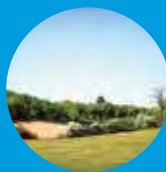


SC SONNING COMMON MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE



**Neighbourhood
Plan submitted**

ON TO THE NEXT
STAGE
P5



**Wonderful
people who we'd
rather avoid**

FIRST RESPONDERS
P16



**Japan hosts
the Scouts**

AN ORIENTAL
JAMBOREE
P20



.....

JOHN DOES US PROUD (YET AGAIN!)

.....

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FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

The photo on the front cover of this magazine epitomises for me the community feeling that exists in this village. The display of Christmas lights has grown over the years and continues to delight old and young, many of these little ones stand in wonder as their parents took them to have a look on the dark nights in December. This is the good side of life in our village.

In the last edition much space was devoted to the arrival of broadband. My 'dearly beloved' decided that it would be a good idea to upgrade our system to cope with increasing demands upon it. When arranging this on the phone he was assured that we would be without a phone line and internet connection for half an hour or so. It was arranged for this week which co-incided with the deadline for the magazine. Three days after our upgrade we were re-instated and 24 hours later lost the connection again. As I write this we are still without...

Consequently, I must apologise to any resident who is expecting to find their contribution in this magazine and it is not there. Producing this issue has been a challenge...

However I hope that despite my frustrations it does not mar your enjoyment of this edition? ●



Diana Pearman Editor

Email: editor@sonningcommonmagazine.org



HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 Community News
- 8 Notice Board
- 11 Interview with ...
- 16 In Focus
- 19 Parish News
- 22 Tom Fort
- 23 Just for kids
- 25 Cook's Corner
- 27 Did you know?
- 30 Church News
- 32 Diary Dates

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While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in this magazine, the editor and the publisher cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of errors that occur.

SC SONNING COMMON
MAGAZINE

MEET THE TEAM ...



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Jo Stoves



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AMAZING LIGHTS DISPLAY RAISES £2,000

Many of you will have seen the stunning display of lights in John Lambourne's garden on Kennylands Road. If not, you can see the outcome of his considerable efforts on the front page of this magazine. John and his wife Carole both went to Great Ormond Street children's hospital on Monday 18 January to present the £2000 cheque. John said "I am very pleased by the response from the residents as I expected a lower contribution because of the very wet weather. Even more surprising was that people kept donating even after the display came down." The first year 2013 he raised £600, 2014 it was £1600 and now £2000 in 2015!!



INTERACTIVE MURDER MYSTERY

written by SC resident Rosemary House

Chiltern Players' latest offering "A Cracking Read" penned by our own Rosemary House, took the form of a lively interactive murder mystery. Masquerading as guests of Trudy Featherstonehaugh's book group, the audience assembled at the Peppard Memorial Hall on 10 December for a lavish evening of wine drinking, book signing and a delicious meal.

The hall was festive and cosy and the large Friday night audience threw themselves enthusiastically into the process of chatting with the 'suspect' book group members, listening to and participating vociferously in the scenes, studying clues and attempting to solve murder most horrid. Trudy, played by Sue Clark, died with aplomb during the dessert much later in the evening.

The cast enjoyed themselves as thoroughly as the paying customers, sidestepping some of the more searching questions and enjoying the interaction with the warm and supportive audience.

The audience took the final cross questioning of the suspects very seriously with two tables correctly concluding that Jim, played with huge enthusiasm by Terry Sopp had done it. All involved felt that this evening of entertainment heralded the Christmas period. ●

36th out of 600 magazines

Your magazine does really well in national competition

Writing in the December 2014 issue of the Sonning Common Magazine Douglas Kedge wondered whether there was a national competition for village magazines. If so he was sure our magazine would win. Ione Stacey read the comment and thought there must be such a competition. She did some research and, yes, there were in fact a number of competitions but she felt one in particular would be worth entering. So we did. Two issues from the first half of 2015 were selected and sent off to be with the organisers by 1 July. Then all went quiet until 10th December 2015 when we heard that the competition had attracted 600 entries from Dumfries to Cornwall and our Magazine was 36th overall. What a complement to our enthusiastic, gifted and hard-working team. Not quite a win Douglas but a jolly good result in such a big field.

And who won? None other than Charvil, Sonning and Sonning Eye. We shall be looking at what they do for next year and would really like to have your ideas as well on how we can make The Sonning Common Magazine even better. Contact the editor or chairman – details inside the front cover. ●



Chiltern Edge Christmas Production 2015

FOOTLOOSE!

Footloose may be known to a number of you, as the movie with Kevin Bacon as a stranger in a new town where dancing is banned...

Chiltern Edge Performing Arts department put on a fabulous dance and musical stage version just before Christmas over three very successful evenings.

The Performing Arts staff of Miss McCarthy, Mrs Tottman and Miss Fay and the cast produced a really entertaining show of music, drama and dancing, with a backstage team of many, helping with sets, costumes, lighting and sound. Music teacher Miss Fay and her students produced the music each night with two of the music students (Ed Drakeford-Lewis and Nathan Higgs) also having speaking parts in the play. The dancing was outstanding and many complimentary comments were made on the school facebook page.

The Chiltern Edge School Association ran the licensed bar during each evening with proceeds towards school projects and a cake raffle was held for one of the house charities. ●



A Year in the Life of Village Gardeners

by Joan Grummant

On Sunday 10 January the Village Gardeners met in the Village Hall. It took the form of a review of the work done in 2015 in a slide show by Stan Rust and a discussion about future projects led by Chrissie Phillips-Tilbury. The treasurer also went through the accounts and discussed finances.

The meeting was very well attended and there was coffee and festive biscuits to begin. Much of the work done by the gardeners was highlighted and there was great interest shown in the link with Chiltern Edge School where pupils have been designing and making planters with their teacher Mr Barry Kelly. They hope that the planters will be ready to be planted up at strategic points in the village where residents and pupils can see the work during this year. Involvement with the school was also highlighted by the planting of six cherry trees to replace old trees outside the main building.

As well as the planting of 3000 snowdrops around the village the gardeners saw many slides that illustrated the maintenance of flower beds, containers and autumn and summer planting as well as the dismantling of the telephone box. The gardeners will be selecting a new site for the phone box and also continue to focus upon improving the local environment. One aim is to upgrade all plastic containers to wooden ones and to plant sympathetically so that an excessive amount of watering does not become too burdensome.

