

Happy Christmas



Photo: Geraint Lewis

Greetings from The Theatre's Panto Pippins and Cinderella's Fairy Godmother busy spreading a little Christmas Magic ...

Special 36-page Christmas issue

Round Chippy
Santanav
Christmas
Quiz

Local
chefs'
festive
fare

Scattered
Christmas
T
rivia

Churches
at
Christmas

Sparkling
Shopping
suggestions

Spot the 16 "hidden" fairy wands

Christmas Diary, Opening Times plus all the Local News, Arts,
Clubs, Sport, Schools and Letters

SEASONAL INFORMATION



Season's Greetings to all our readers from the News Team.

REMEMBER!

**No January edition of the Chippy News
Next deadline is Friday 11 January**

December (News out Monday 3 December)

See also *Festive Dates p17* & *Christmas Services p15*

- 4th **Railway Club** 7.30 Lwr Town Hall see p26
5th **U3A** 2pm Methodist Hall Robin King - Hollywood Memories
North Oxon Organic Gardeners 7.30 Little Tew see p24
7th **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING** 6-8pm see advert opposite
8th **CN Choral Society Concert** 7.30 St Marys Church see p20
9th **AmnesTree planting** 2.30 see p27
10th **Chipping Norton News Team AGM** 7.30 - anyone interested in volunteering is welcome - details 643219
Folk Club 8pm The Blue Boar - see p28
12th **Methodist Coffee Morning** 9.30-11.30 Crisis at Christmas
13th **Horticultural Association** 7.30pm Methodist Hall see p27
14th **Wychwood Chorale Christmas Concert** 6.30 St Mary's Church Free admission - see advert p5
15th **CN Farmers Market** 8.30-1.30
Monthly Town Clear-up 10am Lwr Town Hall p10
N Cots Soc of Recorder Players details 641037
Swing into Christmas with CNS Allstars 7.30 CNS School - £15 inc main course & pudding from 646353
17th **Astronomy Group** 7.30pm The Fox see p24
West Oxon WI 7.30 Parish Rooms - see p25
19th **Carols for All** with Kingham Choral Society see p 21 for ticket information
20th **Cotswold Comedy Club** 7.15pm Town Hall see p21
21st **LHNT Candles of Remembrance & Celebration** 7pm Town Hall Steps details p17

January (No Chipping Norton News)

- 2nd **Chippy News Team Meeting** 7.30 Chequers details 643219
6th **Christmas Trees come down!** 9.30 Town Hall
Rambling Club 1.30pm New St Car Park info 641222
9th **Methodist Coffee Morning** 9.30-11.30 for the Singing Group
10th **Annual Amnesty Greeting Card Campaign** see p27
11th **CHIPPING NORTON NEWS DEADLINE**
14th **History Society** 7.30pm Methodist Hall see p28
Folk Club 8pm The Blue Boar - Anything Goes
15th **Monthly Town Clear-up** 10am Lwr Town Hall p10
19th **CN Farmers Market** 8.30-1.30
20-22 **Astronomy Group Town Centre Observing** see p24
26th **N Cots Soc of Recorder Players** details 641037
28th **Chippy News Team Meeting** 7.30 Chequers details 643219
31st **Deadline for Young Sportsperson nominations** see p23

February (News out Monday 28 January)

- 3rd **Rambling Club** 1.30pm New St Car Park info 641222
6th **U3A** 2.30pm Methodist Hall Hubert Allen - Meals with notorious People
9th **CHIPPING NORTON NEWS DEADLINE**
11th **History Society** 7.30pm Methodist Hall John Hunt - Oxfordshire in the Civil War see p28

Christmas opening times

Chemists: For urgent prescriptions when chemists are closed call your GP surgery for an emergency number.

Doctors' surgeries: West St Surgery (642529) & White House Surgery (642742) closed 25 & 26 Dec & 1 Jan. Outside of surgery opening times, call 0845 345 8995 for the out of hours doctors' service. Call 111 for urgent but not life threatening symptoms, and 999 for a life threatening emergency. Order repeat prescriptions well before Christmas.

Hospital: (648200) Open for first-aid injuries - normal weekdays 5pm-9pm, Bank Holidays (ie 25 & 26 Dec + 1 Jan) 10am - 9pm. Casualty at Witney or Banbury hospitals will deal with more serious injuries.

Police Station: Chipping Norton & the surrounding villages are policed by local officers 24 hours a day. For police station opening times visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk link to info is on rhs of home page. When closed use the yellow phone next to the door for urgent enquiries. Banbury Police Stn is open every day except 25 Dec. In an emergency ring 999. Call 101 to contact the Police for non-emergency calls.

Library: 24 Dec 9.30am-1pm, closed 25 Dec-1 Jan, re-open 9.30am on 2 Jan. Library letterbox will be locked during this period for security so hold onto your books etc till 2 Jan.

Leisure Centre: Closed 25/26 Dec & 1 Jan. Visit www.better.org.uk or call 01993 861951 for holiday opening times.

Rubbish & Recycling Collection: When ~ Monday 24 Dec, Weds 2 Jan, Tues 8 Jan. Normal Monday collections resume 14 Jan. What ~ black box/food caddy collections weekly. No Green waste collection 22 Dec-6 Jan. Household waste collections as per the Calendar issued by WODC (also available in the Guildhall One Stop Shop) or visit: www.westoxon.gov.uk/mwo Xmas Trees etc: From 7 January trees and greenery such as holly, ivy and wreaths can be put out as garden waste either in the bin or cut up and left beside it. Remove pot, decorations, wire etc. You don't need to be signed up for garden waste collections - simply leave your tree out on your green collection week as shown on your waste calendar or online. Don't forget to put festive food recycling (turkey bones, peelings etc) in your food caddy.

Extra recycling can be put in open clear bags or carrier bags (not black bags) - one material per bag eg plastics or paper or card. NB glass must go in your recycling boxes. Learn more at the WODC Recycling Roadshow Mkt Place 11-3 Weds 5 Dec

Markets

Chipping Norton Market: 19 Dec, 2 Jan.

Farmers' Market: 8.30-1.30 Saturdays 15 Dec & 19 Jan as usual.

Town Xmas trees

come down

Sunday 6 January

meet at the Town Hall 9.30am
& join the jolly gang of fairy
light unfixers!



Plan to close Penhurst School

In October Action for Children announced that they are proposing to close Penhurst School, in Chipping Norton. The



'The Children's Home and Orphanage – Chipping Norton Branch' in 1906 ~ photo kindly supplied by John Grantham

special school has currently 15 pupils, aged from five to 19 years, with complex disabilities associated with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). Around 140 full and part time staff are involved. The owners say a final decision will be taken in February after a formal 90-day consultation period with staff, families of children affected and the local community. Barbara Street, Operational Director of Children's Services at Action for Children said 'the number of children and young people at Penhurst is decreasing as there is a falling demand for this kind of care. As a result, the service is proving unsustainable, losing income with a substantial projected deficit this year. If the decision is taken to close Penhurst, we would work with other organisations to ensure that all at the School continue to receive high-quality care.'

Chairman of Governors Pat Lake told the News 'the decision to look at closure is a very painful one taken after exploration of other options which have not, unfortunately,

been practical for the parties concerned. The Governors realise this is a difficult time for children, their parents and staff who have given loyal service, some of them for many years, but agree with Action for Children that the situation is now untenable, as County Councils are unwilling to pay for children to attend. The Governors will work with Action for Children to obtain the best result for the children and the staff.' Any public feedback had to be in by 30 November.

T Largest ever English Xmas pudding: 3.28 tonnes in Aughton Lancs in 1992, took 8 days to make.

Rogér's fish shop opens

A new fresh fish shop has arrived in Chipping Norton, in the New Street premises at the entrance to New Street car park. Debbie Rogér is helping husband Patrice with his new venture which will sell fresh fish and deli items including a range of



cheeses plus pickles, chutneys and sauces all made on site. Patrice is the former Chef from The Chequers in Churchill and Debbie has given up her own job to help run it. Patrice told the News, 'We opened on Friday 23 November and were delighted to welcome old and new friends who were thrilled to have a fresh fish shop back in Town and intrigued to explore our deli ranges.'

Good news for Town Festival

Chipping Norton's Town Festival looks set to run again in 2013 after The Rotary Club of Chipping Norton offered to lead in organising the popular event. After reading about the possible closure of the Festival in the News, Rotary members contacted Paul Aitken, the Managing Director of the Town Festival Community Interest Company. After meetings, arrangements were agreed in November. Last year's festival, in Jubilee Year, saw an outdoor stage alive with music, bands, and dancing – and many stalls and events in and around the town centre which was closed off to traffic. Many volunteers, organisations and businesses helped out.

The Rotary hope to continue this festival spirit and a Club spokesman said, 'It's important that this will be a Town Festival, and not a Rotary Club event. As facilitators, we can call upon the broad spectrum of expertise that exists within the Club, but in the coming weeks we will also be seeking help from every part of the community. Thanks to the work of Paul Aitken, and his Committee, over the last three years, a great deal of the infrastructure has already been documented and passed to us. In addition, many of the existing committee members have already offered help. Without this we could

Christmas Shopping Night in Chipping Norton

6-8pm Friday 7th December

Just a taster of the delights on offer:

Stalls run by local Charities and organisations ~ Independent retailers open with lots of tempting Christmas ideas ~ Air Cadets with Flight Simulator ~ Treasure Hunt ~ St Mary's and Holy Trinity School Choirs ~ The Silver Band Pig Roast ~ Fair rides ~ The Bookshop Band playing live ~ St Mary's School Christmas Fair in the Town Hall



Do come and enjoy Christmas Fun and Festivities in the Town. The lights will be twinkling and choirs will be singing and there will be lots of Christmas Cheer.

LOCAL NEWS

not have taken this project on.' Paul Aitken also told the News that a donation of £3,500 as seed funding for the 2013 Festival comes from the remaining funds in the CIC set up for previous events. If you have any suggestions about the Festival, or would like to offer help please contact chippyfest@gmail.com.

100th birthday for Winnie

Winnie Woodward celebrated her 100th birthday last month at Southerndown Nursing Home. Winnie was born on 24 October 1912 in Gloucestershire, went to school in Bloxham and spent most of her life in Hook Norton, where she became a mother to six children. Winnie has 10 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild. Her husband Harold died in 2006. As part of the celebrations, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mike Tysoe presented Winnie with her card from the Queen and she received lots of presents and cards from friends and family. Southerndown's manager David Groves and activities organiser Karen Berwick organised live music and a big party.



Town tax fixed

Chipping Norton Town Council will not be asking for any increase in their Council Tax next year. Their budget for 2013/14, which starts next April, can be achieved by keeping the 'precept' (the amount they need in tax) to £150,000, the same as this current year. Budget details of all councils next issue.

Maternity Unit enquiry starts

The three-month closure (for births) and a review about working practices and issues at Chipping Norton's Cotswold Maternity Unit are now under way. Senior managers from Oxford University Hospitals Trust, which runs the unit, appeared before the Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee giving assurances that serious issues would be looked at, but that the unit would reopen. Hilary Biles, Chipping Norton's County Councillor, presented from the floor concerns gathered from patients and staff, and wanted an independent review.

Local mothers, including Susannah King (who led a local petition to reinstate midwives), Kim Murray and Sarah Boyd (from the Maternity Services Liaison Committee) all told the Scrutiny Committee of specific problems. No names were mentioned as legal and staff issues are involved. Committee Chair Peter Skolar expressed concerns about the damage to the reputation of what is an outstanding facility. Committee Member Keith Ruddle, who lives in Chipping Norton and was very aware of local concern, pointed out that 159 births in the year to March 2010, had dropped to 117 to March 2012 and then only 32 in the six months to September. Many mothers had been referred, or had chosen to go, elsewhere. Nationally many staffed midwife-led units require 300 or more births to be 'viable'. He wanted commitments from OUH not only about reopening, but that effort and time would go into

rebuilding confidence and trust to market the unit again. Jane Hervé and Andrew Stephens from OUH noted all these points, made commitments to report back as early as possible and take advice from the Committee Chair on how independent experts might be involved.

T Before turkey, the traditional Christmas meal in England was a pig's head and mustard.

Ready for the snow!!

With freezing weather and a bad winter forecast for December, the Town Council wants everyone to be ready for the snow. As of now, 54 grit bins should be in place around the Town. Cllr Mike Tysoe reports that eight tons of salt are already strategically placed and, with help from Guy Wall of Machine Link, two Honda quad bikes have been leased complete with snow ploughs and salt/grit spreaders. 'Together with Guy's skidsteer with the Town's snow plough on front we should be fully equipped to face any snow.' More volunteers are needed to add to the current stalwart band, to help clear minor and side roads which are the Town's responsibility. So please volunteer; training and insurance are included. The quad bikes will be on show by the Town Hall shortly, and drivers (over 21 with clean licence) and snow shovellers are needed. There is also a limited supply of pushed spreaders still available for the Town's use.

Mike added, 'If it is snowing please park carefully so the team can move around – perhaps a clear place at the bottom of a hill is not a good place to park . . . and if you see a team in yellow safety jackets clearing snow around town – the likelihood is that they are unpaid volunteers and a cuppa and a biscuit go a lot further than some of the comments given out last year! Please volunteer to the Town Clerk in the Guildhall (phone 642341), alternatively to me on 643028, or join when the quad bikes are on show!'

Plans for new surgeries

West St and White House GP surgeries are moving (by early 2014) to a brand new building next to Chipping Norton's new hospital up the London Road, replacing their cramped and outdated existing buildings. The move (reported in the News



Plans for the new combined GP surgery next to the Hospital earlier in 2012) is now the subject of a full planning application submitted to West Oxfordshire District Council. The £3m facility includes three floors, 18 consulting rooms, 16 clinical rooms and a pharmacy. Plans also include a 64-space car park, bicycle park and ambulance drop-off point. The intention is to provide 'a landmark, contemporary, 21st Century healthcare building with clinical functionality and improved patient experience at its core.' Dr David Edwards, from White House Surgery, and Dr Jane Pargeter, from West Street, said both practices were delighted with progress. The Town Council welcomed the proposal in principle but raised issues about the appearance of the new building.

Venetian delights for Cinders

News team member and volunteer usher Alison Huitt gives her review of Chipping Norton's Theatre's celebration panto

My ushering duties over till the interval, I sit full of anticipation, amid the excited buzz and chitchat, my usher's apron weighed down with surprises for the audience for later



Above: Cinderella with the Ugly Sisters

Right: Buttons with his Pippin Mouse

and writer Ben Crocker make this panto their own? Funny, but where are the musicians? All is revealed as the curtain



opens onto a canal side in Venice where a masked carnival is taking place, the musicians playing away on their very own balcony. This colourful and lively opening number sets the scene for the rest of the show. Paul Kissau's original music, from pop to opera, and the singing as the story unfolds along the canals, in the Casa Harduppo household and the charming Prince Charming's palace transports us merrily along. All the usual fun to be found in *Cinderella* is here with the added Chippy panto embellishment of a Venetian background, gondola races included. Cinderella's watery journey to the ball is cleverly stage managed as is her magical transformation into her simple ball gown which without a doubt will charm the Prince.

We are left to savour a lovely silvery scene together with the ice creams at the interval. The costume designs cleverly reflect each character. In particular Buttons is as lively and as fun as his coat of many colours. As for the ugly sisters, well, what can I say apart from their apparel and props being as wonderfully outrageous as their antics and behaviour. Well done Pippins (local children) too for supporting the rest of the cast so brilliantly. As I stood at the door wishing the audience farewell it was good to overhear so many say that they had really enjoyed themselves and that this was the best panto yet. A splendid 40th Chippy Panto celebration? Oh no it isn't! OH YES IT IS!

See article about the making of the Panto costumes on p20

T Seven million children leave mince pies and a drink for Santa on Christmas Eve.

Chippy's Future: you decide

West Oxfordshire is seeking views on its Draft Local Plan, which sets out how the District will develop up to 2029. The latest plan includes an increase in the number of new homes for the Chipping Norton area, (including Enstone and the Bartons): up from 400 in the (previously named) Core Strategy in the period to 2026. The plan now says:

- 600 new homes (226 already with planning permission) in the period to 2029 (averaging 33 each year), 50% of which are to be 'affordable', but with no 'strategic allocation'.
- At least one extra care home.
- 5 hectares allocated for employment on the former highways depot and former Parker Knoll site and a potential further 2ha as part of the mixed-use allocation north of London Road.
- Existing schools could cope with up to 600 new homes but any more might need a new primary school.
- Improved food shopping facilities between High Street and Albion Street.

