
Chipperfield News

October 2013

St Paul's Church Celebrates 175 Years

The church was built in the 1830s. In 1833 a cornfield was bought from John Parsley, owner of the Manor House, for £500 for the purpose of building a church for the people of Chipperfield and its neighbourhood. The architect was Thomas Talbot Bury and the cost of the building was £1427 1s 10d. The foundation stone was laid on 25 April 1837 and the church was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln on the 10 October 1838. An unusual feature of the church is that the custom of placing the chancel and altar at the east end was ignored and the chancel is at the west end. In 1899 the church was enlarged. The north door and vestry were added and the chancel increased in size. The fine lych gate was also added at this time. There had originally been a gallery and three-decker pulpit and these were removed. The present pulpit is in memory of Mary Blackwell. She was the wife of Robert Blackwell who inherited the Manor House on the death of his cousin, John Parsley, in 1850. The altar, the oak panelling in the sanctuary and the oak reredos were all designed by Nathaniel Hitch between 1920 and 1936. The first organ was given in memory of Robert Blackwell, but it was replaced in 1964 by the present fine organ which was originally installed in Belhaven Church, Glasgow. It underwent major renovation in 2005. Further restoration and upgrading was carried out in 2008 to bring the instrument up to latest standards and to deny the rodent population of a free meal. Further gifts to enhance the beauty of the church have continued to be made right up to the present time. The window at the east end of the church was designed by John Hayward in 1966 and was given anonymously in memory of the donors. To the right of the organ is a new stained glass window installed in 1996 in memory of Norman Cowley. On the righthand side of the nave is a window installed in 1998 in memory of Barrie Chapman, organist from 1993 - 1997. To provide a place for the congregation to meet for refreshments after a service, a narthex was created in 1984. A Parish Room to provide much needed additional facilities was attached to the church and was formally opened by the Rt Rev John Richardson, a former vicar of the parish, in June 2000. Former vicars from 1968 to the present day have sent us their memories of their time at St Paul's and their best wishes for the future. See further articles. There will be a number of concerts and services to commemorate the 175th Anniversary.

Musical Events At St Paul's Church

Sunday 6 October 7pm 175th Anniversary concert of Light Orchestral Music Sunday 13 October 6.30pm Choral Evensong for Harvest St Paul's choir with Organ Monday 23 December 7.30pm Festival of Lessons and Carols St. Paul's choir with orchestra During the week beginning 6 October there will be a double celebration at St Paul's, the Harvest Festival plus the church's 175th Anniversary. The concert on 6 October will be similar to the Jubilee Concert given on the common last year, although it will be held in the church. Popular light music such as Sailing by, 'The Shipping Forecast', Barwick Green, 'The Archers', Moon River, and The Lord is My Shepherd 'The Vicar of Dibley theme' will be on the programme. Although mostly an orchestral concert, there will be a few items involving the choir. If you would like to join the choir for this one off event there will be two rehearsals in October at St Paul's on Friday 4 at 8.30pm and Sunday 6 at 6pm. Please contact Anne King via e mail at annejking@gmail.com if you would like to take part. Music and a CD rehearsal aid will be available on request from mid-September. There will be a maximum of four pieces involving the choir, none of which will be too demanding. This concert will not be a robed event and is expected to last for about 90 minutes. There is no admission charge for these events which, other than the concert on 6 October, are all church services. However, there will be retiring collections at each. Without your continuing generosity they would not be possible. Keith Benison, Director of Music, St Paul's Church

