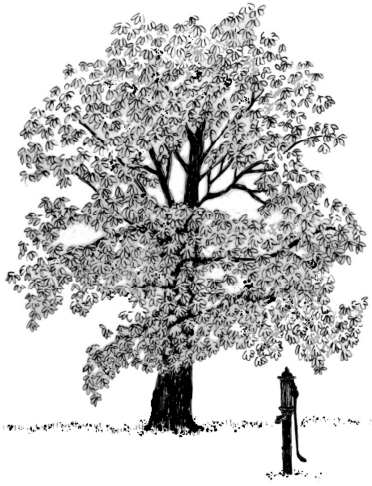




Cuddington Village Voice

April - 2017



Easter at St Nicholas

Friday 14th - Good Friday: 2pm - Hour at the Cross. A reflection on the events of Good Friday.

Sunday 16th - Easter Sunday: 10am - Easter Family Communion, taken by Phil Groves and Nadine Rose.

Monday 17th - Easter Monday: 10am - Easter PANTO – Come and see!!

(see page 6)

Get ready for...

A FAIRYTALE FETE

On the 8th July from 1.30pm.

Make all my wishes come true and volunteer now to help on the day! We currently have 4 orphan stalls looking for a new home (ugly sisters need not apply).

If you'd like to help with the soft toy tombola, nearly new clothes, stocks, bric-a-brac or in some other capacity please contact Jo Goodson m0301291@doctors.net.uk



(Continued on page 6)

Thank you!

"It is a very friendly village" is how both Peggy and Nan described Cuddington when asked just how they think of the village and will remember the 58 years that they had lived here.



Nan and Peggy after the Maundy Service

We would all, almost without exception, agree with that sentiment but also that it is so much because of people like Peggy and Nan and their amazing roles over all those years that have made it so.

Having moved here from Folkestone with their mother in 1959 they were quickly drawn into village life and the church in particular. It was not long

(Continued on page 4)

Greener Cuddington



You will have heard the news that Thames Water whose job it is to provide us with clean water and to deal with our waste water and sewage have been fined a record £20,000,000 for reckless negligence in allowing millions of gallons of untreated water and material to leak into the River Thames and other waterways.

When I blew the whistle on dead fish in the river in July 2013, I thought that it was a serious problem caused by short-term management lapses owing to the Aylesbury works being refurbished. This was serious enough for me to form the Save The River Thames campaign, but until this trial, which started this February, I had no idea that the problems were long-term and extreme.

In his final summing up, the judge said:

Disgraceful negligence... the company failed... major equipment failures.... all of these problems were foreseeable...diabolical maintenance and poor management.

(Continued on page 10)



Thought for the Month

As I am sat writing this it is cold and raining outside, making it hard to believe that today is the first day of Spring. However, the evidence of new life and new beginnings is all around us; the shrubs in the garden are in full bud, in yesterday's sunshine the hyacinths have opened and their scent brings wonderful memories to mind. New life was evident yesterday as Howard and I were out walking our dogs we saw a field of sheep some with their baby lambs. If you have not gathered already Spring is my favourite season because of the beautiful stunning flowers - daffodils, tulips, crocus and the feeling that the warmer weather is just around the corner.

We are in the middle of Lent which may also bring with it a new start together with new beginnings. Approaching Lent we hear lots of people talking about what they are going to attempt to give up or take up. I'll let you in to a secret I've given up all social media and it has been a big challenge! It has been hard not to take a quick flip through my Facebook page but it has also been quite an enlightening experience, I didn't realise how much time I spent flipping through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter etc. A week in to Lent I decided with the extra time this has given me I would make a start on reading the pile of books which has been building up in my study.

So I've fasted from social media and through my reading have been feasting on God's word. This reading has emphasised to me yet again one of the most amazing things about our faith is that God is a God of second chances, fresh starts and new beginnings. Time and time again we get it wrong, but we needn't worry as we are in good company! In the bible we read of incredible ways that God transformed people's lives: Moses, Noah, Jonah, David, Joseph, Lydia and the list goes on. God can do this for us too, he can transform us and our lives if we give him the opportunity. I can hear you asking 'What does she mean by this?' Well, let us think about how often we have said sorry for something we've said or done to only go and do it again? When we say sorry and ask God to forgive us he *gives us a new start, a new beginning*. So during this season when all around us new life is springing up let's *grab this opportunity of a new start and a new beginning*.

The day of new beginnings

Has only just begun

It's time to trust in Jesus

Live and have some fun

With my best wishes and prayers

Nadine

Benefice Evening Services

Some people particularly like evening services and, although not all the benefice churches provide them every Sunday, the following services are taking place in April. Even if not a regular visitor to other churches you will always be made welcome. These are opportunities to try different services in different surroundings.

