

Chipperfield NEWS



Issue 275

February 2016

www.chipperfield.org.uk

CHIPPERFIELD PANTOMIME



Wendy East, *Wizard Wombosa*; Sophia Rees, *Prince Florizal*; Andrew Royle, *Rupert*; Jennifer Heusen, *Bubble*; Jane Bryson, *Squeak*; Stuart Mead, *Queen Maria*; Janet and Bella Kear, *the panto horse*; Lauren Jackson, *Fairy Queen*; Wendy Marchant, *Fairy Nightshade*; Amelie Royle, *Princess Beauty*....

SLEEPING BEAUTY, directed by *Lisa Callcut*, played to four full houses in the newly sparkling Village Hall in January; it had remarkable scenery and first class lighting. Each show started with a threat... "Anyone whose mobile phone rings will have to sing a solo".....followed by helpful directions...."Audience, the toilets, they're behind you!" "Oh no they're not"...."Oh yes they are!!" Asked what was best about the production, a member of the cast replied, "The Audience!" Comments from the audience included, "Sophia Rees and Amelie Royle (in her first major role, Ed.) sang beautifully", and "Wendy Marchant as Fairy Nightshade dealt brilliantly with some gentle heckling from the audience – years of practice at school, no doubt!" One of her lines, "I'll go off on my own then", prompted a response from a man in the audience "No! I'll take you home!" There were some close shaves – Princess Beauty had lost her voice on Monday but recovered in time for Thursday; a child in the front row joined in with the Dame calling out "mother, mother..." But Sir Lionel the panto horse, fresh from her triumph at Horse of the Year, tipped the scales to bring us all the magic of panto, and all went all right on the night – three cheers for **Chipperfield Theatre Group!**

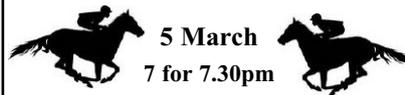


THE BLACKWELL CHARITABLE TRUST

On 17 December, representatives of a number of village organisations gathered in Blackwells to each receive a cheque for £1,000 presented by Allyson Williams, Chairman of the Village Club and the Blackwell Trust set up in memory of Samuel Blackwell and his two sons. Allyson explained how the Trust had developed and was pleased to make the awards. The organisations included many of the sporting clubs in the village and the Brownies, pictured above.
Terry Simmonds

Chipperfield VILLAGE HALL

RACE NIGHT



5 March

7 for 7.30pm

After the success of last year's event, we are holding another Race Night

*Hot supper * Bar*

Tickets: £8, including supper, from committee members or
01442 832090



ST PAUL'S CRIB SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE

How wonderful to see the church full of excited families with children dressed as shepherds, kings, angels and even donkeys. Not that we needed donkeys! The service continued with Dandy the donkey leading a procession of Mary and Joseph and all the congregation on a journey to the stable where we gathered around the crib and sang 'Away in a Manger'. What a wonderful way to begin the Festive Season when we celebrate the birth of Jesus on that first Christmas.
Anne Stickland

1st CHIPPERFIELD BROWNIES

We have welcomed eleven new Brownies since January 2015. Here are some of the activities which the girls have enjoyed.

We had a great time watching some of our Brownies perform in Dick Whittington and are looking forward to coming back this year to watch Sleeping Beauty. We had an American theme evening, dance night, senses evening, craft evenings, a litter pick around the village, a torch walk on the common and an entertainment evening. We ended our Christmas term with a fun-filled trip to the Snow Centre where twenty five Brownies had great fun sledding! The girls attended Church Parade for Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday.

The girls have worked hard to gain various badges, including, Brownie Skills, First Aid, Healthy Heart and Speaker.

The highlight of the year would have to be our first ever District Camp! Seventeen of our Brownies joined Rainbows and Brownies and Guides from Kings Langley District for a brilliant long weekend at Tolmers, Cuffley, in August. The girls thoroughly enjoyed many activities, including canoeing, archery, high ropes, assault course, a film night and a campfire.

Sadly, in July we said goodbye to our wonderful *Tawny Owl, Hannah*, who, after being with 1st Chipperfield Brownies since age seven, left to have her second baby. Thank you, Hannah, for everything you have done for us at Brownies.

The Super Brownie of the Year was *Olivia Palfrey*; well done, very well deserved.

At the end of the year, Chipperfield Brownies received a donation from the *Trustees of Blackwells* in the village. This was extremely generous and we are very grateful to the Trustees. We will be purchasing a new flag to be paraded at our forthcoming Church Parades at St Paul's.

My thanks go to my wonderful team of assistant leaders and all who gave their time to support the Brownies in gaining their various badges and trying new activities.

