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**Don't forget we
are extremely
lucky to also have
three other well
established pubs in
the Parish:**

**Bottle and Glass,
Gibraltar:
01296 748444**

**Dinton Hermit,
Ford:
01296 747 473**

**La Chouette,
Dinton:
01296 747422**

UNIVERSITY of the 3rd AGE

Did you know that Haddenham now has a strong U3A group of 150 members and will be re-opening its membership in April?

The University of the Third Age movement came from the idea of a group of people coming together to learn for the pleasure of learning. No academic qualifications are required and none are awarded.

The U3A movement, which began in 1982, is one of the fastest growing organizations in the country. Membership currently stands at over 186,000 and Haddenham is one of 645 U3A's in the country.

The major aim is to provide facilities for leisure and recreational activities to advance the education of mature people who are not in full time employment.

The activities of the Haddenham U3A is divided into:

Monthly Meetings – Held on the afternoon of the first Monday in each month where invited guests speak on a wide variety of topics of general interest.

Interest Groups – These are lead by volunteers drawn from within the U3A and meet on a rotation basis in members' homes or in larger rented

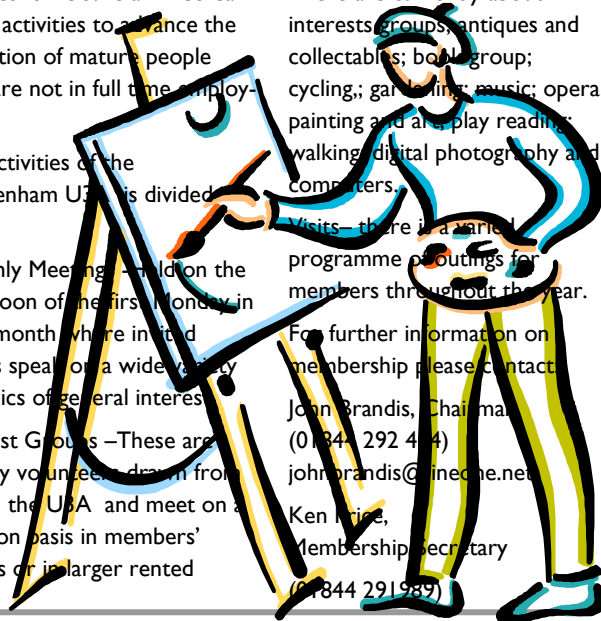
accommodation in Haddenham. There are currently about 11 interest groups, antiques and collectables; book group; cycling; gardening; music; opera; painting and art; play reading; walking; digital photography and computers.

Visits – there is a varied programme of outings for members throughout the year.

For further information on membership please contact:

John Brandis, Chairman
(01844 292 484)
johnbrandis@inecne.net

Ken Price,
Membership Secretary
(01844 291989)



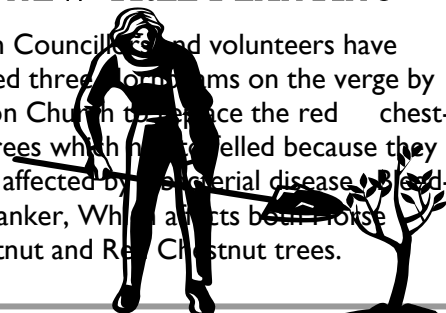
The Seven Stars Pub and Restaurant, Stars lane, Dinton

The Parish Council are absolutely delighted that the Seven Stars Pub and Restaurant is now fully operational. For those who know the pub, they will know how much hard work has gone into the completely refurbished inside. What we now have is a complete 'new look' to the restaurant, a state of the art kitchen and loo's to die for! At the same time, the historical nature of the pub has been retained. The pub prides itself in a fresh food policy, so they don't start cooking your meal until you have ordered it, for this reason, it's a good idea to collect your drink at the bar and go to table to get your order cooking.

The Bar and Restaurant Menu with lots of daily specials. Opening: 12 noon –2pm(4pm on Sunday) 6pm - 9pm. From mid March the pub will open 7 days a week. Closed Tuesday and Sunday Evenings. Booking Tel:01296 749000

NEW TREE PLANTING

Parish Councillors and volunteers have planted three ornamentals on the verge by Dinton Church to replace the red chestnut trees which had died because they were affected by the bacterial disease, Bleeding Canker, which affects both Horse Chestnut and Red Chestnut trees.



PARISH FIED HEDGE

The final section of the hedge was laid in January by a working party consisting of parish councillors and parishioners. What seemed to be a daunting task when we started has been finished within a year. Many thanks to all those parishioners who have helped with the working parties.

OLD PHOTOS'

Doe anyone have any old photographs of Chapel Road or 'Lane' in Ford?

