

**Campton & Chicksands Parish Council
Newsletter**

January 2006 Issue



Welcome to the Campton and Chicksands Newsletter,
published by the Parish Council

Please let us know your news and views—contact details
inside

Campton Village Hall

The Campton Village Hall Management Committee would like to thank all those people that have supported us over the last year. Apart from the periodic maintenance during the year we have replaced the curtains and rails, new lighting has also been installed in the main hall, both of these items have made the hall a cosier place to meet and of course the new heating system was a great benefit to all users last winter and during the recent cold spell has been very successful.

The 100 club will have paid out nearly £1500 in prize money this year and committee members will be visiting you during January to renew your subscriptions. Don't forget that if you wish to acquire additional numbers for the draws we will be happy to oblige. Good luck for the 2006 season.

We would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

The Campton Village Hall Management Committee.

100 Club

December 2005 Draw Results

Draw	Number	Amount	Name
1st	83	£50.00	S Odell
2nd	76	£30.00	A Partington
3rd	17	£10.00	C Sawyers

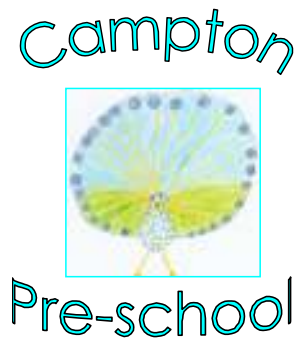
W.I Supports Keech Cottage

W.I. and friends played "Guess the Name" during the autumn with the result that £50.50 was sent to help the Children's Hospice.

The winners are as follows

Beryl Hunter, Audrey Brand, Margaret Langley, Bill Roberts, Liz Tyler, Rene Kingsley, Caroline Greet, Joy Curtis, Pat Williams, Ann Whorwood, Annette Glenn, Kathy Taylor and Felicity Brown. 13 assorted cuddly beasts have now gone to their new homes.

Sue Hayhurst would like to thank everybody who supported this little fund-raiser so willingly.



CAMPTON PRE-SCHOOL GIVEN “OUTSTANDING” JUDGEMENT FROM OFSTED.

Campton Pre-school has been running for over 30 years from the Village Hall. On the basis of the evidence collected at the OFSTED inspection, the quality and standards of the care are outstanding, and the quality and standards of the nursery education are also outstanding.

The report is split into several sections: Helping children to be healthy; Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe; Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do; Helping children make a positive contribution; organisation; improvements since the last inspection; and complaints.

The organisation was praised for being extremely well organised, where staff are highly motivated and committed to developing their own knowledge and skills to consistently improve the service they offer. All activities are skilfully planned and children are given enough time to enable them to explore, develop and complete their activities. Leadership and management is outstanding. The playleader is very proficient and is supported by an enthusiastic and committed staff team and committee.

A full copy of the report can be seen at www.ofsted.gov.uk. For more details on Campton Pre-school contact Alison on 07812 459969.

News from the Churchwardens, All Saints Campton

As you receive this Newsletter, we will be preparing to say goodbye to Margaret. Her final service at All Saints will be Parish Communion on Sunday 8th January at 11.15, but she will be celebrating a joyful Evening Service at Haynes at 6.00 pm for the Benefice. We cordially invite you to join us for either of these services,

Margaret will be moving to take responsibility for three parishes just north of Peterborough and her Installation service on 31st January in the evening, will be at Barnack Parish Church. We will be arranging for a coach to transport those who would wish to attend this service but would not wish to drive. Please let either of us know if you would like to travel by coach.

At the time of writing, we have no news of who our new Rector will be, but action commences in early February when the Bishop of Bedford and the Archdeacon of Bedford will meet with all three PCCs collectively. The Churchwardens of the three churches are already working closely to ensure a smooth interregnum and appointment of the new incumbent and we will keep you informed via this newsletter.

We will miss Margaret and her Ministry. The Churchwardens, members of the PCC, congregation and community would like to use this medium to publicly thank Margaret for her leadership and encouragement over the past few years. It's not always been an easy ride but we've certainly had some interesting conversations on the way—we thank Margaret for encouraging us to consider wider opportunities and options.

The Advent Ring is growing in its light and on Christmas Day, the central candle, representing the birth of Jesus, will be lit. As we prepare for Christmas, we will be praying for those who cannot be with their families and for those are less fortunate than ourselves. We pray especially for Sue Hayhurst and Jen Luddington as we remember their husbands', Mike and Peter's first anniversary.

We have an exciting time ahead as we move into 2006—we should get our new bells, we will be opening the church for wider community use, such as concerts, and we encourage you all to join in with the life of All Saints in whatever way is most appropriate to you. We start 2006 with a Benefice service, to be held at All Saints at 10.00 am on New Year's Day

With our warmest wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Barry Thompson
Kathy Taylor

Pause for Thought

A New Year means new beginnings, and for me this year that is going to have even greater meaning. So I am going to have to think hard about New Year resolutions—and not just the ones that I make every year and break before the end of January—they're usually about Pringles and chocolate! What I am thinking about are the really important ones—so the one I am going to make this year is to talk more openly about faith—not just about going to church, but about the daily walk with God. And I'm going to start right here.

A real sadness to me is the number of times we have to print the Lord's Prayer, because, especially at weddings, we can't be sure that everyone will be able to say the prayer—either in its traditional or modern form. Yet the whole of our Christian faith is summed up in the first two words of the prayer. Jesus spoke a language called Aramaic and the Lord's Prayer in that language begins with the one word 'Abba'. We have translated it as 'Our Father', but the word actually means 'Daddy'. It is the word a child uses in the familiarity of the home when speaking to a parent. It is not a trivial word but one that implies warmth, trust and love. There seems little doubt that when Jesus taught his followers to pray and told them that the first word was 'Abba', he knew what a shocking thing he was doing. God was all powerful, distant and impersonal. But 'Abba' is just the opposite: close, warm, familiar and even vulnerable—showing us a God that loves each one of us unconditionally, as a parent loves their child. How sad, then, that people no longer pray this prayer daily—or even don't realise it exists to be said. How must God feel that his children don't want to talk to him—how would you feel if your children totally ignored you? I know how I would feel. When did you last pray this prayer outside of the church?

I pray that in the New Year you will come to know this loving God more deeply and from that will spring great happiness.

Margaret

Items for the next Newsletter to be submitted by 15 January 2006
Editor: Jess Sawyers
Email: newsletter-editor@hotmail.co.uk or telephone: 01462 814340

Village Notices

Thank you to everyone who has regularly cleaned the church in Campton during 2005. When the Rural Dean of Bedford, the Rev. Christopher Dent, carried out the annual visitation he remarked how well cared for and loved the church looked.

Thank you also to the small band of ladies who arrange the flowers in church. Should anyone wish to arrange some flowers to mark an occasion which is special to them, such as an anniversary, they should contact Joyce Thompson on 01462 813159. You do not have to be a professional flower arranger, a simple arrangement looks equally beautiful and meaningful.

Joyce Thompson

Why not visit Campton and Chicksands Parish Website, it contains local information, Parish history and much more.

www.camptonandchicksands.org.uk

If there is anything you would like me to add or have any photographs or articles you would like me to display on the website, please contact webmaster@camptonandchicksands.org.uk or telephone Pat Williams on: 01462 814086

Please note that there is a change to the Mobile Library Service, it has been replaced with the new 'library link' bus. It will now call on the 4th Friday of every month. The new times are:

The Glebe: 13.15—13.45

Greenway : 13.50 - 14.10

Pub Quiz Evening—7 December 2005

This was a very successful evening.

The winners were Neville & Co from the White Hart Boules Team.

2nd place went to Nigel & Debbie +2 who gave their winnings to a local charity

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Village Notices

Thank you to my many friends of Campton, especially those at All Saints. For the prayer & support to myself & family, for the love and comfort we received over the last year. Firstly through Peter & Wendy's sudden deaths, and then to myself for my pre and post operation days

Jean Luddington

Recently published book by a Campton Author.

Annette Glenn, writing under the penname Annette Wiloughby, has recently published her second book, titled 'Born Singing' which is the story of a small African village in the mountains of Lesotho, the Kingdom in the Sky, where she has spearheaded a link with a church based Community in the Lowlands, where she and her husband lived for two years. Their culture is rich and fascinating. A non-fiction book which will make you laugh and make you cry. You will feel as though you have been there. The book is also available in the main library in Bedford and in Shefford. ISBN 0-7552-0192-2

If you would like a signed copy - please ring Annette on 01462 850112 for details. Or take a look on Campton Website.

I have now accumulated almost a whole year's worth of Biggleswade Chronicle weekly newspaper columns - which is, I suppose, a year in the life of Campton village. The pile gets ever thicker - would anyone in the village like to own them? I can't bring myself to throw them away. Do we have a historian who would like to collect them? Ring Annette Glenn on 01462 850112

Thank you to everyone in Campton for the splendid displays of Christmas lights—they have really helped to brighten our lives!

Dates for your diary

Church Service times

Sunday 1st January	10.00 am	Benefice Service, All Saint's Campton
Sunday 8th January	11.15 am	Parish Communion
Sunday 15th January	11.15 am	Parish Communion
Sunday 22 January	11.15 am	Parish Communion

Monday 9th January	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall Anyone may attend and listen to the meeting. 15 minutes are allocated from 7.30 until 7.45 pm for members of the public to raise issues with the councillors
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Carpet Bowls takes place in the Village Hall every Thursday from
7.30 pm until 10.00 pm

Line Dancing takes place on Mondays in the Village Hall. Please
contact Barbie on 07837 864406 for more details