

Parish Council Report

Chris Flynn,
Chair of Parish Council, 2009 - 10

As I start to write the report I'm looking out my window and thinking what a horrible day, where is the warm weather we should be getting at this time of year? Not much chance of sitting out in the garden or lighting up the BBQ. But still we all keep going, as does your Parish Council.

This is one of our busiest times of year. Now that the football season has finished our grounds men are busy cutting grass on our pitches and in our play areas, keeping them in really tip top condition. This year we had 2 extra football teams playing on our new facilities at Napsbury along with

St Columba's college. They are also using the Facilities for Rugby, tennis, cricket and five a side. The Parish Council is putting in for planning permission for flood lighting on the MUGA so that it can be used all year round.

New Football Facilities at Shenley Lane

I'm excited to be able to tell you that I have been working with Len Rodell from London Colney Colts and Mike Woodhams who deals with our sports pitch bookings to provide new changing facilities on Shenley Lane with separate kitchen and toilet facilities for parents to use during games. It is planned that the allotment holders can also have use of these facilities. This is a joint venture with funding from the

Parish Council, the FA through Mike Woodhams and Grass Roots which is funding for junior Football and comes through London Colney Colts FC. Any additional work is to be done by Len Rodell at no cost to the council. I am really pleased that we have been able to work together to prove this new facility and would like to thank Mike and Len for their advice and support on this project. This is truly the community working together for the benefit of the village.

Cricket

We now have cricket being played at Napsbury, this is the first time in

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These large, distinctively marked bumble bees, were difficult to identify. They appeared in July last year on the large yellow scabious, a dozen at a time, showed no interest in any other flower and disappeared from the garden as soon as the scabious finished flowering. Any idea what species they might be?

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years that the village has had a team playing here and I hope that anyone interested in playing cricket can get involved. The club has said that it wants to involve more adults and children from the village.

Grants

We set our parish precept for the year and have been able to include grants to local groups including The Base, CAB and the Scouts who have been given £4000 towards a new roof on their meeting place in Chicken Lane.

Bus Shelters

We have allocated funds for some new bus shelters. Hopefully the traffic calming and street improvements planned for High St/Barnet Rd will be more or less complete by the next issue and we will be able to report that the new bus shelters have been installed.

Pub Closure

I must say how disappointing it is to see the White Lion now closed. This is the second public house in the village to go in recent times due to

property developers buying them up for housing.

Litter Picked

On a positive note, the annual litter pick was a big success with more local people than ever taking part, meeting at the Caledon Centre and spreading out over the village for a big clean up, then ending back at the centre for refreshments. A huge thanks to all who came out and got involved.

Environment Action

Councillor Ken Bowes continues to chair a group of local residents and councillors on the Parish Environmental Action Plan (PEAP). They have produced an excellent, informative booklet with plans to help protect the environment we live in. This is a working document and can change to suit our needs. Thanks to Ken and his team for their continued good work.

Travellers - Gone

As most of you know we had a gypsy incursion on our Parish land at Napsbury Park the first weekend in May. The new Parish Chair, Dreda

Gordon served them notice and had them off within hours of local residents informing her that they were there. The Parish Council would like to thank the Police for their backing with a number of police cars and a helicopter watching to make sure they left the village. Luckily they were not there long enough to make much mess.

Larks in the Parks

Don't forget Larks in the Parks are earlier this year; happening on the 20th of June. On Tues. 22nd June we will be celebrating the life of St. Alban with our annual walk to Chantry Island. There is also the 'Big Lunch,' a national 'get to know your neighbours' event, organised through the Eden project. The Parish Council will be organising a BBQ at the Caledon Centre on that day Sunday the 18th of July.

Paddling Pool

By now the paddling pool will be open. It's great to see families coming with their picnics and using the facility. All we need is some sunshine and that BBQ summer we were promised last year so we can enjoy everything our village has to offer. I hope to see many of you at the Parish events over the summer.

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Four Heads

An Interview with Moira White,
Head Teacher of Bowmansgreen
School



How long have you worked in the village?
My 5 year anniversary at Bowmansgreen was on April 10.

When did you come here and where did you work before?

Have taught in 4 schools in St Albans area, Skyswood, Redbourn Jnr, Crabtree Jnr (as Headteacher) & Bowmansgreen. My first job was in Eastleigh in Hampshire, following graduation from King Alfred's College, Winchester.

Why did you choose London Colney as the place to be a Head Teacher?

Was asked to 'look at' Bowmansgreen by the School's Effectiveness Adviser who was desperately searching for the 'right person' following illness and subsequent long term absence of the previous, and highly committed, Headteacher. The school was in a period of instability and the Local Authority was looking for someone with experience, determination and passion for children's learning to take the school forward. As soon as I walked into the school and met Mr Wilding and Mrs Fisher, the school's deputy head and special needs coordinator, I knew that we could form a team to reinstate Bowmansgreen

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Parish Council Events to Jan 2011

Larks in the Park – Sunday 20 June – 12.00 – 5.00pm

The big Summer Village Event. Bring your family and friends to Morris Playing Field, Whitehorse Lane. Have a picnic. We will supply the entertainment. If you would like to join in and have a stall, perform on the stage or in the arena, email:-projectmanager@londoncolney.com

St Albans Day Walk – Tuesday 22 June – 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Meet on the Village Green, in front of the Green Dragon Pub and join us for a walk through the Broad Colney Nature Reserve and the grounds of the Pastoral Centre, to the forma Island in the Colne River, where St Alban is reputed to have been captured by the Romans. A potted history of St Alban is read out and then we walk back to the Community Centre for refreshments.

Car Boot Sale - Sunday 29th August 9am - 3pm

Pitches from £5 - apply to the Parish Council Office

Fireworks Display – Sunday 7 November – 6.30pm

Local Schools, Churches and groups come together with the Parish Council to run this spectacular event of Fireworks and music, at Morris Playing Field, Whitehorse Lane. No entrance fee. The bucket donations made on the night go to those local groups that assist the Council with the event.

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 14 November – 10.30am

The general public start to gather at the War Memorial in the High Street from 10.30am. The groups marching from the Village Club in St Annes Road, will be the Royal British Legion, Parish Councillors, The local Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies and Rainbows. They march round to the Memorial at 10.45am. A short service is held at the Memorial where the names of the fallen will be read and a collection will be taken for the Poppy Appeal. The High Street from the junction of Haseldine Road to the junction of St Annes Road will be closed off by the Police during the marching and service.

Christmas Lights Switch on – Friday 26 November – 5.30pm

Come and join us on Chester Gibbons Green by the Millennium Clock and help members from the cast of the St Albans and London Colney Pantomimes count down to switching on the lights in the High Street and on the big Christmas tree. Children from the three local junior Schools will also be singing carols.

Christmas Ball – Friday 17 December 7.00pm

A magical night in the great hall at the Pastoral Centre, Shenley Lane. Music and dancing till midnight, a five course meal and charity raffle. Ticket price to be advised.

Carol Singing – 16 & 21 December 6.30pm

Every one is welcome to join us when we perform in the front hall at Sainsbury's, London Colney. We have a bucket collection for local Groups. Last year we collected for the Over 60's Club and the 3 Village Primary Schools and we received £358.58.

There will be a rehearsal night, date to be advised.

Village Panto 2011 – Sunday 16 January, 12.30pm

A family event at the Caledon Community Centre. It will be the fourth year Chaplin's Pantomime Company has performed for us. This years Panto was Aladdin and went down very well with all ages. 2011's story and ticket price to be advised.

as an outstanding school that would serve its community well. The school has incredible warmth and I immediately felt a sense of belonging. I still had to apply for the job in the usual way but was determined I would do all I could to be successful in the appointment process.

How is your school involved in village life?

The school is increasingly involved in village life and is a regular participant in the switching on of the Christmas Lights and has demonstrated its maypole and country dancing and cheerleading squad at Larks in the Parks over the past three years. The school also initiated the London Colney Cup football tournament for the three primary schools. There is a whole range of after-school and holiday clubs/activities that take place at the school that are accessible to all children from the village and surrounding areas. The school is an active member of the Extended School Consortium (the four village schools plus How Wood, Park Street, Killigrew and Mount Pleasant Lane) and is leading on sharing best practice amongst staff in curriculum opportunities across the group.

What part of your work gives you the most satisfaction?

Seeing children proud of their own achievement and helping them to acknowledge that the greatest sense of success comes from within themselves; whether children are proud of a piece of work, delighted they have bettered a previous best in any of their achievements or have managed their emotions. Children and their parents are delighted to receive a surprise 'cockerel card' home in the post that celebrates their success.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

Family and friends are at their heart of my home life. I have a seventeen year old doing his A levels (any parents who have been through the same will know what is required to keep him on track with his homework! And to

manage his anti-social hours!) I enjoy cooking and will spend a lot of time browsing through cookery books and magazines to entertain friends. Obviously to develop my culinary skills it is important to eat out too!! I am a reader (see below). As far as fitness goes, the children will tell you that my personal goal last year was to increase the amount of walking I do each week and having worn a pedometer for the first three months 2009, I am pleased I have maintained that goal. I'm usually out and about at weekends. I am lucky to have a brother who is a ski-instructor and, along with my sister's family, we have a week together in the Alps each year. My brother is highly critical if I am unable to keep up the pace!

Do you any voluntary work and how did you get involved in this activity?

One of the highlights in my year is helping with the Harpenden Gang Show. Throughout the year I am part of the Wardrobe Team who meets to plan and create the costumes for the annual performance. Last year I sewed 150 glittery waistcoats to celebrate the show's 60th anniversary. My dining room floor was covered in sequins from October to January! When it comes to performance week, I am behind the scenes each evening assisting with ironing, swift costume changes and employing my professional voice to quieten the 60 scouts in between acts. I have been involved since my son took part in the 55th show and already anticipating next year's 62nd.

Have you any unrealised ambitions?

I love dancing and feel there is a bit of a Dancing Queen inside me! I am sure it is a hidden talent and not to be shared!

What book are you reading at the moment and are you enjoying it?

I am an avid reader and belong to two book groups. I do try to keep up with what the groups read but it really is far too ambitious an aim! I am always keen to try something new but

a couple of favourites have been *The Time Traveller's Wife* and *We Need to Talk About Kevin*. Both were written in a style that kept me interested until the end.

Is there anything you'd like to tell the people of London Colney?

Come and visit and feel the warmth of a Bowmansgreen welcome! We are all really proud of our recent Ofsted inspection which confirmed that our hard work in recent years to improve our school has been successful! There is a calm, purposeful working atmosphere which allows for good fun, achievement and a genuine sense of belonging to the family of Bowmansgreen. We are constantly looking to extend the range of opportunities we can offer our children so if you feel you have a skill or an interest to share with the school we would love to hear from you, e.g. gardening, arts and crafts, or simply time to talk and share learning with the children. Bowmansgreen is entering another exciting phase of development and would like the village community to play a greater part in it.

What piece of general advice from your own experience would you give to a young/ old person?

