

Sonning Parish Magazine



Serving the Communities
of Sonning and Charvil



25p

December 2006

The Parish of Sonning

The ancient parish of Sonning, originally extending from Sonning Common to Sandhurst was one of the great blocks of land handed over to the Church in the 7th century. In 909 A.D. Sonning with Ramsbury, became a separate bishopric, the Bishop of Ramsbury/ Sonning maintaining a riverside Hall in the village. In 1075 the see was transferred to Old Sarum, ultimately Salisbury, whose bishops had their own Palace on the same site as the Saxon Hall until 1574, when the manor was transferred to the Crown.

St Andrew's Church in the heart of the village was founded in Saxon times - probably by Birinus, first bishop of Dorchester-on-Thames. It was largely rebuilt in 1852, during the incumbency of Canon Hugh Pearson; it was he who founded the Sonning Parish Magazine in 1869.

The White Hart Hotel, now known as The Great House, and partly 17th century, stands on the site of older buildings including the home of 'Elias the Ferryman' mentioned in a deed of 1100. The French Horn Hotel, in Sonning Eye, was built in the 1880s in front of the original old inn - now Bridge House - and its farm buildings. The Bull Inn, belonging to the Church, was originally known as Church House, a guesthouse for pilgrims to medieval St Sarik's Chapel in St Andrew's. Also adjoining the church is Deanery Garden one of Sir Edwin Lutyen's best-known country houses built at the turn of the century, just above the site of the ancient residence of the Deans of Salisbury who regularly visited Sonning, the parish being a 'Dean's Peculiar'.

Sonning Mill produced a regular supply of flour from Saxon time until 1969, after which it was converted into a 'Dinner Theatre', the first of its kind in Britain. The Pearson Hall is the principal venue for village functions

Within the village boundaries lie the Reading Blue Coat School at Holme Park (once the home of the Lord of the Manor) Sonning Church of England Primary School, King George's Field and other sports grounds, and Reading University Farm - all of which help to preserve the rural atmosphere of Sonning, the centre of which is now a conservation area.

The civil parish of Charvil is of relatively recent origin but the land on which it lies has long been part of the ecclesiastical parish of Sonning. In the 18th and 19th centuries it consisted of Charville Farm and a few cottages, which lay between the villages of Sonning and Twyford and adjacent to the London to Bath highway.

The development of Charvil began between the two World Wars, particularly after the new A4 road was constructed in the 1920s by-passing Twyford, and was accelerated after 1945. To meet the needs of this increasingly large community, St Patrick's dual-purpose Church and Hall was consecrated and opened in 1952; it remains within the ecclesiastical parish of Sonning, It was considerably extended and refurbished in 2001.

