



Best Kept Village in Bucks

NEWSLETTER

*Autumn
2004*

Oh to be in England!

Six-year-old school kid to the Rector, 'I'm moving away from Coleshill'.

Rector, 'Where are you going, somewhere nice?'

Kid thinks for a minute, 'Well, I am not really sure. Oh yes I know; it's that place where God lives.'

Rector (puzzled) 'Heaven?'

Kid (with the air of one who has lost 10p and found £10) 'That's right; Devon'.

Most places in this country are pretty nice (well OK, we Amersham people will just have to be charitable about Chesham), and compared to the parched lands of northern Africa, Europe has it made.

As I write, refugees from western Sudan are flying in terror from those who would destroy them and their way of life, desperate migrants from dictatorships like that in Zimbabwe seek refuge on our shores, and desperately poor men and women from the Caribbean are driven to jeopardise their life and freedom acting as drug couriers to feed our nasty habits.

Why is it that in such a relatively wealthy society as ours (and yes, in world terms each one of us really is astronomically wealthy) are we so unconcerned about the welfare of other nations? Why is that we stuff ourselves to the point of obesity with junk food (take a look at the multitude of wobbly bellies and backsides next time you are in the supermarket) when half the world would be grateful for a tenth of the calories we consume each day? Why is it that we abuse our healthy well-fed bodies with recreational drugs when we deny cheap medicines to Aids victims in Southern Africa? Devon or Heaven, I wonder what God thinks of our society?

Food for thought perhaps at Harvest.

Tim Harper
Rector of Amersham with Coleshill

You can find out more about All Saints' Coleshill by going direct to our page on the Village website at www.coleshill.org/all_saints_church.htm



News from All Saints'

Anthony Priddis

Several members of the congregation travelled to Hereford on Saturday 26th June to attend Anthony's Inauguration as Bishop of Hereford. As most villagers will know, he was our Rector prior to Tim Harper, before leaving to become the Bishop of Coventry.

Parish Youth Worker

We are pleased that Marianne Holt has agreed to an extension of her contract. It is reassuring to know that her excellent work with the young people of St Mary's and All Saints will continue. Her husband Peter has secured a teaching post at Dr Challoner's Grammar School.

Fabric

The extensive rewiring work at the Church has been completed at a cost of nearly £5000.

Books for the Village School

At a recent Committee Meeting it was agreed to continue the practice of giving a Bible to all children leaving the School. In addition, All Saints had received a request from the Head Teacher for a donation towards religious books for the school library. It was decided to give a sum of £200.

Village Fete

The Village Fete in June was most enjoyable, and has brought about a donation of £700 for All Saints, which is greatly appreciated.

All Saints' Charity

On Saturday 25th September there is to be a Car Treasure Hunt (2.30 pm registration at the Pond, £15 per car), followed by a Barbecue from 5.30 pm at Luckings Farm. There is an additional charge for the Barbecue.

Harvest Thanksgiving

There will be a Family Harvest Festival Service with Holy Communion at 10.00 am on Sunday 3rd October, and a Harvest Choral Evensong at 6.00 pm.

Harvest Supper

Newcomers to the village have always found that the Harvest Supper (this year on October 8th) is a good occasion for meeting other villagers.

Carolynn Croisdale-Appleby

Carolynn's Ordination takes place on Sunday 26th September at Christ Church in Oxford. Her first service will be Evensong at St Mary's on the same day.

Chris Wege

Honorary Secretary - All Saints' Church Committee

Ella McGuire - 4th July 2004
John Harvey - 8th August 2004

Holy Baptism

Holy Matrimony

William Hamish Lawrence to Samantha Jane Wren - 3rd July 2004

Blessing

Toby and Noelle Wardell - 17th July 2004

Global Village - Tasmania

Tasmania (not to be confused with Tanzania!) is Australia's island state.

European settlement in Tasmania is relatively recent. Hobart, Tasmania's capital, is celebrating its bicentenary this year. Some Tasmanian settlement names imply that homesick pioneers tried to recreate Britain Down Under : Exeter, Bridport, Dover, Swansea. This has led to striking anomalies. Lewisham, unlike its London namesake, looks over the azure blue of Pitt Water to the golden sand dunes of Five Mile Beach.

Notwithstanding the shameful history of aboriginal genocide, indigenous place names abound : Ringarooma, Tungatinah, Winnaleah, Karoola, etc. The rugged western wilderness inspired Precipitous Bluff, Savage River and Lost World Plateau.