There are many photos of the key known areas, the hermit, the cottages near the cross-roads in Ford and the other key areas in the parish. If you do have any in you attics or tucked away somewhere, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01296 422800

On a second issue, we are looking for help in combating the weight of vehicles down Chapel Road, due to the 'shaking' of several houses. BCC have been notified of this problem.

Dinton Parish Fete

The first Fete meeting will be held on the 18th February and we will welcome Geoff Smith, who has kindly to take over the running of the raffle for the fete Committee as Lorraine has so many other commitments now. Thank you Geoff!!

Dinton C of E School

This term is seeing an extension to the hot meals service that the school is now offering. Special funding has allowed the school to invest in a hot cupboard which will allow a greater range of meals to be offered. The service will continue to be on just one day a week for this term but is proving so popular with nearly three quarters of children are making use of it that we are looking at increasing provision next term.

There are 56 children enrolled this term and the first of a new series of Family Assemblies was held in Dinton Church on 22nd January and the next one will be on 12th May at 9.10am; these services are led by Revs David and Nancy Wallace and family, friends and parishioners are most welcome to attend.

The school now has a Virtual Learning Environment which went live at the end of January. This will allow parents and children to access homework activities e.g. spelling lists, receive newsletters, take part in discussions and give feedback. It is very much in its early days and the school looks forward to seeing it develop with input from parents and staff alike.

Discussions are well under way with the Diocese regarding various plans for upgrading the schools facilities and as soon as the budgets and firm plans are agreed and finalised we will give you more information.

Meanwhile plans for next September and the first Year 3 class in the new Cuddington and Dinton C of E School are well under way. A new combination logo has been designed incorporating the bell tower from Cuddingtons former logo and the owl from Dintons. This has met with the universal approval from parents and children. Parents have also been expressing their views regarding school uniform and we will be informing parents and the Parish Council about decisions soon.

Traffic Movement forecasts in relation to the proposed building of 9,000 houses south of Aylesbury

The Parish Council has been trying for some time to find out what information the county council have on the likely impact of the building of 9,000 houses south of Aylesbury on traffic on the Haddenham– Aylesbury section of the A418 and on the C63 Dinton-Ford road. We asked the following questions:

Can you please provide us with figures for traffic on the A418 Aylesbury- Haddenham section and the C63 Dinton-Ford section as provided by the Bucks County Council 2005 survey which underpins the local development plan review.

The Parish Council finally received a response from John Kemplan, Team Leader, Transport Planning and Modelling. In his response he includes the following statements, "locations west of the Bugle Horn figures for the A418 would only be model estimates with traffic split between the A418 and the C70 Portway (the back road to Haddenham) and figures for the A418 past Dinton from this source would be incomplete because they would not include movements like those from Stone to Haddenham, Thame and Oxford. There were no surveys on the road through Dinton and Ford...."

"...although we do not have a full picture of traffic movements through these places in 2005, our model include most of the roads in these areas, so if worsening conditions in Aylesbury force more people to avoid it by using the minor road network, then the model can forecast this increase"

"I therefore do not have forecast information available to show how traffic flows on individual roads vary in different growth options, though I am working on the transfer of model information from our consultants to my team so that I can be in a position in the fairly near future to answer this type of question. The scale of other demands on my consultants and my team at the moment is such that I cannot give an indication of the timescale for acquiring this facility"

Following this response, the Parish Council will continue to press the County Council for predictions of likely traffic increases if the 9,000 houses are built to the south of Aylesbury. Our district Councillors and County Councillor are urged to support us in this.

DINTON VILLAGE HALL

The kitchen and toilet areas have been refurbished and the decorating inside the village hall continues. The outside of the hall will be undertaken later when the weather is more settled.

The flat roof over the toilet and kitchen areas are leaking badly and will be re-covered with rubber sheeting (with a 20yr guarantee) during the week of the 18th (weather permitting).

However, we have realised that in order to obtain the grant from Wren of £15,000 we have had to pay £1750 upfront and have spent at least £19,000, which means that we have quite a shortfall!! However we are delighted that Richard Wilson has agreed to give one of his wonderfully funny talks on his parliamentary life in our support. He has agreed to come to entertain us on Saturday 15th March at 8pm. Tickets are £10 and include refreshments.

We are also planning a Quiz Night on 19th April. Tickets are £4 a head (bring your own refreshments) Why not come and join a table or make a group of up to 8 for an entertaining and informative evening!

Bookings for both are available from Sylvia Eaton on 01296 748537.

Finally, Nina Deschamps has kindly agreed to make new curtains for the main hall for us.

So please come and see the bright new Village Hall at one or both of our fund raising events



FOOTPATHS

Walkers' Beware Footpath No 3, this passes next to the Dinton Folly. Due to the Folly's crumbling structure this path will be moved temporarily. To avoid passing close to the Folly please use the temporary path.

