

SOUTH HINKSEY ECHO

www.southhinksey.org

Happy Valley Festival



To say I was happy with the day would be a wild understatement.....

Leading up to the festival I had become a little obsessed with the 10 day weather forecast and watched it fluctuate from day to day, hour by hour, but waking up on Saturday to brilliant sunshine was a wonderful start.

I was blissfully naive about organising a festival and lucky to have expert help from Jensen Tilley (16) who was wise and professional beyond his years. He took on the back stage management. Aled Chivers helped with the bands and order of play, which I think was perfect and enabled the day to flow nicely; he also designed the Happy Valley logo. Rob Flavin designed the amazing website, ticketing and on line promotions. Colin Tilley's energy and stamina knew no bounds, when setting up the stage and

lighting. So I didn't have much to do except, ask myself what could possibly go wrong?

The rest of the organising committee have been fantastically enthusiastic. Hilary Briffett, Maggie Rawcliffe, Janet Lester, Helen Mugnaioni and Linda Bloch ran the beer tent in aid of Home Farm Trust. Owain Jones was a brilliant manager and taught his team how to open bottles of Prosecco and barrels of beer, which they are all very proud of.

Phyllis Barron's company, Solid State Logic were absolutely wonderful and provided four world class sound engineers and all the equipment. Every band commented that they have not played with such quality equipment and engineers before. I think they were a little surprised about how professional the whole set up was.

Jill Garner proved to be exceptionally skilled with a hammer and nails and built the acoustic stage with the aid of her son. Jill and Sarah Gray ran the children's circus and crafts on the day which entertained the children for hours. Thank you to Harry, Alex and Rowan who raised a wonderful £19.99 selling the crafts they had made. Sarah and Jill were also our first aiders, and were thankfully unemployed on the day!

And of course Bob! What can I say, he is totally wonderful and helped so much with the organisation and took some amazing photos which provide a wonderful memory of the day.

Thank you so much to everyone who joined us, you really did make it special! So special in fact that one of the stage hands said “Happy Valley Festival was one of the happiest places on earth.” I think he was right!

Not only did we have an utterly fantastic day, but we also raised a staggering £6200 towards care and research for people living with MND.



Rachael Marsden

A note from St Laurence Church

“Terror from every side”, wrote prophet Jeremiah. Bombs, lunatics with knives or vehicles attempting murder, fires destroying whole villages in Portugal and the Grenfell tower, the atrocities of Daesh in Iraq and Syria made those words leap out at me when I read them recently.

At times like these we are brought close to living in fear, that such things could happen to those we love or to anyone. We may be in distress and confusion for how God can allow this to take place. The problem of Evil!

I was reminded of the heretic’s solution to this problem when buying cheese.

I’d decided that my cheese board ought to have a teaching meaning to it: a heart-shaped Coeur de Neufchâtel cheese seemed appropriate with the feast of the Sacred Heart at hand, then there were plenty of cheeses named after saints. But I chose a fine Yorkshire cheese- made in my homeland of Swaledale from ewe’s milk. Very Holy: sheep milk from the valley with no less than six medieval religious houses Easby Abbey, Greyfriars, The Convent of the Assumption, and the priories of Marrick, Ellerton and St Martin.

In contrast I found a rich French goats cheese- not only made from the milk of naughty goats but from the area of the Albigensians, Languedoc in Southern France. There in the 1200’s there festered a heretical sect called the Cathars. These and other groups like them have arisen from time to time, Bogomils in Bulgaria, Paulicians in Asia Minor, and indeed those who dabble in wickedness in our own day:

The error they make is to place on an equal footing with Almighty God, those forces which have turned from God; this is an easy way of explaining away why evil exists in the world: a good force and a bad force balancing one another as well as opposing one another.

Christians can easily fall in to this trap because after all we know about the Satan tempting our Lord. This understanding can lead us to view the world with suspicion, to hatred, and to the mistake of thinking that God is not victorious over evil.

The Cathars viewed the Church and the World as creations not of God, but of the wicked force. They rejected sacraments, priests, marriage, and accepted interpretation of scripture. In their attempts to reject the evil they saw in the World the Cathars forgot to see that the World as God made it is Good.