My Unit is full at the moment but if you would like to put your daughter's name on the waiting list, please enter your details via www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested.

Our District covers Kings Langley, Abbots Langley and Chipperfield. We have one Rainbow unit (girls age 5-7), three Brownie units (age 7-10) and two Guide units (age 10-14). We have overflowing waiting lists for all three sections and would love to find willing, enthusiastic volunteers to help us open new units. If you are interested in giving some time to Girlguiding UK and would like a really rewarding experience in working with girls aged 5-14, please register your details via www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested. We would love to welcome you into our District. Thank you for your support.

Sian Roberts, Brown Owl

Chipperfield Care

Are we missing you?

Chipperfield Care is a group of Volunteers who have banded together to help those who are unable to find their own transport to essential appointments such as hospitals, doctors, dentists or medical clinics. We run an answering service from Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 1.30pm to receive requests for transport. These volunteers, our Duty Officers, then contact our Drivers to arrange the safe transport of our clients to and from their requested destination. Could you volunteer as a Driver or Duty Officer for a few hours a month? IF YOU CAN HELP in any way, please call Cindy Waite 01923 283439 or Mark Jarrad 01923 268910.

Are you missing us?

Do you have problems getting to important appointments? Unable to use public transport or no access to other forms of transport? Whether this is short or long term, please call our Help Line between 9.30am and 1.30pm on 01923 264700 and we will do our utmost to help.

CHRISTMAS IN QUEEN STREET



As last year, the great guys brought back to Queen Street a tree to rival Trafalgar Square and, fortified with much refreshment, the tree was soon in place and the lights shone out, including Rudolph's red nose. The neighbours, old and new, young and old, gathered by the tree for mulled wine and the usual seasonal food and soon got to know each other. Suggestions were made and discussed for summer activities and for maintaining the gravel road. Good times were had by all.

Sue Walker

GRAPEVINE MOVIES

Friday 12 February

Sarratt Village Hall

7.15pm doors open for 8pm film

February's *Grapevine Movie* is a passionate film set in war time, occupied France. Lucile Angellier (Michelle Williams) awaits news from her husband, a prisoner of war, while leading a stifled existence with her domineering mother-in-law (Kristin Scott Thomas). Her life is turned upside down when Parisian refugees pour into their small town, followed by German soldiers who take up residence in the villagers' homes. She tries to ignore Bruno (Matthias Schoenaerts), the handsome and refined German officer who has been posted to live with them, but soon a powerful love draws them together. Oooh, this film is a good 'un!

Entry by £5 donation * Food £4

Free popcorn, lots of friends, plus Colin's bar (still jolly good!)

4.30pm doors open for 5pm film

An Irish youth (David Rawle) discovers that his mute sister is a Selkie, a mythical creature who resembles a seal in the water but assumes human form on land, who must find her voice and free supernatural creatures from the spell of a Celtic goddess (Fionnula Flanagan). This Oscar nominated, hand drawn, new film is stunning. Although it is a film that is suitable for children, it is also great for adults. A dramatic film, beautifully drawn with a gorgeous soundtrack sung by Lisa Hannigan.

Entry by donation: £3 children
£5 adults (adults with children free)
Ice creams * Hot dogs * Teas/Coffee
and, of course, a bar

Children must be accompanied by an adult

CUMBRIA FLOOD RECOVERY APPEAL

A 'Try before you buy' event
20% off the New Season Boden
range of clothing for men, women
and children, plus accessories.

*All profits to the Cumbria Flood
Recovery Appeal*

Tuesday 2 February

10am - 1pm and 6 - 9pm
Mission Church, Redhall Lane,
Chandlers Cross
(opp. Prime Restaurant)

CHIPPERFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY

On Saturday 12 December St Paul's was filled with the sound of beautiful Christmas music and carols as the Chipperfield Choral Society performed their traditional Christmas concerts.

Delia Meehan, now in her 25th season as the choir's Musical Director, had put together a varied programme of Christmas music, old and new, to celebrate the concert theme of 'Christmas is coming'. As well as familiar, traditional carols there was, as we have become delighted to expect every year, a new carol, 'Gloria in Excelsis Deo' and a new setting of the Calypso Carol from **Alan Taylor**, one of the choir's patrons. The many carols that Alan has composed over the years for the choir are all being brought together for publication in 2016. Delia and Alan also arranged together the charming Spanish carol, 'Cantemos a Maria'. The choir was wonderfully accompanied on the piano by **Rosemary Venner** and by **Nicholas King** on St Paul's mighty organ.

The audience clearly appreciated the two very talented soloists. **Rosemary Clifford** performed the 'Dormouse Carol', **Alex Haigh** sang 'O Holy Night' accompanied by the choir and they joined together in a joyful performance of the 'Angel Carol' by John Rutter.

