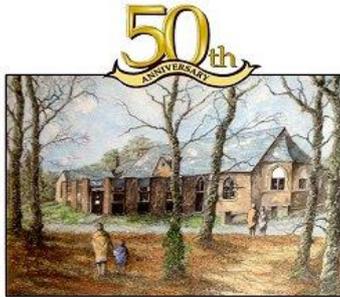


Bisley Residents Association

'Your Bisley' Newsletter No. 24 Autumn 2012

BISLEY VILLAGE HALL 50th CELEBRATION



1962 - 2012

Bisley was proud to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its Village Hall with a show on 2nd & 3rd November. Tracking its history from being the Chapel of the Shaftesbury School, built in 1874, to it being purchased by trustees from the Shaftesbury School & Arethusa Training Ship for £500, the conver-

sion for use by the local community as a Village Hall, the official opening in 1962 and the events and uses by organisations up to 2012.

There were also recordings of experiences of using the preceding Village Institute, an Old YMCA hut, where during movie evenings your chair legs would often go through the floor as it was so old and rotten. It was so cold as the only heating was from one fire in the centre of the building. At dances in the winter everyone had to dance close together to keep warm.

The show organisers hoped to capture the spirit, essence and history of the hall and the community in a multimedia production, including film, audio recordings and live performances. Thanks to all the organisations and individuals who lent photos, DVDs, videos and written accounts and the creative

team who put it all together, especially Gordon Sutton who thankfully had the expertise to create all the movies. There were so many people involved in the show both, backstage and front of house. Almac Bisley Brass Band, Bisley Guiders, Bisley W.I. Leanne Edwards School of Theatre Arts and Springbox Gymnastics all gave live performances in the show.

Jim Henbest - President of the Village Hall read the words of Cranston Bogle who was the first Chairman of the Village Hall in 1962. His words are still so relevant today.



The Village Hall has been at the heart of the community for all sorts of events and many organisations. It is really important to have a facility such as this and it needs to be looked after for future generations.

Here's to the next 50 years!

Sue and Andrew Smith



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BRA Diary Dates 2013

- ◆ *Quiz Night:*
- ◆ *Open Forum: April*
- ◆ *Three Newsletters*
- ◆ *Strawberry Fayre Stall....June*
- ◆ *Open Forum/A.G.M. 2nd October.*

BISLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on Wednesday 3rd October in the Jubilee Hall, following the Open Forum (please see page 4). The Chairman, Norman Holden, thanked his committee for their 'hard and enthusiastic work' during the past busy year. He pointed out the importance of trying to increase the membership of B.R.A. as it supports the newsletter, which goes out to all households and businesses three times a year. He thanked Surrey County Councillor Lavinia Sealy for her support – she will be missed next year when she retires. He expressed his thanks to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Surrey Heath Borough Council, our two Borough Councillors, Bisley Parish Coun-

cil and residents for their ongoing support of Bisley Residents Association. **The officers and committee for B.R.A. were elected as follows:-**
Chairman Norman Holden
Vice Chair Jim Clarke
Treasurer Alex Summers
Membership Secretary Ray Colvin
Secretary Liz Colvin
Committee Chris Bixley
Committee Jean Hope
Ray continues as B.R.A. Webmaster and Jim as Newsletter Editor.

The next A.G.M. for the B.R.A. will take place on Wednesday 2nd October 2013 in the Jubilee Hall, following another themed Open Forum.

A morning in the life of a WebCare Volunteer

Babs turned on the WebCare mobile 'phone at 10 a.m. at the start of her 2 hour stint as duty officer.

She enjoyed her two mornings a month manning the 'phone from home. She looked through the file to update herself and then answered the first call of the day with a cheery "WebCare, good morning, Babs speaking".

By midday she had received three calls from clients requesting help. She had taken on one task herself, after checking her diary and looked forward to seeing Mrs A. again when she called to take her to the surgery for a doctor's appointment later that week.

