

VILLAGE CUDDINGTON VOICE



**April
2009**

VOLUME TWELVE

The Meaning of Easter

April 10th GOOD FRIDAY—REMEMBRANCEof the DEATH OF JESUS FOR US

Family Event in the Bernard Hall

...all ages welcome

10.00 a.m. Craft and Drama Practice

10.30 a.m. Easter Presentation

Followed by coffee, squash and hot cross buns

In the Methodist Church

2.00 p.m. **Reflection on the Cross with Readings and Music**

**April 12th EASTER SUNDAY—CELEBRATION
OF HIS RISING FROM THE DEAD**

10.00 a.m. **Family Communion Service** in St. Nicholas Church

5.30 p.m. **Easter Celebration** in the Methodist church

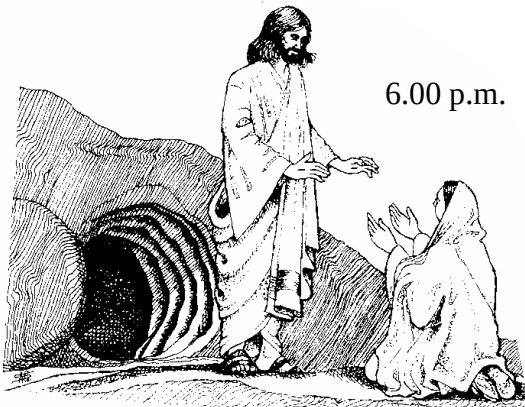
Contributions, testimonies and songs of the life-changing Easter message
in the lives of members of the church.

Followed by refreshments

6.00 p.m.

Easter Praise in St. Nicholas Church

Singing and readings



Come on and celebrate.
His gift of love we will celebrate.
The Son of God who loved us and gave us life.





From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

One of the great things about moving house in the winter is the surprises that come in the spring. A barren looking garden can simply become a tangle of weeds but, more often, will burst into a flurry of spring flowers. Before borders need weeding or lawns need mowing, there is that lovely early season of flowers to remind us that spring is on its way. We are looking forward to the vicarage garden in Haddenham this summer and finding many surprises as the months go by.

Gardens feature fairly heavily in the Bible and four gardens are particularly significant. At the very start of the Old Testament our relationships between God, other people and the rest of nature are explained in the story of the Garden of Eden. God places man and women in the garden to work in it and take care of it. Sadly they abuse the gift of life, follow their own plans and the harmony of the garden is shattered.

The impact of the tragedy of those broken relationships continue through to scriptures to the Gospels and lead us to a second garden, Gethsemane. This "Garden of the Oil Press" was where Jesus prayed on the night before his death. Olive trees are ancient symbols of peace and reconciliation. Olive oil was used for healing in the ancient Near East. How ironic but also how fitting that Jesus prayed here before being arrested. His death makes possible our peace and reconciliation with God and promises healing of our lives and hearts.

The themes of forgiveness and reconciliation are developed in the third garden – the garden of the tomb where Mary and the disciples went on the first Easter Day to find the tomb empty. The other disciples left but Mary stayed, weeping in the garden. When Jesus came to her she thought him the gardener. In her joyous meeting with him we have the restoration of those relationships so tragically broken. Her joy is a promise of the joy we can each find in a restored relationship with Christ.

Finally there is a garden at the very end of Revelation. Within the city of gold there is a garden with the river of life flowing through it. On either side of its banks is a tree of life. These fruit monthly and the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations.

The gardens of the Bible tell a story of beauty and brokenness, leading to healing and restoration. If you are experiencing brokenness for whatever reason, I hope you might join with us at Easter and find healing in Christ.

Happy Easter
Margot

Congratulations to The Venerable Dr William Strange

Will Strange who grew up in Cuddington and who, for many years, has been a vicar in Wales has recently been promoted to the position of archdeacon.

Those of us who remember Will realise what a well deserved promotion this is and send him our congratulations. We also send our best wishes to his mother Barbara, one time Head Teacher of Cuddington School and now a regular reader of Village Voice, who sent us this news.

