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Childrey & Sparsholt Newsletter

www.sparsholtandwestcot.org

www.childrey.org.uk

Contact for newsletter articles: Claire Turner - 751275 or
 childreyandsparsholtnewsletter@yahoo.co.uk

Please submit articles by the 18th of the month.

MAY 2016

38 & 67 BUS SERVICES

Even if you don't use the village bus services, it's a lifeline for many locals - please try & help by reading on & contacting our local representatives to express your concern. Oxfordshire County Council have confirmed that they will withdraw all bus subsidies in 20 July 2016. .

This will result in the cancellation of many of Oxfordshire's bus services, including Childrey's 38 & 67, & Sparsholt & Westcot's only bus, the 67.

The 67 bus is the only service for the local Ridgeway villages between Faringdon and Wantage and scrapping it will mean pensioners and other residents without the use of their own transport won't be able to shop or visit health care & students who use the routes to get to and from King Alfred's and Faringdon Community College.

As a possible replacement to the 67 service, Tom Sprent at the OCC has issued a tender document to possible providers (inc. the current 67 provider, Thames

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Travel) which proposes a change to the 67A service, running it along the A417. However, this proposal appears to completely bypass our villages and as such, is completely contrary to the concept of providing a service for those of greatest need & discriminates against the rural customer. The proposal is effectively suggesting an alternative service of low quality & little practical use to our villages.

Please contact your local representatives to express the concern:- Ed Vaizey MP: ed.vaizey.mp@parliament.uk & Yvonne Constance County & Vale Councillor: yvonneconstance@tiscali.co.uk

The Hatchet

As many are already aware, the pub is currently closed. The editor approached the owners of the Hatchet but they chose not to make any comment at the time.

Diary Dates for May

Date & Time	Event / Venue	Notes	Contact
3 rd May 2:30pm	Childrey & District Tuesday Club Childrey village hall	Social afternoon, Royal Garden Party theme.	Pat Eglinton 751 663
6 th May 12:30pm	Tear Fund Lunch	This month's lunch is being held at St. Marys, Childrey	All most welcome
15 th May 11:00 am	Local Footpath Walks	We keep our footpaths alive & ensure that they are being maintained, enjoy our parish and countryside & to meet and have fun.	Phone Barbara 751617 for details.
17 th May 7:30pm	WI Meeting Childrey Village Hall	See details in newsletter.	Pauline Higgs 751 544
17 th May 7:30 pm	Sparsholt Parish Council Meeting Griffin Hall	Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting All Welcome	clerk.sparsholtpc@aol.co.uk
23 rd May 7:30pm	Childrey Parish Council Meeting Village hall	Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting All Welcome	clerk.childreypc@aol.co.uk

Childrey & Sparsholt W.I. May Meeting

Tuesday 17th May 7:30pm

In Childrey village hall.

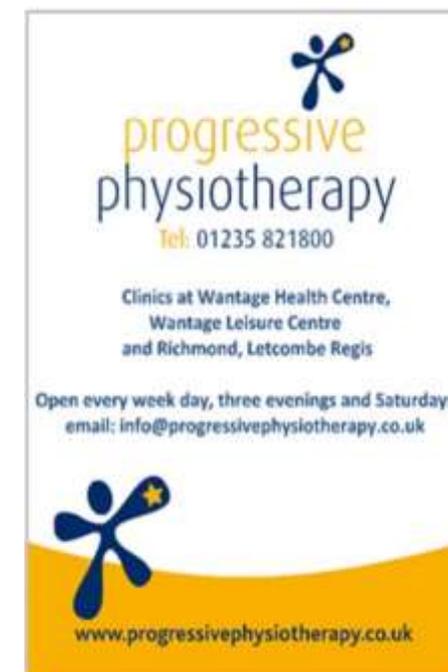
Resolutions and a talk to be given by Amanda Wood on New Zealand after the earthquake. For details contact Pauline Higgs on 751 544.

Resolutions

Every year members propose and vote on resolutions which form the basis for national campaigns and educational activities. This year two resolutions have been selected to go forward to the debate and final vote at the AGM in Brighton in June. One concerns improvements to facilities for carers of dementia patients, the other relates to supermarket food waste, both very important issues, so plenty to discuss at our meeting. It is not only a question of agreeing with the topic but considering if the power of the WI should be directed here, or are there already sufficient campaigns running.

Items for June edition

Please can you ensure that any items that you would like included in the June 2016 newsletter are submitted by **Tuesday 17th of May 2016** at the latest (one day earlier than the usual cut-off date). Thanks.



Parish Councils - additional

If you notice any potholes or other Highways issues please report to the “**fixmystreet**” website. Highways respond quicker to the problems that have the most logs on their site. Please DO NOT wait for a parish Council meeting to report Highways issues. Both Parish Councils reserve the right to change the meeting dates, times and venues – please always check the notice board for correct information – Agendas are published three clear working days before each Parish Council meeting. Also Planning meetings will be inserted periodically to allow the Parish Council to discuss and respond before the VOWHDC deadlines and the Agenda will be published on the notice board three clear working days prior to the meeting.

Feeding the ducks.

It is hard to resist a duck begging for attention, and it would seem that feeding them would make them healthy and happy, but it doesn't. Feeding bread to them may be a tradition we grew up with and we thought it was kind as well as fun but research has revealed that the opposite is true. When wild ducks are fed human food, such as bread, their organs become engorged and fatty and they may as a result suffer from heart disease, liver problems and other health complications.

Ducks and geese fed with bread are often found to suffer from poor nutrition. In a natural setting they will seek out a variety of nutritious foods such as aquatic plants, natural grains, and invertebrates. Childrey pond was designed with a lot of plants to provide nutrition for them. Bread is very low in protein, contains additives that wildfowl aren't built to cope with, and it's a very poor substitute for natural foods. Decaying bread pollutes the water and attracts foxes that prey on ducks. Food left for ducks will also attract vermin especially rats. It is known that rats carry disease, so when children feed ducks they could be put at risk. Please try to resist feeding ducks with food intended for humans. Recently published information suggests that ducks' favorite food is kale which is healthy and will not attract

vermin. You can also buy suitable grain from an animal feed store. P.C.

News from St Mary's We are delighted to be welcoming back our friends Die Alten Knaben Choir from Hamburg on **Friday 27th May at 7pm at St Mary's** for a concert of **Three Centuries of Religious and Secular Choral Music for Men's Voices**. We last met up in 2014 when families from Childrey hosted the gentlemen of the choir for two nights in the village. This time they will be here just for the day and it would be great to give them a really warm welcome with a big audience for the concert. The programme includes pieces by Rossini, Poulenc and Schubert. Wine and nibbles will be served in the Interval and there will be a retiring collection in aid of church expenses. Please contact the Churchwardens for any further information.

lindasoames@home.3b.co.uk

tel. 751297

martin@perrenwellstation.freeserve.co.uk

tel. 751809

CHILDREYFEST

SATURDAY 2nd JULY 2016

Save the date, tickets went on sale on Monday 11th April through the website www.childreyfest.co.uk Please buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment as this event sold out last year.

The Little Ducks Pop Up Tea shop joins forces with Coffee Corner

to welcome the Classic Oxfordshire Bike Ride and bring you a special treat on **8th May**.... The days are getting sunnier (we promise...despite the snow in mid-April !?!) and spring / summer events are in full swing across our county. The Classic Oxfordshire Bike Ride (sign up at www.bike-events.co.uk) passes through Childrey each year and on Sunday 8th of May we are rolling out a Pop Up Tea shop type welcome !

The Pop Up Tea shop will be open in our beautifully refurbished village hall from 11-4pm on the day. Get the date in your diary and bring your friends

and family, and, as well as providing refreshments for exhausted cyclists, who are pitting themselves against a 30, 60, 70 or 100 mile route (!!!) all money raised will go towards Little Ducks. The Tea Shop, this time kindly supported by Coffee Corner will bring you the usual smorgasbord of tea, cake and coffee, laced with good music, bunting, and beautiful fresh flowers for sale. We look forward to you joining us either inside the hall or outside under the trees to enjoy the cake, sunshine and good company we have on order for the day.

To pledge a bake or for any other information please contact Suzy Alder, 07774686877 aldersuzy@yahoo.co.uk



The annual Childrey and Sparsholt Fashion Show

will take place on Wednesday 25th May 2016. This is always a fabulous evening of fun, frocks and fashion, so come along and grab a bargain. Contact Barbara (751617) or Caroline (751142) for further details.



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Community Policing

PCSO Howard Pack C9600 Thames Valley Police.

MAY is the last month of spring and hopefully the better weather should have arrived by then to allow us to get outside and enjoy the local countryside, however there are always a small minority who spoil it for the majority. Recently I have dealt with several incidents involving mini motos racing up and down Bridleways, Footpaths and Restricted Byways...Please STOP otherwise you could be subject to a piece of legislation called 'Section 59 of Police Reform Act 2002' Vehicles causing ALARM, DISTRESS or ANNOYANCE'. Already this year riders have been given warning letters that require them not to repeat an offence for a year or risk having their vehicle seized. If you want to use these vehicles find some land and get the owner's permission but beware if we stop you we will check your story; also do not use your vehicle on a highway as there are multiple traffic offences involved and if we catch up with you ROADS POLICING will be called to deal. Motor vehicles on Public Rights of way continue to cause problems for residents out for a walk or ride in the countryside so I have researched a short explanation of them for your guidance. **Footpaths** - This public right of way is meant for pedestrians only. You are allowed to walk your dog as long as it is under your close control. When walking a dog, you must ensure that it keeps to the public footpath and does not trespass into nearby properties. Prams, pushchair or wheelchairs can also be used on a footpath. If you are walking a dog, you must make sure that it does not stray off legal lines of a public footpath as this may

constitute an act of trespass. Also ensure that you clean up your dog's mess, if your dog fouls up on a footpath. **Bridleways** - These are meant for walkers, horse riders and cyclists. Cyclists are expected to give way to walkers and horse riders. Motor cars, mini motos and motorcyclists are not allowed on bridleways. **Byways Open To All Traffic (BOAT)** - These are normally marked "byways" and are open to motorists, cyclists, horse riders, motorcyclists and pedestrians. As with public tarmac road networks, motorists must ensure that they are legally authorised to use BOATs (i.e. registered, taxed, insured and MOT'd). Under-age or banned drivers, mini-motos, non-road-legal scramblers & quad bikes are not allowed on BOATs. **Restricted Byways** - Restricted Byways are created under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. They are open to the traffic mentioned above in BOATs, but exclude motor vehicles and motorcycles. Motorcyclists, motorists in motorcars, mini motors, quad bikes, non-road legal scramblers are not allowed on restricted by ways.

Legislation - Highway Act 1980. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. I will continue to patrol 'BOATs' like GREEN LANE (Letcombe Bassett/Regis) and other Rights of way that residents tell me are causing them issues, and where I have evidence of offences these will be dealt with.

WANTAGE Police Office - Can I remind residents that the WANTAGE Police Office situated next to the Library, closed on the 31st March 2016 and the nearest Police Station is at ABINGDON, COLWELL DRIVE, OX14 1AU. Please use 101 to report any

Non-Urgent crime related matters... Report it so that we know about it. If you'd like to receive FREE crime alerts, then please contact me on 101 or when you see me on patrol and I will be happy to 'sign you up'. You may register online at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk & please use www.thamesvalley.police.uk to visit our Website. Regards, Howard.

Chat from the Clerk

The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of Childrey Parish Council, date changed to Monday 23rd May 2016 starting at 7.30pm in Childrey Village Hall.

Childrey Parish Council will be welcoming a new Parish Councillor at this meeting. clerk.childreyipc@aol.co.uk

Save the date... Childrey Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee would like to invite all Childrey residents to a Village party to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday. Saturday 11th June starting at 5.30pm in the Childrey Village Hall, all welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Please see next month's newsletter and the notice board nearer the time for full details. **Bus Service.** Childrey Parish Council have been supporting other local villages to secure a regular bus service after the announcement that all subsidised bus services will terminate on the 20th July. We hope to be able to update you in the next newsletter, the most up to date information please view the Oxfordshire County Council website

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/stconsultation or if you have any direct questions please email supported.transport@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Village Parking. Childrey Parish Council has received a complaint about residents parking in West Street. We all understand

the parking problems around school drop off and pick up times and hope that most villagers walk their children to and from school when possible. This appeal is to the residents of West Street and other roads in Childrey. Please use your driveway if you have one & discourage your visitors from parking on footpaths or opposite/across a neighbour's driveway making it difficult for them to get in/out their property. Be neighbourly and think about others before you park on the road and leave your driveway empty.

Precept. We thought you might be interested to understand how Childrey Parish Council spends the Precept (£10,021 for FY 2015-2016) which is generated by your Council tax, a breakdown is given below:

Projected Budget for 2016/2017:

Salaries for Clerk and RFO and related Parish admin (Including newsletter expenses and Councillor training)	£ 5,044
Audit (required by law)	£ 190
Charities/Donations	£ 360
Subscriptions	£ 250
Generic village maintenance	£ 450
Grass cutting	£ 3,660
Insurance	£ 350
TOTAL 2016/17	£10,304

(Expenditure is more is because we are able to offset some costs of the newsletter with advertising income).

Sparsholt Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of Sparsholt Parish Council, Tuesday 17th May 2016 starting at 7.30pm in Griffin Memorial Hall.

clerk.sparsholtipc@aol.co.uk

Clerk to both parishes: Debbie Lewis-Pryde 01235 751923.