After a couple of calls to other volunteers, she had found someone able to take Mr B to his chiropodist next Tuesday and was now working on finding a volunteer to accompany Mrs C to Sainsburys at the end of the week, as she has poor sight.

► **Do you think that YOU could join our team**, either as a volunteer/duty officer manning our mobile telephone 1-2 mornings a month (Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon) or as a general volunteer?

► We have non-drivers who serve us well as duty officers.

► You can tell us when you are avail-



The WebCare telephone number is 07713 915393 (Monday to Friday 10 am to 12 noon) except Bank Holidays.

able and which days do not suit you and you can always say 'no' to the duty officer who calls, if you can't take on the job!

► Your outgoing telephone calls and mileage costs will be covered.

ALSO, IF YOU NEED HELP- please call and speak to our friendly duty officer. You may have been injured and are unable to drive for a while, and require assistance or have on-going needs.

(Originally appeared in 'Your Bisley' issue 3, Summer 2006, BUT THE NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS CONTINUES)

Hot off the press - the new book about Bisley!

Well known local historian Tim Price's long awaited book about our village is now available to buy, in time for Christmas. "A Hundred Years behind the Times" 'shows how our village has had a remarkably long and eventful history, all the more surprising for it remains one of the smallest civil parishes in the county'. Contact Tim on 01483 473154 and he will deliver locally (cost of book is £20). If you require a copy to be posted elsewhere, call Melrose Books on 01353 646608.

A Young Olympic Game Maker from Bisley



When I found out that The London 2012 Organizing Com-

mittee were looking for more 16- 18 year olds to act as Young Games Makers at the Olympics, I jumped at the chance. After successfully negotiating the application process and completing a training day, I was assigned the role as a print distribution team member for shooting at the Royal Artillery Barracks, Woolwich.

In May, as well as LOCOG being able to test out the venue and their operations, I was able to "learn the ropes" of my role in a Water Polo test event. My duties were characterised by a frantic rush at the start and end of matches, as I forwarded the stats, starting lists and results on from Omega (Official Timekeepers) to clients including journalists, TV commentators and officials.

In July, the "buzz" built around London, and I was able to work in the same capacity at the Olympics at Woolwich, where during one of my breaks I was able to watch GB's Peter Wilson win Gold.

In all it was a stunning spectacle, and once in a life time experience that I will forever be proud to have been a part of. Eddie Scott. *(Thanks Eddie for this interesting insight and well done—Editor)*

Briefly in Bisley

Bisley Parish Council Office: Contact via the Clerk Mrs Jill Biden

194 Guildford Road, Bisley. GU24 9EP. Tel: 01483 480172. Email: clerk@bisley-parishcouncil.co.uk, web: www.bisleyparishcouncil.co.uk. Chairman: Councillor Steve Moore.

Council meetings are open to the public **and are held on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Jubilee Room of the Village Hall.** Please see notice boards for the agenda before meetings. All welcome.

Bisley W.I. Invite you to a coffee morning on Saturday 1st December from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. This will be held in the Bisley Scout and Guide Hall. Come and enjoy the cakes, tombola and gift stall.

The Butts, Bisley Centre (for near-to or retired people) On behalf of our clients, we thank the summer 'Teas on the Rec' team for their donation. Warm thanks to Bisley C.of E. School for making us feel very welcome at their Harvest Festival celebration in October. Our thanks to the pupils for their lovely show, the delicious tea afterwards, and for the harvest parcels. John Tilbury was elected as our Chairman at the July A.G.M.

The Butts welcomes new clients, and always needs more volunteers. Please note that we are now open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Contact Wendy & Ruth on 01483 472414.

Blood tests originating from a visit to a hospital consultant will no longer be carried out at Chobham and West End Medical Practice. This is due to lack of

available appointments in the two surgeries and the fact that the hospital-based service has already been paid for by them, for the referred patient.

