

Childrey and Sparsholt Newsletter



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Diary dates: March/April 2015

Date/time	Event/venue	Notes	Contact
3rd, 17th, 31st March 12:30-12:50pm	South West Mobile Library By the pond	Books, talking books. Book ordering service available	Libraries Customer Services 01865 810240
3rd March 2:30pm	Childrey & District Tuesday Club Childrey Village Hall	Iain McCubrey - 'Antarctica in the wake of Scot and Shackleton'	Pat Eglinton 751663
3rd March 7:30pm	Sparsholt Parish Council Griffin Memorial Hall	All welcome.	Debbie Lewis-Pryde 751923
5th March 7:30pm	White Horse Garden Club The Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington	Entry £2.50. 'Fruit Trees'. John Mason, Director of Highfield Garden World, Gloucester. Plants for sale	Pamela Preene 01367 820251 parrottspreene@aol.com
10th March 7:00-9:00pm	King Alfred's Academy Musical Event St Mary's Church	Audience required for A Level music student examination pieces.	Linda Soames 751297
16th March 7:30pm	Childrey Parish Council Childrey Village Hall	All welcome.	Debbie Lewis-Pryde 751923
22nd March 9:00am	Childrey Spring Classic Cycling Event Childrey Playing Field	£15	Mr Paul Solerti 07855 946645 psolerti@gmail.com
22nd March 11:00am	Sparsholt Sunday Footpath Walks Meet at Field View Westcot Lane	Led by Alan Stephen. All welcome.	Barbara Williams 751617
28th March 7:30pm	St James Singers Evening St Mary's Church	£10 (children free) from the Village shop or the Churchwardens	Linda Soames 751297 John Martin 751809
2nd April 7:30pm	White Horse Garden Club The Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington	Entry £3. 'Bordering on insanity'. Timothy Walker. Making a border with year round interest.	Pamela Preene 01367 820251 parrottspreene@aol.com
7th April 2:30pm	Childrey & District Tuesday Club Childrey Village Hall	David Castle - 'Old Wantage'	Pat Eglinton 751663
13th April 7:30pm	Childrey Parish Council Childrey Village Hall	All welcome.	Debbie Lewis-Pryde 751923
18th April 10:00am- 1:00pm	Pop up tea shop Childrey Methodist Church	Fundraising for our village pre school, Little Ducks	Suzy Alder 07774686877

Pop up Tea Shop

On Saturday 18th April at the Childrey Methodist Church, 10am - 1pm, Childrey's first pop up tea shop opens its doors. With the most scrumptious home made cakes and treats on offer (Eat your heart out Great British Bake Off!), tea and coffee, good company, and a relaxed sunny atmosphere it's an event not to be missed. Put the date in your diary now, bring your friends and family and look forward to welcoming spring with a bit of gastronomic indulgence on your doorstep. And just in case you thought it couldn't get any better than that, it's all in aid of the village preschool Little Ducks so there's no better excuse to treat yourself and help the youngest members of the community too. Little Ducks preschool relies on community fundraising to keep going so please support us (guilt free cake), now that's got to be a good thing! We look forward to seeing you on the 18th April ... spread the word.

If anyone would like more information or would like to offer to make cakes to stock our pop up tea shop, donate time on the day or make any other donation to support Little Ducks pre school, please contact Suzy Alder on 07774686877.

Suzy Alder

Sparsholt Fashion Show - Save the date

The annual Sparsholt Fashion Show will take place on Friday 22nd May. Doors open at 7:00pm for 7:30pm start. It's the perfect opportunity to have a Spring sort out and donate any unwanted but good quality clothes, shoes, bags and accessories to help raise funds for the Griffin Hall.

Please contact Barbara on 75617 or Caroline on 751142

Barbara and Caroline

Burns Night Supper - thank you

Thank you to everyone who attended our Burns Night Supper on Friday 23 January. We hope that you all enjoyed yourselves and that you will be pleased to hear that we raised £1,000 for the Village Hall Renovation fund.