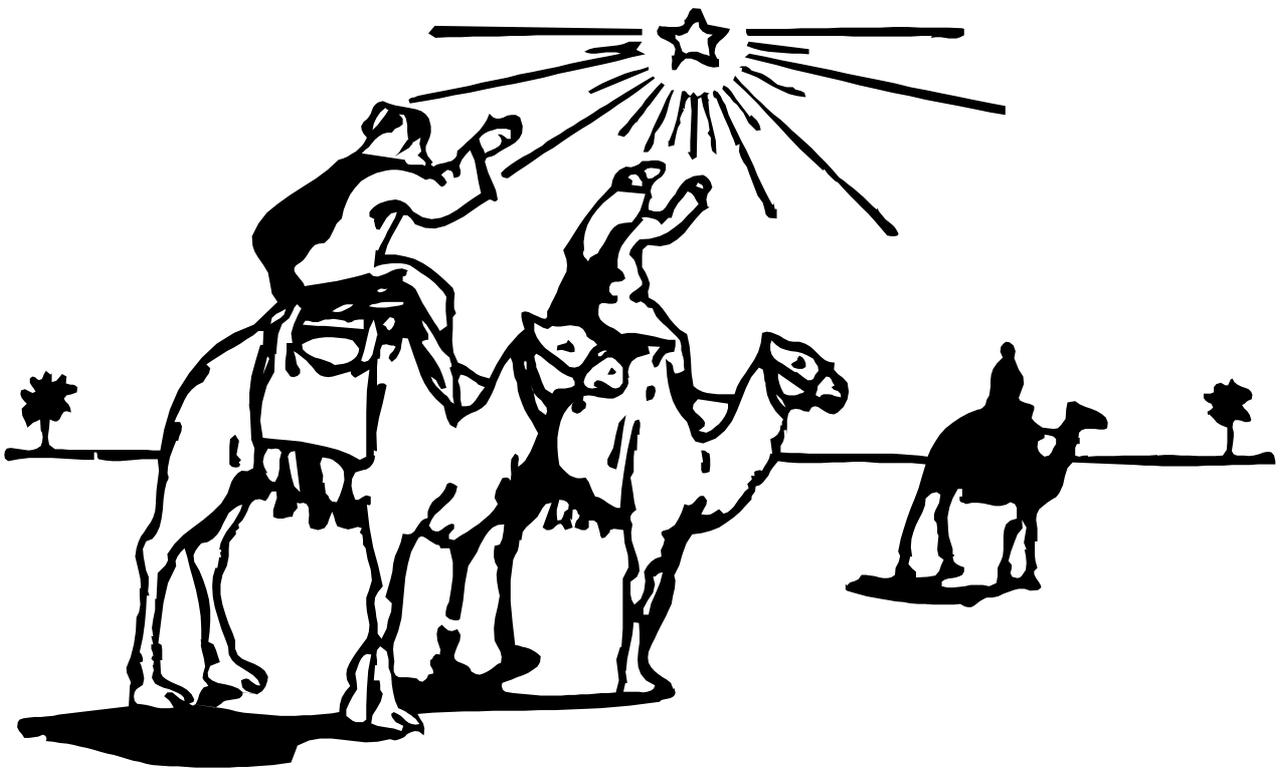
St Andrew's Sonning Contacts

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Forthcoming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>What's on?</i>	<i>Page</i>
Every Fri	Baby & Toddler Group, Pearson Hall	R
Dec 1	SWMC Music night with 'Terrie'	R
Dec 9	PHSC Christmas supper	R
Dec 14	Flower Club Christmas luncheon	R
Dec 15	SWMC Christmas dinner & dance	R
Dec 18	Sonning Glebe W.I. Christmas party	R
Dec 31	SWMC - To be advised	R
Jan 26	S&SES "A night at the pictures"	24
Feb 17	Reading Valley Tangent ferret racing evening	25
Feb 26	Flower Club "Floratissimo"	R

Deadline, January 2007 Magazine is
4.00 p.m. Friday, 29th December 2006



The Magazine production and distribution team wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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Regular Services

The Parish Church

Sundays	8 am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
	10.30 am	Family Service, first Sunday of the month Parish Eucharist, second, fourth and fifth Sundays Matins, third Sunday
	6.30 pm	Evensong, except third Sunday of the month, when it will be Holy Communion with the laying on of hands for those who wish it.
Wednesdays	10 am	Holy Communion at St Andrew's

St Patrick's Charvil

Sundays	9.30 am	Family Service, first Sunday of the month Holy Communion, second and fourth Sundays Worship Service other Sundays Sunday School 9.30 am except first Sunday of the month
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If you would like to arrange a Thanksgiving for the birth of a child, a Baptism (please give at least one month's notice of your intention), a Marriage or a Funeral, please contact the Vicar. Please note that the Vicar hopes to take Monday as a day off, although urgent matters will of course be dealt with.

The Vicar's Letter

Christmas

Christmas is a time of great contrast. For some, and I hope you are amongst them, it is a joyful and happy time. Others will be spending their first Christmas in changed circumstances and things will be difficult. I am always very aware at Christmas of people who live on their own or who because of age or illness find it difficult to meet with others.

Whatever your circumstances you will be very welcome at all of our Church Services this year. If you require transport please contact Bob Hine on 969 3589 or Jan Hammond on 926 2365 and they will arrange for someone to bring you to whichever service you wish to attend.

It sometimes feels as if Christianity is being marginalised and the Archbishop of York spoke out about it in November. The National Press seem to give much more publicity to bad news than good and not just when they are writing about the Christian Church. To read the papers you would think every church has falling congregations and is not a very exciting or relevant place to be. We know this is far from the truth. Some Christian

congregations are not as large as they were a few years ago but others have grown considerably.

Nine years ago, 174 people attended the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in St. Andrew's Church and last year 365 people did so. I know you can do anything with statistics but these do not seem like falling numbers to me. All our Services, not just the Christmas ones, have experienced growth and to give just one more example from Christmas let me remind you about Christmas Day at 10.30. The Service used to be Matins followed by a said Communion and ten years ago 47 people attended. We have changed the Service and now have an all age Family Communion to which 260 people came last year. Do please come and worship with us this year if you can.

The Christmas Service in St. Andrew's are:

Nine Lessons & Carols: Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm followed by a drink and mince pie.

Nativity Play: Sunday 24th at 4.00 p.m. All children attending are invited to come dressed as angels, shepherds etc and to join the cast at the end.