2nd April, 6.00 pm at SS Peter & Paul, Dinton - Evensong

9th April, 6.30 pm at St Mary's, Haddenham - Praise Service, taken by Phil Groves

13th April, 7.30 pm at St Nicholas, Kingsey - Benefice Maundy Thursday Service, led by Margot Hodson with Phil Groves preaching

30th April, 6.30 pm at St Nicholas, Kingsey - Benefice Choral Evensong, led by Margot Hodson, with Bishop Alan preaching.

In addition to this Evensong being a special Benefice service for a 5th Sunday the service will include the re-dedication of the altar frontal by Bishop Alan.

Last year the Diocese of Oxford and the PCC gave permission for the altar frontal - it's a particularly beautiful white altarpiece - to be remounted. The work was carried out by Elizabeth Bond - a graduate of the Royal School of Needlework, and resident of Kingsey.

The Benefice Choir will also be singing at the service.



May Day Madrigals



Looking for something fun to do on the May Bank Holiday? Then come and listen to the Witchert Chorale singing madrigals from the top of the tower on 1st May. We will be at the church of St Mary's, Long Crendon at 8.30 a.m. and on top of the tower and in the church of St Nicholas in Cuddington at 9.30 a.m. Entrance is free and there will be refreshments.



AGM

**THE BERNARD HALL
CUDDINGTON**



The Bernard Hall AGM is on Monday 15th May at 8pm in the hall.

Hopefully many of you will have read Peter Wenham's excellent article in last month's Village Voice telling of the hall's history. We are very fortunate to have such a special facility in the village and its success is down to both those who use it as well as those who run and organise it.

So please come and join us and hear what's been going on in your Village Hall over the past year and perhaps have a say in how you would like its use to develop in the future.

Everyone is welcome!

The Walmsleys Down Under!

Mike and Tracey—former Cuddington residents have now, after some years in China, settled in Western Australia with their children , Sophie and Matthew.

We arrived in Australia in January 2012, to a very hot Perth. We then took a month of travelling around from Melbourne to Adelaide in a mobile home. After that, we travelled down to Albany, which is a small city of 35,000 people about 5 hours drive south of Perth in Western Australia. It is a beautiful place with a very temperate climate (which translated into real language means that it rain a lot and gets pretty cool in winter and not so hot in summer). We were and still very blessed with how God has provided. We came here on Tracey's job as a government dental officer. However, I also immediately picked up work as a lecturer in a vocational college and both of us have been working in those same places ever since. Tracey is now the dentist in charge and I am teaching part time, doing some private consultancy, working on our house and doing stuff for the church. The kids settled straight into a Christian school called Bethel Christian School. They have both done exceptionally well and are still enjoying life here in Albany.

In 2015, we got permanent residency, which meant that we could buy a home. We ended up buying a former lodging house / bed and breakfast which has 10 bedrooms!!! It was originally owned by a Catholic mission, but has not been well



maintained, hence there is a lot of work for me to do. We have renovated the downstairs flat and have some friends living there (that accounts for 3 of the bedrooms!). Upstairs is still a work in progress, but we intend for it to be a Christian guest house. It might be hard to believe, but within 1 week of moving in, we had all rooms full. It has been that

way on and off for the last 2 years. So, God is using His house.

For church, we started off at a large Assemblies of God congregation, but two years ago moved to a small pentacostal Four Square Church, called Pioneer Family Church, which we love!!

In April this year, we will be doing our citizenship test, which will be the fulfilment of the command which God gave us before we came to Australia. So, it will be interesting to see what he does after that.

Early Warning!



**Christian Aid Bring
and Buy and Plant
Stall**

**Monday, 13th May, 2017 -
7pm to 9 pm
at Wellfield House, Spurt Street**

Calling all gardeners: when dividing up your perennials, or tidying up your borders, please pot up one or two plants for the Christian Aid Plant Stall. Also when sowing seeds such as tomatoes, courgettes, cucumbers keep a few seedlings. All manner of herbs will also be welcome.

Items for the Bring and Buy are also needed.

All proceeds will go towards Christian Aid's work with those in need. If you would like to help or want more information please call Caroline Saker on 01844 291825

A little nearer the day, plants etc. can be left at Rose Cottage or Wellfield House in Spurt Street or at Larden in in Spicketts Lane.