Nothing is insurmountable! There are always people who will listen, help and support. I am a firm believer that we achieve far more when we work together rather than in isolation. (Hence our commitment to leading the partnership with other schools in the consortium) By talking things through, a solution is often reached far more quickly. At Bowmansgreen children can seek out a friend from amongst the adults or the children and know they will be supported whatever their need.

**Next Featured Head
Teacher is
Barbara Fitton of London
Colney Nursery School**

Young Gunner

Tom Bennett

Arsenal Football Club

On Saturday 10th April, lucky 12 year old Junior Gunner Louis Bourke from London Colney, St Albans, enjoyed the day out of a life time with Arsenal goalkeeper Manuel Almunia.

Louis was one of a group of 40 competition winners from Arsenal's young supporters club the Junior Gunners to join the No.1 for an afternoon of outdoor laser games in a forest in Hertfordshire.

The Spanish keeper, the ambassador for the Young Guns - the oldest tier of the JGs for supporters aged 12 to 16 - said of the event: "I am a massive fan of computer games like Call of Duty, so grabbed the chance to come and play in the laser tournament with some of our young supporters! It is always fun to interact with them and hear their thoughts on how the team



are doing and hopefully the event today will have kept everyone entertained in their Easter holidays – I had a great time and hope all the competition winners did too." Arsenal's young supporters club the Junior Gunners is for boys and girls

from new-born to 16 with three age groups: All JGs receive special membership packs upon joining and have the chance to attend exclusive events with players throughout the season like this one with Manuel.



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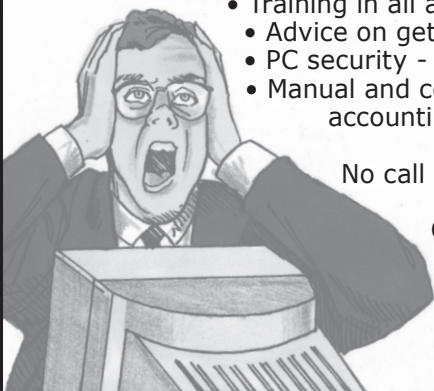
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NEXT ISSUE
AUTUMN 2010
 Distribution date - 1st week
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 Articles should be sent to the editors c/o: Maria Aguado, 369 High Street, London Colney, AL2 1EA Tel: 823528 (phone manned evenings and weekends only) or e-mail: editor@londoncolney.com
 The editors of this magazine rely on contributors for the accuracy of their articles. We regret that we cannot check all the facts, but we are happy to consider printing corrections if errors are brought to our attention. Whilst the editors endeavour to include all items submitted by the deadline given, pressure on space may sometimes mean that items will be held over for consideration in future issues and may not therefore appear in the current issue. Articles may be edited for length or clarity.

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World Wildlife

Dave Ansell

British Butterflies were recorded at their lowest numbers for 25 years in 2008.

Eight species were found to be at an all time low according to the British Butterfly Conservation charity.

Butterflies in the UK rely on good summer weather; they cannot fly in heavy rain which affects their breeding, feeding and laying season but a drought also causes food shortage.

The eight endangered species as records show are the Common Blue (down 78%), Small Skipper (down 64%), Small Tortoiseshell (down 81%) and Wall Brown (down 62%), all illustrated below.

The remainder are Speckled Wood (down 35%), Chalk Hill Blue (down 50%), Lulworth Skipper (down 73%) and the Grayling (down 42%). I hope to paint the latter four in a future issue.

The Butterfly Conservation claim that butterflies are facing mounting threats, some face possible extinction.



COMMON BLUE

SMALL SKIPP

SMALL TORTOISESHELL

WALL BROWN

Gardening

Anne Kitchener

Going on holiday can pose particular problems in the garden especially how to ensure that precious plants don't suffer whilst there is no-one there to tender to their needs. As well as deciding what clothes to pack and remembering to cancel the papers, some thought needs to go into how to prepare the garden so it will survive the absence. Usually there is enough rain to provide sufficient water for basic needs, but the weather can be unpredictable. If there is plenty of rain for the borders the lawn will also put on a growth spurt. It is perhaps not a good idea to plant a thirsty plant just before going away. Cutting the lawn just before going will reduce the work needed on return. In summer I have an automatic irrigation system which keeps pots and crops sufficiently watered, if the battery on the timer does not go flat. Loss of water from summer terracotta pots can be reduced by lining the pot with a plastic bag and including water retention crystals in the compost when planting.



Going away means the garden has more opportunity than usual to grow out of control. Those flowers which readily self seed might need dead heading before leaving even if still in full flower to reduce the task of having to remove any unwanted seedlings the following year. I have this particular problem with ox-eyed daisies as their self seeding is rather too prolific. However, I find it rather difficult to remove a flower in full bloom and don't always manage to get this done. Going away also means that the



flowering of favourites may be missed whatever the time of year. We have just returned home from a slightly longer than planned holiday and it has led me to think about which plants I would have missed whilst I was away if my absence had been even more prolonged. When the children were at school, holidays were limited by school times and so the longer absence would be in late July/August. At this time of year the garden can be particularly flat after the flush of flowers in May and June, so I was not too concerned about missing anything. Now I am more likely to be at home at this time of year as I have more choice over the timing of my travels so I have put some effort into the mid to late summer garden, but of course I now miss favourites at other times of the year.