Midnight Mass: Sunday 24th starting at 11.30pm and lasting about an hour

Christmas Day: 8.00am Said Communion (1662 Prayer Book)
10.30am Family Communion to which children are asked to bring one of their presents for the Vicar to play with!

Because of the Nativity Play and Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve there will be no Evensong. Neither will there be Evensong on Sunday 31st. December. This is not the start of a trend it is one of those coincidences that Christmas Eve and New Years Eve this year fall on a Sunday.

From the Diary

Baptisms

1st October: Nicholas Brian Murdoch
22nd October: Chloe Ella Hicks
5th November: Amelie Victoria Bartlett
19th. November: Madeline Grace Brookes, Harriet Alice Cowley,
Harry John Columbus Johnston

Funerals

David Carey Brown: Reading Crematorium & St. Andrew's Churchyard.

Bequest

The late Armine Edmonds generously left two bequests to St. Andrew's Church. The first was for £5000 and, with John's agreement; we have spent this on providing new cushions for the pews. Armine left a second bequest of £22,500 it has been agreed some of this will be spent on restoring another of the stained glass windows and placing a small plaque under it saying that it was paid for with Armine's bequest. This work will be carried out early next year. We are very grateful for this generous gesture to St. Andrew's Church.

Chris.

Nativity Play, St Andrew's: 24th December 2006

In recent years, the Nativity Play produced by Sonning CE Primary School has been repeated in St Andrew's Church on Christmas Eve with any other children of primary school age being included if they wished. We plan to have a similar arrangement again this year, so if you child/children would like to be involved, please contact Alice Wilkinson on 932 0264.

As in previous years, younger children are invited to come in costume (angels or shepherds) and join the Nativity scene at the end of the play.

Jan Hammond

St Patrick's Viewpoint

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, please put a penny in the old mans hat" so the old rhyme goes. Christmas is a time of giving with goodwill as we celebrate Jesus' coming into the world to make a profound difference to man's mindset, his subsequent behaviour and his future. So many less fortunate than ourselves will benefit from our generosity this Christmas if we have the mind to it. Don't just keep your generosity in the family. Every week, appeals for one good cause or another flood through our letterbox. We are spoilt for choice to where we should give our pennies and pounds in the name of holy Jesus to make a difference to their lives. With so much of the world in turmoil the toll on human life doesn't get less, it is on the increase. This was the world into which Jesus was born with the express purpose of demonstrating what to love God and to love your neighbour really means in practical ways to alleviate suffering.

The motivation to do something about it comes principally from the heart in the first instance. As at the past Christmases we shall again be singing carols in the streets of Charvil on Tue 19th Dec and in the Wee Waif on Christmas eve to raise funds for "Feed the Children". Come and join us with your friends to sing your heart out, and empty your pockets and wallets at one and the same time. We hope also you will join us at the

midnight service at St Patrick's and the family communion service on Christmas day.

Whatever! "if you haven't got a penny then a halfpenny will do, if you haven't got a halfpenny God bless you" We hope you have a really good Christmas and that one way or another you will put a smile on the face of those whose Christmas and the prospects for the New Year look decidedly gloomy

From all of us may every one of you have a very happy and memorable Christmas.

Love and prayers,

Michael and family.

'Ere we come a wassailing

Boss said to me "Joanna, it's time for your monthly input to the parish tabloid. Uncle Gordon has sent out a reminder, and he wants it kept brief, space is at a premium in the Christmas edition". Dead easy I thought, just say "Happy Xmas" and exit stage left. But that would be a bit of a cop out wouldn't it? It's a bit like those scruffy urchins who come round, bang on the door, bellow out "We wish you a merry Christmas and a 'appy new year" bang bang bang - "we're 'ere to demand money viv or vivout menaces". Boss usually gives 'em a carol sheet for their further edification, you never know, it might strike a chord somewhere.

We're going carol singing round Charvil on Tue 19th December, meet at 8 Park View Drive South at 6.45 pm probably going to sing in Pipistrelle way & Strathmore Drive this year. We sing proper carols, with the Charvil nightingale to lead us, a chorus of carollers and an army of urchins to beat at the doors with collecting tins, so come along, it's good fun, a chance to exercise the lungs in the good old fresh air and the collection goes to "Feed the Children". I expect there'll be mince pies and mulled wine afterwards somewhere. I'd be there like a shot, but it's me wheels you know, can't cope with the ruts. I'll stay tucked up at St Paddy's, nice & warm, praying it's not too cold or wet for you lot.

