

VILLAGE CUDDINGTON VOICE



**November
2009**

VOLUME TWELVE

Thermal Imaging in Cuddington

An amazing project is going to take place in Cuddington in January which will enable those taking part to see the heat being lost by their house on a winter night. Transition Thame and District is making a thermal imaging camera available to The Sustainable Cuddington Project in January with which we will photograph a number of houses and public buildings and provide conclusions and advice to the owners on their insulation. The images and reports will then be shown at a free public seminar a few weeks later where people will be able to see the results and get advice.

Thermal images have to be taken after dark and when the building heating is on and the weather is dry. Heat escaping from houses shows as bright colours on the images and therefore where insulation could be improved.

The number of buildings we can cover is limited by the time available, which will depend in part upon the weather (cold and dry is best), so it will be first come first served. People taking part will have to be prepared to provide some essential information about the state of insulation in their homes and to heat their entire houses on the day. Seeing



A thermal image indicating problem areas in a building.

where heat is actually being lost could end up saving you a great deal of money if action is taken, and advisers will be available to help you.

We at the Sustainable Cuddington Project hope that this will give the village its first concrete result in reducing its carbon footprint and make a statement about our commitment to becoming more sustainable.

If you are interested, contact Doug Kennedy by email to dkennedy@alloverde.com or by telephone to 01844 2990602.

Playing Fields

While we have been enjoying a beautiful Autumn, truly a time of mellow fruitfulness, various contractors have been working hard to bring stage one of the refurbishment of the Playing Fields Clubhouse to a conclusion. I am happy to say that we are very nearly there: all the plumbing and electrical work has been completed; the premises have now been decorated and the new carpets laid. Only a few minor "odd jobs" left to be done and then the "big clean up" and we are there, I hope - famous last words!



My thanks go to all those who have been involved in the work, too many to name and leaving someone out would be unforgivable! I would also like to thank the members of the Association and the Club for their patience and forbearance over the past 18th months - it has seemed so much longer at times! I know we won't please everyone, but we have certainly tried! The saying "use it or lose it" certainly applies to our clubhouse, so please do come up and have a look - you may like what you find and want to come again! Last but certainly not least, our grateful thanks must go to WREN, our own Parish Council and AVDC who have helped to make the refurbishment possible with their very generous financial support.

Jennifer Schram de Jong

A report of the first meeting of the new Council is given on page 6 and please see page 3 for information on Club activities.

Cuddington's own Christmas card

As in previous years Caroline Stonham has turned a watercolour scene of Cuddington into a Christmas card. The exquisite snowy landscape from the field below Tibby's will be on sale from her or the shop in November with proceeds going to St. Nicholas.



Thought for the Month

Nan Cattell writes

I was very interested to read Sean Clarke's article on Weather last month. I knew, of course, that it had been a wet and rather gloomy summer but he tells us the actual number of days when we did have rain, and we can see how many it was. On the other hand the idea of noctilucent clouds was quite new to me....these clouds that are lit by the sun after it has set..amazing! All of this is a reminder that the sun is still there when we cannot see it, both at night and on the gloomiest of days... this is like God's love which is still there even when we seem surrounded by the gloomiest of clouds. The clouds that surround us may be little annoyances which have piled up, they may come from a feeling of guilt because we have let someone down or they may come from physical pain or some terrible loss. Whatever they are the love of God is still there, to encourage us, to forgive us, to strengthen us. . How can I be sure of this? ...Not by some sort of scientific observation (fascinating as it is to read of Sean's work) but by thinking of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. What he did, what he said and what he promised all fit together and 'ring true'. He said "He that has seen me has seen the Father" in other words he came to show us, in his life of selfless, compassionate caring for all, what God is like. He said "The Son of Man (i.e. he himself) has not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many" And then in his rising from the dead he showed the power of God so we can be sure of his promise that as we trust in him nothing can separate us from his love.

Two Chanteuses and an Ivory Tinkler

That was the title of the first programme of non-religious entertainment to take place in St Nicholas Church since its refurbishment, which was presented on the 17th October before a very appreciative audience. An "Evening of Operatic Duets and Arias" was performed by two singers, Amy Ryan and Catherine Long, accompanied on the piano by Colin Spinks. And all those who did not attend missed a treat.