I have been away in spring when it can be particularly difficult to predict what will be in flower during my absence as this depends very much on how hard a winter there has been. I have just managed to totally miss a rather lovely erythronium which flowered for the first time this year, the yellow bell shaped flowers just developing on our

departure and already fading on our return. I also missed tulips at their best and a clump of narcissi which has taken a few years to develop to its present size. Last year a holiday in early July meant that I missed my stargazer lilies at their best, but fortunately managed to enjoy my regal lilies as they flowered a little earlier. I also missed philadelphus at its most fragrant and a September holiday saw me missing the virginia creeper at its most fiery. There are those favourites that I would be particularly sad to miss, bearded irises in early to mid May, oriental poppies in early June, jasmine in midsummer. Now that I am also growing vegetables, our recent holiday caused us to miss half of this year's crop of purple sprouting broccoli and there had to be careful planning of sowing and planting out other crops.

So when planning a holiday the timing of all things horticultural is likely to be in the back of my mind. However, as much as I love my garden and hate to miss my favourite plants, they will return to be enjoyed the following year; and I will not let it stop me planning and enjoying future travels.

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LONDON COLNEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Come and celebrate our

70th Anniversary

Sunday 4th July 2010

We are holding an Open Day and Summer Garden Party at the school, with entertainment, to commemorate 70 years since the school opened and began teaching the young children of the village.

Come and join us on this special occasion
Take a look around the school and see what's changed
Spot yourself in the old school photos
Meet and chat to friends you were at school with
Refreshments - Raffle - Entertainment

Everybody welcome Entrance £1.00 for adults

Park Street Camera Club

Rosemary Wenzelul



On the 25 March 2010 we held our Annual Dinner and Presentation of Awards evening at the Police Sports Club in Bushey. The photograph above shows our 2009-2010 Competition Winners. Their winning photographs together with their own 'gallery' photographs may be viewed on our new website.

Energetic Programme

Our Club programme (which is also on our website) consists of talks, print and projected image competitions, inter-club competitions with visiting local Camera Clubs, members' evenings and a Summer and Christmas Socials. The current programme runs until 24 June and then there is a break for the Summer. We reconvene on the 16 September.

Join Us

We are a small and friendly Club and you will always be given a warm welcome on arrival. If you would like to come along one evening as a visitor, you will be more than welcome (there is no pressure to join) we meet at 7.45pm for 8pm start, each Thursday at St. Stephen Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood. Visit our website www.parkstreetcameraclub.com to view our programme.

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Big Lunch

Peter Yexley

If you feel that you really know your Neighbours, believe it or not, you are a minority – according to research conducted by The Eden Project (The people behind those big domes in Cornwall). Nearly one in ten of the UK population have absolutely no idea who even lives next door, with more than half the nation (51%) admitting they should make more of an effort to get to know their neighbours.

Stranger than neighbours?

Whilst Neighbourhood Watch is about watching out for our neighbours, how can we possibly do this if we don't know them? In fairness, London Colney is fairly 'neighbourly' but with a little help from London Colney Parish Council we can all extend our friendship to many more people living around us. Do you remember the annual London Colney Pram Race or the 'Tug 'O War' from many years ago? Have you ever had a street party? Read on...because this is an opportunity to have a street party or come and join a massive picnic. Last July, despite the weather, the best part of a million people in the UK took part in 'The Big lunch'. 8,263 streets, lanes, parks, car parks, schools and the like got together with their neighbours in their own streets. Some were tiny, some were vast, but as a whole, it was the biggest, broadest and most inventive day of open-air parties since Golden Jubilee. If you have internet access take a look at www.thebiglunch.com.

London Colney BIG PICNIC

We don't have the luxury of closing roads but to get the party started London Colney Parish Council have kindly provided the enclosed grounds of the Caledon Club for a Big Picnic, There'll be a barbecue and the bar will be open, you can also bring your own



VE Day Street Party 9th May 1945
Aubrey Ave, London Colney

picnic, ground blanket and even seats! If it rains, we'll move into the club, so there's no excuse not to join the Big Picnic on 18th July.

DIY Big Lunch

If you fancy something more than a picnic, on your own doorstep then have a Big Lunch. Get some neighbours together; choose a site that won't inconvenience others and bring out your tables and chairs, decorate the area with balloons and banners etc the rest of the UK will be doing it, so why not join in?

There are so many ideas on The-BigLunch.com; from barbecues to full Sunday lunch, everybody brings something to the table. If you have an allotment, why not bring the veg? Even local pubs could do something. You could even join a neighbouring street that might already be involved; and here's how to get started. You need to go to www.thebiglunch.com, Internet access is free at the library too. On the home page, you simply click on to "Start A Big Lunch" and decide if you wish to join the Parish Council 'Big Picnic' or start your own Big Lunch. You can type in you postcode and the website will tell you where your nearest ones are and you can register to be part of it. There is even a step-by-step guide to starting

your own – it's all there to help you. My thanks go out to the Parish Events Working Party at London Colney Parish Council for partnering with Neighbourhood Watch but the key players are residents, you and your neighbours. Together we can bring the community together. Events like this have proved to reduce anti-social behaviour, prevent future disputes and introduce neighbours.

Join Us!

Now you have read this, why not discuss it with your next door neighbour both sides and the people across the road, if everybody does this; 18th July 2010 will be the start of an annual community day in London Colney and the day that our community really got together.

It is up to you, and I hope you join us at the Caledon Club for a picnic or indeed your own 'Big Lunch'.

Party Plan...

Find a Big Lunch or host your own. Stir up interest – talk to everyone in your road!

Mash up the menu – get everyone to contribute food – the bigger the menu, the more fun for everyone. Prepare for rain – it could easily happen!

Record the day – take pictures, today's snaps are tomorrow's history.

