

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter

January 2012

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Welcome to the Campton & Chicksands Newsletter
published by the Parish Council

If you have any news or views you wish to share
please contact the Editor - details inside

Pew News

I am writing this article on 16th December, so cast your minds back through the haze of New Year and the thrill of Christmas.

Last Sunday was our lovely family Christingle Service. Many thanks to all who helped make up the Christingles. There is nothing like the candles, oranges and sweets that are such an important way to tell a story. And so starts our Christmas at All Saints.

Today we woke to snow to add to the excitement. The bells were ringing, the Church was warm - and along came a crocodile of buzzing children!! It was great! It was the School Christmas Service. The tree, kindly donated again by Bill Roberts, was decorated in white and silver as a Jesse Tree telling the stories of the Old Testament and up to Christ's Birth, and it looks so pretty.

The Nativity story was told by the children, and the figures paraded down the aisle with the appropriate carol, ending with a carol for all the Children of the World. It was so beautiful.

Tomorrow Karen Mangold is using the Oakley Room to show ten of us how to make a beautiful wreath for our front doors. I know they will be beautiful because I've seen all the lovely decorations Karen is providing!! The Village should look great!

During the week the Church will be dressed for Christmas Eve. Again I say thanks to June and Maisie for their great efforts. I do so hope that as many as possible are able to come to the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols - perhaps also to Communion on Christmas morning.

6th January is the first Coffee and Chat morning of 2012, so see you then.

I am well aware that for many of you Christmas this year is not the happiest time, perhaps you are ill, or lonely or mourning a loved one. You are all in our prayers. May 2012 be a good year for us all!

Sue Hayhurst
Churchwarden

Campton Village Hall Management Committee

Thank you to everyone who has supported the 100 Club by way of assisting with collections and purchasing numbers. We wish you all luck for the year. Based on the number of tickets sold this year, the first prize will be £30, the second prize £20 and the third prize will be £15.

The results of the November and December 2011 100 Club draws are below. By way of reminder the Management Committee meets every other month and so the results will appear on that basis.

100 club winners for November

1st Prize - A Maudlin of Priory Road

2nd Prize - J Hare of Gravenhurst Road

3rd Prize - W Langlely of Greenway

100 club winners for December

1st prize - L Turner of Elm Close

2nd Prize - Mrs Freeman of Greenway

3rd Prize - T Katargamwala of Priory Gate

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those who have supported the Hall in a variety of ways during 2011, from helping with the Management Committee, hiring the hall for functions and events, and taking the bins out!

**Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year
from the Management Committee.**

Katie White

Chair of the Committee

Katie@danandkatie.co.uk

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'Happy New Year to everyone' from Campton W.I.

Many of this year's meetings have been chosen as a result of members' suggestions - we seem to like hearing about our village and what goes on locally, and we like making and doing things. Most of all we enjoy the opportunity to meet, chat and make friends.

"Sir Stanley tells all" This January we are looking forward to the start of our year as Sir Stanley O'Dell is coming to talk about his memories of people, places and happenings in Campton and you are very welcome to come along and take part.

Our 2012 programme is full of local interest and reasonably easy to do activities - in March we will find out how to plant out a hanging basket properly, in April we're going to the Parrish Millennium Barn to find out about the onion growing and bird food production. Later in the year Ian Burton is returning by popular request to talk to us about Papworth village and hospital. Ian is a very amusing and witty speaker. Some of our meetings are open to visitors and we make a charge of £4. This works out at about the same as we pay ourselves for annual membership of the Women's Institute. Membership gives us the opportunity to raise issues of national concern by the passing of a yearly resolution at our national AGM. Recent resolutions have raised awareness of the detention by imprisonment of the mentally ill, the decline of the honey bee and the closure of local libraries. The W.I. has called upon the government to listen, to reconsider and/or to increase funding and the W.I. has a respected voice that is heard. Individuals can be as active as they wish and they are kept informed nationally by a monthly magazine and at county level by a monthly newsletter.

The old Jam and Jerusalem image of the W.I. has probably been shaken off by now and there are new W.I.s springing up, often meeting at lunch time at peoples' workplaces. Membership is younger. A new Broome W.I. started up recently with membership covering a wide age range. In Campton this is not so - we have an older membership and we need to be rejuvenated.

Come along and join us. We intend to celebrate our 90th birthday this year and would welcome new members with some new ideas and outlooks. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Don't just think about it, come along, bring a friend and give us a try.

Anna Maudlin - W.I. Secretary

CAMPTON & CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Speedwatch

In the Parish Plan residents indicated that speeding vehicles in Campton is a major concern. It is now possible for 3-6 volunteers to be trained by the Police to use equipment which registers the speed of vehicles travelling through Campton, following which drivers of any vehicles exceeding the speed limit will receive a letter from the Police. If identified speeding again in the Central Beds area within a specified timescale, they will receive a further letter from the Police plus a fixed penalty notice.

The Parish Council will support the Speedwatch campaign, if sufficient residents are prepared to commit to taking the Police training and carrying out speed checks within the parish.

If no volunteers come forward, the Parish Council will downgrade action priority on speeding vehicles in the parish.

If you are interested in Speedwatch, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Deryck Irons on Deryckirons@aol.com or 01234 268111.

Newsletter delivery

Just to confirm that we have a volunteer who is prepared to deliver the newsletter in Greenway - many thanks!

Parish Councillors

We have not received contact from more residents willing to become Parish Councillors, and the parish council is currently seeking legal advice on whether it can continue to operate with 5 parish councillors instead of the 7 required.

Parish Precept

At the December meeting of the Parish Council it was decided that, due to the current economic difficulties, the precept for the parish (part of the Council Tax figure) will not be increased in Campton & Chicksands for the coming financial year.

**Campton & Chicksands Parish Council wishes everyone
a Happy New Year!**

Carol Sawyers

Chairman, Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

Peter Moody

When Peter and I moved to Campton 25 years ago, the reaction from our London friends and family was utter horror, the verdict being that we would never settle to village life; how wrong they were, it was easy.

Friendliness on all sides and during the last months of Peter's life I have been surrounded with offers of help and comfort, and so many lovely cards.

So I just want to say "Thank You Campton, a village in a million".

Maisie Moody

News from the Tower

During December Charlotte Francis, daughter of Clare (one of our ringers), has started to learn to ring. It's looking very good so far - she should be very pleased with herself and she's close to being able to ring Campton's treble bell unassisted! More later.....

These visitors are coming to ring at Campton during January:

Saturday, January 14, Rev James Croft (Chesterfield),
peal attempt, 10am to 1pm approx.

Saturday, January 28, Biggleswade District ringers,
peal attempt, 10am to 1pm approx.



Campton Lower School

After a very enjoyable Christmas season, everyone at Campton Lower is ready for more exciting learning this term.

We wish everyone in the Parish a Happy New Year for 2012

Afternoon Browsers

We are a book club that meets in the afternoon on the first Wednesday of the month from 2p.m.-3.30/4p.m. and we have room for new members. We either take it in turns to meet in members' houses or in the Library at Shefford.

This month we are reading *Wuthering Heights*. This is a second or third time read for some of us, so it will be interesting to see how we see it after its first romantic impact. Last month the book was 'The Little Stranger' by Sarah Waters. We select books either from a list supplied by the Librarians or from ones members have sitting waiting on their bookshelves.

If you are interested in giving us a try, please ring Carole on 01462 628853.

Alpha Course

The churches of Campton, Clophill and Haynes are going to run an Alpha Course which will be open to everyone, those who have been Christians for many years as well as those interested in discovering what Christianity is all about. It will be on Tuesday evenings from 24th January to 27th March at Clophill House, Clophill. The evenings start with supper at 7.00pm.

Not sure this is for you?

Join us at the 'Taster Evening' on Tuesday, 17th January from 7.00 - 8.30pm, at Clophill House for 'nibbles' and more information.

For further details, telephone:-

Audrey Brand on 01462 850001; Katie Hicks on 01525 861997
or Christopher Strong on 01462 819274

Further information about the Parish, including its history, diary dates, travel information, local walks and much more, can be found on the Parish website - so why not visit

www.camptonandchicksands.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

Friday, 6 th January	10.00am - noon	Coffee & Chat All Saints Church
Wednesday, 4 th January	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall
Wednesday, 11 th January	7.30pm	WI Meeting "Campton - then and now" by Sir Stanley O'Dell Village Hall

Campton & Chicksands Coffee & Chat

Open the First Friday of Every Month - 10am till 12noon

Hosted by All Saints' Church, Rectory Road, Campton.

Friday 6th January - Why not drop in and unwind after Christmas?

Whitbread Wanderbus Service to Shefford Health Centre on Tuesday afternoons

Route W16 started in July, offering a service on Tuesday afternoons linking the villages with Shefford Health Centre.

The times for the routes are:	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3
Shefford Health Centre	2.40 p.m.	4.00 p.m.	5.20 p.m.
Campton Church	2.54 p.m.	4.14 p.m.	5.34 p.m.
Greenway	2.55 p.m.	4.15 p.m.	5.35 p.m.
Shefford Health Centre	3.09 p.m.	4.29 p.m.	5.49 p.m.

Fare £1.50 single / Bus pass holders free

If you intend to travel back on the final run, please ensure your appointment gives you plenty of time, in case the doctor/nurse is delayed.

Items for the next Newsletter should be submitted
to the Editor by the 15th January 2012

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