The programme provided a great variety of music, showing the tremendous versatility of the two singers. There was something for everyone, ranging from Purcell and Handel, via Mozart and Bernstein, to Irvine Berlin – a spread of music requiring very different types of singing, which Amy and Catherine managed faultlessly.

The first half of the programme contained excerpts from Purcell's "The Fairy Queen" and "King Arthur", items from Bernstein's "Wonderful Town" and "West Side Story".

After stopping for glasses of wine the evening continued with several songs from Mozart's Marriage of Figaro, followed by a change in tempo with such well-known Berlin songs as "Sisters" (every bit as good as the Beverleys) and "You're Just in Love". Of course the audience demanded

an encore, which was provided in the shape of an extract from G and S's "Patience".

Being trained and experienced singers Catherine and Amy were able to project their voices with great skill and every word they sang was heard clearly, and it was obvious that the church, in its new clothing, provides excellent acoustics. The singers used their performance space to the full, and the interaction

between them was obvious; they sang to each other in the duets, made very good contact with the audience and demonstrated their extensive voice range.

The pianist, Aylesbury -born Colin Spinks, supported the singers perfectly. An accompanist must not overwhelm the singers, and his accompaniment was very sympathetic, with the result that the performers enjoyed the performance as much as did the audience .

Happily plans are afoot for further such concerts; if you have any ideas or requests Caroline Stonham is the person to get in touch with.

Everyone who attended the concert will certainly return; to those who did not, watch out for future events – you will not regret it.

John Fortgang

Playing Field Association activities

Tug O'War returns to Cuddington

The last Sunday of September saw the return of the ancient traditional tug o'war contest against our neighbouring village, Chearsley. A good-spirited heave-ho resulted in a victory for both the gentlemen's and the ladies' teams of Cuddington, with brawn largely supplied both by cricketers and mothers from the Tic-Toc Club. Chearsley salvaged some honour by winning the Junior tug o'war contest. No serious injuries were reported.

Around two hundred villagers and guests attended the event which was part of a family-fun-day organised on behalf of the Cuddington Playing Fields Association.

In all, almost £250 for ongoing refurbishments of the Association Clubhouse was raised with entertainments including go-kart racing, a children's merry-go-round, giant slide, and a padded arena for gladiatorial combat. Muscle building nourishment came from the barbeque and refreshments from the Clubhouse bar. During the afternoon, hot air balloons were launched from the playing fields adding gigantic splashes of colour to an already sunny sky. The day was rounded off by children's sprint races along the length of the football pitch. Tug o'war team members will obviously be expected to keep in training ready for next year.



The victorious ladies' tug of war team from the Cuddington Tic Toc toddlers' group, who beat their counterparts from Chearsley two pulls to nil.

Chocolates for Chocoholics

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who attended the 'Chocolate Evening' at The Playing Fields Clubhouse on Wednesday 21st October. It was an evening of tantalising tasting and buying of wonderful chocolates. It was a very sociable event and all who attended enjoyed the evening.

The monies raised from the commission of the chocolate sales will go towards the refurbishment of the Clubhouse.

Pam Kilarski, Council Member, CPFA.



Events in November

Guy Fawkes Party

With November speeding towards us, we will be celebrating all the hard work with a bang! This we will be doing at the playing fields on **Saturday 7th November at 5 p.m. at our village Guy Fawkes Party.** Remember last year's party? If you can't you weren't there! So why not come and join in the fun this year and have a look at the improvements made to your clubhouse at the same time!! This year again there will be a bonfire, fireworks display, the best Guy competition and not forgetting the delicious pig roast with jumbo BBQ sausages for the children, all included in the price of your tickets! There will also be hot soup and mulled wine to warm you up, and if you are in need of something stronger, the Clubhouse with its bar will be open where you can buy a wee dram together with soft drinks for the children. **Tickets being sold from Denise's Hairdresser or Les in the village shop.**



Tickets: Adults (pig roast) - £7.00 Child (jumbo sausage) from 5 to 11 years - £3.00 Concessions for families with more than two children under 12 - and for children under five, a free child's ticket! Get your tickets now before they are all sold out!

Also available from Sherry - 291526 Rosemary - 290249 Jennifer - 291501

Hope to see you all at the Playing Fields on 7th November

Quiz Night November 21st 7.30 pm

Teams of Six £5.00 per head: includes Ploughman's Supper

To pre-book your table, please contact: Lorraine Ray 290606

Just This Day

Families, communities and countries live with conflict, poverty and disease. How can we make a difference?

Our world is busy and in the turmoil we forget we all share the same space.

Since 2007 this initiative has spread all over the world so that people on every continent, in addition to villages, towns and cities in the UK, find time and space to STOP, to remember the unity which is always available in stillness

On **WEDNESDAY, 25th NOVEMBER, wherever you are**, you are invited to join in the stillness of the day, to find that space which belongs to us all.

St. Nicholas Church will be open all day from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. **From 10 to 10.30 a.m. there will be a time of prayer**, partly silent and partly led by a member of the church to which everyone is invited, to coincide with events worldwide.

Much more information is available on **www.justthisday.org**
Anna McClelland

Harvest in St Nicholas

Harvest Thanksgiving is always an important part of Autumn and this year the refurbishment of the church enabled events to be appreciated to the full.

The wider expanse in the church showed the decorations at their best, especially the magnificent dahlias provided by our dahlia growing expert Kevin. The flexibility of the seating meant that different arrangements could be made for the different services: an aisle for the Sunday morning and evening services and benches across the width of the nave for the school children, who with their parents packed the church for their service on the Monday morning.

Yet another re-arrangement was made for the Harvest Coffee Morning on Tuesday, October 13th when around forty people were able to look at the decorations, choose their harvest gift, and enjoy their coffee sitting round small tables in the North Aisle.



Please make a note of this special service at St. Nicholas early next month

December 6th 3 p.m.

Christingle Service

After the excitement of lighting the Christingles each child will be given one to take home. The service will be followed by a tea and everyone is of course welcome.



High time for Highgrove!

After first making an application to visit the gardens at Highgrove about three years ago the Sunshine Club was at last given a date in October and time to make the visit. So on a dry and overcast day 23 of us started off by coach.

On arrival at Highgrove we were cleared by security and then welcomed by a filmed version of the gardens introduced by HRH Prince Charles. We were then taken round the gardens by a leader who explained that they were done in various sections organically.



In the wooded areas the trees were just beginning to show their autumn colours. The many tree stumps left by fallen trees were made to look like spectacular images and everything was allowed to grow naturally, even the ferns and mosses to provide food for insects and wildlife.

After about an hour of the tour it started to rain but umbrellas up and macs on we just carried on. Each section or garden was of individual interest which the leader explained to us. There was a chicken house, a tree house, a meadow with wild flowers, also a rare breed of sheep.

We had started with the Buttress Garden and ended with the Cottage Garden and Carpet Garden. After the 2001 Chelsea Flower Show the Carpet garden was transferred to Highgrove and rebuilt. From here we were led to the tearoom where a warming cup of tea was waiting for us.

Dorothy Woodford

Please come to our Bring & Buy with Christmas gifts, raffle and refreshments at Tyringham Hall on Thursday 3rd December at 2.30pm. Proceeds towards the Sunshine Club Christmas party.



As the clocks go back we will again experience the long dark evenings and nights of winter. This creates a twofold problem;

firstly, if we return home in the dark after work or late shopping to an empty house, not only is it uninviting but in a village like ours with no street lights accidents can occur before we can reach the first light switch.

The second concern is that the dark nights bring about the period when there is the traditional rise in burglaries. In an endeavour to help to reduce the potential risks associated with these two aspects of our lives, the Aylesbury Vale Community Safety Partnership is working on an initiative that includes offering Aylesbury Vale residents free timer light switches. People are being asked to consider using a timer light switch to turn on a light if they plan to return home after dark. Additionally, by resetting the dial the times can easily be varied.