With many thanks, Caroline Saker

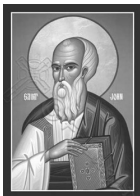


An invitation to:

A Public Reading of John's Gospel

In St Mary's Church, Haddenham

On Saturday, April 8th at 7:00pm



THE I AM THE WORLD
BREAD OF LIFE, THE TRUE VINE
THE LIVING WATER, HOLY
ONE OF GOD.
SON OF MAN

THE BOOK OF JOHN

THE WORD
THE LIGHT
JESUS
CHRIST
LAMB OF
GOD, SON
OF GOD
RABBI
TEACHER
MESSIAH
THE GOOD
SHEPHERD
BRIDE-
GROOM
PROPHET
SAVOR OF



Lighthouse Thame Needs You

24th – 28th July 2017

Helpers registration is now open. Lighthouse requires volunteers for lots of different roles, and not just during the day – site staff; administration; lighthouse keepers; car park attendants; musicians; sports leaders, etc. etc. For more information visit the website www.lighthouse-thame.org.uk or contact Linda Newton helpers@lighthouse-thame.org.uk

(Continued from page 1)

before both Nan and their mother were nominated to the Parochial Church Council and Nan only relinquished that role some 53 years later having been a Church Warden for 25 of them!

Peggy meanwhile established a wonderful tradition and reputation in the church for theatrical productions, especially for the children, but many also involved adults, especially for Christmas and Easter; Peggy wrote many them herself.



**Nan on Church Warden duty
in the churchyard**

And in those early days it is remembered that the W.I. was having difficulty finding a president and Peggy, a new member, agreed to stand in and keep the W.I. in action. She maintains her membership to the present time. By tradition she is the January speaker on literature and poetry as well as speaking on other occasions.

Both Peggy and Nan were very interested in the history of the village and a considerable amount of research was undertaken. Working with Roger Frazer, Peggy wrote a history of Cuddington during the

Second World War largely based on the reminiscences of villagers at home and abroad. The sisters were also staunch members of the Cuddington History Society being involved from its beginning and, on occasion, Peggy gave talks on her researches into people and institutions in the village.

Between them they organised, instigated and were involved in so many things and at with the great risk of understatement these included church flowers and flower festivals, Gardening Club, drop-in coffee mornings, Friends of St Nicholas, tea and hot cross buns on Good Friday, auditing WI accounts, the village fete, school governor and Parish Council. All of this and more

was recognised four years ago when the sisters were invited to receive Maundy Money from the Queen when the Royal Maundy Service took place in Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford – an honour which recognised their Christian service to the church and community over many years.

Clearly Peggy and Nan had a thing about Spurt Street! In the mid-60's in response to their mother needing to have ground floor accommodation they built Hesleden in the grounds of Wellfield House which then became their home for some 37 years. Then, feeling that a smaller garden was required and, co-incidentally, it becoming available, they moved next door to Linnets, where they have been till today.

As far as legacies go what more visible and practical than Village Voice? Peggy and Nan were instrumental in setting it up and running it for so many years. Launched in



Peggy rehearsing "The Vigil"

response to a survey in the village they helped get it started and, as importantly, grew it and kept it going for the next 18 years.

It was also they who made such a point of welcoming newcomers to the village, a gesture remembered and appreciated by so many; so perhaps a more profound legacy

is their undoubted part in helping to create such a special and friendly village, the feature which they themselves value above all else – "It is a very friendly village".

This tribute was never intended to be a definitive history but to recognise in *Village Voice* their phenomenal contribution to making the village what it is today, to wish them well and to say we look forward to seeing them back here on visits and to our visits to them!

Let's Boules Again!



In 2011 the village constructed a Boules pitch on the Playing Fields; it is one of the best in the county. This was very popular for several years but has not been used as much in recent times.

This game is great fun and can be played by anyone from about 5 to 100 years old!! The rules are easy to understand (copies available) and there is equipment available for anyone to use, if they do not have any boules themselves.

To get things going again, we are proposing to start up regular Sunday morning sessions, as well as an evening in the week, where anyone can join in and play with other people who turn up.

The first of these will be on Sunday 9th April at 11.00. Everyone is invited to come and have a go! Maybe even have a drink afterwards in the bar!!

Also, if anyone wants to use the equipment, at any time, to get in some sneaky practice, or just to find out more, talk to **Ken Birkby 292921**.

If sufficient people are interested, the intention would be to reinstate the Cuddington v Chearsley competition, later in the year, and give Chearsley the customary jolly good trouncing!

See you on Sunday 9th April.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

At the March meeting we were joined by several guests and welcomed the speaker, Ruriko, who demonstrated Ikebana flower arranging. We were all transfixed while this charming lady in Japanese dress did four beautiful



arrangements. She described what she was doing explaining the importance of the container, either tall or flat, and the importance of water in every arrangement. She used a variety of natural materials – flowers, leaves, wood, mosses and water, all representing nature. Each arrangement had a different theme, for example spring or seaside.