Claire, Hugo, Jane and Zoe. Childrey Village Hall Management Committee.

Wantage Counselling Service Lecture on "Pragmatism and Principle"

This year's Felicity Madden Memorial Lecture is titled "Pragmatism and Principle" and is to be held on Saturday 28th March in the Lloyd Lindsay Rooms, Ardington. The presentation aims to outline how counselling young people goes on to help counselling adults. Nick Luxmoore – who writes a blog for Psychology Today – will be leading the presentation and discussion.

The event will run from 10am until 1pm and tickets are available now from the Wantage Counselling Service web page <http://www.wantagecounselling.org.uk/training/training.html>. Standard tickets are £45, and student and Wantage Counselling Service member tickets are £35.

For information on Wantage Counselling Service contact Helen Carter (Trustee) 01235 764810 or helen-carter@ntlworld.com. Event details from Shaun Galloway 07736310443 or shaun@wantage-couriers.co.uk

Shaun Galloway

General Election - Are you registered to vote?

As you are all aware, 2015 is the year of a General Election. In my constituency this is being held alongside elections for both South Oxfordshire and The Vale of White Horse District Councils and elections for many towns and parishes. The way people register to vote is changing and it is very important that as many of you as possible have the chance to have your say at the ballot box. Individual Electoral Registration (IER) is being implemented which requires each person to register to vote individually rather than by household. Residents who have automatically been re-registered on the electoral roll will have received a confirmation letter from the returning officer, and will not have to do anything more. To try and increase the number of people registered to vote council staff will be visiting the homes of those who are not registered, or who have not sent back forms, asking who lives at the property. These canvassers will always carry identification badges, so please ask to see them, and there is no need for them to enter your home. You can register securely online by visiting www.gov.uk/yourvotematters or by contacting the shared elections office on 01235 540310.

Ed Vaisey, MP Wantage and Didcot

500 Years of Education in Childrey

The 1st February was Education Sunday and The Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, Acting Bishop of Oxford, came to preach at St Mary's Childrey as part of the village's celebrations of 500 years of continuous education in Childrey. It is believed that Childrey may have been the first to record the teaching of children in English, rather than in Latin, in the country.

In 1515 William Fettiplace's vision was to ensure all children had access to education, not just the rich, and insisted the lessons were taught in their own language of English; to ensure even the poorest of children had the best chance to succeed. Having started a Free School in 1515 he then created an endowment in 1526, to ensure the continuance of the teaching of children in English after his death; an unusual, if not controversial, written instruction considering the issues between the Crown and Rome at the time over the translating of the bible from Latin to English.

It was standing room only as the congregation enjoyed a service that encompassed the development of education from 1515 to 2015; including singing and prayers by the pupils of The Ridgeway C of E Primary School, "Gaudete" and "Gloria" sung by Childrey Village Choir and a lively re-enactment of "David & Goliath" by the "Open The Book" team.

Following the service a public exhibition was held at the school detailing the story of 500 years of continuous education in the village.

As part of the 500 year celebrations, The Ridgeway School is also trying to create a "memory book", for a reunion in July 2015, for anyone connected with the School. If you have any photographs, memorabilia, anecdotes or memories that you are willing to share, we would love to hear from you, even if you cannot attend the event. Please email Julie Jones at julie.jones6@btinternet.com.

Julie Jones

Thank you to everyone who made Education Sunday such a memorable occasion. A special thank you to all the children from Ridgeway School who performed and contributed so much to the service, and also to the village choir. It was lovely to see the church packed to celebrate this moment in village history. If you were up bright and early on Sunday morning you may also have heard Julie Jones Chair of Governors and Reverend Leonora on Radio Oxford at 7.40 am talking about the day.