Britain claimed and colonised this remote island partly to forestall interest from France. Yet French explorers are commemorated along the east coast. The D'Entrecasteaux Channel washes numerous pretty bays and headlands south of Hobart; Cape Raoul has Australia's highest sea cliffs; and Freycinet Peninsula is home to famous Wineglass Bay, with one of the world's ten best beaches.

Some early settlers seemed happy with their Antipodean surroundings, naming Sunnyside, Paradise, Promised Land, and Snug.

(continued on Page 6)



Horticultural Show Results

CUP

The Grindley Challenge Cup

Vegetables grown without help

The Jerram Challenge Cup

Vegetables

The Orchard Trophy

Fruit

The Woolacott Vase

Flower Arranging – overall

The Jackie Ferguson Memorial Award

Single Flower arrangement (Class 49)

The Cotswold Challenge Cup

Flowers

The Ovington Rose Bowl

Single Rose

The Coleshill Challenge Cup

Preserves

The Edmond Waller Challenge Cup

Cakes and Pastries

The Whitefield Cup

Best Photograph

The Windmill Bowl

Handicraft – senior citizen

The Clifton Cup

Handicraft

The Le Mead Cup

Embroidery or canvas work

The Red Lion Cup

Men's Rock Cakes

The Wheatsheaf Children's Cup

Children's overall

The Magpie Club Award

Best effort in children's section

The Premier Cup

Largest number of 1st places in Show

WINNER

Colin Sach

Sheila Inwood

Heather Hollamby

Catherine Green

Catherine Green

Virginia Jordan

Rosemary Valentine

Heather Auton/Pat Emblow

Susie Gajadharsingh

Frank Auton

John Jefford

Fiona Sach

Jean Powell

David Hall

Taylor Richardson

Freya Tate

Sheila Inwood

Red Lion

A shorter than usual entry this time. A very busy summer for the Red Lion with a late opportunity for using the outdoor benches and umbrellas. Has there been a noticeable upturn in visitors since winning the Neighbourhood Pub award?

The Red Lion quiz teams were give a pre-season try out in a well attended so called 'friendly' match to get them ready for the Pub Quiz season which begins in October. A full season of the usual pub games and teams will also start at the same time.

John Ullman

You can find out more about the Red Lion by going direct to our web page on the Village website at www.coleshill.org/red_lion.htm

Global Village - Tasmania

(continued from page 4)

In many ways Tasmania lives up to this optimistic billing. Hobart has a similar latitude in the southern hemisphere to Barcelona and Rome, and its maritime setting means that frosts are unknown. The Roaring Forties blow half way round the world from Argentina to a climate station on Tasmania's north west coast that records some of the world's cleanest air.

Tourism is booming. The state has Australia's lowest crime rate. Mainland Australians are increasingly aware of Tasmania's relaxed lifestyle. Their interest in cheaper Tasmanian property helped push up Hobart's average house price in May 2004 to \$221,000, which, at £88,000 is hardly exorbitant by British standards.

There are traffic jams, but they disperse when the traffic lights turn green.

Conversely, not to paint too rosy a picture, the clear felling of eucalypts for the export of cheap wood chips to Japan is a national scandal. And conservationists are campaigning to spare the island's beautiful coastline from the kind of ribbon development that has despoiled much of Queensland.

However, Tasmanians are generally feeling good about themselves. They affectionately refer to their island by using the diminutive friendly ending, 'Tassie.'

If you'd like to see some views of Tassie log on to Across Tasmania www.view.com.au (especially the 'About Tasmania link') and www.discovertasmania.com.au

Steve Hitchen

Parish Council

The Parish Council were delighted to learn that Coleshill had won the 'Morris Cup' in this years Best Kept Village competition for 2004.

The Judges comments were as follows:

- They liked the churchyard and thought the lych gate made an excellent entrance.
- The war memorial is superbly maintained.
- They were very impressed with the common, a clearly defined conservation area.
- The cricket ground was in excellent condition.
- The Village Hall is a most attractive building.
- The village has excellent notice boards, particularly the one by the Village Hall with the leaflet container beneath.
- They found very little litter and felt the whole village gave the impression of being very well cared for by its villagers.

Also as the winner with the highest marks in the competition Coleshill will also be awarded the Sword of Excellence.

WELL DONE!

The Best Kept Village sign will be presented to the Village on Saturday 25th September 2004, notification of time and place will be posted on the notice board outside the Village Hall.

We have been automatically entered into the National Best Kept Village competition, the judging for this will take place sometime in late September through to October. So please keep up the good work by looking after the verges and picking up litter when out walking.

