

Campton and Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter November 2009



Curly's Seat – details inside

Welcome to the Campton and Chicksands Newsletter Published by the Parish Council

Have you got an event happening next month that needs including
in the Diary of Events?

Is there something you want to share with the rest of the community?

Let people know your news and views by contacting the editor.

Please let me know if you wish to submit an item.

This should then be submitted by the 15th of the
month prior to publication.

Malcolm J Willis, 1, Gravenhurst Road, Campton, SG17 5NY

Tel: 812747 or Email: malcolmjwillis@btinternet.com

Stephen [Curly] Blundell – 1941-2008

Over 200 people had attended Curly's funeral, raising £1,300 for Cancer Research in his honour. Curly had been gamekeeper for the Campton estate for over 20 years. Many also wanted to remember him in a more permanent way and had given for a bench in his name. On Friday 16 October, family and friends met at Curly's Bench, at a site provided by Sir Stanley Odell overlooking the small wood where his ashes have been scattered. The front cover photo shows his two sons, Mark and David, seated together with his granddaughter Hannah. Behind them from left to right are Jenny Bowman (friend), Nicky Blundell (daughter-in-law), Spingo (a friend the same age as Curly who had come from Southampton), Les Odell ("under keeper"), Richard Common (Chalkie's son), Scott Bowman (long time friend of the family), Beryl Wright (Home help and "sparring partner in life"), Chalkie (friend and Best Man at Curly's and Sheila's wedding), Ron ("another drinking and fishing friend"), Sir Stanley Odell, Ann Mortimer (Landlady of the Brewer's Tap – "one of Curly's many drinking holes") and Andy Burr (present gamekeeper).

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

At the October meeting of Campton & Chicksands Parish Council we were delighted to learn from PCSO Gill Richardson that there had been no recorded crimes for Campton & Chicksands in September, and only one recorded theft from the DISC base. There were, however, 11 recorded incidents, mainly road traffic or noise.

Our local police, based at Shefford are making a real effort to get to know the problems in each of the villages, and took away from the meeting the concerns relating to speeding in Greenway and parking in Rectory Road. Bedfordshire Police are continuing their presence in Campton and Chicksands, with regular visits by the Mobile Police Station. PCSO Gill Richardson and her colleagues try to visit Truman Place, Chicksands and Rectory Road, Campton on a monthly basis (it has been the last Friday of each month, 11 a.m. to 12 noon at Chicksands and 2-3 p.m. at Campton). Please do go along and see them if you have any concerns or information – it's confidential. If the Mobile Police Station does not arrive, it is due to an emergency somewhere in the area, and you can reach the local Police – PC Steve Busby, PCSO Gill Richardson and PCSO Rachel Keen, on 01234 842567.

There are still problems with drivers ignoring the 40 mph speed limits on the A507 near Campton and Chicksands, and the Police will be taking suitable action in the near future.

To contact the Clerk to Campton & Chicksands Parish Council, please ring Deryck Irons on 01234 268111.

Carol Sawyers, Chairman.

The Rector writes ...

Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15.13

At a recent training day for the clergy in this area, the visiting speaker, the Bishop of Lichfield reported to us something he had recently heard elsewhere: that the Armed Forces were just about the only institution in this country which still held the widespread respect of a majority of the population. His argument was of course that the Church of England is not held in as high a regard as the Forces. Jesus of course did not come to earth in order to create institutions, and there is a very cogent argument to be made that Christianity flourishes best when its place in society is less than secure.

The Armed Forces are necessarily an institution and their effectiveness depends on a highly structured and defined role. There has been much in the news lately about the relationship between the armed forces and the Government. The defence of the realm is of course inevitably a hugely political issue; it would be naïve to think otherwise. The forces have to do their job in a highly charged political milieu whilst dodging the rows between individual political parties – this has always been the case of course, the Bible gives us some useful illustrations of that.

Amidst all the news of political rows about the Forces, there has been a steady stream of our young men returning home in coffins. The pictures on our televisions of young men and the very occasional young woman cut down in the prime of their lives make for very sombre viewing indeed. In amongst all the political to and fro, here is the very human cost of war, writ large almost weekly on our television screens.

This month the nation remembers this human cost above all, and hopefully the party political rows are put to one side albeit briefly.

I have never ministered in a town or city centre parish; so my experience of Remembrance Sunday as a clergyman, has always been in a suburban or village setting. Standing in silence in front of a list of local names, it seems to me the most powerful reminder of the dreadful human cost of war. It strikes me as being the very least I can do in recognition of such sacrifice.

