

NETTLEBED VILLAGE NEWS



Spring 2011 - A busy and exciting time for Nettlebed!

This year is an exciting one for our community with so many things happening. The Post Office and Shop moved to the Church Hall in January together with Life and the new Field Kitchen café and deli. The pavilion is nearing completion and the Cricket Club has had a wonderful offer from Henley Cricket Club. The new houses on Old School Green are now being occupied and the Arts Society is proposing a village monument. Local elections on May 5th mean you can vote for your new council. There is a hog roast party for the Royal Wedding and the ever popular Fete returns this year on July 2nd. All these things are reported on fully in this issue and more.....read on

Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 12th April 8.00pm
Nettlebed Community Centre
This is your meeting !

ROYAL WEDDING

NETTLEBED VILLAGE PARTY

29th APRIL, 2011
Hog Roast from 1.30pm
at the
VILLAGE CLUB

HOG ROAST (INCLUDED WITH TICKET)

View the Wedding from 10.30 on the **LARGE SCREEN**

BAR

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

FUN FOR ALL!

TICKETS ONLY £5
 (Children under 13 free)
 Available from The Village Shop
 or telephone 641 710 email: XXXXXXXXXX
HURRY - LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS AVAILABLE

Return of the Village Fete!!!!!!!!!!!!

The ever popular village fete will be returning this year on Saturday July 2nd. It will be held as usual on the recreation ground and with the newly completed pavilion. This is wonderful news and many thanks to Heather Goodall who has taken up the challenge. Please contact Heather on 641623 if you are able to help. Come and enjoy.....
 Children's entertainer - magic & music.
 Pony rides, fancy dress.
 Barbecue, teas, tombola, raffle and more.....

Nettlebed Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Whilst Nettlebed is still a very low crime area there have been some recent burglaries in the village and cars stolen. These incidents are very distressing for those people involved and we are pleased to learn through the Neighbourhood Ringmaster Messaging System to our members that several criminals have been apprehended and charged by Thames Valley Police with offences in the area. In difficult economic times sadly there is the risk of more break-ins even when items taken may be of low value.

Metal prices worldwide have risen dramatically especially for copper and lead. Residents having building work done should ensure that these materials are kept secure. I have even heard that thieves locally have sawn off exhaust pipes from cars standing on people's drives. Oil theft from domestic tanks is also a current problem. Householders should fit locks to tanks and be alert to vehicles touring the area that might be siphoning domestic tanks. Anything suspicious don't hesitate to phone the Police

We will be getting into our gardens again soon. Make sure garden sheds and garages containing tools and mowers are properly locked at night or when you leave your property.

Fly dumping and dog fouling continue to be problems. The District Council will remove dumped waste by the roadside, but not on private land, within three days if informed. Ring 03000 610 610 or email admin.southoxford@verdant-group.co.uk. Dog fouling is an anti-social menace and a risk to health especially on recreation areas used for sport and by children. Dog owners are asked to take their dog's mess home with them. Police Community Service Officers are now permitted to issue £80 fines to anyone found offending.



We are grateful to PC Julie Greenough, our Neighbourhood Officer, and our PCSO Janice Smith for dealing with various security matters in the village and keeping in regular touch with residents through the Police "Have your say meetings".

To contact the Police phone **0845 8 505 505** or if you wish to remain anonymous phone **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

If a crime is happening don't hesitate to dial **999**.

Malcolm Lewis

NHW Village Coordinator 01491 641648

Litter Blitz - Sat 16th April 10.00am by the post office

Will you be there to help keep our village tidy?

To find out what is going on in the village visit our website at
www.nettlebed.org.uk

Nettlebed Cricket Club

Our Cricket Club has accepted a very generous offer from Henley Cricket Club. In return for being able to use our lovely ground for Saturday matches in the season they will take over the maintenance of the ground. To achieve this they will be spending several thousands of pounds improving the wicket and outfield, repairing the tractor, rollers and mowers and replacing the sight screens. They will also provide covers to protect the wicket during wet weather. As the costs to HCC are proving rather more than were originally expected, the Sports Association have offered a contribution and the Parish Council have given £500 to assist with this project. The ground will be maintained to a league standard which they could not hope to achieve on their own. Use of HCC practice nets and opportunities for additional match play will also be available to Nettlebed players in particular the younger ones.

