

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter

October 2011



Campton Plantation

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

The Rector writes ...

It was a Christian, William Wilberforce, who led the way to make slavery illegal in this country. Slavery was an integral part of the culture and economy during biblical times and although Jesus insists that slaves are treated fairly he does not condemn the practice outright. Our ethical and moral values are something which have evolved throughout the ages and no doubt that process will continue.

The news that 26 men had been discovered in appalling conditions of slavery in Leighton Buzzard was somewhat eclipsed by the news the same day of the ceremonies to mark the 10th anniversary of the Terrorist Attacks in the USA.

Slavery is something which we often think of as a phenomenon of the past or at least not something which impinges upon our shores. Sadly, the reality is all too different. Many young Eastern European women think they are coming to Britain to work in shops or hotels, only to find that their passports have been confiscated by those bringing them here; and that they are forced to work in brothels instead. A charity in London works solely with those who have been brought here as domestic servants by their overseas wealthy or diplomat employers, and who have run away from the abusive conditions akin to slavery that they are forced to work in. Their employers are often adept in using their wealth or diplomatic status to evade the law here.

Apparently, the men released from their captivity in Leighton Buzzard were mainly of English birth and were particularly vulnerable because they had learning difficulties, were homeless or alcoholics.

I'm sure we all pray that the men released from slavery in Leighton Buzzard will receive all the help and support they need from skilled and caring professionals, to help them build an independent and happy life. Let us also pray that those in the world with the authority to do so will do all that they can to stamp out slavery and to afford every human being the dignity their status as a child of God deserves.

With every blessing
Dean Henley

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

Help needed - we still need to recruit two more parish councillors. The current five councillors are all from Campton - would anyone from Chicksands like to join us?

What does the parish council do? It looks after the Recreation Ground, some of the street lighting, grass cutting around Campton, is consulted on planning matters by Central Beds Council and is kept informed of all issues affecting residents of Campton & Chicksands (education, police etc.). Current projects include new seats and benches for Campton (yes - we have the agreement with Central Beds at long last!), new signs for the Recreation Ground, and lots more.....

If you would like further information, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Deryck Irons, on 01234 268111 or Deryckirons@aol.com

Police - from 26th September we will be able to access 101, the national non-emergency telephone number for Police. The current non-emergency number (01234 841212) will be phased out and should not be used. Calls to 101 will cost 15p per call, no matter how long you are on the phone - this applies to landlines and mobile phones.

Continue to call 999 in an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.

Jubilee celebrations - first plans for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in Campton & Chicksands are underway. If you are interested in helping organise this event - please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Deryck Irons, on the contact details above, and he will be able to tell you when the next (very informal) meeting will take place.

Carol Sawyers

Chairman, Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

Campton Village Hall Management Committee

100 Club

Collections for the 2011/12 100 Club are now starting and residents may remember from the June Parish Newsletter an appeal for help to run this year's 100 Club. The 100 Club is one of the valuable ways in which the Village Hall Management Committee raise revenue to support the operation of the Village Hall. 100 Club Subscription cost is £12.00 for the year for a 100 Club number, and a minimum of half of the total proceeds are allocated as prizes. The remainder of the funds raised go into village hall funds. Twelve consecutive prize draws are undertaken from all 100 club numbers. The Committee is now meeting every other month, so instead of monthly draw's a double draw will happen at each Village Hall Committee meeting. It is intended that the first draw will take place in November.

Due to a lack of help to administer this year's 100 Club, it will not be possible to visit all houses in Campton and Chicksands. Whether you are a current 100 Club member, or someone interested in joining the 100 Club, please contact me on the contact details below if you wish to join the 100 club. It is not possible for the Committee to visit everyone personally as we have frequently done in previous years, so if you do not hear from a collector then please do contact me directly to secure your 100 Club number, which will support the village hall and give you an opportunity to win prize money.

Appeal for help

There are vacancies on the Committee and we really do need support from the community to secure and sustain the future of the Village Hall. The current size of the Committee does need to increase to enable the work required to support the Village

Hall to be shared out in a more sustainable manner. The Committee meets every other month and it is a great opportunity to offer something back to the local community. If anyone would like more information about taking part please do contact me. We are of course still in need of specific help is needed to administer and set up the 100 Club, if this is something you can assist with please contact me urgently.