Here we are!

Peter Laws

It's easy to miss, but there is a church on Kings Road, London Colney. It's got a cross on the top and a big sign saying church, but somehow people still seem to not realise it's there. Even some taxi drivers scratch their heads, when I ask them to drop me off here



So just in case you don't know about us, we just want to say hi and that we are here for you. Some people might never dream of trying out their local church, especially if (like me) they never went to one growing up. Yet, it can be a great way to meet new people while exploring the big issues of life. There are various activities going on at the church, here's a quick run down of the main ones.

Sunday Service, 10:30-11:30am

In our Sunday morning service you can expect the following:

Things for Children: During the service we have a fun and interactive Children's Talk as well as an optional Sunday School. We have a crèche area for those with younger children. (We operate a Child Safety policy and all helpers are police checked - CRB).
 Sermon: We have a weekly sermon/talk. It's not supposed to be a lecture, but a fun and engaging talk on relevant issues. If you miss a sermon or would like to give one a try then visit our podcast at www.lcbc.ik.com

Prayer: We'll spend some time praying for issues both in the news and closer to home including your prayer requests if you wish.

Singing: During the service we sing about four hymns and modern Christian songs but there's no pressure to join in if you'd rather not. You don't have to be X-Factor standard.

Refreshments: After the service we serve free refreshments. Chocolate biscuits and cakes crop up often! We have a time of Communion every third Sunday. If you aren't sure what that means, don't worry. It will all be explained on the morning, and it's up to you if you take part or just observe. (Like most churches, we do take a collection but it's entirely voluntary).

As well as the Sunday service we offer other activities, including:

Parents and Toddlers Group, Fridays (Term Time), In the Hall, 9:30-11:30am, £1 Voluntary Contribution.

Solicitors Surgery, 1st Wednesday of the month, Church Office, 7:30-8:30pm, Free Legal advice (no appointment necessary)

Open Door, Thursdays, Church, 2:15 - 3:00pm, Chat, prayer and refreshments.

Prayer Group, Saturdays, Church, 1:30-3:00pm, A prayer meeting. All welcome. If you have anything you would like us to pray for let us know.

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Sue Oakley

The London Colney WI meets each month in the Baptist Church Hall in Kings Road. They are always glad to welcome new members and have an interesting and varied programme of events.

8th June Tiller Girl to Vernon Girl - Sheila Parker
 Competition: One Rose in a Vase
 13th July Birdwatching Bug - Richard Pople
 Competition: Pretty Feather

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We are a family friendly social club and are ideally situated right next to the park in Caledon Road. If you feel it's time for a change then why not join? We'll even buy the first drink for you! In fact there really is no reason why you shouldn't sign up.



JOIN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY.

The Caledon Community Association

(under the management of the London Colney Parish Council)

I hereby apply for membership of the Caledon Community Association, and if accepted I agree to abide by the rules of the Association. I declare that I am over 18 years of age.

PLEASE PRINT IN CAPITALS

Name:.....

Address:.....Post Code:.....

Email:.....Tel:.....

Signature:.....Date:.....

I enclose the membership fee of £10.00 (Pensioners £5)

Please return form to Simon Niemiec, London Colney Parish Council, Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, London Colney, Herts, AL2 1PU. Tel: 01727 821314

All information entered here remains with LCPC. We do not pass on anyone's details to third party companies. Tick here if you do not wish to receive news on events or promotions

As we are a community centre we try and offer a wide range of classes and events to suit all people such as Mother & Toddler groups, Weight Watchers, Keep Fit classes, Irish Dancing, Children's Tae Kwon Do, Bingo, Salsa Dance Lessons, Citizens Advice Bureau, Thursday Lunch Club, Coach Day Trips Home and Abroad and Live tribute bands.

Coming soon: Sunday Carvery, Big Money Quiz Nights, Free WiFi internet.

Bowmansgreen Lifts the Dance Trophy

Jacky Potter

On Friday 19 March two teams from Bowmansgreen Primary School made their debut performance at the second Strictly Schools' Dance Competition at the Woollams Sports Pavilion. Along with Cunningham Hill, Prae Wood, Aboyne Lodge and Skyswood they completed for the prestigious title and trophy. The competition, started last year, is the idea of Leigh Casling, a leading Elvis impersonator, and is designed to promote the enjoyment of dance and to bring schools together in a friendly but competitive setting.

Thrilling Performance

Leigh provided a choice of tracks to choose from, and sang live, as the children performed. Bowmansgreen entered two groups. The Year 5 and 6 group did an exciting zombie interpretation to a 'Thriller' remix and the judges of the competition commented on the strong, powerful performance they gave.

Wonderwall Winners

It was however, the Year 3 and 4 group whose jazz version of 'Wonderwall' wowed the judges and won them first place. They were marked on rhythm, originality, enthusiasm, flow, choreography, costumes and overall general feeling of the performance. The judges were unanimous in their decision and commented that the performance was sleek and the choreography was amazing.

Choreography

The school benefitted from the excellent choreography and high standards of Miss Sam Payton, a former professional dancer and a teaching assistant at the school who worked with the

groups to perfect their performance. Miss Payton is the Principal of 'Excel Performing Arts', an exciting performing arts school, which has recently opened at Bowmansgreen School. The dance school is open to all children in London Colney and St Albans and offers high quality classes in ballet, jazz, musical theatre, street dance, drama and singing.