The exact details of the Remembrance Sunday services are detailed elsewhere in this magazine; so suffice to say that there is a service in each parish in the morning that day, with an Act of Remembrance timed for 11am. The children from the schools in Clophill & Haynes will be involved in leading the prayers at the memorials in those villages on Armistice Day, also with an Act of Remembrance timed for 11am.

It is crucial in a democracy that we are able to freely debate the justification and advisability of particular military campaigns; but that is not what this vital time of Remembrance is about at all. On Remembrance Sunday and on Armistice Day it is our duty to remember the human cost of countless men and women who gave their young lives in the service of their country.

With every blessing

Dean Henley

News from the Pews

5th October was Harvest Festival Sunday in Campton. It was a lovely happy day; the Church was looking at its best. Decorated overall in beautiful formal arrangements by June, Maisie and Joyce. The gaps were filled with crab apple boughs, and peppers and onions given by Graham. A basket of superb apples came from Stan and vegetables from Waggy. We are so grateful for these generous gifts.

Morning service was Communion and the alter was dressed with the traditional bread and grapes. The loaf – a sheaf of corn complete with mouse, was made by Felicity – thank you. The Vicar reminded us of our responsibilities to give to those with no water or food or shelter. We take so much for granted.

The Bishop's appeal this year is towards the provision of water to Ethiopian villages.

Evensong was the later service, and we enjoyed the small choir's Anthem and traditional harvest hymns. The collection was for the Bishop's Appeal instead of ticket money for the harvest supper that followed. Thank you to everyone who brought a contribution for the finger buffet.

The children of our school have their Harvest Service in Church on Wednesday. All the produce will find a very good home. Thank you to everyone who gave in any way.

Sue Hayhurst

At our September Family Praise service, we heard about the work of *Operation Christmas Child*, an initiative run by Christian organisation, *Samaritan's Purse*. They coordinate gifts for the world's most disadvantaged children. These gifts are packed into a shoebox – it's amazing how much you can get in!!! We have decided that we will send gifts, which will then be sent by land train to where they are most needed. The gifts include what we think of a 'basics' – soap, toothbrush, as well as educational items such as paper and pens. Other items are small toys, warm hats and socks, sweets and stickers. Boxes are prepared for either

a boy or a girl in age bands of 2 – 4 years, 5 – 9 years and 10 – 14 years. We heard that the youngest group of boys don't do as well as girls. If you would like to either make up a box or donate **new** items towards another one, please contact either Audrey (850001) or myself by 6 November.

Our services for November will be as follows:

1st	11am	Parish Communion (followed by extraordinary General Meeting to elect a Churchwarden) Deanery Evensong
	6pm	
8th	10.50am	Remembrance Sunday service
15th	11am	Parish Communion
22nd	8am	Communion from the Book of Common Prayer Family Praise
	11am	
29th	10am	Benefice Advent Carol Service at Clophill

Kathy Taylor, Churchwarden, (Tel: 816108).

Campton Lower School - Harvest Festival



On Wednesday 7th October the whole school visited "All Saints" Church in Campton for our annual Harvest festival. There was a short service, which was led by Reverend Dean Henley and Mrs. Audrey Brand, and was also attended by many parents, carers and families.



The children generously donated various food items as a Harvest offering to the Homeless Refuge in Bedford or donated money for "Water Aid". An amount of £30.55 was gratefully raised.



Campton Village Hall - 100 Club

The 100 Club winners for October 2009 were:

1st Prize: £50. A. Hardie
 2nd Prize: £30. A. Green
 3rd Prize: £20. B. Morrish

Katie White, Chair of the Committee.

News from the Tower

Our excellent new ring of bells are rung every Sunday, usually from 10.30am to 11.00am, for morning service. After a quiet summer, our bells are once again in demand with visitors from elsewhere in the county.

Sat, Oct 31, 2pm to 5pm, Bedfordshire Association Young Ringers Training Afternoon.

Mon, Nov 3, 3.30pm – 6.30pm, full peal, Bedford area ringers

Thur, Nov 24, 1.30pm – 4.30pm, full peal, North Bedfordshire ringers

We are keen to teach some new ringers. Anyone between the ages of 10 and 70 can be a bellringer. We practice on Tuesday evenings 7.30pm to 9pm. Come along to see us and talk to other people who've learnt to ring, they'll tell you all about it. We may even buy you a beer afterwards!

John Loveless

Campton Baby and Toddler Group Quiz Night

**Sat 21st November 7.30pm,
Campton Village Hall.**

**£3.50 per person,
or £6.50 to include a fish and chip supper.**

Max team size 6.