'Teas on the Rec' was busy again this summer. Profits went to a different charity each week ranging from the hospice and cancer charities to The British



Legion/Headley Court. Bisley Butts/West End Old Folks Social Club and the Bisley Church extension, all involving locals. **Offers of help with charity stalls /activities/ or serving teas welcome for next summer. Contact Chris 01483 472631.**

Village News — Old & New

The Bisley Church Extension Project is now complete!

FROM THIS....

St John The Baptist Church, Bisley, dates back to 954 AD. It has a Saxon Font and the oldest bell in Surrey (14th Century). Over 1,000 years of history of being at the heart of our village....

BUT....until this project was completed this year, there was no kitchen or mains drainage, there was an old boiler house and obsolete oil fired boiler, and an Elsan chemical toilet in an outside shed emptied regularly by volunteers!

The plan for the extension included a 'Disability Discrimination Act' compliant toilet, a kitchen, meeting room and new boiler- all accessible from inside the church.

.... TO THIS

I am delighted to report that the building work on the Extension has been completed, and that it is being used for meetings and morning coffee after the Services. The Church is nice and warm following the installation of the new gas boiler.



The extension from outside the Church.

Everyone who has seen the completed building is delighted with the design and the workmanship. It blends in very well with the original part of the Church.

Do come to a Service and see it for yourself, or include a visit during your walk round the village.

We had to arrange loans to raise the money to pay our

builders (Kirchers of Lightwater). Therefore, we are still fund-raising to repay those loans. Our next event is the Bisley Brass Band concert on 23rd February 2013.



Inside the extension.

If you would like to make a donation or hold a fund-raising event, please contact Peter Fry on 01483 475073 for further details.

Peter Fry
Chairman – Bisley Church Extension Committee

November 2012

Memories of Bisley Church Choir from late 1930s to early 1940s

Rev.C.M. Horley was the first incumbent of the new Rectory in 1932. He was always addressed as 'Sir' by the choir boys and was liked and respected by everyone. The previous Rector, John Gwyon, hanged himself at the 'Old Rectory', later re-named Coombe Manor: the site now contains several houses.

Choirmaster Major Bowers was a paying guest at Elmfield, Church Lane, the one time Village Store and Post Office. We recall he used his leather covered officer's stick at choir practice to beat the timing of hymns, on the front pew. The choirboys (no girls in those days) were paid one shilling per month (£1.40 in today's currency), i.e. one halfpenny per service and choir practice. As a special treat the Major attempted to teach golf to some of the choirboys on the grass verge outside Elmfield House. The organist and choir mistress at one time was Mrs. Fertigg, a kindly lady to the choirboys. We believe that she was succeeded as organist by Mr. Dick Tyler who arrived at church in his little Austin car, much to the admiration of the boys as cars were few and far between in the village.

The organ bellows were hand pumped, the air supply being monitored by a string with a plumb-bob on the end which had to be kept between two marks on the wall. Occasionally the music died with a groan if the operator became distracted and forgot to pump!

The church was heated by a solid fuel boiler, outside by the coal bunkers. The boiler was lit by paper, wood, coal and coke late on Saturday night to allow the church to warm up for Holy Communion early on Sunday. There were a few radiators in the church, the main heating pipe being covered by a metal grill in the centre aisle.

The body of the church was lit by about eight electric light bulbs, which were situated high up the walls. On occasions oil lamps were used at a lower level to provide additional lighting.

Few or no street lamps or cars were in church lane. Most people walked or cycled to church and almost everyone carried a torch to light their way home in the dark. During the winter on dark nights many choirboys took great delight in scaring each other by jumping out from behind grave stones or bushes.

The outbreak of World War II on September 3rd, 1939 was announced during Matins that day. Later it must have been most distressing for Mr. Horley when he called for prayers for the bereaved as he had lost both his sons, killed while serving with the RAF. We had a few favourite hymns, but not the rather sombre 'for those in peril on the seas', which ended every evensong just before the final blessing during WW2. Some incendiary bombs dropped in the church yard but fortunately there was no damage to the church.

We have enjoyed reminiscing about our choirboy days, and maybe have jogged a few memories.

Robin Daborn and Jim Henbest.