Differing local views

The Town Council had said they wanted more growth to keep the town viable and had objected to a reduction from 800 to 400 new homes. So the revised allocation of 600 appears to be a compromise. However, during the debate on the Draft Local Plan at West Oxfordshire's Cabinet meeting on 17 October, County Councillor Hilary Biles spoke out against the imposition of 600 homes on the Town saying that this level of growth was not supported locally. Earlier this year responses (now on the website) to the Town Council's Neighbourhood Planning questionnaire reveal that 15% felt there was too much housing growth, 44% felt it was about right, 36% would support more growth if needed and 5% would encourage significant growth. The rate of new housing proposed is similar to that built over the last 15 years. A public event on the Neighbourhood Plan scheduled for 7 November was postponed to allow the Town Council time to consider the Draft Local Plan and meet WODC planners on 26 November to talk through implications. The consultation runs until 19 December and the full Local Plan can be found via www.westoxon.gov.uk. Comments can be sent online via



Wychwood Chorale
Christmas Concert
St Mary's Church
Chipping Norton
Friday 14 December
6.30pm

A concert with songs by the choir and carols
for all the family

Children are invited to come as elves, fairies etc

Christmas surprises.
Seasonal refreshments available.

ADMISSION FREE!

Donations in aid of St Mary's Church fabric and Sobell House Hospice

LOCAL NEWS

the website, by email: planning.policy@westoxon.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Policy, WODC, Elmfield, New Yatt Road, Witney OX28 1PB.

Town can decide what and where

The nitty gritty of where new homes, an extra care facility and possible new school should be built is left to the Neighbourhood Plan to decide. Background work done by West Oxfordshire acknowledged it will not be easy to find sites where development would not harm protected landscape and concluded that there is potential for about 50 homes within the Town itself, including at the former hospital and CastleView sites, and for about 250 on the Town's fringes, off Walterbush Road and London Road but mainly at Tank Farm. Town Councillor Chris Butterworth, who leads the Neighbourhood Planning project explains, 'Whilst we can't challenge the amount of growth handed down to us by the Local Plan, this is the opportunity for the community to make its own decisions on where this development should go. The Neighbourhood Plan will be significant in shaping the future of the Town for the next generation. The State of the Town Report is progressing and will be circulated to the Project Board and Steering Groups early in 2013 before public consultation. I urge everyone to get involved'. With so much being left for the Neighbourhood Plan to decide, this is Localism in action on the PM's own doorstep!

The bestselling Xmas single ever is Bing Crosby's *White Christmas*, 50+ million copies sold since 1942.

Bippity Boo ... to you!

Bippity Boo, a new gift shop, arrived in Chipping Norton in November, run by local resident Lisa Barnes. In Goddards Lane between the Blue Boar and the Chequers, next to The Theatre Box Office and opposite the Library, Bippity



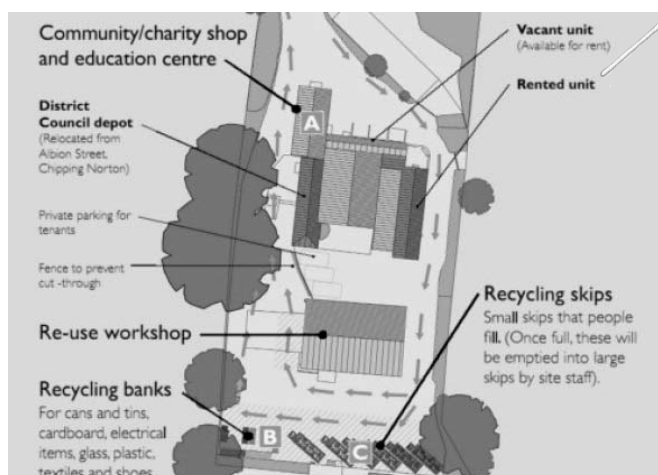
Lisa Barnes (left) celebrating the launch of Bippity Boo

Boo is now open and full of gift ideas. Lisa has many years in retailing and a skill for finding unusual and affordable gifts and says that in Bippity Boo there are presents for every age group and member of the family. She told the News, 'I love working with people and hope that Bippity Boo will become the first place people come to when they are seeking a gift. I so look forward to meeting new customers and helping them solve that present problem! I am happy to offer a gift wrapping service and over the months ahead I will be expanding the range of gifts and accessories on offer'. So with Christmas coming this could be a great time to pay Lisa a visit for some hidden treasures. Bippity Boo is open 9.30am-5.30pm Tuesday-Saturday. Phone 641525 to arrange an out-of-hours personal shopping visit.

Good news for train users

Kingham Station users had some good news this month. First, their car parking overload might be solved as cheese and rock man Alex James is reported to have offered the use of some adjacent land to extend the car park. A new kiosk called Foxy's Coffee is opening for early morning business run by Hayley Hankey.

Rubbish in our backyard



In November WODC were granted planning permission for a new £200,000 recycling tip at Greystones, on the edge of Chipping Norton. This has been generally welcomed by Chippy residents, and WODC say they are considering a whole range of recycling there, including: bicycles, electrical items (batteries, light bulbs, phones, TVs, fridges, freezers, washing machines, cookers, etc), garden waste, media (books, videos, DVDs, etc), paper and cardboard, textiles, shoes, bottles, tins, cans, tetrapaks, plastics, paints, tyres, wood and oil.

It looks, however, that Chippy residents will still have a 40+ mile round trip for any remaining household 'landfill' waste – as the licence, according to WODC, does not allow for this. District Councillor Rob Evans fears that fly tipping, including even near the gates of the new centre, might increase. The previous nearest household waste tip that did both recycling and landfill, was at Dean Pit, but Oxfordshire County Council closed it saying officially it was 'not economically viable'. In fact County Councillors voted to close it after local residents said it was 'not in an appropriate place'.

Chipping Norton Town Council asked for a 'landfill skip' at the new centre, but WODC told the News this is officially not allowed. Landfill waste is the County's responsibility. The Town Council are also asking for at least £5,000 a year for the use of an access strip from the main road. Town Councillors say they 'want a fair deal for the Town'. Discussions are continuing and WODC Cabinet member David Harvey said as soon as agreement is reached they will go ahead.

While all this debate continues, residents are either driving a tortuous 40-45-mile round trip to Alkerton tip with their large recycling or landfill waste – or some seem to be dumping it illegally in and around Chipping Norton: much in the New Street car park (including a tumble dryer – see Letters p34), some tyres spotted down Pool Meadow, and more in Swing Swang lane. Let's hope our various Councils don't let all this rubbish fall down a big gap between their different interests!

Remembrance weekend

News team members joined around 30 people participating in the two-minute silence at 11am at the War Memorial on Saturday 10 November. Mayor Cllr Martin Jarratt,



representatives from the British Legion and its Women's Section laid wreaths. Bishop Jabalé of Holy Trinity Church led prayers and a bugler sounded the Last Post. On Sunday 11th Mayor Jarratt led guests to the Annual Remem-



brance service in St Mary's Church, the two-minute silence at the 11th hour and a parade for the Mayor's salute. Town Councillor Jo Graves described it as a magnificent occasion – 'a china blue sky, beautiful sunshine, crowds of people, old soldiers, a marching band, young uniformed organisations well represented and a church filled to capacity showing the strength of community in Chipping Norton. This was commented upon by the Rev Steve Weston in his valedictory Remembrance Day Sermon. The lusty singing accompanied by the Silver Band all contributed to raising the spirits, with final march past and muster outside the Town Hall capping off a grand event remembering those who give so much to maintain our freedom'.

Photo: Don Davidson

Cllr Graves reported sadly on a 'sting in the tale' when she learned 'with utmost horror and disgust' that the British Legion collecting box, placed in church for the previous two weeks, had been rifled and money stolen sometime on Monday 12 November. Jo told the News, 'We shall never know the perpetrator, but it does make me very sad to think that someone would stoop so low as to steal this money. Maybe an opportunist passing through? In Chipping Norton I like to think that we can trust each other – so the Church is always

open. I feel better for having shared my anger and sadness. Let's hope it will not happen again – but thank you Chippy for a magnificent Remembrance Sunday'.

A lasting tribute for St Mary's

Last month came news that Canon Stephen Weston is leaving St Mary's Church after 17 years in Chipping Norton to be Team Rector at the Otter Vale Mission Community in Devon. Many plan to pay tribute the New Year, with his last service set for 6 January. Glyn Pearman, a member of the Parochial Church Council was first to send his appreciation including, 'I have had the honour to serve as one of the two churchwardens for 11 of the 17 years, an experience I wouldn't have missed for the world. Steve is a most deeply sincere and faithful servant to the Lord. His faith inspires all who meet him, and his sermons leave us wanting more. But what makes Steve so special is his ability to connect with everyone in the Town, regardless of the depth of their own religious conviction.'



As well, no doubt, as a personal gift of thanks to Steve and Cathy, Glyn is suggesting that this an opportunity for the Town to do something more for the 'magnificent building and institution' of St Mary's which is costly to maintain and run – and is largely supported by a moderate church membership with the days of help from 'a few wealthy landowning families long gone'. Glyn added 'Steve's vision has always been to take the church to the people, to involve everyone in care for one another. His dream would be for everything he and the church does to be free. I would so like to see an upsurge in real involvement with the church as a legacy for all he has done. We need fundraising help (through The Friends of St Mary's Church for the building, and the Plus Group for day-to-day costs) and donations from those in Chipping Norton who feel that St Mary's is their own. Let us show Steve that his vision is the right one and that Chippy values and can support St Mary's.'

... and all welcome for Council tribute

Chipping Norton Town Council would like to invite everyone to the Town Hall for 4pm on Friday 4 January, to an event to wish Canon Stephen Weston and his family well in their move to Devon.

T 7 out of 10 British dogs get Christmas gifts from their doting owners.

Mind on the move ...

The meetings in Chipping Norton for the Oxfordshire Mind Wellbeing Service are moving in the New Year from St Mary's Parish Rooms. From Tuesday 8 January, the Tuesday Peer Support Group will meet at Glyme Hall, Burford Road from 12.30–3.30pm. Jo Keats who helps run the service said, 'We would like to take the opportunity to thank St Mary's Church for being such supportive landlords for many years.' The Friday Peer Support Group continues to meet from 1.30–3.30pm at Number 24 Café, Topside in Chipping Norton. Both groups welcome anyone who wants to find out what the Wellbeing Service is about. Please feel free to come along to either session.

Gym refurbishment

The gym at Chipping Norton's Leisure Centre has had a makeover. Completely redecorated and with a new layout there is 'a fresh, modern look and good quality equipment with good space utilisation' said an enthusiastic Glen Quanne whom our reporter snapped vigorously working out on 6 November, the day the gym re-opened. New state-of-the-art equipment has been installed, several new machines being part of the Inclusive Fitness Initiative – see picture below. These machines have high visibility straps and controls and allow for ease of access. One is accessible by wheelchair users. Simon Duffy, Chipping Norton School Head, was also spotted on opening night. He hoped the refurbishment would 'further motivate more school-age students to take exercise as an after-school activity, as many of their peers were already doing'.



£10K for marketing campaign

A campaign to market Chipping Norton has been given £10,000 from the national Town Team partners programme, which came out of retail guru Mary Portas's High Street Review. A group of local retailers and business owners are putting the plans together under the banner of 'Experience Chipping Norton', having qualified because of their enthusiasm when bidding to be a 'Portas Pilot' town (which attracted 326 applicants around the country). Adam Jennings, a local businessman and member of the ECN core team said, 'We want to make the Town a more visible and attractive destination for visitors and businesses by providing promotion through a number of connected schemes'. Anyone interested in helping, contact Adam via adam@redboxgroup.net /643464.

As well as the £10,000, direct support will include: an advice line to a network of advisers managed by the Association of Town Centre Management; direct mentoring and visits from a range of retail experts; regular meetings with other Town Teams to share lessons and ideas; and an online community to receive advice from retail experts. The Portas Pilot scheme is taking forward the first recommendations from Mary Portas's High Street review. It is about encouraging local partnerships and consortiums to come up with their own ideas about how to transform their local high street into a social place, bustling with people, services and jobs.

Is everything 'Better' at the Leisure Centre?

Chipping Norton Leisure Centre is now run under the 'Better' branding of new owners GLL, who manage 115 UK facilities, mainly in Greater London. The News was recently alerted to some concerns regarding staffing, morale, service and an 'emphasis on profits'. There are also a new joining fee and new types of centre membership. News team member Nell Darby investigated, contacted GLL and sent an update with her personal views:

Better confirmed that a 'health and fitness supervisor' role has replaced the gym manager, and with no redundancies 'to date'. However, the Leisure Centre general manager recently resigned and Better has drafted in an interim manager from another site, while it recruits a replacement. Better also confirmed that in October the pool was closed for six hours, due to staff illness. When they again had 'adequate staff', the pool reopened.

The gym has had memberships for young adults aged 14-plus for a while; but has now introduced memberships for 11 to 13 year olds – who can use the gym without adult accompaniment between 3 and 5pm every day and outside



those hours if with an adult. Better argues that this 'encourage[s] widespread participation from all members of the community'. Given the inadequacy of monitoring given by gym staff to the older children using the gym, concerns remain about how younger children will be monitored. On many occasions, the gym is unstaffed, or staffed by only a few employees who are sometimes taken up with inductions or other duties. I would argue staff should regularly monitor

the use of equipment by young people to ensure that they use it safely and correctly.

The introduction of this new gym membership for younger customers is just one way that Better may be seeking to increase income, although it stresses that Chippy is 'performing well'. When I queried the need to introduce a new centre joining fee – which Better did when they took over – I was told that research showed people were more

likely to use a facility regularly if they had paid a joining fee. However, the research is 12 years old and worded ambiguously. I would argue that, in fact, people are more likely to use the centre if it has good facilities, plenty of friendly, knowledgeable staff and affordable membership rates. The refurbished gym may show some commitment on the part of Better towards our community; it remains to be seen what happens in future regarding staffing and costs.

All change in Churchill

The Chequers in Churchill re-opened in November under the ownership of Sam and Georgie Pearman. The couple's Lucky Onion Group also includes The Tavern in Cheltenham and The Wheatsheaf Inn in Northleach. Both are award-winning



Operations Manager Peter and Group Chef Antony with some charcuterie

restaurants, respectively earning a Michelin Bib Gourmand and Good Pub Guide Gloucestershire Dining Pub of the Year 2012. Sam is from Gloucestershire, trained at Mayfair's Langhan's Brasserie, helped to manage the Michelin-starred Glass House in Kew, and was consultant at the Kingham Plough during its first year. Despite these upmarket credentials, the Pearmans aim to keep The Chequers at the heart of the community. 'All existing events, such as the book club, quiz night and coffee mornings, will remain' they say, with new events including a happy hour and regular live music nights featuring local talent. Certainly the place was buzzing during its first week. The bar area has been divided off from the brasserie-style restaurant to give each its own distinct atmosphere. Upstairs is a private dining room for 14, and party area for 30, which can be hired out.

There are 14 cask and keg beers on tap, with guest, American, and local brews. Foodwise, the menu offers a wide range of steaks and other meaty pub classics, all competitively priced, alongside plates of charcuterie and a large cheese board or even oysters to enjoy with a drink at the bar. Meat is cooked using an unusual Spanish Jospier charcoal-broiler oven, a type of indoor barbecue (having a few temporary teething problems with its extractor at the time of our visit). Newshounds report that the vegetarian and fish dishes were also delicious. Group chef Antony Ely, who has been with the company for a year and is formerly of Bibury Court and The Square in Mayfair, is currently setting things up. Manager Peter Creed can be contacted at 659393 or reservations@thechequerschurchill.com for bookings. The Chequers is open every day from 9am serving tea and coffee with bacon butties, lunch, afternoon tea, cocktails and dinner.

T The largest functional Xmas cracker 148 ft long was pulled in Sydney Australia, in 1998

No VIC awards for Chippy

Burford and Witney Visitor Information Centres (run by WODC) are up for for 2012 excellence awards from Tourism South East recognising (according to the West Oxfordshire press release) the 'role played by tourist information centres in helping to provide services for visitors.' WODC's Cabinet member Cllr Richard Langridge said 'The Council recognises the importance of tourism to West Oxfordshire and is committed to supporting the industry locally and encouraging more people to visit the area.' Unfortunately WODC closed the Chipping Norton VIC some years ago. Town Councillors and volunteers have taken to running a Saturday summer VIC

at the Town Hall. WODC's 'One Stop Shop' in the Guildhall does provide, on weekday opening hours, some visitor leaflets but cannot book accommodation or travel or deal with significant tourism enquiries. Latest figures suggest tourism is worth an estimated £255.4 million annually to West Oxfordshire's economy and supports around 4,800 jobs. WODC say they have 'a dedicated tourism team which works to promote and support tourism and all tourism-related businesses in the District.' For more information visit www.westoxon.gov.uk/tourism or call 01993 861080.

Over the Rainbow

The Nortonians Amateur Dramatic Society finished a very successful run of 'The Wizard of Oz' in the Methodist Church. Audience numbers were very good and they were treated to



young Katie Ware as Dorothy, leading the company along the Yellow Brick Road to find The Wizard. The players' concept of minimal scenery was balanced by some fine acting, good singing and colourful costumes. Mention must be made of Chris Geary who had to spend each performance in a very warm Lion costume – 'My own little sauna' as he said. Paul Lovick, who played the Tin Man, stepped in at the last moment learning the whole part in five weeks and fully deserved to find his Heart! The Scarecrow (Belinda Walker) got some brains and the Lion got some courage. Only after the Wicked Witch (Sian O'Neill) had been melted did the Super Witch of the South (Clare Brown) and the Nice Witch of the North (Diane Walker) help Dorothy get home to Kansas. The Wizard of Oz (Martin Hannant) had his Emerald City ably protected by the Green Guardian (David Simkin). All Munchkins and Emerald Guards were played with quick costume changes by Andrew Pitman, Lee Thomson and Christine Intasean. Director Andrew Pitman said the production was of high quality, 'if you have not had the opportunity to see one of Norts shows look out for our spring production and we will be back for another family show in the autumn of 2013'.

Help with local services

A free friendly service, Community Connect, managed by the West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau, is now available in Chipping Norton. Their volunteers can help you find out about local services and support including: organising a lift to the shops, help caring for a loved one, feeling safer at home and more. Community Connect work in strict confidence. You can just ask, talk to them by telephone or invite them to visit. Phone 648099.

New pet shop venture



Bonnie's Pet Shop has opened at 18 New Street, a new venture for Jill Harmsworth providing a friendly and customised service for Chippy's pet owners. Jill, who has run a number of businesses, moved to Chipping Norton just over two years ago and wanted to add to the Town shops with something needed

locally – to avoid the need to travel to Banbury or further afield. Bonnie's (named after a Cairn dog much loved by Jill) is through a door at the back of the Persian Carpet Shop down New Street and has a conservatory full of items for cats, dogs, hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, wild birds and more. As well as food there are pet beds, toys, accessories cages, treats and a full range of Alan Titchmarsh's wild bird seed. Jill also said she can get specialist cat and dog foods within 24 hours if not stocked (tel 646775).

T The chances of a white Christmas are just 1 in 10 for England and Wales.

Clearing up on 15th

A reminder that a group of volunteers meets every month on the 15th at 10am at the Lower Town Hall to help clear up and tidy the town centre. Why not make it your New Year's resolution to help?

Questions at Allotment AGM

The AGM of the William Fowler Allotment Trust in the Town Hall on Monday 12 November attracted representatives from 18 allotments who voted in two new Committee Members: Louise Dumbleton and Theresa Portman, who now join the three other allotment representatives on the Committee: David Heyes, Ted Huckin and Diana Rose. Chairman Don Davidson provided responses to the record 29 questions submitted in advance, covering issues ranging from the history of the Allotment Trust, the financial structure, various management aspects – including the need to respect site security by keeping gates locked – to how the annual competition is run. He also clarified the Committee's role to liaise between the allotment holders and Trustees (the members of the Town Council) who have overall legal responsibility for the allotments, and to whom the Committee reports.

Responding to requests for improved communication, meeting minutes and relevant notices will be posted more frequently on allotment notice boards. Starting in the New Year, the Town Clerk will also send out the same information by email to members signing up to the email list. To register, please email cntc@btconnect.com. There was interest in renovating the derelict concrete building for communal use –

even offers to provide working parties – but this was dependent on a forthcoming structural assessment. The AGM ended on a positive note and thanks to the Committee. Burford Road allotments are available to Chipping Norton residents for £10 per year (£5 concessions). Anyone interested should contact the Guildhall on 642341 or call into the Town Clerk's office weekdays 9am-1pm.

Awards for local design agency

The Chipping Norton brand design and marketing agency mark-making* enjoyed a big award day last month. First they won the prestigious Marketing Design Awards 2012, at a lunchtime event in London, in the Environment category for client Lafarge Cement UK, before making a swift turnaround to Birmingham to take Silver



for the same project at the Cream Awards Midlands 2012. The Lafarge project had also made the shortlist in the Corporate Literature category at the Marketing Design Awards, and the work of mark-making* for local initiative Fairytale Farm was a finalist at the Cream Awards in the Corporate Literature category. Steve Turner, Creative Director at mark-making* said 'We're delighted for our clients Lafarge and Fairytale Farm and for the teams that have worked so hard on both projects. This sort of recognition is particularly important: it reassures existing clients and demonstrates to prospective clients that you don't need to use London agencies to get the very best work.'

Well done Cemetery team!

This autumn the Town Council's Cemetery Committee organised two clear up days. The first on 13 October was in the closed churchyard, the first time for several years. Fortunately the team were blessed with a gloriously sunny day. A number of historic graves were cleared and trees cut back from the paths. The second day took place on 10 November in the Cemetery, where a team of eight cleared a considerable amount of undergrowth in section seven. Mayor Cllr Martin Jarratt, chair of the Committee, said, 'Our grateful thanks to all those stalwart volunteers for helping and especially to Peta Simmons, who, once again supplied delicious cakes and coffee. Dates for the next clear up days will be published in the New Year. The Cemetery is a large area to maintain and a considerable drain on the Town Council's resources. Therefore these sessions enable work to be carried out, which otherwise might not get done.'

CHIPPING NORTON BOWLS CLUB

New Indoor Season Now Started

Why not give bowls a try?

Get some exercise, meet new friends & enjoy a new past-time during the winter.

Coaching with bowls and equipment provided.

Open daily ~ all ages welcome.

Interested?

Call Bill or Roberta on 643556 for a chat and a tour.



Christmas cheers!

The West Street shop, formerly occupied by Gossip, is being transformed into a wine merchants, called WineBear. Proprietors Richard & Katie Shama (pictured) have run an online wine merchants for several years and previously a small shop in Chelsea. Chipping Norton's own WineBear will offer everyday and fine rare wines,



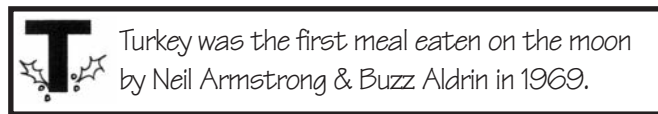
spirits from boutique independent distillers, beers from small independently owned breweries – and some coffees and premium teas. WineBear's licence unusually allows for both retail sales and consumption on the premises. Richard explains 'As well as a wine shop people can enjoy a glass of wine, use the space for wine tastings or parties or just enjoy a special cup of coffee or tea.' Richard continues, 'WineBear works with renowned importers who are specialists in a certain field, region or country. Their vineyards are often low yield, small production but highly sought after. Often these types of wines, although amazing, are unsuitable for multiples that seek large volumes and consistency of supply. WineBear believes quality must come first, our motto is Great Wine, Every Time'.

Conversion work on the building (appropriately originally Hitchman's Brewery headquarters) revealed an expansive cellar running below the shop and up Hitchman Mews. This will be used as a wholesale outlet for local restaurants and pubs, and storage for customers to mature and age good wines. WineBear hope to hold different wine tasting events on Saturdays during December and are offering local people a discount for online orders at www.winebear.com (use code 'Chipping Norton' at the website checkout). Cheers everyone!

Call 111 for urgent healthcare

If you have a healthcare emergency you can still ring 999. But now there is also a new number 111 to dial, a single telephone number for every kind of non-emergency health care. The national service, now launched in Oxfordshire, is available 24 hours a day, and calls from landlines and mobiles will be free. NHS 111, run by the South Central Ambulance service, will connect to a team of fully trained call advisers, who are supported by health professionals. They will ask questions to assess your symptoms, give you the healthcare advice you need or direct you to the right local service. The NHS 111 team will, where possible, book you an appointment or transfer you directly to the people you need to speak to. If they think you need an ambulance, they will send one immediately – just as if you had originally dialled 999. Both White House and West St surgeries, when closed, have messages saying dial 111 as a first action, or if that doesn't work call the Out-of-hours doctor line 08453 458995. For less urgent health needs during opening hours, you can still contact your GP or local pharmacist in the usual way. For

immediate life-threatening emergencies, continue to call 999. The old service of NHS Direct is being phased out.



Ash disease – Chippy threat?



The old ash trees on the green down Insall Road – the estate had to be built round them as they were protected

The approaches to Chipping Norton are lined with trees, a major feature of our leafy town. Most of these trees are sycamore, lime or horse-chestnuts (also not without their own problems) but the woodlands surrounding the Town contain many ash trees, as does the William Fowler woodland planted in 2000 near the allotments. Ash dieback disease has been in the headlines

recently; the nearest case discovered of this fungal disease is Bicester. The fungus causes leaf loss and crown dieback, and it can lead to tree death, so would certainly have a devastating effect on the countryside. Is there anything we can do? The Government has introduced a number of control measures to reduce the speed of the spread, including a ban on importing ash trees. One might ask why it was necessary to import a tree so easy to propagate from seed! Immediate action is being taken to remove and destroy infected trees in nurseries or in recently planted sites. Where infection is found in mature trees, the advice is to leave them where they are as scientists say infection does not spread directly between trees, but only via leaf litter.

To find out more visit the excellent Forestry Commission website www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara. It is more difficult to identify infected trees in winter so it will be a case of waiting for spring and report any trees showing signs of the disease.

Finnley's Day 2013

Gemma Froude, who was brought up in Chipping Norton and whose parents still live here, is organising the third Finnley's Day on 2 February 2013 in memory of her son Finnley who passed away aged 18 weeks after he was born prematurely at the JR hospital in Oxford. Gemma told the News the event has so far raised nearly £35k for the charity SSNAP (Support for the Sick Newborn and their Parents). The day is a family fun day with a huge prize draw, bouncy castle, candy floss, CDs, cake and bake, refreshments, tombola, crafts, etc – something for everyone! They need donations from local businesses for the prize draw, bottles of any kind and unwanted gifts for the tombola. To help with this or anything else please contact finnleyfroude@hotmail.co.uk, 07717 710262 or 07795 234292.

New Bridal Boutique opens



When the Sassy Wedding Company moved on from 19 Horsefair the little shop didn't stay empty for long. Georgina Pimm unveiled her Bridal Boutique there in mid November, together with complimentary champagne to mark the occasion. Georgina, who has experience of running a boutique in Witney, says, 'I am passionate about

looking after the bride and intend to ensure she is spoilt rotten in her preparations for her special day'. Georgina offers the full dressing service for the bride-to-be, including not only the dress itself, but veil, jewellery, tiara, shoes and handbag to complete the outfit. The shop closes to ensure a one-to-one service. Initially Georgina will be focusing entirely on the bride, not the bridesmaid nor other family members, but hopes to develop links with florists, hairdressers and make-up technicians to provide a complete service for the lucky ladies. Georgina can be contacted on 646611, 07770 577431 or georgina@georginabridal.co.uk.

New support for Carers

In the run up to Christmas older people or their carers are very welcome to come to the Chatterbox Coffee Morning every Thursday 10am until noon, in the Town Hall. This is run by Highlands in the Community. Please note Chatterbox will not open on 3 January. For adult carers, Carers Oxfordshire can provide helpful support for carers and every first and third Thursday one of them will be at the coffee morning. If you would like to contact them telephone Alizon Reynolds on 07557 430879. If you cannot leave the person you care for on a Thursday while you come out they can be accommodated at Highlands Day Centre. Just contact Jane on 643320 to make the arrangements.

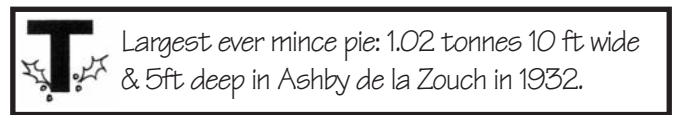
Chippy Takeaway opens

The new hot-food Chippy Takeaway opened in Middle Row in October, with a menu of kebabs, fried chicken, burgers and pizzas. Owners Namik Kemal Alat and M Sami Akgal hail originally from Turkey, so why so few Turkish delights on the menu? Namik explains, 'We did originally offer mixed Turkish dishes but it wasn't what people were looking for in a takeaway, so we are concentrating on the more popular items. Our best sellers are kebabs, though'. Open between 5pm and 11pm Sunday to Thursday and 5pm to 12pm on Fridays and Saturdays, the team will deliver free within a four-mile radius – they report that 70% of their business is home delivery. Call 641818 to order. (NB The News team has been asked to point out that Sebastian Genovese is no longer involved in the running of Chippy Takeaway.)

Abbeyfield support Pudsey

Following a coffee morning for Pudsey Bear on 26 October, children from Chadlington Primary School visited The Old Bake House where Abbeyfield residents, volunteers and staff helped them to raise £101. A bear appeared as well! It was good to bridge the generation gap, and support local events. Cecelia Nunn, the House Manager, was busy with the camera showing no one is too old or young for a 'Bear Hug'. The children drew pictures of Pudsey, in return for a 'Big Bear Hug' each.

Wendy Bailey



T Largest ever mince pie: 1.02 tonnes 10 ft wide & 5ft deep in Ashby de la Zouch in 1932.

Busy blanket testing day

With the autumn weather upon us and temperatures dropping fast, it was time again for the annual Electric Blanket testing day in Chipping Norton. So, on Friday 26 October, the team, consisting of Age UK Oxfordshire, WODC, Trading Standards and the Fire Service arrived in the Fire Station, ready for a very busy day. 101 blankets were tested to ensure they were 'safe' to continue to use. Of these two were repaired and 43 failed. The failed blankets are removed and disposed of safely and people offered a money-off voucher to



buy a replacement blanket. This year however, thanks to Chipping Norton Rotary Club's financial donation, we were able to give free replacement blankets in cases of hardship. Whilst checking the blankets the day is also a fantastic opportunity to touch base with many older members of the community and check that all is well. It is also a day full of chatting and laughter with the odd cup of tea thrown in. Many thanks to the Rotary Club for all their support and to the Fire Service for hosting and facilitating the event.

Ruth Swift

Screen by the Green

Movies coming up at Churchill and Sarsden Village Hall include *Dr Zhivago* on Saturday 8 December at 7.30. Mulled wine and mince pies from 7pm. Based on Boris Pasternak's famous novel and set in Russia, the film stars Omar Sharif as Zhivago and Julie Christie as Lara. David Lean's wintry adaptation is a masterpiece of epic filmmaking and has one of the most stirring soundtracks in film history. *The Bourne Legacy* on Saturday 12 January at 7.30pm continues the hugely popular Bourne series involving power and corruption in a fast moving thriller.

Tickets £4.50 on the door. For information and to book ring 659903 or email churchillmovies@btinternet.com.

Mayor's Ball and Bingo

A date for the 2013 diary. Chipping Norton Mayor Martin Jarratt will be holding the Mayor's Charity Ball on Saturday 27 April in the Town Hall. The Mayor also held a successful charity bingo night in November raising £460 for this year's charities, Highlands and the Lido. Thanks to members of the Lido and Sue Bartholomew for organising, those who donated prizes and Sainsbury's for refreshments.

Marathon Matt's support

In October local father Matthew Berry ran the Birmingham BUPA Half Marathon in memory of daughter Evelyn, smashing his target of £1500 for Oxfordshire Sands – part of a national charity supporting anyone affected by the death of a baby



and promoting research to reduce babies' deaths. Matt overcame various injuries to complete the gruelling 13.1 miles in 1 hour 58 minutes for his daughter Evie who died just after she was born in October 2011. Matt, supported on the day by his wife Lydia (pictured with him after the race), family and friends said, 'I'm overwhelmed by the fantastic level of support my family and I have received for me running. It's been the worst year of our lives and running for Oxfordshire Sands has given me such a positive focus. Their work is vital to families like ourselves devastated when their baby dies. Connecting with others who have survived similar tragedies really helps you know you are not alone.' To donate go to: www.justgiving.com/run4evie. For support for anyone affected by the death of a baby see: www.oxfordshiresands.org.uk.

Lido Lottery results

The November results are as follows: 1st prize: £111.00 Rachel Godfrey (115), 2nd prize: £66.60 Sheena Blundell (46), 3rd prize: £44.40 Monica Beadle (9).

Rhymetime at the Library

The final children's Rhymetime for 2012 is on Tuesday 4 December and we will restart in the New Year on 5 February. With the new Library layout we now have a lovely space to enjoy the stories and rhymes with your little ones (no lower age limit) so do come along and have a fun session on the first Tuesday in each month at 10.30am (not January). A reminder – the library is closed over the Christmas/New Year period from 1pm on Monday 24 December. We reopen at 9.30am on Wednesday 2 January. In case there's nothing worth watching on TV over Christmas why not pop in and stock up with good reads beforehand? Don't forget those DVDs either. The drop off letterbox will be closed during this time so hang onto all your returns till we reopen. Finally, all the staff wish you a very happy Christmas and even better New Year.

Judith Bucknall, Library Manager

Police Commissioner elected



Anthony Stansfeld (Conservative) was elected to the Thames Valley Police Commissioner post in the November election, beating Tim Starkey (Labour) by 94,238 to 70,403 votes (after second preferences were counted). Other votes were Geoff Howard, Independent (31,716), John Orrell Howson (Lib Dem; 20,511), Barry Cooper (UKIP; 19,324 votes), Patience Tayo Awe (Independent; 14,878). A total of 226,512 votes were cast giving an overall turnout of 13.3 per cent.

The Queen's Christmas message was first televised on 25th December, 1957.

Local police and crime news

Vandal on window smashing rampage – early in November a late evening rampage in Chipping Norton town centre saw around five properties with their windows smashed – allegedly with a coke can. Much damage was caused and owners are asking for compensation. More windows were broken the following week. Police are pursuing enquiries in the Town but have not responded yet to requests from the News for details of their progress.

Spate of local rural burglaries – Police have made arrests following a series of daylight burglaries across rural West Oxfordshire since early September. Many have been in villages and isolated houses with gold jewellery, silverware and cash amongst the items stolen. Burglaries have occurred in Filkins, Broadwell, Kingham, Great Rollright, Burford, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Charlbury, Kingham Hill, Bladon, Eynsham, Middle Barton, Woodstock, High Cogges and Witney. Police are advising double locking, security lighting, visible alarms, gravel on driveways, and the Royal Mail's Keepsafe service.

You can contact the police by using the 24-hour non-emergency number 101 – if you see a crime in progress dial 999.



We are a REDKEN and PUREOLOGY Salon offering Fantastic Cuts and Amazing Colours including the stunning new CHROMATICS ammonia-free colours

Wonderful in-salon treatments and a full range of REDKEN and PUREOLOGY home hair products

For more information, opening times, special offers etc. please find us on Facebook or visit our website www.rjhair.com

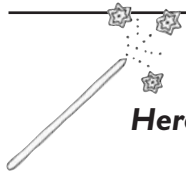
Hitchmans Mews, 2 West Street, Chipping Norton, OX7 5AA
01608 643139



Please like our page



GOOD SALON GSG GUIDE
FIVE STAR SALON



A Christmas Hairdo?

Here's a round-up of news from our local salons. Ladies, why not treat yourself to a glamorous new hairstyle for Christmas?

Elle B is looking Beautiful!



Original proprietor Sue McGill is enjoying working alongside her daughters Natasha and Melanie who recently took over the salon, formerly Lady Beautiful. They are delighted with the recent makeover and invite you to see the fresh and modern look they have created. Melanie told the News, 'Our talented team have a wealth of experience of hairdressing and beauty therapy and can offer everything you need to get ready for the Christmas festivities. Have your hair done with totally Organic hair colours, or dress it up for the Christmas party. Enjoy a total pampering, a luxury pedicure, or an indulgent manicure topped off with the latest in nail colours. Whatever you need for your festive makeover we can offer it all at Elle B.' Call 643862 for appointments.

Sunday service at Andrea & Achille

Andrea & Achille are opening on Sundays (10.30-3.30) on 23 & 30 December in addition to late nights on Thursdays and Fridays. They offer 'precision cutting, creative evening looks and artistic colouring'. Call 646111 for that special party coiffeur!

Celebrations at Robert John

In advance of their 20th anniversary in Hitchman's Mews next year, Robert John invited celebrity hairdresser, Andrew Barton of *Ten Years Younger* and *This Morning* fame, to spend a day with the team at the salon. Moe Baker explains, 'This fun event was to say thank you to our successful team. Andrew is a great guy and we had a fab day.' Call 643139 for appointments.



Bartholomew's open for business



Sue Bartholomew, whose husband Richard runs Over The Top barbers, opened her refurbished salon, Bartholomew's, next door in mid November. She is holding an open evening on 7 December to coincide with the

Christmas late night shopping. Nibbles and celebratory drinks will be available and the event is open to all to meet the new team. Call 642606 for appointments.

Ruan is now home visiting

I would like to thank all my valued clients for their continued custom over the last ten years. Since breaking my foot six weeks ago I have received lots of good wishes from clients and I would like them all to know that, although I no longer work at the salon in West Street, I am now working as a mobile hairstylist, and have access to a salon for those who do not want home visits. I can be contacted on 07949 114650. Thanking you and wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas.

Ruan Gill

WHAT'S ON THE THEATRE CHIPPING NORTON

LIVE: 2 Spring Street | Chipping Norton | Oxfordshire OX7 9NL

Tues 20th Nov 2012 - Sun 6th Jan 2013

Cinderella

By Ben Croker - Music by Paul Kissaun

<p>THURS 17 JAN, 7.45pm FRI 18 JAN, 7.45pm SAT 19 JAN, 11.30am SAT 19 JAN, 7.45pm THURS 24 JAN, 7.45pm FRI 25 JAN, 7.45pm SUN 27 JAN, 7.45pm TUES 29 JAN, 7.45pm</p>	<p>COTSWOLD COMEDY CLUB - PAT MONAHAN £10 INSPECTOR NORSE £13, £11 HULLABA LULU suitable for ages 5+ £8.50 MARDI GRAS BIG BAND £14, £12 SPRING AWAKENING £13, £11conc, Friends 2 for 1 ROXY MAGIC £15, £13 CARTHY, HARDY, FARRELL & YOUNG £15, £13 PHILIP PICKETT & CARLOS NUNEZ £15, £13</p>
<p>FILM: Thurs 6 Dec, 7.30pm Fri 7 Dec, 7.30pm Thurs 10 Jan, 7.30pm Fri 11 & Sat 12 Jan, 7.30pm Sun 13 & Wed 16 Jan, 7.30pm Thurs 17 Jan, 10.45am</p>	<p>FILM TICKETS ADULTS: £7, UNDER 16's: £5, ARGO (15) BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD RUST & BONE GAMBIT GREAT EXPECTATIONS CINEMA BAMBINO</p>
<p>GALLERY: Tues 20 Nov - Tues 11 Dec Tues 11 Dec - Sun 6 Jan</p>	<p>DIRK PRETORIUS THE BARN GROUP</p>
<p>TAKE PART: BABIES & TODDLERS:</p>	<p>THE ORANGE HAT, CINEMA BAMBINO</p>
<p>YOUNG PEOPLE:</p>	<p>SATURDAY DRAMA, YOUTH MUSICAL THEATRE & YOUTH THEATRE</p>
<p>ADULTS:</p>	<p>CREATIVE WRITING, ADULT DRAMA GROUP, DANCE 50+, UNLOCKING YOUR CREATIVITY COURSE</p>

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

Bippity
Boo

THE HIDDEN TREASURE SHOP

- ♥ Perfect presents for every occasion
- ♥ Gorgeous gifts at affordable prices
- ♥ Friendly personal service
- ♥ Find me next to the theatre box office, Chipping Norton

♥

bippityboo.com | 01608 641525



CHURCHES AT CHRISTMAS

The Christmas Message

Revd Stephen Weston of St Mary's Parish Church with a seasonal message – his last before leaving to pursue his ministry in Devon in the New Year.

As I write in mid-November, Christmas decorations are starting to appear in shopping centres.

If you go shopping in Oxford you can see lights and stars hanging over your head in Westgate Centre. Banbury has street decorations with jolly penguins, snowflakes, Santas, fir trees and other seasonal images and a children's funfair and inflatable grotto outside the shopping centre near the canal. Milton Keynes often has an indoor spectacular at Middleton Hall featuring Santa's Grotto and a model village of mechanical gnomes, deer and other animals. I wonder what someone who knew nothing about Christmas would think! Would they have any idea at all what all the celebrations were about by looking at the decorations?

Of course, one thing I've really appreciated during our 17 Christmasses in Chipping Norton is that we decorate the Town properly. No plastic jollity in Chippy

High Street!! No – we have real Christmas trees and lights, thanks to the volunteers who put them up. And I'll be very glad to see them again this year, because they remind me why I so much enjoy celebrating Christmas in Chipping Norton – that Jesus brings light and life to our world, including to the people of our town. The evergreen Christmas tree is intended as a symbol of the eternal life that Jesus came to give as it keeps its leaves during winter when deciduous trees seemingly die. We put lights on it to remind us that Jesus came as the light of the world to overcome the darkness of evil and brings the light of his presence to our lives.

Every year, during December, over two thousand people come through the church doors for carol services and concerts. Everyone is always welcomed! Let us all bring our thanks and praises to the one who brings light and life to us all.

Christmas Services

Community Church

Sunday 16 December A Cotswold Christmas - an informal evening with music, quiz, mulled wine & laughter 7-9pm St Mary's Parish Rooms

Sunday 23 December 4pm Christmas Service at Glyme Hall

Methodist Church

Sunday 16 December 11am Family service with Junior Church items

Sunday 23 December 6pm Carols by candlelight

Christmas Day 10am Family Service



St Mary's Church (Anglican)

Sunday 23 December 6pm Candlelit Carol Service

Christmas Eve 6pm Christingle Service;

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day 8am Holy Communion; 10.45am Service for all ages

St James' Chapel Over Norton (Anglican)

Sunday 23 December 9.15am Morning Worship with Carols

Christmas Day 9.15am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Church (Roman Catholic)

Sunday 18 December 10.30am Mass & Children's Liturgy Group

Christmas Eve 6pm Vigil Mass; 11pm Carols & Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10.30am Mass (Confessions by request)

Baptist Church

Sunday 16 December 2.30-4.30 Messy Christmas at Highlands with crafts, games, stories & food for children to 11 + parents/carers

Sunday 23 December 10.30 Family Nativity service at Highlands

Dyakowski Gafford Solicitors

We offer an efficient, friendly & personal service in conveyancing of residential & business premises

- * wills & probate * leases & tenancies *
- * free storage of wills & other documents *

HOME VISITS NO PROBLEM

2 New Street Chipping Norton OX7 5LJ
Tel: (01608) 643051 Fax: (01608) 641019
Email dg@dgen.co.uk



CHARLBURY CHRISTMAS TREES

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to increased demand over the past couple of years we find we do not currently have sufficient trees ready to enable us to offer you the real choice that our customers have come to expect. Therefore, unfortunately, we will NOT be opening this Christmas (2012). Our aim is to ensure that there will be a good choice of trees next year. We are disappointed and would like to apologise but we hope that you will understand and we look forward to seeing you in December 2013



CHRISTMAS RECIPES

A Chippy Christmas menu

Here is a Christmas meal to make yourself – thanks to contributions from the chefs in some of our well known eateries.

First course:

Whistlers Shallot Tart Tatin (for 4)



- 375g Puff pastry
- Roughly 18 peeled Shallots
- 160g Caster Sugar
- 110g Cold butter diced
- Salt and Pepper

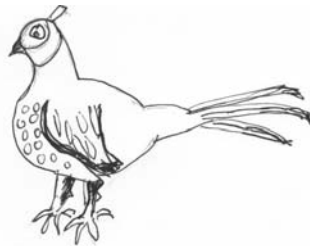
4 x 12cm non-stick blini pans / tart molds

Heat the oven at 170 degrees (Gas Mark 5). Roll out the pastry about 3mm thick. Cut out 4 discs slightly larger than the pans and chill. While the pastry is cooling halve the shallots crossways then trim to an even size. Mix the sugar with 3tbsp of cold water in small pan and place over a medium heat until dissolved, increase heat and cook for 5-10 minutes until amber coloured caramel. Whisk in the cold butter a little at a time, the caramel will thicken. Season and pour equal amounts into each blini pan. It will harden immediately. Pack as many shallots as possible into the pans with the widest sides at the bottom. Prick the pastry and lay a disk over each pan tucking the edges down the inside of the pan. Bake for 20 – 25 minutes until golden. Then turn out. Serve straight away. As an added extra place a disk of goats' cheese on the top and grill.

Main course:

Wild Thyme's Pheasant en crepenette (for 2)

The "en crepenette" is essentially a stuffing wrapped around the pheasant breast to keep it moist during cooking, and tastes delicious. If you prefer not to deal with the pheasant yourself, ask the butcher to remove the legs and breasts but keep the bones as they make lovely gravy.



- 1 large pheasant
- 2oz chicken livers
- 2 large shallots, finely chopped
- Fresh thyme tips
- 10 slices of pancetta/streaky bacon or pigs cauls fat
- A little red wine & stock for gravy
- Salt & pepper
- Olive oil & butter for cooking
- Vegetables of your choice to accompany

Remove the breasts & legs from the pheasant and place breasts on a plate, clingfilm and refrigerate. Remove the meat from the legs using a knife and remove any sinew from the chicken livers. Mince the livers and legs, or finely chop both. Meanwhile lightly fry your shallots until golden, remove from the heat and mix with the raw mince meat. Season with salt and pepper to taste. The mixture should be soft and pliable but not sloppy. Retrieve the pheasant breasts from the fridge, remove the cling film and pat a handful of the mixture onto the top of the breast creating a covering of about 1/2cm thick. Repeat with the other breast. At this stage you can either wrap the breast in pigs cauls or pancetta. If using pancetta, lay the slices side by side width ways before wrapping the breasts

in cling film. Refrigerate until ready to cook. To cook the breasts, pan fry in a little olive oil and butter until lightly golden on both sides. Remove from the heat, place on a tray and cook in a hot oven, gas mark 8/220 C for 9 minutes. Rest for 5 minutes and slice to serve - with roast potatoes, roasted root vegetables and a pear or apple puree. You can use the bones, stock and a little red wine to make the gravy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all at Wild Thyme!

Dessert:

The Crown & Cushion's Mulled Wine Pears with Ice Cream and Sugar Garnish (for 4)

- 4 Firm Pears
- 1/2 a litre of Red Wine
- 6 Cloves
- 2 Cinnamon Sticks
- 1 Star Anis
- Cardamom
- 2 Tablespoons of Sugar
- 1/2 a Cup of Orange Peel
- 1/2 a Cup of Lemon Peel
- 1 table spoon of corn flour



Add Cloves, Cinnamon Sticks, Star Anis, Cardamom, Sugar Orange and Lemon Peel to the Red Wine; stir and heat gently. Meanwhile cut the bottoms off the pears to stand upright, from the bottom, deseed the pears then remove the skin. Place prepared pears in the mulled wine and simmer until tender. Then remove the pears from the red wine and keep warm, add one tablespoon of cornflour to the red wine and stir and on a low heat allow the mixture to thicken. To make Sugar Garnish, caramelize 150 grams of sugar in a saucepan until golden, let it cool slightly until it drizzles off a tablespoon in a fine thread; coat a stainless steel or marble table with a little oil and drizzle caramel thinly to form a lip tickle shapes, let it cool. Arrange a Pear in the middle of a serving dish with a ball of vanilla ice cream on the side, lace both with the mulled wine sauce; place Sugar Garnish in the Ice Cream and serve.

And afterwards:



Jim's Beers at The Chequers with cheese including Roger Crudge's from Kingham

Black Cab Stout brewed with The Knowledge – great with Revolution creamy cheese
Jack Frost bitter with a hint of blackberry – superb with Haddon Gold hard cheese
Golden Pride (lovely and sweet 8.5% ABV) – a half pint with the outstanding Saint Eadburgha soft cheese. Consider this cheese also with a good Shiraz red wine!

Chiswick – a staple Fullers beer with a light biscuity taste – lovely with Magdalen soft cheese or Sarsden sheep's cheese.
London Porter – a dark nutty ale best paired with Oxford Blue and Chequers' homemade chutney.
Seafarers or Discovery beers together with Aveton goats cheese.



WHAT'S ON AT CHRISTMAS

Chippy Christmas Shopping

Don't forget to come along to Chipping Norton's late night Christmas Shopping evening in the town centre on Friday 7 December with refreshments, stalls, entertainment and lots of shopping!

The Red Lion Prize Draw

The Christmas Prize Draw in Chipping Norton will be raising money for Lawrence Home Nursing Team this year, and will take place at The Red Lion on 23 December at 3pm. Last year over £700 was raised for this great local charity, but this year Mick and Sheila at the Lion would love to top this! If you would like to buy a square – or donate a prize – please call in and see them or email theredlioncn@gmail.com. A merry Christmas to all!

T The world's tallest Christmas tree at 221ft high was put up in a Washington shopping mall in 1950.

Charity Quiz at The Fox

The Fox Hotel is hosting a Charity Christmas Quiz 8pm start on Wednesday 12 December. Entry – £2 per person, prize for the winning team. The evening includes a Charity Raffle. If anyone would like to donate a raffle prize, please contact Carl (07734 439965) or John at the Fox. All proceeds to the British Heart Foundation.

Lawrence Team at Christmas

The Lawrence Home Nursing Team's Candles of Remembrance and Celebration will be held on Friday 21 December on the Town Hall steps at 7pm. This is a short interdenominational service with the carols accompanied by Chipping Norton Silver Band. All are welcome. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served afterwards in the Town Hall. This year the Lawrence Home Nurses shared in the Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival with a tree called 'Tender Loving Care'. Jenny Nolan from the Team wrote, 'Thanks to everyone for supporting us with 'Jane's Dance' in October, with special thanks to John at the Fox, Jim at the Chequers and members of Holy Smoke & Chaser. Thank you too, to all those who donated the wonderful raffle prizes, it really was a very enjoyable night and we raised over £1300. Danny is arranging another Jane Phillips MBE Memorial Golf Day on Friday 21 June. Thanks to everyone for their continued support, without which we could not provide our service within the local community. Since the launch of the Charity, we have been able to support almost 500 families. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas'.

Wychwood Chorale at St Mary's

St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton hosts a Christmas Concert on Friday 14 December at 6.30pm with songs by the Wychwood Chorale and carols for all the family. Children are invited to come as elves, fairies etc. Christmas surprises and seasonal refreshments. Admission free with donations in aid of St Mary's Church fabric and Sobell House Hospice.



Christmas Tea Dance

Get ready to sparkle by joining the Christmas Tea Dance in the Upper Town Hall in Chipping Norton, 2-4.30pm on Friday 21 December. £2 on the door, all welcome and supported by Highlands in the Community. Details from Ruth 07827 235461

Charity good cheer at Harpers

Harpers store in Chippy are offering a warm welcome at any time and a free glass of mulled wine on Saturdays in December between 1 and 5pm. Any donations will go to the Lawrence Home Nursing Team.

Ha pie Christmas!!

Look out for a stall of pies at Chippy's Christmas shopping evening on 7 December! A new local business Pie and Mighty Pies is launching in town this month – offering delicious handmade artisan pies so you can go and try and buy from their stall on the 7th. For more information visit www.pieandmightypies.co.uk or contact Sally Brown on 07813 105415 or

Bazaar at Wootton

A traditional Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for people in need, here and abroad, and also for maintaining the three medieval churches at Wootton-by-Woodstock, Glympton and Kiddington. Saturday 8 December 2-4 in the Village Hall at Wootton-by-Woodstock (beside the church). Attractions include Father Christmas, Bric-a-brac stall, Christmas wreaths and decorations, toys, plants, raffle & tea.

T Britain's best-selling Xmas single is Band Aid's Do They Know It's Christmas?, 3.5million copies sold since 1984.

Little Compton Christmas Fair

The St Denys' Church Christmas Fair is also on Saturday 8 December in the Village Hall at Little Compton and will again feature a Christmas Workshop starting at 2pm on the theme of a Christmas Garland to decorate a door. Basic materials are provided for £10 but participants may like to bring along additional pieces. The main Fair at 3pm includes: Christmas crafts, tempting local produce, colourful Christmas indoor plants, holly, mistletoe and small Christmas trees, a tombola plus tea and cakes or mulled wine and mince pies. To book for the workshop call 674405 or 674206. All proceeds to the Church.

Celebrate the Solstice at the Lido

Using the wood from a sycamore tree that had to be felled recently, as fuel for a bonfire, The Lido is planning to celebrate this year's Winter Solstice just before Christmas. All are welcome at the Lido from 6.30pm on Friday 21 December to enjoy the warmth of the fire plus mulled cider and chilli (meat and veggie varieties), drumming and dancing. Tickets £4 (children £2) can be bought in advance from The Fibreworks and Jaffé & Neale or £5/£3 on the night.

CHRISTMAS



Sparkling gift choices from just some of Chippy's smashing shops



Olympic memories. Books from Oxfam for 99p each.



Gold Silver and Bronze rewards for non athletes £12 Beales

GLORIOUS GOLD

Be a golden time keeper with a clock for £2.75 from Katharine House



For £6.99 you can buy a ball of sparkly scarf yarn in gold or silver from Fibreworks to brighten up any party outfit

Make good time with this gold watch from Helen & Douglas House for £35



Choose from these golden ornaments from Sue Ryder – prices from £1.50

DIAMONDS ARE ...



Blacelet with some bling – £8.50 from Nutmeg



Feeling stately? Splash out on this sparkling chandelier £238 Cotswold Home and Garden



Add some party glamour to plain shoes with these sparkly shoe clips from Four Shires Leather & Shoes from £14.95 a pair

BEST OF THE REST

Bronze turkeys in sizes & prices to suit all from J R Kench, Quality Butcher



These elegant bronze home £3.50 each from

S SHOPPING

OLYMPIC INSPIRATION



Sylvanian Families
Strum – everyone's a
winner £13.99 Harpers



How Bradley dealt with
the rush of taking Olympic
Gold £20 Jaffé & Neale

... inspired by a year of glittering
Diamond Jubilee & Olympic events



NOT SO SECOND PLACE SILVER

DONDS



Turn that tired little black
dress into something stunning
with this pretty beaded party
collar £16.50 Dorothy Perkins



Make someone feel like royalty in this
diamond look-alike tiara
£20 from Helen & Douglas House



From Go Mobile,
special Xmas deals
on this silver HTC
phone, small, easy
to use and great
for music



All Dressed Up has range of
evening wear to suit all tastes



Sparkly silver
decorations
£4.25 Cotswold
Newsagent



Help a child fund their
silver dream with this
money box from Sue
Ryder at £3.25

EST BRONZE



... birds will grace any
... from Katharine House



Bronze up
Boxing Day
tea with a
game pie
from Trev
Beadle,
Family
Butcher

Pantomime at The Theatre Cinderella: the Costumes



Eve Collins & Nell Knudsen pictured with the tunic to be worn by Buttons – with Nell's sketch of the costume below

This season's pantomime *Cinderella* is set in Venice and the costumes and stage sets are designed to capture this beautiful city.

The story of Cinderella is well known but the costumes and sets make each panto production individual. I went along to the Theatre to learn how the costumes are created.

The very top of the Theatre houses a Gallery which had been transformed into a costumiers' workshop just before my visit in October. I spoke to Nell Knudsen the Costume Designer and Eve Collins the Costume Maker. Both were already hard at work surrounded by sewing machines, an ironing board, masks in various stages of decoration, rails of costumes and tailors' dummies. The tunic for Buttons was almost finished and I could compare it to the water colour sketch on the wall. Nell draws and paints her design for each character, and constantly refers to them.

I got a picture of how an idea became a final costume. The process starts with Nell, Russell Craig the Set Designer and John Terry the Theatre's Director meeting many times to agree on the atmosphere they want to create and how to achieve it.

After extensive research, Nell assembled a set of detailed watercolour sketches evoking 18th century Venice styles mixed with the outrageous and flamboyant costumes that are part of every pantomime. When they had been agreed, she and Eve sat down to work out how to make the clothing, masks, wigs, head dresses,

hats and shoes that were needed to transform the actors into the well-known characters.

Working on a tight budget, Nell is constantly on the look-out for fabric and accessories, searching charity shops for comfortable shoes which can be adapted for the stage, visiting outlets known for affordable but good-quality fabrics such as velvet, brocade, satin and material with a sparkle. Only good

quality material can be used as stage lights are very critical and costumes have to withstand weeks of vigorous use. Throughout the panto season here they are worn for 79 performances and many rehearsals and need to be removed easily and sometimes quickly between stage appearances. The Prince, Cinderella, and The Ugly Sisters need more than one change of costume as the story progresses, so there are more costumes than there are performers.

The shoes and clothes must be comfortable, wigs and masks must fit well and head dresses mustn't fall off! Apart from what is seen, amazing undergarments are needed to create the shapes of the Ugly Sisters and these were already hanging on the packed rails of costumes when I visited. Most costumes and masks are unique to this production, including the traditional striped shirts of gondoliers, Venetian Carnival masks and fantastic ball gowns.

One elaborate design I saw in production was the ball gown for one of the Ugly Sisters. Her imaginative costume is topped by a giraffe head dress skillfully made by Russell, the Set Designer; It was not yet finished and I look forward to seeing it on stage. (See photo p5)



Both Nell and Eve have a lot of experience in the design and making of theatre costumes, having graduated in costume design and production at Bournemouth Arts Institute. In spite of their skills and dedication they told me they didn't think they would achieve all that had to be done without the invaluable help from two volunteers, Kate Hopkins, a freelance artist and Amy Kate Towle, a textile designer, who helped with the mask making and sewing. They also asked that Sue Pittaway be mentioned in the credits. As a talented costume maker she was a great asset to the team for many years before retiring.

I hope those who see the Pantomime this season will give the costumes extra attention after reading this and realise how much design and hard work went into making them.

Kaye Freeman

What's on in December:

Mozart Requiem & Haydn Requiem in C Minor

Performed by The Chipping Norton Choral Society and the Cotswold Baroque Players, conducted by Bernard West at 7.30pm Saturday 8 December at St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton. Tickets from Jaffé & Neale, or from tickets@cncs.org.uk

Cotswold Decorative & Fine Arts Lectures

The Gilded Stage: A Social and Cultural History of Opera ~ The Christmas lecture by speaker, author and broadcaster Daniel Snowman; a long-time member of the London Philharmonic Choir. 11am on 12 December.

Then at the same time on 9 January, Dr Gillian White will speak on *The Elizabethan Country House* examining one of the most creative periods of English country houses.

Both lectures are at Bradwell Village Hall, Burford OX18 4XF. Non-members welcome (suggested donation £8). For more information visit www.cotswolddfas.org

THE ARTS

Carols for All

Kingham Choral Society invites you to our Christmas Concert at Kingham Primary School Hall. Come and enjoy a festive evening of your favourite Christmas songs! With light-hearted readings, poems and mince pies. Get into the Christmas spirit by singing along! This is a popular event, so book early! 7.30pm Wednesday 19 December. Tickets, £5 including refreshments from Rachel on 659104 or buy them at Kingham Coffee.

A Christmas Chortle at Chippy Town Hall!

The Cotswold Comedy Club, run by Dave Arnold and Ken Norman, has had tremendous success bringing world-class comedians to the back rooms of local Chippy pubs and will be at the Town Hall in time to get you in the mood for Christmas! The comedians Chris McCausland and Maff Brown are regularly seen on stage at well-known venues such as The Glee Club and Jongleurs but for one night only will be here. Chris has starred in the 'The Comedy Store' and has worked with Jimmy Carr and Miranda Hart on TV, and Maff is a regular performer at the Edinburgh Festival.

7.15 for 8.15pm Friday 20 December Chipping Norton Town Hall. Tickets £14 (Parties of 10+ ~ £12 each), from Jaffé & Neale Bookshop and <http://cotswoldcomedyclub.com>

Gift ideas for Art Enthusiasts

For Theatre Lovers: Chipping Norton Theatre vouchers are available from the Box Office 642350.

For Those Who Love Books:



Children: *What is Contemporary Art? A Children's Guide* ~ An introduction to Art for children aged 8 and over. It gives background information on some of the most dynamic art of our times exploring all variety of skills from installation art to sculpture. Compiled by Jacky Klein an art historian and Suzy Klein, a BBC broadcaster and writer.

Everyone: *Gaudi Pop-Ups* by Courtney Watson McCarthy ~ Elaborate pop-ups featuring this artist's most famous works and quotations (pictured).

Two Books for Poetry Lovers:

Wenceslas: A Christmas Poem by Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy; beautifully illustrated.

Jubilee Lines Carol Ann Duffy invited 60 contemporary poets to write a poem for each year of the Queen Elizabeth II's reign, offering a portrayal of life during those sixty years. All these books are available at Jaffé & Neale Bookshop.

For Those Who Love Making Gifts:

Various one-day workshops at Fibreworks in Middle Row will help you make a gift or a decoration for your home:

Patchwork Christmas Stockings 9.30-4.30 on 8 December
Christmas Wreaths 2-5 on 14 December

Make A Hat Another idea for a gift is to enrol someone for a two-day course to make their own felted cloche hat. 1 & 8 February

Call 645970 or www.thefibreworks.co.uk for more details.



T Robins on cards were a joke 150 years ago when postmen wore red tunics and were named after them.

What's on in 2013

Burford: Lenthall Concert in January 2013

The Royal College of Music String Band directed by Mark Messenger will be playing a programme of English favourites by Elgar, Britten and Holst. Wednesday, 16 January 7.30pm Burford School. Tickets available at the door (£12) or in advance (£10) from The Madhatter Bookshop, Burford, or from Lenthall Concerts 01993 824949. For details see lenthallconcerts.org.uk.

The Mikado

CHAOS' next production is *The Mikado* by Gilbert and Sullivan. It has a very strong cast whose previous successes include *Oklahoma* and *South Pacific*. It will be at The Theatre on 2, 3 and 4 May. Tickets should be on sale about the end of January. For more details contact Martin Hannant on 643653.

Two Festivals here next year

Much more about them in the next edition of the News:

101st Chipping Norton Music Festival

The Festival now has a 21st century tradition of beginning with a Youth Jazz Band Challenge which takes place on Friday 8 March and a hundred-year-old tradition of finishing with the Festival Concert which this year will be on Saturday 23 March. As well as various music sections, there will be speech and drama and a prize for creative writing. There is plenty of scope for everyone; the old favourites, some new ones and, of course, the professional concerts which punctuate the Festivals amateur sessions.

The syllabus for the 101st Festival is now available at Jaffé & Neale or www.cnmf.org.uk



Chipping Norton Literary Festival

Over 60 events spread over four days in April with a host of best-selling authors and top literary agents. Hear crime writers Val McDermid, Mark Billingham and Stuart MacBride getting away with murder; find out from Ursula Buchan how English gardeners fought the Second World War; meet Lionel Shriver, Jojo Moyes, Tracy Chevalier... Don't miss Roy Hattersley's talk on the Devonshire family, or perhaps you'd like Jack Straw's insight into Downing Street? There's something for everyone. Aspiring writers can fine-tune their craft, at workshops on everything from freelance journalism to writing erotica. We've even lined up some for you.

Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 April. Tickets from The Theatre from 21 January – box office 642350 For more information Visit www.chiplitfest.com

Cricket Club



Nathan Wallington 1st XI scorer & England Legend Phil Defreitas

In November the 1st XI attended the Oxfordshire Cricket Association presentation dinner and collected the League Division 3 Winner's trophy and individual trophies. Following a very successful year the Club is re-entering indoor cricket competition.

The Club wishes President John Esson who has been in hospital, a speedy recovery and we look forward to seeing him up the ground next year. A well attended AGM saw the planning for the 2013 season. The Club is currently in a five-year plan. It has reintroduced youth cricket. The 1st XI has a target of reaching Division One of the OCA, next year – they currently play in Division Two. And finally the Club would like to raise a 3rd XI. The Club can be very proud of what it has achieved in recent years but there are still some targets to achieve!

Graham Beacham

Trampoline Club

The Higher Energy Trampoline Club is one of the three finalists in the Oxfordshire Sports Awards Club of the Year category having won The West Oxfordshire Club of the Year award in 2011. Since October 2011, HETC has gone from running from one centre with three trampolines in West Oxfordshire to operating out of several satellite locations

across the West, Cherwell and City and has almost tripled its members with 236 participants a week and still have a waiting list!



Pictured above: l-r Coach Trevor Smith, Chelsea Barid, Heather Sweetman, Duncan Aitman, Iona Brown, Amy Rappourt and Coach Christina Green.

Fiona Middleton

Golf Club

Club Member Sandra Fathers, proprietor of Salon 2 Hairdressers, Hook Norton, organised a very successful Fashion Show at the Golf Club on Friday 9 November. All the models (with the exclusion of Club Captain, Alistair James) had their hair styled at Salon 2 to match their outfits which were provided by All Dressed Up, in Chipping Norton & The Cotswold Frock Shop, Stow on the Wold. A fantastic performance from all concerned, considering they were all

3p off fuel per litre

at MRH Jet Spar Chipping Norton

3p off fuel per litre

Voucher cannot be exchanged for cash or used in conjunction with any other offer. Only one voucher, per person, per transaction. No photocopies accepted. MRH Jet Spar Chipping Norton, London Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 5AX. Valid until 28 February 2013

3p off fuel per litre

Voucher cannot be exchanged for cash or used in conjunction with any other offer. Only one voucher, per person, per transaction. No photocopies accepted. MRH Jet Spar Chipping Norton, London Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 5AX. Valid until 28 February 2013

3p off fuel per litre

Voucher cannot be exchanged for cash or used in conjunction with any other offer. Only one voucher, per person, per transaction. No photocopies accepted. MRH Jet Spar Chipping Norton, London Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 5AX. Valid until 28 February 2013

Save £3 and receive a FREE Gift**

Only one voucher, per person, per transaction. No photocopies accepted. MRH Jet Spar Chipping Norton, London Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire OX7 5AX.

When you buy a 4 litre pack of Motor Oil*

* Oil from participating range ** While stocks last

fuelling the **local** community

SPORTS NEWS

volunteers! A presentation by Lisa from the House of Colour got the audience thinking, along with displays by Royce Lingerie, Harbod Jewels & the Golf Club Pro Shop. Club Captain Alistair James (pictured here) had the pleasurable honour of escorting a selection of beautiful brides 'Down the Aisle' with a smile as wide as the catwalk! Organiser Sandra Fathers would like to thank all the volunteers concerned for their help and support and to all attendee's for their generosity in raising £1340 on the night for Katharine House Hospice.



Marius Harte

Roller Hockey

Chippy Trixsters have had a wonderful season, our motto 'Play to Develop' has certainly worked as all the team have improved. In April, six represented the Southern Area Skater Hockey (SASH) league at the Regional Championships and came third. In August junior member Ryan Shadbolt played in the European Championships in Switzerland, he had a fantastic experience and his team Oxford Blues came ninth. Committed players and parents travelled to the National Championships in Hastings in October. Amazing hockey was

played and we came 6th, of 9 teams. A big thanks from all to Emma's Trust for their support. Special awards this season went to PeeWee Team-Parents' Players: Devon Shadbolt and Jake Williams. Player's Player: Devon Shadbolt. Most improved: Brett Mathews. SASH League Dream Team: Devon Shadbolt. Youth Team-Player's Player: Paris Shadbolt. Parents' Player: Paris Shadbolt. Most improved: Harvey Lewis.



We are looking forward to a new season in February and always welcome new players. We meet at Chippy Leisure Centre on Saturdays (Beginners 4-5pm, Adults 7-8pm) First session free then £3.50 wklly, pay as you go. All equipment provided. We also hold monthly roller discos. Lastly thanks to all players, parents, coaches, managers and committee for your commitment over the year. For more info contact Lou Murphy on 644091 or Tracey Shadbolt on 645563.



Chipping Norton Sports Awards

Calling all Sports Clubs, Teams, Organisations and Athletes!!
Do you have a team member whose sporting achievements deserve an award? This is your chance for glory, recognition and publicity in the year of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. We have a fantastic sponsor with awards and prizes.
Nominate your chosen athlete of team today!



Do YOU have what it takes to WIN...

Younger Sportsperson of the Year
Young Sportsperson of the Year
Sportsperson of the Year
Team Award
Olympic Legacy Gold Medal
Olympic Legacy Silver Medal
Olympic Legacy Bronze Medal

Sponsored by the Chipping Norton Leisure Centre

BETTER
the feel good place



Nominations are now open

Fill in the nomination form opposite and return by 31st January 2013 to The Guildhall, Chipping Norton OX7 5NH or via email to dlydiat@hotmail.co.uk



NOMINATION FORM FOR: YOUNG SPORTSPERSON/SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD 2013

(Delete as appropriate)

Name/Team:

Address

Date of Birth and Age:

Sport:

Name of Contact/Nominee:

Address

Telephone No:

Reason for Nomination: (continue on separate sheet if necessary)

CLUB NEWS

Royal British Legion plays host

Last month the Town played host to Johannes Shanmugan and his driver Tony Mainprize as part of a five day sponsored walk



through the Cotswolds to raise money for the charity HEART2HEART. Johannes is a British Tamil who has enjoyed the freedom and prosperity that this country offers and which is still denied to many Tamils in Sri Lanka. He wanted to do something in return. Thus he is raising money for HELP FOR HEROES which looks after those who make sacrifices for those freedoms we all enjoy. Money will also go to COMPUTERS 4 SCHOOLS to provide computers in Sri Lankan schools in the North and East of the country.

Johannes and his driver spent the night at the Crown & Cushion with accommodation paid for by the Chipping Norton Branch of The Royal British Legion and their evening meal provided free by hotel owner Linda Maia e Silva.

Next morning a short service at the War Memorial was attended by the Mayor, Revd Soba Sinnathamby and members of The Royal British Legion. Johannes spoke of his journey and his chosen charities and how much living in a free country meant to him and his compatriots. They then set off on the 28 mile walk to Stow-on-the-Wold, accompanied for a while by the Mayor. Visit www.h2hwalk.org/ to donate.

Steve Kingsford

Probus visits Spitfires

On a grand sunny morning in October Chipping Norton Probus members and friends visited Enstone Flying Club. We were given a potted history of Enstone Aerodrome and its role as a wartime training base. We were invited to buy a share in one of the 90% sized Spitfires being built – work on the first should be finished in the New Year. If you would like to buy a share (cheaper than many a car) contact Paul Fowler on 678204 or look at www.spitfireclub.co.uk for more details.

If you are a retired professional gentleman and would like to know more about the activities of Chipping Norton Probus Club call Geoffrey Norris on 676997 and come along to a lunch-time meeting held on the third Tuesday in the month at the Crown & Cushion Hotel in Chipping Norton.

Mike Howes

Knitting Fun with CNWI

Chipping Norton Women's Institute enjoyed a convivial afternoon at their meeting on 14 November when Claire Jarvis of Fibreworks in Middle Row led a lively knitting session. Much chat and laughter ensued as various shapes and sizes of woolly creations emerged from many busy needles. Claire also gave us details of the workshops which Fibreworks run to teach craft skills both old and new.

Our afternoon gathering on 12 December is a sociable Christmas party and in January we will hold a lunch to

celebrate our WI's 65th anniversary. The first meeting of the new year, on 13 February, will feature members' reminiscences and visitors are always welcome to join us in the Lower Town Hall at 2.15pm.

Prudence Chard 642903

Fabulous apples at NOOG

Barbara Saunders, formerly of Nicholson's Nurseries, provided a lively demonstration of growing apple trees at North Oxfordshire Organic Gardeners' November meeting. Even experienced gardeners gained new insights into the technicalities of choosing the correct type of tree – dependent on the vigour of the rootstock, the significance of pruning, either to promote new growth, or for the formation of fruit the following year. A very enlightening presentation. And in December, we celebrate our 20th Anniversary, with a festive reunion of current and former members, against the backdrop of a small exhibition on the evolution of the organic movement and of NOOG over that time. All friends welcome at the Timberyard Room, Little Tew, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5 December. For further information please phone 683624.

Lindsay Johnstone

T Jingle Bells was the first song broadcast from space sung by Gemini 6 astronauts on 16th December, 1965.

Chippy stargazers braced for busy times

Taking full advantage of the dark evenings, CN Amateur Astronomy Group members have enjoyed several highly successful clear nights with plenty of digital images taken to keep us occupied in processing when the clouds roll in. Our season got off to a good start with well received illustrated talks to primary schools in Banbury and Cropredy. November carried on the trend with visits to Oxford University and several local schools. A relatively quiet December should see us out under the stars as much as possible at either of our two main observing sites and our guest speaker in The Fox on 17 December is planetary geologist Jon Wade. The CNAAG website remains active while being revamped to become a website par excellence thanks to the efforts of the boosted CNAAG web team. Our sights are now fixed on our Stargazing Live events to complement the BBC programmes scheduled for 8, 9 & 10 January. CNAAG events throughout January will include two nights of observing from the town centre outside Jaffé & Neale on the 20th & 22nd and an evening at the Red Lion, Little Compton. CNAAG is a highly active astronomy group which welcomes everyone with a passion for stars and the universe – all are welcome. For more information about us – visit www.cnaag.com

Robin Smitten

West Oxfordshire MS Society

The last report for 2012, time seems to go by so quickly! This year has been a very good one for us with lots of exciting events, new volunteers and some excellent fundraising. Thank you to all who support us, we could not assist those affected by Multiple Sclerosis without your support. MS like many neurological conditions is very debilitating to those unfortunate enough to have it and distressing for their family and friends. Next year will see major changes being implemented in the Health and Social Care Services. MS is often overlooked and underfunded so we need all the help we

CLUB NEWS

can get to continue our campaign for better care and understanding as well as continuing the support we give locally. Next year is also the 60th birthday of the founding of the MS Society, I will post our special events in the next News!

Contact me on 645988 or ptr.branson@gmail.com Local helpline: 01865 884124, or national helpline: 0808 800 8000.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and thank you!!

Peter Branson

Scouting news

Beavers: The Beaver Colony were delighted to welcome seven new members in the last two months. We celebrated Hallowe'en by making decorated spooky lanterns, then Guy Fawkes night by having a campfire, with marshmallows, hot chocolate and sparklers...and of course, some good old-fashioned campfire songs. One Beaver has just earned his CSA Bronze, and will be moving to Cubs after Christmas.

Cubs: The cubs had a pumpkin party for Hallowe'en. Their imaginative pumpkin carvings looked very spooky when lit in the darkness. The cubs then enjoyed getting wet and messy bobbing for apples and finding maltesers in flour using their teeth. At the last meeting the cubs learnt about heat rising, for their Science badge, by lighting Chinese paper lanterns and watching them fly up into the sky. Next we will be making 'light pictures' using glow sticks and a camera. Several of the cubs attended the Remembrance Sunday parade and service. Recent new recruits have swelled our number to over 30.

Scouts: Two scouts – Thomas and Joshua – achieved their CSA Gold awards. Thomas has now moved on to the Explorer Scout section. Last week, an Investiture ceremony was held for the six newest members of the troop. Most

recently, we had a grand Saturday trip to Warwick Castle!

Explorers: The Explorer Scout Section (formerly Venture Scouts) recently celebrated their 10th Anniversary and Chippy Explorers joined others from across North Oxfordshire for a '10th Birthday Party' camp at Horley enjoying activities such as a night hike and cycle ride, silent disco and 'I'm an Explorer get me out of here' game. Thirteen of the unit went to Braidwood Regatta where teams had to build a bottomless boat to run a short cross-country course. Chippy Explorers (pictured) fielded the winning team – well done Felix, Freddy, Joe and George! The unit have also been for a day's climbing at Symonds Yat and are planning a hike in the Brecon Beacons plus an evening's bowling. The unit had an awards presentation evening and invested eight new members taking the number to over 30 with still more wanting to join. The top awards presented that night went to Freddy who gained his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and the Platinum Chief Scout's Award. Most of the unit members are working towards either Bronze or Silver D of E awards.



For more information contact Ian Bushrod 07831 127120.

Helen Harris

WOWI gears up for Christmas

Keep your eyes peeled as you walk around Chippy, because members of West Oxfordshire WI are proudly displaying their festive wreaths on their front doors. November's meeting was, as ever, great fun, and it was amazing to watch piles of moss and ivy turn into spectacular Christmas creations. We celebrated our first year as a WI and discussed forthcoming fundraising events. After our successful singing session at October's meeting, WOWI members will be WOWing Chippy with Christmas carols in the afternoon of 19 December, so do pop by the Coop arcade and consider chucking some change in the hat – if only to make us stop...

We will also be donning our aprons to make delicious hot chocolate to warm you up during Chippy's Christmas shopping evening on 7 December and in Chadlington on 27 December. We're delighted to have the support of Midcounties Coop for these ventures, providing us with top quality chocolate and milk – not to mention those all important marshmallows.

Our next WI meeting will be on Monday 17 December and will be our Christmas party. If you've been thinking of coming along to find out what we're all about, it's an ideal opportunity. We'll have mulled wine and soft drinks on offer, a festive quiz and raffle, so bring a plate of food to share and get to know us all. If you can't make it, we wish you a very happy Christmas and hope to see you on 21 January for a talk on 'Herbs for Health'.

West Oxfordshire WI meets on the third Monday of the month at 7.30pm in St Mary's Parish Rooms at the bottom of Church Street. For more information call 646830, visit www.westoxfordshirewi.com or find us on Facebook.

Clare Mackintosh

THE CROWN & CUSHION
CHIPPING NORTON



See the
'New Year'
in with a Bang At The Crown & Cushion

Hot & Cold Buffet, Disco, Champagne at Midnight
Early Booking Essential

Only £29.95 Per Person
www.crown-cushion.co.uk

CLUB NEWS

CN Rotary round-up

Grand Fireworks Display: After a gloomy morning it was a lovely evening and several hundred people turned up for our first fireworks display with a massive bonfire plus beefburgers, hot dogs and soup. The magnificent display was laid on by a Bicester-based firm which has been running displays for 20 years. We aim to make this a significant event in the Chippy Calendar and raise money for charity, so please put it in your diary for next November. If you have suggestions for any improvements please email us via www.chippingnortonrotary.org.uk.



Trolley Race: We regret that, due to circumstances beyond our control, there will be no Rotary Trolley Challenge before Christmas this year.

Rotary Race Night: Diary Date: Friday 22 February ~ the Annual Rotary Race night in the New Beaconsfield Hall, Shipton-under-Wychwood. Book now by emailing via www.chippingnortonrotary.org.uk



All the proceeds will go to charity. This year we were able to donate sufficient to the Medical Detection Dogs charity to buy a new dog – a yellow Labrador called Magic (pictured).

Chipping Norton Festival: Following the problems during the summer over the continuing existence of the Chipping Norton Festival, the Chipping Norton Rotary Club have volunteered to take over running the Festival in conjunction with others locally who have the skills to make the day such a superb showpiece for the Town. Although it has only been going for three years, it is already firmly established on the Town Calendar and it would be a shame to lose such a lovely day. We hope to report the date set for the 2013 Town Festival shortly.

Thank You! to everyone who has supported us throughout the year. With your help, we have been able to raise a considerable amount for charities such as St Mungo's, Thames Valley Air Ambulance, Riding For The Disabled, Medical Detection Dogs, Home Start and Rotary Charities. We hope you have a very Merry Christmas, a Prosperous New Year and we hope for your continued support in 2013.

Simon Hamilton 677156

Conservatives look to Christmas

For November we had an illuminating illustrated talk by Guy Wall Director of Machine Link which exports tractors. He highlighted the challenge for small businesses needing to accommodate variable demand, short term banking needs and added material costs while supplying monthly statistics to the Government.

The Conservative Association has been pleased to have had the opportunity to hear the views of PM and MP David Cameron on current issues. If you would like to join in political discussions locally or take a more active interest in

the branch, please call me and I will pass on your request.

We have a 'Christmas Fayre' on Thursday 13 December at the Blue Boar where we will enjoy a friendly chat at our Christmas get together. Contact me (642423/mikehowes36@gmail.com) if you'd like to come. We meet on the second Thursday of the month and have a schedule of interesting speakers in the New Year. See our website (www.chippytories.org) for more details. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all and thank you to *Chippy News Team* for their work on behalf of the community in 2012.

Mike Howes

T The Beatles hold the record for most Xmas number one singles – 1963, 65 and 66.

Railway Club marks our last train

November's speaker was the author and publisher Ian Pope, who gave a fascinating talk on the railways in the Forest of Dean. The drive to exploit the Forest's rich coal reserves initially resulted in the construction of horse-drawn tramways, some still operating in the 1950's. When main-line railways reached the outskirts of the Forest in the 1850's, The Severn and Wye Railway Company began the construction of an extensive railway network within the Forest. In 1894 the company became jointly-owned by the Great Western and Midland Railway companies resulting in stations and signalling which were a mix of the two companies' styles. Coal was always more important than passengers and most of the lines closed when the last local NCB coal mine closed in the 1960's. Luckily one line was saved to become the Dean Forest Steam Railway.

Here in Chipping Norton we are approaching an important anniversary. Fifty years ago, on 1 December 1962 at 4.25pm, the very last passenger train left Chipping Norton Station for Kingham. The line first opened in 1855 thanks to the efforts of William Bliss and for many years was part of a through route from Banbury to Cheltenham. Passenger trains to Banbury ceased in 1951 and the Kingham to Cheltenham line closed in October 1962. Goods trains continued to use the line until 1964. Travis Perkins now occupy the station site.

The next Railway Club meeting is on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30 in the Town Hall. Alan Brain will be showing



**SPECIALIST
LEGAL SERVICES
FOR WHEN IT
REALLY COUNTS**

**COTSWOLD
family law**
building a better future

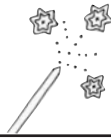
DIVORCE, SEPARATION, CHILDREN
AND ALL ASPECTS OF FAMILY LAW

WILLS AND PROBATE
LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY

Collaborative Lawyer

Nicky Gough MA MSc LL.M., Solicitor
The Grain Store Springfield Farm Brailes OX15 5JH

www.cotswoldfamilylaw.co.uk
info@cotswoldfamilylaw.co.uk
tel:- 01608 686590



pictures from his collection of old photographs of Chipping Norton, including many railway scenes.

John Mann

Amnesty invitation

The Amnesty Group in Chipping Norton

invite you to the planting of our
AmnesTree

at 2.30pm Sunday 9 December 2012
on the Recreation Ground, the Common, New Street,
Chipping Norton.

*This ceremony commemorates
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the
United Nations 10 December 1948.*

Refreshments: Lower Town Hall, 3.30-4.30pm
RSVP Kaye Freeman, kayefreeman@gmail.com

Reflection for Christmas

Choristers in holly-red robes
send their anthem aloft.
In a corner of the Cathedral
a candle, encased in barbed wire,
sends its message
beyond the cloisters
where screams are not heard.

*Written by Maureen Stuttaford on seeing a cardboard cut-out of
the Amnesty International candle when leaving Truro Cathedral.*

Every January we hold our Annual Greeting Card Campaign when we write messages of hope and support to detainees, their families and those seeking justice. All are welcome to join us; we will provide the writing materials and postage. 7.30pm 10 January. Lower Town Hall. Further information about Amnesty Activities from 01451 830459.

Kaye Freeman

Topical tree talk

The subject for the November meeting of the Chipping Norton Horticultural Association was a topic that has hit the national news headlines in recent weeks – pests and diseases that are appearing in our woodlands. Martin Jarratt spoke of his work among the trees and hedgerows in the local area and how and why our trees are dying. He illustrated his talk with

Loose Covers

Custom made covers
for your comfy chairs & sofas.

In your fabric or in ours, to
complement your home
surroundings



Free advice & estimate:
Sue Hazell 01608 644 877
(30 years experience)

pictures he had taken over the years. His talk was well received by over 50 members and friends. This talk was preceded by our AGM chaired by John Grantham. The officers and committee were all re-elected.

The December, Christmas meeting will be on THURSDAY 13th at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Hall. The speaker will be the artist, Terry Harrison from Bourton on the Water who will paint a water colour for us – ‘summer landscapes.’ The evening will conclude with seasonal refreshments. For more details contact the secretary Eileen Forse on 643275.

Lions forward a letter from Santa

Dear Friends,

It was very pleasant to have an early visit to Chipping Norton to help the nice people at Chipping Norton News with their Christmas Competition and meet some of the young people collecting for Poppy Day.



My next visit to Chippy may be with the Lions on Friday evening 7 December when they will be at the bottom of the escalator in Westgate. The

Lions are selling Trolley Dash Tickets on Saturday 8 December so I offered to help from 10.30am-2pm and on Sunday morning 9 December the Lions are going to take me around Hook Norton. I am sorry that I will not be making my usual visits to individual areas of the Town as in the past, but my Health and Safety Elf condemned the Lions' float. I was also told by Mrs Claus that it is rather dangerous for the Lions to be walking with me when it is dark and possibly slippery and I have to do as I am told. I look forward to seeing you and if not then I hope you have a very happy Christmastide.

Love to you all

Santa Claus

The Lions will be continuing to sell Trolley Dash Tickets until 15 December when the winning tickets will be drawn, with the dash early on Sunday 16th. We will be putting the name of the winners up on the notice board in the Co-op and also on www.chippingnortontown.info

A very big Thank You from all the local Lions for your support with the Trolley Dash and wish all Chipping Norton News readers an Enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz Nason

Steely stories at History Society

Steel works? In Woodstock? Perish the thought! One of the things we learn from history is that nothing is for ever; and Woodstock's fame throughout Europe in the eighteenth century for its beautiful cut steel, flourished for about one hundred years only. By 1790 the industry had died. Banish any images of belching smoke and red-hot furnaces, and think small workshops at the end of long High Street gardens owned by the Eldridges, the Granthams and the Brothertons. Carol Anderson showed us slides of exquisite buttons, chatelaines and elegant sword handles. Woodstock's objects were small, beautiful, very expensive, collectable items made by master craftsmen and their apprentices. They were often

CLUB NEWS

given as diplomatic gifts. You can see the Oxfordshire Museum's collection in their Gallery.

Our next meeting is not as advertised in the programme; instead, Martin Way (of Brewing fame) will talk on 'The Oldest Bridge across the River Thames' on Monday, 10 December 7.30pm in the Methodist Hall, We look forward to seeing members and visitors.

Other Dates to note: Friday, 7 December, Shopping Evening: Museum Stall.

2013 Meetings: 14 January, Social Evening. Good food and a quiz. Cost: £5; 11 February first talk of the new Programme. Both are at 7.30pm in the Methodist Hall.

Liz Whitaker 646922

Green Gym on Chippy Common

This month we have strayed from Chippy only once – to cut back brambles in Kingham millennium wood. Otherwise we have finished making vegetable beds for St Mary's School and have worked in various parts of the Common. First it was to prepare the Community Orchard for the very successful Apple Day. Then we started on a new part of the Common. A path leading up from the bend in Station Road was overgrown, so we cut back brambles and were duly investigated by these cows! And we have cleared the stream below Pool Meadow which was getting choked with weed and fallen branches.



Many thanks to the Town Council who have given us a grant towards our expenses – mainly insurance and renting a tool store but also buying and replacing tools and waders.

More volunteers would be very welcome. If you are interested in doing your bit for the environment and keeping fit in the fresh air in good company, do join us on a Wednesday or Thursday morning. There are tasks for all ages and abilities, there's no joining fee and lifts may be available. Phone me on 643269 or email jennyharrington@btinternet.com.

Jenny Harrington

Grand Folk Club night

The Folk Club continues to delight us all. Not long after the recent concert at The Parish Rooms, where we heard fine harmonies from Crucible and music and song from the multi-talented Pete Grasby, we have had yet another enjoyable Monday Club Night with a high standard of performance throughout. The evening was chaired by genial host Paul Cherry who brought along a klaxon and a Tibetan singing bowl to add to our ever-growing assembly of instruments.

Jane wrote and sang a witty chorus song concerning Peter's prowess on the kazoo. Peter cheerfully played along and later on there was a rousing cheer when his new concertina made its second appearance at the club. He then went on to accompany his own singing in a moving version of 'Is my team ploughing?' Several other people sang songs for Remembrance Day – all were beautifully performed. Great praise to Caroline for her contribution here, wonderfully delivered despite a severe bout of backache. We wish you a

speedy recovery, Caroline. We missed several of our regular contributors this time but were pleased to welcome new performers and visitors. As ever, grateful thanks to everyone who performed and to Pen, Pete and co for all the background organisation.

December's meeting will be at The Blue Boar on the 10th, with seasonal fare. Just £1 on the door. Sing, Play, Recite or just Listen. www.chippingnortonfolk.org.uk or Pen on 642296.

Ann Wooby



Kingham and Daylesford Rotary Club

Is Big Business too big? Local resident, Sir Peter Davis, a former Chief Executive of three FTSE 100 companies will address this issue. It will no doubt be an interesting presentation and discussion. If you would like to join us on Wednesday 12 December at 6pm for 6.30 at The Mill House, Kingham, then please book in advance with Mike Clark 01451 830 684. The cost including canapés and wine will be £10pp. Stay for dinner if you wish at £12.50 for two courses.

New Year's Day Duck Race: The very popular Duck Races will be held again at The Mill House on 1 January noon-2pm. 40 races with each winning 'Duck' receiving £10 and a chance to win £100 in the final. Buy your ducks (£2 each) beforehand at Kingham Village Shop, The Tollgate or The Mill House. In aid of the Meningitis Trust, we hope to beat the £1400 raised last year for local charities. Thanks to new owners Paul and Maria Drinkwater at The Mill House for complimentary mulled wine and support catering with Riding for Disabled including hot drinks and delicious hog roast pork rolls. There will also be some surprise children's entertainment!!

A Big Thank You: to all who have supported us. In our three years of existence we have enjoyed raising an estimated £25,000 for local and overseas charities. Start the New Year by taking a look at us. We are very informal, full of ideas and we need more members to have fun and fulfil our mission of 'Service above Self'. Call Graham More 01451 810 413.

Paul Jackson

Jaffé & Neale

BOOKSHOP & CAFÉ
Independent Bookseller of the Year 2007

**Bursting with
beautiful books**

**We love to
recommend presents
for all your family and friends**

Book a personal shopping evening

Middle Row, Chipping Norton
01608 641033 info@jaffeandneale.co.uk

Kingfishers Playgroup

Busy term: It has been a busy first term at the Kingfishers Playgroup based at Kingham Primary School and we have welcomed many new children who have all settled into their new environment and are having lots of exciting new experiences. The playgroup was also visited by Ofsted in September and we are very proud to have been given the grade 'Outstanding!'

Race Night: The playgroup turned 40 years old this year! To celebrate we held a race night, organised by the Chipping Norton Lions and managed to raise a whopping £600. This money will be put towards repairing our sandpit. A massive thank you goes to the Lions who came and hosted the evening for us.

RagBag: We are also busy fundraising by collecting any unwanted clothing, shoes and coats which we send off and receive money for. If you want to get rid of any items we would be only too pleased to take them off your hands. Please email Mona on: kingfisher.2106@kingham.oxon.sch.uk or phone: 659502 to arrange a drop off or a collection from one of the committee members.

Chadlington Playgroup

After a very busy start to the term, we are now moving toward that magical time of Christmas with lots of glitter and sticky tape. The children are working hard on the decorations for our Christmas tree to go into the Methodist Church as well as lots of special things to take home.

Our new story book bag library is proving very popular with children and parents alike. We are working hard to

extend the range of books and toys we offer. A big thank you goes to everyone who has been involved in getting this up and running.

For more details please visit our website www.chadlingtonplaygroup.org.uk, where you can also read our last OFSTED report.

St Mary's Primary



Fire Station visit: Reception really enjoyed their trip to the local Fire Station. They heard all about Dringo the Dragon and how dangerous matches can be. They had great fun looking inside the fire engine and loved having a go with the fire hoses. Thank you to Tom, Kenny and Debbie at the Fire Station for a fabulous visit.

Dance Workshop: Yr3 had a fantastic time recently at our Dance Festival when CN School Sports Leaders came to help us to perform different dances to go with the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance'. We jumped, stretched and skipped around the hall to music working in groups.



Our Medieval School: Leah Hawtin Year 4 reports: Years 3 and 4 had a Knights and Princesses Day to celebrate our Castles topic. We listened to a story called Sir Cedric and stopped when we got to the bit where Matilda was stuck in a tower. Then we built towers out of spaghetti, masking tape and string for Matilda. We turned the hall into the Great Hall with tables and benches and an area for the entertainment. I had my own medieval packed lunch; chicken, carrot, white bread, cheese and an orange. A visitor from Warwick Castle showed us how to be an archer. On my first shot I got gold, then two reds and on my final go I got a blue. He told us all about the armour and how to put it on. At the end some people got to try on the helmet, it was very heavy and uncomfortable.

Santana Quiz Answers
 1. Cornish Road; 2. Lewis Road; 3. Rock Hill; 4. Toy Lane; 5. Marlborough Road; 6. Worcester Road; 7. Fox Close; 8. Spring St; 9. Horse Fm; 10. Alfred Terraces; 11. Kennel Lane; 12. Cox Lane; 13. New St; 14. Walterbush Road; 15. Parkers Circus; 16. King's Head Mews; 17. Portland Place; 18. London Road; 19. Albion St; 20. Banbury Road Crossing




CN Builders

*Season's Greetings
to all Readers
of the
Chipping Norton News*

Telephone: 01608 641552
Mobile: 07827 837286

www.chippingnortonbuilders.co.uk

SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas Fair: The Friends of St Mary's School are busy organising our Annual Christmas Fair to be held in the Town Hall on Friday 7 December, during the late night Shopping Evening. There will be fabulous stalls selling beautiful Christmas gifts, amazing raffle prizes, beautiful festive carols from the Singing Group, and of course, Father Christmas in his Grotto! Please come and join us from 6pm until 8pm.

PGL Year 6 Residential: *Jenny Bray, Sian Dunbar, Maddy Fisher and Nicole Jennings report:* In October, Year 6 visited PGL



Liddington for their residential. It was a great get-away and all the activities were amazing'. Sian Dunbar said, 'It was really fun and it was also my birthday whilst we were there so it was especially good for me!!!! We tried lots of fun activities and everyone enjoyed them, even the teachers. The staff at PGL were excellent and they taught us lots of new songs and games. The staff encouraged you to try everything and made you conquer your fears.

New Cooker: Money raised from a cupcake sale held to celebrate the Jubilee, coupled with parent contributions, and a generous donation from the Rooflight Company, has enabled us to buy a new cooker for the Year 3 & 4 Art Area. The children have been practising their pastry making skills; baking jam tarts and cheese biscuits, and are planning a Marvellous Mince Pie Sale to take place before Christmas,

Gifted & Talented Workshop: *Holly, Tilly, Chloe, Edward and Maisie report:* Year 4 & 5 children from different schools visited Chipping Norton School to do the 'Marshmallow Challenge'. We had to make the tallest tower possible out of certain materials such as: dried spaghetti, a yard of string, a yard of masking tape and of course the 'marshmallow'. We all thought it was an amazing workshop and that we would do it again.

Anti-bullying show: Soren Berrick's 'The Power of One' performance came to school to teach both Key Stage 1 and 2 about bullying. 'The Power of One' was a series of sketches presented by actors who use boxes, colours, and masks to vividly portray what bullying is, what can be done about it, and how every child has the power of one, the power to report and deal with bullying when they see it.

Charity Trip to India: *Sam Townsend, Teaching Assistant reports:* In October, nine other volunteers and I took part in a project in India, on behalf of Helen & Douglas House. For the first week I worked in a children's hospice, doing maintenance, decorating, and cleaning. It was tiring, but very rewarding. During the second week, we trekked in the beautiful Himalayan mountains and finished with a visit to the Taj Mahal – a really breathtaking place. My thanks go to everybody who supported me in the build-up to the trip, and kindly donated to my fundraising. It was a fantastic experience, one I will never forget.

Green Gym: It was great to welcome back The Green Gym in October. They finished the vegetable plots with the timber kindly donated by Travis Perkins.

Have you got time to spare? We are looking for residents of all ages, willing to read to children and with them. You would be working with groups and individuals. If you can spare some time, please contact Anne or Diane in the office (tel 642673). All volunteers will need to undertake a full CRB check. We look forward to hearing from you!

T In Sweden it's unlucky to be out at midnight on Xmas eve as you may bump into a dancing troll!

Holy Trinity Primary

School Council: Thank you to all the children who put themselves forward to represent their class as a School Councillor and congratulations to those pictured below, who were voted for and elected. The new School Council are very busy generating new ideas for our school.



Black Country trip: In November, St Paul's class went to the Black Country Museum in Dudley to learn about the Victorians. We had a Victorian lesson; found out about how sweets were made; visited houses and lots of shops. We are glad that we don't live in the Victorian era!

Cadbury World trip: Year 5 had a fantastic time on their trip to Cadbury World this week learning all about the history of chocolate and how it is made. The highlight of the day according to James was the 'divine smell of chocolate throughout the factory', and to Harvey, 'the mouth-watering taste of warm, melted chocolate.' A great day was had by all and we look forward to learning even more about chocolate over the next few weeks.

Year of Faith: This year, with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London Olympics and more recently, the Paralympics, many of us have experienced joy and pride in our national heritage and a deeper sense of belonging. Pope Benedict XVI has given us the Year of Faith, to nurture a deeper renewal of joy and pride in our Christian Faith.

Armistice Day: Brownies, Rainbows, Cubs and Scouts from our school dressed in their uniform as a mark of respect on Armistice Day. Some of our children also formed part of the Remembrance Sunday procession in Chipping Norton. We held an assembly in school to remember the soldiers who died with a minute's silence too.

SCHOOL NEWS

T Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.

Year 6 Yenworthy residential: *Charlotte Harris, Anna Thompson, Robert Woolcock, Michael Evans and Isaac Scantlebury report:* 'Daily life in the Lodge was really strange, because instead of being with your family, you were just with your friends and teachers for a week. It was great fun though and really good to try new things and foods. We loved surfing! We learnt how to body board first then we learnt how to properly surf. Most of us could stand up by the end of the day.

We also went kayaking in the sea. It was tough! In the middle of the water, we had to practise capsizing. Even though we were wearing wetsuits, it was still freezing! When we paddled together, we felt like a real team.

Coasteering was great fun, too. Jumping off the rocks into the freezing sea was amazing! We also did rock climbing. It felt great to finally reach the top of the rocks and look down to see the smiling faces of our friends. We did mountain biking on the moors as well. It was hard work and some of us fell off, but it was great fun! We really wish we could be back at Yenworthy!'



Operation Christmas Child: We are pleased to be supporting this wonderful charity and are thankful to the many children who have already filled and decorated their shoeboxes and brought them into school.

Hockey Tournament: Well done to the Year 4 and 5 children who took part in the Hockey Tournament at Chipping Norton Leisure Centre. They were a credit to the school and performed brilliantly. Tanya (Year 5) reports: 'We couldn't have done it without the support of Mrs Woolley. Thank you for setting it up and preparing us for the event. I

followed her instructions about getting into the D, scored just like she said we would and it was a great feeling. I tried my



best and look at me now, I scored 3 goals! I think I love hockey now because of what I have achieved.'

Great Rollright Primary

The weeks have raced by and winter has well and truly set in. It has been wonderful to watch the children grow in confidence and learning skills as term has progressed.

At the end of October we held our annual children's party at the village hall. The children dressed up in their scariest costumes, bobbed for apples and stuck their hands into gloopy mixtures to feel around for surprises!

In November we were fortunate to have a visiting theatre company perform Jack and the Beanstalk for us. It was a fantastic show, made even more vibrant by the fancy dress worn by the children and the staff in the audience.

We held a Christmas drawing competition which was thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Prizes were awarded to Josh Mackintosh for his robin, Ella Hawthorne for her snowman, and Gemma Keffury for her Christmas tree. We are all looking forward to 17 December, when we decorate the hall and the whole school sits down together for Christmas lunch. As well as a traditional lunch we will be carol singing around Great Rollright, holding our annual Carol Service in St Andrew's Church and entertaining the children's families with our usual high standard of Christmas productions!

Windrush Valley School

We have had a very busy sporting calendar since our half term break. Each year we take a group of senior girls to Malvern St James School in Worcestershire for a Pop-Lacrosse training day and tournament. It really is GREAT fun and the girls get to mix and make friends with girls from many other schools farther afield. It's a good start to our Pop-Lacrosse PE sessions, which are now in their second year, and more successful than ever.

Another annual event is the St Hugh's Cross Country relay. We had 5 teams representing Windrush Valley School from Years 2 through to 6. Congratulations to all our runners: Poppy Kay, Albertine Wheeler, Cassia Belardo, Lorimer Kay, Gregory Davies, Jake Maudsley, Benjamin Lewis-Ing, Geronimo Neate-James, Charlie Maudsley, Lily Taylor, Jemima Bond, Emilia Belardo, William Frost, Max Guest and Finley Pemberton. Also, a very big thank you to our reserves, Lucas Melvin, Eric Machiwenyika and Ella Frost, who cheered our teams on and looked after them after finishing a very cold and muddy race.

PAINTER AND
DECORATOR

FEMALE PAINTER & DECORATOR

— BASED NEAR —

CHIPPING NORTON

COMPETITIVE RATES & FREE QUOTES

CONTACT HAYLEY ON
07799 887413
01608 676212
hayley@cotswolddecorator.co.uk
www.cotswolddecorator.co.uk

COLOUR YOUR HOME

SCHOOL NEWS

Kingham Primary School

Year 5 boys report: Yr 2 have had a fun time digging a pond outside the Year 3 classroom. Inspired by their work on Beatrix Potter, they've started work on a pond for Jeremy Fisher that the rest of the school can use for studying wildlife and habitats!

Year 6 visited Chipping Norton Theatre to see a production of *Pocket Henry V*. They are currently studying the Tudors and engrossed in their class novel 'VIII'.

Very sadly, our faithful lollipop man and school cleaner, Martin Lidzy has just retired but we are very happy he has chosen to still be one of our lunchtime supervisors! We had a special assembly to say thank you to Martin for all his work and made him a card in the shape of a lollipop stick.

Once again, the Kingham Primary school football tournament took place on the school field. This was the semi-finals and the final, which we are very excited about, will take place in December.

Our Year 5 and 6 girls won their hockey tournament organised by Chipping Norton School for the primary schools in the partnership. We are very proud of them!

Dougal and Matilda, from Year 6, have also represented us at county level in a cross country event in which they did brilliantly!

To mark the country's excitement at the recent James Bond 50th anniversary, we had our own 'James Bond, number bond' maths week. Who'd have thought that maths would be so exciting? Children throughout the school calculated averages, worked out salaries, escaped from hundred square mazes, decrypted codes and generally had a lot of fun!

Our recent sponsored read raised over £1300 for new books for the class libraries to replace tired, tatty looking



books and buy modern fiction. We've had a lot of fun telling our teachers which books we'd like to have to read.

Chadlington Primary School

Wartime topic: The older children are all learning about World War II this term; listening to speeches made by Neville Chamberlain, making propaganda posters, producing rag rugs and playing with games and puzzles from the era. Lots of family memorabilia has been brought in for display with personal stories being reported from relations involved in the war. The Wizards have researched all about the life of Sir Winston Churchill and explored the wartime novel *Goodnight Mr Tom*. The Pixies have been basing their studies around the subject 'scrapbook' with a focus on transport, old and new and how vintage vehicles differ from modern day ones. The children have made the most wonderful model of a tractor out of old junk after visiting Lowlands Farm in Chadlington. The Elves class have been looking at family trees and producing chronological timelines.

Woodstock Museum trip: the Wizards and Dragons thoroughly enjoyed their recent trip to the Woodstock Museum for the 'Children and War Exhibition'. There was a practical workshop where the children examined wartime documents, maps, ration books, first aid kits and gas masks. The children went into an air raid shelter, dressed up in



FREE TRAINING AVAILABLE

INSTRUCTOR 07977 56 00 86

WWW.MARTIALARTSVOUCHER.CO.UK

SEPARATE ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CLASSES NOW TRAINING AT CHIPPING NORTON LEISURE CENTRE


T.A.G.B.
TAE KWON-DO
INTERNATIONAL



Pregnancy / Mum & Baby Yoga

Join us to relax, revitalise, energise, bond, nourish, and celebrate your awesomeness!

New classes at Glyme Hall, Chipping Norton – Thursday mornings.

Please contact Nina - 07766 593 066 or nsperinck@rocketmail.com

SCHOOL NEWS

T Carols in church were introduced by St Francis of Assisi in the 13th century.

clothes from the era and learnt all about 'make do and mend'. The trip was rounded off by a walk to the Woodstock Cemetery to look at the war graves.

Pudsey Day: This year the children chose to dress in either their pyjamas or spotty clothes instead of uniform for a suggested donation. There was a special PUDSEY Lunch and all the children baked cakes to sell during the afternoon.

Carol singing: The whole school have been busy learning lots of Christmas music in preparation for various carol singing events during December. These include a special Christmas lunch at the Sports and Social Club for Chadlington's older residents, at the church Christmas Bazaar, outside Sainsbury's at the Chipping Norton Shopping evening and finally at the school Christmas Concert where the children will all be dressing as World War II evacuees.

Christmas Tree Festival: The school is again entering the Christmas Tree Festival at the Methodist Church in Chipping Norton. This year, the children have been creating decorations themed around 'The Snowman' ballet.

Street Dance: The Wizards and Dragons were lucky enough to get a brilliant Street Dance session this term from visiting teacher Dennis Victory whose fitness and dance routines were hugely inspirational.

Friends' Concerts: The final two fundraising events of the year will be a Chipping Norton All Stars 'Swing into Christmas' party at Chipping Norton School on Saturday 15 December at 7.30pm and a Craig Ogden and Friends Christmas Concert at St Nicholas' Church Chadlington on Friday 21 December at 7.30pm. Please see online for booking details.

Snowman Christmas treats: The annual Christmas trip for the whole school this year is to *The Snowman* ballet in London. The following day the children are having a Snowman Day in school where they will all wear pyjamas and drink hot chocolate in the lead-up to Christmas.

Chipping Norton School

Nine Lessons & Carols: The School celebrates its annual Nine Lessons and Carols on Thursday 13 December, from 7pm at St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton. Come and join us to hear performances across a range of choral and orchestral ensembles and to join with us in singing your favourite carols. Performances from the choirs include Wherever You Are, Stargaze, Have yourself a Merry Christmas, Rock 'N' Roll Christmas, and That First Noel. Entrance is free. Please be aware that there is no parking at the church.



Extra Curricular Activities: 1223 attendances have been recorded at the School's extra curricular activities which included clubs, fixtures, study support, enrichment activities and trip during that week.

Family Focus success: During October, it was wonderful to see so many families come together from Chipping Norton



School and our 10 partnership primary schools to participate in our Family Focus activities. Work-shops included Design & Technology (Build a Trebuchet), Hockey for

the Family, Art Challenge, ICT Create a Calendar, Cookery, St John First Aid and Trampolining.

Thank you to all the families who came along and had fun learning and working together

with Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools and as always a massive thank you to Chipping Norton School staff, Chipping Norton Leisure Centre, the Golf Club and Hook Norton Tennis Club for running and hosting their workshops.

Well done to all the enthusiastic, dedicated and busy staff at Chipping Norton School who run the activities and to all the students for taking part and having fun. For more information about Family Focus, Extra Time, and clubs at Chipping Norton School please contact Jo Phillips on 649504.



Cotswold Carriers

REMOVALS - STORAGE

Collections throughout the UK and containerised storage.

Full or part loads to and from France, Spain and throughout Europe.

Experienced and helpful staff. Specialist to the antique trade.



"Moving people with care"

Tel: 01608 730500 Fax: 01608 730600

www.cotswoldcarriers.co.uk

Kingham Hill School

Open Day: 12 February 11am-2pm. A chance to meet staff, tour the facilities and experience the ethos and atmosphere of the School, all followed by a delicious informal lunch. All the family are welcome. Please let the School know if you plan to attend via 658999/www.kingham-hill.oxon.sch.uk

LETTERS

The Bus Pass Omnishambles

Your readers should know how two pensioners were treated when applying to Oxfordshire County Council for a renewal of their Bus Passes. I emailed my application on 1 October, giving my Bus Pass number, address, expiry date and so forth. The Council's Service Centre Advisor (who shall be nameless to spare her blushes) emailed me that 'Unfortunately I cannot find your details on our system. You will need to apply as a new applicant' – sending proof of address and eligibility and a passport-sized photo – all of which I had sent with my original application a year before. I replied that I was not a new applicant and suggested there must be an error in their database. The Advisor emailed a colleague asking 'Is there anything that I can say in reply to this or should I not reply?' I know this because she mistakenly sent me a copy of her email. I told her not to bother and have heard no more. Although a pensioner, I now pay my bus fares.

And then I heard from local pensioner Jenny Selby-Green whose Buss Pass had expired. Unlike me, Jenny had phoned the Free Bus Pass Line and spent time and money completing a new application form (now provided by our helpful Library) spending £5 for a photo. Needing the Bus Pass urgently, she phoned the Customer Service Centre and was told it would be at least a fortnight before receiving it as the work had been contracted out to another company. Mysteriously, Jenny says she was also told that a corrupted disc containing the details of 2,000 Bus Pass holders had been lost when the work was transferred last April from West Oxfordshire to Oxfordshire County Council.

What is the Customer Service Centre up to? We are among the 2,000 bus pass holders allegedly lost from the

database. The loss allegedly took place as long ago as last April. Why were we not told? Why the delay in sending Jenny her new Bus Pass? Why are our hard-working library staff having to deal with enquiries/forms when it is far outside their usual duties? We want answers!

Peter Burns

Free Christmas Presents!!



Thinking of giving any of the following as gifts this Christmas? An ironing board, tumble dryer, set of dining room chairs, mattress, pushchair or baby bouncer; you can find these and so much more at the Recycling Centre in New Street Car Park. With some loving care and DIY you could give these as gifts at no cost to yourself. You will find them propped up in and around the fenced area that houses the recycling bins. You would also be doing your bit to prevent our Town looking so shabby. We are definitely in need of the proposed tip at Greystones as this Car Park has become a fly-tippers' paradise since the closure of the Dean Pit Household Waste Recycling Centre. First impressions count and this is often the first thing visitors see when they arrive and the lasting image they take with them when they leave!

Ann Oyed of New Street (name supplied)

Shaun Weller – thanks

Anthony, Charmaine and Kim Weller, and Sally Keen would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning in memory of Shaun Weller which raised £2,800 last month. This will be donated to Oxford University for research into rare liver cancers. Many thanks also for all the support the family has had at this sad time.

Charmaine Weller

hair & beauty



Tel: (01608) 643862

Established for over 26 years;
We are proud to offer:
Hair & Beauty Therapy,
Pamper Packages,
OPI Nail Colour,
Minx & Shellac,
Gift Vouchers,
& much more!

Merry Christmas to all our customers

Thank you to all our customers
for your continued loyalty,
support and custom.

8 Middle Row, Chipping Norton. OX7 5NH

Moore & Lyon Produce
HEATH COTTAGE FARM
WORTON ROAD, MIDDLE BARTON
Quality home reared meats

Opening times Fridays from 3pm, Saturdays from 11am
Please phone or email outside of these times
David 07885 216941 or Phyllis 07967 530183



mooreandlyonproduce@yahoo.co.uk

PLACE YOUR ORDERS NOW FOR
CHRISTMAS TURKEYS AND GEESE

LETTERS

T The definition of a white Christmas in the UK is for a single snow flake to be seen in the 24 hours of 25th December.

Memories of the Sawmill



I attach a picture of Chippy Sawmill in circa 1920's. Fourth from the right in the back row is my dad (William Leonard Reece) born March 1903. He told me he used to pushbike from the Hereford or South Wales area (from where I am not sure) to Chipping Norton, probably on weekends and stayed there during the week. I think even the young ones in the picture would have gone to that great Sawmill in the sky by now. Please, if you wish, make use of the picture and send a copy to the obliging Scottish lady at your museum.

Peter Launcelot Reece (of Droitwich)

(many thanks Peter – a copy has been passed to the Museum – Eds)

Tracy Ann Smith (nee Hicks)



Betty Hicks and Mike Smith and family would like to say a sincere thank you for all the support, sympathy and prayers in their sad loss of Tracy on 21 September 2012. Thanks to all out friends and family who attended the funeral where £272 was raised for the Churchill Renal Unit. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgment.

Betty Hicks

Winter Yarns • Patterns • Toys
Children's sewing kits • Christmas ribbons
Felting kits • Books • Project bags
Funky knitting needles • Gift vouchers
Vintage needle cases • Vintage pin boxes
Christmas classes • A warm welcome

the fibre works

10a Middle Row, Chipping Norton.
Oxfordshire. OX7 5NH
01608645970
www.thefibreworks.co.uk

K J Millard Ltd

**Skip
with
us**



for a

**Fast, Friendly Efficient
Service!**

**All Sizes of Skips delivered
where you want, when you want.**

Environmentally friendly, family run business
committed to recycling.

Established 30 years.

Competitive prices.

Trust us to take care of your rubbish

Phone us now on

01608 641361

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

February deadline: Friday 11 January

Tel: 01608 643219

Email: chippymail@aol.com

Twitter: www.twitter.com/chippynews

Blog: www.chippynews.org

Final copy should be sent to Chipping Norton News, c/o Hill Lawn House, 22 New Street, Chipping Norton, OX7 5LJ or email to chippymail@aol.com

Sales Outlets and Subscriptions

You can buy the Chipping Norton News at the following outlets: Bartholomews The Chequers Co-op Foodstore CN Post Office CN Hospital ElleB Gill & Co Guildhall One Stop Shop Fox Hotel Harpers Highlands Day Centre Jaffé & Neale Leisure Centre Londs (Hailey Rd) Old Mill Movable Feast New St Dental Surgery Porcupine Sainsbury's Spar at Pace Robert John West St Surgery West Street News White House Surgery Café de la Post Chadlington You can have the News posted to you. Send a cheque for £18 annual subscription, made payable to The Chipping Norton News to Rolie Clarke 63 New Street, Chipping Norton OX7 5LL

Editorial Team for this edition: Graham Beacham, Peter Burns, Clare Davison, Kaye Freeman, Alison Huit, Linda Rand, Keith Ruddle, Roger Sinclair, Jill Thorley

Section contacts: Arts - Kaye Freeman (642757), Business - Chris Hogan (646395) Sports - Graham Beacham (810047), Schools - Clare Davison (642373)

Contributors: Graham Beacham, Frances Buckel, Judy Buckingham, Peter Burns, Chris Carpenter, Nell Darby, Clare Davison, Kaye Freeman, Chris Hogan, Amanda Horlor, Alison Huit, Lindsay Johnstone, Kate Leimer, SA Mathieson, David Megson, Sylvia Michaelides, Gail Savage, Roger Sinclair, Linda Rand, Keith Ruddle, Deborah Webb & others where stated.

Production & proof-reading: Jill Thorley (643219), Lindsay Johnstone, Valerie Newey & Deborah Webb

Distribution: Jill & David Megson (645382), Judy Buckingham, Rolie Clarke, Chris Carpenter, Judy Donegan, Kaye Freeman

Advertising & Club Treasurer: Terry Kitchin (645502)

Printers: The Printing House (644409)

The editorial team welcomes articles and letters (names supplied please), but reserves the right to edit or cut depending on space available. While taking every care to check accuracy we cannot take responsibility for errors which might occur. Opinions expressed in contributions are not necessarily those of the News Team. The News does not endorse or accept liability for any products or services provided by advertisers. The News is published monthly (except January and August) by the Chipping Norton News Club which is voluntary and non profit-making.

The Chipping Norton News is printed on FSC approved paper



Round Chippy with Santanav!!

This Christmas, thanks to help from the Chipping Norton Lions, we caught up with Santa who was finding his way round town ready for Christmas Eve. Where did we spot him?



Santa starts with a map to help him get round town – but where?



He's forgotten his big ladder and is looking for one here.



Where can Santa find some children who've been good?



Where is Santa picking up all those letters written to him by children?



Can Santa squeeze down this chimney? It looks a bit narrow ...



Is Santa's sack full of those throwaway sweets?



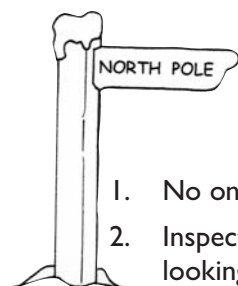
Santa visits the place where Rudolph went with a sore nose.



Where is Santa checking out this year's favourite toys?



And finally, a rest and piece of Christmas cake in a favourite café!



The Santanav Quiz

Can you help Santa find his way to all these Chipping Norton streets?

- No one from Devon would dare venture here.
- Inspector Morse might have come here looking for his sidekick.
- It's a small mountain to climb up here.
- Santa's back-up supply is here ready for deliver on Christmas Eve.
- The victor at Blenheim seems to have made it to here.
- This main road out of town is a bit saucy!
- The huntsman's quarry is nearby.....
- You could bounce all the way along this street.
- The place to sell your aging nag.
- The King may have burnt his cakes in these cottages.
- Home for a dog down here.
- Small Boat Race crew member might live here.
- The most-up-to date street in Chippy.
- Could this be home to George W's Chippy cousin?
- Place to find a nosy ring master.
- Think about what's found on a monarch's shoulders.
- Broadcasting comes from here.
- A long way to the capital.
- West Bromwich hiding in Chippy.
- Watch out for the Fine Lady crossing.