We Christians see the World and human beings as fundamentally good, made by God and made in the image of God. That is not to say that sin is not in the World: as St Paul teaches us “death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned”(Romans 5:12). Since God is no tyrant he offers a free choice to follow him or not. The ability of humanity to sin and to live freely in a World that contains pain, as well as perfection, is the price we pay for freedom.

God not only gives us freedom, but hope: Christ the un-doer of the sinfulness of the human race- the new Adam, who bestows on us the abundant free gift of divine grace as St Paul says “the gift itself considerably outweighs the fall”(Romans 5:15).

Jesus Teaches us

“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul: fear him rather who can destroy body and soul” (Matthew 10:28): we are reminded to fear God, and none other. But what does it mean to fear. Phobos- the Greek word we translate as fear has a range of meaning: fear, terror, panic, flight, retreat, awe, reverence. Being God- fearing is not about being terrified of God: that would imply a phobia- an irrational fear, instead we should ‘fear’ God with awe and reverence. God’s power is terrifying, but surely more so for the perpetrators of evil than for God’s people whom he loves.

In spite of all our failings and anxieties, we must not live in fear of the terror from either side. Evil does not overcome God, Christ is victorious over Sin

and Death. Those forces which threaten the body cannot harm our soul when we declare ourselves for Christ Jesus. It is God our Father whom we fear in awe and love, for when we are with God we cannot be taken from him as Jesus himself tells us “If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven”(Matthew 10:33).

Fr Benjamin Drury, Assistant Curate, St. Laurence’s Church.

Sunday Services

The pattern is usually the first and third Sundays of the month

6 monthly Calendar May to October 2017

Sun 7 th May	4 th of Easter	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 21 st May	6 th of Easter	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 4 th June	Pentecost	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 18 th June	Corpus Christi	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 2 nd July	Trinity 3	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 16 th July	Trinity 5	BCP Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 6 th Aug	Transfiguration	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 13 th Aug	St Laurence	Eucharist 11.00am
Sun 3 rd Sept	Trinity 12	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 17 th Sept	Harvest	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 1 st Oct	Trinity 16	Eucharist 9.15am
Sun 15 th Oct	Trinity 18	Eucharist 9.15am

Contact - 01865 245879 or
or www.acny.org.uk/468

Flooding

Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

The recent public consultation on design of bridges and so on is now closed. Pre-planning advice has been sought. The project is up to speed at the moment.

We have been working with the Freshwater Habitats Trust for eighteen months or so; a grant application has now been made to Thames Water to fund a post to develop community involvement with environmental aspects of the scheme - DNA and nutrient analysis of water samples and so on, which would include involving local schools. We continue to press for arrangements to be made for maintaining the scheme in perpetuity. We have written a paper on possible mechanisms and are in discussion with the EA around this.

Local defences and sewers

The preparatory groundworks for local defences are complete.

We have again asked the EA to try to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Thames Water regarding surcharging of sewers after heavy rainfall and particularly during river flooding. TW have carried out sewage pumping into tankers in the past and we want to get written agreement that they will do so again in future if the need arises. The EA have recently met TW about this and we await further news.

We are arranging to meet our new MP, Layla Moran.

Peter Rawcliffe / Oxford Flood Alliance

Parish Path Warden

Since 2012 Oxfordshire Area Ramblers, the Oxford Fieldpaths Society and the County Council's Countryside Access Team have been working together to develop a network of Parish Path Wardens (PPWs) throughout the County. The main

task of a PPW is to walk the paths in the parish twice a year or more, removing any vegetation that may be overhanging or protruding onto the path and cleaning footpath direction signs. PPWs also report any major problems to the Countryside Access Team and check on unresolved issues.

I have recently taken on this role for South Hinksey Parish. If there are any footpath issues you would like me to be aware of you can email me at chris@lefevreconsulting.com

Chris Le Fevre

Scything of the Burial Ground wildflower meadow

For anyone who would like to see the traditional skill of scything in action, the meadow will be being scythed by a team of volunteers on Thursday August 10th from about 6pm till dusk.

Scything is the method of choice for such a hay cut and is increasingly being adopted by wildlife trusts and so on. Not only do people enjoy doing it and get exercise in the process but it gives a superior cut.

There will probably be a second evening of scything later - the date will be circulated on Shinfo when it's decided.