The choir went on tour the following week to Chorleywood where they performed a similar concert in aid of North London Cancer Research.

The next concert will be on **Saturday 19 March** in **St John's, Boxmoor**, where the choir and a fine line-up of talented soloists will perform Dvorak's 'Te Deum', 'Five Mystical Songs' by Vaughan Williams and 'Mass in a time of War' by Haydn. You can find further information at our website: www.chipperfieldchoral.co.uk

John Morrish

CHIPPERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

15 February in The Small Hall

Planning meeting at 7.15pm
(No Parish council meeting)

All residents welcome

Carole Butcher
Clerk to the Council

01923 263901

parishclerk@chipperfield.org.uk

www.chipperfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

CHIPPERFIELD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

It had a great start in January with parents with little ones and children from school coming to choose **free** books and sample the cakes, at the same time as all other generations. It is a grand place for a hot drink or squash and a natter with your neighbours.

Q and As

When? 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm

Where? St Paul's Parish Room

What do we have to offer?

We have a selection of books for all ages, including large print and talking books from Herts Libraries. If you know someone who would like these, please advise and we will try to deliver to the housebound. When they are exhausted we shall not get more. We have novels, crime, romance classics, thrillers and many more; biographies, history, cookery, gardening, as well as books for tiny children, young ones and teenagers. We also have a suggestion box for you to share ideas and requests which we will try to meet.

Of what do we need more?

Sports books. Books for young people, teenagers, tiny children, boys. Roald Dahl in particular demand. Please leave these at the back of church.

What do we not need?

Anything else at present. We have finite storage capacity so please do not leave books unless they meet our present needs. **Watch this space for updates.**

The books are free and you do not need to 'swap'. That was simply the idea of the Herts Library service. That is why we have changed the name to Community Library. Take as many as you want. Recycle to us when you have read them if they are any good, or pass them on to a friend. Everyone is welcome.

Frances Onians

CHIPPERFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 16 February at 7.30pm in the Small Hall

Everyone is welcome to come to our AGM which is usually fairly short and this year will be followed by a guest speaker. Do come and join us to hear of our plans for this new year and the future. **Cheese and wine will end the evening.**

Our first show of the year will be on **Saturday 19 March** in the Village Hall. Staging from 10.00am until 12 noon with the doors reopening when the judging has taken place at 2.30pm with prize giving at 3.30pm. There will be all our popular classes for bulbs, pot plants, flowers and vegetables, as well as floral art, handicraft and domestic. The junior sections have their own classes; do encourage them to enter and have some fun. Don't forget to take your photographs with their three classes, 'Manmade world', 'Young ones' and 'Raindrops'. In the afternoon we will be serving our usual homemade delicious cream teas.

Our collectors will be calling soon for your subscription for this year, still a bargain at £2. As a member, you can enjoy free lectures and a £2 discount on tickets for our main speaker this year, **Helen Yemm**, the gardening columnist for The Telegraph. She will be with us on 26 April and tickets are already on sale at Garden Scene. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM and the Spring Show.

Ann Soanes, Secretary, 01923 262756

RICKMANSWORTH DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Tuesday 9 February

'Art Down Under'

Australian art from the convict years to the modern era

Valerie Woodgate

How artistic responses evolved from the European perspective into depicting the unique landscape and culture Down Under

Sarratt Village Hall

10.30am coffee - 11am lecture

Visitors welcome

For more information call

Diana Jefkins 01494 874507

Village Events Diary 2016

Enclosed is a provisional schedule of local events to help readers and organisations plan around dates already arranged. This is to avoid gridlock and parking problems in the village.

All these dates will be found on the village website and they will be updated regularly.

To add dates, please contact:

Peter Corbett drumcotp@btinternet.com

Richard Edwards

Chairman, Chipperfield News

The Churches in Chipperfield

ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH

Incumbent Rev. Michele du Saire
The Vicarage, The Street, Chipperfield, WD4 9BJ
e-mail: micheledusaire.hcstp@gmail.com
Vicarage phone: 01923 265848

Church Wardens

Ian Chantrell 01923 269394
07807 031235
Ann Waine 01923 268904

UNITY



THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister Rev. Jason Gain
The Manse, The Street
Chipperfield WD4 9BH
Tel: 01923 270664

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY

Tel: 01923 265327

REGULAR SERVICES AND MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Benefice Prayer Meeting, 6.30pm

1st Sunday

(See pew sheet for venues)

MONDAY

Early Prayers

St Paul's Parish Room, 8am

(upper room)

Weekday Mass

Our Lady's, 9.30am

TUESDAY

Church Youth Group

60 Tower Hill, 6.30-8pm

(Anne and John Stickland)