Other business conducted by the Parish Council covered such diverse items as village speed restrictions, play-area, planning applications and autumn pond clearing. Chairman of the Parish Council David Hall and Leader of Buckinghamshire County Council Cllr Peter Lawrence arranged a second meeting for residents to meet senior Police Officers to discuss the spate of recent burglaries in the village.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 21st September 2004 at 8.15pm in the small hall of the Village Hall. Come along you can have your say during the democratic period.

Susan Smith

Clerk to the Parish Council



Coleshill Common

The conservation work party dates have been set for the rest of the year. This is vital work which has been rewarded by the special mention in the 'Best Kept Village' results. Please feel free to come and join us and lend a hand to keep Coleshill Common in good shape for villagers and wildlife. For further details please contact me on 724152.

September

Sunday 12th 10.30 a.m

Saturday 25th 2.00 p.m

October

Sunday 10th 10.30 a.m

Saturday 23rd 2.00 p.m

November

Sunday 7th 10.30 a.m

Saturday 20th 2.00 p.m

December

Sunday 5th 10.30 a.m

Chris Wege

Tennis Club

We are fast approaching the Club's Finals Day, Sunday 12th September. We have been very lucky in the past with the weather for this event, spectators having to find cool, shady areas in which to enjoy the efforts on court.

The Ladies Doubles finals and Men's Doubles finals have already been played and the two days were very enjoyable - again, we were very lucky with the weather.

Tuesday evening Club Play will continue for as long as there are players to play and enough light to see the ball !

We will hold the Tennis Club AGM at the end of November, details will be posted on the Club Notice board in due course.

The timing of this Newsletter is perfect to tell you of the Club's fund raising event, a Horse Racing evening to be held in the Village Hall on Friday 29th October 2004. Flyers giving details will be around the village of course during October, please look out for them and please do come along. The last Horse Racing Evening the Club held was terrific fun and was extremely well attended - actually, the noise from the hall during the track racing time was loud enough to test the stability of the roof! (well, almost). We look forward to seeing you there.

I wish you all happy tennis days in (hopefully) plenty of Autumn sunshine.

Angela Perry

Horticultural Society

'Great fun', 'terrific atmosphere', 'and no doping scandals!' were just a few of the very positive quotes from the large number of villagers, family and friends who attended the Village Show on Saturday, opened by Mrs Jenny Earp.

A combination of talent, enthusiasm and sheer hard work ensured that there was plenty to look at and enjoy despite the wettest August on record. Quite a contrast with last year's searing August heat which frazzled so much produce.

This year saw more fruit and flowers than veg, and many more entries in the photography and crafts sections. The children's section also goes from strength to strength, providing an impressive and entertaining display.

It was good to see so many show 'veterans' on form, but also very pleasing to have some new names to put on the cups. A full list of cup winners is printed elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as a selection of photos (and even more pictures can be seen on the village website). I'd like to just highlight a couple of names: Mrs Sheila Inwood won the Society's Premier Cup for her staggering number of first prizes in only her second year of competing, and Taylor Richardson added his name to the Wheatsheaf Children's Cup, following in the footsteps of his sister and mother.

The Committee ensured that the show ran smoothly, and was set up and taken down in record time – many thanks to you all.

We will be meeting to review what we could do better next year, and also to discuss the comments and ideas of those of you who completed questionnaires – more on this next time.

Thank you to all out exhibitors, patrons, supporters and helpers for making the show such 'an important part of village life'.

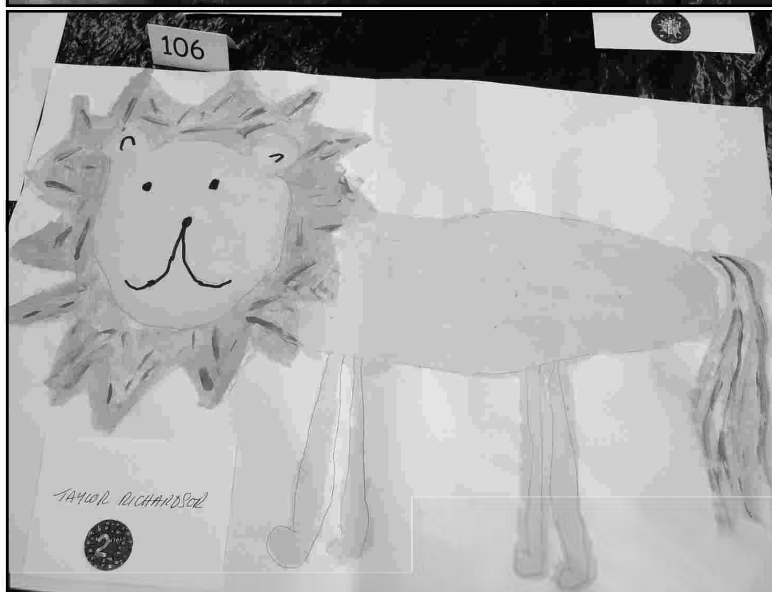
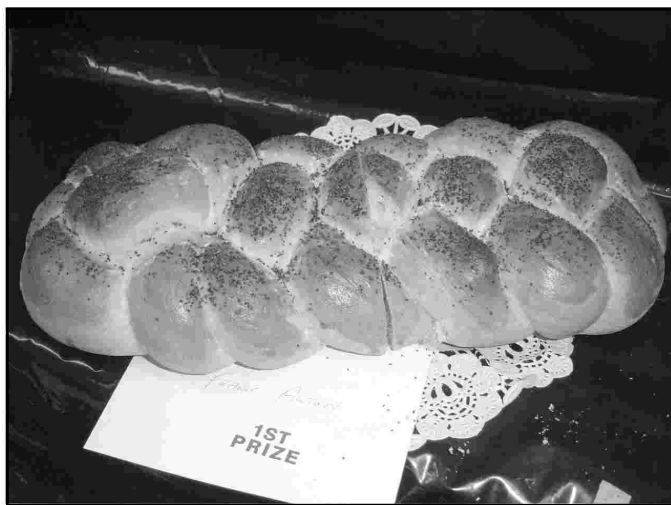
Heather Auton, *Chairman*



Coleshill Horticultural Show



Saturday 4th September 2004



A History of the Management of Coleshill Common

It seemed that for many years our Common had been only lightly managed by Peter Pusey on behalf of the Parish Council and areas had become over-grown after being a typically open-area Common back in the 1950's. There had been an aborted attempt to turn it into a playground by bulldozing the centre however legend has it that the most significant 'management' it had received was when a certain villager set it alight.



This trend towards wilderness had begun to turn the Common into diverse habitats of scrub, woodland and grassland, with ponds and springs, that was beneficial for many species of flora and fauna. This had been recognized by the British Trust for Ornithology and the Common had been the subject of the 'Common Breeding Bird Survey' supervised by Dr John

Ogle since 1976.

The idea of managing the Common was the brainchild of Ann Trotman, who had had a career in teaching natural history and saw its potential. With the help of John Chenevix-Trench, Ann created a management plan that investigated the Common's history and began the survey of the habitats and species.

The Aim of the Plan has been to help us *'To protect and conserve the unenclosed character and naturalness of the site for the benefit of the flora, fauna and other wildlife and for its quiet enjoyment by the public on foot.'*

The early management committee was formed in 1992 that included over the next few years Spike Wright, Richard Valentine, Tony Barber, Ann Trotman, John Chenevix-Trench, Graham Thorne, and Patsy Wright-Warren who subsequently became chairman for some time. Spike was the first foreman and under his eye work progressed competently until one Sunday morning the team began coppicing the large area of willow below Village Road. With Spike and Ann absent, enthusiasm overcame judgment, and too much was cut, which attracted criticism. We learned a lot from this early setback.

The Committee applied to the county ecologist for advice. His up-to-date expertise helped to review and consolidate our management plan. So, the rotation of coppice was redesigned from cutting swathes through the willow to

cutting smaller bays each year to create a succession of long woodland-edge environments for wildlife. Woodland edge is one of the most important and biodiverse environments for wildlife, especially for the insect and bird species. The new management plan created was more-broad based and concluded with a Seven Year Plan which is now on the village website. So our work progressed with more assurance. We receive an annual grant from Chiltern District Council. The County Council gave us an initial grant and we had support from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers. With our grants we have bought tools, saplings to plant and we pay for the annual cut of the Common grassland that is done in way to keep the soil nutrient poor so maintaining its floral diversity.

We have three types of work: firstly, the routine maintenance of the paths and the control of vegetation in some of the public areas; secondly, noting the advance of invasive plants, mostly the willow, and selecting areas for clearance; thirdly, carrying out specific projects to a variety of ends. For instance: following the discovery of a rare plant species, starwort, the two ponds on the Common were cleared to let in light to achieve a more suitable pond environment. Some of us went to a study day on the conservation of this little rarity. I was impressed by the plant's record of disappearing again whenever a



new colony was discovered. We have never seen them since. We took advantage of the Millennium tree-planting project to acquire some saplings to plant. Ann was not impressed when she found we had been sent a species of cherry not natural to this area. Thankfully one of us is an observant botanist.