Commitment

The children had the support of the Headteacher, Moira White, and many of the staff as well as an enthusiastic group of parents, all willing the children to succeed. Mrs White said, 'We

are extremely proud of all the children. Their professionalism and commitment during rehearsals has paid off and both groups were outstanding on the night against some tough competition. Our success has sent a huge buzz around the school. We really appreciate the time and enthusiasm that Miss Payton gave to ensure the quality of performance that was recognised by the judges.'

Congratulations

A huge Congratulation goes to all the dancers!



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This Magazine

Maria Aguado, Editor

It's been decided - we carry on in colour. One person contacted me with a definite NO but everyone else I have spoken to likes the full colour version.

While I have your ear... I apologise to Ted Turner for saying that he had served in the RAP instead of the RAF. Also for more than a few typographical errors in his article in the last issue about the Commonwealth War Graves he looks after in St Peter's Churchyard. Also, in Rosemary Wenzel's articles in the last issue from which I carelessly edited the important facts that... The book of walks is called '12 Circular Walks Around Bricket Wood' or that it is available from 'Willows Farm' in London Colney and that Park Street Camera Club has a new website: www.parkstreetcameraclub.com

Solar is an Earner

Gordon Glass, Energy Saving Trust

When you get an approved renewable energy system installed you can now benefit from a Feed-in Tariff (FIT). Your electricity supplier will pay one tariff for the electricity you generate and one for any electricity you export to the grid. For a standard household Solar PV system they'll pay 41.3p per kWh generated and at least 3p per kWh exported.

FITs mean that a well sited Solar PV system can now pay for itself in as little as 12.5 years. To qualify for FITs, equipment and its installers must both be MCS approved. The Microgeneration Certification Scheme is the new guarantee of quality. A 2.5kW peak system for a two

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person household could save/earn you £1000 a year and currently costs around £15,000 fitted. A new set up like this will reduce your annual CO₂ emissions by around a tonne. In terms of its positive environmental impact this is comparable to getting loft and cavity

wall insulation fitted together. FITs replace government grants for electricity generating technologies like Solar PV and wind turbines. For the latest information on renewable energy systems and incentives, contact the Energy Saving Trust on 0800 512 012.

From St Peter's

Rev'd. Lynne Fawns

As the days heat up (please?) and schools start to wind down, we enter what many people see as the best and most relaxing season of the year and that is Summer. Hopefully as the weather brightens and the temperature soars we too will take the opportunity to physically and mentally slow and calm ourselves down a bit.

Human Beings or...

Yet, we British aren't very good at this are we? Those who live in the Mediterranean rest in the hottest part of the day and if you visit Paris in the summer you will notice it is almost empty as people are "en vacances". Yet we don't relax into the season quite

as well as our European brothers and sisters.

I think it's because there is a strong thread running through our society, which tells us we should always be rushing about "doing" something. If we're not, we are led to believe that we are lazy or not pulling our weight, but nothing could be further from the truth. We ALL need "time out", a time for peace, recreation and refreshment. We all need time just "to be". After all God created human beings, not human doings.

Human Doings

A holiday, some time away - some recreational activity from the normal or even just a peaceful afternoon in the garden is never a waste of time - it is important time. God obviously thought it was important, as we are

told in the story of Creation in Genesis, chapter 2, verse 2 . . .that He rested on the seventh day from all the work He had done. If God saw fit to rest from work then surely it's good enough for us. Jesus too, often went away from the disciples, the crowds and even His preaching and teaching to be on his own, so he could pray, think, reflect and recharge his batteries. He didn't stay there permanently but returned to carry on this business of his work and so it is with us. Our holidays - time spent walking by the river - time spent reading in our garden - watching a DVD, or for some even watching the World Cup, are moments to refresh and recharge - quality moments just "to be".

Sacred Time

So cherish the time you "take out" this summer, however that may be. Even if it is just an hour - a day or a week.. know that it is valuable time and nothing less than sacred time. May God give you a break from your normal routine this summer. May God give you rest and peace. May you find true refreshment and enjoyment in your God given "time out".

St Peter's Update

Summer Fayre


To begin our Summertime we are holding our Summer Fayre by the River on Saturday 12th June between 11am and 3pm. Stalls, Games, refreshments and of course by popular demand listen to "Lou's Sextet". As we will be in World Cup mode and eagerly awaiting the England v USA that evening that will be the theme of our Fayre. We look forward to seeing you.

Reordering

The works are under way as you read this and I have been asked how people can donate a chair to the newly refurbished St Peter's Church. We will be ordering chairs in July but if you would like to purchase one in memory of someone, to celebrate an occasion such as a marriage or baptism, then do please contact me or place a note through the vicarage door and I will send you further details.

Blessings from Lynne and the family of St Peters

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Harperbury Bowls Club

Sheila Roberts

Harperbury is a mixed club. We do not have separate Men's & Ladies' sections. Membership is around 70. Although most of our bowling is mixed there are times when "all men" or "all ladies" teams are entered in District & County competitions. This won't concern anyone just taking up the sport.

And, if you are new to bowling we offer a free trial from subscription 1st year. Yes, you can try before you buy!

Qualified coaches help new bowlers get the most out of their first sessions.

Roll Ups

Almost every bowler will spend some time "rolling up" which is very informal, sometimes you don't even bother to keep the score. Some bowlers never want to go further than this stage – and there is no need to if you are happy just to be out in the fresh air enjoying friendly company.

"Club Night" is Tuesday during the season. Come along to see how it works.

Friendly Matches

The Club's fixture list includes around

40 Friendly matches against other clubs. These are mostly weekend, with some midweek afternoon and evening fixtures. Any beginner, if they wish, will be able to make their debut for the club in their first season. No need to be shy about this; most of the opposing sides will also be fielding a new bowler. All of our Friendly fixtures are "mixed".