Mary Turner thanked Ruriko, saying how much we had all enjoyed the afternoon. I have never known Cuddington WI so quiet as we were all so completely absorbed watching the story of each arrangement unfold.

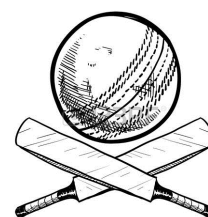
Body in the Ditch or the Cuddington Litter-Pick of 2017

Fortunately, the weather was on our side as we gathered on the Upper Green to be issued with hi-vis vests, gloves, litter-pickers and gloves. Groups were despatched along all our 'main' roads for a morning of picking up whatever had landed in the ditches, hedges, or at the edge of the road. It is amazing what can be found on a short stretch of road.

We expected fast-food packaging, cans, bottles (an alarming number of wine bottles; and I don't think people were picnicking at the side of the road!) and food wrappers. We weren't expecting nappies (not pleasant), a set of drawers or a 'body' – fortunately a concrete garden ornament. Two of us filled about six large bin bags between the village sign and King's Cross – not a long stretch, but, a lot of rubbish, most of which it would not have been difficult to take home, or dispose of sensibly.

Thank you to the Parish Council for organising the event.

Cuddington Cricket



We would like to get some cricket going for the kids of our village and will be starting this MAY!

One Thursday of the month in May and June join us on the playing fields for an informal game. All ages welcome - grown-ups should be prepared to join in to make up numbers. We hope enthusiasm will snowball and we may in the future be able to form a more regular arrangement.

Thursday May 4th from 6.30pm

Thursday June 8th from 6.30pm

A unique Father's Day Event!

St Nicholas Church Cuddington
brings you....

Xtreme
Barrow Racing



To raise money for 'Ngowa' the church's sponsored child. Sunday 18th June - an event for spectators and partakers. More details to follow in the May edition of Village Voice

Collections starting soon...

Books – Wayside on Bridgeway (from the 1st May)

Toys – The Malt House on the Lower Green (from the Easter weekend)

Baskets, beads, bottles, clothes, bags, toys and books – Denise's Hairdressers or the Village Shop

Bric-a-Brac – to be collected on June 24th at our sorting day (more details in future village voice issues)

As always we are also looking for some top notch prizes for the Grand Prize Draw and the Auction – please contact Karen Clayton info@porkandginger.co.uk if you have something to offer.

We already have many people behind the scenes scurrying about to bring you the best fete this World has to offer and I thank each and every one of them for their tireless support. I do so love the way the village fete brings out the best in us all, and brings us together!

Jo Goodson (Cuddington Fete Chair 2017)

Calling all Gardeners!



As I write there is a very fresh breeze blowing, the sun is shining intermittently, and it is icy cold; however, with all the lovely seasonal flowers standing tall, Spring definitely seems to be on her way. But before becoming too optimistic, **here is a weather warning:** my lovely *Magnolia Stellata* has unfurled its beautiful petals and the breeze is wafting its delicious but rather faint perfume to all who pass by. What's to mumble about you may ask? Well, it means that very soon we will have a frost and *Stellata's* petals will rapidly go brown! I'm not a pessimist, I'm a horticultural realist – this happens every year without fail!

Despite the bitterly cold wind, there are still numerous jobs in the garden that we can be getting on with: pruning the roses if you haven't already done so. If you decided not to put your garden to bed last Autumn, now is the time to clear away any remaining dead flower heads, grasses etc. Before giving your beds a good mulching, if you are going to divide up any herbaceous perennials in your borders, **please** pot up a few for Caroline Saker's plant stall for Christian Aid on Monday, 13th May at Angela Sanderson's house; but also the gardening club's own plant stall at this year's fete.

If you haven't done so, clean your empty containers ready for planting, to do this, go and hide in your shed or



Cuddington Youth Drama
presents
Alice in Wonderland
at
The Bernard Hall
Cuddington
HP18 0AP



Thursday 13th
to Saturday 15th
April at 7.30 pm

Tickets on sale from mid March
at Cuddington Stores, or online
at www.cuddingtonvillage.com/cyd
Doors open 7.00 pm Licensed bar

Cuddington Church Easter Pantomime

It's panto time and this year we are vibing the trolls movie to bring you the Easter story as you've never seen it before! The message is good and the jokes are awful!

17th April 10.30am (Bank holiday Monday)

St Nicholas Church Cuddington

The pantomime will be followed by refreshments and a traditional Easter egg hunt.

