

COLLINGTREE NEWS

May 2013

STILL GOING STRONG

This is the 34th issue of the Collingtree Newsletter since it appeared in its current format in July 2010. Since then some 16,000 copies have been delivered to the 450 homes in the parish by a team of tireless volunteers.

In a sometimes uncaring world, it is good to report that the clubs, groups and associations that make up the Collingtree community, all seem to be thriving. The Collingtree name is once again attached to the Women's Institute branch, the Cricket Club has many more parish members than it used to and is doing well in its league, the Tennis Club has some of the best floodlighting in the county, from a standing start the Pub Skittles team is fourth in its league, and there are hopes for Junior Football at the Playing Field later this year. Village Room bookings are at an all time high with events from Fish & Chip Suppers to Karate classes, Allotment Association membership is rising and the Adult Art Group has a record number of participants at its weekly sessions. The Parish Council is in good shape and now has representatives from both the Village and Collingtree Park.

Historically, Collingtree village has revolved around the three foundations of Church, Pub and School and as illustrated below, all three are in good heart.



St Columba's

St Columba's Church has been at the centre of the Collingtree community for almost 900 years and is the likely origin of the village name. The building underwent a major restoration in the 1860's when Northampton Brewer, Pickering Phipps, built his family home 'The Grange' nearby and became a patron of both church and village.

Since 2010, Collingtree has been part of a joint benefice with Courteenhall, Ashton, Hartwell and Roade under the ministry of Rev. Mike Burton, based at Roade.

Regular services and the continuity of church work has been maintained with the help of the Church Wardens and Parochial Church Council. The creation of the 'Friends' fundraising group has raised extra finance to help maintain the church fabric.



Wooden Walls pub

Sue Blackman, who will be the new 'mine host' at the Wooden Walls, writes:

"On 2nd May my sister Karen and I take over at the 'Walls'. We both have experience in food, hospitality and business and believe that the pub should be at the centre of village life - as it was when we grew up. We will be sending a questionnaire around the village, which will be also available on a new website, asking what you want from your pub. ***We will be closing the pub (sorry about that) from the 2nd, until we reopen on Saturday 11th May having carried out some refurbishment - including to the ladies loos!*** At the reopening we will get a chance to talk about our plans, and get your views. ***We look forward to seeing you there.***



Collingtree Primary School

The original School House complete with bell tower, was built in 1861. Before that there had been a small Dame School teaching the Lord's Prayer, good manners and lace making.

In 1970 there were still only 41 pupils but since the building of a new modern school on what was the South Lawn of 'The Grange' the numbers have grown steadily and now has around 170 children.

During 2011, the school celebrated its 150th birthday with dancing and music by pupils followed by a Fete with games, competitions and a photographic display.

A new Head Teacher, Sonia Clews, joined the school in 2011 and has been very keen to strengthen its links both with the village community and St Columba's.

ST COLUMBA'S +

The Collingtree PCC AGM

At the meeting held on 2nd April Chaired by Rev Mike Burton, the following were elected to serve for the coming year.

Church Wardens: Peter Skinner & John Green.

PCC Secretary: Peter Skinner

PCC Treasurer: Pam Jackson

Electoral Officer: Joanna Edmunds

Deanery Rep: Chris Wright

PCC Members: Fay Tennet, Mick Marsh, Ann Marsh, Rod Sellers.

Rev. Mike Burton thanked all who work so hard to support the church including flower arranging, cleaning, fund raising by the 'Friends' and links with the school.



Church Wardens

John Green 6 Watering Lane 763468

Peter Skinner 'Lynton' Barn Corner 768394

Deputy Warden

Chris Wright 8 Watering Lane 761930

Services for May

5th May

6pm Evening Prayer

12th May

9am Parish Communion

19th May

10am Morning Praise

26th May

10.30am Family Service

Church Flowers

May 11th - May 18th

Mrs P Gosling(A) Mrs P Wright(M)

May 25th - June 1st

Mrs B Jones (A) Mrs J Clamp(M)

SALCEY BENEFICE MINISTER: REVEREND MIKE BURTON 862284

	Ashton	Courteenhall	Hartwell	Roads
5th May	9.30am Morning Prayer	9.15am Parish Communion	10.30am All Age Service	10.30am Lighthouse
12th May	10.30am Sunday School	10.30am Morning Prayer	10am Morning Praise	10.30am All Age Service 6.30pm Benefice Youth
19th May	10.30am All Age Service		9.15am Parish Communion	10.30am Morning Praise & Sunday School Club
26th May	8.15 Holy Communion	10.30am Informal Service	10am Morning Praise	9.15 Parish Communion

My Friend Margaret

Millions of words have been written following the death of Britain's greatest peacetime Prime Minister. **Baroness (Jill) Knight of Collingtree** knew her well and gives this personal tribute together with a little known anecdote.