Then What?

Men's and Ladies' County and District Associations run Inter Club competitions and competitions for individuals to enter. Harperbury are active in these, and not without success, which is pleasing for a small club. The Club also run competitions for its own members.

Whatever your age (as long as you

can hold a bowl), and however much time you want to spend on the green, there will be bowling to suit you at Harperbury.

Our Outdoor Season runs from the end of April until the end of September.

Although our Club Night is on Tuesdays members can use the green at any time there are rinks available, and at no extra cost. We do have a Match Fee for all club organised fixtures, but these are very reasonable.

The Club also has a social side: Quiz Nights, Race Nights, BBQ, and also during the close season a very popular Thursday Night Whist Drive.

For more information contact: Sheila Roberts; Tel 01727 823405; email: srobertsbloy@yahoo.co.uk



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National Walks

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There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in England has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home or away on holiday you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

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With walks from half a mile to twelve miles long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

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Did you know that walking for just 30 minutes a day can help you to: Feel good (you will feel fitter, your body will be more toned, and you will feel better about yourself).

Have more energy.

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Reduce stress (have you ever noticed how it's difficult to walk and worry at the same time?).

Reduce your blood pressure.

Manage your weight.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Directory Changes

Your District Councillors are now...
 Councillor Irene Willcocks 01727 821753
 Councillor Katherine Gardener 01727 824095
 Councillor Dave Winstone 01727 822310

The Chairmanship of the Parish Council is now held by ...
 'Dreda Gordon 01727 826233
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One Solitary Life

Christine Drayson
Alexander Evangelical Church



A child was born in an obscure village, the son of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village, where

he worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty. Then for three years he became a wandering preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held a public office. He never raised an army. He never had a family or owned a home. He didn't go to college. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He gathered a little group of friends about him and taught them his way of life. While still a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against him. One friend denied him, another betrayed him. He was turned over to his enemies, went through a mockery of a trial, and was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his execu-

tioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. He was laid in a borrowed grave by the kindness of a friend, but later rose from the dead. These are the facts of his human life. Two thousand years have come and gone, and what kind of trail has he left across the centuries? When we try to sum up his influence, all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on earth as much as that one solitary life.

Whose Life?

This article by James Francis (1864-1928) refers to Jesus Christ, whose birth Christians remember at Christmas and whose death and resurrection we remember at Easter. He claimed to be the son of God, so he was either a liar, a lunatic, or truly God's messenger to us. Many millions around the world still believe him to be the latter, finding in him forgiveness, purpose in life and a personal relationship with God. Check him out for yourself!



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Toddler Group

Val Hawkins

A parent/carer toddler group is held every Tuesday morning during school term time at the London Colney Community Centre in Caledon Road, London Colney. The group is organised and led by Mrs. Val Hawkins.

New Friends for You...

The group is open from 9 till 11 a.m. A fee of £1 per adult plus 50p per child is payable on arrival, and you will be required to sign in when paying. The group is a non-profit community based project, and all monies paid are put straight back into the group. After hall hire fees, remaining funds are used to supply refreshments for the mothers and the children, Easter eggs for the children, and a party with small gifts at Christmas.

There may also be a small amount of money available to replace old or broken toys, but all donations of toys are most welcome.

...and Your Toddler

For safety reasons play is restricted to indoors, but the hall is spacious with plenty of room for the children to play. Plenty of tables and chairs are available.

During the session tea and coffee is available for parents, and the children are supplied with drinks and biscuits. Parents are asked to assist with washing-up and clearing the hall of the toys. If attending for the first time parents are asked to make themselves aware of the fire exits, which are clearly marked.

Ample car parking is available.

All enquiries should be made to Val Hawkins on 01727 824420, or mobile number 07974513196.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



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Greenwood Park Community Centre,
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Hog Roast
Sunday July 4, 12 noon to 4pm
Kashu Restaurant, Hatfield Road, St Albans
Adults £10, children £5



World's Biggest Coffee Morning
Friday September 24, 10am to 1pm
Greenwood Park Community Centre,
Tippendell Lane, Chiswell Green

Enquiries for all events to Avril Foster on 01727 862079 or by email to avril.foster@ntlworld.com

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Contact the Editor Maria Aguado, on 01727 823528 after 6 and at weekends or email

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Your Local Police Officers

Maria Aguado

Pete Austin and Mark Tyrrell are police constables on the Community Team for London Colney. They are holding surgeries on 15th June and 15th July between 4pm and 5pm in the Community Room on Cotlandswick. They are there to give advice and listen to your views about policing matters in London Colney.

They will also be at the Mobile Police Station at Colney Fields on Monday 28th June where they will, in addition, be available for crime prevention advice, including security marking for property if required.

Tell them about any odd goings on in your area - small bits of information, things you might think are strange but unimportant, can help in their investigations.

Meanwhile, be your own crime prevention unit.

- Lock your doors and close your windows when out or asleep.
- Lock away your tools and ladders - don't provide burglars with the equipment they need to break in to your home.
- Take your sat nav with you when you leave the car. Thieves know they are under the seat because of the cradle attached to the windscreen or, if they're really canny, by the ring left on the windscreen by the cradle suction cup. Don't be caught out - remove any sign you own one. Leave a dog eared A-Z on the passenger seat!
- Take special care when locking UPVC doors. Make sure you've engaged all the locking bars by raising the handle before locking the door.

Contact your local Police Officers on 0845 3300222 and ask for them by name to discuss non urgent matters or talk to the duty team if a crime has already been committed..