Have a really Happy Christmas, and just as a reminder the happenings at St P's are:

- Sunday 3rd Dec: 9.30 am - family & toy service
- Sunday 17th Dec: 4.30 pm - Nine lessons and carols
- Tuesday 19th Dec: 6.45 pm - Carol singing round Charvil
- Sunday 24th Dec: 9.00 pm - Carol singing in the Wee Waif
- Sunday 24th Dec: 11.30pm - Midnight Mass.
- Sunday 25th Dec: 9.30 am - Christmas morning family communion

Joanna (the St Patrick's Planner)

Churchyard Access

Regular pedestrians both with and without dogs in addition to those with bicycles entering St. Andrew's Churchyard will have had the opportunity to observe the new and recently erected 'No Cycling' signs. Pat Doyle has kindly produced and donated these made to measure signs, which are secured in full view of cyclists entering the Churchyard in an effort to ensure the 'No Cycling' requirement is observed.

Most people who walk their dog through the Churchyard are very good about picking up the mess their dog makes, but just a few are not quite so thoughtful. We would appreciate it if people would keep their dog on a lead in the Churchyard and keep it on the path. It is upsetting to see dogs lift their leg against the headstones or do something even worse on the graves. If your dog should defecate in the Churchyard PLEASE pick it up.

Long may the Churchyard remain a much used through route where pedestrians can stroll safely.

Bob Hine

Friends of St Andrew's

Concert, 11th Nov 2006

A most successful evening of music was organised by the Trustees of FoStAC in St Andrew's church when the Reading Male Voice Choir performed in aid of the Friends' ventures. The choir of sixty were magnificent under the musical direction of Mr Gwyn Arch. They started with a selection of religious music including work from Sibelius and Mozart and a fascinating Trinidadian version of the Lord's Prayer. The first half ended with a Welsh song and, of course "Those magnificent men in their flying machines". In the second half the choir showed its versatility with a range of songs from Verdi to John Denver.

They had a wonderful guest soprano in Lori Tingay, who not only looked lovely but also sang beautifully with songs from Mozart, Gounod and ending her second half with a selection of love songs, signing off with a lovely rendition of Gershwin's "Let's Call the whole thing off".

Over two hundred people were entertained in the church by the choir and Lori, and were refreshed by our own volunteers during the interval. My thanks to the Trustees and helpers for making the evening so successful and helping us raise over £1200 towards the Friends' work for the church.

Colin Pierce

Update of St Andrew's Book of Remembrance

If you would like an entry in the Book of Remembrance, then please provide the information below to Carole Barnett on 0118 969 6693 or email her at gordonbarnett@btinternet.com:

The person's: Name
 Date of birth
 Date of death.

Carole Barnett

Twyford and District Volunteer Centre

Do you have any free time?

Twyford and District Volunteer Centre are once again desperately looking for drivers to help transport people to hospitals, doctor's surgeries and local day centres etc. Volunteers are not required on a regular weekly basis but are telephoned and asked to help with specific jobs which would, on average, take up two hours or so of your time. If you are unable to help on that day there is no pressure, you simply say "No" and wait for the next call. You would be reimbursed for petrol at the rate of 30 pence per mile.

If you were able to help you would be giving your time to a very valuable service to local people who rely on us. Anyone interested, please contact either:

Jean Bryant on 0118 934 1873, Liz Jenkins on 0118 934 5985 or
Rosemary Digby on 0118 969 3277

Please try to help! We need you!

Rosemary Digby

Parish magazine deliverer wanted for Charvil Lane, Sonning

I need someone to deliver about 20 magazines in Charvil Lane, Sonning once a month from January. If anyone is interested in taking this on, please would they contact me on 0118 961 8017 or email:

j.w.toys@btinternet.com.

Pat Livesey

Royal British Legion - Sonning Branch (BR 1817)

Remembrance 2006



The parade and service this year attracted a larger congregation and spectator group than we have seen for many years. In spite of a very small contingent from The Blue Coat C.C.F. this year, we had 519 in church and the offertory contribution to the Poppy Appeal was again a record at £1005.01p. We don't know who gave the 1p, but thank you!

So far, the appeal has raised a magnificent £5,571.00 to which will be added Gift Aid and other contributions received as the Appeal year progresses. This is about £1,200 more than at the same point last year. Thank you to all who helped by collecting, donating or helping in any other way. Of course, we must not forget Malcolm Geater, the Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator for the Branch. Without his superb planning and execution, it would not happen. Congratulations Malcolm.

The small Poppy collection boxes for use 'at home' for your odd pence and two pence pieces are available from Malcolm: Call him on 969 3132.

