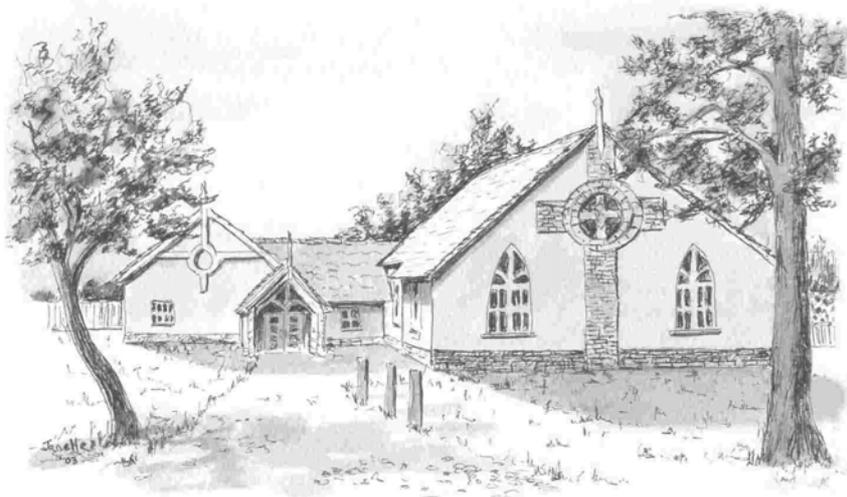


Sonning Parish Magazine



Serving the Communities
of Sonning and Charvil



25p

January 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 guest house 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

Clergy: Vicar	Canon C. G. Clarke, The Vicarage, Thames St, Sonning	969 3298
Associate Vicar	Rev Michael Forrer, 6 Park View Drive South, Charvil	934 1989
Licensed Lay Ministers	Mr D. G. Sims, Vine Cottage, Pound Lane, Sonning	969 3151
	Mr R. J. Peters, Elm Gables, Parkway Drive, Sonning	969 3589
Churchwardens:		
	Mr Bob Hine, 28 Glebe Lane, Sonning, RG4 6XH	969 8653
	Mrs Jan Hammond	926 2365
	Mr J. M. Stansfield (Emeritus), 3 Strathmore Drive, Charvil	934 1762
Deputies:	Mr Mark Jordan	940 1431
	Charvil: Mr C M Easton, 8 Park View Drive South, Charvil	934 0795
Parochial Church Council:		
Secretary:	Mr Mark Jordan, 12 Manor Wood Gate, Lower Shiplake, RG9 3BY	940 1431
Treasurer:	Mr James Wilson, 3 Imperial Court, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 1NP	07721 690 524
Gift Aid:	Mr John Scoble, 8 Whitegates Lane, Earley, Reading RG6 1EE	926 5138
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	St Patrick's Church Hall: Charvil: Mrs N. Potter	934 4961
Internet Addresses:	http://www.sonningparish.org.uk Editor's mailbox: gordonbarnett@btinternet.com Advertiser's mailbox: bob@rpassociatesuk.com Vicar's e-mail: chris@cgclarke.fsnet.co.uk	

Forthcoming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>What's on?</i>	<i>Page</i>
Jan 20	SWMC Quiz night	R
Jan 21	Conservative Winter Drinks	21
Jan 27	S & SES Talk, Pearson Hall	22
Jan 28	STA Dîner Anglais, Ligugé, France	R
Feb 3	SWMC Live music	R
Feb 11	Mission quiet day, Wargrave	16
Feb 12	RNLI Sonning musical evening	24
Mar	STA A.G.M. Date to be confirmed	R
Apr 22	Festival Supper, Pearson Hall	22
May 4	Mission Commissioning Service, St Andrew's	15
May 7	BBQ lunch, St Andrew's Vicarage garden	16
May 27	Sonning Regatta	R
May 28/29	Scarecrow trail	R
Jun 11	STA Regatta, Ligugé, France	R
Jul 15	STA Bastille Day celebration, Sonning	R

Deadline, February 2006 Magazine is 4.00 p.m. Friday, 27th January.

You could be advertising your business

Or organisation here!

Contact Bob Peters

0118 969 3579

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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 January 2006

Happy New Year

I hope you have a happy 2006 and that you will enjoy good health. I also hope that it will be a year when we can all deepen our faith and draw closer to God. If you were able to get to our Christmas Eve or Day services you will know that one of the things we plan for this year is a Parish Mission.

