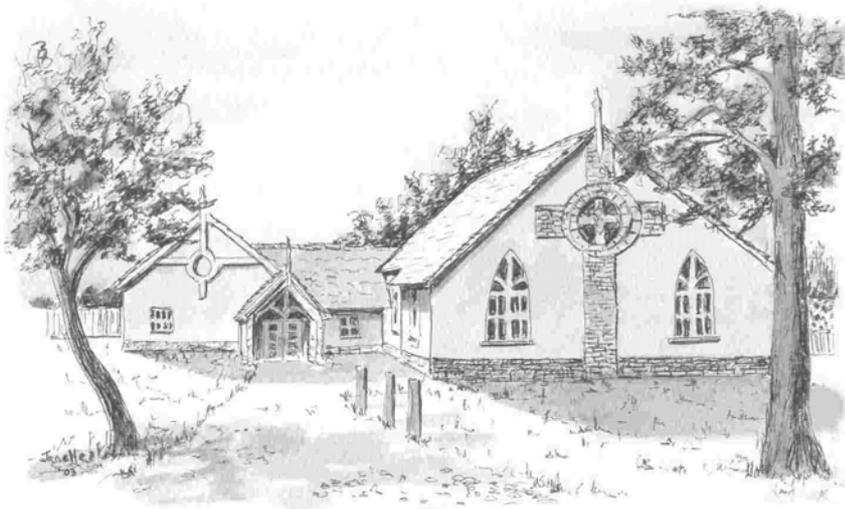


# Sonning Parish Magazine



Serving the Communities  
of Sonning and Charvil



25p

October 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

<b>Clergy: Vicar</b>	Canon C. G. Clarke, The Vicarage, Thames St, Sonning	969 3298
<b>Associate Vicar</b>	Rev Michael Forrer, 6 Park View Drive South, Charvil	934 1989
<b>Licensed Lay Ministers</b>	Mr D. G. Sims, Vine Cottage, Pound Lane, Sonning	969 3151
	Mr R. J. Peters, Elm Gables, Parkway Drive, Sonning	969 3589
<b>Churchwardens:</b>		
	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
<b>Deputies:</b>	Mr Mark Jordan	940 1431
	Charvil: Mr C M Easton, 8 Park View Drive South, Charvil	934 0795
<b>Parochial Church Council:</b>		
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mr Mark Jordan, 12 Manor Wood Gate, Lower Shiplake, RG9 3BY	940 1431
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Mr James Wilson, 3 Imperial Court, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 1NP	07721 690 524
<b>Gift Aid:</b>	Mr John Scoble, 8 Whitegates Lane, Earley, Reading RG6 1EE	926 5138
<b>Parish Magazine:</b>		
<b>Editor:</b>	Mr Gordon Barnett	969 6693
<b>Advertising:</b>	Mr Bob Peters	969 3589
<b>Circulation:</b>	Mrs Pat Livesey	961 8017
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	Mr David Duvall, 39 Hudson Rd, Woodley davidduvallx@aol.com	07855 947 104
<b>Bookings</b>	<b>St Sarik Room: St Andrew's Sonning:</b> Mr D. G. Sims	969 3151
	<b>St Patrick's Church Hall: Charvil: Mrs N. Potter</b>	934 4961
<b>Internet Addresses:</b>	<a href="http://www.sonningparish.org.uk">http://www.sonningparish.org.uk</a> Editor's mailbox: <a href="mailto:gordonbarnett@btinternet.com">gordonbarnett@btinternet.com</a> Advertiser's mailbox: <a href="mailto:bob@rpassociatesuk.com">bob@rpassociatesuk.com</a> Vicar's e-mail: <a href="mailto:chris@cgclarke.fsnet.co.uk">chris@cgclarke.fsnet.co.uk</a>	