Incidentally Will, whose first degree was in history, has recently had published a book entitled "Haddenham and Cuddington: The Early History of Two Buckinghamshire Villages" This very informative book is on sale at the Haddenham Museum.

May Day activities in Cuddington

Visitors to Cuddington on Sunday May 2nd.

A Folk Dance Group from Antwerp, De Kegelaar, will be dancing in St. Nicholas's Church after the 10.00 a.m. Service. This will be followed by some very dramatic flag waving outside the Bernard Hall.

May Day Celebrations

Once again Cuddington is to have the pleasure of a visit from the Witchert Chorale who will sing madrigals from the church tower at 9.00 a.m on May 4th. The singing will be followed by refreshments in the refurbished church.



Later that morning at 10.15 a.m. a circular walk round the four churches of the Benefice will start at St. Nicholas, Cuddington, visiting St. Michael's, Aston Sandford for a "bring your own" picnic lunch and then returning to Cuddington via Kingsey and Haddenham churches. For further details see church notice sheets or ring Sally McCloy 292815.

Looking ahead

National Garden Scheme – CUDDINGTON OPEN GARDENS – Sunday 21st June

Five Cuddington gardens will be opening to the public on Sunday 21st June under the umbrella of the National Gardens Scheme (NGS) -

33 Bernard Close (Tony and Georgina Orchard),

Box Cottage (Tony and Diane Picot),
The Old Place (Michael and Julia Straiton),

The Old School House (Margaret Spurrell)

Tyringham Hall (Sherry Scott).

It will be a great opportunity for us 'Cuddingtonions' to visit hidden treasures on our doorstep. But, if this does not inspire, then you may be impressed by the fact that, when Cuddington Gardens last opened in 2007, the magnificent sum of £1,482. was sent off to NGS in support of the following charities - Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer, Help the Hospices, Crossroads Caring for Carers, Queen's Nursing Institute, The Royal Fund for Gardeners' Children, National Trust Gardening Careerships.

Village organisations will again benefit this year –

Teas served at the Bernard Hall to benefit its own fund

Teas served at Tyringham Hall to benefit The Sunshine Club

There will be a plant stall at The Bernard Hall which Angela Sanderson is organising. Please contact her on 291626 if you are able to give some time to help her on the day, either with setting up or selling plants. Angela is well aware that the Fete – with its Plant Stall – takes place not long after Open Gardens Day, but she would be most grateful for any plants for this stall too. Please bring them to Angela at Wellfield House in Spurt Street, or to the stall on the day. Angela will keep any plants remaining unsold at the end of the day and care for them until the Fete.

The gardens will be open from 2pm to 6pm - entry £5. to cover visits to all five gardens, with free entry for children. There will obviously be an influx of visitors to the village which we hope will not cause too much inconvenience to residents. To minimise disruption, gardens and parking will all be clearly signposted. Car parking will be in the Playing Field, with disabled parking at Tyringham Hall and The Old Place.

If you would like to know about other Open Gardens in Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, do pick up a free NGS booklet from Cuddington Shop.



Wild flowers for Cuddington gardeners

At the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Gardening Club Elsie Frost, Chairman, reported on another successful year. There are now 75 members and the club has had contributions from a wide range of speakers. There were enjoyable garden visits, including a joint one with the History Society to Coughton Court; sadly the visit in October to Batsford Arboretum had to be cancelled due to a lack of numbers.

If you would be interested in joining a friendly and sociable club and have an interest in gardens and gardening please contact Thelma Parry on 291075.



**Peter Sheasby with Gardening club
Chairman, Elsie Frost.**

The AGM was followed by an excellent and informative talk by Peter Sheasby on "British Wild Flowers". Peter is an amateur botanist and keen photographer. His talk was accompanied by beautifully detailed slides.

He covered the different habitats suited to varying plants including woodland, open grassland, chalk, coastal situations, mountains, moorland, rivers and water meadows.

We saw not only the wild flowers but also the surrounding country-

side, butterflies and close ups of dragonflies, the latter being notoriously difficult to photograph as they don't stay still for very long!

The next meeting is on the 6th April when Sue Bedwell will talk on "Make more of your plants" which will include a demonstration on how to divide and propagate your herbaceous plants.

The talk will be followed by the distribution of the potatoes for this year's Murphy Potato growing competition.

On 2nd May the club will be visiting Hidcote Manor in Gloucestershire, a world famous garden. This outing is open to non-members and anyone interested in joining the trip please contact Skippy Blumer on 290647.



Tyringham Hall at a previous Gardens Open event.

80 year old to get new kitchen

At the Annual General Meeting of the Bernard Hall on the 18th March, under the chairmanship of Robert Spencer Bernard, a good turnout of Cuddingtonians was treated to a vision of the not too distant future when the Chairman of the Management Committee, Markus Bolton, took us through the detailed plans for the new kitchen.



The main benefits are that it will be directly accessible from the hall and on the same level. It will be considerably larger than the present kitchen and with much more natural light and completely new equipment and will match the existing building in style and materials. AVDC planners have been fully involved in the design. However the Committee would greatly appreciate feedback from all users and potential users as soon as possible as they hope to start work in September and planning permission and grant funding need to be obtained. The cost is likely to be in the region of £60,000. Copies of the application to WREN are available for inspection. Feedback forms can be obtained from the Committee (see below).

Financially the Hall has had another good year. In 2008 bookings were up 20% on the previous year and the trend is continuing this year. There is a wide variety of users, from yoga to dog training and much theatrical activity. The finances are healthy and the Hall has over £10,000 of cash on deposit.

The Committee thanked the organisers of Cuddington Fete for the donation of £500, and Jessica Ecott and Charles Sanderson for raising around £1000 from a successful wine-tasting evening.

Cuddington Youth Drama put on three successful performances during the year, making full use of the light and sound systems which have been installed over the last few years. There have been changes to the Management Committee. Their excellent treasurer Rob Morris-Jones has retired and his role taken by Jeremy



Cuddington's Gnomes at home

Saturday 11th July

It was decided at the last meeting to change the 'working' title to "Cuddington's Gnomes at Home". Several of these little creatures & their friends have apparently been in touch with local residents to say that they have well established toadstool cottages in the gardens & fields of this lovely village & are very at home here. (I wonder how they got planning permission past the Parish Council.)

*Preparations for the fête are in hand, with new ideas for stalls/sideshows & some old favourites returning. The **teddy bear stall** is back by popular demand as is the **basket tombola** – please start dropping in any bears & baskets to the fete committee ASAP because these take quite a bit of preparation.*

*This year we are thinking about producing a Cuddington Fête **recipe book** – it doesn't have to be based around the theme, any of your own concoctions, old family or local recipes would be most welcome. Please either drop hard copy in to Julia or email maggie.waters@virgin.net. Please include your name & phone no (in case we can't read your writing) & any background to the origins of the recipe.*

Phil & Sherry – Tyringham Hall. 291526

Michael & Julia – The Old Place, Lower Church St. 299455

Maggie – 4 Lower Church St. 290847

Rosemary – Downeys, Lower Church St. 290249

Margaret - The School House, Upper Church St. 292255

Many thanks in advance.

Maggie

Stuart -Cox. There is a new secretary in the place of Rachel McLoughlin, who was thanked for her work; her successor is Charlotte Cooper. Both new members were welcomed. The Committee also thanked Zoe Gibson, who manages the bookings, Tony Picot for all his work in maintaining the Hall, and Dorothy Woodford, Chris Luckett, Jeane Oke, Jim Hayward, Sherry Scott, Clive Adcock and Jessica Ecott for all their help with the day-to-day management, and Elaine English for her boundless enthusiasm and for keeping the Hall clean.

The Hall is an ideal place for all kinds of activity, and when the proposed improvements have been completed it will be even better. It is very versatile, and once the new kitchen has been completed will be an even more sumptuous venue. With the newly refurbished church and such a splendid hall we will have no need to look elsewhere for our spiritual and secular needs.

John Fortgang

News from the Tennis Club

Tuesday Club Night is currently from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00p.m. and Wednesday morning play is from 10.30 a.m. to noon.

This year the annual Play Tennis Day will be on 9th May. The idea is to encourage people to come and play tennis whether beginners or returning to the game after a break. Non-members are very welcome on this day and short tennis activities will be available for juniors. As an extra bonus, if membership is taken out on that day the joining fee will be waived.

The Veterans' Tournament will take place on June 14th at 1.00 p.m.

Contact the Subscription Secretary, Stella Young for further information: Tel: 01296 748771. .

More Gnomic concerns

Our fete committee is hard at work planning the 2009 fete. However, the current economic climate has created a new and serious concern. For years the gnomes of Zurich have played a prominent, but stealthy, role in finance. Will they be tainted by the present crisis? Are the Swiss gnomes proving incompetent? There is a massive presentational issue here. The Cuddington Fete Committee's handling of the Zurich gnome concern could have international significance!

Gnomic mobility has often been encountered. There is considerable evidence that today's garden gnome, bored by the static routine of perpetual barrowing, sweeping, fishing and standing on toadstools, longs for respite. Some do indeed take holidays. We have the example of the peripatetic Watford gnome. He disappeared from his home near the Harlequin Centre and apparently holidayed in the Mediterranean. He sent postcards back to Watford from Spain, France and Italy saying that he was enjoying himself, but would eventually return home. True to his word, once autumn arrived his owner was delighted to find him not only restored to his original spot in the garden, but accompanied by six friends he had encountered on his travels!

Gnomes also ventured into the 2007 Chelsea Flower Show. They decided to protest against the infamous Royal Horticultural Society's ban on gnomes as garden ornaments. The two gnomes joined the queues and brazenly had their photographs taken in front of the Gold Medal winning lupins and in the Carnivorous Plant Society's display. Another bastion of gnomophobia had been stormed!

There is also a local roaming gnome – Oliver – a very fine B&Q fellow, who appeared on the step of a house in Great Stone in December. He cannot have felt at home in his new quarters for, just before Christmas, he left and made the long trek to the sanctuary of Tyringham Hall. Perhaps he thought he was booking his place at the head of the queue when the village gnomes are liberated into the Bernwood on 11th July! As that day draws gradually near, both villagers and gnomes look forward to a very special fete.

Go gnome!

How green is Cuddington?



We live in a lovely place and look after it so well that the village regularly wins awards, but we tend to ignore the larger environmental problems faced by our global environment. You may have noticed a leaflet that was put through your door last week headed 'Sustainable Cuddington': as a result of this, a group of residents met at Tyringham Hall to discuss the situation and think what could be done.

More information will be given later but Doug Kennedy (pictured left), of Vulcan house, Spurt Street, has made the following contribution. Do write to *Village Voice* if you would like to add to this.

Green Tips

There are many ways in which domestic energy consumption (and bills) can be reduced, so here are a few to start on:

Why?

Oil and gas are finite resources and we have nearly exhausted all the British reserves making us dependent on other nations, such as Russia.

World leaders were told at a recent summit in Copenhagen that global warming is progressing much faster than expected so it is absolutely essential that we reduce our CO2 emissions. This is still politically difficult, but we can take action in our own homes.

What sort of World do we want our children and grand-children to inherit? We will save money.

How?

- Have an energy audit done for your home – by acting on its recommendations could save you 30 per cent or more of your energy bills. Remember, prices are likely to go up again.
 - Ensure that your heating system timer is correctly set up so that your home is only heated when you need it. For instance, unless your house is very drafty (see below), set it to turn off 30 minutes before you go to bed and on 30 minutes before you get up.
- Get rid of drafts, which represent your money being blown away.

For further information on domestic energy use and audits, look at <http://www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/environment/environmental-issues/energy-efficiency/>

The Energy Savings Trust at <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/>
Thames Valley Energy at <http://www.tvenergy.org/>

Or contact Doug Kennedy on dgkennedy@alloverde.com (nb I shall be away for all of April and May walking from Lands End to John O'Groats – see <https://twitter.com/LeMusicalJog>).

Gentlemen's dining club

Following the article which appeared in last October's Village Voice, a number of gentlemen in the village would like to begin a gentlemen's Dining Club. As mentioned in the article the Club would meet every three months for dinner or lunch.

Over twenty gentlemen have shown an interest. We need to decide whether it should be lunch or dinner. The first meal in April may be at the Crown in Cuddington, subsequent meals will be at different venues chosen by the diners.

Please register your preference for lunch or dinner by e-mailing to parkstone28@tiscali.co.uk or telephone Phil Johnson 291526.

Lorna Garbett 1921 - 2009

Lorna's funeral was taken by Pam Halliwell, a Licensed Lay minister, and close friend, in Kingsey Church on March 13th. The beautiful flowers which decorated the church and a congregation of over seventy relations and friends showed how much she had been appreciated.



Lorna had moved to Cuddington with her mother in the 1950's and ever since she had immersed herself in very many of the village's activities. Along with her friends Ted and Gladys Ferris she joined BLESMA (the society which supported wounded ex-service men.) Another charity close to her heart was the Ferris Foundation and she was always a very active helper in all its activities.

Until very recently Lorna had been a member of the Bernard Hall Management Committee. Lorna was an active member of the History Society of which she was a committee member at the time of her death. The Women's Institute was another society in whose activities she threw herself

wholeheartedly. Members remember with amusement the entertaining way she gave an account of the problems she had encountered when as a new recruit to the A.T.S. she met "square bashing" for the first time. Another fond memory this society has of her is her generosity in bringing to a meeting the cake she had won in a raffle at the village's festivities to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. (Our picture shows her cutting the cake)

Lorna was a regular worshipper at St. Nicholas's and a willing helper at many of its activities, (few could make the brass sparkle for special occasions as Lorna could.) and that other weekly meeting in the church - the Coffee Drop-In was one she rarely missed.

Possibly Lorna's greatest interest was her delight in amateur dramatics. Until its closure Lorna was a most enthusiastic member of the village amateur dramatic society (C.A.T.S.) and many will remember her acting ability, especially shown in the presentation of comic characters. Acting in Church productions or in impromptu scenes there always showed her enthusiasm and skill.

Lorna was a lady of many talents and interests with a loving disposition which endeared her to all. She will be greatly missed.

Letter to the Editor

As gnome lover myself, I am grateful to your gnomish correspondent for the publicity and background information contained in recent issues of Village Voice. However, I feel the writer is misguided in his praise for the International Gnome Liberation Front. The fact is, gnomes do not want to be liberated – by which the IGLF means their forcible removal to a woodland somewhere. In point of fact, gnomes thrive on contact with humans – it is the way they are made; it is in their genes (or even in their dungarees). Without regular cheery greetings from passing owners or strangers, the happy smiles on most of their little faces would rapidly fade.

Members of the Give A Gnome A Home movement (GAGAH) devote time and resources to finding loving homes for gnomes who have been abandoned, on rubbish heaps or by roadsides, or left to gather dust on the shelves of garden centres. To then subject them to banishment to wooded glades would be cruel and unusual punishment. Who would touch up the paintwork on their hats and clothes, damaged by weather and bird depredations? In fact, the abandoned gnomes would simply crumble away to nothing without contact with humans. I am confident that your correspondent would not advocate abandoning children or family pets to fend for themselves in this heartless way?

The rallying cry of the ILGF is "Go Gnome". The very cry is reminiscent of a Victorian father telling a wayward daughter to: "Go - and never darken my doorstep again"!

I say No to "Go Gnome", - rather: "Go GAGAH"!

David Holland



Diamond Jubilee celebration

If you were passing the playing fields clubhouse on the afternoon of Tuesday 10th March you may have wondered why the rooms were decorated and why much laughter was coming from within. Eighteen members and eleven guests of the WI were celebrating their 60th birthday in grand style. Toasts were drunk to the health of the remaining founder members – Dorothy Woodford and Lydia Woodford. Glasses were also raised to Peggy Cattell who, in January 1989 saved the Institute from being closed. A toast to our honoured guest Dodge Walker – the daughter of the late founder member, Ruby Small and finally to all our guests and members.

Sara Oliver from Kimble was introduced and she entertained us with her keyboard and singing skills interwoven with some humorous anecdotes. Helen Griffin thanked Sara for the delightful way we were all persuaded to add lusty vocal accompaniment to her singing. Afterwards, a delicious tea was served and the celebration cake, made by Lydia Woodford was handed round. Diane Picot warmly thanked our two waitresses for the day, Kate and Liz Bargery who had done a superb job in looking after all of us. Everyone had enjoyed a memorable afternoon and all the members were given a souvenir booklet written by the president to take home.



Anne Holland and Lydia Woodford cut the cake.

Dates for your Diary

Springtime in a Cuddington garden



April

Wednesday 1st 8.00 p.m.
Monday 6th 7.30 p.m.

Parish Council Meeting
Gardening Club Talk: "Make More of Your Plants"
and Distribution of Murphy Potatoes
W.I. Talk and Display: "Bucks Cottage Crafts"
History Society Talk "The Berlin Airlift"
Annual Parish Meeting
Sunshine Club's Spring Bazaar
Monthly Bingo in Club, 8.00 p.m. start

Tuesday 14th 2.30 p.m.
Tuesday 21st 7.30 p.m.
Friday 24th 8.00 p.m.
Saturday 25th 2.00 p.m.
Saturday 25th 7.30p.m.

May

Saturday 2nd 9.05 a.m.
Monday 4th 9.00 a.m.
Wednesday 6th 8.00 p.m.
Tuesday 12th 2.30 p.m.
Tuesday 19th 7.30 p.m.

Visit to Hidcote Gardens by Coach
Madrigals sung from Church Tower
Parish Council Meeting
W.I. Resolutions Meeting
History Society Talk by George Lamb on My Life
With Antiques
Monthly Bingo in Club, 8.00 p.m. start

Saturday 30th 7.30 p.m.



We are almost at the beginning of the 2009 Cricket season.



This season's fixture list is still being finalised and will be released in next month's Village Voice. The list, however, will feature the usual blend of occasional Saturday and Sunday games against local villages and a couple against nomadic touring sides.

For those that don't know us, the Cuddington village cricket team, "The Kites", play friendly "Sunday" cricket with an emphasis on the social side. We would very much like to hear from anyone interested in playing this season, and all standards are welcome.

Sign up and join in the fun....
www.cuddington.play-cricket.com or
call Joe Bruce on 07788184337

Lastly thanks to our sponsors for renewing for another season.....
The Crown, David White & Co and
Speer plumbing, heating, gas & solar.



The Sunshine Club's Traditional Spring Bazaar will be held at The Bernard Hall, Cuddington on Saturday 25th

April at 2.00pm with all the familiar stalls - homemade cakes, white elephant, good clothes, raffle, tombola and teas. An event not to be missed!!



A previous bazaar in the Bernard Hall

We will be delighted to accept contributions at the Hall on the morning of the 25th or please phone 01844 299150 for collection.

Recycling Appeal

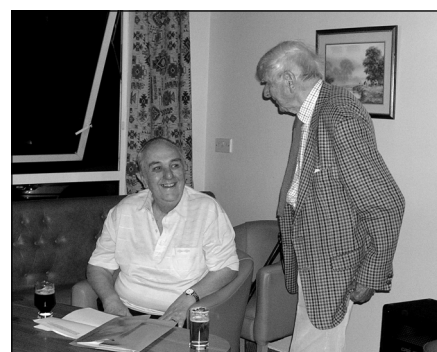
We continue to collect used ink cartridges and old mobile phones for recycling in aid of our funds. These can be dropped off at Cuddington Post Office (thank you Les and Jan) or please phone 01844 299150 for collection.

Memories of a boyhood

At the March meeting of the history society, Professor Bill Mead painted vivid mental pictures in the minds of the audience of Aylesbury in the 1920's - the time of his childhood.

He remembered the sounds of the factory hooters calling workers at 7am and a church clock striking the hours and quarter hours. The cattle and sheep being driven to and from Aylesbury on Wednesdays, the market day; the houses in the centre of the town having large gardens often housing chickens and dogs. Children would play street games - hopscotch for example, roll their hoops or skipping games with other children. Ladies wore hats - some very elegant - gentlemen and boys would raise their hats or caps when greeting a lady. The first swimming pool in Bourbon street was filled with fresh water once a week. Whaddon Chase used to meet once a year in market square and twice a year there was a fair featuring Mrs Pettigrew's galloping horses. Altogether a totally different environment from what we know today.

The professor's reminiscences provoked many memories for the members. None however, could recall back as far as 1920!



Bill Mead (right) with History Society Chairman, David Holland.



Our half term started with a performance from Mr Broadway entitled George and the dragon. This involved puppets, singing and acting and was much enjoyed by all the children.

The village hall was packed for our family service this term. It is the first time we have used the hall for a service. Our next one should be back in the Church after Easter.

This week the children are taking part in a variety of creative activities based on our theme of "Treasure Islands". The children have worked in mixed age groups visiting all the classrooms and staff for different activities. On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings Perform drama took each class on a trip around the world visiting exciting islands on their travels. On Thursday the whole school got together on the Dinton site to have a multi skills morning.

Parent consultations take place in the last week of term and then term ends on Friday 3rd April for our Easter holiday. School will restart on Monday 20th April.

We have lots of collections going on at present. Please keep sending in Times and Sunday Times Books for Schools tokens. With your help we can get more books for our school library. We are also collecting Tesco, Nestlé box tops and Sainsbury vouchers. These can be posted through the front door at school. We are always grateful to everyone who sends in vouchers as they do provide much needed extra resources for the school.

Aylesbury Choral in Cuddington

For its summer concert in June Aylesbury Choral Society will move away from its usual Aylesbury venue, and perform in two villages in the area –Aston Clinton in the afternoon, and at St Nicholas's Church, Cuddington in the evening.

The concerts will be held on Saturday, 6th June and will include works by Henry Purcell (it is 350 years since his birth), and other rather more secular works. A share of the ticket receipts for the evening concert will be given to St Nicholas, and it is hoped that the choir will sing to a full church.

Further details will be given in the May issue of Village Voice, but meanwhile please put the date in your diary.

St. Nicholas's Services

(Churchwardens: Myles Saker, 291825 and Caroline Stonham, 292221)

April

- 1st 9.30 am PRAYERS (at Linnets, Spurt Street)
- 5th 10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION—in the Bernard Hall
A modern Communion Service with hymns. The children go to "Sunday Special" for part of the service
- 12th **Easter Day—back in church**
10.00 am FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE
with modern and traditional hymns.
6.00 pm EASTER PRAISE
- 19th 10.00 am MORNING WORSHIP
A service of worship and the word, with a mixture of traditional and modern hymns.
- 26th 10.00 am MORNING WORSHIP
A service of worship and the word, with a mixture of traditional and modern hymns. The children go straight to Chattabox and the Grid in the Bernard Hall at 9.50 a.m.
11.15 am HOLY COMMUNION
A communion service with hymns, according to the Book of Common Prayer

Cuddington Methodist Church holds a service at 5.30 pm each Sunday.

John's Column

*"Oh to be in England
Now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England
Sees, some morning, unaware,
That the lowest boughs and
The brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole
Are in tiny leaf,
While the Chaffinch sings on
The orchard bough
In England – now."*

Elizabeth Barrett Browning
1806-1861

Last month I wrote of the pair of Jackdaws that frequent the top of our Honey Locust Tree, and last year nested in our gable chimney. A lady who lives in Bernard Close told my wife that she has watched them regularly through binoculars, and indeed she has named them—'Romeo and Juliet' !!

We have a pair of Blue Tits who have already visited our kitchen window nest box, and they have been busy rearranging some of the bits left behind following last year's successful family. I hope they will stay, (Blue Tits are known to build more than one nest before making their final choice) since they are a great favourite with Joan. Another welcome visitor is a little Wren who has been very busy in the garden – I have hopes it may build in my old shed as one did five years ago. As I write it is early afternoon and there are some half dozen Starlings in the tree –two weeks ago there were over sixty!!

The Song thrush has returned and sings each morning and evening 'Magic'!

If you are a local business and would like to promote yourself in our advertising supplement then do please contact us—see below.

Village Voice is published by the Cuddington Parochial Church Council as a service to the community
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