School years 6-13 (term time only)

Weekday Mass

Our Lady's, 9.30am

Home Group

The Manse, 7.30-9pm

(term time only)

WEDNESDAY

Little Angels Toddler Group

Baptist Church, 9.30-11am

(term time only)

FRIDAY

Prayer Group

Baptist Church, 7am

(term time only)

Weekday Mass

Our Lady's, 9.30am

Choir Practice

St Paul's, 7.45pm

BAPTIST CHURCH

I think the month of February is very interesting coming as it does after January. It is linked with love in a couple of ways and, this particular year, bachelors watch out! February is also an anagram of 'bare fury' but if you are feeling less miffed 'bury fear' has a better feeling, and in ancient Anglo Saxon folklore it is called the 'cabbage month' which leads me on to the fact that it was also called the purification month by the Romans (those last two may or may not be linked in your household but they most certainly are in ours).

After the excesses of late December and early January, it may be appropriate to have a month in which we are encouraged to have more control of ourselves. I would also imagine that it might be the month in which most resolutions are dropped because thirty odd days is about as much as we can stand denying ourselves. Purification is not as bad a thing as we would automatically first think. We immediately assume the negative of forgoing and refusing ourselves things, and that we don't like one bit. However, the benefits can be manifold. Removing impurities in the system can help general wellbeing, reduce lethargy, encourage brain function, improve sleep patterns and combat the effects of seasonal affected depression.

It does make me wonder whether religious purification might just have a grain of sense. There is nothing better for the body than a clean soul. "The sleep of the righteous is sweet" and the link between how we feel and how healthy we are is not that strange. Christian theology does not put the major burden of being righteous on us. Whether we like it or not we are saved from trusting ourselves and encouraged to put our faith in Jesus Christ. Letting go of all those things that slow and hamper us might just be all the purification we need? Who's for a glass of cabbage juice?

Love Jason

The Man in the Manse

OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR RC CHURCH

New Year 2016 certainly brought instant change to our parish. Fr Floribert Mulikita, who has been our priest since mid 2014, has been appointed as the Provincial Director of the Salvatorian community in his native country, Democratic Republic of Congo. He left to take up his new responsibilities on the day we celebrated the Epiphany, which is perhaps appropriate as we recognise how the Good News has spread throughout the world in the two millennia since that first Christmas. Floribert will be in charge of a religious community around 100 strong, with some parishes regularly having congregations in excess of 1000. It will be a far cry from the quiet rural backwater of Chipperfield! While our regular services will, for the time being, be conducted by supply priests, we look forward to a more permanent arrangement later in the year.

Just before Christmas, Pope Francis inaugurated the Church's 'Year of Mercy' by opening a Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica in Rome, an act replicated in fifteen churches in the Westminster Diocese. The symbolism of a Holy Door is that it opens a path forward, one of conversion and a new way to reach to God, an entrance to salvation. The Doors of Mercy are there to attract us in a special way to move forward, to leave behind our old practices, especially to experience mercy for ourselves and thus extend our own mercifulness. The image of the door to the Kingdom recurs in the Gospel and, as Pope Francis reminds us, "The door to a home is where we can find safety, love and warmth. Jesus tells us that there is a door which gives access to God's family, offering the warmth of communion with him." The Year of Mercy, running until November next, is a timely reminder of the importance of renewing our Christian spirit, and will include a number of prayerful events around the Westminster diocese.

ST PAUL'S & HOLY CROSS

Benefice Administrator

Machaela Gravestock

Monday 2 - 4pm

Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm

and 1.30 - 4.30pm

Friday 9.30 - 11.30am

at Sarratt Village Hall Office

01923 264377

www.hcsp.net

DIARY OF SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS

February

Sun 7	<i>(1st Sunday of month)</i>	<i>Sunday next before Lent</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Paul's
	10.00am	Benefice Communion	Holy Cross
	6.30pm	Benefice Monthly Prayers	St Paul's
Wed 10	<i>(2nd Wednesday of month)</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
	10.00am	Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes	Holy Cross
	7.30pm	Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes	St Paul's
Sun 14	<i>(2nd Sunday of month)</i>	<i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Paul's
	10.00am	All Age Worship	St Paul's
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
Sun 21	<i>(3rd Sunday of month)</i>	<i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
	10.00am	Benefice Communion	St Paul's
	6.30pm	Compline (traditional)	Holy Cross
Wed 24	<i>(4th Wednesday of month)</i>		
	10.00am	Midweek Communion	St Paul's
Sun 28	<i>(4th Sunday of month)</i>	<i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
	9.15am	Open House Family Service	Holy Cross
	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Paul's

March

Sun 6	<i>(1st Sunday of month)</i>	<i>Mothering Sunday - 4th Sunday of Lent</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Paul's
	10.00am	Family Service for Mothering Sunday	St Paul's
	10.00am	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday	Holy Cross
	6.30pm	Benefice Monthly Prayers	Holy Cross
Wed 9	<i>(2nd Wednesday of month)</i>		
	10.00am	Midweek Communion	Holy Cross
Sun 13	<i>(2nd Sunday of month)</i>	<i>5th Sunday of Lent - Passiontide begins</i>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Paul's
	10.00am	All Age Worship	St Paul's
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
	6.30pm	Healing Service with Holy Communion	Holy Cross

N.B. There will be a Musical Service in St Paul's on Friday 25 March, Good Friday, at 7.15pm
Appropriate teaching for children is available at all 10.00am services

DIARY OF SERVICES AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship on Sunday

February

Sun 7	10.30am	LOFL episode 3 CAFE
	7.00pm	3Vu
Sun 14	10.30am	LOFL episode 4 with Ian Chantrelle
Sun 21	10.30am	LOFL episode 5
Sun 28	10.30am	All Age Service

Dates for diary

Regular Sunday services are at 10.30am with Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays

Sunday groups for children and Youth Sunday mornings

The following groups meet in term time only:-

Tuesday Home group, The Manse, The Street: 7.30 - 9pm

Wednesday Little Angels Toddler Group: 9.30 - 11am

SERVICES AT OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR

Sundays	9.00am	Mass
	11.00am	Mass
Fridays	10.00am	Mass

ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS

Is it too late to wish you all a Happy New Year?

By the time this edition of Chipperfield News lands on your mat, the year will be well under way. The Christmas decorations will have been returned to the attic, the good intentions of our New Year resolutions will be losing some of their appeal and St Paul's will be focusing on Lent, the season which mirrors Jesus' trials in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. We will all be looking forward to the longer warmer days and the Easter vacations. But before we assign last year's Christmas celebrations to the dim and distant past, I would like to remind you of one of the highlights of the season, the service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Several people commented that it was the best ever! And so it was. Thanks to everyone who made it possible: Keith who rehearsed the musicians to within an inch of their lives, the readers, the flower arrangers who decorated St Paul's so magnificently, those who made sure everyone was seated in a safe and timely manner, and everyone who helped to prepare the church for the Christmas Eve services afterwards. Thanks also to the providers of refreshments. I hope I have not missed out anyone. Above all, thanks to all of you who came to see, to listen, to wonder and to be reminded of why we are here and what Christmas is all about. I hope that those of you who were not able to be in the main body of the church nonetheless found it to be a meaningful and uplifting experience which helped you to make a good start to your Christmas celebrations. Finally, thank you for your generous donations after the service; we were able to send a **£1,000** cheque to **Tearfund** towards its refugee appeal. Good news indeed for those in great need! Peace be with you.
Michele, Rector, Benefice of Sarratt and Chipperfield.

The **2015 Hollyberry Fair**, organised by St Paul's Church, made a net profit of £2,930 which enabled a substantial donation to be made to the Kings Langley Secondary School Refurbishment Fund. Our thanks to Head Teacher, Gary Lewis, for opening the Fair and to everyone who helped. We are retiring now from running the event but we are pleased to announce that new organisers have been found, so please make sure you come along on Saturday 19 November to support them.

Ann and Philip Waine

DRAMA AND FUN AT ST PAUL'S

As always, the annual festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on 23 December in St Paul's Church was a sellout with, this year, a sizeable overflow in the parish room. The carols, as is now traditional, were accompanied by an orchestra collected and directed by choirmaster and organist, **Keith Beniston**, who also provided the orchestral arrangements as well as some original carols. Many have commented how fortunate this village is to have both a thriving choral society and an excellent church choir augmented from time to time by full orchestra. If that creates any sense of competition, with each striving to produce its best, then long may it continue. Of course, many of the singers perform in both.

The choir this year, assisted by singers from Holy Cross and other friends, had never sounded better, particularly in the few unaccompanied numbers such as 'Adam Lay ybounden'. They combined with the musicians to produce a memorable service. Beniston's arrangements injected large elements of both the drama and the charm of the musical stage. And why not? JS Bach in his day used both, and Handel was as much at home in the theatre as in the church. Like the composers of old, Beniston also injected fun and humour into his compositions. For his somewhat quirky arrangement of 'Babe of Bethlehem', after some verses from the choir the congregation were asked to join in with the tune of Away in a Manger—to realise the choir had been singing the descant—a device also effectively used by Gustav Holst. A very jazzy version of 'The Virgin Mary' clearly caught the imagination of the choir, as did the particularly flamboyant arrangement of 'Riding on a Donkey'; I am sure I was not the only person to hear a burst of Bach Comes to Town given out by the flute.

For the more formal parts of the service the nine readers all presented the lessons with polished delivery. The **Rev'd Michele du Saire** gave us a short but pointed reminder of the poor and dispossessed of our world. The final carols for choir, orchestra and congregation produced a splendid and rousing climax to the service, which was rounded off with an organ voluntary by **Nicholas King** in which he improvised on the carols we had just heard, demonstrating the full potential of the splendid organ.

John Uff

PINTS OF VIEW

'New Year Resolutions - Why are they so hard to keep?'

Monday 15 February, The Plough, 8pm

Resolve to come along and banish mid-February gloom by joining in an informal discussion. Why are they so hard to keep? A survey conducted in 2015 found that 66% of those who made resolutions kept them for only one month or less, and by the end of three months 80% had failed to keep them! POV provides an opportunity in relaxed surroundings to consider topical matters, aspects of faith, moral issues and dilemmas. Do join us if you can. Everyone is welcome.

Bob Shearer and John Guy

Chipperfield News is a newspaper for the community of Chipperfield and the surrounding area. Articles are welcomed though are published at the discretion of the editors. While it is our intention that readers should find these of interest, any such contribution, whether or not it bears the author's name, is published on the basis that the views contained therein may or may not reflect those of *Chipperfield News* and, in all such cases, are not endorsed by the newspaper. As such, *Chipperfield News* takes no responsibility or liability for the information in these articles.

FRIENDS OF CHIPPERFIELD COMMON

On 19 December we held our annual 'alternative to Christmas shopping' project day. Twelve of us carried on our work extending the new glade at the southern end of the woods while we were treated to a beautiful mild winter's day. In between bacon rolls, coffee and mince pies, we gave thought to the shopping centres in Watford, Milton Keynes and were all thankful that we were working on the Common and not with the crowds of shoppers.

Management of the Common

There are two bridleways, one along the southern edge with the Three Rivers boundary and the other from the main car park running up to Bucks Hill. The former is generally in good condition with no reason for horses to stray while the latter is in poor condition with a particularly boggy part in the middle. Ground conditions permitting, I am hoping to get the surface improved this winter so as to provide a better facility for horse riders and give them every reason to stay on the bridleway. As always, it will look a bit 'sore' to start with but, as we know from the bridleway improvement undertaken two years ago, once it has been used and the rain settles the material, it soon becomes a good surface for all to use.

For any enquiries about either Common Management or F of CC, please contact vanessa.johnson@dacorum.gov.uk or the *Parish Clerk*.

*Colin Chambers, Team Lead,
Trees and Woodlands, Dacorum Borough*

CHIPPERFIELD BOWLS CLUB

receives generous gift from *The Blackwell Charitable Trust*

The Trust has generously donated £1,000 to the Chipperfield Short Mat Bowls Club to help with equipment and to replace an ageing bowling mat. Terry Timberlake, Chipperfield Bowls Club chairman, was handed the cheque by the Chair of the Trust, Alison Williams, at a presentation on 17 December. Terry thanked the Trust for its generosity and stated that consideration, via the Club Committee, would be given to renaming the trophy presented to the winner each season of the Pairs Competition as the 'Blackwell Trophy' in recognition of the Trust and the help it has provided to the Bowls Club.

At Christmas, the Bowls Club itself was able in a smaller way to make a charitable donation. The Club held an end of year fun event where, after the mid-evening tea (in this case party) break, members had to bowl with their wrong hand and pay a forfeit for any bad delivery. Together with a Club top up this raised over £78 for the chosen charity, 'Home Start'.

The annual Pairs Competition has suffered some setbacks due to members' injuries, fortunately not bowls related, but will be underway again in the New Year. Our new members are settling in well and are proving already to be a threat to the longer standing members. Should you fancy having a look at us and/or joining, please phone Terry on **01923 262638**.

BINGO

THURSDAYS AT BLACKWELLS

Eyes down at 8.30pm

Do come along, have a chat, a drink and something to eat with friends.

Your needs - our prayers

When you just can't see what to do! Or life seems to be overwhelming you? We are happy to pray for you!

On Friday mornings at 8am we pray in the Baptist church for the needs of the community of Chipperfield and beyond.

We want to do this because we believe God answers prayers and is always ready to do great things.

Be sure that even if you want to give names, everything shared will be in strictest confidence.

Call: 01923 270664 - ask for Jason

Text: 07808 155470 (texts will be deleted once prayed for). E-mail:

prayers@chipperfieldbaptistchurch.co.uk

Or slip your request under the front door of the Baptist Church.