## Forthcoming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>What's on?</i>	<i>Page</i>
Every Fri	Baby & Toddler Group, Pearson Hall	R
Oct 1	Harvest Festival	13
Oct 6	Thames Valley Air Ambulance fund raising dinner	R
Oct 6	SWMC Music night with 'B.J.'	28
Oct 9	Village Shop meeting	28
Oct 7	Charvil Art Gp Exhibition, St Patrick's Hall	23
Oct 17	Confirmation Service, St Andrew's	R
Oct 20	SWMC quiz night	28
Nov 1	CE School PTA Ladies Shopping Evening 7.30 p.m.	R
Nov 3	SWMC Music night	28
Nov 11	FoStAC, Reading Male Voice Choir	18
Nov 18	SVP Pantorama, Pearson Hall	20
Nov 25	CE School PTA Christmas Fayre 11.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.	22
Nov 30	Sonning Royal British Legion A.G.M. St Sarik Rm	R
Dec 1	SWMC Music night with 'Terrie'	28
Dec 15	SWMC Christmas dinner & dance	28

**Deadline, November Magazine is 4.00 p.m. Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2006.**

### Don't Forget! Harvest Festival; 1<sup>ST</sup> October 2006

This year Harvest will be celebrated on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Gifts to decorate the Church would be appreciated and it would help if these could be delivered on the previous Friday morning. We hope that those who come to the Family Service on the Sunday will bring gifts for distribution. There will be a list at the back of St. Andrew's nearer the time for you write the names of people who would appreciate these.

This year, in addition to gifts of fruit, vegetables and other goods, we would like to have small arrangements of flowers (in oasis and containers or small flowering plants, to be used as gifts to recently bereaved and the sick. There will be a list for you to sign at the back of the church if you are able to provide this. We will need 20 plants/ flowers in total. Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 9.30 a.m., please join Pam Sims in St Andrew's at 9.30 to sort and distribute the gifts (10- 12 people will be needed)

After the Family Service in St. Andrew's there will be a Bring and Share lunch in the Pearson Hall to which you are all invited.

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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.*

### A Vicar's Letter

In the absence on holiday of The Vicar, A Vicar has been asked to step into this space. What a wonderful opportunity to get off one's chest all those things one wanted to say but never had the opportunity to do so until now. I am sorry to disappoint my readers, but I have nothing to "beef" about have I?

By the time you read this we will have celebrated Harvest Festival in both churches. A big thank you for your generosity. Today, when we are so often increasingly far removed from mother nature and the food she provides and when the agricultural experts have a scientific explanation for all aspects and kinds of food production, it is easy to forget that our father, as creator of the universe, is the one to be thanked daily in the words of that familiar grace before and after meals; "For what we are about to receive/have received may the Lord make us truly thankful". In our household we say grace before meals, and our three boys always say it with heartfelt gratitude as you might expect! They each take it in turns.

Compared with many parts of the world in Africa and Asia, our children and we do not go to bed hungry out of necessity. As we thank God for our daily bread, our income and the source from which it all comes, there are a multitude of good causes and charities, both at home and abroad, to which we can express our practical thanks to God in a tangible way. Being grateful and appreciative for what we receive at His hands can keep us humble and a fugitive from arrogance. After all, climate change could alter the availability of the ready foods and dishes we enjoy most. So let us never take for granted the food we eat or the income, which enables us to buy it in the first place as we take a step nearer Advent and Christmas.

God bless you with a grateful heart.

Love & prayers,

**Michael & family**

**From the Registers**

### **Baptisms**

27<sup>th</sup> Aug: Jessica Jane Harling, Ella Louise Cherry.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sep: Megan Xaviera Lockyer, Montgomery Blyth Kirk Walker

### **Weddings**

26<sup>th</sup> Aug: Christopher Alan Herbert to Louisa Elizabeth Humphreys

26<sup>th</sup> Aug: Marcus Robert Giamattei to Marie Dawn Walton

2<sup>nd</sup> Sep: Paul Royston Dow to Emily Jane Snoxhill

9<sup>th</sup> Sep: Glenn Michael Bryant to Juliet Robson

Chris.

