

Campton & Chicksands Community Newsletter

Issue 103

June 2004



Chicksands Priory in Bedfordshire
The Seat of Sir George Osborn, Bart.
(Dated 1781)

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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



Our small patch of "God's Acre " in Campton tonight is in essence all a country churchyard should be. The primroses and bluebells have faded and been overtaken by cow parsley, as tall as the lichen covered gravestones that seem to appear through the mist of blossom. For one who looks more closely, there are buttercups and speedwell, small blue birds-eyes hiding amongst the stems. The heady

scent of the may seems to have perfumed the village for the month of its namesake and the elderflower will not be long to follow. There is even blossom on the holly. Our churchyard is a safe haven for many songbirds who are unselfconsciously conducting their own Evensong tonight. Our hedgerows in the Parish are full of stitchwort, campions, vetches, bugle and many whose name I have forgotten but I was comforted to find, on a recent walk in Maulden Woods a carpet of wood sorrel. This delicate white flower is also known as "Alleluya" because "it springeth forth and flourisheth at the time when Alleluya is wont to be sung in Churches. This old name is lost but the erstwhile bearer of it lives on and still praises God with sweetest looks at this most joyful time of the year."

A Churchwarden.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH SERVICES 6th June, 2004 – 27th June, 2004

Sun 6 th June	Trinity Sunday	Parish Communion	11.15am
Sun 13 th June	1 st Sun of Trinity	Parish Communion	11.15am
Sun 20 th June	2 nd after Trinity	Morning Prayer	11.15am
Sun 27 th June	3 rd after Trinity	Holy Communion Family Service	8.00am 11.15am

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CAMPTON

OPEN GARDENS

SUNDAY 27TH JUNE

2.00pm – 5.00pm

£1.50

GUIDE AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCH

WHICH WILL BE OPEN FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

In our three parishes we have been looking at what it is that makes a healthy Church and seeing what we are good at and where we could make improvements. On the whole our Churches are in a good state, people are welcomed and we hope feel comfortable. But what is it that people outside the Church perceive?

There is, of course the common idea that what we do is inappropriate. At one end of the spectrum we hear that the Church is old fashioned, the hymns dull and the language used incomprehensible. At the other end there are those who think that there have been far too many changes, we are bowing to popular culture, the hymns are 'happy-clappy' and the language trite. Of course there are grains of the truth in each view and it may depend on which Sunday you come which type of service you will experience. A village is not like a town where you can choose which Church to attend and expect to find the same sort of worship each week. In a village the Church has to try to cater for everyone's needs in worship, but without losing its integrity.

But the Church is not just about worship, it is also about serving all God's people in the place in which it is set while not forgetting we are part of the worldwide Church too. So we have to think about our giving and how we might help others, not only by praying but also through practical action. A particular concern for us at this time are those living in the new homes at Chicksands. We are very keen that everyone there should have the opportunity to feel a real part of the local community and of course we would like to have some new friends too. All three parishes in the Benefice are concerned to help in this.

I don't think our Churches are at all boring, there are just so many interesting people in each of them. It seems that all the time there are new people to get to know and I have watched many friendships formed and grow. No-one is ever left out of the continual conversation that seems to go on after a service. At Haynes there is the danger that those who have been to 8.00am will still be talking in the car park when the 9.30 congregation begin to arrive - and I've yet to work out how anyone at Campton ever has a Sunday lunch!! Bored or unhappy is the last thing our congregations are - they've all so much to talk about!!

Sometimes I am told that there are those who won't come to Church because of what they read in the press about the arguments that go on - about the big issues - like women priests and the performance of the Church Commissioners or the debate about the appointment of Jeffrey John as Dean of St Albans (I believe Bishop Christopher is to be congratulated on the bravery and openness of the appointment). These debates should not put us off the local Church, for they are only a part of all that goes on and, honestly, in what other situation would you actually believe all you read in the press?

Thank God for these happy Church communities where we live.



CAMPTON BELL APPEAL: THREE BELLS ALREADY GIVEN



The **Campton Bells Appeal** plan to install a brand new ring of six bells in All Saints' Church, to replace the old ring of five bells. The new custom-designed metal bellframe will house eight bells, which gives us the option to add two extra bells to complete the full octave.

An excellent start has been made to the **fundraising** but there's still a long way to go. All Saints' PCC is fully committed to the project and is underwriting the cost of the metal bell frame, the largest single cost.

Two of the new bells have already been given by parishioners - we thank them for their generosity. A third bell has just been donated by a local Mid Beds ringing family.

We now need **your** support please, particularly for our fundraising events – money raised will help fund the cost of the bell fittings, e.g. you can sponsor/donate ropes, rope guides, bell wheels, bell stays and sliders.

To find out more Come and see us at Campton and Chicksands Carnival.

We have other fundraising events planned during the year too, including 'Music at the Manor' on Saturday, August 28. Or, pop in to the Church on a Tuesday evening between 7.15 and 8.30pm, get yourself a warm welcome and see what we do! We're keen to teach new people to ring.

Bells are frequently **donated** by individuals or by groups of people. They can be given, perhaps in memory of family members, and can be inscribed with the donor's personal details. Of course donations can be spread over a period of time.

The cost of our new bells will be between £2800 and £5000 per bell, depending on weight. Bell fittings (wheels, clappers etc) are extra.

The **Gift Aid** scheme means this type of giving is highly tax efficient, both for the donor and the Bell Appeal. Typically, for a basic rate taxpayer, every pound given under the scheme is topped up with 28p reclaimed from the Inland Revenue. This means you can divert money that would otherwise go to the taxman into a worthy cause like Campton Bells Appeal!

If you or your group are interested in discussing further the idea of donating one of the new bells **please contact** John Loveless on 819074 or Sue Farmer on 811393.

CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

At the Council meeting held on Monday, 17th May, David Tollman was elected as Chair with Monica Olley as Vice-Chair. May I take this opportunity to thank Barry Thompson for his hard work as Chairman during the previous year.

The issue of the further development at Chicksands by Annington Homes was discussed at the meeting and the Council has sent a strong letter to the Planning Authority outlining its concerns about the application.

Issues, such as future development in the Parish, are topics which can be addressed by a Parish Plan. Although there has already been one public meeting and the matter mentioned in the Newsletter, the response so far has been negligible – the Parish Council needs to know from **YOU** whether or not to go ahead and arrange another public meeting.

Please let the Parish Clerk, Mrs Jacqui Gibson (01234 381389) or any Councillor know your views.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday, 21st June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room. All Parishioners are welcome to attend.

David Tollman.

or e-mail ditollman@btinternet.com



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our May meeting was a hectic one. We held our normal monthly meeting and discussed coming events, especially our contribution to the village Carnival.

We then turned to our Annual Meeting. The accounts, prepared by our Treasurer, Barbara Nation, were adopted, and reports were given by the Secretary, Liz Tyler, and President, Deborah Maggs. We have done well over the past year, raised funds and increased membership. Thanks were given to all the committee members, especially Barbara and Liz for their hard work. Our best wishes and special thanks go to Barbara Evans, who retires from committee after 38 years. She will be sorely missed there,

but happily for us remains a member. I have been elected for a second year as President.

Our three WI resolutions were discussed and agreed. We were then able to share drinks and a delightful pot luck supper - any excuse!

On June 9th at 7.30pm, Patricia Ford is coming to talk to us about beauty.

Please join us - you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Deborah Maggs.

CANCER RESEARCH UK

We have just had our annual house to house collection in aid of Cancer Research. This year we have raised the fantastic total of £249.18 for which I thank you. This brings the total raised in the 18 years I have been organising the Collection to a grand total of £2429.70 which, I think, for a small village is remarkable. Thank you very much. Some of you will know that the collection is made under the auspices of the WI and has been done for at least 35 years. At the March meeting the members voted to change our designated charity from Cancer Research UK to a joint collection for Keech Cottage Children's Hospice at Luton and St John's Hospice for Adults at Moggerhanger. These two Hospices are delighted that in 2005 we shall be collecting for them and I do hope that you will continue to give as generously as in other years.

These two Hospices do such good work and help so much to keep stricken families together and sane.

Thank you so much.

Sue Hayhurst.

CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS WELCOME LEAFLET – CORRECTION

Although primarily designed for new residents a "Welcome" leaflet has been delivered to all homes in the Parish. Please note that, unfortunately, the wrong number has been given for the Shefford Police Post. This should be 01234 841212 ext. 2567. Please delete the 01462 number shown, this has now been allocated to a private residence. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

CAMPTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CARPET BOWLS is now taking a summer break. Play will resume in September.

	100 CLUB DRAW	
Win	DRAW 4 MAY 13 TH 2004	No.
£50	J. Bowman	81
£30	S. Cordell	94
£10	Mrs Wright	18



BARN DANCE

SATURDAY 26TH

JUNE 2004

7.30pm

at

Camptonbury Farm



TICKETS

AVAILABLE FROM

GRAHAM WILLIAMS
816572

FELICITY BROWN
811686



**** MUSIC BY "ORANGE AND BLUE" ****

**** CALLER: MR ADRIAN BEASANT ****

**** FISH AND CHIPS SUPPER ****

**** BAR ** RAFFLE ****

£10.00 per Ticket

Children £5

CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS CARNIVAL

SATURDAY 12TH JUNE FROM 1.00PM AT THE REC

TREASURE HUNT AT
ALL SAINTS'

WELLIE WANGING

SCARECROW COMPETITION

CAMPTON BELL APPEAL

"AFRICA" STALL

HAT COMPETITION
(PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN)

BOUNCY CASTLE

"LOTTERY"
GAME

LUCKY
PROGRAMME
DRAW

ANIMAL SPONSORSHIP
PET SUPPLIES

FACE PAINTING

STOCKS

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE
MODEL RAILWAY

BOWLING FOR A PIG

CARPET BOWLS

DOG-AGILITY
DISPLAY

DISPLAY OF COUNTRY
DANCING BY CHILDREN
FROM CAMPTON LOWER
SCHOOL

FLYPAST AND AERIAL
DISPLAY OF TIGER MOTHS
(WEATHER PERMITTING)

BAT THE RAT

LAMB ROAST

REFRESHMENTS

AND MORE!!!

HOW TO MAKE A SCARECROW

You will need:

- 1 stake about 2m (6 foot) long
- 1 stake about 1m (3 foot) long
- 1 stake about 30cm (1 foot) long
- Old clothes (shirt or jumper, trousers, hat)
- An old pair of tights
- Some straw or hay
- String

- 1) Tie the 1m stake to the 2m stake about 15cm (6 inches) from one end in a cross shape and then tie the other stake in the same way about halfway down. This is the frame for your scarecrow.



- 2) To make the head cut one leg from the tights and fill with some straw. Push the straw firmly to the end and make it into a ball shape. Tie a piece of string around the tights to stop the straw falling out.



- 3) Tie the ball to the top of the frame.
- 4) Dress the scarecrow by placing the shirt on the top crossbar and the trousers on the smaller bar. Push straw or hay inside the clothes to fill them out and place the hat on its head.

Good luck

++FREE ENTRY++PRIZE FOR BEST++

I would like to enter the Scarecrow Competition:

Name:

Address:

The scarecrow will be in my front garden/at the rec.
(delete as appropriate)



Please return to 28, Greenway or 23 Gravenhurst Road by 9th June