Katie White

Chair of the Committee

01462 812552

Katie@danandkatie.co.uk

News from the Tower

Some Camptonians have commented on how they liked the 'half muffled' ringing they heard recently. We tie muffles on to one side of each bell clapper to create this effect and it marks occasions of sadness. This half muffled ringing was to mark the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the US on September 11 2001.

These visitors are coming to ring at Campton during October:

Saturday, October 8,

Biggleswade District Ringers Training, 1.45pm to 4.45pm.

Saturday, October 22, peal attempt,

Northants Ringers, 2.00pm to 5.00pm. approx

Monday, October 24, quarter peal attempt,

Biggleswade area ringers, 7.45pm to 9.00pm approx

News from the Pews

Now that the children are back at school and the fields are bare ready for next year's crops, we shall be celebrating Harvest Festival. The end of summer, the beginning of the next farming year.

All summer the Church has been busy too. We've been so pleased with the success of the monthly Coffee & Chat mornings and the September event was for the Macmillan Nursing Service. Every year 'The Big Coffee Morning' is held all over the country and last year was our first time joining in.

Malcolm has put such energy into these mornings, supported by a very enthusiastic team. We reckon between 60-70 people came to help us raise **£530!** We thank everyone who helped in any way for this great result. Believe me - those who wash up are just as important as those who make cakes, bring items for sale or sweep up the crumbs afterwards. It was great to see the children batting balloons up and over the pews! Thank you.

In the middle of August a tin was left in the Church porch - it contained a lot of small coinage. I would so like to thank the donor personally and find out to which fund they would like me to gift it to. Please contact me - 811849.

You may have noticed at the beginning of September the men on the roof. Once again the gutters needed cleaning and tiles replacing. Unfortunately when the downpipes were being cleared three were found to be split, so they needed to be replaced. Next it is the tower roof, then the damp walls! So you can see where the money goes.

By the time you read this Deborah and Kathryn will have treated us to the Armchair Traveller's view of South America; I just know that will have been a good evening.

The Church will be open all day on Saturday, 5th November 2011. This is the weekend of our Patronal Day, All Saints Day. We are organising a Craft Day for then. ALSO it will be the Church annual Gift Day, upon which we rely to pay the vicars of the Church, and the drainpipes!!!. Please be generous.

Sue Hayhurst - Churchwarden

Children's Society Boxes

Now that October is fast approaching, it is the time for me to collect all the Boxes held in the Parish for the "Big Count". This year two long-standing boxholders have very sadly died, and another has withdrawn, so we shall be down in our total.

The Society does such good work for the children of the UK, especially in the inner cities - and we all saw what unoccupied youth can do when they are bent on destruction.

PLEASE if any of you would like to find a good home for your loose change, contact me, **Sue Hayhurst on 811849**, and I will bring you a Box - Thank you.

NEARLY NEW SALE

Saturday, 22nd October 2011

Shefford Community Hall : 1.00 - 3.00 pm

Sellers : £5 per table / Buyers : £1 per person

Early Bird (from 12.30pm) : £2 per person

For more details or to book a table ring

Marion 857957 or Vickey 814307

Light refreshments available

Proceeds to Campton Baby and Toddler Group

Campton Baby and Toddler Group

The start of term has been a busy one at Campton Baby and Toddler Group - everyone was eager to get back into a routine after the long summer break! This term we have lots of autumn activities planned including messy play with autumn windfall items (such as crunchy leaves, sycamore helicopters and pine cones) and on the craft table we will be creating scarecrows and autumn collages plus many more. Festivals we will be celebrating this term include Halloween (with a fancy dress party at our session on 21 October), bonfire night, Diwali and, of course, Christmas!

On 4 November 'All Fairy Things' will be visiting the group. All Fairy Things is a local company which offers fabulous gifts, from stocking fillers to larger presents. The quality merchandise is truly irresistible and is offered at prices to suit your pocket. What better way to complete your Christmas shopping list without having to suffer the town centre crowds? Perfect!