### **Harvest at St Paddy's**

'Ullo it's me. Seeing as how the bosses' boss has stepped up a notch this month to cover for The Vicar, the boss said someone ought to do a covering job for him. After all that's what they do in the army and in football teams don't they? Not that all football teams do it very well, the boss is a bit down in the dumps over his at the moment with them propping up the table. Fancy being a Charlton supporter, he never learns. Anyway, to give vent to his spleen he eyed me up and said, "Joanna, you've had a bit of a break, get off your Bb and write summat about harvest".

As I recall from my limited experience, all the nice ladies come and put flowers in the church, the pollen gets up the bosses nostrils and he sneezes his way through the service, the deputy bosses boss spends the service

kneading dough and playing with his bread maker, the kids bring up boxes of tin cans and we all have a jolly good nosh-up. Oh yes, and we sing special hymns, all about being thankful and ploughing and scattering an stuff like that. I sing me own words:

We decorate the building, so it looks really great  
And ring the bell quite loudly to welcome them's who's late  
The service is quite varied, things never are the same  
And if the music's rotten I always get the blame  
*All the folks are singing, to cheer us on our way  
Their voices raised in anthem, on this our special day*

Bob with his new bread maker, and butter salt and flour  
To keep us entertain-ed, it takes about an hour  
Mix water with ingredients, the kids kneed it to dough  
The pop it in the cooker, and bake it very slow  
*All the folks .....*

The church is pretty full now, they come from far and near  
To celebrate the harvest , its message for to hear  
The breakfast is a bonus, which always goes down well  
It happens every year now, new bread, oh what a smell!  
*All the folks...*

It'll be over by the time you read this, but there's always next year. Lets just be thankful we are so lucky. See ya..

Joanna (the St Patrick's Pianner)

### Views from the Pews

It is now a few weeks since the front two pews have been removed. This is for a trial period to assess the affects it will have on worship in St Andrews. Some people have walked into church and said how lovely the new arrangement is. One commented that he spent much of the first service admiring the beautiful altar cloth and the work involved, something not appreciated when in the sanctuary! Some are not sure about the change, as they loved the interior as it was, and why should it change now! One or two have said the interior of the church has been spoiled and the altar cuts the church in two. As one loves St Andrew's so much as we all do, some rightly question the change.

We must all appreciate each other's views and be sensitive to these views. It will take time to adjust and possibly the current changes are not the best, and can be improved. We are all reluctant to change especially when we see no need for it. I can remember disliking many of the new services,

with new words only to find I much prefer them now to the 1662 Prayer Book!

St Andrew's is a wonderful building, but above all for us it is a place of worship and we should consider this in our deliberations. Will these changes really improve our worship? If you ask those who sit on the side aisle they say they can now see what is going on during the Communion Service, and one can at last lip-read what the Celebrant is saying. At the family Service there is space for children without them being cramped in the main aisle. What about concerts and plays put on in the Church? We will have to wait and see how this works out. Clearly any new arrangement will have learning difficulties and life is always a compromise. There will no doubt be drawbacks to the new arrangement, but I think as the trial continues we must ask ourselves one very important question. Has the new arrangement enabled us to improve worship at St Andrews? I believe St Andrew's can be proud of being a Church that is not just a wonderful building, but a place offering a selection of quality Church Services ever conscious of the needs of the community.

Keith Nichols

Friends of St. Andrew's Church, Sonning

## NEXT EVENT

### **READING MALE VOICE CHOIR**

Saturday 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2006

**7.30pm at St. Andrew's Church**

**An evening of fine choral music from Reading's very  
Popular male voice choir.**

**With guest Soloist**

**TICKETS £10 per person from:**

**Wendy Williams, Heather Hine & John Hammond**

**Wine and nibbles included**

All proceeds towards the refurbishment of the stained glass windows

## Royal British Legion - Sonning Branch (BR 1817)

### Subscriptions



Renewal for 2006/2007 is now due. The charge remains at £13.00 and those of you paying by Direct Debit will have received your new cards by now. Cash payers; please let me have a cheque as soon as possible as reminders cost money to send! My address is in the September newsletter, or telephone me on 0118 969 6693.

