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Childrey & Sparsholt Newsletter



NOVEMBER 2015

Issue 14 Vol.10

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.

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Diary Dates for November

Date & Time	Event / Venue	Notes	Contact
5 th November 7:30 pm	White Horse Gardening Club Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington, SN7 7RA	'Garden Design' by Caroline Tatham from The Cotswold Garden School, who has built a Garden at the Eden project and won awards at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.	Visitors are welcome to meetings, entry £2.50 Pamela Preene 01367 820251
6 th November 12:30 pm	Tear Fund Lunch	Childrey Manor, by kind invitation of Satu Marks.	All most welcome.
7 th November 6:30 pm	Childrey Bonfire & Fireworks Playing Field	Bar B Q, bar and mulled wine.	
15 th November 11am	Sparsholt & Westcot Footpath Walk	We meet on the third Sunday of each month (March to November) – with coffee at 11:00 before each walk.	Contact Barbara 751617 for details of where to meet.
15 th November 10.00 – 12.30pm	Uffington Farmers Market Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington	Local food producers offering meat, cheese, preserves, fruit, vegetables, pies and pastries, vintage tea room and much more	
17 th November 7:30pm	Childrey & Sparsholt WI Childrey Village Hall	Angela Pawlyn will be presenting an interesting and informative talk on the subject of Silk, from Cocoon to Scarf	Pauline Higgs on 751544
17 th November – 9 th January	Wantage Vale and Downland Museum Christmas Gift Fair	Ceramics, painting, textiles, prints, jewellery, bags, cards by local artists and craftspeople.	Mon–Sat 9:30–4pm Closed 24 th Dec to 4 th Jan.
21 st November 11:30 – 1:30	Refurbished Childrey Village Hall Open	Complementary glass of wine	All Welcome

Bonfire Night

This year's bonfire will take place on Saturday November 7th – fire lighting at 6:30 pm with the firework display at 7 pm. There will be a Bar B Q, bar and mulled wine – so please come along and support the event in your usual generous way. The gates to the playing field will be open from 12 noon until 4 pm on the preceding Sundays for your contributions of *wood and garden waste* for the bonfire. **The Playing Field Trust**



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Childrey & Sparsholt WI

Angela Pawlyn will be presenting an interesting and informative talk on the subject of 'Silk, from Cocoon to Scarf'. Visitors are welcome, so if you would like to know what goes on to produce silk, now is your opportunity to find out. The talk is taking place at Childrey Village Hall on Tuesday 17th November at 7:30 p.m. Contact is **Pauline Higgs** on 751544.

Childrey Christmas Cards

My grateful thanks to all those who have so generously contributed to the Childrey Christmas card sales this year, and for the appreciative remarks about the cards. You have all been so kind once again that I now have only 110 cards left (as I write this in October) out of the 2000 we had printed, and I have hopes that all will be sold this year. Please contact me if you need any more....I may be able to help.

A big thank you also to the majority who have so promptly paid for your cards. I would like to be able to hand over the cheque to the Village Hall committee before Christmas, and ideally to do this before November 14th if possible. This small reminder, if you have forgotten, means I will be delighted to accept anything still owed as soon as possible. It would be lovely to hand over the whole gift to the committee on your behalf before Christmas so that they can continue happily towards completion of their good work. I will let you know in January the total financial success of your generous support. Many thanks once again,

Pat Winsley 751280.

Community Policing PCSO Howard Pack C9600 Thames Valley Police

This month will be my 10th anniversary of starting work for Thames Valley Police, there have certainly been some changes over the years that have made the role interesting with more changes and new challenges coming along all the time, certainly no two days are the same!

November starts with the Fireworks of Bonfire night which comes just after the clocks have gone back to signal longer, darker and colder nights.

Darker evenings brings me to the subject of 'Lights on Bicycles' and the health and safety of cyclists and pedestrians. For any children using a bicycle to get to and from school I would ask that you or your parents purchase a front and back light and if possible a reflective tabard (Yellow or Orange are good colours) which will increase the riders visibility.

Crime prevention There has been a recent spate of thefts in Wantage and Grove. Thefts from cars, sheds and garages have been reported. Items have not always been taken, however, some small items and bikes have been taken. Please be extra vigilant, make sure your vehicles are locked, your sheds and garages have heavy duty locks and are kept secure. If you see anyone acting suspiciously in your local area, please call the police non-emergency number 101.

SID - I have been out and about on the GREENDOWN area with my friend 'SID' (Speed Indication Device) carrying out Speed checks. On a recent Thursday, 12:15 to 12.45, on the A417, Main Street,

East Challow, 132 vehicles went through my check point with the highest speed recorded at 35mph. Other locations I have been monitoring are Courthill Road, Letcombe Regis; High Street, Childrey; Holborn Hill, Letcombe Bassett; let me know if there are any other locations where you believe Speeding is a problem?