We miss George Plumridge who kept the Common scrupulously

clear of rubbish and knew the place better than anyone. In the summer we attempt to control alien garden plants that have tried to colonize from garden rubbish thrown onto the Common! So, many man-hours have been spent managing the Common - 150 just last season, between October and March..

Most interestingly we have also tried to record the species that live in or use our Common, so we have a species list of plants, birds, animals and butterflies. One summer project that was fun was a survey of moths. For several Saturday nights two chaps turned up with their lamps and created their eerie glow that attracted the moths. I thought we were doing well to achieve 120 species until I found out Buckingham Palace gardens is host to more than 600. This year we are surveying the fungi.

Accompanying our efforts at conservation, the Common has been changing. One thing that appears to be happening is that the western area where big mature hawthorns seemed to thrive has been slowly developing to high forest as they are over-topped by the maturing oaks and cherries. That is a principle that we have to learn, that things change and we have to decide whether to manage

that change, or to use 'masterful inactivity'. The Common is big enough that there are some areas that can be left to follow their natural development. Indeed while this process is advancing in one area we can be managing another area in order to restart the seral succession. (Seral describes the level of ecological integration after disturbance - Ed)

Nature Conservation has become an important modern interest, and there is a lot to learn and understand. At first we were 'gardeners', but we have learned to differentiate between gardening and nature conservation. 'Gardening' is appropriate in the more public areas, but natural environments are not tidy the way gardens are meant to be. The temptation is to tidy up, and have a bonfire to burn the bits. Now we tend to pile up the brush and stack it in gaps that have been cleared, so that wooded interiors that have been exposed can begin to be sheltered again. It is important that woodlands maintain their seclusion and their microclimate that is conducive to woodland habitat species. The logs are tossed away into the undergrowth to decay and begin the cycle that supports biodiversity. Since we are surveying the fungal species on the Common this year, we hope that this dead wood will give us a good population of fungi. Of course many species of insects on which birds feed flourish in decaying wood. Chris Wege recently visited Bialowieza Forest in Poland and came back with the knowledge that a natural forest contains 30% of dead and decaying wood, both standing and lying.

Soon we go into a new season of work. We worry that few people join in to help but it has kept our work of modest impact. While many hands make light work, too many hands can be a problem, since often the initial activity in nature conservation is cutting things down, or 'control' as it is euphemistically termed. One should not have to look for things to cut down just to keep the team busy! So, we try to plant trees and shrubs in appropriate sites to balance the need for 'control'. Of course interested people will always be welcome especially for the larger projects.

My favourite thought about our work comes from a visit we had from a butterfly expert who was very complimentary about our efforts, and summarized: 'You haven't done too much'. So, our modest approach has been appropriate.

Twelve years on, it was very pleasing for the Common to contribute to our Best Kept Village award by achieving full marks in this year's competition. The present committee consists of Chris Wege - chairman, Patsy Wright-Warren, Ann Trotman and Graham Thorne and Penny Ware is to join us. We report our work annually to the Parish Council.

Graham Thorne



I answered the doorbell one lunchtime and there stood Mr David Palmer who explained he was not selling but wanted to give him something which turned out to be two photos of Friars Vane taken at the turn of the last century showing his great, great grandfather Ephraim Palmer and his family. These photos have been recently discovered in the family archives and had been digitally restored by his son in law. One shows the family and the other a herd of cows in what was the driveway. The family group left to right are daughter Harriet 1850-1961, wife Ellen (nee Sears) 1849-1931, son George 1875-1951 and Ephraim 1850-1927. Both photos taken around 1910.

Ephraim is described as a market gardener, and his wife Ellen ran the village grocers shop. Her father James Sears was a shoemaker and her mother, Sarah was a lacemaker and they also lived in the village. All are buried in the churchyard.

Richard Valentine



Coleshill W.I.