### Remembrance Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2006

09.50: Meet at the Pearson Hall.  
10.00: March off.

Remember, now is your last chance to order a wreath from Malcolm Geater.

### A.G.M.

The A.G.M. will be held in the St Sarik Room, alongside St Andrew's Church. The committee look forward to you joining them for a glass of wine before the meeting.

Gordon Barnett

### Sonning Glebe W.I.

We had a very busy afternoon with the teas and cakes at the Produce Show, thank you to all who made the cakes.

At our September meeting we had a very interesting talk about the Military Police by Neil Paxton, he told us some very humorous stories of things that had happened to him. Some of our members will be having a walk at Dinton Pastures this month

Just a reminder - we meet in Pearson Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month and always welcome visitors or new members.

Diane Reeves

### Sonning Art Group

September was a busy month for the Group as it mounted exhibitions on two consecutive weekends. The first was in conjunction with the Garden Fete at Lashbrook Residential Home, Shiplake where Sam Blundell, a long

time member of the Group now resides. Some 100 paintings were displayed including a special folio of Sam's work spanning several years, which admirably demonstrated his abilities with the use of watercolour.

The second was the regular exhibition we mount in support of the Sonning Village Show where 70 pictures were put on display. Approximately 180 people visited each of the events and those at the Sonning venue were invited to join in for a bit of fun and choose their favourite picture. Over 170 made their selection with results very similar to previous years in that nearly every painting got at least one vote but a clear winner was again Tom Baldwin, this time with his picture 'The Ford'. Brenda Nicolou and Barry Stebbings came joint second with Heather Neal in third place.

Due to a combination of holidays and other commitments slightly fewer Group members entered the Sonning Village Art Competition this year. However, those that did submit paintings achieved 10 awards between them in one category or another. The revised categories for this competition were well received and thought to be very relevant to the types of materials in general use.

George Webster

**Sonning Village Players  
Proudly presents**

**"Pantorama"**

**On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2006  
In the Pearson Hall**

A light supper will be provided on the evening.  
Feel free to bring your own drinks (alcoholic or non) with or you may purchase drinks from Sonning Working Men's Club next door.

**The cost of this 'one off - never to be repeated (this year) performance is ONLY ..... £8 per adult.**

For tickets please call **0779 262 1681** leaving your name and a return phone number or email [julie59106@yahoo.com](mailto:julie59106@yahoo.com). We will then confirm tickets. Seating is on tables of 8 - 10.

## The Monday Club

We were saddened to learn that Ken Trimmings, the Leader of the Club, will be resigning next July. He has served the Club for many years. David Penny gave us a very interesting demo into the preparation of hanging baskets. We now know how we should fill and store them, and how to provide almost continuous colour. An interesting question and answer session followed, I was chagrined to find that I had mishandled my apple trees.

R C A

### Thanks from the Hannas.

Janet and Richard would like to thank all their Sonning friends for their thoughts, prayers and general support over the past few months. Happily we can report that Richard has made a very quick and steady recovery, and is even back to doing regular 4 mile walks again! We are sorry that we have been unable to see much of Sonning this summer, but hope that next year will be better. We are off to New Zealand in October for some more rest and recovery, but will be back in the U.K. next summer, when we will hope to once again join in some of those special Sonning occasions, which you do so well!

Janet & Richard

### Sonning CE Primary School

The first few weeks of the new school year have got off to an excellent start and it has been great to see the children immersed in a range of activities across the curriculum. The juniors, in particular, are developing a more integrated curriculum where a number of subjects are taught through themes whilst at the same time developing a range of skills. You only have to see the engagement and motivation of the children to see how much they enjoy this way of working.

