

Chenies Village Society



CHENIES VILLAGE SOCIETY

Notice of Annual General Meeting

This year's annual general meeting will be held on Thursday 10th April at 8.00pm in the Long Room, Chenies Manor, by kind permission of Lt. Colonel and Mrs Macleod Matthews.

The Agenda for the meeting will be found on the opposite page.

All residents of the village, old and new, will be very welcome. The occasion gives us all the opportunity to catch up on Village News and Events. There will be time for questions and suggestions followed by the election of Officers and Committee members for the coming year. Two committee members are standing down.

If you would like to nominate any Chenies resident for membership or would like to be more involved in Village events or stand for membership of the committee yourself, please contact Melanie Lilley (Chair) on 01494 764137 or Viv Bernard (Secretary) on 01923 284087 for further information.

All nominations to the Committee and as Officers of the Society must be received by Viv Bernard not later than 48 hours before the meeting. A nomination form is attached for your use on the back page of this newsletter.

PRESENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Melanie Lilley (Chair)
Mr. Jeremy Birkett (Vice Chair) **
Mr. John Rimer (Treasurer)
Mrs. Viv Bernard (Secretary)
Mr. Barney Arnold
Mrs. Diana Boughton
Mrs. Sandy Homewood
Mr. Nigel Ince
Mr. Tony Leach *
Mrs. Kathryn Le Neve Foster
Lt. Colonel Alistair Macleod Matthews
Mr. Peter Parr-Head

Mrs. Joy Skinner (Co-Opted)
Mr. Jack Barratt (Co-Opted)*

* NOT STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

** NOT STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION AS VICE CHAIRMAN

CHENIES VILLAGE SOCIETY AGM 1997 AGENDA
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1. Apologies
2. Minutes of AGM held 17th April 1996
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairmans Report
5. Treasurers Report
6. Parish Council
7. Election of Committee and Other Officers*
8. Future Village Events and Social Activities
9. Any Other Business

* Mr. Tony Leach and Mr. Jack Barratt will not be standing for re-election. Mr. Jeremy Birkett will be standing for re-election as a Member of the Committee but not for the Office of Vice Chairman.

REPORTS ON EVENTS

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT 150 YEARS

To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the school, Pupils of Chenies County Combined School celebrated in true style and by so doing gave us a delightful glimpse of the past, as the picture on the following page shows.

Mr. Reeves, Headteacher, has written the following report and letter for inclusion in the newsletter.

'.....I am writing to you to say how much the school appreciated the support and interest shown by the village in our 150th anniversary.'

'The celebrations proceeded very well and it was good to see so many people visiting the school. The wide range of memorabilia lent to us by former pupils was a very important aspect of the displays of work in the School Hall. The celebration lunch was attended by a sample of people who have supported the school; as former pupils, former governors and members of staff, as well as head teachers of other local schools, our own governors and current members of staff, along with representatives of the Village. At the open day and open evening there were many visitors to the school, most of these were former pupils, and there were some interesting re-unions.

'The children had their own special lunch and the culmination of the celebrations was the prize giving attended by the Marquis and Marchioness of Tavistock, with the prizes being distributed by the Marchioness.

'During the week' and subsequently 'we sold souvenirs of mugs, tea towels and prints of the school. A number of these are still available if anybody should be interested.

'My sincere thanks to all who live in Chenies Village for their support of the school, through the Church, the Parish Council and the Village Society.

My Best Wishes,
Yours sincerely
F. N. J. Reeves
Headteacher.'

If you would like to purchase a souvenir of this anniversary, there are still some commemorative mugs and tea-towels available. These may be purchased by contacting the School Secretary in the School Office. Telephone 01923 282546
Mugs and Tea-towels make attractive and useful souvenirs and gifts and are priced as follows:

Chenies Commemorative Mugs £3.75 each or 2 for £6.00

Chenies Tea Towels (decorated with drawings of well known Chenies scenes),
£2.75 each or 2 for £5.00

THE CHENIES AND LATIMER SHOW

This took place in July in 1996 and was a great success. Fifty four individuals entered with a total of 243 entries, all of a very high standard. It seems unfair to pick out a particular class individually but the Ginger Bread Men and Women looked far too attractive and beautifully decorated to eat.

Belated congratulations to Elizabeth Macleod Matthews who won the Chenies Village Cup and to Mr. Taylor who won the Latimer Village Cup.

The auction later that day ensured that many of us were also able to personally enjoy the 'fruits' of the entrant's hard labours. Wonderful!

There is a tremendous amount of work which goes into making these events successful, and much organisation which nerve wrackingly cannot be achieved until the day itself.

Thank you to Margaret Hielbuth and her team for their commitment and hard work which ensured that all went smoothly and a good time was had by everybody. Our special thanks to Margaret who has now retired as Chairman and Good Wishes to Denise Surey who has taken over the chair.

The Chenies and Latimer Show 1997 will be held in September. Further details will be available shortly.

WILD ACRE ART GROUP

Last years exhibition was a great success with many exhibitors and visitors. As a result the group donated £375 to the South West Herts Hospice and £375 to the school. We look forward to this year's exhibition which will be held in the summer. Happy painting!

CHENIES VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Approximately one hundred people attended this excellent evening, enjoying good food and drink, good company, prizes and excellent entertainment. The Kings of Herts really helped to put us all in the Christmas spirit, not to mention Mike's beer and Jack's punch!

Thank you to everyone who attended and to all who contributed food, drink, tombola and/or raffle prizes and time.

LITTER BLITZ

What a great turn out for the litter blitz on Saturday 1st March. Sixteen people reported for duty on the green and many more blitzed the areas surrounding their own homes.

On the following Wednesday I met someone who, after enquiring where I lived, said that she and her husband had visited Chenies the previous Sunday (2nd March). 'It really is lovely around there and the village was so clean!'

It was all worth it! Thank you everyone. The rubbish retrieved filled a large number of black bags and included parts of the front end of a car and a false eye, the size of a ping-pong ball

Unfortunately, the litter monsters are no respecters of our hard work and I am sad to report that within an hour of completing the litter blitz, I retrieved two chocolate wrappers and a coke bottle from the verge between Claypits and Bedford Close, a coke tin from the middle of the road between the Bedford Arms and the Green and a large cardboard box from the edge of the main road.

I appreciate that the litter monsters do not live in the village and that much of the rubbish is jettisoned from cars passing through. However, even I was surprised by the following facts and figures about the time it takes for litter to decompose, which have been provided courtesy of Paul Gibson and The National Trust.

Paper	2 - 5 Months
Orange Peel	6 Months
Milk Cartons	5 Years
Filter Tip Cigarette Tips	10 - 12 Years
Plastic Bags	10 - 20 Years
Leather Shoes	25 - 40 Years
Nylon Cloth	30 - 40 Years
Plastic Containers	50 - 60 Years
Polystyrene/Glass/etc	Never!

As we can't beat the litter monsters on a permanent basis, we are seeking your help with further litter blitz days on the following dates. Please put them in your diary and if you can, spare an hour or two of your time. We meet on the Green at 10.00am.

Saturday 26th April

Saturday 24th May*

* Village Clear Up day in preparation for The Best Kept Village Competition

UP & COMING EVENTS & OTHER NEWS

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION - 1957 - 1997

In 1996 we were shortlisted for the finals for the Gurney Cup, along with Fulmer and Weeden. Fulmer won the cup, which is awarded to the best kept village in Buckinghamshire with a population up to 500.

This year the best kept village competition celebrates its 40th anniversary and it is hoped that a large number of villages will enter the competition to help celebrate the event.

Preliminary judging will take place from 26th May to 14th June, followed by a final inspection during early July. The winners should be announced shortly after. Judging encompasses all areas of the village as indicated below:

Primary Features:

- Places of worship with graveyard and cemetery
- Common, green, playing field
- Boundary hedges, road verges, ditches, fences etc and clearly defined nature or ecological areas for wildlife.