Sister Chris of the Franciscans will lead the Mission and the Mission Team will be in our Parish from 4th to 14th May. It will start with a commissioning service at 8.00pm on Thursday 4th May. The Bishop of Reading will be preaching at and leading this service. I hope you will write it in your new diary and be able to attend this Service.

The theme of the Mission is "Finding your way?" and there will be a variety of events during the Mission in Charvil and Sonning with the hope that at least one of them will appeal to you. There will be plenty of opportunity for teaching, discussion and questions and other things, which are purely social.

Details of what will happen and when will be given a little nearer the time but there will be something happening every day and most evenings during the ten days the Mission Team are here. They hope to visit most of the groups in Charvil and Sonning and if you are a member of a group or organisation who would like a speaker from the Mission Team please let The Vicar know now. On Sunday 7th May there will be a BBQ lunch in The Vicarage Garden to which everyone is invited.

There is a web site, which you might like to visit which is: www.FindingYourWay.org.uk There are also Mission prayer cards, badges and wrist bands at the back of both churches. The Church Council and I see this Mission as the most important event for our church this year.

Over the past few years we have had many people join our congregations and we believe this Mission will provide opportunities for all of us to understand more about the Christian faith. We also hope it will allow the many people who have good will towards the Church but who do not attend very regularly to explore their own faith.

As part of the preparation for the Mission, Sister Chris will be leading a quiet day on Saturday 11th February from 10.00am to 4.00pm in the Hannan Room, next to the Church in Wargrave. During the day she will be leading sessions on prayer and exploring the various forms of prayer, meditation, intercession etc. Anyone who would like to attend this day is welcome and, if you would like to, you are asked to sign the form at the back of St. Andrew's or St. Patrick's Church so we have some idea of numbers.

Do please remember our Mission and those who will be leading it in your prayers.

Love & prayers

Chris

From the Diary

Baptisms

27th Nov. Emma Louise Dollery, Aaron Buick Montague, Henry David Ridgway Mott.

18th Dec. Liberty Ellen Whitwell, Edward Andrew Whitwell, Imogen Esther Thompson.

Weddings

3rd Dec. Lee James Fenny to Victoria Anne Lewis.

8th Dec. Andrew Russell Lumley Smith to Holly Phillis Machin

Funerals

22nd Dec. Maurice Wyatt (Reading Crematorium)

23rd Dec. Doris Barbara Teesdale (St. Andrew's, Crematorium & Churchyard)

29th Dec. Barbara Eva Schofield (Reading Crematorium)

29th Dec. Elsa Kelly (Reading Crematorium)

Thank you

Christine and I would like to thank you for your Christmas Cards and good wishes at Christmas.

It was good to see so many of you at the various services and I know you would wish to join me in thanking the many people who helped make things go so well. I know that many people spent hours arranging flowers, decorating the tree and rehearsing the music for Christmas. Others gave a great deal of time getting ready to lead their part of the worship. We are particularly grateful to Lesley Green and the children of Sonning School for the Nativity Play and to Dennis & Christine, from The Bull, for the gift of the Christmas Tree.

Marriage Preparation

Those who have booked a Wedding in St. Andrew's should have received an invitation to the first of the Marriage Preparation Sessions. If any have slipped through the system this session will be held in the St. Sarik Room on Saturday 21st January starting at 10.30am.

Chris

St Patrick's in prospect 2006

A fortune-teller was given a crystal ball for Christmas, but she threw it away because she could see "no future" in it. Contrary to her experience, St Paul wrote "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen". Our Father God alone knows what the future holds in store and our Faith and Trust in Him will carry us through the coming year, come what may.

Leaving behind the past year with its more than fair share of both natural and man made disasters, we tread in hope, counting our blessings in a spirit of gratitude. Our hope is that however desperate or tragic the events of the world we live in, that good will always triumph in the end, just as Jesus rose from the dead to endorse the extent of love, care and compassion that God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit has for every single individual man, woman

and child on earth. The love of God is the input and the output of Faith and Hope. Love is the reality of what makes life and living so worthwhile in this relationship with us and in our relationship with each other.

2006 promises to be an exciting year at St Patrick's and St Andrew's with the prospect of the Mission, guided and led by Sister Chris and the Franciscans, to the whole parish in May. We hope to get lots of feedback as to how and in what ways the Church can meet the spiritual and practical needs of the community in new expressions of showing how much God loves all those who live within Charvil and those with whom we are in contact who live further a field. We have to reach out with open arms to embrace the needs of everyone as best we can, inspired by our Father God who embraces all who put their faith and trust in Him.