As usual there are a number of events planned for the term; we have a book week just after half term and are very much looking forward to welcoming members of the local British Legion branch for a special remembrance assembly in November. Our staff training day after half term will be at the National Gallery in London where we will be finding out about using works of art as a stimulus for work across the school through their 'Take One Picture' programme.

As well as our own school family we are very much part of the bigger family of church schools. It was lovely to share an evening at the end of last term with members of the PCC, school staff and Governors to reflect on our distinctiveness as a church school and how we can support each other in this. Early next month a group from our school will join with representatives

from the other nineteen Church of England schools across the authority for a special celebration service in Wargrave. I am delighted that Bishop Stephen, the Bishop of Reading will be joining us for this and to launch our special mission statement and logo for the Wokingham Church Schools family ' Inspired by faith to serve.'

Lesley Green

### Sonning CE School PTA

We would like to thank everyone for their fantastic support at the Sonning Show this year. We made a massive £1,200, which will go towards purchasing new reading scheme books for the infants and buying new books for the school library.

Our next big fund raising events are a Ladies Shopping Evening at the school on 1<sup>st</sup> November starting at 7.30pm and our traditional Christmas Fair is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 11.30am to 2pm. If you would like a table at either event, please telephone Penny on 932 1208.

Liz Nelson

### Conservative Association - Sonning & Warren Branch

#### Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday 3 November at 7.30pm at The Pearson Hall, Sonning. The guest speaker is James Elles, MEP for the South East and Member of the Conservative Group with responsibility for Berkshire. Tickets are £20 and can be obtained from Rosemary Digby (9693277) or any member of the committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mary Jones

### Sonning Twinning Association

**Beaujolais Nouveau Evening: 16<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm Pearson Hall.**

Our next event on 16<sup>th</sup> November is a cheese and paté supper with, of course, a glass or two of Beaujolais Nouveau, followed by a quiz with a French flavour. We will also invite our young Twinning Association Bursary winners to tell us about their experiences in visiting Ligugé this summer.

Tickets are available from David Bates (0119 9697753 or [dpbates@supanet.com](mailto:dpbates@supanet.com)) at £7.50 for Twinning Association members, £10 for None members.

Mary Chapman

## Charvil Art Group

We started our weekly art club at St Patrick's Church Hall on September 6<sup>th</sup> and will meet each Wednesday through to May or June 2007, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., with a short break for Christmas. If you are looking for something to do during the dark winter evenings and are interested in drawing or painting, why not come along any Wednesday and see what we do and for a 'free' trial evening. We need new members urgently.

We have been meeting regularly at St Patrick's for 34 years as an art group and have several accomplished artists as our members. We produce an attractive programme each year, which includes demonstration and tutor evenings, a life class and speakers. We also have two workshops (full day painting, with tuition) and during the summer months we meet outdoors at local beauty spots. If you would like a copy of our programme phone 0118 934 5791.

Presently we put on three exhibitions a year; the main one being our Annual Art Exhibition, which will be held at St Patrick's Church Hall on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. We hope to have over a hundred paintings on show, divided into twelve classes. Most paintings are for sale at very realistic prices. At 4.30 p.m. our District Councillor, Pamela Graddon will present about thirty certificates, five cups and a shield, which is won by the public voting for the best painting in the show. Please come and support us.

Bill Crane

### Parish magazine deliverer wanted for Charvil area

A volunteer is urgently needed to deliver around 15 magazines once a month to houses north of the A4 in Charvil. If anyone is willing to take this task on, please contact Natalie Yalden (0118 934 5697) or Pat Livesey (0118 961 8017).

Pat Livesey

### Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group

Little Fishes will meet on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 10am to 11.30am in the St Sarik Room next to St Andrew's Church. We will be doing a craft activity for Harvest and there will be songs and a story. All pre-school aged children and their parents/carers are welcome.

Sarah Turner

## Influenza Vaccinations 2006

The Loddon Vale Practice has decided that they will not bring the 'flu' jabs' to Sonning this year. They consider that the numbers do not warrant the effort.