We also have a photographer visiting the group on 2 December. Klair Tofts Photography is another local business and Klair has had success with doing portraits for all the Tumble Tots sessions throughout Bedfordshire. Klair offers various packages at very reasonable prices and she will have all orders ready for Christmas. So if you're looking for that 'something special' type of present, come along on 2 December and get a photo of your little one.

Campton Baby and Toddler Group are holding two major fundraising events this term. On 22 October we will be holding a Nearly New Sale selling babies' and children's toys, clothes and equipment at Shefford Community Hall (next to the chip shop) between 1pm and 3pm. Tables at this event cost £5 and entry as a buyer will be £1 on the door.

If you would like to sell at this event please contact Haley 07843 665661 (please book early to avoid disappointment as stall numbers are limited!)

On 12 November we will be holding our largest fundraising event of the year - our Ladies' Pamper Evening. This was a HUGE success last year and tickets sold out fast! The event will be held in Campton Village Hall from 7pm - 10pm. Entry is by ticket only at a cost of £5 (with free glass of wine or soft drink). There are also stalls still available (though not many, so hurry!). For enquiries about hiring a stall at this event please contact Marion 01462 857957 and if you would like to purchase a ticket please contact Vickey 01462 814307

Marion Carpenter

Chairperson, Campton Baby and Toddler Group

Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

Bedfordshire Police are reminding you to remain vigilant in your local area as the darker nights draw in. Remember to lock all doors and windows and not leave anything on view to potential offenders. Park in well lit areas and always try to be aware of your surroundings. If you see or hear anything suspicious call into control room on 01234 841212 or 999 in the event of a emergency. Your safer neighbourhood team can be contacted on 01234 842567 or

SNT.SheffordStotfold&Arlesey@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk should you wish to discuss anything which concerns you as a local resident.

Late News from Police

Just received information from Bedfordshire Police which states that 'from October 2011 there will be new changes which will see the number of police officers dedicated to local policing double from 92 to 185. This means a larger number of officers will be available to tackle local crime, anti-social behaviour and other community concerns while PCSOs will carry out more patrols.

There will no longer be any geographic boundaries or divisions separating communities. Instead a Chief Superintendent will oversee Local Policing while another will be responsible for Tackling Crime.

Through reorganisation, the Force and the Police Authority will speed up response times. A new centralised team will respond to incidents county-wide so officers will get to where they are needed more quickly as well as save money. Meanwhile a greater number of incidents will be resolved over the telephone thanks to a new appointment system for non-emergency issues.

A new three digit non-emergency number will be introduced in the autumn, after which time all you will need to dial is 101 for non-urgent situations.'

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

Campton & Chicksands Coffee & Chat

On behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 2nd September. So far we have raised **£534.85**.

So many people baked cakes, provided wonderful items for the Bring and Buy and worked so hard on the day helping set up, keeping people supplied with drinks and cakes, and clearing away afterwards. It was a wonderful, enjoyable morning.

Our next Coffee & Chat is on **Friday October 7th**.

Also, please make a note in your diary of our special Coffee & Chat morning on **Friday November 4th** when people will be able to make a donation to **HELP FOR HEROES**.

Help raise money for the **James Whale Fund for Kidney Cancer**
by joining

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST

Curry Party

at The White Hart, Campton on Saturday 15th October 2011
from 7:30 pm

Enjoy a **Traditional Indian Meal** for just £10 per person

Entertainment by

The Emma Robbins Band

with a special Guest Appearance by Kate Robbins

Tickets are available

at The White Hart or from Julia Greet 07773 505 673

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 5 th October	7.45 pm	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall
Friday, 7 th October	10.00 am - noon	Coffee & Chat All Saints Church
Saturday, 15 th October	7.30 pm	Curry Party James Whale Fund The White Hart
Saturday, 22 nd October	1.00 - 3.00 pm	Nearly New Sale Baby & Toddler Group Shefford Community Hall
Friday, 4 th November	10.00 am - noon	Coffee & Chat 'Help for Heroes' All Saints Church
Saturday, 5 th November	All Day	Craft Day / Gift Day All Saints Church
Saturday, 12 th November	7.00 pm	Ladies' Pamper Evening Baby & Toddler Group Village Hall

Items for the next Newsletter should be submitted
to the Editor by the 15th October 2011

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