WINTER VISITORS AT LAST

Last autumn I had a bumper crop of apples. Most of the dessert apples went off to the juicer but the three big, old Bramleys were just left to drop where they provide food for the sheep, the birds and me. The sheep like them a 'bit on the turn' and, as they could overdo it, I have to make sure they cannot get too many at a time. I thought there would be plenty for the birds, like fieldfares and redwings, to feast on but only a few blackbirds and the resident song thrush have taken advantage of the glut. Often in the past flocks of a hundred or more have turned up and polished off the windfalls in a couple of days. This year the mild weather and the mostly westerly winds have made the Scandinavian visitors stay put. The lack of hard frosts seems to be helping the apples to keep and the ground under the trees is still covered. The grass is growing and the sheep are not at all interested in the hay I have put out for them, not like winter at all....except for the mud!

This morning, 8 January, as I went to give the sheep their breakfast, there was a familiar chattering in the trees; twenty fieldfares had finally arrived and were busy feeding on the windfalls. It was a delight to see these old favourites, their grey heads and rumps picked out by the low winter sun. They are noisy birds and seem to squabble over the apples, even though there are more than enough to go around. Usually the flocks are a mix of fieldfares and redwings which are a bit smaller and like a song thrush but with a red patch under their wings that is noticeable as they fly away. Today it was just fieldfares, but it is a start!

I hope they stick around for a few days; it has not seemed like winter without their chatter. By the time you read this we may be having a cold snap; I have not given up hope of some snow yet. My toboggan is at the ready!

Wendy Bathurst

FEBRUARY IN YOUR GARDEN

It was so mild and damp up to the end of last year that bulbs in the garden are really on the move. There is little time to do all that must be done before Spring, so do press ahead, if the weather allows; if winter does really set in, stay inside and make plans.

Fruit and vegetables. Press on with the winter digging as soon as the ground dries out, adding farmyard manure except where rootcrops are to be grown; carrots and parsnips will produce forked roots if manure is applied. Prepare for seed sowing and cover the soil for a few weeks with polythene so that it can warm up and aid germination of the early peas and broad beans that will be sown later in the month. Shallots and Jerusalem artichokes can be planted soon. Tree fruit and soft fruit should be planted as soon as the weather allows. Prune apple trees and pears but not plums. Spray fruit trees with winter wash before the buds start to swell. Peach trees must be sprayed with a fungicide spray before mid-February to prevent peach leaf curl disease. Autumn fruiting raspberries are pruned this month, summer fruiting varieties are pruned immediately after fruiting. Seed potatoes should be purchased as soon as possible so that they can be sprouted in a light frost free place ready for planting in the spring.

Shrubs and flowers. Plant container grown shrubs, conifers, roses and climbers, adding bonemeal when planting. There is still time to dig up and move established shrubs and also to plant bare root hedging plants, such as beech, privet, hornbeam and quickthorn. Do this before the end of March. Snowdrops should be in flower and, once the flowers fade, the clumps should be divided and planted out. Prune buddleias and late flowering clematis but early flowering varieties, such as *C. montana*, should only be given a very light trim. Cut down ornamental grasses. Deadhead regularly pansies and primroses. Should there be heavy snowfalls, always remove snow from conifers and evergreens to prevent breakage.

The greenhouse. Plug plants are now ready and should be potted up as soon as possible. As long as the greenhouse is warm enough, sow antirrhinums, lobelia, begonias and other bedding plants. Tomatoes, peppers, aubergines and cucumbers should be sown together with summer cabbage, cauliflowers and leeks. Sweet peas can be sown even in an unheated greenhouse but make sure that mice do not get in to eat the seed. Dahlia tubers can be planted up and so, too, can begonias and other summer flowering bulbs so that they will be ready to plant in the garden when frosts have finished. Perennials, such as lupins, can be sown under glass.

Garden and lawn. Get the lawnmower serviced without delay but keep off the grass until next month. Clean up the garden and make compost adding a little Garotta to help the process but do not put roots of ground elder or bindweed on the heap. Feed the birds and ensure they have water when it is frosty.

Flower shows. *Chipperfield: 19 March; Sarratt: 9 April.* Tickets for *Chelsea Flower Show* will soon sell out, order now from rhs.org.uk/shows, 0844 338 7502.

DAWN MOORE

12.8.1949 - 16.12.2015

Sadly, my partner, Dawn, has passed away peacefully having fought a long battle with cancer. I would like to thank all our friends and customers who supported us during this difficult time. I would also like to thank our customers who gave generously to the Dove House Hospice in Hull where Dawn died whilst visiting her daughter, and to the Linda Jackson Centre at Mount Vernon Hospital. A total of £500 was raised for these charities which supported Dawn so well. I am also very grateful to Chipperfield Care who were always there to respond to our requests for assistance.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind words and letters of sympathy to me. They mean a lot.

Dawn and I have run The Windmill since June 2001 and she was responsible for setting up our food service. She will be sadly missed but I know she would want me to continue at the Windmill.

I look forward to seeing friends, old and new, in the future. *Dave Clark*

BARBARA REYNOLDS

Barbara Reynolds died on 29 December after a short illness, less than a year after her husband Malcolm, and the same day as her third great-grandchild was born. The Reynolds family have lived in Chipperfield since 1977. Their son, Jon, and his wife Sue also had a house there until recently and Sue ran the playgroup in the Small Hall for a long time. Tragically, Sue Reynolds also died suddenly shortly before Christmas. Any messages for the family can be emailed to babytenberg@gmail.com

Vicky Reynolds

CHANGE OF GUARD AT CHIPPERFIELD NEWS ADVERTISING

We welcome Alan Warner as our new Advertising Manager. He takes over from Peter Waite after nearly ten years of dedicated service for which many thanks, Peter.

*Richard Edwards, Chairman,
Chipperfield News*

CHIPPERFIELD CLUBS, CLASSES AND SOCIETIES

EVENT	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
After School Club	Monday - Friday (Term time)	3pm	Small Hall
Art Group	Thursday	2pm	Parish Room
Art Workshop	Saturday (monthly)	9.30am	Parish Room
Ballet	Monday	4pm	Blackwells
Ballet	Tuesday	4pm	Blackwells
Ballet	Saturday	9am	Blackwells
Bingo	Thursday	8.30pm	Blackwells
Bowls	Tuesday	7pm	Village Hall
Bowls	Thursday	1.30pm	Village Hall
Bowls	Friday	7pm	Village Hall
Brownies	Wednesday	6.30pm	Parish Room
Choral Society	Thursday	7.30pm	Village Hall
Church Choir	Friday	7.45pm	Parish Room
Extend Exercise, Men & Women 60+	Thursday	10.30am	Village Hall
Health Walks	Tuesday and Thursday	9.30am	Blackwells car park
Impact	Friday	6.30pm	Sarratt Village Hall
Irish Dancing	Thursday	4pm	Blackwells
Jazzercise	Monday	9.30am	Village Hall
Karate	Tuesdays (Term time)	6pm	Small Hall
Keep Fit	Tuesday	10.30am	Parish Room
Keep Fit	Thursday	10.30am	Parish Room
Parents and Toddlers	Tuesday	9.30am	Village Hall
Pilates	Monday	9.10am, 10.10am and 11.10am	Blackwells
Pilates	Monday	9.30am	Parish Room
Pilates	Monday	6.45pm and 8pm	Parish Room
Pilates	Tuesday	7pm and 8pm	Blackwells
Pilates	Wednesday	9.10am, 10.10am and 11.10am	Blackwells
Pilates	Wednesday	9.15am	Village Hall
Pilates	Wednesday	6.30pm and 7.30pm	Blackwells
Pilates	Thursday	6.30pm, 7.30pm and 8.30pm	Blackwells
Pilates	Friday	9.10am, 10.10am, 11.20am and 12.20pm	Blackwells
Pilates	Friday	9.30am	Parish Room
Pilates	Friday	10.30am	Parish Room
Prayer Group	Thursday (Term time)	2pm & 7pm	Baptist Church Hall
Pre-School Club	Monday - Friday (Term time)	9am - 12.00	Small Hall
Pre-School Lunch Club	Monday - Friday (Term time)	12.00 - 13.30	Small Hall
Pre-School Extended Lunch Club	Monday - Friday (Term time)	12.00 - 15.00	Small Hall
Pre-School After School Club 'Splat'	Monday - Friday (Term time)	15.10 - 17.15	Small Hall
T'ai Chi	Friday	1.45pm	Small Hall
Tap Dance	Monday (Term time)		Baptist Church Hall
Theatre Group	Monday	7.30pm	Village Hall
Toddlers group (Little Angels)	Wednesday (Term time)	9.30am	Baptist Church Hall
Yoga	Monday	1.30pm	Village Hall
Yoga	Wednesday	6.30pm	Village Hall
Zumba - Lucy	Tuesday	9.30am	Parish Room

For information about an event, club or class contact the appropriate hall booking agent listed below or visit the village website, www.chipperfield.org.uk/organisations.

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Articles or Advertisements are welcome if sent by e-mail or as an attached MS Word doc to:

editors@chipperfield.org.uk (editorial) - **alan@warnerfam.fsnet.co.uk** (advertising)

or left in the *Chipperfield News* mailbox in The Post Office Stores

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