Please remember those parishioners that walk the parish footpaths, should you notice any problems, fault or damage with gates, styles and corrosion, please report them to any parish councillor or the Ramblers Association. Should you wish to contact me directly please do so and I will take the appropriate action.

Just a gentle reminder, please remember to close any gate that you open, take any litter home with you, and if you have a dog make sure it is under proper control where livestock are present.

Parishioners are kindly requested to keep to the footpaths when walking the fields around the parish, unless they have permission to do so from the landowner. There have been a number of people walking across and around fields that do not have footpaths; this can lead to more fencing and restrictions by landowners and would not be to everyone's benefit. Footpaths are clearly marked and the Parish Council have a programme of repair in hand for any broken styles.

PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR OLDER CHILDREN IN THE PARISH

The Parish Council has been looking into several schemes to provide play and leisure facilities for teenagers and older children in the Parish. We have looked into many options and obtained many quotes. The ideas put forward by a group of young people last year have been thoroughly investigated and we have repeatedly asked for opinions from members of the Parish of all ages. One of the items of request was a skate ramp and this has met with a mixed response from parishioners. In order to obtain grants and funding for this, we need active involvement of the prospective user group, with enough time to dedicate to the project. The other main response was for a sports wall/goal end. This has a wider appeal and will be more likely to be used by a wider range of people. It is also less costly to install.



SALT BIN IN DINTON

There have been a few really icy mornings in recent years, but on rare occasion that surface ice does occur, vehicles have great difficulty negotiating the hill at the bottom of New Road. The County Council supplies salt free of charge so members of the public can grit otherwise untreated roads when necessary. At the moment this salt sits in an untidy pile on the verge, making a mess gradually leaching into the soil so that when it is needed, it is useless. The Parish Council will purchase a salt bin to contain this salt so that it can actually be used on the rare occasions that it is needed.

DINTON CRICKET CLUB

The new season starts towards the end of April and runs throughout the summer with opportunities for juniors and seniors (as well as their families) to practice, play or just socialize. The Cricket Club is an important part of the community and all are welcome to get involved. Juniors practice on Thursday evenings from about 6pm, seniors on Tuesday evenings. Coaching will be available for all ages.

If you would like to know more about Dinton Cricket Club, have a look at the website www.dintoncc.co.uk for contact details and all the latest information.



**DINTON with FORD & UPTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

Keith Gray, JP
Clerk to the Council
26 Woodmans Croft
Fairford Leys
Buckinghamshire HP19 7FU

Office 01296 422800
Home 01296 381397
keith.gray6@btopenworld.com

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Diana Coole	01296 748763
Lorraine Gooche	01296 747655
Les Sheldon	01296 747285
Jon Horn	01296 748297
Rebecca Lyall	01296 747870
John Owen	01296 748769
Helen Wild	01296 748679

Dinton Open Gardens 2008, National Gardens Scheme. Sunday 22nd June 08

The opening of eight private gardens for charity in Dinton and Westlington.
Home made teas in the Village Hall.
All proceeds to the N.G.S.(Mainly Cancer charities) and Dinton Church.
We hope this informal village event will again be a very enjoyable afternoon.



FLY TIPPING

Fly Tipping of large articles such as mattresses, televisions and builders waste on grass verges and field entrances is becoming more of a problem within the Parish. To help keep our Parish tidy, if you see any large articles dumped in field entrances or at the side of the road, please phone AVDC.

01296 585858 and they will come out and collect them.

Useful Numbers

Bell Ringing Tower Captain
Faith Newell— 01296 748508

Church of England
Mrs Avril Clark— 01296 747755
Churchyard Working Party
Andrew & Helen Wild—01296 748679

Dinton C of E School—01296 748264

Dinton Cricket Club—01296 748162

Haddenham Health Club—0844 477 8575

Girl Guides (Sue Napier) -
01296 748554

1st Stone Brownies—01296 655692

Marquee Hire (Chris Robinson)
-01296 748113

Parish Magazine (Dinton)
Mike Thompson—01296 748561

Police Station (Waddesdon)
PC Mark Wray—07989498979

Pre-School, Dinton Village Hall
Valerie Partington—01296 747495

Village Hall Bookings (Dinton)
Debbie Pratt—01296 748437

Dinton Churchyard Tidy

Spring is springing, and the grass in Dinton Churchyard is growing. Can you spare a little time to help keep the churchyard tidy?

We meet at the churchyard at 10.30am on the second Saturday of the month, from April to October, starting 12th April. The tasks are simple— mowing, strimming, clipping, weeding, you chose what you want to do. If you are not able to make Saturdays then you can always help at a time suitable to you.

Refreshments are provided on Saturday mornings.

Contact Andrew or Helen Wild,

01296 748679