Peter Rawcliffe

Village Hall

The hall is thriving these days. We have welcomed Louisa Nahhas as a new member of the management committee. Financially the position is good, though reserves are a bit depleted at the moment. The hall has been redecorated inside and out and had a thorough cleaning as well. It all looks

so light as to be positively glowing. Even the geraniums in the tubs outside look happy. We now have a new cupboard in the rear lobby to help with storage. We also have some plaques and framed photos, which have been languishing in a drawer, that we intend to replace on the walls.

The hall is available for hire. We've reviewed the hire charges and decided to leave them just as they are. If you want more details you can find them on the website southhinksey.org.

Linda Slater

Book Club

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at each other's houses. It was founded by Alison Payne, who put a brief article in the Echo asking if anyone would be interested in forming a book group. We've been going now for, we think, thirteen years and have never run out of things to discuss.

This month we marked the last meeting with Barbara Jeffrey, one of the five original members who are still attending. She has been the organiser for some time now and we will miss her. We wish her well in her new home in Hertford.

Linda Slater



Woodland

There's a new rough path cut through the woodland - do visit, bring dogs and children, and explore!



South Hinksey Fete September 10th

This year's fete will be the ninth in the present series. You will be hearing much more about this in the coming weeks, but we promise you that there will be plenty to do, plenty to eat, and lots of fun to be had. Don't forget the egg-throwing contest and the leaky bucket race between the male and female members of the community.

Some time ago the Echo carried an article by Pat Hall describing the fete during the 1950s. It seems to have been a much bigger event than the present day version, which will be the ninth in the present series.

Here is part of Pat's description:

"The anticipation would build a day or so before the event when a large marquee, decorated with balloons and red and white bunting, was erected by the men of the village. This would eventually be the venue for the flower, fruit, and vegetable exhibits together with the home-made cake, jam

and pickle entries and where the judging would take place.... We children weren't allowed into the field until the fete was officially opened, but just in case our enthusiasm got the better of us the village 'bobby' kept an eye on us all, which included his own two children. (Yes, we really did have our own village policeman. He lived in a cottage near us with his family. It must be hard to imagine now that the village was once able to sustain two pubs, a small grocery shop and also merit our own police constable!)

Then came what we were all waiting to see, the arrival of fun things to do with prizes to be won! In no time at all a myriad of stalls were set up including amongst others, hoop-la, pin the tail on the donkey, hook-a-duck, tombola, a coconut shy, the mystery bran tub and the inevitable Aunt Sally. Standing out above everything else were the ever inviting brightly painted red and yellow swinging boats. To go higher and higher as we pulled on those long tasselled ropes, our feet jammed against the wooden sides as we tried desperately not to fall out was the ultimate thrill and I couldn't get enough of it, but all good things come to an end, as did my pocket money..”

Do come along on 10th September. We can't promise swing boats or a fruit and vegetable competition but there will be old favourites such as face painting and splat the rat. If you feel like offering to help, do please get in touch with one of the village hall committee. You will be made very welcome!

Linda Slater on behalf of the Village Hall
Management Committee

Kids' page

CGYCUAJ VNMAEQZVXK
KRF GOLF CLUBTYASPQ
LMHF XHELLOHAVEAGO
OAYSFQOCSZMQVGHG
RNGGENERALELLIOTD
MOGAI CRUYJ AFBULK
FRFWNXNJSQRNIPFST
PRTATVHEZCKKYZYKR
KOYYUFDYRACYZOPGI
YALPELMODUYABKCAX
ZDCVHAPPYVALLEYBU
TFGHP TOALBELQYEQV
UFSJFRYPZUQSTYKAM
EYGFUDTYVGYNUNQOY
HDI ZYLQFKEJWZLIK
PQLYOLTHENGPHYYAY
AVILLAGEHALLPZRFS

GENERAL ELLIOT
SAINT LAURENCE
MANOR ROAD
VILLAGE HALL
GOLF CLUB
HAPPY VALLEY

JOKES

WHY WAS THE BISCUIT SO SAD?
BECAUSE HIS MUM WAS A WAFER SO LONG!!

WHAT DO YOU CALL AN ALLIGATOR WITH A VEST ON?
AN INVESTERGATOR!!

WHATS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FISH AND A GUITAR?
YOU CAN'T TUNA FISH!!!

Freddie Whitfield