Linda Soames

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Community Policing Update

Parking issues have dominated my time recently, especially with the enforcement of yellow lines in Wantage town centre. Double Yellow lines mean "No Waiting" at anytime and Single Yellow lines are dependent on the restrictions shown on a nearby time plate eg. No waiting Monday to Saturday between 8:30 am and 6pm (This can vary). Please can I remind residents of some good advice found in the Highway Code:

Rule 240 - You MUST NOT stop or park on a pedestrian crossing, including the area marked by the zig-zag lines.

Rule 243 - DO NOT stop or park near a school entrance, anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services, opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction except in an authorised parking space, near the brow of a hill or hump bridge, opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle, where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles or in front of an entrance to a property on a bend

In the past few weeks there has been a burglary in Letcombe Regis Football/Cricket Club and 4 other similar premises in the Vale of White Horse area. We are keen to speak to anyone that has information or sightings of any suspicious activity in these areas, please use 101 or you can use 999 if you believe a crime is being committed at that time. You can also contact Crimestoppers which is totally anonymous and your details will never be divulged – 0800 555 111.

For any resident that would like a Crime Prevention survey to look at their house, garden or premises security, please let me know via 101 or when you see me.

If you'd like to receive FREE crime alerts and info about where you live by email, phone or text then please contact me on 101 or when you see me on patrol and I will be happy to 'sign you up' alternatively please register at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk and please visit our web site at www.thamesvalley.police.uk.

Useful Numbers: The 24-hour non-emergency number for Thames Valley Police is '101' or 999 in emergencies.

PCSO Howard Pack C9600 - Thames Valley Police

www.childrey.org.uk & www.sparsholtandwestcot.org

News from St Mary's

Bringing St Mary's into 21st Century Appeal: We are pleased to report that we have received a very generous donation from a local charity meaning that we have now raised over £31,000 towards the target of £35,000. Thank you everyone, and please continue to support the appeal as we're not quite there yet; work is planned however to start in early summer.

St James Singers Evening: For our next fund raising event, we are delighted to welcome back our friends The St James Singers who will be performing a programme of music and poetry from both sides of the Atlantic in an eclectic mix of styles sacred and secular drawn from 600 years of song. The concert will be on Saturday 28th March at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Village Shop and the Churchwardens* and cost £10 (children free) to include a glass of wine.

Audience Required!: For the first time we are hosting a musical event with King Alfred's Academy on Tuesday 10th March from 7.00 – 9.00pm at St Mary's. 'A' Level music students will perform and record their examination pieces to be sent off for independent marking to obtain their final grade. Each performance has to be continuous for at least 15 minutes and must be performed and recorded before a live audience. Please come and listen to some outstanding music delivered by some very talented young musicians: they are from our local community and deserve our support. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served during the interval.

Wine & Cheese Evening: What a fantastic evening we had! The village hall was packed to enjoy and taste 6 wines and cheeses. It was generally agreed that the best wines were the Chilean Estevez Pinot Noir from Aldi and the Santa Ana Argentinian Malbec, whilst the most flavoursome cheeses were Sainsbury's Mature Gouda and Lidl's French Comte. And the quiz made it even more fun along with the marmalade gin! Thank you to everyone who came and very special thanks to Sue & Julian Worth for organising it all. Over £600 was raised towards our appeal.

The next foodie fundraiser for St. Mary's will take place on 23rd April and will likely be an Aussie pop up supper or St. George's night supper. Tickets will be £20 for 3 courses and a Licensed Bar.

* Linda Soames: lindasoames@home.3b.co.uk; tel: 751297

* John Martin: martin@perrenwellstation.frreserve.co.uk; tel: 751809

Wish to submit an article?

If you have any comments, news items, would like to advertise or any events to add to the diary, please contact Kate or Robin Blowfield, Roselea Cottage, High Street, Childrey.

childreyandparsholtnewsletter@yahoo.co.uk.

Remember the deadline is the 18th of every month. Please note that the newsletter is limited to 2 A4 pages and sponsored by Childrey and Sparsholt Parish Councils.



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