Dial 999 if there is a crime in progress.



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London Colney Children's Centre provides a range of services and offers information for children under the age of five years and their parents/carers.

Timetable of activities for Summer 2010 - April - August

| Day | Time | Activity / group |
|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Monday | 9.15am - 11.15am | Parent & Toddler drop in group For 0 - 4 years Lots of toys and lots of fun |
| Monday | 1.30pm - 3.00pm | Bumps & babies Expecting a baby or have a new arrival. Come along and meet other parents |
| Tuesday | 9.10am - 10.15am | Well child clinic - Baby weighing and Health Visitor advice |
| Wednesday | 10.30am - 11.45am | Baby massage These sessions must be booked |
| Wednesday | 12.30pm - 2.30pm | Friendship group A group for our Bengali parents |
| Thursday | 9.15am - 11.15am | Childminder support group A group for registered childminders to meet with their children |
| Thursday | 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Well child clinic - Baby weighing and Health Visitor advice |
| Friday | 9.15am - 11.15am | Under 2's playtime - A stay and play group for the under 2's |

Coming soon.....

- Getting through the day workshops – if you would like support in managing tantrums, setting boundaries & mealtimes etc please phone for more information.
- Saturday Play & Stay. This group is specifically for working parents, Dads and Grandparents and their children aged 0-4 years.
5 June, 3 July, 7 August & 4 September drop in from 10am – midday.
- Holiday Stay and Play sessions will be running every Monday and Friday mornings 9.15am – 11.15am and every Wednesday afternoons 1.00pm – 3.00pm.

**Phone or text Julie or Helen for more information:
Julie 07825933809 / Helen 07825933810**

Supported by



Community Centre

Simon Niemic
Community Officer

Well it's that time of year when things start getting greener and has certainly made me happier getting up in the morning and seeing sunshine, let's hope it lasts for a good few months.

Madness

Life at the Community Centre goes on and we had a very successful night back March when we booked a Madness tribute band. Seeing so many big burly chaps regressing back to their teenage years whilst jumping around to 'One step beyond' was great to see and has gone down as yet another fantastic evening at the Caledon Centre.

Swing to the King

We have just had our Roy Orbison tribute back and on July 17 we have a brand new 'Swing to the King' experience showcasing music across 3 decades by singer Leigh Casling. I can confirm that I am in talks with a Robbie Williams tribute for September. This is a tribute act I have been asked to book by so many since last year and should prove to be an evening of great entertainment.

World Cup - Big Screen

We have also listened to our customers in the members bar who have reported that around the various drinking establishments in the village there seems to be a lot of preparation for the forthcoming World Cup. We have therefore invested in a new 2msq HD projector with surround sound to bring a better atmosphere to the big live football matches. We will be showing all the games from the World Cup and for England games we are doing special rates on all our draught beer for only £2.20 per pint.

Outdoor Eating at the Community Centre

We have also purchased a brand new BBQ for the members bar and started cooking a few weeks back. Barbecues have proved a very popular alternative to the Sunday Dinners when the weather has been good and we will continue to provide BBQ's in good weather throughout the summer.

Catering for Functions

We have also expanded our catering services at the Centre and can now offer very reasonable deals on catering for anyone needing buffets or

hot meals. Please call for details if you are interested in using this service.

Boot Sale

We are hosting the Big Bank Holiday Boot Sale on the field next to the park in Caledon Road on Sunday August 29. We hope to fill the whole field with sellers and it could be your chance to bag a bargain. Alternatively if you have stuff to sell then a pitch will cost as little as £5 which can be booked through the Parish Council offices on 01727 821314 (sorry, no traders allowed). Keep an eye out for the posters around the village.

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LONDON COLNEY PARISH COUNCIL PRESENTS

The **BIG**
BANK HOLIDAY
CAR BOOT SALE

Caledon Road playing field
Sunday 29 August
9 till 3
£5 per car
(NO TRADERS ALLOWED)

gates open at 8:30am ~ Free parking
toilets and catering available

 **LONDON COLNEY PARISH COUNCIL**
CALEDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CALEDON ROAD, LONDON COLNEY, AL2 1PU. TEL: 01727 821314

Continuing Investment

Fresh investment has gone in to purchasing new tables for the function hall after many years of usage from the old ones which were finally beyond repair. We are committed to use the money that comes into the club from memberships, room hire and sales to improve your Community Centre as part of the project for premises regeneration. All this takes time of course but slowly we hope to have a centre with great facilities for everyone wishing to use it. As always I hope to see many more of you using the Community Centre over the coming months and I would remind you if you wish to keep up to date with anything relating to the Community Centre then please visit our website at...

www.londoncolney-pc.gov.uk

Community Centre Hall and Bar Available for Hire

Reasonable Rates Catering Packages Available

Phone Simon Niemiec, Community Officer for prices and availability on 01727 821314

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Judith Maag

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See your photo in print!

This magazine will print good colour photos. The editors will favour photos taken locally. Tell the readers where and why the photo was taken. If you take pictures of people close up and easily recognisable, please obtain permission for publication from those photographed.

email to editor@londoncolney.com

Falconry Display

Lynne Jordan

The Redtail Falconry Display Team visited London Colney Primary School in March. They brought with them some birds of prey to show the children, including a Harris Hawk, Eagle Owl, Kestrel and a Barn Owl. The children were given the opportunity to sketch the birds and learn all about them and some pupils were given the opportunity to wear the falconer's glove and send the bird off for a fly around the school hall before landing back on the glove. Pupils had their photographs taken with a Barn Owl sitting on their shoulder.



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