The Lanes Children's Centre

We hope those of you with older children have settled back into another school year; before you know it, it will be Christmas! Beginner Biking sees a welcome return with a session on Wednesday 30 October at St Paul's School, Chipperfield. The first session is at 9.30 – 10.30 for those children just about ready to come off stabilisers, and the Biking Fun Skills from 10.45 – 12.45 for children who can ride a bike but want to improve their skills. Booking is essential through The Lanes Children's Centre and the cost for both is £2.50. During the half term break, 1 November, we will be holding a Bug Hunt in Croft Meadow. Full details will be on our website nearer the time. Do not forget that Breastfeeding Cafe at The Lanes Children's Centre, Chipperfield, has moved from a Monday to a Wednesday from 11.am – 12.30 every week. Here is a reminder of the regular weekly activities. 9.30 – 11.30am working in partnership with Sarratt Baby and Toddler Group at George V Pavillion, Sarratt. £1.50 per child, payable to Sarratt B&T group. Within this group we provide a music session from 10.30 – 11.15 with Jo. (term time only). Pick 'N Mix Monday at The Memorial Hall, Bovingdon from 1.45pm – 3.15: a six week programme of fun, themed activities suitable for children aged between 1 and 5 years. No need to book and cost for the session is £2.50. Under 1's: Tuesday, 2 – 4 at The Memorial Hall, Bovingdon. The group includes a music session with Jo and costs £2. Back to Basics session first Tuesday in the month also includes music. Our popular Toy Library can be accessed at all of these settings. Flaunden Toddler Group Friday 10.30 – 11.30 at the Flaunden Village Hall includes the toy library 9.30 – 11.30. Look out for information on future courses, workshops, activities and events throughout the coming months on local advertising boards and on our website: www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/thelanes If you require further information regarding the Children's Centre services, or becoming involved with the Children's Centre, please contact: Zoë Hier Tel: 01923 262 640 or 07966 966352

Village Graveyard

After a considerable amount of work by the Chipperfield Project Group over the last eighteen months or more, the planning application for the additional burial ground was on the agenda of Dacorum's Planning and Development Committee for its meeting on Thursday 5 September. Following a statement to the committee by one of the members of the group, Jim Good, and some discussion by planning committee members, the application was granted unanimously subject to certain conditions. As yet we have not received formal notice of these conditions but expect to have them shortly. To keep everyone fully informed there will be a public meeting on Monday 14 October at 7.30 in the Small Hall

Summer School In The Small Hall

Earlier this year a small group of experienced patch workers decided they wanted to get together regularly to sew. The Small Hall has the facilities we needed, a lot of power sockets, and has proved to be an ideal location. We have since set up two groups which meet there one evening a week and one Saturday every month. Several of us had attended a summer school in the past and this year we decided we would organise our own event. The space in the Small Hall was ideal, we set up work stations for every attendee so we could work in ideal conditions for a whole week without interruption. We used the hall's facilities to have warm croissants for breakfast and chilled wine before we went home for the evening. Also, as an added bonus, the new chairs with padded seats arrived early in the week so we had the benefit of these too. Lots of people in the village were very supportive. The Village Hall Committee lent us some extra tables and the Horticultural Society allowed us to borrow their stands used to display quilts at the village shows for our design walls. Blackwell's and Chipperfield Larder delivered lunches to us and the week ended with a celebratory dinner at the Two Brewers; an all round show of village support. We had deliberately set ourselves the challenge of a different type of patchwork where we needed to play with different colours and types of fabric design and the emerging results are stunning, although unfinished, but need to be seen in colour in order to appreciate their true impact. We are lucky to have so many communal spaces in the village and this shows how, with a bit of imagination, different events can be organised using the various facilities available. All we needed to do was to sweep up the threads and cottons we had dropped before we left. I would be surprised if there are not other groups of people who share an interest or hobby who could use the Small Hall or the Village Hall in a similar way. Jane Whittles

Baptist Church

I couldn't avoid writing about one particular anniversary this month. Leading up to today I never really noticed any

build up. I never really paid any notice to what was happening until this morning when I checked the BBC news website and found it everywhere. The 50th anniversary of Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr's "I have a dream" speech. A dynamic, motivating and impassioned plea for justice and equality. A communication in hope and faith in the face of the stark realities of life. We may never truly understand the situations and life that they, including Martin Luther King, suffered and what inspired their actions but I think we might just learn a lesson from that speech. A lesson in where to start when we want to be the best we can be. Although its given title is "I have a dream" the subject of the whole was not the individual. This may have been Dr King's dream but it was not for himself or his own needs but for those to come and foremost for his enemies. It was a speech for justice and equality for those to come. A dream of what is possible but also for what our inspiration should be, to be the best we can. Think of others first. Working for others first and foremost. Loving and desiring the best for all including, and especially, our enemies. Dr King grasped in these few words the fact that, in faith, to strive and give ourselves for others is ultimately where we find our own justice, equality and peace. Jesus Christ was the supreme example for Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr, He who gave himself for others. For their peace before God but also for a lasting peace between men. I'd like to think I could manage that because the speech ends with the vision of the destination "free at last, free at last, Great God almighty we are free at last". Are any of us able to say Amen to that? Love Jason, The Man in the Manse