Gordon Barnett

Sonning Art Group

It seems that a number of people suffering severe dementia still retain the ability to recognize areas of bright colour such as yellow, orange and red. The staff of Lashbrook Nursing Home, Shiplake decided to put this to the test and invited Sonning Art Group to produce appropriately coloured murals to decorate corridors of their severe dementia unit in Lashbrook House.

Having successfully taken on the task of producing 25 "Monet" paintings for a play at the Mill earlier this year members were pleased to accept this new challenge. The project has been much more than simply painting a big picture! The enthusiasm, group dynamics and teamwork involved in the design and execution of the work had to be seen to be believed and will have lasting beneficial effects for the Group.

Entitled "Seasonal Flowers" the brightly coloured 12 ft. long mural picture was formally presented to Mrs Sue Gogna, Matron and Amanda Mann, activity coordinator of Lashbrook House at the Art Group's Annual Christmas Luncheon in Pearson Hall and made a suitable finish on which to end the year.

George Webster

Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group - Tuesday 5th December

Please join us for Christmas festivities on Tuesday 5th December from 10am to 11.30am in the St Sarik Room next to St Andrew's Church. We will be doing a Christmas craft activity, reading the Nativity story and singing some Christmas songs. All pre-school aged children and their parents/carers are welcome.

I am sure everyone at Little Fishes would like to join me in saying a huge thank you to Jean who will sadly be leaving us at the end of this year. For the past six years Jean has been a wonderful help at Little Fishes, providing refreshments, opening up the St Sarik room at the start of each session and tidying up afterwards. Jean's commitment to and involvement with the group is very much appreciated and will be missed. If anyone is interested in fulfilling this role in the New Year please contact me.

Sarah Turner

Sonning & Sonning Eye Society

Hedge Laying Demonstration

Following on from a busy summer for the Sonning and Sonning Eye Society, November saw a very well attended hedge laying demonstration in beautiful autumn sunshine by John Woodhouse. John's demonstration was very well received by all who attended.

A.G.M & Supper

November is also the month of the S&SES A.G.M, which by the time you read this, will already have been held. As I write approximately 80 tickets have so far been sold for the A.G.M, and accompanying meal, so I am confident it will have been well attended. This A.G.M. will see a few changes in the members of the Executive Committee and further details of these changes will be published in next months Parish Magazine as well as in 'The Bridge'.

An Ideal Christmas Gift

With Christmas fast approaching have you considered giving membership of the S&SES as a present? The advantages of membership are many and would make a great present for anybody interested in Sonning and Sonning Eye. Also the 'Henry Woodyer in Sonning' booklet would make an ideal Christmas present for friends or relatives. Published to coincide with Heritage Open Days 2005, this 16-page booklet contains: brief biographies of Woodyer and Canon Pearson, Woodyer's first patron in Sonning and a brief history of the Palmer family in the 19th century, his other major patrons. There are descriptions of the restoration of St Andrew's; the refurbishment of Holme Park, the Palmer mansion now Reading Blue Coat School; its village

entrance and lodge; the former Boys' School, now private houses; the old Vicarage; and other Woodyer buildings in Woodley, Reading and Wokingham. These can be obtained from Diana Coulter on 0118 969 2132 or over the food counter at The Bull for the bargain price of £2.50.

Forthcoming Event

The next S&SES event will be on Friday 26 January 2007 and will be 'A Night at the Pictures - Sonning on Film'. This will be held at The Reading Bluecoat School - Tickets £3.00 (Members)/£5.00. Further details will be available in the January issue of the Parish Magazine and on the S&SES website. <http://www.sonning.org.uk>

Mark Green

Sonning CE Primary School

As we rapidly move into December and the end of the Autumn Term I cannot believe how busy school life has been. Our themed weeks continue to be very popular with everyone and our recent Book Week involved a visit by the author, Nicholas Allan, who shared his story writing techniques with the children and amazed us with his ideas for illustrations; we particularly like his book Jesus' Christmas Party which tells the story of the nativity seen through the eyes of the innkeeper trying to get some sleep! There was also a story writing competition and the chance for classes to write for other audiences - especially the younger children. The week culminated in an opportunity to come dressed as a book character- the efforts and ingenuity of many of the costumes was amazing! In preparation for our Art week in the Spring Term some staff attended a training day at the National Gallery in London as part of their 'Take One Picture' scheme.

It was lovely to welcome members of the local branch of the Royal British Legion (Colin Pierce, Gordon Barnett, John Edmonds, and Bob Emmett) for a very special Remembrance Assembly on November 10th. There have been many very positive comments about how moving people felt this assembly was, especially when staff scattered poppy leaves over the heads of the children during the silence. There was also an opportunity for asking our visitors questions afterwards and to find out a little more about the significance of why and what we remember.