Over the next few weeks, the staff from Thames Valley Police and the AVDC safety team will be at bus and railway stations and town centres handing out timer switches, energy efficient light bulbs and property marking kits together with information about how to secure homes effectively against burglaries.

The free timer switches will also be available from the Community Safety Shop in Hale Leys, the AVDC offices at 66 High Street and at the Police Stations at Aylesbury, Wendover and Waddesdon.

Family concert

Bring your family and friends to a concert on Sunday November 15th at 2.30pm in St. Nicholas's Recorder players are particularly invited ...please bring your recorder with you. There will be short performances by the Haddenham Recorder Consort and by Melissa Davies on the Bassoon followed by a play along. Tea and homemade cakes will then be served.

Tickets available on the door priced £5 Adults, £1 children (or £4 Adults, children free with a recorder!)

All proceeds to St Nicholas church funds.



Owing to the refurbishment of the playing fields clubhouse, the monthly meeting of the WI took place in the comfortable surroundings of 'Larden', Spicketts Lane by kind invitation of Jennifer Schram de Jong. The President kept the business to a minimum and the members enjoyed some illustrated 'days out' presented by Miss J Hall, a lively and knowledgeable lady who is well known to many of the members.



WI members at 'Larden'

Our first day out started at The Gloucester Docks, a lovely waterside refurbishment of the old docks which offers a waterways museum, a large building housing 4 floors of antiques (with a lift) several small craft outlets, comfortable 'eateries' a relaxing trip down the river and not forgetting the beautiful cathedral with large stained glass windows a few minutes walk from the docks. We were taken down to Kent with their famous oast houses, many of which are now private residences and on to Sissinghurst where we wandered through the famous garden. Our last stop was Oxford, a visit to Magdalen College and then the stunning Botanical gardens. Helen Griffin thanked Miss Hall for an interesting day out in our armchairs and the members then enjoyed a delicious tea provided by Jennifer Schram de Jong and Cherry Munger.

The meeting closed with the President thanking our hostess for her generous hospitality and presenting her with a token of our appreciation. If you would like to join our friendly group why not telephone Anne Holland on 290982. Our next meeting is on the 10th November at 2.30pm. and will be in the clubhouse as usual.

Dining Club

The Cuddington Gentlemen's Dining Club enjoyed their quarterly meeting in cosy surroundings at The Crown on October 8th. A warming dinner of bacon and green-leaf salad, chicken and mushroom pie and a selection of cheeses was accompanied by lively debate on a wide range of issues. Topics included global warming, David Cameron, Indian farming practices, Jacques Cousteau and train services from Liverpool to Runcorn. A toast was made to John Fortgang who was recuperating from an operation.

Another dinner is scheduled for December 17th and each diner is asked to bring along a small inexpensive wrapped gift (max value £5) to be handed around as part of a 'Secret Santa' offering to other guests. This will be a Christmas dinner and attendees are free to wear black tie (entirely optional). Anyone from Cuddington interested in attending should please call Phil Johnson on 291526 or email parkstone28@tiscali.co.uk

The History Society

The History Society speaker, Cicely Upcott, told us that the Chiltern Society came into being in the 1960's, and that she was one of its first members.

The society was born of the concern of members of the public who were not consulted at the time about matters that affected their environment. There was little or no planning regulation at the time, and roads, motorways, housing developments and commercial sites were springing up without regard to the effect on the countryside. Footpaths had been neglected since the war and were frequently impassable.

Apart from making their voices known and influencing local and national government, volunteers from the society cleared and reopened footpaths, so that there is now a network of connected paths, properly signposted and regularly walked and maintained by volunteers. The society publishes maps of the footpaths, some of which are purchased by the estimated 52 million visitors to the Chilterns each year.



History Society members enjoying a chat at their meeting.

Society members also maintain watching briefs over important historic buildings, and wetlands, waterways and woodlands. The society has paid for the training of a number of foresters, who maintain the woodlands.

The Chilterns area covers approximately 6250 square miles, of which 325 square miles is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The society also runs an open air museum near Chesham, and is helping to bring back the historic watercress beds at Ewelme into commercial use.

The Chilterns area, which stretches from Hitchin in the North to the Goring Gap and the River Thames in the South, taking in parts of Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, is in effect our "back garden", and those who voluntarily work to maintain it for us are the members of the Chiltern Society.

Harvest Suppers



- in the Bernard Hall.....



... and singing harvest hymns after enjoying supper in the Playing Fields Clubhouse



Members of the **Gardening Club** were bathed in autumn sunshine when they visited the **Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew** which is celebrating its 250th Anniversary this year.

First of the attractions was the Treetop Walk which allows visitors to climb 18 metres (60 feet) into the tree canopy for a unique birds-eye view of Kew Gardens and the surrounding London skyline.



Other "must-see" features were the beds and borders, providing exotic colour schemes of late flowering plants: such as dahlias and canna lilies, whilst hidden away in the Waterlily House was a newly bred blue water lily named "Kew's Stowaway Blues". Lunch in the Orangery was extremely tasty and relaxing and the journey was hassle-free. That, combined with the glorious weather, what more could one ask for?

The Gardening Club is building on a relationship with the **Village School** in encouraging the children to learn and enjoy gardening activities. Tony Picot and Elsie Frost, with the help of a small group from the Little Owls class, have helped clear one of the raised beds which contained tomatoes from the summer. (see picture in the school's report on page 8) The children were shown how to weed and dig over the soil before sowing winter broad beans. The Club also provided a jasmine which will climb over the trellis behind. Many of you will have noticed that the school garden border has been cleared and 5 new raised beds have been created for the growing of vegetables. They have had a bumper crop of runner beans this season and the pumpkin plant has gone berserk!

The next meeting of the Gardening Club takes place on Monday 2nd November in the Playing Field Clubhouse, 7.30 for 7.45 pm, when there will be a talk on "Famous British Gardens" instead of the previously advertised one. On Tuesday, 1st December members will be visiting **Preston Bissett Nurseries**, near Gawcott, for a talk on looking after your Christmas Indoor Plants. This visit is open to non-members, if you would like to join in, please contact Elsie Frost on 290768.

Tennis for tots!

Starting...

Monday 2nd November 2009

Mums & Tots Tennis Coaching

At Cuddington Tennis Club

10:30 – 11:30

Sessions Cost £5 for Mum & Tot

For Further Details Please Contact...

Sue Dunn on 07907 699231

Playing Fields Council Meeting on October 8th

President, Ivor Healy, chaired the meeting at which two key appointments were agreed:

- Frank Crowdy was elected unanimously as Vice President, in recognition of his loyal and committed service.
- Nibby (Neil) White was co-opted to the Council, and then elected unanimously as Chairman of the CPFA.

Martin Dyckhoff, Treasurer, has agreed to remain in post for about three months while the Chairman settles in, and a successor is found.

Fund raising is a key issue. It was agreed at the meeting that each member club and society would take responsibility for organising one fund raising event each year. Anyone with fund raising ideas should contact one of the Council members, who will share these at the next Council meeting to be held at 7.30pm, 17th Nov. in the Club house. The Council members are:

Chairman	Nibby White	290358
Hon Treasurer	Martin Dyckhoff	290279
Hon Secretary	Viv Birkby	292921
Booking Secretary	Deana Bates	291748
Allotment Society	Frank Crowdy	292401
Bar	Deana Bates	291748
Cricket Club	Joe Bruce	299351
Gardening Club	David Jones	290838
History Society	David Jones	290838
Parish Council	Jennifer Schram de Jong	291501
Sunshine Club	Sherry Scott	291526
Tennis Club	Phil Davidson	299194
Tic Toc	Louise Kirkwood	299045
WI	Anne Holland	290982
Youth Drama	Chris Long	291153
Youth Group	Vanda Goddard	292897
Individual members	Pam Kilarski	291845
	John Luckett	290491
	Colin Walker	290924
	Joan Walker	290954

Viv Birkby

Hon Secretary

Pink and Blue Charity Ball

In aid of Cancer Research. Friday 20th November 7.30 p.m.

*Join us for an evening of enjoyment at Cuddington's own 'Pink and Blue Charity Ball'. Have fun and let your hair down before the Christmas season begins all in aid of **Cancer Research**, a cause that has touched many of our lives. Dress up or dress down from demure to daring, formal to fancy dress just as long as your outfit is predominantly pink or blue.*

There will be a licensed bar, a dj and a live auction with all proceeds going to Cancer Research featuring a break away in a luxury apartment, Lamborghini driving experience and prizes that (until now!) money just can't buy such as a tour of the famous 'Air Studios' in London owned by Beatles manager George Martin, bands that have recorded there include Take That, U2, Coldplay, Oasis and Elton John.

Tickets (£15 each) available from Candice Morgan on 01844 290122 or Candi-Morgan@hotmail.com

Dates for your Diary

Autumn roses



November

Monday 2nd 7.30 p.m.
Saturday 7th 5.00 p.m.
Sunday 8th 6.00 p.m.
Tuesday 10th 2.30 p.m.

Thursday 13th 6.30 p.m.
Sunday 15th 2.30p.m.
Thursday 19th 7.30p.m.
Friday 20th 8.00 p.m.

Saturday 21st 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 24th 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 25th

Gardening Club Talk: "Famous British Gardens"
Bonfire and Fireworks in Playing Fields (see page 3)
Remembrance Day Service in Church
W.I. Talk: "Historic Isles of Orkney, Shetland and Papa Stour"
Theatre in Bernard Hall
Family Concert in Church (See page 4)
Discussion on Tapestry Making (See page 7)
Charity Ball for Cancer research in Bernard Hall (See page 6).
Theatre in Bernard Hall
History Society Talk: "Tales of the Unexpected"
"Just This Day" 9.30 a.m.– 4.00p.m. in Church (See page 3)

December

Tuesday 1st 2.15 p.m.
Thursday 3rd 2.30p.m.
Sunday 6th 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 8th 2.30p.m.
Monday 21st 7.30 p.m.

Gardening Club Visit to Preston Bissett Nursery (See page 6)
Sunshine Club Bring and Buy Sale at Tyingham Hall
Christingle Service in Church (See page 4)
W.I. Annual Meeting
Quiz in Clubhouse (see page 3)

Weather notes

September turned out to be a very pleasant, often sunny, month with air temperatures during the day averaging 19.4 deg C (66.9 F) and 9.9 deg C (49.8 F) at night, which is exactly what you would expect for this time of year, based on 10 years of observations. The actual highest and lowest daytime air temperatures occurred on the 8th (25.1 deg C (77.2 F) and 17th (15.6 deg C (60.1 F)). No air or ground frosts were recorded during the month – the lowest night-time air temperature occurred on the 27th (4.4 deg C (39.9 F)), the grass temperature fell to 1.1 deg C (34.0 F) at this time. Since my observations began in 1998, I have never recorded an air frost in September, although ground frosts have occurred.



Tilting syphon rain recorder - part of the meteorologists essential equipment.

It was a very dry month after some useful rain during the first three days of the month. The total accumulation amounted to only 22.4 mm (0.88 in), which is less than half the 12-year average, 57mm (2.44 in). It was the driest September since 2003 when a very meagre 11.9 mm (0.47 in) fell. Other dry Septembers include 2002 (17.8mm, 0.70 in), 2004 (28.1mm, 1.12 in), 2007 (24.6mm, 0.97 in).

Prescriptions needed?

Ring friends from St. Nicholas:-

Nan and Peggy Cattell (291313), Myles and Carolin Saker (291825) or Jean Watson (291595)

A reminder that in addition to visits to health centres etc. volunteers will collect prescriptions from Chemists.

Calling all stitchers!

Jane Giles and Angela Sanderson are hoping it will be possible to make a tapestry to hang in St Nicholas, Cuddington. As yet we have no fixed idea of design, size or where it might go, nor do we have anyone to help us stitch it!

If you would like to know more, or even better, offer help with design, materials, stitching, etc. we shall be in the Church on Thursday, November 19th November at 7.30 pm, and will be very pleased if you feel able to join us.

If you are interested in this project but are unable to come to St Nicholas on 19th November, please contact either Jane Giles on 01844 292038, or Angela Sanderson on 01844 291626.

Bottle tops

Sarah Wood is extremely grateful to everyone who has been saving their plastic milk bottle tops and taking them to the shop, or church, in support of the Utugi Street Children Kenya Project. So far 5 bin bags full have been collected, which is amazing.

However the re-cycling company will only accept the standard blue, green and red tops and they must be really clean with no labels or inserts. Sarah would be most grateful if people could comply with those rules as it takes a lot of time to sort them out and wash them.

Thank you all so much.

Singing for pleasure

Would you like to join an informal singing group? No ability to read music is required – nor will there be any audition! We just want to sing for fun. We have a musical director and we would meet in the village every other Wednesday to practise.

Men and ladies welcome. If you are interested please contact me, Eileen Fortgang, on 01844 291880, or email jfortgang@aol.com.



Our children took part in Jeans for Genes Day by wearing jeans to school and making a donation to the charity.

Parents have had the opportunity at the start of term to meet teachers and find out about what their child's class will be covering this year. Individual consultation meetings between parents and teachers have also taken place before the half term break.



The gardening club visited to weigh our Murphy potato crop at the start of term. This year was much improved on last year when our crop failed completely! Gardening has this year really taken off in the Reception class with all the children involved in cultivating vegetables. Some of the crops they take home and some have been used to make chutney. We are most grateful to the Gardening Club for their help and support (see picture).

Drama workshops have taken place with all the children involved.

The church was packed for our Harvest festival. The children either brought produce that was given as presents to the elderly in the village and the Haddenham Red Cross or a donation to go to the Jenny and Jessy School in Kampala. Over our two sites over £300 was raised for Jenny and Jessy which I am sure will be most welcome during these tough economic times.

Please remember that if your child is due to start school in September 2010 the closing date for applications is 13th November. All forms need to be sent to Buckinghamshire County Council Admissions Team.

Services at St. Nicholas

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

November

- 1st 10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION
A modern Communion Service with hymns. The children go to "Sunday Special" for part of the service
- 4th 9.30 am PRAYERS
- 8th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
10.00 am FAMILY SERVICE
6.00 pm SPECIAL EVENING SERVICE
- 15th 10.00 am HOLY COMMUNION
A less formal modern Communion Service with hymns. The children go to Sunday Special for part of the Service
11.30 am PRAYERS
- 22nd 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 Chatabox 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.
- 29th 10.00 am MORNING WORSHIP for ADVENT SUNDAY
6.30 pm BENEFICE EVENSONG
A united service for Cuddington, Haddenham, Kingsey and Aston Sandford with the Benefice Choir

There is a service at 5.30 pm every Sunday evening at Cuddington Methodist Chapel.

John's Column

*No warmth, no cheerfulness,
no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member –
No shade, no shine, no butterflies,
no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves,
No birds ---NOVEMBER
Thomas Hood 1799-1845*

It was earlier in the year that we discussed our holiday and chose to return to Wales and amble about there for a couple of weeks. We planned to use Llangollen as a base and booked a cottage near there. However the dreadful summer weather persisted and we considered giving our holiday a miss. We were about to cancel our booking (and forfeit our deposit to boot!!) when I decided to gamble, thinking "Feed the cat on goldfish" and go.

We could not believe it –on the morning of our departure the sun came out and stayed out for eighty-five per cent of our fortnight.

My wife loves Wales, so I put any bird watching on the 'back burner' and told her she should choose wherever she wished to go. One of her choices was a visit to Snowdonia, which we did on a cloudless warm sunny day. She was over the moon with the views and I was happy too, since it happened to be my eighty-ninth birthday.....

Green tips

If you have central heating radiators attached to an outside wall, you can reduce heat loss to the wall by putting a sheet of aluminium foil between the radiator and the wall – it works brilliantly. Avoid covering a radiator with full length closed curtains as it does prevent a lot of the radiator's heat from circulating into the room.

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