



Turville Times

Issue 1

February 2009



WELCOME to the first edition of our newsletter.

The newsletter will be delivered to every household in the parish, and a few more, every two months. I hope it will keep you up to date with what is happening in our small corner of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the part that the parish council plays in the community. Contributions, letters and photographs will be gratefully received by the editors, though publication will be at their discretion.

I hope you find the newsletter useful and enjoyable.

Valmai Pickett
Chairman, Turville Parish Council

Turville Diary

Parish council

- 11 March** – Village hall
- 13 May (AGM)** – Turville school
- 15 July** – Village hall
- 16 September**– Turville school
- 18 November** – Village hall

Turville Northend village hall

- 7 March:** Lent lunch (p2)
- 27 March:** 'Just' Pete Allen (p3)
- 3 October:** AGM and committee
- 13 December:** Parish Christmas party

Turville Park cricket club

- 12 March:** Indoor nets (p2)
- 19 – 22 June:** Jersey tour (p2)

Other events

- 19 February:** Build a bird box, BBOWT, Tring (p4)
- 28 May 2010:** Villages ball (p3) (provisional date)

Parish Council News

The parish council has acquired the red telephone kiosk in Northend for the princely sum of £1. It will be retained in its current position as a feature in the village but BT will no longer provide a telephone service there.

Framed Ordnance Survey maps of the parish and the surrounding area will be placed in the bus shelters at Northend and Turville Heath and on the wall close to the telephone box in Turville.

Jon Bateman, our popular police community officer, left at the end of December to become an officer in the Metropolitan Police. **Michael Wicks** will retire as clerk to the parish council on 31 March 2009. News of both replacements is expected shortly.

The parish council comments on all planning applications that affect its area. Current applications can be viewed by clicking on Planning Online at www.wycombe.gov.uk. The site provides access to all plans, council decisions and appeals.

Minutes of past parish council meetings, the agenda for the next meeting and other information are available at www.turvilleparishcouncil.org.uk.

Your Parish Council

Chairman:

Valmai Pickett 638 523

Councillors:

Margaret Drage 638 384
 Danny Fois 638 454
 Richard Higgin 638 603
 Steve Blake 638 740

Parish Clerk:

Mike Wicks 638 701

Caroline's Moonwalk

On 16 May, **Caroline Steventon** will be participating in the Playtex London MoonWalk.

This is an annual event that involves 15,000 women (and quite a few men) walking 26 miles around London wearing highly decorative bras! It is a well organised event to raise funds for, and awareness of, breast cancer.



Training has begun and so far the longest distance Caroline and her teammates (the Chiltern Challengers) have managed is 14 miles. Optimism is high and they are embarking on ever increasing distances.

The MoonWalk is organised by Walk the Walk, a charity set up to help breast cancer sufferers. The walkers set off from Hyde Park at midnight, returning, they hope, in time for a champagne breakfast.

If you would like to sponsor **Caroline**, call her on 07877 577048. She can also be found in the evenings at home in Turville nursing her sore feet!

The 'Church Mice'



If you hear little squeaks coming from the back of St Mary's church, don't be alarmed! Yes, it will be mice, but these are no ordinary mice, these are the Turville church mice - local children who meet every third Sunday at 9.15 am at Turville school for an hour of story-telling and fun activities with a religious theme. We then go to the church to meet the congregation for coffee (or juice) and biscuits and show them what we have been doing.

Recent projects have been Noah and the ark, when the children made a big ark and lots of animals, and the Creation where they made big, colourful pictures of the sun shining on the sea and the land with lots and lots of trees.

All children from the parish (and their parents) are welcome to join in. Why not give it a try? It's a great way for everyone to get to know each other.

Claire Prince

A Fabulous Lent Lunch

The annual Lent lunch will take place at Turville Northend village hall on **Saturday 7 March** at **12.00pm** when you can enjoy fabulous homemade soups and crusty bread, among other appropriate delicacies. Just come along.