Flu' clinics will be held at the surgery on Saturdays 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October from 8.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Pat Morgan

## Sonning Village Children In Need Evening 2006

It is with a certain regret that Mandi and I would like to confirm that we shall not be staging this year's Sonning Village event in aid of the BBC Children in Need Appeal. I know this will be a huge disappointment to many members of the parish, but we feel that the time has come for others to take the reins and to use their verve and enthusiasm to introduce some new ideas and style for the evening. As I write this, we have no one to take on this task. However, Mandi and I are both very happy to pass on our wealth of knowledge, built up over the years, to anyone brave enough to take it on! Obviously, we would like the event to continue, as it does raise a considerable sum for this worthy cause. If you think that you may be the person, or know of someone else you would like to nominate, please do contact either Mandi Brown on 07765 002762 or myself on 0118 969 3279.

Trefor Fisher

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sonning Scout Group - Family Quiz - Saturday 14 October

A date for your diaries.....1<sup>st</sup> Sonning Scout Group will be holding a fund-raising Quiz Night on Saturday 14 October at Sonning School, doors open at 6pm. Profits will mainly go to the Sonning Playground Appeal, and add to the donation already made from our funds. The emphasis is very much on this being a "family quiz", with teams of between 4 and 6 persons having to include 2 children. The children do not necessarily have to belong to the adults in the team!

Tickets are available for purchase from any Sonning Beaver, Cub or Scout Leader, or by phoning me on 969 3279. Tickets cost £4 for children, £5 for adults or £15 for a family of four (2 adults, 2 children). There are a limited number of tickets available; for the latest information, do check out the Sonning Scouts' website at [www.sonningscouts.co.uk](http://www.sonningscouts.co.uk).

We look forward to seeing you there!

Trefor Fisher.

## Sonning Village Show

We were very fortunate to have a warm, sunny day for the Show and as usual the village organisations ran a variety of stalls providing fun for all. It was good that both the Police and Fire Brigade were able to attend with their vehicles and we found the chip-pan fire demonstration both informative and dramatic.

Events in the arena kept us entertained all afternoon; the school's maypole dancing display, the Fire Brigade hose relay race, family sports day relay, Peg's Challenge (using water balloons) and the tug-of-war. This year's tug-of-war was hotly contested between teams from the School PTA, Working Men's Club, Scout Group and the Emergency Services. The trophy went to the joint Fire Brigade and Police team who competed against the Scouts in the final.

There were many entries in the Produce Show, especially the Flower Club's new imposed class, where there were ten very striking arrangements. It was good to see many children's entries and also lots of cookery. Even though it has been a bad year for the garden, with a hose pipe ban since April, it was pleasing to see a reasonable display in the vegetable, fruit and flower sections, many of which Malcolm Stansfield auctioned off at the end of the afternoon.

This year Steve Chapman, Chairman of our Parish Council, presented the awards to the winners. They were as follows:

Brutton Memorial Cup for preserves and cookery - Bernadette Cowling  
Jubilee Cup for Men's cookery - Bob Hine  
Hillier Cup for most points in the vegetable section - Mandy Shora  
Nobby Clarke Onion Cup - Stuart Hine  
Les Moss Tankard for collection of 4 kinds of vegetables - Mandy Shora  
Catton Cup for hanging basket - Linda Graves  
Flower Club Candelabra - Anne Turner and Deana Lee  
Mavis Smith Cup - Anne Turner  
Flower Club prize for Men's Flower arrangement - David Penny  
Sonning Glebe WI trophy for best photographic entry - Barbara Nicolau  
British Legion Cup for best exhibit in the art section - Stuart Collier  
12 - 18 years prize for most points in art and craft - Amanda Moore  
Bill Gallimore Craft trophy - Marjan Kuyken  
Martha Angel Centenary Cup for most interesting exhibit in Bygone Days section - Andy Bell  
Wethered Flower Competition Cup - Joshua Cowling  
White Hart Cup, for child with most points - William Cowling  
Infant Prize - Oliver Clark