New Policing team member Wantage Neighbourhood Policing Team has a new leader, Sergeant MARK DAVIS has joined us replacing Steve Hookham who has been promoted to Inspector. 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 for Email alerts at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk & use www.thamesvalley.police.uk to visit our Website. Please use 101 to report any 'Non-Urgent' Crime related matters (24 hours) ... **Report it so that we know about it.** The 24-hour non-emergency number for Thames Valley Police is '101' or 999 in emergencies.

Regards, **Howard**



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Important Update from the North Pole.....



Having announced, with great excitement, in last months newsletter that Father Christmas will be visiting Childrey this year, we are delighted to say that

we have now received confirmation from the snowy north that he will be parking his sleigh on the roof of the village Hall from 3-5pm on Saturday 12th December. We hope you will all come and visit his grotto and let him know what you would like for Christmas.

Don't Miss Out...

In order to manage the inevitable rush to see him, Santa's elves have asked us to sell tickets for the event in support of a local village cause. To that end all monies raised from this event will go to supporting Little Ducks, our lovely village pre-school. Tickets are on sale now at a cost of £5 for children (adults free entry). You can get your tickets by contacting Suzy Alder on 07774686877 or 751892 aldersuzy@yahoo.co.uk.

Children's ticket price includes tea (sausage & mash - please let us know of any particular dietary requirements when you book), a visit to Santa's grotto and a present to take home. To amuse the grown-ups there will be tea, coffee, cake, mince pies and mulled wine on sale. There will also be a Christmas raffle. We look forward to seeing you all for festive fun in our newly refurbished village hall on 12th December - jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way.....

Suzy Alder

Hedgehogs & Bonfires

Please can you search your bonfires before lighting them to look for hedgehogs hibernating and hopefully avoid them having a tragic end. I understand they are now an endangered species.

Thanks, **Maureen Hughes.**

Saturday 21st November will be a very special day in the world of all things hedgehog! It is The Day of the Hedgehog hosted by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and their partners, The Peoples Trust for Endangered Species. More info on www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk



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Tear Fund Lunch The next Tear Fund Lunch will be on Friday 6th November at 12.30pm at Childrey Manor, by kind invitation of Satu Marks. All most welcome.

News from St.Mary's

Harvest Barn Dance We are delighted to report over 100 people attended the evening. Everyone said how much they enjoyed it and would like to see it repeated. Our sincere thanks to Andrew and Linda Froud for allowing us to use the barn which was the perfect venue. Our very grateful thanks to all the very many helpers who put so much into organising and supporting the evening. Please excuse us for not mentioning you individually as there were so many of you and we don't want to miss anyone out. The evening raised £283 which has been sent to the Bishop's Outreach Fund for Syrian refugees.

Building Project The work is continuing well. The floor at the back of the church has been replaced, new soakaways have been dug and the framework for the kitchenette and WC completed. New guttering will be installed shortly. Final completion is difficult to predict but we are hopeful that by early November the new facilities will be operational. Once completed we would like to host many more special and family events. However we warmly welcome any ideas you may have for using the new arrangements, so please get in touch with us and let us know. The Bishop of Dorchester, also currently acting Bishop of Oxford, will formally open the new facilities on Palm Sunday, 20th March next year to which

everyone is welcome. In the meantime we would like everything to be used whenever possible. **Gift Aid Day**

Very many thanks to everyone who supported our Gift Aid Day so generously. We raised over £600 which was a fantastic achievement. We were also very pleased to show people around the church and explain how the building project is progressing and answer questions.

Christmas Services With half term upon us our thoughts will soon be turning to Christmas! A full list of dates of services for Advent including Christingle and Carol services will be published shortly. However we thought you may like to know in advance that there will be a midnight communion (starts 11.30 pm) on Christmas Eve with Reverend Leonora, and a 10.00am Crib service on Christmas Day.

Linda 751297 & **John** 751809.
St.Mary's Churchwardens.

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Childrey & District

Tuesday Club Proceeds from the Whist Drives this year amounting to £240 have been sent to The October Club in Wantage. Thank you to Nep and to all our supporters. The next Whist Drive will be on 21st January 2016 in the Methodist Hall at 2 pm, cost £5 including afternoon tea.
Jenny & Pat.

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Childrey Village Hall

If you'd like to take a look inside the refurbished village hall and have a complementary glass of wine, come along on Saturday 21st November any time between 11:30 and 13:30. We'll still have a little way to go before the current project is fully completed but the majority of the work will have been done – you will definitely notice the improvements thanks to your support.

Chat from the Clerk

Next Meeting Dates:
Childrey Parish Council **Monday 16th November** starting at 7.30pm in the Pavilion in the Childrey Playing Field. (Due to the refurbishment of the Village Hall please check the Notice Board for venue information for future meetings)

clerk.childreyipc@aol.co.uk
Sparsholt Parish Council usually held on a Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Griffin Memorial Hall, please check Sparsholt notice board/website for the meeting date or email the clerk on clerk.sparsholtpc@aol.co.uk
Clerk to both parishes: Debbie Lewis-Pryde 01235 751923.

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. Planning applications can be viewed on the VOWHDC planning register

Lost Kitten – The tiny black kitten found lost & hiding outside Childrey Village Stores has found a loving home with her new adoptive family and is settling in very well.