Further information: **Judy Malcolmson** (638 212) and **Lizzie Arnott** (638 337).

Calling All Social Cricketers ...

Turville Park play on one of the most beautiful grounds in the country, with well-prepared wickets that are fair to batsmen and bowlers alike. For the most part, the club plays social cricket welcoming both local village teams as well as touring sides. In 2009, the club will also return to Jersey for a tour which culminates in the battle against the Jersey Farmers for the Jersey ashes.

Turville's players include farmers, lawyers, accountants, surveyors, journalists, musicians and others from around the local community. They range from teenagers to the over seventies, and from the talented to the less talented but highly enthusiastic.

Indoor pre-season nets (not as serious as it sounds) start on 12 March at 6.30pm at Wargrave Piggott School.

If you would like to play, contact:

Tim Wade (captain) - ewades@aol.com

James Hunt (vice-captain) - 638 306

David Cairns (secretary) - 638 296

...and Community Responders ...

On 7 February at the village hall, Dick Tracey (South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust) explained the benefits of community responders who are trained to help save lives while awaiting an ambulance. For example, community responders can use defibrillators to restart the heart which can be critical to the chances of survival in cases of cardiac arrest.

The parish council, the parochial church council and residents' associations support, in principle, the positioning of defibrillators around the parish if the funds and volunteers can be found.

For further information about the scheme, defibrillators and a forthcoming presentation in Turville, call **James McConville** on 638 498.



...and Potential Bell Ringers ...

Turville church is looking for some new bell ringers. No experience is required so come and have a go - no matter how old you are. See what you think.

We meet on Monday nights at 8:00pm.

If interested just turn up or call **Helen** on 639 519.

A Shared Garden

In recent weeks, we have lost two well-loved locals who shared a fondness for the same garden and who, perhaps, are now in another garden.

Sir John Mortimer was well known locally, nationally and internationally as a barrister, author, raconteur and wit. He lived in the house his father built on Turville Heath which was and is surrounded by a wonderful garden. There have been a great many tributes which have focused on both the man and his work. Locally he was known for his efforts to save Turville school and his later support of the use of the school as a holiday home for inner-city children. He also supported many other local activities.

There have probably been fewer tributes to **Filippo Cistone** (pictured below) who sometimes helped in the Mortimer garden. Graham Twemlow writes:

"We were all saddened to hear of Filippo's death at the age of 84. He was a much-loved character who 'gardened' for many people in Christmas Common, Northend and Turville Heath. He came to live in England from his native Italy in 1953. For many years he lived at Shirburn Lodge where he gardened for Mrs Hodgson and, it is said, acted as a waiter for special occasions.

"In the past twenty years, some newcomers found that Filippo continued as their gardener – without asking. Kevin, the erstwhile landlord of the Fox & Hounds told me that, soon after he took over the tenancy, Filippo asked if he could cut the grass, not suspecting that it would lead to such a long-term commitment. No agreement was ever discussed but each week Filippo would mow the lawn and, on occasions, cut back the roses.

"He was a wonderful man."



A Villages Ball?

A few years ago, there was a discussion among a few of us of holding a villages ball. This is a concept seen across the country, whereby the villages of a parish hold a black tie ball for residents and friends. Some of you may have been to the Wargrave village ball - which sells out usually in 24 hours.

The idea is back on the agenda and an informal feasibility exercise is underway. The ball would not be a profit-making event, though a charitable element may be included, depending on interest.

Current ideas under consideration include:

- provisional date: 28 May 2010 (the Saturday of the bank holiday weekend)
- fully fitted out marquee with dance floor and terrace
- champagne reception
- three course dinner, cooked by national award winning chef
- Georgie Fame on piano
- six piece dance band
- 15 tables of ten, 150 people in total

We have a number of sites for the marquee available but are open to offers: flat, preferably with a view to towards the sunset.

What do you think?

Is this an idea you like? Answers, comments as well as ideas and offers, to: steve@stevenblake.co.uk



Guy Hughes, Steve Blake



The Bull & Butcher

Live music...

Friday 3 April: **James Gale**

Friday 22 May: **We Ghosts**

Six Nations' rugby

All England games will be shown live on the big screen.

Tel: 638 283

Email: info@thebullandbutcher.com

Turville Village Association

In the autumn of 1996, parish councillor and local resident John Elmitt floated the idea of establishing a residents' association in Turville. The first series of *Vicar of Dibley* had just been completed and, as with previous projects, negotiations and arrangements had been made through the parish council and the parochial church council. John had the impression that the parish council would gladly hand over the responsibility of filming arrangements to a residents' association, if one could be formed that had the backing of the majority of residents.

Even when I learned that I was the fifth person to be asked, I was more than a little flattered to be given the opportunity to become the first chairman. But I had a real problem with residents' association – it smacked too much of cavalry twill trousers and pink gins. After much thought, the highly original name of Turville Village Association was chosen.

An initial meeting was arranged to gauge the interest. A draft constitution was put forward and eventually formalised three months later. By and large, the majority of residents were in favour, although some felt that it was likely to be factional and divisive. We carried on and here we are, 13 years later, going strong!

The main and most important objectives of the association are to erect a Christmas tree (with lights) on the green, manage filming and organise the annual rounders match against Northend and Southend. Other matters are considered when and if necessary.

A standard contract is used as the basis of negotiations with companies wishing to film in the village. We keep the parish council and the parochial church council fully informed of filming matters. We also keep in touch with other villages that are popular with location managers, to trade ideas on what can be done to minimise inconvenience and disruption and to obtain the maximum benefits.

The vaguely annual general meeting is held at some stage during the year when all members are welcome to discuss the past year's events, make other suggestions for activities and discuss regular events. We are non political and try hard not to be politically correct.

Membership is open to all those resident in Turville village between the Vicarage and Mill House at the western end and the Bull and Butcher and Cobstone Mill farmhouse at the eastern end. Wendy Duerden (who takes minutes), Eric Thurman, Danny Fois (Treasurer) and I form the committee.

Gary Steventon
Chairman

'Just' Pete Allen at the Village Hall

Pete Allen, Britain's most exciting jazz clarinetist and leader of Britain's most entertaining professional jazz band for 30 years, is bringing his one-man show to Turville Northend village hall on **Friday 27 March**. The show – '**Just' Pete Allen** - features Pete's multi-instrumental playing and singing, with a variety of musical styles suited for clarinet and saxophones. The music ranges from jazz, country and classical to well known melodies and party favourites. Pete plays 'live' against specially recorded backing. Pete is also well known for his entertaining stories.

Advance tickets, price £10, are available by calling 01823 669463. Or visit www.peteallenjazz.com.

TURVILLE NORTHEND VILLAGE HALL

Turville Northend village hall hosts parish council meetings, the annual parish Christmas party (this year on 13 December) as well as other parish events. It is also available to hire.

Regular events:

Wednesday evenings – Pilates

Thursday evenings – table tennis

Saturday afternoons - drama group for children aged 5 - 10 years. Two age groups have a lot of fun involving games, poetry, acting skills, improvisation and much more!

For information: **Ashlyn Squizzoni** (638 362).

www.thevillagehall.co.uk

In Brief

Picasso, one of the sons of Lusitano stallion Diabo at Turville valley stud, was put to sleep a couple of weeks ago aged 15 years after a prolonged illness. He was regularly used as a classical schoolmaster, as well as performing in numerous displays. He has been immortalised in some beautiful paintings by Lesley Thiel.

www.lathiel.com

To help our feathered friends in national nest box week, the BBOWT is running a **Build a bird box** course in Tring on 19 February.

www.bbowt.org.uk

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