At the moment there are about twenty four gardeners who garden on a regular basis and anyone who would like to join would be warmly welcomed. There are two sessions a month but no firm commitment is necessary. Sometimes, on occasions like bulb planting days, many people turn up and on other days there might be less. It is fun and only lasts an hour for each session! Why not give it a try? ●

Contact Chrissie on 972 1058 or phillipstilbury@gmail.com

Rocket Science

EVERYONE IN THE UK IS VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE TRIP TO SPACE FOR THE FIRST BRITISH ASTRONAUT AND THE PRIMARY SCHOOL WERE VERY PLEASED TO BE ASKED TO HELP WITH SOME RESEARCH.

In September, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 44S where they will spend several months in microgravity before returning to Earth in March 2016. The seeds have been sent as part of Rocket Science, an educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency. Sonning Common Primary is lucky enough to be one of the schools to receive a packet of 100 seeds from space, which we will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences over seven weeks. We won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians. ●

TREASURER STANDS DOWN AFTER 33 YEARS IN POST



David Brewer, Treasurer of Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society since 1983, stood down at the AGM on Tuesday 8 December.

During his time in post, Dave has seen many changes from hand written ledgers, to spreadsheet and online banking. He told members he had enjoyed it all but felt it was "time for someone younger to take over".

Outgoing Chairman, John Stoves, expressed "eternal gratitude for the cheerful (even chirpy) way" he had managed affairs, adding "especially his 'it'll be alright on the night' approach".

Dave has been a stalwart of the Society for over 34 years. He joined the Committee in 1982 before taking over as Treasurer a year later, when his predecessor moved away.

During this time he has also helped run the old Trading Shed which sold plants and gardening sundries to members, organised the distribution of the society monthly newsletter and served on the Show Committee.

The Chairman continued "he has turned up to virtually every show, outing, talk and social event with petty cash bag, cheque book, raffle tickets - whatever was needed. Frequently with his wife, Joyce, his daughters and even his grandchildren in tow as unpaid labour staffing the refreshment stalls all the while "keeping the books in immaculate order".

Dave and Joyce are both keen gardeners with a particular love of growing clematis. They have won the Sonning Common Front Garden Competition on several

occasions and have raised money for the Thames Valley Air Ambulance by opening their previous garden in Newfield Road to the public.

In recognition of their loyalty and support, Dave and Joyce were presented with certificates of Honorary Life Membership of the Society and Dave was presented with a cheque for £100 for FISH. Dave said he had chosen FISH because "it meant the money stayed in the village and as we get older we may well need their services". Joyce was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Once business was completed, Dave, Joyce and the rest of the members tucked into a spread of cheese, wine and mince pies.

Jo Stoves

GIVE A LITTLE...

During December the Primary School joined in with two local charity collections. The Radio Oxford Sock Appeal, and the Henley Food Bank.

Radio Oxford is hoping to build community spirit around the issues of homelessness and wanted to collect as many pairs of new socks as possible.

Socks are easy to collect, cheap to buy, are festive and fun and can make a real difference. Professionals and volunteers working in shelters and with homeless

charities have said that interestingly socks are the least donated item of clothing to homeless shelters!

SCPS asked their pupils and parents to donate new standard adult size pairs of socks with the label on so sizes could be identified. As an added bonus they asked for colourful and fun socks - just to add a smile to the recipients faces.

Even in Henley there are families who need to ask for help from a food bank and Nomad (charity located in Henley at d:two) set up The Lighthouse Food Bank in 2013. A lot is asked from parents throughout the year and probably

especially at Christmas, but usually for a very good cause. With this in mind, the school also collected food with a long shelf life for those in need at Christmas... A box was left in the entrance to school for both of these donations.

Thanks to the huge generosity of the pupils and parents of SCPS the Henley food bank has taken close to 50 kilos of food and they took over 250 pairs of socks to BBC Radio Oxford on the last day of term.

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated. ●

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MOVES ONWARDS



The Submission Plan and all its supporting documents has now been with SODC since mid-January.

We are expecting that the Plan will be approved but that we will be advised to make changes to the Plan before sending it back for the Examiner's final approval. The Examiner's Report

will be available on the web site for public scrutiny. Whatever the final date is we will be planning to put the ND Referendum Plan on display in the Village Hall the weekend before the Referendum takes place.

Barrie Greenwood - Chairman of the NDP

NDP Process after submission

1	Shortly before submission apply to NPIERS to recruit examiner	
2	Neighbourhood Plan submitted (Plan carries some weight in planning decisions)	Week 1
3	SODC check that correct documents submitted • Neighbourhood Plan, Sustainability Assessment, Basic Conditions Statement, Consultation Statement, Equalities Statement	Week 1
4	Publish Neighbourhood plan – start of 6 week consultation	Week 2/3
5	Appoint examiner SODC forward submission documents to Examiner	Week 3 to 10
6	Check with examiner if hearing is required	Week 10/11
7	If hearing is required make necessary arrangements	Week 11
8	Examiner's Report received.	Week 13 to 15
9	SODC issue Decision Statement (Plan carries greater weight in planning decisions)	Week 16 Cabinet member decision
10	6 week Legal Challenge period	Week 22
11	SODC Democratic Services start Referendum process Agree date and polling station venue(s) with PC Public Notices	Week 23
12	PC undertake publicity for referendum	Week 23 - 26
13	Referendum	Week 26/27
14	6 week Legal Challenge period	Week 23 - 26
15	If positive referendum decision SODC make the plan and issue Decision Notice (Plan carries full weight in planning decisions)	As soon as practical – Full Council decision
16	6 week Legal challenge period	



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Calling all former land girls!

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I am researching a novel about the Women's Land Army and would like to hear from as many people as possible to make it a truly authentic work.

Please email millyclayson75@gmail.com

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and

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For all other queries please contact Tina Micallef on tina_micallef@yahoo.co.uk.



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With your help we hope to do even better next October! Thank you.

Jennifer Poska (Secretary KERBLWS)

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HEALTH WALKS

I know it's still winter, but Spring is surely on the way
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2016 the Health Walk scheme celebrates 20 years

More news in the next issue.

The timetable is available from the library, the Health
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to talk to someone about the health walks, phone Colin
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PCSO Colin Boyes

Putting the 'community' in policing

By ROS VARNES

He was a familiar figure in the village, quietly working away to reduce crime and disorder, helping out where he could and finding ways to make life safer.

Now our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Colin Boyes is undergoing the next stage in his career - training to become a police constable, eventually to be based in Newbury.

Before he left the village in December, PCSO Boyes reflected on his time serving the community here as part of the Henley-based neighbourhood policing scheme.