Feel free to dress up - I know the cast will!



greenhouse with a flask of hot tea with a "dash", put on the heater and get busy. A good book is optional! Remove old top soil from those with plants in them - recycling it into your compost bins - and replace with fresh compost e.g., *John Innes No. 3* incorporating slow release fertilizer, then give them a good drink and also treat for the dreaded vine weevil; cover with horticultural grit to protect plants such as my hostas: *Orange Marmalade* and the very lovely *Praying Hands* from invading slugs.

Forthcoming Events - Guests and new members always welcome

Contact Jennifer - Tel: 01844 291501 or
jschramdejong@yahoo.co.uk

10th April Mrs Margaret Easter - Flowers from Spring to Summer.

8th May Mrs. Joy Craig Growing Fuchsias for the garden and show bench.

18th May Penn's Nursery for a workshop on planting up pots and hanging baskets
(Pots, baskets compost and plants provided)

TBC Planting up hanging baskets and pots for the fete – probably in Jennifer's garden.
Pulling up bindweed is optional

Witchert Chorale



The theme was "light" and the atmosphere certainly lived up to it!

The Witchert Chorale, under their conductor David Quinn, presented a wonderful evening of "Songs of Spring and Sunshine"



The church was lit with subdued lighting and candles and two of the songs were sung to just the candle light - "O natal lux" - and the second setting by Morten Lauridsen was especially beautiful.

In addition to a wide range of songs, Grieg to Duke Ellington, the choir was joined by Ivan Kiwuwa who played a Schubert piano Impromptu with great skill and feeling and Ed Cairns and Andy Hardy gave readings from Dylan Thomas and Gerald Durrell respectively.

The evening was attended by well over a hundred audience members who generously donated to the joint causes of the Kampala Music School and Stoke Mandeville Long-stay Patient Comfort.

THE VILLAGE PICTURE HOUSE NEWS CUDDINGTON

A record attendance of 78 was at the Village Picture House last Thursday for a showing of A Street Cat named Bob!

Don't miss out of great events - see page 8 for up-coming films as well as National Theatre Live showings.

If you have yet to pay us a visit we look forward to welcoming you!



Edible plants for your Garden

**Brian Fisher talks to the Gardening Club about
"Attractive Edible Plants in the Potager's Garden"**

On Monday, 13th March, 30 members were delighted to welcome back Brian Fisher, who began gardening with his Head Gardener father at the age of four, going on to graduate from RHS Wisley when still very young. Unlike the previous occasion, when he was much delayed by traffic, this time he had a good journey from Maidenhead, only stopping off at the Chairman's house for tea, ensuring he could not be late! After this good start, his talk went from strength to strength.

He began by describing a "Potager's" garden: the classic kitchen garden, divided into four plots by equally spaced horizontal and vertical paths, these are further divided into 16 sub plots, with each containing its own type of produce: vegetables, soft fruit, fruit trees, flowers for cutting and so on.

The centre of the main paths houses a feature, either horticultural or ornamental. It became apparent this was the inspiration for his talk. Brian espoused the beauty of fruit trees in flower, showing a photo of a large Kiwi fruit



tree in bloom taken near Brighton; Cuddington's Sally Hayward has a Kiwi tree she grew from seed in her garden, her daughter confirmed it does grow very large!

He reminded us of the more familiar edible flowers such as nasturtiums and calendula (or pot marigold of Keat's fame), which also serves as companion planting to protect your tomatoes or your courgettes from aphids. He introduced us to new varieties of climbing beans (good for backs) which grow well and can produce striking flowers at the back of your border, including a red and white flowered runner bean (painted lady) and a very pretty climbing French

bean with flowers of purple, blue and white. Then there is Swiss Chard which now comes with a variety of different coloured stems and curly kale with leaves of green through to blue ending in black. He ended with a very curious plant called strawberry spinach. It is related to spinach and tastes similar, but its fruit, shares nothing with the strawberry apart from its colour but to me it resembles a raspberry. It is a cold-weather plant which can tolerate light frosts and is easy to grow. However, the plant must bolt to produce its red fruit!

Brian's talk was illustrated throughout by his excellent photos, particularly useful when showing planting schemes, like the stunning orange pumpkin growing next to a blue morning glory. Many of the photos Brian showed us were of RHS sites and National Trust Properties; Greys Court near Henley featured a lot, and this property is easily accessible by car from Cuddington. We are trying to arrange a visit, probably in August when there will also be an exhibition of some local artists taking place which might be of interest in addition to the Garden. More later

Having been asked to write this summary, I thought I might find it difficult to think what to say; now I don't know where to stop! In his "retirement" year, Brian Fisher gave us an excellent and inspiring talk which has given us all lots to think about.

