARY

September (News out Tuesday 28 August)

- 1st **Enstone Pre School fundraiser** 10-4 Town Hall.
- 2nd **Rambling Club** meet 2pm New St Car Park 642661
- 4th **Railway Club** 7.30 Town Hall see p20
- 5th **Chippy News Summer Competition Deadline** see p9
NOOG Craig Blackwell talk - details p21
- 6-8 **Sinbad & the Diamond Princess** Gt Tew see p19
- 8th **Amnesty International Street Collection in CN**
- 8-9 **Red Lion Beer Festival & Veg Competition** see p5
Salford Fete 12.30 start details p9
- 10th **History Society** 7.30pm Methodist Hall Gillian White
- The Great Fire of Warwick
Folk Club 8pm The Blue Boar 'Anything Goes' see p23
- 11th **Tai Chi** restarts at St Mary's School details p21
- 12th **Methodist Coffee Morning** 9.30-11.30 for Just for James
CN WI 7.15 Lower Town Hall see p20
- 13th **Amnesty International** 7.30 Lower Town Hall
- 14th **Single File** 8pm Crown & Cushion see p22
- 14-15 **Mop Fair**
- 15th **Salmon Fishing in the Yemen** 7.30 Churchill Village Hall
Tickets £4.50 - to book/for further info call 659903

- 16th **CN Farmers Market** 8.30-1.30 (Note change of day)
Sibford Gower Open Gardens 2-6 see advert p5
Stately Car Boot Sale at Cornbury details p13
- 17th **West Oxon WI** 7.30 in the Parish Rooms see p21
- 18th **Youth Club sessions** re-start at Glyme Hall details 644107
- 21st **'The Science of Humour'** talk details p14
- 22th **Craft & Well-Being Fayre** 10-2 Town Hall see p14
- 23rd **Model Railway Show** 10-5 Banbury School - details
01295 660445/www.bdmrc.co.uk
- 25th **Trefoil Guild** 2.30 Highlands Harvest Traditions
Twinning Film Night 7.30 Blue Boar see p4
- 28th **Single File** 8pm Crown & Cushion see p22
- 29th **N Cots Soc of Recorder Players** 2.30-5 Sandford St
Martin Village Hall (OX7 7AH) details 641037
RBL Buffet & Dance Crown & Cushion see p 23
- 30th **Rotary Jazz & Music Day** details p17
- October** (News out Monday 1 October)
- 2nd **Railway Club** 7.30 Town Hall - 60's Railway Films
- 6th **TCN Autumn Fair** Town Centre from 10am see p2
Moonrakers Concert 7.30 St Marys Church see p10
- 7th **Rambling Club** meet 2pm New St Car Park 642661