**Tickets available from
Marion Carpenter, 01462 857957.**

**Please let Marion know by the 17th if you
would like a supper.**

Beat the (credit) freeze this winter

If you are getting poor returns on your investments, why not try energy saving? One of the biggest savers, cavity wall insulation, is very likely to cost nothing if you are 70 or over. Energy Saving Trust estimates that simple changes could save most households £300 a year. Try the on-line home energy check at www.est.org.uk/check see if this applies to you, or call 0800 512 012.

This article was produced by United Sustainable Energy Agency (USEA). Contact: Gordon Glass, Marketing Co-ordinator.

Email: gordon.glass@usea.org.uk

The information contained within this article is correct to the best of our knowledge, but is subject to change. USEA cannot in any way be held legally responsible for any advice given or any work carried out as a result of this information.

Carpet Bowls

This season we have been trying an experiment to “please all the people all the time”! And we have failed. We need your help. The problem is: afternoon play (2pm - 4pm) or evening play (7.30pm - 9.30pm) or indeed both sessions on a Thursday. We need a minimum of 8 players at each session to cover the cost of the hall.

PLEASE will everyone who is interested in playing let me know when you would prefer to play. No special equipment is needed (no high heels tho!), and you need never have played bowls before.

At present we pay £2 for a 2-hour session, this includes tea and biscuits. Everyone is welcome to just come and watch: 2pm - 4pm on Thursdays in the village hall. Please, if you are interested, do respond to Sue Hayhurst, 10A Gravenhurst Road, Tel. No. 811849. Thank you.

Estimated yearly savings from energy saving improvements	£s
Loft insulation when none	150
Cavity wall insulation	115
Thermostat turned down 1°C *	55
Loft insulation top up to 270mm	45
A/A+ fridge freezer	36
Hot water tank jacket	35
Appliances taken off standby	33
Tumble drying stopped in summer	15
A/A+ dishwasher	12
Clothes washed at 30°C	10
Energy saving bulb	2.5
Source: Energy Saving Trust, Oct 2009	
* Older persons should keep their sitting room at 21°C	

Diana, Sally and Sarah
request the pleasure of your company at a

COFFEE MORNING

In aid of

**St John's Hospice,
Moggerhanger**

**On Thursday 5th November
2009**

10.30am to 12.30pm

**At the Millennium Barn, First Lodge Farm,
Chicksands, Bedfordshire. SG17 5QB**

**Bring and Buy, Plants, Vegetables,
Christmas Cards, Raffle**

Admission £1
Please bring your friends

**Sue Ryder Care is a charity registered in
England and Wales (1052076)
and in Scotland (SC039578)**

Parish Newsletter Diary of Events for November

Mon	2	9.55am - 10.15am	Library Link - home delivery service only, The Glebe.
Wed	4	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall.
Thu	5	10.30am - 12.30pm	Coffee Morning in aid of St. John's Hospice, Millennium Barn, First Lodge Farm, Chicksands
Sat	7	9am 2.30pm	Shefford Farmer's Market, High Street. Campton v Wilshamstead, Recreation Ground
Wed	11	7.30pm	Women's Institute
Sat	14	2.30pm	Campton Res v Kempston, Recreation Ground
Mon	16	9.55am - 10.15am	Library Link - home delivery service only, The Glebe.
Thu	19	10.25am - 10.45am	Library Link, Greenway.
Sat	21	7.30pm	Campton Baby and Toddler Group Quiz Night, Village Hall
Wed	25	8.15pm	Charity Quiz Night, White Hart.
Fri	27	11am-12noon 2pm-3pm	Mobile Police Station, Truman Place, Chicksands. Mobile Police Station, Rectory Road, Campton.
Sat	28	2.30pm	Campton v Sharnbrook, Recreation Ground.
Mon	30	9.55am - 10.15am	Library Link - home delivery service only, The Glebe.

See '**News from the Pews**' for details of Church services and group meetings.

Also:

Mondays	7.00pm	Aerobics, Village Hall.
Tuesdays	3.40pm	Children's dance classes, Village Hall.
	8.30pm	Darts Winter League, White Hart.
Wednesdays	3.50pm	Children's dance classes, Campton Lower School.
Thursdays	2.00pm	Carpet Bowls, Village Hall.
	8.30pm	Dominoes, White Hart.
Fridays	9.30am	Margaret's Walks, Greenway.
	10.00am	Baby and Toddler, Village Hall.

Additional articles and further information about the Parish, including its history, diary dates, walks etc., is available on the website.

<http://www.camptonandchicksands.org.uk>