As a church school we continue to value our links with St. Andrew's and are very much looking forward to our next two occasions there. For our visit on St. Andrew's day we will be celebrating our distinctiveness as a church school and replicating, in part, the special service held in October with the Bishop of Reading for representatives of all Wokingham's Church Schools. Preparations are already underway for our Christmas Carol Service in December when we will retell the Christmas story in drama, readings and song. Term ends for us on December 20th when both staff and pupils will

have a well-earned rest and the opportunity to reflect on all their wonderful achievements over the past 3 months.

Lesley Green

Monday Club

Members of the Royal British Legion made a presentation to our leader, Ken Trimmings. The certificate commemorated Ken's thirty-five years as a member of the Legion. This is a fine example of devotion to a great cause.

A member of Chocolates Continental gave us a history of chocolates and a tasting of various kinds. We learnt that chocolate started to be used in AD400 as drinking chocolate in Central America, and that it took about a hundred years before it was introduced into Europe, then became the familiar chocolate bar in 1828. Some obvious inventions take time. Miranda from Yeldall Manor, a local rehabilitation centre for men addicted to drugs and drink, described the work that is carried out at the centre, and told us how long a person must stay in the centre if they want to be 'clean'. A most absorbing talk, and one that made me realise how lucky people of my generation are, as we were not put in the way of temptation as young people are today. As one who gave up smoking fifty years ago I can appreciate how difficult it must be to get off other addictions. There but for the grace of God....

RCA

Reading Valley Tangent Present:

A Ferret Race Evening in aid of the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance. Saturday 17th February 2007 in Coronation Hall, Woodley. Price £5 per person, including supper 7 for 7:30 start. Tickets are available from Hilary Tel: 969 6926. Cheques payable to Reading Valley Tangent and then mail to 25 Copse Mead, Woodley, RG5 4RP. An s.a.e. would be helpful please.

Come and have some fun betting on a ferret race. You could own a ferret in one of the races for an additional £5. If so please let me know what you would like to call your ferret. If he wins his race you get extra money back as an owner! Your name will be printed in the programme as the owner. We are also looking for race sponsors at. Any company or joint individuals who are prepared to pay £25 for this would have their chosen race name printed on the programme; for example, we have one called Shinfield Shambles Stakes. Thank you for your support.

Hilary Tindall

Sonning Cricket Club - Berks Champions yet again!

Another highly successful season on and off the field saw Sonning 1st XI become Berks Cricket League Premier Division champions for a record 8th time and for the 4th time in the last 6 seasons. The 2nd XI retained the heady heights amongst the 1st XIs in Division 1 and finished 4th, and the newly formed 3rd XI finished a very creditable 3rd in Division 6. Our star bowler and all-round nice chap, Ghulam Abbas walked off with the Berks League Bowler of the Year Award for the 5th time in the 6 seasons he has been here, by skittling out another 43 rather frightened batsmen and J.J. Harris finished up as Batsman of the Year for the Premier Division with an average of 54.

Perhaps even more pleasing was the very successful incorporation of many of the local youngsters into the senior teams. A total of 8 colts represented the club this year and they make for a very promising future for us. Particular mention should go to two local 16 year olds who performed outstandingly this season - Dan Medhurst, who played 31 games for the club (more than any other player), took 29 wickets and deservedly won Sonning's Young Player of the Year Award, and Alex Wright who scored two centuries, including a stunning 150 not out for the Sunday XI. Overall the match stats were as follows:

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST
1 st	13	10	2	1
2 nd	15	7	4	4
3 rd	14	6	2	6
Sun	20	8	0	12
Midweek	5	3	0	2
TOTAL	67	34	8	25

Off the field we have been invited to join the Thames Valley League (TVL) in the 2008 season. We have accepted this offer because without an automatic hierarchy in cricket (unlike rugby) it is impossible to progress by any other means through the ranks of amateur cricket. Our 1sts and 2nds will therefore move to the TVL and we will retain our 3rds in the Berks League.

Recently we celebrated our season in style with a very successful dinner-dance at Sonning Golf Club, attended by 100 members, during which the league trophies were paraded with pride.

The final thing to mention here is that we are keen to encourage players of all ages, especially youngsters, to join us. To find out more, log on to www.sonningcc.co.uk

Alastair Driver

**Don't Forget!
Christmas Services**

St Andrew's

Nine Lessons & Carols: Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm followed by a drink and mince pie.