August is a blissfully quiet month on the W.I. front and I, for one, am enjoying the extra time for other things. However we did entertain our friends from St. Saviour's Deaf Club in Acton earlier this month. This year they only came for lunch (as we no longer have sufficient able-bodied helpers to cope with tea as well) but what a splendid meal it was, with an amazing choice of delicious home-made puddings and they all enjoyed themselves and look forward to returning next year. The team of helpers in the kitchen were delighted to be the first to use the new geyser, which was voted a huge improvement on the urn, and, hoorah, the floor is really non-slip now too. So, our thanks to the Village Hall committee for sorting these problems out. Sometimes it feels as if we are always in the kitchen as we have recently been involved in helping with the Chesswoods Group annual lunch and we also had a most successful Garden Party at The Captive Oak when we raised the magnificent sum of £400 which was divided equally between Cystic Fibrosis and Williams Syndrome because two of our members have grandchildren suffering from these conditions, and we all wanted to help them.

We had fun selling raffle tickets at the Village Fete and in a weak moment promised to do so again next year! Several of our members live outside the village and it was heart-warming that they all gave generously to support the fete. Needless to say a good few of them were the lucky winners too!

Unfortunately we had to cancel the proposed trip to the Tate Britain due to lack of support but some members took advantage of the group outing to Blenheim Palace, several visited the Chiltern Show to support the County Federation stall, and we have reserved tickets to see The Shell Seekers at Wycombe Swan this autumn.

Finally, I must share the excitement of our W.I. when Joan Domin, Lindsey Haubner and myself won the Bucks Federation W.I. Public speaking competition and came back with the most impressive shield! Unfortunately by the time you receive this you will have missed the opportunity to see us giving a repeat performance at our September meeting but I suggest you ask someone to tell you all about it!

I've noticed that several homes in the village have changed hands recently and from my own experience there is no doubt that coming to W.I. is an excellent way of becoming part of Coleshill, visitors are always welcome and our next meeting is 14th October at 2:30p.m.

Eileen Gershon

You can find out more about Coleshill WI by going direct to our web page on the Village website at www.coleshill.org/the_wi.htm

Marathon - New York 2004

Susan Smith - Clerk to Coleshill Parish Council and Terry Power - Secretary to Coleshill Cricket Club have both entered the New York marathon which takes place on 7th November 2004.

They are hoping to raise a lot of money for Walk the Walk which at present grants its funds to Breakthrough Breast Cancer for Research and The Bristol Cancer Help Centre for holistic cancer care.

The training for the Marathon entails many early morning walks and runs through the village with evening gym sessions at the Village Hall at the Quick Fit Club.

If you spot them walking or running on the road a wave of encouragement helps, but even better, if you wish to sponsor them please make cheques payable to 'Walk the Walk' care of Susan Smith, 2 Manor Way, Coleshill.

Best of luck from everyone in Coleshill!

Village Hall

The Village Hall continues to provide a venue for The Horticultural Show, public meetings and private parties. Keep fit activities are very popular this year and the Bridge club continues to use the Hall, which it has done for more than twenty years.

The AGM on the 23rd April 2004 was poorly attended and a Friday night meeting will not be chosen again.

The kitchen floor has been re-laid by the manufacturers as the safety factor was proved to be defective. A water heater has replaced the urn in the kitchen, which will provide a safer method of using hot water.

The Hall is available for hire to residents of Coleshill for their personal use at reduced rates. Please contact Ann Lawrence on 433421 for hire. The Hall details can be viewed online and bookings made on the village web site.

Ann Lawrence

You can find out more about Coleshill Village Hall by going direct to our web page on the Village website at www.coleshill.org/village-hall.htm



Neighbourhood Watch

Since the last newsletter, concern by villagers about the number of burglaries has resulted in two meetings with the police. It has been very disheartening to see figures for burglary rise again after the initial success of our NHW scheme. It was during a spate of burglaries like this, just over eight years ago, that made us decide to start the scheme. Thieves would strike during the day when they knew the village was pretty empty. A knock at the door would assure them that no-one was home and they would have plenty of time to go all through the house looking for swag. We fought back. NHW stickers went up in windows, burglar alarms were fitted, security lights etc were installed and the result was that burglaries almost stopped.

The last year has seen a new type of burglar in our patch, though. He comes during the night whether people are home or not. He has found that most of us do not put our alarms on at night and that, in the early hours, we will sleep through most light noise. If he cannot find a downstairs window open, he will prize out the putty or beading, lift out the glass, get in, grab a handbag, laptop, clock, picture, small antique etc and be away in just a few minutes.

Neighbourhood Watch must try to fight back again.

The first meeting, held in the cricket pavilion, gave us a chance to speak to the lady in charge of Neighbourhood Watch at Amersham police station, our new beat officer and his boss. The second, organized by the Chairman of our Parish Council and the Chairman of the County Council, brought to the Village Hall two senior police officers. Overall, from these two meetings, we have learnt that, firstly, we are not likely to be attacked in our beds. The burglar is most likely to be a professional burglar, who wants to find something from which to make a quick profit and does not want to be identified or to enter into any kind of conflict. He is probably supporting a drug habit. Secondly, that police presence has been increased, both during the day and, even more so, at night.

They cannot be here all the time though, so it is up to us to take more care ourselves. Handbags, wallets and keys left within view in downstairs rooms are a magnet. Take all these, plus laptops, into your bedroom at night and hide them away. Set alarms at night or find other gizmos, such as sensors, which ring your front door if movement triggers them. Thirdly, notice suspicious cars or people. Call the local police on 0845 950 5505 and get them to check out anything unusual. They may just have a car registration listed as being stolen or belonging to a known felon. Finally, mark or photograph precious items so that, if they are stolen and subsequently found, you may have a chance of getting them back.

Jack & Lindsey Haubner

Christmas Greetings

As we close the Horticultural Show on a gloriously hot day, I realise it must seem incongruous to include this notice in the Newsletter as an early reminder of Christmas!

For those who do not know, your Christmas Greeting donation is what pays for the majority of the printing of your four Village Newsletters per year. The balance of the cost is covered by the Parish Council.

I have included a form below. Please complete this and return it to me with a donation of at least £1.00, (more if you wish) and I will arrange for your Greeting to be included in the Christmas Newsletter, and also appear on the village website!

I am sorry that it will not be possible to remind everyone again but of course you do not have to wait until the November 12th deadline to let me have your greeting!

Frank Auton



Christmas Greetings

I would like to include Christmas Greetings from:-

.....
(please print)

I/we enclose donation of £.....

(cheques should be made payable to Parish Council)

**Please complete and return in an envelope before
Friday 12th November 2004 to:-**

Frank Auton

The Rosary Cottage, Village Road, Coleshill

Cricket Club

Coleshill CC can look back on 2004 season with mixed feelings, the 1st team finished in the top half of their league division whilst the 2nd XI will face the prospect of 2nd division cricket in 2005 after an extremely disappointing season.

A big thank you to the Club Captain Barney Stay for his efforts throughout the year; the job of captain extends a long way beyond the boundary and takes up most of the week. Similarly, massive thanks to Chris Bruin for his contribution for both the Saturday 2nd XI and Sunday XI.

John Ullman's colts training sessions have continued to be a success and some of the older lads are starting to challenge for starting places in the Club sides which is encouraging.

The August barbecue and firework event was an excellent and extremely well attended event and hopefully all those who attended enjoyed themselves. John Ullman is already planning his fireworks for next year!

By the end of the month Sujit will on his way back to Sri Lanka with hopefully many happy memories of Coleshill and the whole club hopes to see him again in 2005 (a nice guy and great cricketer).

So the cold and dark evenings will soon be drawing in and the cricket club will soon be closing for the winter, but there is plenty of work to be done on the pitch, nets, outfield and fence (we are in danger of becoming rabbit central). Before you know it though April 2005 will be here and the panic of teams, teas and balls will start again for the lucky few!

Graham Flack

To find out more about the Cricket Club go direct to our web page on the Village website at www.coleshill.org/cricket.htm

Coleshill Infants School

There is no news in this issue as the Village School is closed for the summer holidays. We wish Jenny Earp and her team a well deserved holiday after an eventful and successful year for the School. We look forward to more news next term.

Best Kept Village of the Year

After reluctantly not entering in 2003 due to the disruption caused by so much construction work, we were delighted to be so successful in 2004 following the strenuous efforts by so many to tidy up the village. The winners of this year's Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village and Village of the Year competitions, which are organised by Bucks Association of Local Councils, have been revealed:-

The Best Kept Village competition focuses on the community spirit which is highlighted through a village's well kept environment, and celebrates communities pulling together.

Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village of the Year 2004

Morris Cup (Population 501-1500)

Winner - Coleshill

Sword of Excellence (village with the highest marks)

Winner - Coleshill

Village of the Year Competition

This looks at how villages make the best of what they have got for the benefit of all residents, encouraging whole communities to contribute to village life. Smaller Community Category (Population under 3,000) **Winner - Coleshill**

Villages from both the Best Kept Village and Village of the Year competitions will be honoured at a presentation ceremony being held on Saturday 25th September 2004.

Competition Chairman, Richard Pushman, commented: 'We had a great response to both competitions this year. Once again the standard was very high, and the judging teams had a tough time choosing the winners. This is highlighted by the fact that out of the forty villages entering the Best Kept Village competition, thirty five of them achieved marks over 80%, which is a terrific achievement. As one of the judges commented, these competitions really highlight what a great place Buckinghamshire is to live'.

We will now go forward to represent Buckinghamshire in the Eastern England and Home Counties region of the national Calor - Village of the Year competition involving communities from over 45 counties across England and Wales which has a prize fund totalling £37,000. Coleshill will initially be judged in October by Village of the Year regional judges along with villages from Bedfordshire, Berkshire. Cambridgeshire: Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk, and will ultimately be in with a chance of winning £12,500 of prize money.

We have previously won the Best Kept Village Award in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1973 - so please keep up the great work as we go into the Finals!

Diary Dates

Sunday 12th September	Tennis Club Finals Day
Saturday 18th September	Car Treasure Hunt & Barbecue
Tuesday 21st September	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday 25th September	Best Kept Village Award Presentation
Friday 8th October	Harvest Supper
Thursday 14th October	WI Meeting
Friday 29th October	Tennis Club Horse Race Evening
Friday 12th November	Christmas Greetings Deadline
Tuesday 23rd November	Parish Council Meeting

Harvest Supper

This years All Saints' Harvest Supper will be held on Friday 8th October 2004. Tickets are £6.00 each, including a glass of wine and can be purchased from Rosie Searles on 726118, Pat Dawson on 433036 or Liz Radclyffe on 724865.

Help with setting up on the day and to supply some puddings will be much appreciated - Thank you.

Request for information

Does anyone know anything about Coleshill House? I found reference to it in a history book and went to see it. It looks sort of Queen Anne with Regency additions but does anyone know its age, who built it, who lived there etc.

I would greatly appreciate any help on this matter. A local builder told me that it was originally a home and was now divided into apartments but who originally lived there? Also, has anyone noticed that in the other Coleshill (Oxfordshire now) there was a house also called Coleshill House which bore quite distinct similarities - so much so that when I found an engraving of it I confused the two.

Any help much appreciated.

If you have any information please email Michael Sargeaunt.

micksargeaunt@hotmail.com

Contact Numbers

Reverend Tim Harper - Rector	724426
Dorothy Potter - Parish Secretary	729380
Dumpy Swerling - All Saints' Pro-Warden	873931
Patsy Wright-Warren - All Saints' Pro-Warden	433356
John Brumwell - Parish Treasurer	724704
Chris Wege - Hon Secretary All Saints'	724152
Catherine Green - Church Flowers	724922
Ruth Murphy - Organist & Choirmaster All Saints'	433539
Frank & Heather Auton - Newsletter	431036
Susan Smith - Clerk Parish Council	724490
Ann Lawrence - Village Hall Bookings	433421
Marianne Holt - Magpie Club & Parish Youth Worker	723793
Jenny Earp - Head teacher Village School	727206
Jack & Lindsey Haubner - Neighbourhood Watch	722589
Eileen Gershon - President Coleshill W.I.	727868
Amanda McCallum - Iain Rennie Hospice at Home	725083
David Smith - Coleshill Horticultural Society	724490
Angela Perry - Secretary Coleshill Tennis Club	721865
Terry Power - Secretary Coleshill Cricket Club	431186
John Holland - Coleshill Short Mat Bowls	729357
John & Chris Ullman - The Red Lion	727020
Chris Wege - Common Management Committee	724152

Parish Councillors

David Hall	Chairman of Parish Council	725231
Richard Valentine	Vice-Chairman of Council	725794
Jan Atkinson	Member of Parish Council	434830
Frank Auton	Member of Parish Council	431036
Tony Barber	Member of Parish Council	722143
John Jefford	Member of Parish Council	433230
Mike Smith	Member of Parish Council	tba

Services in the Parish

St Mary's	8.00 am	Holy Communion
All Saints' (except 2 nd Sunday)	9.00 am	Holy Communion
All Saints' (2 nd Sunday)	10.00 am	Holy Communion
St Mary's	10.15 am	Holy Communion
St Mary's	11.45 am	Matins
All Saints' (1 st Sunday of every month)	6.00 pm	Evensong
St Mary's (except 1 st Sunday of month)	6.00 pm	Evensong
Sunday 3 rd October 2004	10.00 am	Harvest Thanksgiving

All Saints' Services

	6.00 pm	Harvest Choral Evensong
Sunday 7 th November 2004		Patronal Festival
	9.00 am	Communion
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong

