



Bisley Residents Association

'Your Bisley' Newsletter Issue 5 Winter 2006

Seasonal Greetings to all who live or work in Bisley!

Christmas festivities still to come:-

- * **Outdoor Nativity Play.** Meet at 3pm on 16th December at the Bisley Scout and Guide HQ for mulled wine and mince pies, before going off in search of the Baby Jesus. Optional dressing up for children as shepherds, kings or angels!
- * **Carols round the Millennium Clock** on 19th December, 7.30 p.m. accompanied by the Almac Bisley Brass Band.
- * **The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** will be at Bisley Church at 4pm on 17th December (and at Holy Trinity Church, West End at 6.30pm)
- * **Christmas Eve Midnight Service** will be at Bisley Church at 11.15pm (also at West End at 11.15)
- * **Christmas Day Family Communion** at Bisley Church 9.30am (Family Service, West End 11am.)

A Voice from the Past about our Bisley.



This comes from a previous rector of this Church by the name of the Reverend Joseph Cater. He wrote in 1892 in his book 'Bisley Bits' - 'The little parish of St John the Baptist, Bisley, which nestles quietly in a corner of West Surrey is one of the smallest and most peculiar parishes of the kingdom.... once owned by Kings and wealthy Lords'.

Inside this issue:

<i>Floods</i>	2
<i>Briefly in Bisley</i>	2
<i>Energy saving tips</i>	3
<i>Neighbourhood Watch etc.</i>	3
<i>B.R.A. contact details</i>	4
<i>A Day in the Life of . . .</i>	4

The earliest surviving parts of the Church date from the 12th century. Joseph refers to the spring which is 'about 300 yards from the south west corner of the church' and 'which from time immemorial has been known as St John the Baptist Well.' This well is still there and was restored by volunteers in 2002.

DID YOU KNOW?

Joseph points out that 'the earliest mention of the 'hamlet of Busele' refers to the time it was under the control of the Benedictine Abbey of Chertsey. The name of the village has been differently spelled at different times, and occurs in one or other of the following forms: Busele, Busselagh, ...Bushelagh, Busheley, Bussley, or Bisleigh.'

He goes on to say that 'there is no mention of Bisley in the Domesday Book (1086), because at the time that survey was made, the village and its commons formed part of the old manor of Byfleet.'

Over many hundreds of years Byfleet and Bisley formed a parcel that was 'in the keeping of the Crown', and was gifted/granted by successive reigning monarchs to royal relatives or court favourites. Joseph mentions a succession of monarchs from Edward II to George II.

Joseph found documentary evidence that 'the Manor of Byfleet, including the hamlet of Bisley continued to be royal property in the year 1509', with King Henry the VIII appointing the Rev. Thomas Preston to the vacant 'Bisley benefice.' Seems rather like putting the fox in charge of the hen coop!

Joseph charts another change in 1540 when Byfleet and Bisley were 'annexed to the honour of Hampton Court' (i.e. came under the jurisdiction of the King's court there).

On the 13th of November 1621 'an event in the history of Bisley of greater local interest' occurred, according to Joseph. King James I

'separated Bisley from Byfleet, and constituted it a distinct manor.' At last!

In 1708 Bisley formed part of a settlement held by the trustees of the Duchess, Barbara Villiers (Charles II's mistress). When she died her 'interest in Bisley' was sold to a John Walter, Esq. who bequeathed Bisley to his son Abel.

In 1736 when Abel Walter 'came into the enjoyment of the property' Bisley's future changed forever. Abel 'strongly desired to obtain the fee-simple of as much of it as possible.'

Continued on page 2...

B.R.A. Diary Dates for 2007

- **Forum - 'Highways & Transport', 31st January, 7.45 pm** Jubilee Room, Village Hall.
- Forum 'Sport & Leisure in Bisley', May.
- Stall at Strawberry Fayre June.
- Quarterly Newsletters.
- A.G.M. September.

A Voice from the Past ..continued from page 1

In 1748 (during the reign of King George II) Abel 'succeeded in obtaining an Act of Parliament to enable the Crown to grant him the freehold.' Joseph Cater stated that 'from this time many of the holdings in Bisley date their independence.'

What a long journey Bisley undertook to be considered as a place in its own right and not merely an appendage of Byfleet, to shake itself out of the keeping of successive monarchs who came and went and to finally become 'freehold'. Joseph was right - we live in a unique village which is no longer referred to as merely 'the hamlet', but proudly known as our Bisley.

Voices from the Present.

* Respondents to the Parish Plan Questionnaire (2004) regarded the ancient St. John the Baptist Church in Bisley important as:-

A historic building	750 Respondents
A focal point for the community	587
For weddings and funerals	494
For baptisms	395
For Sunday worship	239
Other	64

* 438 Respondents identified the church as 'a source for answers to spiritual questions or needs'.

Hester Clarke

References:

Reverend J Cater	1892	'Bisley Bits- Records of a Surrey Corner.' (from Surrey Heath Museum).
The Bisley Parish Plan Steering Committee		Final report published in May 2005 (Can be viewed on our web site.)

Bisley Floods

On Sunday 13th of August it rained and kept on raining..... dropping two months of rainfall in one night.

The result was Bisley cut off by flooded roads with hundreds of cars stranded on the A322, and many properties were flooded. The Bourne stream flooded its banks, surface water sewers, culverts and ditches could not cope with the deluge.

On the 1st November a multi-agency meeting took place for Bisley and West End villagers to explore the issues that had arisen from the above.

Lessons learned from these events include;

- ◆ Better maintenance of culverts and ditches by the council and landowners.
- ◆ Provision of sandbags at the Shaftsbury Road car park in a green container.

Areas at risk of flooding are shown by following the 'flood map' link on the environment agency website

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood. They also operate a flood warning scheme for properties adjacent to rivers whereby you can register to receive flood warnings by phone when flooding is likely. For information leaflets and Floodline Warning Direct Service call 0845 988 1188.

Who to call in the event of a flood:

Highway Drainage :
Surrey County Council
08456 009 009 (Office hrs.)
0870 126 6060 (Out of hrs.)

Wastewater & flooding:
Thames Water
0845 9200 800

Local Flood Warnings / Information:
S.H.B.C.
01276 707100 (Office hrs.)

S.H.B.C. Environmental
Health Duty Officer
01276 707100

Briefly in Bisley

Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. The Police cannot do it on their own.

If you are concerned about crime in our community, DO something about it! Call and give information about crimes **anonymously**.

Bisley Parish Council Office: Contact via the Clerk.

194 Guildford Road, Bisley.
GU24 9EP.
Email: bisleyp.c @ btinternet.com. Chairman Cllr. Barry Woodhead.

Council meetings are usually held at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month (except Bank Holidays) in the Jubilee Room. See notice boards for agenda before the meetings.

Congratulations —

to Janet and John Iveson of Bisley Post Office Store, who were presented with an award recently by the Mayor of Surrey Heath, Cllr. Keith Bush. This is in recognition of 25 years of service to the community in Bisley. B.R.A. wishes to add their thanks, on behalf of all residents— you are the heart of our village!

Bisley's Busy Bees!

* Pupils from Bisley Primary School took part, with other Surrey Heath schools, in the crime-busting poetry competition 'Rhyme Against Crime,' on the theme of 'anti-social behaviour.' Winning entries to be available in a book.

* The N.S.P.C.C. benefited from the efforts of pupils taking part in a 'sponsored number challenge' at Bisley School this term. They raised the amazing sum of £1,664.40— well done!

Road Signage for Bisley Primary School.

S.C.C. has responded to the Vice Chair of Governor's letter regarding the warning and directional signage for the school. S.C.C. will be replacing the Elm Road warning sign and installing a warning sign on the A322, in the vicinity of Wilcot Gardens (southbound approach to the pedestrian crossing).

Youth Opportunity funding - 'Putting People First'

available from S.C.C. for young people resident in Surrey, between 13-19 years old, or up to 25 years if you have specific needs. Phone 08456 009009, or see our website for link to details and how to apply.

WebCare (West End and Bisley Care and Good Neighbour Group)

Please phone 07713 915393 Monday to Friday 10 am to 12 noon, to ask for/ or offer help. Come & meet us and have a cuppa and chat at our Open Day: Wed. 7th March '07, 11 am to 2 pm in the Bowling Club, Rosewood Way, West End (postponed from 29/11)

Energy Saving Tips this Winter

With Winter on the way, here are some reminders to help keep warm but save energy and money!

- * Turning your thermostat down by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10 per cent and save you around £40 per year.
- * Is your water too hot? Your cylinder thermostat shouldn't need to be set higher than 60°C/140°F.
- * Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.
- * Don't leave lights on in rooms you're not using.
- * Eliminate draughts and wasted heat by installing a cheap, easy-to-fix brush or PVC seal on your exterior doors. Letterboxes and keyholes should be covered too.
- * Draughts may get in through gaps in floorboards and skirting boards, which also allow heat to escape in the winter months. Filling them with newspaper, beading or sealant will help.
- * An insulating jacket for a hot water tank only costs a few pounds and pays for itself within months. Fit one that's at least 75mm (3") thick, available from local DIY stores, and you could save around £20 a year.
- * Insulating your loft is one of the simplest ways to save energy and you can even install it yourself. Insulate your loft today and in a year you could save between £180 and £220. Grants available from Surrey Heath B.C. and from your gas supplier (see www.est.org.uk), and as an example, Powergen are offering installed loft insulation for £190 or British Gas for £249 for a 3-bed semi.
- * Around 33% of the heat lost in your home is through the walls, so insulating them can be the most cost-effective way to save energy in the home - you could save £130 to £160 on your annual heating bills! Cavity wall insulation will also keep you cool in the summer and warm in winter. If we all had our cavity walls filled tomorrow, together we'd save over £962 million of energy every year. See www.surreyheath.org.uk/services - "energy efficiency grants" or the Energy Savings Trust (www.est.org.uk) for grants from your gas/electricity supplier. As an example, Powergen are currently offering cavity wall insulation for £210 or British Gas for £225 on a 3-bed semi, which would pay for itself after one winter!
- * If your boiler is over 15 years old it's probably time to replace it. By law, new boilers must now be of the high-efficiency condensing type. They can help you save up to a third on your heating bills and even more if you upgrade to modern controls. (Again grants are available for certain groups).

Susie & Jon

Farnborough Airport - the saga continues...

TAG Aviation's application to Rushmoor Borough Council to be allowed to double the number of aircraft movements at weekends and Bank Holidays was rejected by Rushmoor B.C. at a public meeting in June.

TAG have now initiated an appeal against the decision and the Planning Inspectorate will hold a Public Inquiry at Rushmoor B.C.'s Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough from 23rd January 2007. The Inspector nominated is Kenneth George Smith BSc MRTPI and the Inquiry is expected to last four days.

Objections to TAG's proposals were lodged by Bisley Parish Council - and Bisley Residents Association made two detailed representations to Rushmoor B.C. (as did several individual B.R.A. members). We are assured by Rushmoor that our formal

representations will be included in the documents presented at the Public Inquiry which may, of course, be attended by any interested persons. We will keep members informed of the outcome.

Neighbourhood Watch in Bisley



At the recent NHW Co-ordinators meeting, the two new Bisley watches were welcomed and their co-ordinators received a certificate of registration on behalf of their watches. S.H.B.C. will now be installing NHW signs in a close in Arethusa Way and Kingcup Drive. From information in the recent NHW newsletter 'HeathWatch,' the number of Bisley watch schemes clearly lag behind other areas in Surrey Heath. **More watches needed please!!!**

Police Merger "shelved"?

B.R.A. was contacted by the Leader of Surrey County Council and by the Surrey Police Authority, expressing concern about Government proposals to merge Surrey Police with Sussex Police. Moreover we notice, from comments made by police officers at the quarterly Neighbourhood Watch meetings, that they were also worried about these proposals. We were asked to let the Home Office have our comments and we believe several Bisley residents did so. The B.R.A. Chairman wrote to the Home Secretary and a reply was received from Mr. Duncan Mitchell at the Home Office, which confirmed that the merger proposals had been withdrawn. Mr. Mitchell said that "[The Home Secretary] stated on June 19 that he had no desire to proceed with enforced mergers. As a result, the notices of intention to merge have been withdrawn".

Funding support gained for our Newsletter from S.C.C.

On the advice of our County Councillor, Lavinia Sealy, B.R.A. applied to Surrey County Council's Local Committee for Surrey Heath, for help in funding the costs of the next four issues of the newsletter to Bisley households.

We are very pleased that the Committee has now approved this funding, enabling us to distribute the newsletters to all Bisley households.

Newsletters have been helpful in keeping the community informed about the Association's activities and life in Bisley (you are reading the FIFTH edition in just over a year!) and we are grateful to Surrey County Council for this tangible support.

**Norman Holden—
Chairman.**

'Your Bisley' Newsletter
Issue 5 Winter 2006

Editor: Jim Clarke Phone: 01483 481437
Email: editor@bisleyresidents.org.uk

WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.bisleyresidents.org.uk

Bisley Residents Association Contacts.

Chairman: Norman Holden (chairman@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
2 Quince Drive, Bisley, GU24 9RT Phone 01483 830282
Vice Chair: Jim Clarke (vicechair@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Treasurer: Angela Hollinshead (treasurer@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Secretary: Susie Atkinson (secretary@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
Membership Secretary: Jon Atkinson (membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk)

A day in the life of a Chaplain in Coldingley Prison

Welcome to Mrs Joanna Honour (known as Jo) to Bisley. She joined the Coldingley Chaplaincy team as Coordinating Chaplain in February of this year. She has many years of experience and has worked as a prison chaplain in ten prisons, including Wandsworth, The Mount, Holloway, Reading, Belmarsh, Foston Hall and Winchester. Her husband works as a vicar in Guildford, where they live with their family.

The following comes from Jo, in response to our request for a possible article under this heading:

I usually arrive in the Department at around 0830 hours and greet the Chapel Orderlies who are already hard at work - Paddy and Darren work as Christians, Amir works for the Muslim Chaplain, Zahid. Once I've checked emails and diary appointments I go to a prison-wide meeting with the Duty Governor and we discuss what the day might hold. On the way back from this meeting, I might drop in at the Observation and Supervision Unit (known as the 'Seg') where

a chaplain has to make a daily visit to see offenders who are isolated for reasons of punishment or safety. Once back in the office, I check the computer system to see who arrived in the prison yesterday and I go to see them individually to inform them of their right to practice their faith and find out if we can help in anyway. Once these daily duties are done, I can get on with other things; - touching base with any of my visiting colleagues, interviewing men hoping for parole or a move to a D Category prison, writing up the reports, supporting men who have had bad news about family, or those wanting to explore spiritual issues. If there is an evening meeting (Alpha, Bible Study, Choir etc.) we will spend time preparing for these things. In addition to this, I must ensure that there is religious provision for men of all faith - we are currently waiting for a Buddhist Chaplain after a recent resignation but all other faiths are facilitated.

It's a busy and rewarding job. I daily thank God that I am never bored!!

Thank You, Jo!

Friends of Coldingley

Volunteers still required! Are you interested in helping us? For more information please contact Vicki on 01483 489278.

Editor's note:

Coldingley was opened in 1969 as a Category B training prison. In 1993 it was re-designated as Category C training prison.

Coldingley is focused on the resettlement of prisoners. It provides a framework to support the achievement of realistic resettlement goals by offering opportunities to prisoners willing to work hard and accept responsibility for achieving those goals.

Operational Capacity: 390 as of 18th March 2005 (Taken from HM Prison Service Web site.)

Subscriptions remain unchanged for 2006/7!

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

Please accept my membership of the Bisley Residents Association for the year ending 30th September, 2007 for which I enclose my subscription of £..... Date:

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

Address: Telephone No:

Annual Subscription: Individual £7.00 , Student / Senior Citizen £5.00 , Couple / Family* £12.00 (please tick box)

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

Please send to: Jon & Susie Atkinson, Membership Secretaries, 8 Mainstone Rd., Bisley, GU24 9EU or see website for form or email membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk Please make cheques payable to Bisley Residents Association.

.....✂..... **Tear-off receipt**

Bisley Residents Association Membership Receipt 2006 / 2007 Received with thanks.

Name(s) £ Date