Editor: Jim Clarke Phone 01483 481437
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WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.bisleyresidents.org.uk

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Treasurer: Alex Summers (treasurer@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Secretary: Liz Colvin (secretary@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Membership Secretary: Ray Colvin (membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Committee members: Chris Bixley, Jean Hope.

B.R.A. Open Forum- 'Countryside and Wildlife' (2)

Francis Halstead, from Surrey Wildlife Trust, gave a fascinating presentation to residents about the range and extent of their vital work. This charitable organisation was established in 1959, has over 28,000 members, 80 staff and manage 80 sites across Surrey, covering 4,000 hectares of land. They are helped by hundreds of volunteers. They work with local groups and schools and offer support, advice and training days. Their play schemes over school holidays and family activities are popular.



Francis encouraged us to develop the 'living landscapes' on our doorsteps-our gardens, and neighbourhoods (verges and parks) for new habitats and wildlife. Norman thanked Francis for a most interesting session, Jim Henbest and Robin Daborn for their early memories of Bisley and congratulated Gordon Sutton on his prize-winning entry to the photographic competition (above).

Proposed new local Council Tax Support Scheme.

Surrey Heath Borough Council has been consulting with residents regarding a new proposed local scheme known as Council Tax Support, which will replace Council Tax Benefit from April 2013. The consultation process closes on 18 November. The government ends the national scheme in April 2013 and local councils are required to set up their own local schemes. More about the proposals and their implications for residents are available on the council's website www.surreyheath.gov.uk/counciltaxchanges or call Surrey Heath House 01276 707121 for paper copies of the proposals.

Proposals to bring 7,000 more flights to Farnborough Airport.

A recently published report by the All Party Parliamentary Group for Aviation suggested that these existing annual business flights should be transferred from the RAF Northolt base.

In 2011 Farnborough Airport gained approval from the government to increase the number of permitted annual flights from 28,000 to 50,000, in spite of the concerns of local residents about noise and disturbance. (From Surrey Heath Residents Blog)

Countryliner Bus Service contracts terminated by S.C.C. from 10 October 2012.

Surrey County Council terminated all their contracts with Countryliner for the provision of local bus services and engaged alternative operators (Abellio Surrey, Stagecoach and Coaches Excetera) to safeguard the travelling public.

School Bus Passes and Season Tickets purchased from Countryliner (weekly, monthly etc) will be accepted by the new operators until their expiry, without further charge. (From Surrey Heath Residents Blog)

Help S.C.C. draw up a road repair hit list.

The County Council need residents' help in identifying a 'hit list' of roads to be prioritised for maintenance. The Council's new approach involves planning road maintenance over five years, instead of the usual 12 months. For more information, visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/highwaysinfo or call 0300 200 1003.

This Issue of 'Your Bisley' Newsletter

The costs of printing and distributing this issue to all Bisley residents have been funded by the B.R.A. Please join up as a member of this association to help us keep this newsletter going.

The BRA would like to thank all those members who have already renewed their membership for the year 2011/2012.

This enables us to work on your behalf on issues affecting our village and helps to provide the 'Your Bisley' Newsletter. We hold a prize draw for all paid-up members with each newsletter. If you would like to participate, please renew your subscription or join by filling in the form below.

Congratulations to this newsletter's winner, ??..... who won the Free Draw.

%

Bisley Residents Association. New Member / Renewal Application Form. (Please delete as appropriate)

Please accept my membership of the Bisley Residents Association, valid to 31st October 2013, for which I enclose my subscription of £..... Date: (Please tick boxes below)

Title(s): Name(s): Email:

Address: Telephone No:

Annual Subs: Individual £7.00, Student / Senior Citizen £5.00, Senior Couple £10, Couple / Family* £12.00

Method of Payment: Cash Cheque (*please state number in family and ages of children/.....)

Please send to: Membership Secretary, Ray Colvin, 20 Angelica Rd., Bisley, GU24 9EY or see website for form or email membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk
Please make cheques payable to Bisley Residents Association.