Secondary Features:

- Areas surrounding inns, hotels etc
- Bus shelters, telephone kiosks, notice boards
- Ancillary features; pond, stream, village pump

Additional marks are available for overall appearance and evidence of community effort.

We aren't asking anyone to go so far as cancelling their holidays, but if you can please do help us on both litter blitz days, especially Saturday 24th May.

THE VILLAGE CRICKET MATCH

This year's annual Village v The Club match will be held on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May. We hope that the later date will bring more clement weather than we enjoyed in 1996 and that a maximum of one jumper per person will be all that is required by players and spectators alike, as opposed to last years two or more.

Tea will be provided as usual, but a bank holiday also gives us the opportunity for something a little special. Further details shortly.

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS & THE MILLENIUM PROJECT

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS - Stoney Lane

There is concern that since the Stoney Lane intersection has been cleared, the number of accidents has increased. There were four in the first month of this year, and another occurred just last week - 13th March 1997.

Nigel Ince would like to be informed in the event of further accidents so that he can monitor them and report to the Highways Committee with a view to getting further action. Tel: 01923 282562

TRAFFIC CALMING

Enclosed with this newsletter is a leaflet, 'Traffic Calming by example', produced by Buckinghamshire County Council. The leaflets seeks our personal commitment to drive in accordance with all speed limits and the highway code, therefore having a traffic calming influence in our own village and also wherever we drive.

The Parish Council views thraffic calming as being the most serious of issues and one about which they constantly make representation. Chenies is one of 200 villages which have petitioned for speed limits and better traffic regulations in Buckinghamshire.

These needs can only be met for a very small number of villages each year. The Parish Council will keep the pressure on the Highways Committee and all other sources of influence.

THE TELEPHONE BOX

And the saga continues. We will have a real red telephone box again on the green.....one day.

THE GLEBE LAND - Our Millenium Project

By now you will all have received the notice about the forthcoming auction of Chenies Glebe Land by the Diocesan Board of Finance. This is another important issue for Chenies, worthy of being a millenium project.

If this land can be secured for the community, it would benefit the residents, our children and future generations by providing space for a games pitch for the school, a football pitch, a safe play area for our children, a recreational site for adults and a possible site for a village hall in the future. If this land is lost to the community we will not only lose the potential for these facilities but the way could be opened up for other, undesirable, development which would encourage additional traffic into the village and onto our already busy roads.

As the Appeal Notice explains, all pledges will be very welcome, no matter how small. Please do return your pledge in the envelope provided by 15th April 1997.

If any one did not receive or has mislaid their Appeal Notice and Pledge Form, please ring Peter Parr-Head on 01923 284371 or 285576.

CHENIES VILLAGE SOCIETY COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM - 1997

All nomination forms should be completed and sent to Mrs. Viv Bernard, Secretary, Chenies Village Society, 13 Bedford Close, Chenies by 8.00pm 8th April 1997

I nominate the following for election to the committee of the Chenies Village Society.

Name of Nominee.....

Address.....

Telephone No.....

Proposed by: Name..... Signature.....

Telephone Number..... Date.....

I agree to stand for election to the committee of the Chenies Village Society

Signature of Nominee..... Date.....

COMPUTERS & MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

Tesco and J. Sainsbury are currently running promotional campaigns to help schools purchase Computers (Tesco) and Musical Instruments (J.Sainsbury).

How It Works: - Customers can receive one token for a specific amount of money spent. In the case of Tesco it is one voucher for every £25.00 spent.
- These tokens are then be redeemable by schools against the purchase of equipment.

Chenies Village School is collecting both sets of vouchers and would be very grateful for any extra support. Please, if you do not have children of your own but shop at Tesco or Sainsbury, do take advantage of these promotions to help support our school and its pupils.

Sometimes the vouchers are not offered automatically so you have to remember to ask for them. Vouchers may then be handed in at the School Office.



17TH MARCH UNTIL 25TH MAY 1997

Tesco Stores Ltd. Registered Office
Tesco House, Delamare Rd.
Cheshunt, Herts. EN8 9SL