A Happy New Year

Love and prayers,

Michael and Family

Christian Aid Concert 2006 - Performers & helpers needed.

Well folks, that's Christmas behind us. Gone but not forgotten. At the time of writing the boss & minions have set up all the candles and Christmas tree in readiness for the Christmas services, and we've done the nine lessons & carols. By the time you read this, that is assuming anyone does read it, we'll have done the village carol singing and sung ourselves ragged at the Wee Waif in aid of "Feed the Children" and followed that with the Midnight Mass and Christmas day service.

That takes us into a new year and all the promise and excitement that will bring. One of the big excitements will be "Finding your Way" in May. Now part of the festivities that week will be the annual Christian Aid concert on the 13th May. Boss has been asked to organise it, and he's looking for volunteers to entertain, help get the show on the road and on the night. Now I know he's going to contact the usual suspects, but don't wait for the tap on the shoulder. If there's anyone out there who would like to be involved please contact Chris Easton on 0118 934 0795. We had a super show last year. St Paddy's was nearly full and we raised £472.81 for the weak Christians, which is the best we've ever done and topped the 2004 effort by 130 quid. There's still room to go better. Think what we could do if we actually filled the hall?

So go on, put the date in your diaries, and give the boss a ring if you'd like to pitch in and have a go. The weak Christians will be delighted.

Joanna (the St Patrick's Pianner)

Friends of St Andrew's Church

Christmas Fair - 3rd December 2005

The Trustees of the Friends of St. Andrew's Church would like to thank everybody who helped with the recent Christmas Fair. Nearly two thousand pounds was raised on this occasion, which we hope was enjoyed by all. We are indebted to all those who gave so much of their time to prepare for the Fair, to those who donated gifts, bottles and raffle prizes, and of course to all who came and supported us on the day.

We wish you all a Very Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you at FoStAC events during 2006.

Colin, Steve, John, Barbara, Heather, Wendy

From my 2005 Diary

My lovely friend Zoe died today, January 29th. I think everyone should take a leaf from her book; Zoe always had time for you no matter how busy she was. She was everyone's friend. I will miss her so much. Zoe, I just hope you are at peace now and your spirit is free, I will truly miss you. God bless and rest in eternal peace. Love,

Yvonne Diane

Sonning Parish Council

High Street Road Closure

Many of you will have seen that contractors working for Wokingham District Council replaced the pavement in the two-way section of the High Street during December. This work was required due to its deteriorating condition. Week commencing 6 February they will replace the pavement in the one-way section of the High Street. This work will take two weeks. In order to carry out the work in this narrower section, the road will be closed to through traffic during this period.

Parking will be available to residents during the evening/night and every effort will be made to accommodate resident's vehicles whilst the works are in progress. All residents of the High Street have been informed.

The District Council will be erecting diversion signs to advise through traffic. We apologise for any inconvenience caused during this period.

Lesley Bates
Clerk, Sonning Parish Council

Spectacles

In 2005 we collected 281 pairs of spectacles for the local charity Hope and Aid Direct. These glasses will be cleaned, mended and graded and sent to eye hospitals in Kosovo and India.

With your help we hope to send even more in 2006 therefore please be kind enough to put your 'old specs' in the box in St., Andrew's porch. Thank you.

Norma McGready

Nectar Cards

Thanks to those of you who kindly donated Nectar cards for the Children's Gift Service at St., Andrew's. We did not have many but we were able to purchase some toys from Argos to be distributed through the Reading Family Aid Group to children who had few or no presents at Christmas.

If you would like to use your cards in this way I shall be collecting them throughout 2006.

Norma McGready

Distributor wanted for Parish Magazine Delivery

I need a volunteer to deliver 14 magazines around Glebe Lane once a month as the current distributor is moving house so will be unable to deliver them. If there is anyone who is willing to take on this task, please contact me on 0118 9 618017 or email j.w.toys@btinternet.com. Thanks.

Pat Livesey

Update on Loddon Vale Practice

Doctors

Dr Tait retires at the end of March 2006 and will be very much missed by patients and staff having been a partner in the practice since February 1971. Dr Byrne is away from the practice for the month of April 2006. Dr Katy Macdonald and Dr Ko Patel have now been working at the practice for some months and are both grateful for the welcome they have received from patients.

Smoking

Did you know that smoking is the greatest cause of premature death in the UK? If you stop smoking you will see a big improvement in your health. We run a *Stop Smoking* clinic at the surgery to help you give up smoking. Please contact reception for an appointment.

Appointment System

We have recently been looking at how we can improve our appointment system. We are now aiming to see all patients on the day they call or the day after regardless of medical urgency or for you to book ahead if you would prefer. We also wish to provide you with an appointment for the doctor you wish to see. In order for this system to work the receptionists may ask you for basic details of your condition so your appointment can be booked with the most appropriate health professional e.g. doctor, nurse, health care assistant, health visitor or district nurse.

Flu Vaccinations

We still have some flu vaccinations available. The doctors strongly recommend that patients who are aged 65 years and over or suffer with asthma, diabetes, chronic heart disease, chronic lung disease or chronic renal disease have a flu vaccination. Please ring reception to book your appointment.

Website

Do surf our site for health advice and information on how to make best use of the practice www.loddonvale.com

Compliments - Comments - Complaints

If you have any compliments, comments or complaints please see Karen Washbourn our Practice Manager. Please use our website for information on the practice and to order repeat prescriptions www.loddonvale.com.

Conservative Association - Sonning Branch

Winter Drinks Party

Our Winter Drinks Party will be held on Saturday, 21st January 2006, at 12 noon at Rowanbury, 99 Western Avenue, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Colin Pierce. Tickets are £7.50 and can be obtained from Mrs Joan Pierce (telephone 969 3779) or any member of the committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mary Jones

Sonning & Sonning Eye Society

The Society to get to grips with bricks for today and tomorrow

The Society's next major event will be "Bricks of Yesteryear manufactured for today and tomorrow", an illustrated talk by Nick Siney, who is Sonning born and bred, Society member and local brick-making expert. The talk will focus on how bricks are made in 2006 the same way as those used in Babylon and in Sonning centuries ago. Anyone who has heard Nick speak will know they are in for a very enjoyable, entertaining and fascinating evening. The talk takes place on Friday 27 January 2006 in the Pearson Hall, starting at 7.30 for 7.45 pm. Tickets are available at £2.00 (S&SES Members) or £4.00 (non-members) and include a glass of wine. Please contact either Diana Coulter on 969 2132, diana.coulter@orange.net, or Tony Swell on 969 1390, patsy-tonyswell@tesco.net.

Sales of *Henry Woodyer in Sonning* have been going well, with copies now available in local libraries, as well as the major copyright libraries. Copies can still be purchased at £2.50 via the Society's website www.sonning.org.net or at food counter in The Bull, if you are passing.

New members are always welcome. Benefits include eligibility to 1) attend the regular meetings of the Executive Committee and the AGM; 2) vote at the Annual General Meeting; and 3) volunteer for membership of any of the Society's Panels or sub-committees. You are also welcome to attend a range of events, normally for a reduced fee, to suit a wide variety of interests, and will receive *bridge*, the Society's quarterly newsletter. If you would like to join, please contact Carole Barnett on 969 6693.

Diana Coulter

Sonning Festival 2006

The regatta will be held on Saturday 27th May 2006, again on the north bank of the Thames, opposite Blue Coat School Boathouse. Now is the time to get your crews organized and into shape! More details of that at a later date.

Most of you will have already read the announcement of the *Open Gardens and Scarecrow Trail* in the September issue of the magazine, to be held over the Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday 28th & 29th May 2006.

Once again, on Sunday evening, we will be holding an Elegant Picnic in the beautiful surroundings of the gardens at South Lodge, by kind invitation of Margey Thorne and Andrew Barker.

We will be selling tickets and arranging regatta bookings at a Ticketing Day to be held in the Pearson Hall on Saturday 29th April from 10am until 12noon.

As the regatta is an expensive event to stage there will be a fund raising Supper in the Pearson Hall on Saturday 22nd April. More details of all events will be published soon.

Lynn Woodhouse

Sonning Art Group

Always keen to support village events the group participated for the third year running in the Sonning Twinning Association's Beaujolais Nouveau Evening occupying two full tables. Sadly we did not achieve last year's success in coming second in the quiz but did acquit ourselves reasonably well (in view of the quantity of Beaujolais we sampled) by not coming last!

Preparation is now in hand for the publication of next season's calendar of events which will be circulated to members together with the Annual Report and also published on the Group's website later this month. A new feature for 2006 is the introduction of the 'Chairman's Challenge Cup' to be awarded quarterly for 'Best Picture' on a chosen subject. The first subject picked for this new initiative is 'A Local Scene' and the cup will be awarded on the 13th January, which is the start of the new season.