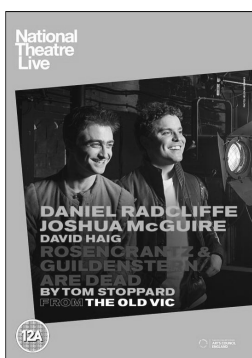
The Invisible Gardener

THE VILLAGE PICTURE HOUSE

CUDDINGTON



Your local cinema's varied programme for spring 2017 continues on Thursday 6th April with the National Theatre's production of **Twelfth Night** (cert. 12A). Tamsin Greig plays Olivia's upright housekeeper Malvolia in a new twist on Shakespeare's classic comedy of mistaken identity. Where music is the food of love, and nobody is quite what they seem, anything proves possible! "Tamsin Greig brings dazzling comic brio to a finely-tuned production," says *Radio Times*. "Simon Godwin's staging is bright, inventive and boundlessly funny ... Tamsin Greig is brilliant in a show full of fun," says *The Guardian*. "One of those Shakespeare revivals that reminds you that with a crack cast and a lot of love, a 400-plus year-old comedy can still deliver the LOLs," says *Time Out*.



On Thursday 20th we'll be showing another National Theatre Live event: Tom Stoppard's brilliantly funny situation comedy **Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead** (cert. 12A) starring Daniel Radcliffe, Joshua McGuire and David Haig. Against the backdrop of Hamlet, two hapless minor characters take centre stage. As the young double act stumble their way in and out of the action of Shakespeare's iconic drama, they become increasingly out of their depth as their version of the

story unfolds. "A perfectly blended comedy double act," says *The Stage*. "Radcliffe and McGuire bounce off each other like Spacehoppers on a day out," says *The Times*. "Astonishingly funny with a glorious range of jokes," says *WhatsOnStage*.

A week later on 27th April there'll be a complete change of mood with the screening of the thought-provoking film **Arrival** (cert. 12A). A fleet of alien spacecraft have suddenly, inexplicably appeared across the globe. The army recruits expert linguist Louise (Amy Adams) to help them communicate with the aliens. But everyone is frightened, unsure what the aliens intend, and she only has a limited time to make contact. And how do you even begin to translate a completely alien,



intelligent, adult film, not all big bangs and CGI.

unknowable language? "Dazzling science-fiction that will leave you speechless," says *The Daily Telegraph*. "Arrival grips you with the strength of its ideas and the quality of its execution," says *Empire*. "Amy Adams shines ... Arrival is one of the best sci-fi films you'll see this decade," says *The Daily Mail*. Don't be put off by the "sci-fi" label - this is an

Looking further ahead, on 11th May we'll be screening the stage production of **Obsession** (cert. 15), to be broadcast live from the Barbican Theatre. Gino (Jude Law) is a drifter, down-at-heel and magnetically handsome. At a road side restaurant he encounters husband and wife, Giuseppe and Giovanna. Irresistibly attracted to each other, Gino and Giovanna begin a fiery affair and plot to murder her husband. But, in this chilling tale of passion and destruction, the crime only serves to tear them apart...

On Sunday 14th May, the Village Picture House is delighted to announce the screening of our very first ballet. Captured live at La Scala Theatre in Milan, **Romeo and Juliet** (cert. exempt) is choreographed by Kenneth MacMillan to the dramatic music of Prokofiev. Roberto Bolle and Misty Copeland are unforgettable in the title roles of this beautiful ballet. Then on 18th May, the critically acclaimed, five-star production of Edward Albee's landmark play **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?** (cert. 12A) will be broadcast live from the Harold Pinter Theatre in the West End. To round off the month, on Thursday 25th we'll be screening one of the most critically acclaimed films of 2016. Winner of two BAFTAs and two Oscars, **Manchester by the Sea** (cert. 15) is a devastating drama with a towering performance by Casey Affleck at its core.

Visit the web page for more details of all features:
www.cuddingtonvillage.com/cinema

Annual Village Meeting



The Annual Village Meeting is on Monday 3rd April this year, at 7.30pm in the Bernard Hall. As you know, this not a council meeting but a meeting

of the village, to debate and discuss current issues and celebrate local activities.

It is hoped that the following clubs, facilities and organisations will be available to give updates and answer questions:

Cuddington and Dinton School, The Nicholas Almond Trust,

Gardening Club, Cuddington Village Fete, Village Voice, Website, CPFA, The Bernard Hall The Village Picture House, Footpaths, Tennis Club, WI, Sunshine Club, Boules Local/District Councillors, Police Community Support Officer, Cuddington Parish Council.

So, come along and find out more about what is happening in your village and have your say.

Date change for Parish Council meeting

Wednesday 26th April 2017 – April meeting of the Parish Council. Please note the change in day from Monday to Wednesday, for this month only.

Dates for your Diary

John 12: 23 Jesus replied, *"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."*



April

Sunday 2 nd 11.30am	Annual Parochial Council Meeting
Monday 3 rd 2.00pm	Sunshine Club, Playing Field Clubhouse
Monday 3 rd 7.30pm	Annual Village Meeting in the Bernard Hall
Tuesday 4 th 7.30/8.00pm	5 th Lent Course evening
Thursday 6 th 7.00pm	"Twelfth Night" NTLive
Monday 10 th 7.30pm	Gardening Club, Mrs. Margaret Easter "Growing Herbs for the Garden"
Thursday 13 th 7.30pm	Alice in Wonderland – CYD in the Bernard Hall
Friday 14 th 2.00pm	Hour at the Cross, in church
Friday 14 th 7.30pm	Alice in Wonderland – CYD in the Bernard Hall
Saturday 15 th 7.30pm	Alice in Wonderland – CYD in the Bernard Hall
Sunday 16 th 10.00am	Easter Family Communion
Monday 17 th 10.30am	Trolls Panto in St Nicholas' Church
Thursday 20 th 7.00pm	"Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead" NTLive
Saturday 22 nd 2.00pm	Sunshine Club Bazaar, Bernard Hall
Wednesday 26 th 7.30pm	Meeting of the Parish Council (note day change)
Thursday 27 th 8.00pm	"Arrival" Village Picture House
Monday 24 th 2.00pm	Sunshine Club, Playing Field Clubhouse
Sunday 30 th 6.30pm	Benefice Evensong and dedication, Kingsey

May

Monday 1 st 9.30am	Madrigals from the church tower
Thursday 4 th	Elections to Buckinghamshire County Council
Monday 8 th 2.00pm	Sunshine Club at the Playing Field Club
Monday 8 th 7.30pm	Gardening Club, Mrs. Joy Craig Growing Fuchsias for the garden and show bench.
14 th -20 th May	Christian Aid week
Monday 13 th 7.00pm	Bring and Buy and Plant Stall for Christian Aid, Wellfield House, Spurt Street
Monday 15 th 1.30pm	Gentlemen Prefer Blonds, Sunshine Club Matinee
Monday 15 th 8.00pm	The Bernard Hall AGM
Monday 22 nd 2.00pm	Sunshine Club at the Playing Field Club
Monday 22 nd 7.30pm	Annual General Meeting, Cuddington Parish Council

Dust off that racket!

The 2017 season is just about to start and Cuddington Tennis Club would love to hear from you.

Hopefully the successful season that British tennis seems to have enjoyed last year might just have inspired you to either dust off that old racket that hasn't been used in a while or to go and acquire one and begin playing!



We have two all-weather, all year round flood-lit courts up on the Playing Fields and plenty of times and opportunities to play - Wednesday morning play starts at 10am and Club Evening will always be on Thursdays.

If you are available on a Wednesday morning you are most welcome to come up and meet some of the players or contact me to find out more – it is very informal and sociable!

Anyone interested in playing please contact me, charles.sanderson7@gmail.com or the Secretary, Sarah Owen, sowendinton@gmail.com

You can also visit our page on the village website for more information and to access the subscription form. We are incredibly fortunate to have such facilities in our village and it would be lovely to see more people making use of them and enjoying them.

Hope to see you!

Charles Sanderson – 01844 291626

METHODIST CHURCH

'DISCOVER'

with David and Denise Cross

'Bringing the Essentials of the Healing Ministry of Jesus into the Local Church'

Cuddington Methodist Church is hosting an Ellel Teaching and Ministry Day on Saturday 3rd June 2017 at The Clare Centre, Saunderton

Advance booking is essential. Cost £28 including coffee, lunch and tea.

Flyer and booking form from roy.be@phonecoop.coop



Please come to our **Spring Bazaar** on Saturday 22nd April at 2.00pm at The Bernard Hall. 'The best recycling event ever' and a great afternoon for bargain hunters at our varied stalls - homemade cakes and produce, white elephant, bric-a-brac, good second hand clothes, books, raffle, tombola, all rounded off with a sociable cuppa. Admission 20p, children free.

We'll be delighted to accept contributions at the Hall on the morning of the 22nd or, for collection, please phone 01844 299 150.

Recycling Appeal

We continue to collect used ink cartridges and old mobile phones for recycling in aid of our funds. These can be dropped off at Cuddington Post Office (thank you Jeyan and Sugi).



The Junior choir sang at the Albert Hall on Monday- what a performance! They were amazing and it was an honour to sit on stage and say that I was their Headteacher. An enormous thank you to Miss

Mitchell and Mrs Baker who have worked so hard with them and to Mrs Mitchell who led the children in the concert.

World Book day was again a big success with some very inventive costumes, so a big thank you to many parents and helpers for that! As ever, the staff joined in with great enthusiasm - a wolf, dwarves, oboe playing duck (from Peter and the Wolf) to name a few were present on the day

Lots of meetings and plans are taking place in readiness for the year 5 & 6 trip to France in the summer – it is amazing how quickly this has become part of the school's calendar!

It is lovely to welcome Mr Critcher who is working with us on the Infant site in year 2. We also have two new students Bella and Bethany who have joined classes on the Junior site.

As part of our ongoing programme of 'open events', we are inviting parents to our first ever 'open lesson' on Monday 27th March between 9am and 10 am on both sites. Our aim for this session is for parents to see the children and staff in action during a typical core lesson, either Maths or English, and to see our styles of teaching and learning first hand. Parents have been well briefed as to the logistics for the session which is going to be quite challenging to manage; they have also been reminded that credits, stickers and stamps can only be awarded to the children, however good is the parents' behaviour!

(Continued from page 1)

An area designated as a wildlife habitat found to be full of sludge and solids.

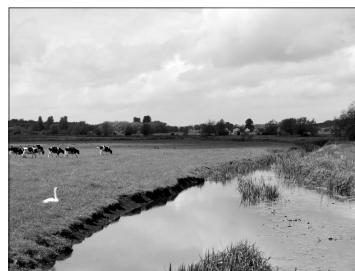
3,505 immediate alarms transmitted to central control.

2.8 billion litres, including 500million litres of untreated sewage discharged into the River Thames over 94 days.

A shocking and disgraceful state of affairs.

The pollution hadn't been obvious during the winter because heavy rainfall had diluted it, however a landowner subsequently commented on the nasty sludge and material left on his water meadows after the winter floods. When the weather turned hot in June, oxygen was driven from the water and the pollutants were concentrated so virtually all animal life died: dead fish on the surface were the final knell.

I was horrified that Thames Water was content to allow this to happen and that no-one seemed to have noticed sufficiently to protest, which is why I set up the seminar in May 2014 and the campaign. Save The River Thames did raise public awareness, opened



Waddesdon Thame at Eyethrope

communications with Thames Water and started work on the Riverthame.org web site. Its merger with the River Thames Conservation Trust strengthened both bodies and there are now over 120 volunteers working to monitor and improve the entire catchment. The company is also being much

Lighthouse Thame - 24th – 28th July 2017



Children's registration opens on Easter Monday, 17th April. Last year we had a waiting list, so register early to be sure of a place.

For more information visit the website www.lighthousethame.org.uk

Services at St. Nicholas

(Churchwardens: Graham Carr 290000 and James Stonham 292221)

April

2nd	10.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
9th	10.00 am	ALL AGE SERVICE
16th	10.00 am	EASTER FAMILY COMMUNION
23rd	10.00 am	MORNING WORSHIP
30th	10.00 am	MORNING WORSHIP
30th	6.30 pm	BENEFICE EVENSONG KINGSEY

Opportunities for praying together in church are each Thursday at 9.00 a.m. and each Sunday at 9.10 a.m.

There is a service at 5.30 pm every Sunday evening at Cuddington Methodist Chapel.

more open and helpful and we have been impressed by our tours of the Aylesbury Sewage Treatment Works.

Much has been achieved, however, the River Thames ecology has been seriously compromised and almost destroyed and the its effects of the 2013 negligence will linger for many years, even if things go well.

Mr Spencer-Bernard recalls groups of heron 'frogging' on the water meadows within his lifetime: there are few frogs now and only a very occasional heron. So does this matter? The £20 million fine will go into the general Treasury funds and none of it will be made available for environmental recovery because the environment isn't a party that can claim compensation: 'Natural Capital' has no value it seems.

I, and the Trust, will continue our efforts to research and improve the river ecology and work with Thames Water to ensure that the promises made by the company are delivered and good standards are maintained. In this, we need the support of AVDC, which until now has been sporadic, and also the engagement of Parish Councils and residents along the Thames. It is a nice area to walk your dog in, but to secure a healthy environment in which wildlife thrives, we all need to take a real interest.

If you want to get involved, email me or Natalie@riverthame.org.