Nettlebed School & Community Centre & Floodlit All-Weather Pitch

'Meeting the Needs of our Community'

The community facilities, both indoors and out, at the Nettlebed School & Community Centre are available for hire outside school hours *ie* evenings, weekends & Bank Holidays in term-time and daily during the school holidays.

The indoor premises (Community Hall, School Hall or Combined Halls) also have a mini-production kitchen. The All-Weather Sports Pitch (AWSP) is marked out for tennis, 5-a-side football, netball, basketball and hockey. With the added advantage of floodlights, sport can be enjoyed even on gloomy evenings as the floodlit pitch is available for hire up to 9.30pm *at no extra charge*.

Hirers have priority use of the main car park on the High Street and there are a further eight spaces down the driveway. The Walled Garden is also available for hire by arrangement.

The NSCC holds a Premises Entertainment Licence.

Our current evening regulars (both indoors and out) are:

Monday: Nettlebed W.I. (on the 3rd Monday every month)

Wednesday: Rotherfield Greys junior football (AWSP)

Thursday: 1st Nettlebed Brownies 6.00-7.30pm
 Adult 5-a-side football 8.00-9.00pm (AWSP)

Watch out for!

Netball Club (AWSP) starting soon on Mondays
 'Slimdance' - on Fridays from May

Do make a note of the Nettlebed Art Society's 'Art & Craft Exhibition' on the weekend of 20th & 21st August at NSCC

For NSCC hire details go to our Parish Council website www.nettlebed.org.uk

or please contact the Bookings Secretary: Mrs. Barbara Lewis on 01491 641 648 for further information.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Nettlebed Surgery Medical Trust Appeal for Ideas

Money from a number of sources continues to come to the flourishing Nettlebed Surgery Medical Trust. This Charity was set up a few years ago to cater for the generous donations from patients past and present. The Trust enables the surgery to purchase medical furniture and equipment which the NHS does not provide.

The Trust is keen to encourage patients to make suggestions about how it might assist the surgery to make improvements to facilities or buy new equipment.

So, if you have any ideas on how to improve the surgery, please let us have them. You can email them to us c/o patricia.ashmore@nhs.net , write to us at Nettlebed Surgery, Wanbourne Lane, Nettlebed RG9 5AJ or leave a note in the suggestion box in the surgery waiting room.

Information is available on the Surgery website - www.nettlebed.gpsurgery.net

Patricia Ashmore
Secretary, Nettlebed Surgery Medical Trust

Common Land in Nettlebed

Part of the land to the east of Cat Lane is registered common CL76 and is known as Bottom Wood. This land belongs to the Half Ridge estate and comes under the protection of the owners. We apologise for incorrect information in Newsletter issue 8. Please note that neither this common nor Crocker End are the responsibility of the Nettlebed Commons Conservators. For the time being any issues should be addressed to the Parish clerk.

The New Pavilion

The new pavilion is now almost ready. The internal works are currently being finished. The last jobs including the exterior finish will be carried out during April. It is expected that there will be a grand opening



in the early summer. The project has been a tremendously successful community effort by many people and particular mention should be made of those who have given up so much of their own time to carrying out the internal works.

Old School Green

The Parish Council is delighted that, after twelve long years in the planning, this attractive new development on the High Street is now being occupied. The sale by OCC of the former school site provided the major funding for the new School & Community Centre and has benefited the village with eleven extra homes. Three of these are classified as 'affordable' and are under the control of South Oxfordshire Housing Association. Thanks to pressure from the Parish Council on the District Council, all three have been allocated for rental to Nettlebed families.

The grassed Open Space has now been turfed and planted with trees, hedges and shrubs. Whilst the Parish Council will take over the ownership of this area to preserve it for the village in perpetuity, the developer Builders Ede will be responsible for all plantings for the first three years. We are grateful to Builders Ede for their courteous and considerate co-operation throughout the building programme.

The new access road through to the School will be officially adopted by OCC Highways a year from now. The road signs for 'Old School Green' are in place but without the 'Residents Parking Only' information as we requested; this will now take a further six weeks. In the meantime, the PC will be watchful and liaise with the School to ensure as far as possible that people do NOT park in this access road.

Access to the Community Centre (out of school hours) will continue to be through the car park to avoid unnecessary disturbance to the new residents of Old School Green.

The Field Kitchen Café and Deli

We wish Dave and Barb who have opened the Field Kitchen in the Church Hall next to the Post Office, every success. As well as great coffee and delicious meals they are also selling a range of quality fresh vegetables and other good things. If you haven't already been there do pop in to see what they offer.



They are currently open Mon to Sat 08.30 - 16.30

"A new place to eat and meet"

The Village Shop - if there is anything you would like us to order for you please ask.....

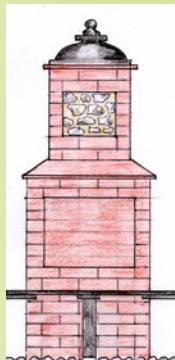
A message from Bett to all the kind people of Nettlebed. I would like to say a big thank you for all the good wishes cards and gifts I received from you on my leaving; it was very unexpected. I wish you all well and hope the shop goes well. I miss you all. Also I would like to thank my former workmates for the flowers and gifts, they are lovely. Once again thank you. Bett.

Village Hall and Club
For Hall hire and all enquiries please contact the club steward on **01491 641617**.
The Village Club has a website - www.nettlebedclub.co.uk

A Village Sign for Nettlebed

The Nettlebed Art Society has generously offered a Village Sign to celebrate their 60th Annual Art & Craft Show which coincides with the village's plans to celebrate the Jubilee in 2012.

This idea was welcomed by the Parish Council at a recent meeting. The design being considered will be a brick monument with a seat all round. Various locations are being considered around the village green. It is planned to consult the community over the design and location. Details are at the Annual Meeting on April



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Parish Council Meetings and elections

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on April 12th in the NSCC Community Hall. Please do come along to hear what your councillors have to say.

Local elections take place on May 5th for Parish and District Councils. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Parish Council clerk and need to be returned to her by April 4th.

The election will be for all eight seats on Nettlebed Parish Council which is non-party political. Some of the current members will be standing again.

The first meeting of the newly elected council, the AGM, will be held on May 10th.

Jeff Reynolds 1941 - 2011

Jeff's death has hit us all because we've lost a friend, a true villager who had lived in Nettlebed all his life, and someone who seemed like a permanent presence in our lives.

He was devastated when ill health forced him to give up the teaching job which he so loved. It seemed like the end of his world. However we in the village were to gain as he was then able to partake in so many varied activities. He became a school governor, a member of the Parochial Church Council and a member of the Parish Council. His brilliant mind meant he was able to make a valuable contribution to the village quiz team. Being such a talented artist, he was persuaded to conduct art classes so that he could share some of his knowledge. His amazing memory meant he could readily recall information learned years before - what an asset. He enjoyed crossword puzzles and spent hours solving them, always happy in the knowledge that it was supposed to lessen the chance of getting alzheimers. Jeff was a true gentleman, polite and courteous and nothing was too much trouble. Everybody liked him - always willing to help - whether it was arranging Church flowers, baking a cake for any fund raising event, caring for dogs when their owners were away, locking and unlocking the Church, transporting people to Age Concern meetings or to hospital visits, judging competitions for the W.I. or donning Father Christmas robes for Christmas parties. The packed Church at his funeral said it all - so many people's lives were affected, they were finding it hard to accept that he would no longer be with us. Having lunch in the Sun with friends fifteen years ago, they asked what were my holiday plans. I said I had none but would like to visit several friends scattered around the country. That would entail train journeys from Reading and would have to get lifts to Reading station. A voice from a nearby table said 'I'd always take you to Reading station'

That was Jeff who was lunching with his aunt Alice. Some time later I made plans to do short visits to friends in Bournemouth, Taunton, Honiton and Looe. I rang Jeff and said "You know you once said you would take me to Reading station, would you be willing to do it four times?" So began a beautiful friendship.

Goodbye, Jeff- thanks for everything- you'll never be forgotten or replaced.

Doreen Elms

Nettlebed Village News edited by Jeremy Simon

Your Parish Council

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John McDonnell - vice chair

Michael Atkins

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