"Margaret entered Parliament 6 years before I did but we fought similar battles to get there. After failing to win difficult seats we both were adopted by traditional Conservative constituencies. She welcomed me to the House of Commons and helped me in every possible way. Many will remember Janet Brown - a successful and clever actress and mimic.

Many years ago Janet and I had been in cabaret together and as I knew she admired Margaret, I arranged for them to meet. We were invited round to tea and the pair got on famously. In no time at all, Janet became 'Mrs Thatcher' on TV enjoyed by millions - including Margaret. Janet was always very careful to make sure that her portrayal was never unfair. Janet died last year. I gave the eulogy at her memorial and now I grieve to have lost two dear friends.

Margaret was a lady of great courage, extraordinary abilities and strong Christian beliefs. She was immensely kind and thoughtful to everyone who worked for her, but still found time for those with

entirely different aims and talents. We shall not see another to match her."



VILLAGE ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIAL GROUPS

Allotment Association

New research has shown that on average, anyone who has an allotment is at least a stone lighter than their neighbours. So the message is clear. Dig your way to fitness and a trim waistline - and shed a stone at the allotment.

For details of plot availability, contact Graeme Joll 767277

Neighbourhood Watch

The NW Coordinator is Fay Tennet on 765742.

The Safer Communities Team number is 0300 111 222 or if urgent on 999

Milton & Collingtree Women's Institute

The next meeting is on Thursday 9th May at Milton Malsor Village Hall at 7.30pm. Under discussion will be 'Resolutions' for the year and a Social Evening will follow. The competition is entitled 'May Day'.

This years outing is on June 15th and is to Kew Gardens. Total cost is £23 so why not join us ?

The Branch will be hosting a recording of BBC's Radio 4 programme 'Gardeners Question Time' during October at Milton Village Hall. More details to follow in later Newsletters.

More details from Ann Marsh 766060

Medicine Collection

Weeks commencing:

6th May

Joanna Edmunds 761759

13th & 20th May

Jo Clamp 761349

27th May

Helen Pearce 07590 037090

The Collection Service for medicines from Roade and Blisworth Surgeries has operated on a voluntary Rota basis for many years. Additional volunteers are always needed and if you would like to help please contact:

Coordinator: Shirley Flight 764433

SPORTS CLUBS

Cricket Club

The Club has mainly home matches during May which normally begin at 2pm on Sunday afternoons. On 5th May the opposition is Braybrooke. On the 12th, Old. On 19th, Farthingstone and on the 26th, Huncote. If you are interested in joining the team, please come along to the nets or contact: *Karen Hopkins kahopkins66@yahoo.co.uk* or call Mark Underwood 07834 518760

Pub Skittles

The team cemented 4th spot in the final league table with a last day victory over the Bakers Arms Bugbrooke 37 -30. Of the 9 matches we had 6 winners with special mention for Ade Flowers and Dave Rose, whose 5 - 1 wins set up the victory.

The whole team is now looking forward to the fours and doubles competition that will run through from the middle of

May and, more importantly, their annual social event - an evenings Racing at Towcester on May 24th.

To get involved call Mark Underwood 07834 518760

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

tessajtaylor@icloud.com

PARISH CLERK: TESS TAYLOR 07729784653

The 2013 Annual Parish/Public Meeting:

The APM was held on 17th April and included a report from the Police. A system for monitoring traffic numbers and speeds had been used in Watering Lane between 4th to 11th April (8 days) and 13,000 vehicles had used the road and 89 cases of speeding had been noted.

Planning Matters : (Park and Ride) A reference in some NCC papers suggests that the proposal is not going forward but clearer information is being sought. There is still no further news about the tidying up of the A45 lay-by. **(Golf Course Development)** On the 24th April the proposal that would allow building on the SUE 5 site was examined by a Planning Inspector. It was impressed on him that this was the most difficult of the SUE's put forward and that the main concerns of current and ongoing flooding and future traffic chaos, would be difficult to overcome. However, the various folk who were for the development, were equally sure that all would be well—

although an independent planning expert argued that it should be thrown out. It is difficult to know what the Inspector will do, but he has offered to walk the area to look at the possible drainage and flooding issues. His decision is not now anticipated until he has considered answers from the WNJPU to legal questions raised earlier in the Examination. These questions, which were reported in the press, related to how thoroughly and impartially the WNJPU had done its work. Their response may not be considered until September and then could mean more delay for further consultation. This delay does not prevent Bovis from making a planning application but the Inspector has warned that this might seem presumptuous. **Please watch out for announcements in the Newsletter and notice-boards for any new date for a Public Meeting.**

Playing Field Some practice wickets and replacement cricket netting have been

installed for general use and it is intended to place a basketball post in the children's area, once moles have been deterred. If people continue to walk dogs on the field and are reported to the Parish Council, legal action may be taken. This could lead to a fine of £1,000 for ignoring Health and Safety notices.

Roads & Footpaths The Parish Council pick-sticks have been busy again thanks to Helen Goff and her daughter who have carried out a sponsored litter pick locally. A sliding access point has been provided at the village end of the footpath to Milton Malsor off Barn Corner. The slider is heavy and must be used with care and at the risk to the user - but it is hoped it will help dog walkers whilst retaining the farmers live stock.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 8th May at 7.30pm in the Village Room and will be the AGM of the Council followed immediately by the normal meeting.

Parish Notices

Parish News is produced by Collingtree Parochial Church Council, on behalf of community groups within the parish.

The financial support of the Parish Council, and the Women's Institute is gratefully acknowledged. We also appreciate the support of our regular Sponsor, Central Foods.

If you have a local community or charity event to promote contact:

Compiler/Editor

Rod Sellers

01604 769407

Email rod.sellers@virgin.net

Visit the only website dedicated to Collingtree Village and Parish

<http://justcollingtree.co.uk>

- Lent Lunches - Update. On top of the amount quoted in the last Newsletter, several further donations have been made and the final sum sent to Forever Angels, was £780. Very many thanks from Joanna Edmunds to all who contributed in any way.
- Oliver Strickland is a member of the young local band 'Ash Lane' which has played for fund raising events in the village. He has taken on a challenge to trek across the Sahara Desert in February, for Alzheimer's Research. His task is to raise £1,450 and he is happy to do jobs and chores locally in return for a donation to the charity. If you can help him reach his target, phone his Mum, Julie, on 07708 450 400
- Fay and Andy Tennet continue in training for their bike ride from London to Paris to raise funds for the Big Issue Foundation for the Homeless. To sponsor visit: www.justgiving.com/Andy-Fay-Tennet
- With the kind permission of Jenny & Jim Redmond, there will be an Open Garden Event in support of the Friends of St Columba on Sunday 9th June. It will be at Karell House, 16 Belfry Lane, Collingtree Park between 12.30 & 5pm. Entry will be £3 and refreshments will be available.

Expansion Update

An Examination by a Planning Inspector, into the WNJPU Expansion Strategy has now heard the case for and against the Collingtree/East Hunsbury site (SUE 5)

On one side was HCRA, the two parish councils and others, who clearly outlined the long list of technical problems on this site, such as flooding and traffic access.

On the other side was the WNJPU and Bovis who simply argued that all the problems could be mitigated and overcome - but didn't say how.

The Inspector has already asked for further legal clarification on the Strategy as a whole, which will delay his decision.

He has also agreed to tour the SUE 5 site and see the problems himself. Meanwhile the Archaeological team has asked that more investigation trenches be dug, which may mean that the site is of greater interest than first thought.

Friends Annual meeting

A Social Evening/AGM was held on 9th June at which Chairman Andy Tennet reviewed the years fundraising and Church Warden John Green explained how the funds had been spent on the improvements to the church fabric.

The fundraising committee was appointed for another year and members were invited to suggest further fundraising events. Baroness (Jill) Knight offered to arrange a tour of the Houses of Parliament and there was an enthusiastic response. Collingtree Coaches have once again kindly offered to donate a coach for the trip so watch out for details of dates and times.

A major event this year will be the Fete in July (see panel alongside)



Grand Edwardian Fete

Collingtree

Saturday & Sunday
13th & 14th July

The Friends of St Columba's aim to recreate the atmosphere and style of the traditional Country Fete.

More details in the June Newsletter

CENTRAL FOODS



CENTRAL FOODS IS A SPECIALIST CATERING FROZEN FOOD SALES AND DISTRIBUTION AGENCY, BASED IN COLLINGTREE SINCE 2004.

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