Nativity Play: Sunday 24th at 4.00 p.m. All children attending are invited to come dressed as angels, shepherds etc and to join the cast at the end.

Midnight Mass: Sunday 24th starting at 11.30pm and lasting about an Hour.

Christmas Day: 8.00am Said Communion (1662 Prayer Book)
10.30am Family Communion to which children are asked to bring one of their presents for the Vicar to play with!

St Patrick's

Sunday 3rd Dec: 9.30 am - family & toy service

Sunday 17th Dec: 4.30 pm - Nine lessons and carols

Tuesday 19th Dec: 6.45 pm - Carol singing round Charvil

Sunday 24th Dec: 9.00 pm - Carol singing in the Wee Waif

Sunday 24th Dec: 11.30pm - Midnight Mass.

Sunday 25th Dec: 9.30 am - Christmas morning family communion

Concerned Husband

A concerned husband went to the doctor to talk about his wife. He said to the doctor, "I think my wife is deaf because she never hears me the first time and always asks me to repeat things."

"Well", the doctor replied, "go home tonight, stand about fifteen feet from her, and say something. If she does not reply, move 5 feet closer and say it

again. Keep doing this until we get an idea about the severity of her deafness."

The husband went home and did exactly as the doctor had instructed. He started off 15 feet from his wife in the kitchen as she was chopping some vegetables.

He said, "Honey, what's for dinner?" He heard no response. He moved 5 feet closer and asked again. No reply. He moved 5 feet closer. Still no reply. He finally got fed up and moved right behind her, about an inch away, and asked again, "Honey, what's for dinner?"

She replied, "For the fourth time, vegetable stew!"

New Service in the Area: The People's Private Doctor

FarleyMed, your local Private GP was officially opened by John Redwood, MP. At our launch party last month we entertained many local residents, Professor Rachel Hall, and Stuart Mathieson, from the Royal Berkshire Hospital Trust, and local GP's. In August, FarleyMed received its registration with the Healthcare Commission. Services provided are those of an NHS GP, i.e. acute and chronic care, disease management and health promotion, screening, childhood and adult immunisations, smears, investigations such as electrocardiography, bloods, yellow fever registered travel clinic and immunisations. In addition we offer corporate services, including occupational health and insurance medicals and due to recent changes in legislation we are able to offer Aesthetic services (i.e. Botox).

Cervical Cancer Vaccine

We offer the first ever vaccine, for cervical cancer prevention. At present Gardasil is limited to private practice as there are no guidelines as to its usage within the NHS. This vaccine represents an exciting breakthrough, as cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women below the age of 35; which is the equivalent of 40 deaths per day in the EU.

Child Protection

Guidance to Doctors from their professional body emphasised the need for training in child protection. The child protection course is now a requirement of the HCC before registration will be granted.

Out of Hours appointments

FarleyMed is working alongside its NHS colleagues, in order to achieve seamless care for patients. Moreover, FarleyMed offers services outside normal hours, by appointment, in the evenings, at weekends, and on bank holidays. Patients will see the same doctor at all these times. We hope that

the people feel free to visit FarleyMed, for a chat, or to find out more about how we can help them.

Director: Lady Bearsted

Mrs I Melvin: Manager

Tel: 0118 973 2330

www.farleymed.co.uk

Lest we Forget

As we have just remembered the fallen of two world wars and other conflicts, it seemed appropriate to include this item. The poem that follows was read at the Sonning CE Primary School Act of Remembrance Assembly on Friday, 10th November 2006. The first verse was read by a senior student and the subsequent verses by a World War II veteran.

1. Why do you still march on old man,
with medals on your chest?
Why do you still grieve old man,
For those friends you laid to rest?
Why do your eyes gleam old man,
when you hear the bugles blow?
Tell me why you cry old man,
About those days so long ago.

*2. I'll tell you why I march,
With medals on my chest.
I'll tell you why I grieve young man,
For those I have laid to rest.
Through misty fields of Gossamer silk,
Come visions of distant times,
When boys of tender age,
Lost lives, and mothers pined.*

*3. And you ask me why I march young man,
I march to remind you all,
That but for those apple blossom youths,
You'd never have known freedom at all.*

Local Organisations

St Andrew's: Sunday Club	Heather Hexter	946 1316
St Andrew's: Little Fishes	Mrs Sarah Turner	944 8154
St Andrew's: Sunday School	Jan Hammond	926 2365
St Andrew's: Tower Captain:	Mrs P. Elliston	969 5967
The Friends of St Andrew's	Wendy Williams	969 6609
St Patrick's: Sunday School	Catherine Balchin	934 2840
1st Charvil Rainbows	Guider: Brenda Cowdery	934 5698
Charvil Art Club	Secretary: Mr W.G. Crane	934 5791
Charvil Branch Conservatives	Mrs E. Hobbs	934 0528
Charvil Brownies	Tawny Owl: Claire Howells	934 5372
Charvil Guides	Naomi Simpson	934 1392
Charvil Caterpillar Club	Sandy Moffatt	934 9794
Charvil Parish Council	Clerk: Mr I. Cohen	901 7693
Charvil Pre-School Playgroup	Secretary: Helen Myers	934 2144
Charvil Senior Residents Club	Miss C. Edwards	969 2114
Charvil Women's Club	Mrs S. Newman	934 0589
Charvil Youth Club	Jo Holden	934 4701
Sonning & Charvil Baby-sitting Circle	Mrs Vanessa Jones <i>E-mail</i> vanessalouisejones@hotmail.com	934 1185
Sonning & District Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Link Group	Maria Gee maria.gee@ntlworld.com	962 7721
Sonning Art Group	Chairman: Mr G.B. Webster	944 0699
Sonning Book Club	Mrs Anne Webster	944 0699
Sonning Branch, British Legion	Chairman: Gordon Barnett	969 6693
Sonning Brownies	Leader: Miss D. Reeves	969 2987
Sonning C of E Primary School	Head Teacher: Mrs L. Green	969 3399
Sonning Conservatives	Secretary: Mary Jones	944 2877
Sonning Cricket Club	Membership: Ali Driver	969 2698
Sonning Flower Club	Secretary: Ms S. Robinson	969 0748
Sonning Glebe Art Club	Julian Toms	969 0100
Sonning Glebe WI (eve mtgs)	Mrs D. Mouldsley	961 8829
Sonning Guides	Leader: Sue Jones	969 6628
Sonning Lawn Tennis Club	Membership info: Ali Campbell	969 2646
Sonning Liberal Democrats	John Edmonds	969 0017
Sonning Neighbourhood Watch	Sec: Sue Bell	969 6924
Sonning Parish Council	Clerk, Mrs L. Bates	969 7753
Sonning Rainbow Guides	Leader: Mrs Debbie Knox	969 4470
Sonning RNLI	Chairman: David Bates	969 7753
Sonning School PTA	Chairman: Mr Ian Clark	375 9119

1st Sonning Scouts Group	GS Leader: Wendy Cherry	926 2363
1st Sonning Scouts Group	Scout Leader: Mike Watts	962 8388
1st Sonning Scouts Group	Cub Scout Leader:	
1st Sonning Scouts Group	Beaver Scout Ldr: Trefor Fisher	969 3279
Sonning Table Tennis Club	Alan Tinson	969 0782
Sonning Twinning Association	David Bates	969 7753
Sonning Toddler Group	Elizabeth Tonge	969 2080
Sonning Village Players	Secretary: Mr S. Atkins	969 1134
Sonning & Sonning Eye Society	Secretary: Mrs P. Feathers	934 3193
Sonning Village Show	Secretary: Mrs Heather Hine	969 8653
Sonning Working Men's Club	Secretary: Bob Hulley	969 9431
Friends of Ali's Pond	Alastair Driver	969 2698
Masquerade Drama & Dance Group for Young People	Clare Hatfield	07973 918225
Monday Club	Leader: Ken Trimmings	969 1072
Pearson Hall	Caretaker & Bookings: Mrs Jenny Adams	969 7692
Pearson Hall Mgmt Committee	Secretary: Mr Colin McEwen	934 0300
Badminton Club	Mrs P. Pardoe	934 5643
Longmead Bridge Club	Chairman: Tony Cowling	969 5181
Rotary Club of Loddon Vale	Secretary: Norman Mouldsley	961 8829
Serinette Ladies Choir	Suzanne Newman	934 0589
Short Mat Bowling Club	Mrs S. Newman	934 0589
Tuesday Club	Mrs Marjorie Bennet	934 5059
Vivace Girls Choir	Suzanne Newman	934 0589

Ali's Pond	E-mail: ali@sonningdrivers.plus.com www.sonning.net/alispond.html
Sonning & Charvil services	www.sonningparish.org.uk/docs.htm
Sonning Working Men's Club	www.btinternet.com/~sonning_club/news.html
Sonning-on-Thames	archive.museophile.sbu.ac.uk/sonning www.sonning.net
Sonning & Sonning Eye Society	www.sonning.org.uk
Sonning Art Group	www.sonningartgroup.org.uk
Sonning School	www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk