



# Kidmore End Parish Council

Cane End    Chalkhouse Green    Gallowstree Common    Kidmore End    Tokers Green

## Newsletter Spring 2007

Mar 2007    No. 91

### Editor's Notes

Traffic in the Parish has again been a hot topic of discussion by your Council in recent months. As reported below, the Council has decided to order a speed indicator sign to be installed in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common, in an attempt to reduce the number of cars and vans travelling down that road at speeds well in excess of the 30 mph limit.

Parking outside Kidmore End School and the Pre-school is another perennial problem, as is the volume of traffic in Tokers Green Lane at school times. No bright solutions have yet been put forward, but two Councillors have

been asked to "look into" these matters. You will find a report from Mrs Sue Rowland about Pre-school parking on page 4.

A report from Oxfordshire County Council (page 4) tells us that 71% of pupils at Kidmore End School arrive by car, compared with an average of 38% for all primary schools across the county. It is hardly surprising, in view of the wide school catchment and the narrow lanes in the Parish that most parents do not allow their children to walk or cycle to school. However, it would be good to find ways of reducing the number of car journeys and

of making better provision for offloading and collecting children at the school and the pre-school.

Is it not possible for parents in Caversham to charter a minibus to take their children to and from Kidmore End and is there no way of finding space for mums' parking off the highway?

If you have helpful suggestions about how these problems might be resolved, Mrs Julia Appleton would be pleased to hear from you (phone 972 3172 or e-mail [Julia.Appleton@btinternet.com](mailto:Julia.Appleton@btinternet.com))

**Trevor Morris** (Editor)

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### Parish Council Website

The Parish Council now has a simple website for use in disseminating information about Parish Council business, local events and matters of interest. It will be updated every month and will include the Agenda for forthcoming Council meetings. The website can be found at [www.kepc.info](http://www.kepc.info). If you have comments about the website, please e-mail any member of the Newsletter editorial board.

## Report from The Chairman of the Parish Council

Dear Parishioner,

Yesterday saw the second appreciable snowfall of this winter. It seems that snow in Kidmore End becomes rarer as each year passes, so to have two dustings in one winter seems quite a phenomenon. We certainly have endured a wet winter, but at least the reservoirs and aquifers should now be full and it's good to hear that the hose pipe ban has been lifted at last.

Since I last wrote one of these articles, the Council has fixed its precept for the coming financial year. There is a report about the Council's budget elsewhere in the Newsletter. Next year's precept, at £13,600, is higher than that for the present year, but, at just over £20 for the average household for the whole year, I hope you will agree that it represents good value for money. I have not yet seen the figures, but I am pretty sure that your Council's precept will be well below the average for South Oxfordshire parishes.

Within that budget you will see, again elsewhere in the Newsletter, that the Council is funding the purchase of a vehicle activated speed indicator device, for installation in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common. Those of you who live in that village will know that the speed limit is flouted by so many drivers. I and the Council hope that the new sign may help slow some of them down.

Provision has also been made in the budget for

- the next stage in the project to replace the Pavilion at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground: the

planning application has now been submitted;

- a contribution towards extending the pavement along the south side of Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green to the Rokeby Recreation Ground;
- the preparation of a Parish Plan, a project being led by Rob Potter.

Mentioning Rob Potter reminds me that he has established the Council's new website at [www.kepc.info](http://www.kepc.info). Rob has indicated that he will act as webmaster for the immediate future and the Council is most grateful to him for setting up and managing the website. This Newsletter will be on the web before you receive hard copy, I shouldn't wonder.

I mentioned in my last article that the Council was being consulted on the subsidy for the M1 bus service, which goes through Gallowstree Common, Kidmore End and Chalkhouse Green. While your Council would like to see this part of the Parish infrastructure retained, patronage is presently low: if the subsidy goes, so will the service, it seems. The Council has asked the County Council to explore whether there are public transport needs that are presently unmet.

Hugh Thresher from Tokers Green resigned as a member of the Council in November. He had served since 2002. Because the quadrennial

elections are imminent, no election could be called to fill the vacancy. The Council has therefore co-opted Mr Malcolm Naish, also of Tokers Green, to fill the vacancy.

As I have just mentioned, there will be elections for parish councillors this year. Polling day will be the first Thursday in May, if there are more than 12 candidates. Watch out for the notice of election on the notice boards, if you wish to be a candidate.

Another date for your diary is the Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held at the Parish Room on the evening of 21 March

**Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Room on 21 March 2007 7.30pm**

**Parish elections Polling day: Thursday 3 May**

2007. This meeting is open to all local government electors in the Parish, and is your opportunity to take your Council to task, if that is your

wont. My colleagues and I will be delighted if residents other than councillors turn up for the meeting!

May I conclude by saying that this is my last Chairman's report. I announced in May last year that I would not consent to nomination as Chairman after the elections, assuming, of course, that (a) I stand for election and (b) I get elected.

It has been a privilege to have chaired the Council since July 1996 and I am grateful to my fellow councillors for not only putting up with me over the past 11 years, but also for their ready support over the same period.

**Giles Martin** (Chairman, Kidmore End Parish Council)

## Recycling Electronic Waste



Did you know that 15 million mobile phones and around 2 million PCs are being scrapped every year in the UK? We currently produce around 1 million tonnes of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) each year and this figure may well double over the next 15 years.

The disposal of all this waste is a huge problem. Because WEEE contains precious metals, dangerous chemicals and toxins such as arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury it is totally unsuitable for land fill or incineration. Re-use or recycling have to be the only options. If WEEE is not recycled the (often expensive) materials that were used to make the equipment are lost. Manufacturing a new computer uses 240kg of fossil fuels, 22kg of chemicals and 1500 litres of water. Recycling will save much of this.

Re-use is a really important way to deal with WEEE. Using the products again gives them a second life and can be actively helpful in society by giving people access to equipment they could not otherwise afford.

### **The WEEE Directive is to be introduced to the UK in 2007**

This obliges

- (a) distributors to take back old equipment when we buy similar new goods and
- (b) equipment producers to fund the recovery, treatment and recycling of a share of household WEEE delivered to authorised treatment facilities.

We, the consumers, need to make sure our outdated goods are dealt with in this way. Although the Directive comes into force in January 2007, it seems unlikely that it will be up and running before July (most other EU countries have already introduced the Directive, which was drawn up in 2002!).

So what can we do? Oakley Wood Waste centre has a skip for WEEE. When asked where it went to no one knew but, after some searching, Oxfordshire County Council said it was taken to DTC, a firm in Aylesbury, for recycling.

If you want your computer to go for re-use the Redbridge depot (near Oxford) will take them. There are also various charity outlets that take individual items.

COMPUTERS FOR CHARITY (phone 01288 361199)

COMPUTERS FOR CHARITIES (phone 01323 840641)

COMPUTER AID (phone 0207 281 0091)

This organisation sends its equipment to third world countries.

ENVOICARE accepts, and sells, used computers and other equipment

PfX Services of Newbury will take old equipment for recycling (phone 07880 596636)

All these have web sites if you have access to the internet (also search under [www.weeedirectory.com](http://www.weeedirectory.com)).

Although the Local Authority can't offer much help at present I was assured that there will be plenty of local publicity in 2007 to enable individuals to make sure their redundant electrical and electronic equipment can be disposed of responsibly.

So PLEASE don't just send it to landfill. Keep asking how you can safely dispose of it. The more we ask the more likely it will be that we get a system up and running.

**Jill Kendal** (source: [www.weeedirectory.com](http://www.weeedirectory.com))

## Kidmore End Pre-School: Parking Issues

Earlier this month Councillor Young and I attended a meeting with the Committee Chair and Manager of Kidmore End Pre-school to discuss parking outside the premises. We had a very constructive discussion: the Pre-school are taking this problem very seriously and responsibly. They have written to all the parents with requests and suggestions to improve or resolve the problem and to minimise the disruption and inconvenience to neighbours. One suggestion is that, if regular bad-parkers could be identified, the school would at least be able to take the issue up with the offenders directly.

So, if you see any Pre-school vehicles blocking the road or otherwise parking selfishly or inconsiderately, please advise (preferably with the vehicle registration number and time of day) either Sarah Cleall, the Committee Chair (e-mail [dcleall@btinternet.com](mailto:dcleall@btinternet.com)) or Caroline Aldridge, the Manager (e-mail [Caroline\\_aldrige@btinternet.com](mailto:Caroline_aldrige@btinternet.com)).



**Sue Rowland**

## Travel to School

The Oxfordshire County Council conducted a further survey in the Autumn of 2006 (the first was in 2005) to discover how children travel to school. More than 150 schools took part, about 35% of all Oxfordshire schools. Kidmore End C of E Primary School was included, but not Chiltern Edge.

In the table, Kidmore End is compared with the average of the county's maintained primary schools.

No doubt the narrow lanes, lack of pavements and the scattered nature of the school catchment for Kidmore End have much to do with the predominance of car journeys over other modes of transport. Peppard Common C of E School shows a very similar pattern to Kidmore End, whereas in Thame and Abingdon more than 60% of primary school pupils walk to school.

| Per cent of pupil journeys | Kidmore End School | All Primary Schools |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| On foot, blades or scooter | 15                 | 48                  |
| By car                     | 71                 | 38                  |
| Cycle                      | 1                  | 10                  |
| Bus (school or public)     | 13                 | 3                   |
| Other (? train)            | 0                  | 1                   |

## Kidmore End Village Day

Saturday, 16 June 2007 is the date for this year's Village Day. By the time this newsletter is circulated, we will have had a committee meeting and I will be able to report in more detail in the next Newsletter entry.

It's not too early to start sorting books, toys, plants, and tins and bottles for our stalls. Details of who to contact for these donations will also be published

nearer the time.

Of course, we would be delighted to welcome any new members onto the Village Day Committee. It's an ideal opportunity to get involved in our community and make new contacts. We only meet three times a year in the evening to put our heads together and organise the day



(and catch up over a glass of wine) and the workload, when split amongst enough people, is not too daunting!

We also welcome any offers of help on the day, particularly strong pairs of arms to help set up all the tables and the gazebo.

Please contact me on 972 1053 if you could spare the time.

**Cathy Dean** (Village Day Committee Secretary)

## New Arrangements for Policing in Kidmore End

The old Henley police area has now been split into four neighbourhoods to prepare for the implementation of Neighbourhood Policing. The aim of this new initiative is to provide a more local police service. The police will work with other agencies such as the local council and members of the community through Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) to identify local priorities. Kidmore End Parish falls into a neighbourhood that includes Mapledurham, Rotherfield Peppard, Sonning Common, Harpsden, Binfield Heath,

Henley, Shiplake and Eye and Dunsden.

The four new neighbourhoods are covered by a 24-hour response team working from Henley, Thame and Didcot. There is also a neighbourhood team which will consist of a Sergeant and 5 constables supported by 4 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) funded by Thames Valley Police and a further 8 PCSOs funded partly by SODC, of whom two will eventually be working in the Kidmore End neighbourhood group.

PC Mike Birdseye, who is full time, and PC Julie Greenough, who works part-time, are the Neighbourhood Beat Officers and will continue to be based in the police office in Sonning Common, where they are assisted by PCSO Cathy Brook. More PCSOs are planned for the end of the summer. Mike and Julie are getting their bicycles back, so we should see a little more of them soon.

It will be interesting to see what difference these changes make to policing in the Parish.

### Sue Rowland

## FISH

Hopefully the wet weather of the past few months will have washed all the winter blues away and our clients will start to think of getting out and about. Perhaps you should consider the outings that we have planned for the next few months, especially if the sun shines. During April we are planning to go to Kew Gardens to see the spring flowers and a Shop and Lunch trip to Windsor is also planned. In May and June, if the weather is warmer, river trips are on our schedule, and Shop and Lunch trips to Newbury and maybe Abingdon. All these trips are extremely popular and are quickly booked as soon as the dates are known. We advertise all venues on the notice boards, at the Library in Sonning Common, and in the Fish Office window.

Of late, we have noticed a drop in clients wishing to go on the regular shopping trips to Reading and Henley. Clearly we are anxious to fill the seats to make the journeys worthwhile. SODC bus passes can be used on all regular shopping trips or, alternatively, we charge a very



pre-requisite for using the bus nor is the fact that you own a car; it is the circumstances that count. If you don't fancy driving your car to Reading or Henley and you cannot manage public transport, maybe you should consider using our service and, what's more, you may make some new friends.

| Diary Dates                    |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Monday 2 April. Garden Centre: | 1.30 pm start  |
| Thursday 19 April. Pub Lunch:  | 11.30 am start |
| Monday 14 May. Garden Centre:  | 1.30 pm start  |
| Thursday 17 May. Pub Lunch:    | 11.30 am start |
| Monday 4 June. Garden Centre:  | 1.30 pm start  |
| Thursday 21 June. Pub Lunch:   | 1.30 pm start  |

modest £2.50 per round trip for a door to door service. There are probably many reasons why our numbers are down: maybe the weather has put clients off, or those clients who travelled with us in the past are no longer able to do so. Age is not a

Details of our services can be obtained at Sonning Common Village Hall during weekdays between 9.30 and 11.30 am, or by telephoning 972 3986 during those hours.

**Barbara Perez**

## Citizens Advice Bureau, Henley



**A client has asked:** We have recently moved and our new flat needs some work doing on it. I want to get builders in but there are so many cowboys around. How can we make sure the ones we get to do the work are going to be OK?

**CAB replies:** There is a new government-backed scheme called TrustMark, which can help you find reliable and trustworthy tradespeople to carry out improvements and repairs to your home.

You can use the TrustMark website to find out which trade associations and other organisations have been approved. They can supply you with reputable builders, electricians, roofers, heating engineers and other tradespeople who meet certain standards set by the Government.

The site also gives useful tips on the questions to ask when you need an emergency repair, and has the answers to many frequently asked questions such as "how do I find a reputable builder?", "what standards of workmanship can I expect?" and "what do I do if I have a complaint?".

If a firm displays the TrustMark logo, it means a government-approved organisation has checked and will continue to monitor the quality of work carried out by that firm, its trading practices and financial position. It also indicates that the firm has signed up to a code of practice that includes insurance, good health and safety practices and customer care.



If you have a problem or disagreement with the firm, there will be a clear and user-friendly complaints procedure to help sort the problem out.

For more about TrustMark and how to find a TrustMark approved tradesperson, go to the TrustMark website at [www.trustmark.org.uk](http://www.trustmark.org.uk)

For advice on dealing with problems with builders, go to the Citizens Advice website [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk) or ring the CAB number on the back page of this Newsletter

## Switch Off Before You Drive

There has been much publicity recently surrounding the toughening up of the law regarding the use of mobile phones whilst in control of a motor vehicle. The penalties are significant and drivers of vans, lorries and passenger carrying vehicles can expect to be more severely punished.



It is worth noting that the law applies at any time you are in control of a vehicle, even whilst stopped at traffic lights or in a traffic queue and covers any device (including a PDA) that requires to be held whilst driving to be operated. It is also possible to be prosecuted whilst using a 'hands free' kit if it can be proven you are not in proper control of your vehicle. Two-way radios are not covered by this law.

Research has shown that you are four times more likely to have an accident whilst using a mobile phone, and that the reaction times of drivers using mobile phones whilst driving were 30% worse than for driving whilst drunk and 50% worse than driving under 'normal' conditions.

Are there exceptions? Yes, a driver may call 999 or 112 in response to a genuine emergency when it is unsafe or impractical to stop to make the call.

...four times more likely to have an accident...

The best advice is to switch off and use voicemail or other message taking service whilst you are driving. If you need to use your phone or other device, do so only after stopping in a safe place, though not on the hard shoulder of a motorway except in an emergency.