St Paul's And Holy Cross

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Eccl 3:1) Last Thursday I stood in the early morning light and watched the mist rolling over the common. A few hours later, wispy tendrils of morning dew rose gently from the grass as the sun laid claim to the day. These scenes are for me a gentle reminder of the changing seasons. The warm days and long evenings of Summer are over and Autumn begins to signal her arrival. Another season to wonder at God's creation - what awaits us is the final riot of colour before the earth falls into rest. Autumn, the season 'of mists and mellow fruitfulness', is a season for thanksgiving and remembering - Harvest festivals, Remembrance Sunday. This year we add the 175th Celebration of St Paul's, an exciting time for all of us as we remember, celebrate and give thanks for those who have gone before us in Chipperfield. Time is one of the greatest gifts we have: it is given to each of us in equal measure every day - 24hrs, or if you prefer 1,440 minutes, in which to breathe, live and be delighted by all that is around us. And time taken to observe, reflect and delight is not wasted, it is making good use of our given life: as Seneca said, "life is long if you know how to use it". We don't need to take time or use time, we just need to be in time, to inhabit this precious gift so we can be refreshed, renewed and know more deeply the purpose God has for our lives. Shalom, Michele Du Saire

St Paul's Church 175th Anniversary

It was a wonderful moment for us when the then Bishop of St Albans, Michael Gresford-Jones said, "The more I think about it, the more I think that God is calling you to Chipperfield". Therefore, six years began of enormous happiness, including the birth of our youngest Pippa. It was the old regime of course. We loved the Old Vicarage, alongside Father Michael, overlooking the cricket pitch. Sarratt, with its rector Jack Tomlinson, was a separate Parish. But with Bucks Hill and Chandlers Cross there was an extended Family of 3,000 or so, who seemed to go out of their way to make us welcome. St Paul's was central to it all, the Church to which so many came either to worship regularly or to mark great occasions of family Life. However, alongside St Paul's there is a remarkable web of organisations; sporting and vocal, not least the school that seemed to bind together and entice all who lived there. Any vicar of Chipperfield was blessed, for it is the kind of Parish that is naturally able to capture friendship and leadership of every kind. More recently, alongside the Church, a new magnificent hall for all to enjoy has been added. Led as always by a team of enthusiasts who, over the years, have lived and proclaimed the Gospel with love and conviction. Congratulations on your 175th Anniversary. It has been a privilege to pen these few words and I shall remember you all with great thankfulness in my prayers. What you have achieved is indeed remarkable. No wonder that so many in the diocese and beyond are so proud of you. Enjoy it all, you will! John Richardson. Vicar 1968 – 1975 There is an old story that tells of a new party loving incumbent who in arriving at his first PCC asked the Church Wardens when was the church built? "No one knows exactly," they replied. "Very good", he said, "we'll announce some grand 6th centenary celebrations for next year. I suggest 30 June, no body can argue with that"! Well, the history of St Paul's, Chipperfield, is too well documented for any undue celebrations. There are written documents to prove exact details of how, what and when. The new Vicar

will find that out in due time. God Bless her. I send my very best wishes to our old friends who have worked so hard to do the Lord's work at St Paul's spreading the word, caring for the sick and elderly and cherishing the young. Lots of joy. Richard Blamire-Brown Vicar 1975 - 1986 Congratulations to all Chipperfield parishioners on the 175th anniversary of St Paul's Church. It seems only a short time ago that I was writing to all (then) past vicars inviting them to preach during our 150th celebration year. In 1986 I was a school Chaplain anxious to return to parish work. I applied for an interview with the Archbishop's advisor, which was what one could do in those days. He promised to put my name on his list, circulated to the patrons of vacant parishes, but meantime he said, "there are three vacancies I still haven't filled". Chipperfield was one of them. Joyce and I visited the village unannounced one Sunday afternoon and were overjoyed. "It's such a gem of a parish", I remember saying. "They'll never offer it to anyone like me". I was wrong about the last part of that remark but have never altered my feelings about the first half! I recall arriving dreadfully late for my interview with the trustees. I thought I had left plenty of time for travelling but had not allowed for the delays and diversions caused by the near completion of the M25. I thought the trustees would be annoyed at the delay. Instead, they sympathised and felt sorry for me. Perhaps that is why they offered me the situation! So many happy memories. Oh dear! I am bound to miss out some of the most important. It was a pleasure to be in a parish where I could actually enjoy meetings of the Parochial Church Council and of the School Governors, such an excellent school. Thanks to a succession of excellent Churchwardens, Church Councillors and committee members. At the first PCC meeting over which I presided we recommended for training for the ministry Angela Butler who later became my valued assistant before eventually taking over from me. Not many clergy experience such happy continuity. In those days of shortage of clergy it is strange to think of a one-church parish with vicar, curate, paid youth worker and two students on pastoral attachment from the London Bible College. How things have changed! The custom of having 'Away Days' was well established when I arrived in the parish. It was a chance remark at one such day that led to Chipperfield Care coming into existence. An almost equally chance encounter later brought Chipperfield News into being, and a comment during 'Any other business' at a PCC meeting led to the 'Kneeler Project' with its splendid results. My contact with The Mount, at that time a Young Offenders Institution, enabled a 'select' working party of trainees to be offered work experience rebuilding part of the churchyard wall. Good for them as well as for us. Changes in authorised forms of service led to us purchasing duplicated service booklets, later by a thoughtful bequest replaced by neatly bound printed books, making services easier to follow and some years before this became a general custom. Another gift provided new sound equipment. I hope it still works! The choir flourished under Joyce's guidance. Links with the Choral Society meant that there were always Friends to augment the choir for musical events such as Stainers 'Crucifixion' on Palm Sunday and the Carol Service at Christmas. Flower Festival, Craft Fair and Auction of Promises, all were well established major events, and who can forget the Annual visit by the Morris Men? I hope these few moments of nostalgia kindle interesting memories of the past and provide inspiration for the future. Replaying the video of my farewell "party" can still bring a lump to my throat! Our love to you all. God bless you. Arthur Ellery Vicar 1986 -1993 Alleluia!! It is with great joy that I hear St Paul's is celebrating 175 years at the physical and spiritual core of Chipperfield! Although I was Vicar for (only!) eight years I was a part of the community and congregation for 17 years and know what a key role St Paul's has played, and continues to play, in the heart of Chipperfield and its surrounding hamlets. It was a privilege to be a part of so much that went on during my time with you and it has been fantastic to see how the Church has continued to grow, be blessed by God and in turn be a blessing to so many people. So many congratulations, every blessing on your celebrations and many prayers for your continued ministry as you live and work to God's glory! Angela Butler Vicar 1993-2001 175 years is a long time and makes my four and a half years seem a very minor part in Chipperfield's history. I had been a part-time Chaplain at The Mount for some years before the arrival of a full-time Moslem Chaplain brought about the Diocesan decision to ask me to take over as Vicar of Chipperfield after Angela Butler left for Hempstead, Gloucestershire. It was really quite difficult to divide my time between Sarratt and Chipperfield. However, my task was made much easier by the introduction of Malcolm Williams, as a duty assistant. For a very short time, because of Malcolm's illness with cancer, it was a joy to be part of a team, involving Malcolm and Brenda, Brian and Penny Hill and well as Anne and I. It was a real pleasure to have a team of people who prayed together every week and who were, I believe, mutually supportive. Our lunchtime meetings were a real pleasure. The large Chipperfield church was such a contrast to the little church in Sarratt. I enjoyed so many great occasions in both churches, as we began to look at ways of worshipping together. Some things at Chipperfield were different and those I loved. I especially enjoyed the Taise worship led by two lay people. The services in the hall attached to the church were also something new of which I was happy to be a part. One of the other things that I was pleased to be a part of was setting up the training and use of lay people in leading worship and occasional preaching. I was so grateful for that development in the life of

the villages. There are many highlights. Lift High the Cross, a Lenten Drama, was a great performance, introduced and produced by Malcolm Williams; brilliant. The Morris Dancers service outside in the car park was another event that has left its mark. Chipperfield grounds and lack of space for more burials was a worry which I guess must have been solved by now. Enough of my ramblings. Lots and many memories, some sad, some happy and some difficult but all of them enjoyable in retrospect. Thank you to all who assisted in any way at all. A special thanks to anyone who volunteers from sound to churchwarden! Thank you. It was also enjoyable to have a family event shared with many of you. In particular, our ruby wedding anniversary was a lovely day as was our retirement trip to France. Thank you and God bless your 175th anniversary. Peter Hart. Vicar 2001- 2004

Christian ministry is all about building on Godly vision and His faithfulness; 175 years is testimony to them both. The highlights of my seven years in Chipperfield centre on those two things - seeking to make God's amazing love in Jesus known among people of all ages in the community, and seeing Him at work in people's lives - my own included. - The crib service, Christmas 2009, when some 200 people followed us to the surprise of a real stable - Mary and Joseph, donkeys - and the sense of wonder. - Real support and concern for others outside the parish - for people in Rwanda and others through the DENS food bank.... - Those young adults who came to help with our youth ministry and who now hold key positions of responsibility in other places. - Most importantly I remember those who have discovered the reality of God's love and presence for themselves and the difference that has made to them; and of those whom I have seen grow in Christlikeness in day to day living and service for others. May the church be increasingly open to God's vision and ability to accomplish His purposes in the coming years

Peace be with you all, Jim Stevens Vicar 2005 - 2012 How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven' (Gen 28:17) Not so long ago St Paul's was built for the princely sum of £1,500 raised by public subscription. Such was the faith and perseverance of the community at the time that the building was dedicated only 17 months after the foundation stone was laid. As one of the most recent resident aliens in the village I feel ill-equipped to comment on the place St Paul's holds in the life of this community. However, in my short time here it is evident that the building is deeply loved, and a place of significance, not only in the lives of those who live here, but also those whose family connections continue to bring them back to this place at life changing moments. St Paul's is their spiritual home, a sacred place that links the past with the future. Of course what we mean by sacred place may be changing. The American poet Wendell Berry says, "There are no unsacred places; there are only sacred places and desecrated places." This is powerful stuff, but ever since human beings have encountered the divine, they have felt the need to place one stone upon another to mark the spot; and we do still need particular places where we can meet, places at times set apart for reflection and prayer and teaching and worship. Over time St Paul's has been changed, expanded and enhanced as each generation has left its marks - new window, new plaque, new parish room; some to decorate and inspire, some to commemorate, some to adapt to need. And it is fascinating to trace this in the building fabric: it leaves me wondering what our legacy will be in this place as testament of an active, worshipping congregation. After all, this building is more than mere stones because it has been the place of encounter for the gathered faithful for 175 years, and remains a testament to the wider community. Less than a week ago, at the time of writing, my name was added to the board listing the Vicars called to serve here; another mark to record the life of this community. For a time I take my turn at carrying the baton that so many have faithfully held before. Here's to the next 175 Years. Shalom. Michele Du Saire current Vicar

An Organist's Lament!

In the late 1920s and early 1930s the church organ, instead of being powered by electricity as it is now, relied on compressed air stored in large leather bellows inflated by a hand pump to deliver its music. Younger members of the choir were responsible for the important role of keeping the bellows inflated by means of a hand pump, thus keeping the organ playing. When he was a boy my late husband, Jim, and his friends in the choir, took great delight in having competitions to see how long they could leave pumping the bellows without incurring the anger of the organist as his sweet sounds faded instead of reaching the desired crescendo. If they got the timing wrong the organ faded and wheezed giving a good impression of a bagpipe winding down. This game was well worth the risk of incurring the wrath of the organist or risk being asked to leave the choir! Daphne Pritchard

Young Local Gymnast

Congratulations to Jasmine Simmonds who won the Margaret Hayward trophy for taking first place in the recent floor exercise gradings at the Herts Amateur Gymnastics Association (HAGA) recently held in Stevenage. Over 80

gymnasts took part so this is a huge achievement. Jasmine, 7 years old, and from Kings Langley, is a member of Berkhamstead Gymnastics Club and trains regularly with the club. A pupil at St Paul's School, Chipperfield, she also enjoys taking part in the school's gymnastics club. Swimming, ice skating, ballet and trapeze are also among Jasmine's favourite activities. Jasmine is pictured with the trophy she won. Well done, Jasmine!

Playskills

Playskill has had an exciting few months. Here is a picture of the siblings party held on the Fathers Day weekend in June, at 24 Tower Hill for families who attend from around the local area. Popsi Forbes was one of the people helping on the day with the childrens' craft activities. In April 2013 Playskill piloted its 4th group; opening a group to help older children with physical difficulties in the Hemel Hempstead area, which was very exciting. Then the Playskill Watford branch made it into the top three in the Best Education Category at this year's National Lottery Awards, narrowly missing out on the top spot. The project beat hundreds of other entries to make it into the final and faced a nationwide public vote to help crown a winner. Playskill attracted 2,549 votes, placing them in third position. Seven Stories, the National Centre for children's books went on to take top honours. Commenting on their success, Playskill's Andrea Clarke, says; "I want to say a massive thank you to everyone who took the time out of their busy day to vote for us. Over two and a half thousand people recognised the importance of the work we are doing and this is reward enough for us. Obviously we are disappointed not to have been crowned the overall winners, but for such a small organisation it is incredible to make it to the top three and any opportunity to publicise our work to a wider audience is so beneficial." Playskill continues to need fundraising to support its fourth group as it has no funding for this group but was responding to the local need and growing list for local children to have input. Any local help for funding this group would be very gratefully received! For more information on Playskill call 07572 465504, e-mail: andrea@playskill.org, www.playskill.org Andrea Clarke, Team Leader/ Paediatric Physiotherapist

Night-time Travellers

On clear evenings I usually spend my late night dog walks gazing up at the stars but lately it's been eyes down as Scatterdells Lane has hedgehogs again and I don't want to tread on one and squash it! A neighbour told me some weeks ago that he was putting out cat food for an adult and two hoglets. Then late one night Ted was fascinated by something on the bank and when I put on the torch there was a little prickly ball. Ted didn't know what to make of it but I was delighted, even more so a couple of nights later when it was bumbling down our drive seeking out slugs from my hostas. Hedgehogs like a varied menu; snails, slugs, earthworms and other creepy crawlies with a few blackberries or some apples, pears or plumbs for pudding. Years ago people used to put out bread and milk for them but these days the best advice is to put out dog food or non-fishy cat food as too much milk upsets their stomachs. Hedgehogs hibernate in winter when their food would be scarce, but they need to weigh about a pound or 450g to survive, so this is a great time of year to put out food so that they can fatten up for their long sleep. Their numbers have been declining over the last few years; I had only seen one, once, in six or seven years before this one turned up. My guess is this is due to the increase in both of their main predators, the motor car and the badger. Badgers don't bother about their spines. They eat the soft middle and leave the prickly skin completely clean. Rolling up in a ball is no defence against the wheels of a car. In my childhood one would see a lot of squashed hedgehogs on the roads, but now one sees very few, a sign of their decline. They may travel a couple of miles in a night on their solitary hunt for food, but I wish this one would stay safely in my garden away from the traffic. I know there is no hope of that. If you drive down Scatterdells Lane after dark, please go slowly and keep your eyes on the road. You may spot a little ball of prickles..... or even Ted and me!
Wendy Bathurst

Gardening In October

We've had a glorious summer but it is now cooling down and the days are getting much shorter and there is still much to do. Flowers and shrubs Start to plant winter bedding plants such as pansies, primroses and polyanthus. Wallflowers should be ready to plant now for flowering next spring. Dig up tender plants such as fuchsias and geraniums and take inside to protect from frost damage. Now is a good time to plant bulbs such as hyacinths, crocus, narcissi, tulips and a huge selection of less usual species to be found in the garden centre at the moment. An option with tulips and daffodils is to plant in large pots which can be 'planted' in the ground intact at a later

date. Daffodils and narcissi can be naturalised in grass areas of the garden. Winter hanging baskets, window boxes and containers should be planted as soon as possible. Cut down untidy herbaceous plants but leave penstemons, grasses and plants with attractive shape to overwinter untrimmed. Stake and tie tall plants to save from wind-rocking. Large tender shrubs will need protection from frost damage. Dahlia tubers should be lifted and taken inside. The Greenhouse Now is the time to empty the house, clean the glass and scrub the staging. While the house is empty fumigate with a sulphur candle to kill fungi and any pests that might be present. Insulate with bubble plastic. Then tender perennials such as geraniums and fuchsias can be brought inside for overwintering. Make sure that the glasshouse heater is working. Fruit and vegetables Carry on picking apples and putting into store but do not store bruised fruit as they will rot and the rot will spread to good fruit. Varieties such as James Grieve will not store and should be eaten straightaway. Harvest vegetables, especially those which could be spoilt by frost. Root crops can be lifted and put into store or can be left in the ground and covered with polythene topped with a good layer of straw. Plant early onion sets and garlic and spring cabbage plants can go in now. Now is a good time to plant strawberries. Dig all areas which are not to be planted until the spring leaving the ground rough so that the winter frosts will break up the clods. Add farmyard manure when digging except on patches on which root crops will be grown next year, Lawn and garden Keep mowing the lawn while the grass is still growing. Spike and aerate and apply a low nitrogen autumn lawn fertilizer to strengthen the grass for the winter that is coming. Level any dips in the lawn using a soil based lawn dressing. New grass areas can be turfed but there is still time to sow grass seed before the soil cools down. Feed the birds and give them water too. The pond will need to be cleaned of weed and leaves, and leaves will need to be removed from the lawn as well. Terry Simmonds

10 Years Of Pilates

Kings Langley Physiotherapy Clinic is celebrating 10 years of Pilates Therapy Classes held in Chipperfield. Our classes are unique in that all the instructors are physiotherapists and so have a deep understanding of how the body moves. We are holding a coffee morning open to all, including present and past class attenders or anyone interested in finding out about physio-led pilates. You are welcome to drop in - but it would be useful to know numbers so a quick email to info@klpc.co.uk or telephone 01923-261974 would be appreciated. Saturday 12 October 10-1pm in the Small Hall in Chipperfield. Look forward to seeing you Di Hewetson

Weekly Art Group

The Art Group meeting on Thursdays in the Parish Room restarted on 19 September and is from 2 - 4pm. This is a 'come and paint group' where we do our own work with encouraging comment at the end of the session. It provides a regular time when we can paint and not be distracted by all those domestic chores. Contact: John King 01923 264552.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

How quickly each year goes past, especially as we all grow older! Once again we are nearing the time when we remember all those who have suffered in the World Wars of the last century and all those who have been killed or injured in wars since then, especially in Afghanistan, where our forces are still suffering casualties. Those injured in all these conflicts and the families of those killed still need your help. Chipperfield has a proud record of success in its Poppy Appeal, so when the devoted poppy collectors come round, please give generously and remember that every penny collected goes to the beneficiaries. Giles Wyburd, Chairman, Chipperfield Branch RBL

Chipperfield Indoor Short Mat Bowls Club

2013/14 SEASON STARTS Tuesday 1 October COME AND JOIN US Support your local Team in your Village Hall We play at Chipperfield Village Hall from October to April on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 7 - 9.30pm. New members are welcome, especially summer outdoor bowlers wishing to keep their eye in over the winter. Our fees are very reasonable - £12 per year plus £2.50 per evening. Bowling woods can be provided, so the only special kit needed is flat soled shoes to protect the bowling mats. We are a friendly Club with no formidable dress code and are pleased to help beginners start. So, for good company and an enjoyable evening, why not pay us a visit or phone: Terry:01923 262638 or Alan:01923 229639

The Windmill Race Night

Friday 25 October on behalf of WIPE YOUR TEARS This charity offers financial support to families so they can give their child the care they need and also provide end of life wishes for them. Their aim is to make the lives of the children who suffer from serious or terminal illness that much better. Free entry. Start at 8.30pm Including a quiz and prizes for the winning horses with modest betting. A buffet will also be provided. Last year we raised £1500 which was unbelievable; so we are hoping to achieve a similar figure this year. We very much appreciate your interest and support in our venture. Dave and Dawn

www.chipperfield.org.uk