He said: "This village has won my heart over and has been my home for the last four-and-a-half years. I am sad to leave but this is the next stage in my career and I am looking forward to it.

"I have learned so much about community policing while in Sonning Common and it has given me an excellent foundation from which to go forward.

"As a PCSO you work for the police but the emphasis is very much on the 'community' within the title. I couldn't have achieved what I did here without the support of local people.

"I would like to thank everyone for the help and support they gave me over the last four-and-a-half years, particularly the parish council."

As well as tackling traditional policing issues such as burglaries and anti-social behaviour, PCSO Boyes went above

and beyond the call of duty while posted here.

The achievement of which he was most proud, he said, was the bicycle light initiative where he successfully raised £220 within the community to buy 22 lights for children who were riding their bikes at night without lights.

Encouragingly, PCSO Boyes considered we had a fairly low crime level in the village. "Aside from some anti-social behaviour and occasional spates of burglary, this is generally a very peaceful community," he said.

"I really don't think you have a problem here with drugs. Underage drinking is not an issue. Anti-social behaviour has improved. Some of the kids who were responsible for it in the past have grown up and moved on.

"You are never going to stop teenagers from hanging around but you can make it less comfortable and easy for them to meet and get up to no good! I am a firm believer that you need to change the physical environment to reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour.

"That's why I've been so pleased with the co-operation received from the One-stop shop to improve the area behind the shop by taking the old shed down and putting up new fencing and a gate.

"The skatepark too has been a great initiative because it gives youngsters something to do. It is an amazing resource and demonstrates the parish council's commitment to the young people of Sonning Common."

However, lack of parking in the village

centre would increasingly challenge the police and local authorities, he felt. "Parking came up time and time again at our Have Your Say meetings," said PCSO Boyes.

"The village is developing very quickly, particularly with all the new development on Wood Lane. The population is going to swell and I don't think Wood Lane is geared up to accommodate it."

PCSO Boyes has been replaced by PCSO Mark Bell. Before he left, PCSO Boyes said: "PCSO Bell will do a great job. He is very experienced and the right person for the job. I hope the Sonning Common community will be as supportive of him as they were of me." ●

These are Colin's opinions and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Thames Valley Police.



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RUN IN THE NEW YEAR...

Alan Wilson of Sonning Common is starting up a Sonning Common Running Community as a way of improving local individuals' well being and health.

'The Sonning Common Community Run was an idea of mine to share my knowledge of running gained from running and coaching at Reading Roadrunner, and from UK Athletics' says Alan.

The objective is to help local people improve their own personal health and well being, while also getting to know one another from the village. This initiative is supported by Dr. Drury at the health centre, and he is allowing anyone who attends to use the health centre car park as a meeting place where they will start from on a Saturday morning twice a month at 8 am. This isn't a club and there will be no charge to attend, but there will be a no obligation donation box which

will be donated to the children's ward at the John Radcliffe, where Alan's son Lawrence spent a few weeks of his life after being born with a low birth weight due to undiagnosed preeclampsia.

'the donation for the Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe is in recognition of all of the doctors and nurses who have helped, supported and provided encouragement in addressing my son Lawrence's needs following his birth in January of 2010. Although he was born at full term, he weighed only 3lb 8oz, making him a bit of a miracle baby! He was in the ITU and special care baby unit for nearly 2 weeks. Lawrence has had multiple challenges since birth, and yet nothing seems to faze him or his character' explains Alan.

Alan will also be baking small cakes which will be given to individuals after the community run to aid recovery!

The Sonning Common Running

Community will be open to anyone over the age of 16 who has an interest in running, is beginning their running, or is currently running. The intention is to run for 20-30 minutes as a community to actively and collectively help local residents improve their own personal health and well being, while having a sociable run around Sonning Common. All abilities are welcome including beginners. A route description will be provided on the day of which pavements will be used for the run. When the weather improves, the runs will also be undertaken through the woods and fields to improve the variety and to make use of the wonderful scenery and seasons.

For those of you interested the first run started on the 9 January. The next are on the 6 and 20 February. Meet at 8am in the Health Centre car park.

Alan is hoping to see some of you there! ●

OCC CUTS TO BUDGETS IS OUR LIBRARY UNDER THREAT AGAIN?

OCC has to make £50m worth of savings over the next 3 - 4 years, of which the library service has had to find £1m worth of savings. The proposals which went for consultation at the end of 2015 were, amongst other things, to:

- **stop the mobile library service,**
- **reduce the book fund,**
- **lose another manager,**
- **merge our IT department with OCC's ICT department**

Then just before Christmas the council was told that it would have to find another £20m worth of savings - that's

£70m in total. It is not known how the library service will be affected by this latest amount?? The Children's Centres appear to be under threat again!

Our re-cycling centre at Oakley Wood appears to have been saved from closure but what else is under threat? ●

THREE CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!!

By HANNAH RICE

Sonning Common Library is thriving after nearly 18 months, thanks to the 38 volunteers who share the responsibility of providing the community with an invaluable service.

The library is open to the public for 25 hours a week, and volunteers readily assist with the home library service, library events, displays, shelving and sorting books. The volunteers also help with story time and prepare craft materials for special story times. Cake sales are a regular fixture and cakes are donated by volunteers. The money is used to buy materials for the craft sessions. At Christmas the volunteers were busy spreading cheer as they decorated the Christmas tree and made festive wall displays.

Barbara Pilbrow is one of the many volunteers and she feels that "it is a very satisfying thing to do because it is social, and it's useful, and interesting because you are never too old to learn: you see and do new things. The old perception of libraries doesn't apply nowadays - there is always a buzz in here."

Trish Rockell, a former library staff member, who is also a volunteer, is "grateful that the library is still running. I don't want it to close and I'm very happy being a volunteer and continuing to serve the library."

The volunteers have needed time to find their feet, but are a great asset to the library. Jill Hutchinson, Chairperson, said "It has taken the volunteers some time to settle, but our ability to help the library has greatly improved. We have all grown in confidence. We are so grateful

for the volunteers, as the library service would collapse without anybody. The volunteers have worked well together and are so responsive to what we ask them to do."

Jenny Jones added: "We have kept the library open thanks to the volunteers. They have made a difference as there is always someone to talk to customers, and share the workload with library staff. Story times are all done by volunteers, and we are hoping that in the near future we can take books to Abbeycrest. We are always looking for volunteers of any age and ability."