For further information on the mobiles legislation visit [www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk](http://www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk)

## Kidmore End Cricket Club

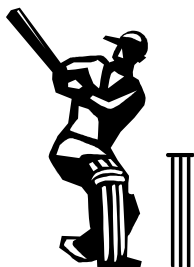
### In memoriam

Members who attended the Annual General Meeting on 27 November 2006 learnt of the death of Stan Bates, a most generous Vice-President. His memory will be perpetuated by a bench on the ground at Gallowstree Common where it will join another in memory of Bill Townsend, our former President.

We understand that, following the tragic death of Carol Tegg and the recent passing of Jim China, seats will also be installed near the football pitch in their memories.

### Junior Cricket Activities

Outdoor nets will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 6.30 pm until 8 pm with the first nets scheduled for Monday 23 April. U9 boys and girls and U12-13 boys will meet on Monday evenings; U7-8 boys and girls, U10-11 boys and U10-16 girls will meet on Tuesday evenings; and U14-15 boys on Wednesday evenings.



To maintain the level of junior cricket activity of previous years, there is a vital need for more coaches and managers. Any enquiries about junior cricket should be directed to Rob and Louise Potter. They can be contacted on 972 3043 or potterj@matthey.com

### The Season Ahead

The Club season begins on 21 April, when Kidmore End 1st XI visits Burnham. Our opponents in Round 1 of the nPower Village Cup on 29 April will be Uffington, with the game due to take place at Uffington. Marrant

Thames Valley League matches begin on 12 May, with the 1st XI playing away against High Wycombe 2nds. The 2nd XI is at home to North Maidenhead 3rds, while the 3rd XI plays Chiswick and Latymer 4ths on The Green at Warborough. Sunday League matches begin on 27th May, when Marlow visits Gallowstree Common.

### Extras

The club's 1st XI Thames Valley League averages for 2006 were headed by Jeff Sheldon with 667 runs at an average of 83.37 and Peter Jones with 33 wickets at an average of 15.33. Jeff also turned in two outstanding all round performances in June. Against Windsor 2nds, he scored 51 and took 5 for 86 while two weeks later against Farnham Common he scored 97\* and took 5 for 92. Joe Waldron (113\*) and Mark New (77\*) set a new club 5th wicket record of 174\* at Slough on 1 July. (\* means Not Out: ed.)

The Thames Valley League has been planning for expansion. In 2007 Henley will return to Thames Valley League cricket after several seasons in the Cherwell League. In 2008, eight more clubs will join: British Airways, Cookham Dean, Hayes (once a Division 1 side), Purley, Ruislip, Sonning, Theale & Tilehurst and Yateley. The Sunday League sees the return of Marlow for the 2007 season. Long Crendon may join in 2008.

### Annual General Meeting 2006

The Annual General Meeting of Kidmore End Cricket Club was held on Monday 27 November in the Pavilion at Gallowstree Common. Promotion of the club's 1st XI to Division 2B of the Marrant Thames Valley League was the highlight of the 2006 season while, at junior level, the girls' team enjoyed success as winners of a local tournament and three of the junior XIs were runners-up in their respective leagues. However, promotion of junior cricketers to the club's senior sides presents one of the issues which needs to be addressed. The undoubted success of junior cricket in recent years means that the club must find additional coaches and team managers for that success to be maintained.

The club's officers remain unchanged for the 2007 season. Captains were elected as follows: Paul Butler (Saturday 1st XI); Christopher Pigden (Saturday 2nd XI); Paul Lawson (Saturday 3rd XI); Jeff Sheldon (Sunday 1st XI); and Colin Elvy (Sunday 2nd XI). Keith Atkinson was honoured by election to Life Membership of the club.

## Welcome to a New Councillor

Following the resignation of Mr Hugh Thresher as a Parish Councillor in December, the Council has co-opted another resident of Tokers Green to fill the vacant seat.

Mr Malcolm Naish was the only candidate nominated for the job and he was duly, and

enthusiastically, appointed at the January Council meeting.

Malcolm and his wife Anne have lived in the Reading area for the past 26 years and have been in Skarries View, Tokers Green for the past eleven of those.

Malcolm is a Chartered Surveyor by profession and is currently

Head of Investment Management for a global real estate company in London. He has been a school governor in Caversham and is a lively member of the Tokers Green Quiz team.

Welcome aboard Malcolm!

## Your Council's Budget for 2007 – 2008

The Parish Council approved a Budget in December 2006 that will form the basis of the Parish precept to be included in Council Tax bills for 2007-08.

In broad terms, the budget, net of income and VAT, is made up as follows:

### Property

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, Kidmore End Play Area, ponds, wells, allotments, etc. | £3,630 |
|---|--------|

### Administration

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Salaries, expenses, subscriptions, insurance, elections, Newsletter, etc. | £6,375 |
|---|--------|

### Miscellaneous

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Various grants and road safety measures | £4,460 |
|---|--------|

Unspent balances earmarked for specific projects will be rolled forward into the coming financial year.

The adopted budget contains provision for the following projects in 2007-08:

- Next stage of planning for the replacement Pavilion at Gallowstree Common
- Provision of vehicle activated speed indicator sign in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common
- Contribution towards extending footway in Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green
- Promoting a Parish Plan
- Increased grant towards maintenance of the churchyard at Kidmore End

After making a contingency allowance, and taking into account available reserves, the Council decided to issue a precept for £13,600 for the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008.

The figure of £13,600 will be added to the much larger sums needed by the County and District Councils for the coming year. This precept will add £20.59 to the charge for a property in Band D, compared with charges of £17.56 and £15.90 for Band D properties in 2005 and 2006. In 2007-08 the work of your Council will therefore cost the average household £1.71 per month.

## Crime Statistics

The following figures have been supplied by the Sonning Common police office for recorded crimes in the civil Parish of Kidmore End during 2006.

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Burglaries      | 9         |
| Car crime       | 4         |
| Criminal damage | 7         |
| Theft           | 12        |
| Other crimes    | 9         |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>41</b> |

## An Invitation to Residents of Kidmore End Parish

Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society are proud to announce the dates of their twice yearly garden shows and to tell you that, for the first time, specified categories will be open to non-members.

The shows are arranged by our friendly Society for all amateur gardeners, whatever their level of experience or knowledge. All that is needed is enthusiasm and a love of gardening.

The Spring Show is to be held on Saturday 31 March and the Autumn Show on Saturday 8 September 2007, both at Chiltern Edge School, with public admission from 3 pm onwards.

The Shows encourage entries for flowers, vegetables, fruit, flower arranging, cakes, preserves, photography, arts, crafts and a children's section.

### Entries from non-members are invited in the following categories

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Flowers</b>       | One specimen bloom of a daffodil or a narcissus or a tulip<br>Small vase of grape hyacinth   |
| <b>Floral Art</b>    | An exhibit of flowers and foliage in a specified glass for all round effect<br>Exhibit in a niche 30in wide x 30in high x 18in deep, title to be announced |
| <b>Fruit and Veg</b> | 5 sticks of rhubarb<br>One variety of any other vegetable  |
| <b>Domestic</b>      | 1 jar of chutney<br>1 specified cake   |
| <b>Handicraft</b>    | Any handicraft item (but not knitting or needlework)<br>Small painting in any medium   |
| <b>Photography</b>   | 1 colour print entitled 'Autumn Colour'  |

The cost per entry is 30p and prizes will be awarded. For full details of conditions of entry and titles of exhibits, please get an application form by ringing the Chairman, Fred Lowe on 972 4305 or the Show Secretary, Mike Wheeler on 972 4386.

Our Shows are open to exhibitors at 10 am on the day, but we like to know the likely number of exhibits two days beforehand, so that table space can be allocated.

The Shows also have refreshments, plant sales, a raffle and Tombola and there is a great sense of camaraderie for all visitors and exhibitors.

**Spring Show:  
Saturday 31 March**

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Chiltern Edge Horticultural Society and wish to know about all the other benefits that membership brings, please call our Membership Secretary, Sue Hedges on 972 3678.

We hope to see you at the Spring Show!

## Two Runs for Charity

Graham and Helen Paige of Chalkhouse Green will be running the London Marathon on 22 April in aid of the British Heart Foundation. The BHF supports heart disease patients, funds medical research, buys life saving equipment such as defibrillators and provides education for patients, doctors, children of all ages and the public in general. Heart disease will affect one in three of us, so this seemed a very worthwhile charity to support! We are hoping to raise £3,000, ageing joints allowing, and would be very grateful for any sponsorship.

**Graham and Helen Paige**, Brambles, Chalkhouse Green.  
(phone 972 4735 or e-mail [paige@tinyonline.co.uk](mailto:paige@tinyonline.co.uk))

## Local Weather Report: Year 2006-2007

|   | Average Minimum Temperature |      | Average Maximum Temperature |      | Rainfall |      |
|---|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|------|----------|------|
|   | Cel                         | Fahr | Cel                         | Fahr | mm       | in   |
| November  | 2.6                         | 36   | 11.5                        | 53   | 107      | 4.2  |
| December  | 3.0                         | 37   | 8.3                         | 47   | 95       | 3.7  |
| January   | 3.0                         | 37   | 9.5                         | 49   | 107      | 4.2  |
| Rainfall, 3 months to end of January                        |                             |      |                             |      | 309      | 12.1 |
| Total rainfall during previous 12 months (Feb 06 to Jan 07) |                             |      |                             |      | 872      | 34.3 |



This is about 27% **above** the normal average twelve month figure of 685 mm (27 in).

The main point to note, apart from the higher-than-average temperatures in January, which have been well reported elsewhere, is the very welcome increase in rainfall totals which must help the underground aquifers reach safer levels. Long may it continue!

### Lowest and highest temperatures during the last 3 months

|          | Lowest |                   | Highest |            |
|----------|--------|-------------------|---------|------------|
|          | Cel    | Fahr              | Cel     | Fahr       |
| November | -3.2C  | 26F (30th)        | 15.8C   | 60F (13th) |
| December | -5.7C  | 22F (20th & 22nd) | 13.0C   | 55F (5th)  |
| January  | -3.8C  | 25F (26th)        | 12.2C   | 68F (9th)  |



**Derek Brown** (972 3895)

## A Speed Sign for Gallowstree Common

The problem of vehicles speeding down Horsepond Road has been discussed many times by your Parish Council, but in January it decided to take action.

The Highways authority is to be asked to install a Speed Indicator Sign, which lights up with a warning when a vehicle

approaches it at more than 30 mph. One Councillor remarked that he felt very embarrassed when one of these signs lit up for him - an honest admission that he sometimes exceeded the speed limit himself! We must hope that others will feel sufficiently embarrassed to slow down and to approach the sign with more

caution the next time they pass that way.

The Parish Council will bear the cost of the sign (about £3,000), since the County Council has no funds for traffic calming measures of this type. Provision of this sum has been included in the Council's budget for the financial year 2007-08

## Topical Tips: five a day

A growing body of research now shows us that eating fruit and vegetables regularly is critical for good health. Of course, we gardeners already know this! What else supplies our natural energy?

You don't need much space to benefit from your own tasty, healthy fast food from your own garden. Use the space on your patio, a few largish pots and away you go!

Here are a few suggestions:

**Courgettes** – dwarf Black Forest. Great source of vitamins A & C

**Tomato** – Tumbler F1. Vitamins A & C and full of lycopene, a cancer preventative.

**Pepper** – Summer Salad. Packed full of antioxidants to help against ageing.

**Salad leaves** and **runner beans** can also be grown very successfully in pots.

Why not try some **garlic**? There is a new variety, 'Tulbaghia violacea', which has the taste of garlic with lots of flavour, but without the smell or after taste. Both leaves and flowers are ornamental and both may be used in cooking or eaten raw. It looks great in pots.

Happy gardening!

**J. Manuel**



## Extra Green Boxes

South Oxfordshire is ahead of its targets for reducing landfill and increasing the recycling of waste, but the targets are moved each year, so further effort is still required.

One point that has been made to the Parish Council is that the green boxes used for recycling paper and plastic are not big enough to take the weekly amounts saved up by some families.



There are two possible solutions to this. Extra waste paper and plastic can be put in plastic sacks and left on top of the green box. Alternatively, any householder can have a second green box by collecting one from Chalkhouse Green Farm during office hours.

## Garden Waste: Some New Facilities

The brown wheelie bin service to take away compostable garden waste has been a great success. South Oxfordshire District Council had hoped to recruit 8,000 users by April this year, but 10,200 residents have already signed up. Two new possibilities have now been opened up.

If the standard 240 litre bin is unnecessarily large for your garden waste, you can ask for a smaller size (140 litres), which you may find easier to store and handle. Unfortunately, the charge for the smaller bins is just the same as for the full-size ones - £29 a year, or £27.50 if you pay by direct debit. These bins are collected fortnightly on the same day as the normal rubbish collection.

For those who have a garden at the back but nowhere to keep a brown wheelie bin, the Council can now offer a year's supply of sacks to take garden waste. The charge is the same as for bin collection - £29 a year or £27.50 by direct debit. You will be required to show that a bin is not practicable for your property.

To take up any of these services, contact Public Amenities on 01491 823416 or e-mail [recycling@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:recycling@southoxon.gov.uk).



Newsletter  
Spring 2007

### Spring Diary

- 21 Mar** Annual Parish Meeting (p2)  
**31 Mar** CEHS Spring Show (p9)  
**02 Apr** FISH Garden Centre (p5)  
**19 Apr** FISH Pub Lunch (p5)  
**21 Apr** KECC Season Start (p7)  
**22 Apr** London Marathon (p9)  
**23 Apr** KECC First Nets (p7)  
**03 May** Parish Elections Polling Day (p2)  
**14 May** FISH Garden Centre (p5)  
**17 May** FISH Pub Lunch (p5)  
**27 May** KECC Sunday League Starts (p7)  
**04 Jun** FISH Garden Centre (p5)  
**16 Jun** KE Village Day (p4)  
**21 Jun** FISH Pub Lunch (p5)

### Newsletter Contributions

Are we missing your club or society? Would you like to see their activities listed in the Newsletter? Let us know by contacting one of the editors.

If you would like to contribute to the next edition, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Articles should be sent to one of the editors.  
The closing date for the next edition is Friday 18 May 2007.

## Useful Numbers and Contacts

Thames Valley Police, non emergency 0845 8505 505  
Thames Valley Police, emergency 999  
Crime Stoppers (anonymous) 0800 555 111  
Victim Support 01865 751511  
SODC e-mail: [info@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:info@southoxon.gov.uk) 01491 823000

Open: - Mon-Thu 8.30 am - 5.00 pm  
Fri 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

ORCC Directory of Transport Schemes

e-mail: [orc@oxonrcc.org.uk](mailto:orc@oxonrcc.org.uk) 01865 883433

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council,  
Jericho Farm, Worton, Oxon OX29 4SZ

### Parish Councillors

Parish Council Chairman: Giles Martin 972 2365  
Parish Council Vice-Chairman: Roddy Young 972 2097  
Clerk to the Council: Roger Penfold 947 3130

### SODC Councillors

Malcolm Leonard 940 2299  
Nigel Spencer-Jones 01491 575573

### County Councillor

Carol Viney 01491 680887

### Newsletter Editorial Board

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Sue Rowland ([sue@srlegal.net](mailto:sue@srlegal.net)) 972 3107

### Citizens Advice Bureau

Services available at 32 Market Place, Henley

Drop-in service - Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am - 1 pm  
Pre-booked appointments - every weekday 10 am - 3 pm  
(phone 01491 578267)  
Telephone advice - Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am - 4 pm  
(phone 01491 572129)

### Kidmore End Parish Room

Bookings: Paula Beville 972 2247

### Oxfordshire Highways

[www.oxfordshirehighways.org](http://www.oxfordshirehighways.org) 0845 310 1111