Heather Hine

## Local Organic Vegetable Scheme.

Ali Campbell, who ran this until recently has, unfortunately had to give up coordinating this valuable local scheme. I am hoping to take over in her place. The scheme involves weekly deliveries to a local contact, of bags of reasonably priced, seasonal, locally grown organic fruit and veg. You simply place your order, pay and collect from your local coordinator. (I live in The Hawthorns, Charvil). The vegetables are grown at Tolhurst organic farm, near Pangbourne. The scheme is very good value, involves minimal packaging (the bags are recycled) and minimal environmental impact as the veg do not travel very far. The vegetables have great flavour and variety and probably work out as no more expensive than non-organic supermarket veggies. It is cheaper than some better-known box schemes. It also means you have it within a very short time of picking. To make it viable, we need at least 12 regular users. If you would like more information please call me on 01189320264, email: [alice@wilkinson-family.net](mailto:alice@wilkinson-family.net).

Alice Wilkinson

## Sonning-on-Wikipedia

Sonning now has an extensive entry and set of associated articles on Wikipedia, the rapidly expanding online encyclopaedia. The main entry is under <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonning> and other related articles are under <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Sonning>. A feature of Wikipedia is that articles may be updated online by its readers, so if anyone wishes to add material, correct mistakes, etc., you are encouraged to do so. Just select the "edit this page" button, updated the editing box and then select "Save page". Updates are instantaneous. However, bear in mind that Wikipedia is an encyclopaedia, so information should be "notable" and presented in a suitable independent style. Overt advertising and other inappropriate material are likely to be deleted relatively quickly and annoy other readers. A history of edits is maintained and mistakes can easily be corrected. I have added a number of entries myself and hope you enjoy the information on the village.

Jonathan Bowen

## Singing for the Brain

A new project sponsored by the Alzheimer's Society has started to meet in Charvil Village Hall. Singing for the Brain is a weekly session of singing for people with dementia or memory difficulties and their friends and family carers. It is held on Thursdays from 10.30am to 12 pm. In October it will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. The aim is to relax, have some fun and enjoy a social activity together in a warm and friendly atmosphere. For more information contact Anne Day (966 6968) or Gwen Turner (978 4815).

## Sonning Floral Arrangement Society

### September Meeting

Our Chairman for the day was Ann Turner. The first item was the Produce Show and congratulations went to Deanna Lee for her 1<sup>st</sup> in the imposed class (all material is provided) Val Holgarth was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sharon Robinson 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sharon Robinson was also 1<sup>st</sup> in the Novice class. In the interpretive class 1<sup>st</sup> was Ann Turner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara McGregor and 3<sup>rd</sup> Catherine Penny.

Pat Trunkfield was our September demonstrator and chose *The Language of Flowers* as her theme. She began with a wonderful Victorian pedestal, using amongst others aspidistra leaves, yellow antirrhinums "Let's be impetuous", apricot roses and yellow carnations 'alas my poor heart', with the pedestal entwined with silk rope & tassels, it said it all! *Plants used in Medicine* was the next item and red gerberas (representing poppies) moss (used in wound dressings) and red tomatoes (antioxidant) became a stunning display. *The story of Sir Joshua Banks*, collector of plants, was depicted in some of the flowers he might have picked up on his travels; such as ferns, fennel, clematis, orange Oriental lilies and sunflowers. The penultimate item was *A Fun Party*, all pink & white using lizianthus and Singapore orchids. Finally *The Wedding*, using a white lace parasol as the frame for a beautiful bridal bouquet of white Singapore orchids, pale pink lilies, blush dahlia, vermilion pink roses & gypsophila and "One I made earlier" - a handbag to match.

The demonstrator described Sonning as "A lovely happy club that she always enjoys visiting". We returned the compliment as she was indeed a joy to watch.

The competition *A Posy* was won by Jean Stewart.

The next meeting is on 12 October with Mr Colin Evans *Pot-et-fleur* and the competition *a woodland scene - an exhibit* (an interesting subject, I might have a go myself).

Jane Gascoine

### RNLI Sonning Branch

2nd Annual Dinner, guest speaker: Trevor Baylis. Following the success of our Dinner last year we have organized another for Saturday 11th November at 7pm for 8pm in The Pearson Hall. There will be a four-course meal followed by our guest speaker, inventor of the "wind up radio" and TV personality, Trevor Baylis. A bar will be available.

The Box office will be open from 2nd October for tickets price £15 each. Telephone Mo Hicks on 969 6943. Dress: Black Tie.

Lynn Woodhouse

## Sonning Working Men's Club

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct: Music Night with 'B.J'  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct: Quiz Night.  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov: Music Night (Artiste TBC)  
Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec: Music Night with 'Terrie'  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas Dinner & Dance with music from 'The Cookoos Nest' (back by popular demand). Tickets bought in advance only, see notice board in the Club for a list.

Linda, Mena & Tracy

### A VILLAGE SHOP AND POST OFFICE FOR SONNING?

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Were you one of the many Sonning residents disappointed when the shop and post office in the High Street closed?

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Did you tell the Parish Council, in the Parish Plan questionnaire, that you were prepared to make a contribution (time, money, energy) to a village shop?

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Would you like to see a shop and part-time post office re-established in the village?

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If you have answered 'Yes' to any of the above, please come to the Pearson Hall at 7.30pm Monday 9 October 2006 to have your say, share ideas and make a positive contribution to this possible new enterprise.

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If you are unable to attend, but are interested, please complete and return the form on Page 29

## Village Shop Questionnaire

When completed, please return to:

Lesley Bates,  
Clerk to the Parish Council,  
Council Office,  
Pearson Road,  
Sonning, RG4 6UL

1. If a village shop is set up I intend to become a member (fee approx. £10)....
2. I would like to make a donation to the Village Shop Project .....
3. I would like to make a loan to the Village Shop Project .....
4. I would like to be considered for the Management Committee.....
5. I could assist the Management Committee with help /advice on .....
6. I could assist the shop by working as a part time volunteer shop assistant ..
7. I would like to be considered for the shop manager's post.....
8. I would like to be considered for the post of sub postmaster/mistress.....

Name:.....

Address: .....

Telephone Number: .....

Email address: .....

Any other comments or observations you would like to make.

.....  
.....  
.....

Signature: .....

## Local Organisations

St Andrew's: Crèche	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> <a href="mailto:vanessalouisejones@hotmail.com">vanessalouisejones@hotmail.com</a>	934 1185
Sonning & District Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Link Group	Maria Gee <a href="mailto:maria.gee@ntlworld.com">maria.gee@ntlworld.com</a>	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: <a href="mailto:ali@sonningdrivers.plus.com">ali@sonningdrivers.plus.com</a> <a href="http://www.sonning.net/alispond.html">www.sonning.net/alispond.html</a>
Sonning & Charvil services	<a href="http://www.sonningparish.org.uk/docs.htm">www.sonningparish.org.uk/docs.htm</a>
Sonning Working Men's Club	<a href="http://www.btinternet.com/~sonning_club/news.html">www.btinternet.com/~sonning_club/news.html</a>
Sonning-on-Thames	<a href="http://archive.museophile.sbu.ac.uk/sonning">archive.museophile.sbu.ac.uk/sonning</a> <a href="http://www.sonning.net">www.sonning.net</a>
Sonning & Sonning Eye Society	<a href="http://www.sonning.org.uk">www.sonning.org.uk</a>
Sonning Art Group	<a href="http://www.sonningartgroup.org.uk">www.sonningartgroup.org.uk</a>
Sonning School	<a href="http://www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk">www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk</a>