If you think you can spare some time and become part of a vibrant volunteer community, why not join the Sonning Common Library volunteers by contacting either Jenny Jones: jennyjones2005@hotmail.com or Helen Fort: helenfort@btinternet.com ●



SONNING COMMON

By **DIANA PEARMAN**

IF YOU HAD CLING FILM, SCISSORS, ASPIRIN, BAG VALVE MASK, A DEFIBRILLATOR, A PULSE OXIMETER AND BLANKETS IN YOUR BAG WHO ARE YOU?

Sonning Common is fortunate enough to have three dedicated volunteers who give at least 20 hours of their time every month to being First Responders. Chris Brook is the Area Co-ordinator, Adam Negus and Sue Abbott are the other two who, if you have the need to call 999 in an emergency, are likely to be the first to arrive on your doorstep to help.

Finding places is the biggest challenge

Chris has been the co-ordinator since November 2008 and the National scheme has been in place for 10 years. She described the challenges they face and says "the most difficult one is finding places in the dark". She has suggestions for us all which would easily be employed if we were ever in need of emergency assistance

- **Put every light on in your house**
- **If there is car owner, place the hazards light on**

Locating the house is of importance as minutes wasted searching can be crucial as to whether the person lives or dies. First responders work in an area that is within 5 minutes of home and they are always followed by an ambulance. In 63% of cases they arrive first. They have half an hour's worth of oxygen in their kit, a defibrillator if it is a cardiac arrest and are trained in CPR. Their scissors can be used to cut off clothes, sometimes to clear airways, cling film for burns, aspirin for chest pains and blankets to keep the person warm. Using the pulse oximeter would ascertain whether the person needed oxygen. Chris explained that "we build up a knowledge of people and keep track of the number of re-visits, the majority of these are old people, the youngest 10 days old". Sharing this information between the trio of volunteers enables them to give the ambulance crew, when they arrive, a

more detailed history of the patient.

So how is the information relayed to the First Responder?

Whenever a 999 call is made the call taker takes the address and details, asks basic questions and types the responses. They then decide who to send on the basis of RED (life threatening) or GREEN and who and where people are located, an ambulance or Volvo estate might be sent. At the same time a central co-ordinator, might say a Community Responder is available and a call would be put through to them. The responder is then asked if they are able to attend and told where and the nature of the problem. Responders are not sent to road traffic accidents nor anything violent or dangerous, such as mental health issues. They do not do night duty. Responders are dispatched at the same time as the ambulance crews, but because of their location they usually arrive before the ambulance.

The most common types of call – out of 127 in 2015 across the region from Henley to Caversham up to Woodcote and Nettlebed.

Chest pains	23
Breathing difficulty	11
Stroke	12
Fall	23
Fit	12



FIRST RESPONDERS

What is the area that our First responders cover?

It has to be within a five-minute drive of their home, which is not a huge area. The map shows the primary response area but sometimes the responders are asked to travel to the extended area. There are additionally, First Responder groups operating in Henley, Caversham and Woodcote.

Out of 127 call outs in 2015, 40 of these were in Sonning Common and some of those were to children.

How are the volunteers trained?

Sonning Common First Responders are trained by the South Central Ambulance Service to deal with a wide range of potentially life-threatening conditions until the arrival of an ambulance. Sue Abbott is a relatively new volunteer and her training was 2 intensive days at a one-off weekend, led by a Berkshire ambulance officer and assistant. Every six months all the volunteers have to attend a re-certification session where they demonstrate CPR and how to use the machines. Extra training is always an option and from April the initial training will be 4 days.

The training is funded by the NHS but volunteers have to buy their own uniforms, and petrol used in their own cars. On their way to an incident speeding is not allowed but until they arrive at the scene and put the label

up in the windscreen, Community First Responder no-one knows why they are in a hurry. The group is hoping to raise enough money to purchase a fully liveried car so that other road users might give way to them and speed up their journeys. Reducing travel time and making every minute count could save lives. The four wheeled drive emergency vehicle would enable the responders to reach cut off areas when the weather is severe. It will also have a superior GPS system on board enabling better tracking by the ambulance service and would also allow the responders to carry Entonox (a pain reliever) which insurance companies (who need to be notified when responders are carrying oxygen in their cars) do not allow to be carried in private cars.

Donations would be gratefully received for the purchase and upkeep of this vehicle on the justgiving page

Why do they do it?

These volunteers give their time freely to help care for people and save lives in their community. Very often the role they play is one of reassurance, for example in instances where someone has chest pains, but in more extreme cases they can perform CPR or use a defibrillator to restart someone's heart. They are intimately involved in the middle two links of the 'Chain of Survival', in order to improve significantly the chances of someone living. ●

If you might be interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer please contact Chris Brook;

07789 727017 or
chris.brook@zen.co.uk



This map shows the primary area of responsibility of Sonning Common First Responders, and if necessary, their extended area.

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Parish news

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FOCUS ON FINANCE

FROM DOUGLAS KEDGE, CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

We are acutely aware of our responsibility to use your money carefully. Around 90% of our income arrives through the parish precept that forms part of your total Council Tax Demand.

After careful consideration the parish council has decided to increase our precept by 1.99% from £99,000 to £103,504. This small increase is mainly to

offset the removal of the £2,484 support grant paid to us through South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC). The parish element of Band D council tax will go up from £1.23 to £1.28 a week from April 2016.

Our new precept is in line with the precepts set by other Oxfordshire villages of a similar size to Sonning Common and will allow the parish

council to maintain and enhance village services and amenities in the four areas of cleanliness and tidiness, facilities, projects and administration - described below.

To see the full budget behind this precept please go to our website: www.sonningcommonparishcouncil.org.uk. A copy is available for viewing in the parish office. ●

CLEANLINESS AND TIDINESS

CLEANLINESS AND TIDINESS is the work of street cleaning, grass verge cutting, maintaining footpaths, hedges and fences, providing litter bins and dog bins as well as looking after bus shelters and seats. We also fund the work of our unique volunteer Snow Team. Next year all this will cost £29,800. ●

FACILITIES

FACILITIES describes what we do to provide and maintain our three children's play areas, the allotments, Widmore Pond, the maintenance and removal of trees and the CCTV around the village hall. We deal with the effects of the small amount of graffiti and vandalism that we experience. We support the excellent work of the Village Gardeners and also make small grants to other causes. We plan to landscape the skatepark and upgrade some play area equipment during 2016. We also have to hold a reserve fund to deal with the unexpected. All this will cost £18,850. ●

PROJECTS

PROJECTS covers those areas where we make specific expenditures that benefit our residents and safeguard the future of the village. Here is where we will maintain our grant of £10,000 to Club SC, the village youth club. During the year we will be completing our Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan (SCNDP) to ensure that the 138 new homes that have been allocated to us to be built between now and 2027 are of the type needed and in the places that best suit our community. For all this we have budgeted £21,650. ●

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION is the cost of running the parish council and its committees as professionally as we can. Our friendly Parish Office handles hundreds of phone calls, emails, enquiries and visits from residents as well as from all the other organisations every year. We receive and review every planning application made in the village and in some cases we have to support appeals about them. All this will cost £49,255. ●

THE WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

The World Scout Jamboree is a gathering of tens of thousands of Scouts and Guides from almost every country in the world, aged between 14 and 17, who, for ten days live together, experience each other's cultures, take part in exciting activities and have an amazing adventure.

The World Scout Jamboree is a gathering of tens of thousands of Scouts and Guides from almost every country in the world, aged between 14 and 17, who, for ten days live together, experience each other's cultures, take part in exciting activities and have an amazing adventure.

The first World Scout Jamboree was organized by **The Boy Scout Association** in the UK and held in London. With exceptions for the war years, it has been organized approximately every four years (in the more recent years by the **World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)**), in different locations over the world.

Laurie Martin – then a pupil at Chiltern Edge School – was one of the very lucky Scouts to be chosen to attend the 23rd Jamboree held in Japan. He has told us all about his trip here.....

On November 2013 I was selected along with 27 other scouts from the UK to attend the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Japan. After

almost two years of fund raising and preparation I have now been and come back from my experience in Japan and have many wonderful memories to share.

We flew into Tokyo on the 25 July where we took a train to the hotel we would be staying in for three nights in Shinigawa, Tokyo. While in Tokyo we visited many attractions including a Buddhist temple in the heart of Tokyo which was a surprisingly peaceful break from the rest of the busy city. We also visited an earthquake centre where we experienced a simulation of a magnitude 7 on the Richter scale which was exciting, but also made you think how scary it might be in reality. Soon after that we visited the Skytree, a 2,080 foot tower from which you could see as far as the humid haze would let you, but we were told that on about 70 days of the year when it is clear enough you could see Mount Fuji. These are just three of the attractions we visited while on our 3 night stay in the city of over 2,188 square kilometres.

We then took the bullet train down to Yamaguchi city in the Yamaguchi prefecture in the south of Japan.

From here we were taken by coach to Kirara-hama where the jamboree took place.

Whilst at the jamboree we took part in a number of activities over the ten days. These included a day trip to Hiroshima where we visited the peace park and museum and learned about the destruction that the atomic bomb caused in Hiroshima. We also took part in activities such as the global development village designed to teach us about development in different parts of the world.

On the Japanese culture day at the Jamboree we visited the town of Mine to help us learn about Japanese culture. We were welcomed with a ceremony arranged by the town's council after which we visited a small primary school in the town and then the famous Mine caves.

One of my favourite parts of the trip was the world culture day which started off with an "inter religious ceremony" at which many different religions held their services at the same time by taking it in turns to either say a prayer or sing a religious song. In the afternoon we



had three hours to walk around the campsite visiting other camps and trying the cuisine of the different nations at the jamboree.

When the jamboree came to an end our Berkshire unit took a train from Yamaguchi to Ishigawa where we met the Japanese families that we were partnered with for the home hospitality programme that would conclude our trip.

We stayed with our host families for two nights paired with someone else in our unit. During the stay we were shown many sights in our host's home town. One place we visited was the "ninja temple" where a samurai used to visit 300 years ago to worship but because of his many enemies there were many hidden rooms and traps in the temple so that the samurai could worship without getting attacked. We also visited an old castle and many different gold leaf shops as the town was known for producing 95% of the gold leaf in Japan. On our last night in Japan our hosts took us to a traditional Japanese restaurant where we enjoyed a

meal of sushi and cold noodles. We were then taken to a "hon sen" (hot spring) which resembled an extremely hot bath and a 95 degree sauna which was very enjoyable. We were then told we would go to meet up with friends to watch fireworks but were in fact taken to a tarmac area underneath a large bridge where we saw a large pile of what looked like sparklers and small colourful boxes. These boxes, when lit, shot three metre high flames and sparks into the air - which was surprising considering the small size of the boxes. I can safely say that our last night in Japan was one of my favourites.

On the last morning we all met at the train station to leave for the airport to conclude our journey of a lifetime. ●

Laurie Martin

TOM FORT BAFFLED

There are many aspects of the everyday life I observe around me that I find more than a little perplexing.

Why, for instance, do some dog owners – presumably law-abiding citizens in other ways – persist in letting their animals defecate on pavements and fail to pick the offending material up? Why do some cyclists insist on going two-abreast down country lanes when they must know it makes every other road user hate them? Why do some gardeners have to use the fiendish leaf-blower when a rake does the job just as well and silently?

Several of the major mysteries concern parking. Why do people persist in parking on the double yellow lines outside the Co-Op when they know it's against the law? Why do other people – or maybe the same people – use the

disabled spaces in the car park when they are perfectly fit and healthy? Why do some owners of very large cars leave them blocking the pavement, forcing pedestrians into the street?

A baffling – albeit harmless – aberration is the obsession with reversing into supermarket car park spaces which I see most Thursday mornings in the Waitrose car park in Henley. A car halts in preparation for this complex manoeuvre. It goes back, it goes forward, it goes back again. There is a pause as the window is opened for the driver to have a look at where the lines have gone. Sometimes the passenger gets out to act as consultant. Back and forward it goes, as the queue of other cars trying to park builds up.

Finally the desired position is achieved, as often as not completely out of

correct alignment with the marked space. Everyone gets out, goes off to do the shopping, and comes back to find they can't open the boot to put it away. It's completely insane!

But then I suppose some people might find some of the things I do somewhat peculiar. ●



Lovely magazine with local news

Thank you so much for printing in a recent edition, my enquiry regarding my ancestral family (by marriage), Fred and Jessie Stannard who settled in Sonning Common, establishing the first corner, grocery shop. I received two very comprehensive and helpful replies from two of your readers and these have been of much assistance with my research into the ancestral relatives of my daughters and my grandchildren. I am very grateful.

I congratulate you on a wonderful publication, which, through the wonders of the internet, I am able to access online. I live in a bustling and ever expanding city of over two million people, and while we have our

own suburban on-line magazines and local, district newspapers, (there are still a couple of these valiantly trying to keep their place in today's world) which give us all the local 'parish pump' news.

I am envious of the lovely magazine with all the local news, produced by yourself and your hard working team and which your readers are so fortunate to have. Your town and its surrounds seem like a wonderful part of the world in which to live.

Kindest regards

ADELE MOY Brisbane, Australia
adelem2@bigpond.com



Just for kids

SPECIAL

HI GUYS!

Zack here. I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas (I did) and a happy new year!!! Did any of you stay up till midnight? I just managed it at a hotel and it was really fun! I have recently seen Star Wars and loved it so much I have decided to do a Star Wars Special in this edition. Have you seen it? Did you enjoy it? Maybe you hated it? Whatever your thoughts, I'd love to hear them at junioreditor@sonningcommongmagazine.com

ZACK



STAR WARS BATTLEFRONT GAME

I played this at my friend Charlie's house. It's really good and you can play as every character ever created! You can use all sorts of weapons and vehicles, and the graphics are almost like the real film. There's the force to unlock and a bunch more to master. My favourite part is killing the other storm troopers. The second you shoot them, they fall really dramatically and die. Although it sounds mean, it really isn't and is just fun to play. Happy playing! ●

STAR WARS FILM REVIEW

The new Star Wars film is GREAT! I was worried before I watched it, because some of the previous Star Wars films didn't make 100% sense to me. However, although some parts of the film were gruesome, I really enjoyed this story and it was totally easy to follow. I don't want to give too much away in case you haven't seen it yet, but the film is about the resistance fighting against the dark side who have made a super weapon that can destroy the universe! I loved all the suspense, and the special effects were

awesome. I am really hoping that there will be a new star wars film soon but until then May The Force Be With You! ●

STAR WARS JOKES

What did Yoda say to the sheep?
May the force be with ewe!

Why did the angry Jedi cross the road?
To get to the dark side! *groan*

Storm Trooper: What's for lunch?
Chef: Cooked wookie
Storm Trooper: Is it any good?
Chef: It's a bit Chewy!
(Joke giveaway: basically the storm trooper is eating Chewbacca)

STAR WARS PUZZLE

V	I	A	O	L	X	C	M	Q	T	S	R	T	A	K
S	M	B	C	L	J	P	C	B	K	Z	E	U	D	E
N	K	P	O	C	O	H	S	N	P	N	S	H	O	C
V	Y	Y	N	N	A	S	I	L	A	W	I	E	Y	T
V	V	A	W	T	E	B	N	W	Z	Y	S	H	L	A
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COOKS CORNER

By SANDY ONOFRIO

BEEF & STILTON PIE

Serves 6

1 kg braising steak (cut into chunks)/ 1 clove of garlic (crushed)/ 2 tspn dried thyme/ 1 tbspn black pepper/ 1 bottle of beer or stout/ 2 tbspn plain flour seasoned with salt & pepper/ 2 tbspn oil/ 2 tbspn butter or marg/ 100g mushrooms/ 8 shallots, peeled & halved/ 1 pint beef stock/ 100g stilton, crumbled/ 1 egg beaten with a little water/ 1 pack frozen puff pastry (defrosted)

Place beef, thyme, pepper and beer in a bowl and leave in fridge to marinate (ideally overnight).

Remove beef, pat dry and coat in seasoned flour. In a large saucepan heat the oil and 1 tbspn butter and fry beef until browned. Remove and set aside. Fry mushrooms and shallots for 5 mins. Return beef to the pan and add the marinade and the beef stock. Cover and simmer for 90 minutes.

Strain off half the liquid and use the reserve for extra gravy. Stir the crumbled stilton into the beef and stir until melted. Season to taste.

Transfer the beef into one large casserole dish or 6 individual dishes. Use the puff pastry to make tops, use the egg/water mix to seal, cut a slit in each top and glaze with egg/water mix. Bake in oven at 200/Gas 6 for 25 minutes until pastry is golden.



CHICKEN & LEEK PIE

Serves 6

2 tbspn olive oil/ 6 chicken fillets, chopped/ 4 tbspns white wine (optional)/ 2 leeks, chopped/ 15g butter/ 1 tbspn plain flour/ 750 ml milk (warmed)/ 1 chicken stock cube/ salt & pepper/ 1 pack frozen puff pastry (defrosted)

Heat 1 tbspn oil in saucepan, fry chicken until browned. Remove and set aside. Heat remaining oil, add wine (if using), add leeks and cook until soft. Remove and set aside. Melt butter, stir in flour to create a paste and gradually add milk, stirring continuously until sauce thickens. Return chicken and leeks to the pot, crumble in the stock cube, cover and simmer for 15 minutes.

Line a pie tin with a layer of puff pastry, fill with chicken and top with a layer of puff pastry. Brush with egg glaze if desired. Bake in oven at 200/Gas 6 for 25 minutes until pastry is golden.



SKATEPARK RULES: KEEP A PHONE HANDY

Skatepark users are reminded to have access to a mobile phone when they use the park so that they can phone home or dial 999 in an emergency. Users should also wear helmets and pads and respect other people at the park.

The parish council has provided the ambulance service with full details of the park's location (Bishopswood Sports Ground RG4 9BT). It has been notified by

the service that ambulances carry bolt cutters which paramedics could use to access the site, if necessary.

Details on what to do in an emergency are posted at the park.

The skatepark is unsupervised and is used at people's own risk. Any misuse of the skatepark, damage or vandalism should be reported to the parish council on 0118 972 3616 or Thames Valley Police on 101. ●



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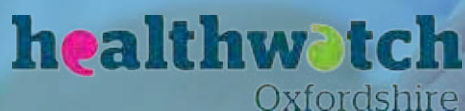
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HEALTHWATCH OXFORDSHIRE IS YOUR VOICE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Whether it is improving services today, or helping to shape them for tomorrow, Healthwatch Oxfordshire is all about enabling local voices to influence the delivery and design of local health and social care in our county. Not just for the people who use them now, but for anyone who might need it in future.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire was set up on April 1 2013, as a result of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The organisation sits alongside 151 other local Healthwatch across the country.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire hears what children, young people and adults have to say about health and social care services, whether that is praise,

criticism or ideas for improvement. We strengthen the collective voice of patients and the public, so that service providers and commissioners listen to what they have to say. We then hold them to account on how they use the information we provide to shape, inform and influence service delivery and design.

In order to ensure that we have the best possible evidence and the widest possible views to influence the delivery and design of health and social care services, we need as many people as possible to speak out about their experiences, so that we can speak up on their behalf.

Healthwatch is independent, and we are accountable to the people of

Oxfordshire, so please tell us how you would like to be treated and cared for, and what is important to you when using health and social care services, and we can make a difference together.

To find out more about Healthwatch Oxfordshire, please visit our website,

www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

Contact us on 01865 520 520 or email hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

You can also follow us on Twitter @HealthwatchOxon and find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/HealthwatchOxfordshire

EARLIER COMPLETION FOR TOWNLANDS HOSPITAL, SAY DEVELOPERS



Patients could be treated in the new Townlands Hospital sooner than forecast after an earlier completion date was announced in January. Developers Amber Infrastructure have informed NHS Property Services that the contractor building the hospital, Vinci Construction, expects to hand it over to the NHS during the week commencing 1 February 2016. Healthcare services need to be moved out of the old Townlands building four weeks after practical completion. Throughout the transition to the new building Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trusts will continue to

provide services with minimal disruption. In the meantime, services at Henley will continue to be provided as usual from the existing Townlands hospital building and patients should keep their appointments.

Services will continue to be provided, including: minor injuries every day from 9am-8pm; out-of-hours services; outpatient clinics and community nursing. Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust will continue to provide inpatient facilities at Wallingford Hospital with support at home delivered through its community teams, until such a time that

the beds are open at the Orders of St John Care Trust care home, anticipated completion summer 2016.

It is good news that patients will benefit from the new facility earlier than forecast.

Further information about the developments at Townlands Hospital can be found on our website: <http://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/about-us/work-programmes/townlands-hospitalconsultation/governance-and-hosc/> David Smith, Chief Executive of the Clinical Commissioning Group

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NOTTAKWIRE UPDATE

Nottakwire would like to update interested members of the village community with news of our 2015 Christmas activities.

Our first engagement this December was to support the Sue Ryder "Lights of Love" celebration at St. Mary's, Henley. Each year we receive a request to sing in support of the congregation and this year, twenty of our members fulfilled the request. As always, it was a beautiful remembrance service and we were pleased to be part of it.

We then responded to a second request to sing carols for Waitrose in Henley. The occasion was a happy and very successful one, undertaken by a further twenty volunteer members, on Saturday 5 December. Our singers were led by Elaine and "carolled" shoppers for ninety minutes. Waitrose responded by providing them with delicious Christmas cake and hot drinks. As a result of this effort, our singers raised £150 towards our Christmas Charity giving.

To follow this, Margaret led a group of 63 carol singers around Sonning Common for an hour and three-quarters on Friday 11 December. We had a thoroughly enjoyable, though rather chilly time and ended up at the Village Hall for mulled wine, hot drinks and festive eats for 85 (some members joining us at the hall.) A team of seven members and helpers

stayed to prepare the hall for our return and it was particularly rewarding that a number of friends, relations and local residents responded to our invitation to come along and sing with us on this occasion. As a result of this "first" in the village, a further £85 was raised.

One of the aims of Nottakwire (alongside the opportunity it offers local people to sing and have fun together and to entertain others) is to raise money in support of others. This Christmas was no exception. Despite the fact that we were forced to withdraw from a Christmas Concert performance this year - due to personal medical circumstances - we nevertheless dug into our funds to add to the amounts generated from carol singing and made the following donations:

£300 to "Embrace the Middle East"

www.embraceme.org Registered Charity No. 1076329

£100 to Club SC for their Christmas Parties

£50 to SC Lunch Club

£25 to Peppard Lunch Club - and we will be subsidising the Village Hall hire cost of £72 for the Annual Village Supper September 2016

Added to the £1550 raised and donated in June and other small sums we have gifted locally during the year, we are pleased to announce that during 2015 we have made gifts totalling £2421. 24p.

Since Nottakwire began in March 2010, our total of monies raised and given in support of a very wide variety of groups - largely local - has reached over £12,500.

In conclusion we have many people to thank for our continuing success as a Community Singing Group. Many of our regular members go "the extra mile" to help out with the numerous physical aspects of running a large group. As Elaine and I grow a little older each year, such jobs would be nigh on impossible without such willing help and we are extremely grateful for such loyalty and assistance. Our regular members are a great bunch of people. They work hard at sessions, support each other in friendship and have fun together. Additionally, we recognise that our success in raising money and therefore being able to help other groups, is reliant on patrons supporting our events and concerts. To them we are also deeply indebted. We plan to continue offering entertainment this summer with concerts on Saturday, 2 July. Tickets will be advertised as 2016 progresses.

Please come along in July and support your local village community choir - especially if you have not been before. Every penny raised, will go to benefit Sonning Common causes and residents.

Finally, Margaret and Elaine would like to wish all members, supporters and everyone reading this update a healthy, happy - and musical - 2016. ●

Church *news*

KIDMORE END AND CHRIST THE KING

Henley Choirs' Festival

Saturday 30 January

7pm

St Mary's Church, Henley

Tickets £5 in aid of NOMAD Youth and Community Project
Main work: Vivaldi's Magnificat with items by Bach and Mozart and conducted by Frances Brewitt Taylor Church choirs will perform individual pieces.

The Christingle service at Christ the King led by Joan Lamprell and Karen Broadbent

75 adults and children raised over £170 for The Children's Society

A lovely occasion and a lively presentation - a good start to the Christmas celebrations
Singing 'Away in a Manger' by the light of the Christingles was particularly atmospheric!

Churches in Reading Drop in Centre (CIRDIC)

Even more gifts were received this year

Donations give homeless and needy people breakfast and dinner all year round on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and at Christmas this is even more welcome. Large amounts of food and clothing went down to the centre just before Christmas.

Thank you everyone on behalf of the manager of the centre, Mabel Boyd.

Our associate priest Susan Cooper wishes everyone a Happy New Year with prayers that this year will bring a new Rector to our Benefice and a new Bishop for our Diocese.

Little Lambs group for children under five and their parents/carers

Wednesday 24 February and 30 March
9.30 and 10.30 am
St John the Baptist Church Kidmore End.
Contact felicityandmichael@btinternet.com

Circle dancing

Sunday 7 February and 6 March

3pm to 5pm

Christ the King

led by Ros Jennings

Cup of tea, social chat

Thursday 19 February and 18 March

Christ the King hall

2 to 3.30pm

Transport available contact

Jenny Macgregor 947 2855

Lent and Easter calendar

9 February

Shrove Tuesday (pancakes!)

10 February

Ash Wednesday (First day of Lent)

Christ the King

8pm

6 March

Mothering Sunday

Christ the King

9.30am

Lent Course at Christ the King

- Look out for details

24 March

Maundy Thursday

St John's

8pm

25 March

Good Friday

10am Procession of Witness

Christ the King car park

followed by hot cross buns

and coffee

Sunday 27 March

Easter Day

9.30am

Christ the King

Women's World Day of

Prayer Friday 4 March - look

out for details of local service

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lent commences

Wednesday 10 February
Mass on Ash Wednesday
7.30pm

Holy week

Monday 21 March
Penitential service

7.30pm

Thursday 24 March
Maundy Thursday Mass
7pm

Friday 25 March
Good Friday service
3pm

Saturday 26 March
Easter Vigil
9pm

Monday 28 March
Easter morning Masses
9 and 10.30am

We also intend to run a series of talks and reflections between now and Easter. To see what is happening and to confirm times nearer the date

please visit our website at www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk

As always everyone is welcome to come and see what we do within our parish community at any time.

'YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS' BUT IT WAS, SO...

My husband, Ron and I arrived back in England after some 'long term commuting' between New Zealand and the UK! During our last stay in the southern hemisphere we lived just outside Rotorua, in a small town called Ngongotaha. It's even harder to pronounce than to spell it! During those years I had felt God calling me to priesthood and after a while of responding with some very John McEnroe phrase like "You cannot be serious!" I went through my training and was ordained an Anglican Priest in the cathedral in Napier.

When it became time to spread my wings, the Spirit nudged me to look at the English website for possible vacancies. The first place I saw was Streatley, where my grandfather had been vicar, not too far from the area of Pinkneys Green where I had grown up. After some conversations with the Bishop of Dorchester we decided that the Benefice of Kidmore End, Sonning Common and Rotherfield Peppard might be just the position we were looking for.

Then came the interview! On a sweltering day in late November (that's in NZ, of course!) representatives from the Benefice led by Revd canon Foulis-Brown interviewed me on Skype; a first for all of us. A sea of faces greeted me, no chance of remembering names, and we talked for nearly an hour.....and soon after I was offered the position of House-for-Duty Associate Priest!

Time for the even harder work! The tough part was saying farewell to my old parish of St. Barnabas. We still miss, but keep in touch with many friends in the whole area. Then came the stressful time of obtaining a visa for my Kiwi

husband, selling and packing up the house and transferring us lock, stock and barrel to Oxfordshire to a house we'd never seen except in photographs.

Straightaway we were made welcome and Bishop Colin licensed me to minister in the Benefice, so promptly we still had jetlag! But it was a special occasion and lovely to have my brother, son, grandchildren, cousin and their families present in the church. We hadn't seen them for several years!

There was a great deal to become accustomed to after our spell in NZ, but we soon felt at home again. I was able to work to my strengths within the Benefice both in pastoral care, and in the use of drama within the local schools and at times in services to illustrate the Word of God. Before ordination I had spent many years as a speech and drama teacher and an examiner for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

Since 2009 I had been fortunate to work in hospital chaplaincy, an area of ministry close to my heart. It has been wonderful to see how God brings the gifts we are given together and then sends us to somewhere special to use them to the full. Working between the three churches is greatly fulfilling, each has their own individual style which keeps me on my toes. I particularly enjoy being invited to share in the schools' and churches' Harvest, Christingle and Carol services.

Last September our Rector, Father Graham, retired, so at present the Churchwardens and I are working hard keeping things flowing, and waiting to see with whom we will be blessed, in our new Rector. This, God willing, will happen by the summer. More Skype interviews perhaps? Who knows!

Meanwhile, we still shake our heads when we realise we've been here for nearly two years. I still had to keep quiet when the All Blacks won the Rugby World Cup, but apart from that, Ron and I feel very much part of this Benefice and community and thank God for bringing us here. ●

Susan Cooper



FEBRUARY 2016

MONDAY 1	Royal British Legion Women's Section - Raffle Batten House	14:00 - 15:30
WEDNESDAY 3	Village Coffee Morning hosted by Sonning Common Women's Institute. Open to all. Raising funds for local community project - Village Hall	10:30 - 12:00
MONDAY 8	FISH - Tea party - Village Hall	14:30
MONDAY 15	Sonning Common Parish Council - Village Hall	20:00
THURSDAY 18	FISH - Pub lunch	11:30
THURSDAY 18	Sonning Common Women's Institute - "Denman College" a talk by Jane Probitts. Visitors welcome - Village Hall	19:30
THURSDAY 25	FISH - Henley Farmers' Market	09:00
SATURDAY 27	Primary School Cross Country Chiltern Edge School	09:00 - 12:00

MARCH 2016

MONDAY 7	Village Coffee Morning hosted by Sonning Common Women's Institute. Open to all. Raising funds for local community projects Village Hall	10:30 - 12:00
WEDNESDAY 9	Chiltern Players - play readings Butcher's Arms	20:00
MONDAY 14	FISH - Tea party Village Hall	14:30
THURSDAY 17	FISH - Pub lunch	11:30
THURSDAY 17	Sonning Common Women's Institute - AGM & Quiz. Visitors welcome Village Hall	19:30
MONDAY 21	Sonning Common Parish Council - Village Hall	20:00
THURSDAY 24	FISH - Henley Farmers' Market	09:00
MONDAY 4 APR	Royal British Legion Women's Section - Quiz & Craft - Batten House	14:00 - 15:30

The FISH Volunteer Centre runs regular door-to-door shopping trips to Tesco in Henley every Monday morning and to Henley Waitrose, Henley Farmers Market, Morrisons in Reading and Reading Town Centre every month.

The programme of shopping and leisure trips for each month is published and distributed on 20th of the preceding month and bookings are taken from that date. Copies of the programme are available the FISH Volunteer Centre, Sonning Common Library, the Christian Community Action shop, Pet Country Supplies and on request from Carson's Chemist. The monthly programme of trips is posted on noticeboards in both Peppard and Sonning Common.

Details of all minibus trips can also be found on the FISH website www.fishvolunteercentre.co.uk

For more information and to book any trip call **0118 972 3986** any weekday between 09.30 and 11.30 a.m. ●

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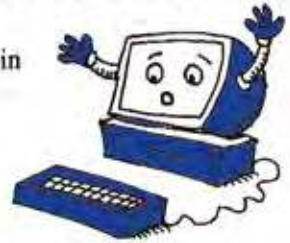


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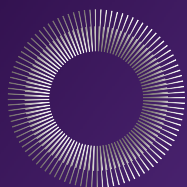
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