

The Village Life

The Newsletter of Cookham Dean Village Club

What a great day...

I hope that everyone agrees that this year's fete was a resounding success and to cap it all, the sun shone and shone! The village green looked like something out of a film set, a kaleidoscope of activity: fairground rides, bouncy castle, childrens' races, coconut shy, ferret racing, farm animal and all to the accompaniment of the Bisham Band and childrens' laughter. However it was the activities that certain members of our community pulled together themselves that really amazed me. The Punch and Judy show masterminded by Susie Peake was a triumph. The props were made by Bobby and Alan Gapes, Gerry Clark was Mr Punch and Alice Denville was Mrs Punch, her sister Charlotte worked the puppets. There was no domestic violence I hasten to add but a roller coaster of a show of jokes and silly sketches. Then of course there was the dog show, compered by Gerwyn James but organised by Neil Mellon. I could not believe my own eyes when I witnessed Neil running the agility course himself to demonstrate what the dogs should do! Food and drink were in abundance so thanks to the WI for their glorious teas, the kaffirs for the bar, the village club for the bbq, and Deliciously French for the picnics. Particular thanks to Sue Wilkes, whose last fete this was, having successfully masterminded the Horticultural Show for several years.

The evening event was a blast with Rita Carver and her kickers. I'm not sure how many budding line dancers were discovered that night but we certainly had a laugh and the food from Uncle Tom's certainly recharged our batteries! The icing on the cake was being able to give £500 to The Thames Valley Adventure Playground and The Royal British Legion.

The finances are in the process of being finalised but we expect to be able to give more money to charity this year than we have ever done before and it's all down to your fantastic support, so thank you. We had more helpers this year than ever before and I am convinced that is the key to our success so please come next year and volunteer – Your fete needs you! **Pam Forrester**

Following our highly successful Energy Awareness Day held in January, we have been awarded £10,000 from the **Big Lottery** towards a new energy efficient Air Heat Pump System. This has now been installed, and its official launch (or switching on) will be on 15th October at 8.00pm. Please drop in for wine and nibbles and have a look for yourself! It's a technology particular suitable for householders with no mains gas. Afterwards we will quickly run through the AGM (15 mins max), so do stay on if you'd like to volunteer. **Sue Teasdale**

N.B. If you would like to be on our mailing list to get details of Village Hall and other local events, please send your address to Maurice_hancock@btopenworld.com

Autumn
2010

Charity no: 248178

DON'T FORGET!

AGM and
Launch of New
Energy Efficient
Heating System
15 Oct

Cookham Dean
Bonfire and
Firework Night
Nov 6th

Cookham Dean
Village Club
Party & Panto
Dec 4th

Focusing On You Personal Training

Do you want to...
Lose Weight? Tone Up?
Get Fit? Have Fun?



- **Personal Training**
- **Fitness Classes**
- **Wedding Packages**

Call Matt Wadie

T: 01628 623936 M:07545 915056

www.focusing-on-you.co.uk



Socials

Deborah
Collins
524822

Pam Forrester
810755

Porteur Keene

Pauline Clark

Nigel Downes

Secretary

Nicky Reid
530785

Bookings

Nicki Roberts
898564

Chairman/ Membership

Maurice
Hancock
474278

Vice Chairman/ Newsletter

Sue Teasdale
484925

Treasurer

Mike Farquhar
898688

Maintenance /Fireworks

Daryl Roberts
481966

The National Trust...

From Nigel Boden, Countryside Manager:

This spring saw a change of structure for the local Commons. Maidenhead and Cookham Commons became part of the wider Cliveden Property Group, along with the Runnymede. This forms part of a wider change occurring within the National Trust with Wardens changing their name to Rangers. Overall the roles and responsibilities of the Ranger posts will remain similar but there will be more emphasis on community engagement and outreach work. There is also a new role of Countryside Manager for these properties which I am undertaking. My background has been within countryside management for over 15 years and for the National Trust for five years as Head Warden at Runnymede properties. My role is to support the new Ranger post at Maidenhead and Cookham Commons, and I will also be responsible for the team of Rangers from across the Cliveden Property Group who will assist Paul Biddle the new Ranger at Maidenhead and Cookham commons in his work.

From Paul Biddle, Maidenhead and Cookham Ranger:

I have been encouraged by the warm welcome and good wishes received from the community and am pleased to be working for the National Trust as a Ranger for this outstanding and special area of the Maidenhead and Cookham Commons.

The property has a wide variety of rich habitats, natural conservation interests and industrial heritage. Many of the commons contain notable plants, scarce invertebrates and rare fungi all of significant national importance.

Assisted by a new and established volunteer groups and other National Trust colleagues the programme of ongoing and seasonal work continues, with exciting new projects and enterprises in the future to meet agreed conservational and environment plans. I'm also looking forward to working with local people, farmers, wildlife and conservation groups to achieve an improved community awareness and involvement in the commons.

There has been a long tradition of good management and involvement which has ensured that the commons remain well presented at all times, and I will work hard to continue this tradition.

Volunteering is a good way to enjoy the Commons and maintain its appearance, and includes special interest surveys and outdoor practical work. If you'd be interested in volunteering and would like further information please contact the Cliveden office 01628 605069.

"Thank You" from Curly...

May I take this opportunity to thank everybody for giving me such a wonderful retirement party, seeing so many of our friends that we have known for many years and some that are new to the area. We were overwhelmed by the generosity and kind thoughts from you all.

We have enjoyed our time living in the village and working on the commons. It was a wrench to move away, but thankfully not far as we will still be visiting friends and continuing to ride our horses around the area.

With many thanks

Curly and Rita Carver





WEA Classes...

VAN GOGH, GAUGUIN AND CEZANNE: POST-IMPRESSIONIS with Sandra Smith

This course will complement a major exhibition of the work of Paul Gauguin at Tate Modern in the autumn of 2010. We will explore what is meant by the term Post-Impressionism and look in detail at the work of the three most important artists of the period, Van Gogh, Cezanne and Gauguin himself. N.B. No class 28 October (half term). 7 meetings on Thursdays, starting 30 September Fee: £56

GARDENS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM with Carolyn Foster

Private gardens and gardens open to the public in the UK illustrate a wealth of styles created in various periods of history. We shall explore these through a photographic tour, pointing out the key features of Formal and Landscape gardens, Victorian and Arts and Crafts gardens and those of the early and late twentieth century. 5 meetings on Thursdays, starting 13 January Fee: £40

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: TRIUMPH OR TRAGEDY? with Roger Facer

If you want to understand more about the history of the twentieth century, this is for you. This course is not military history but deals with the nature of conflict. How can we explain the terrible wars, the worst in human history? Why did the social and economic progress of the nineteenth century end in two world wars, ethnic cleansing and genocide? Most of the world is now more prosperous than ever - have we turned the corner. 7 meetings on Thursdays, starting 24 February Fee: £56

The venue for all the classes will be Cookham Dean Village Hall, Church Rd. SL6 9PD. Time: 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Please contact **Liz Crathorne** 632208 to reserve a place.



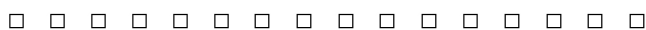
NSPCC and Childline...

Friday 12th November is the date for an evening of musical satirical humour at the Village Hall, so come and be dazzled and amused by *BARBERSHOPERA*. There will be a scrumptious dinner and jovial company, tickets £30

Sue Teasdale 484925.

Rabbit proof cages...

Having problems with rabbits or monkjacks. Has your allotment been demolished by the little blighters? The village hall is looking for a home for some wire cages which used to cover the electric heaters. It might seem a little maverick, but it might be worth a try. Anyone interested? **Sue Teasdale** 484925



Sing for the Hospice...

After the success of last year's singing from scratch, Thames Hospicecare is holding Haydn's Nelson Mass, with Ben Gunner conducting. Rehearsals will begin at 5.00pm on 16th October, at Holy Trinity Church Cookham, with the final performance at 8.00pm. Singers are £15 (including supper) and listeners £6. Cheques please by 6th October to:

Chiltern Court, Winter Hill, Cookham, SL6 9TW

To reserve a place, or to make further enquires contact **Stuart Cripps** on 472100./stuart@cripps9.freemove.co.uk



Ancient Trees and Fungi...

Walkers joined Nigel Boden (Countryside Manager) and Paul Biddle (the new Ranger for Maidenhead and Cookham Commons) for a late Summer Walk starting from the Stubbings Estate on September 26. This replaced the AGM which used to be held.

Stubbings Estate was skirted on an old path through the Thicket on a fairly brisk Autumn day. Various old, very mature trees were pointed out including some magnificent cedars, oaks and beeches. We saw a large Hedgehog Fungus which we were sure would appeal to Heston Blumenthal – smelling delightfully mushroomy.

Nigel and Paul explained the various management methods that they would use to help some of the old trees survive and thrive in the future. This was a good end to the 2010 season of Maidenhead and Cookham Commons walks – there will be a Spring Walk in 2011, watch for the date to be announced.

Carol Austen



Oct 6	Dean Rise WI "Uniquely British- from PG Woodhouse to Alan Bennett" an illustrated talk by Mr T. King	Val Hewitt 483364
6	Crime Prevention Evening at Moor Hall at 7pm with Liz Davidson from Thames Valley Police	
9	St John the Baptist Bingo Bangers and Mash Cookham Dean School 7.30pm	Barbara Dent 476512
14	Cookham Dean WI "My Life as a Countryman" by Mr E. Fox at 2.30pm	Magda Farmer 526310
15	COOKHAM DEAN VILLAGE HALL AGM and official switching on of new heating system 8.00pm wine and nibbles	Sue Teasdale 484925
16	Cantorum Choir perform John Rutter's "Mass for the Children" tickets from Stationery Depot	
16	Haydn's Nelson Mass from scratch in aid of Thames Hospicecare, rehearsals from 5.00pm performance at 8.00pm	Stuart Cripps 472100
27	Cookham Horticultural Society "Plant Pest Recognition and Control" with Andrew Halstead from the RHS.	Claire Phillpot 473631
28	Organ Recital by Dr Roy Massey at St John the Baptist Church 8.00pm	
30	Jolly Farmer Halloween Beer Fest	
Nov 3	Dean Rise "Tales from Opera" a talk by Mrs P Purcell	Val Hewitt 483364
6	COOKHAM DEAN BONFIRE AND FIREWORK NIGHT Opens at 5pm with fairground rides, beer tent and hotdogs. Procession at 6.15pm	Darryl Roberts 481966
11	Cookham Dean WI talk by Mr C. Parish "The Cambridge Family" at 2.00pm	Magda Farmer 526310
12	NSPCC and CHILDLINE introduces Barbershopera, and a lively evening of satirical humour with dinner.	Sue Teasdale 484925
13	St John the Baptist Autumn Fayre	
24	Cookham Horticultural Society AGM	Claire Phillpot 473631
Dec 1	Dean Rise WI Christmas Meeting	Val Hewitt 483364
4	COOKHAM DEAN VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS PARTY AND PANTO Tickets from the village hall on 6th November at 11am £20 members	Pam Forrester 810755
10	Cookham Dean WI Christmas Lunch at Moor Hall at 12.30pm	Magda Farmer 526310
26	Kaffir's Boxing Day Games 10am start, compete for the loo seat trophy, teams of 8 (at least 2 of each sex)	Enquiries 482201
Jan 8	MASTERMIND QUIZ for a mind sizzling evening of knowledge and trivia	John Copping 674433
22	<i>The fabulous Shirtlifters</i> 'Winter Ineluctability' at Pinder Hall, commencing 8pm. Tickets from Stationery Depot or Country Stoves	Charles Benson 472163