As in previous years the Group is closed for the festive period, the final day, 9th December, being a social occasion involving Christmas lunch, appropriate liquid refreshments, music and a not too serious art quiz! The 2006 season starts on Friday 13th January and will incorporate a short Annual General Meeting during the tea break so as not to interrupt the serious business of painting!

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to wish members and the many friends of the Group a very happy Christmas and New Year.

George Webster

Sonning Book Club

Inaugural Meeting

Six people gathered for the inaugural meeting of the Sonning Book Club and agreed the way forward. Members will take turns to nominate the book of their choice (normally from one of the lists provided) which will be the

subject for discussion at the following monthly meeting. Ideally the Club would like to expand its membership to a maximum of about 12 members.

Sonning Working Men's Club has kindly provided the venue for the monthly meetings, which will take place every 4th Wednesday of the month at 10.15am finishing with coffee at 11.00am. The first meeting is set for 25th January and the initial choice of book for discussion is. "Sight Unseen" by Robert Goddard

Don't hold back! New members are most welcome. For more information please give me a call on 0118 9440699.

Anne Webster (Co-ordinator)

RNLI SONNING BRANCH

Following a very successful dinner held in the Pearson Hall recently, when we managed to raise almost £4000.00, which was fantastic, thank you to everyone who supported this event, the committee are planning to hold another musical evening in the Pearson Hall, on 12th February 2006.

We are hoping to utilise the talent of our many village musicians, so if you would like to do a turn, lasting about ten minutes, please contact the "Musical Director and Talent Scout" for the event, David Bates. on tel. 969 7753.

The format of the evening will be two sessions of assorted musical acts with supper in between. There will be a Bar available. I am sure this will prove to be another exciting evening of eclectic music played by a great group of musicians.

Tickets will be on sale, in the New Year, from Mo Hicks, tel. 969 6943, price £12.00, so let's try to give the musicians a good audience.

Lynn Woodhouse

Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group

Please join us for Little Fishes on Tuesday 3rd January from 10am to 11.30am in the St Sarik Room next to St Andrew's Church. All pre-school aged children and their parents/carers are welcome.

Sarah Turner

Supporting Kidney Research UK – as easy as a walk in the park

If you enjoy the endorphins a nice brisk walk brings, why not join Kidney Research UK in the Great Kidney Walk at Virginia Water, Windsor Great Park on Sunday 12 March 2006?

The walk is a great event for the whole family to get involved in and you can opt for the 4.5mile family route if you so wish. Alternatively, there is also the option of a 6.5mile route for those who want to challenge themselves a little more, with both routes starting and finishing at the *Wheatsheaf* car park. Whichever route you choose, you can take in the peace and tranquillity of the park, including landmarks such as the Old Temple and the Totem Pole!

The registration fee is £5.00 per walker, and although there is no minimum sponsorship, we encourage walkers to raise as much sponsorship as they can as proceeds will be used to further the work of Kidney Research UK in funding research into ways to prevent, manage and treat kidney disease.

New statistics indicate that 1 in 10 people in the UK suffer from Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), although they may be unaware that they have the condition. There are some 35,000 on renal replacement therapies, which include dialysis and transplantation, but as yet there are still no cures.

Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, says, "We are delighted that Crown Estates has granted Kidney Research UK permission to hold the walk at the Great Park. We hope that people will take advantage of this unique opportunity to visit and raise money for a worthy cause. If you would like to register, or require further information, please contact our events team on 08456 121 226 or visit www.kidneyresearchuk.org

Sonning Flower Club

The December meeting started well with mulled wine and afterwards, we sat down to a good lunch of roast chicken, roast potatoes, peas and carrots, followed by fruit salad and Profiteroles. We then went on to the A.G.M., the re-election of officers and competition awards. The best *Christmas Cracker* was won by Jean Savage and the overall winner for the most points in the whole year was won by Joan Wise.

We remembered absent friends, especially Betty Lawler and Barbara Teasdale.

For the next meeting on 12th January, the demonstrator will be Mrs Jane Haas (title to be announced). The competition will be entitled *Twelfth Night*.

Sonning Flower Club, held in the Pearson Hall, is on the second Thursday afternoon of every month, at 2.00 p.m. If you have not been before, now is your chance to join. It is a very friendly club where you will see some of the best demonstrators at work. We also have a social side with outings, and BBQs, lunches and cream teas in lovely gardens. If you are new in the village, it is a chance to get to know people.

Jane Gascoine

Sonning CE Primary School

As you can imagine life at Sonning School was rather hectic in the month or so before the end of term. We have all been very excited about our next classroom, which seems to have grown rapidly since building work started at the end of October; we hope that it will be finished by the beginning of March.

During November our Junior Choir took part in the Berkshire Young Musician's Trust concert at The Hexagon; it was lovely to hear the massed voices of 400 children singing together. Children in Years 2 and 3 told the Christmas Story through the eyes of 'The Hoity Toity Angel' and all the performances of this were well attended and much enjoyed. Our Carol Service, held at St Andrew's, was a lovely opportunity to celebrate Christmas through carols, songs and readings with our younger Year 1 children providing the nativity tableau. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the congregation who gave £431 in support of the local charity Feed the Children. There was also the opportunity to welcome Governors and volunteers to school to share in our Christmas Lunch Day which was a great success and, as usual, a very noisy and happy event.

We have recently welcomed back Mrs Claire Holland from maternity leave and are delighted that Mrs Jacqui Painter, who covered over this period, will be staying with us in a part-time capacity next term. As we move into 2006 we are busy planning for the forthcoming academic year. Our Local Authority, Wokingham, is moving to a co-ordinated admissions scheme for the next academic year (for children whose 5th birthday falls between 1st September 2006 - 31st August 2007) and those of you already registered with us should have been contacted Wokingham with an admissions booklet and

forms. As a Church Aided school our Governor Body remains the admitting authority and will consider applications in March in accordance with our admissions policy. If you, or anyone you know, has a child due to start school next year and you have not yet registered please phone Mrs Amanda Carne, our admissions clerk, and she will be happy to help you.

Lesley Green

Chernobyl Children - Change to Chairman

I would like to thank everyone who has supported us as a charity for the past seven years. It has been really good to have supporters that help with gifts for the children to take home, to help with events, supply clothes for the children to wear and to host either children or the Interpreter.

I have had a really successful time in the past seven years as chairman of the Sonning & District Link Group and have recently passed the reins to a new chairman. The new chairman is Maria Gee, Tel: 0118 962 7721 and her email address is maria.gee@ntlworld.com

I will not be leaving the charity, but felt it only right to give Maria time to work with the committee without being under her feet, so I am helping to start a new link in the Newbury\Thatcham area currently and next year will look to do the same in the Windsor\Maidenhead area, so if you have any friends or colleagues that might be interested in helping in those areas, it would be good if you could put them in touch with me on 0118 969 8086.

Shirley Chard

Thank You

As it is the anniversary of my dear John's death and funeral, I would like to say thank you to all of you who wrote to me, and have helped me so much, by holding me in your thoughts and prayers. Your thoughts and prayers have really sustained me, and helped me to be in church most Sundays, with thanks to Bob and Mary Peters for the transport. This has helped me to feel a part of St Andrew's and St Patrick's and therefore closer to my dear John. After so many years together, he really does seem only next door. Thank you and bless you all, not forgetting our wonderful doctors and nurses of 'Hurricane Way' who have shown so much support and the Day Centre at Twyford, which I have been attending for at least 3 months.

Peggy Lott

Local Organisations

St Andrew's: Creche	Alice Wilkinson	932 0264
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	White Owl: Rozanne White	901 7818
Charvil Guides	Naomi Simpson	934 1392
Charvil Gym Club	Sally Jones	966 5480
Charvil Caterpillar Club	Sarah Thompson	901 7608
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	Rachel Sale	932 0853
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: Mrs A. Thomas	986 7550
Sonning Glebe Art Club	Julian Toms	969 0100
Sonning Glebe WI (eve mtgs)	Mrs D. Mousley	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 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 Parent-Teachers Association	Chairman: Mrs Carolynn Hughes	934 4784
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	Ken Henderson	969 3027
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
Fitness Training	Chris Banks	934 0832
Longmead Bridge Club	Chairman: Tony Cowling	969 5181
Rotary Club, 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
Sonning & Charvil services	www.parishes.oxford.anglican.org/sonning/index.htm
Sonning Working Men's Club	www.btinternet.com/~sonning_club/news.html
Sonning-on-Thames	archive.museophile.sbu.ac.uk/sonning
Sonning Art Group	www.sonningartgroup.org.uk
Sonning School	www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk