

Chippenham Park Gardens Open

Sunday October 21st, 11am - 5pm

Beautiful autumn gardens, many plant stalls

Refreshments all day

(proceeds to the Cricket Club)

Entry £2.50 per adult, children free

A great chance to stock up on unusual plants for your garden this Autumn

Raising funds for the National Gardens Scheme charities

Chippenham Bonfire Night

Fireworks & Barbecue

Saturday 3rd November

behind the Tharp Arms

Pub opens 6pm, fireworks start 7pm

Free admission

Please bring a firework to add to the display

Barbecue in aid of the Tennis Club funds



Chippenham Music and Talent Night

The date for the Chippenham Music and Talent Night is

Friday 26th October.

It's always really good to see such a wide range of top-class talent and excellent entertainment and we hope this year will be no exception.



Everyone is very welcome to perform songs, dance, theatre, magic or sketches.

This year will see the inauguration of the new stage and lighting in the Village Hall, so please come forward and entertain or support.

Tickets will be £3.00 adults and £2.00 concessions - available from all usual outlets. Profits this year will go to the Village Hall fund.

Please contact me by the 20th October and I'll put you in the show.

Paul Mangell, 721211

Arts in Cambs on Tour and Footloose Theatre present

"Dickens' Ghosts"

Tuesday 18th December, 7.30pm

Chippenham Village Hall

Tickets £5 each (£3.50 concs)

Two of the best ghost stories by Charles Dickens, journeying from good-humoured fun to spine-chilling horror. "The Story of the Bagman's Uncle" and "The Signalman", are vividly brought to life in a fusion of theatre and story-telling by professional actor Paul Lehmann. The performance is suitable for adults and children of 9 years and over, but perhaps a bit too scary for younger children.

Tickets available from Judy Broadway, 50 High Street, Tel: 720619.

'Focus on Chippenham' : Village Photo

The Cambridge Evening News is planning to feature Chippenham in its edition of Monday October 29th. This is part of their series of regular Monday two-page features on Cambridgeshire villages. To go with the article, the News wants to take a group photo of lots of village residents. The photographer will be outside the **Tharp Arms** on **Saturday October 13th** at **10.30am**. So if you'd like your photo in the paper, please turn up then. It would be good to have all ages in the picture, and we hope to see as many people as possible there.

Table-Top Sale

Chippenham Village Hall

Sunday 7th October, from 9.45am

Tables only £5, Admission 20p

Proceeds to Moulton Pre-School

For details please phone

Catherine Barrow on 721745

Date for your diary

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

MONDAY 31ST DECEMBER

Chippenham Village Hall, 8pm till late

Dancing to "Two of a Kind"

Bar, Buffet, Grand Draw

Tickets £5, including buffet

available now from Margie Pammenter (720054) Diana Drake (720825) & The Tharp Arms

Presents Galore 2001

East Anglia's leading Christmas Gift Fair

The Millennium Stand

Rowley Mile Racecourse, Newmarket

30th November, 1st & 2nd December

100 top-class stalls Restaurant facilities

Entry £5 Friday, £3 Sat/Sunday

Tickets permit multiple entries

Open Friday 5.30 - 8.30pm

Saturday 10 - 5.30pm, Sunday 10 - 4pm

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief

For Sale

Add 'N' Weigh kitchen scales (Betterware) £6

Electric bulk yoghurt maker (Lakeland) £6

Both unwanted gifts.

Please telephone 720632 to view.

FOR SALE

Smart navy maternity suit. Only £10.00

Two child's potties, £1 each

Child's loo seat, £1. Unused electric travel iron, £5

Please contact Judy Gear on 721081.

Chippenham Football Club

A brilliant start to the season with two victories and one defeat, but that one loss was a very spirited and unlucky performance. Anyone wanting to watch us on a Sunday morning, please note home games are played at Fordham. Kick off is 10.30am. More support would be welcome as we are always outnumbered by opposition supporters, both home and away.

Latest results are as follows:

Chippenham 5, Cambridge Cosmos 0

Scorers: P Alexander (2), T Williams (2), J Cocksedge

Chippenham 5, New Wellington 0

Scorers: Tommy Williams (4), Jason Bidwell

Cheveley 4, Chippenham 2

Scorers: Steve Dalby, Tommy Williams.

Peter Alexander, Tel: 720806

Megan's Pets Corner

Do you have any pets and are you going away on holiday? If the answer to this question is YES and you need someone to look after your animals, please ring me on 01638 720062.

Thank you to everyone who has used my service over the summer. I hope you all had a great time.

Megan Dumphreys



Chippenham Cricket Club

Thanks to everyone who came to our end-of-season kwik cricket session and evening afterwards.

See the back pages for a full diary report of the Cricket Tour, exclusive to the Chippenham Newsletter. DH

Village Hall 100 Club

Latest Winners

1st Prize (£20): Mr John Downing

2nd Prize (£10): Mrs Barbara Smalley

3rd Prize (£5): Mrs Miriam Parsons

If you'd like to join our monthly draw, with the chance to win a cash prize and help Village Hall funds, please contact Diana or Brian Drake at 10 Palace Lane, Tel: 720825. Tickets are only £1 per month.

Next issue Please send all notices and news for the next issue to the Editor, Judy Broadway, 50 High Street, Chippenham, Tel: 720619, by November 24th. Ideas for features and all contributions welcome. You can e-mail me items to j.broadway@dial.pipex.com

Chippenham Tennis Club



Our - by now traditional - tennis tournament, held at the courts on Saturday September 8th, was an even greater success than last year. A record number of 26 adults and 8 juniors took part, the winners of the Millennium Trophy being Sue Blazey and Andy Tiley (seeing off last year's winners in the final) with Chop Heather and Emily Wallis winning the junior trophy. The trophy was presented by Anne Crawley, our President - many thanks to Anne for the use of the Park and her own court for some of the matches. Thanks also to everyone who took part and those who turned up to watch and partake of the barbecue - many thanks to Louize Hurst for running this.

Club Sessions

These will be every Sunday throughout the winter, starting at 10.00. Everybody welcome, whatever your standard of play. Just turn up at the courts and you'll get a game. We hope to repeat our highly successful coaching sessions soon - further details from Jon Van de Peer, 721783. Alan Broadway

Isleham Woodwork Club

Do you know there's a thriving woodwork club with excellent facilities in Isleham? Talks, training and advice form part of the activities with time to pursue individual projects as well.

The Club provides a great opportunity for people of all ages to learn more about working with wood for practical and creative ambitions. The club is very welcoming and has access to professional experts at all sessions. Please contact Ken Mangell in Isleham for more details on 01638 781018.

Apple Festival in Ely

East Cambs District Council is holding an Apple Festival in October to mark National Apple Day. We have organised a variety of ways in which to promote local apples and apple orchards and their environmental and health benefits, starting with a cookery demonstration and information stall with musical entertainment in Ely Market Square in Thursday 25th October. On Saturday 27th October the day starts with the first of three cookery demonstrations by Monica Askey at 8.30am in the Market Square. There will be the opportunity to have your apples identified by an expert. There will be a story-teller and singer for children all day. We are also holding the longest apple peeling competition to see if we can set an East Cambs record. There's a home-made apple pie competition to be judged on the day. For further information please ring Tracey Harding on 01353 616377.

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Chippenham & Snailwell

Horticultural Society

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

AND PROMISING A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Hard on the heels of our recent very successful Autumn Show, we are poised to open our new season of talks with two in the next few weeks. Both will be given in the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month, commencing at 7.30pm.

On **Tuesday October 9th** the subject is "**Hyacinths**" and the speaker Mr A Shipp from Waterbeach.

On **Tuesday November 13th**, Mrs Pauline Miller returns, by popular request, to talk and demonstrate the art of **Flower Arranging**.

We look forward to seeing all current members and to welcoming newcomers.

Please note: We hope to arrange 2 more talks in March and April 2002 but this will have to depend upon the number attending these first two talks of the season. It would be a great pity if the talks which have been such an important feature of the society's contribution to the life of our two villages were to cease due to insufficient support. *Daphne Hamer*

PS. Remember: our annual sub is only £2!

Best gardens & hanging baskets competitions

Prizes for the two competitions were presented at our very successful Autumn Show as follows:

Best Gardens

Joint 1st: Dawn & Rob Bullock, 7 Tharp Way
Mary Pulham, 12 Palace Lane

2nd: Alan & Sue Blazey, 20 High Street

3rd: Sue & Barry Trushell, Church Farmhouse

Best Baskets & Containers

1st: Tom & Pam Paschier, The Tharp Arms

2nd: Carole & David Smyth, 79 New Street

3rd: Wendy & Vic Simpson, 81 New Street

Steve Hansford

Mallory would like to thank all those in the village who sent cards and messages of sympathy as a result of her husband's death on Sunday 9th September, following a 6½ year fight against a brain tumour.

Chippenham Women's Institute

Our October meeting on Wednesday 17th will feature a talk by Mr Vernon Place, a well-known local photographer, on "Exposures of a cameraman". Vernon is a favourite and interesting speaker and we hope to greet him with a good audience. The competition is for a child's photograph. As usual visitors and friends are most welcome.

In November we meet on Wednesday 21st to hear a talk by Mrs Fran Saltmarsh, one of our members from Moulton, who is speaking on "Six into One". The competition is for a handmade Christmas cracker.

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and include refreshments and a raffle.

Ginette Hawes, President (781127)

Eileen Smalley, Secretary (720453)

HealthWise

With the ongoing seriousness of world events it is difficult to think of anything else these days. However, if we give up on our daily lives then we are letting the terrorists win, so I'll get on with my thoughts on health matters for you.

I really excelled myself this week when I trod on a very small pine cone, which was enough to bring me to the ground and cause a nasty sprain to my ankle. In fact I thought I had broken it as it swelled up so much so quickly. Still, I put into practice what I preach to people and got an ice pack on it straight away followed by lashings of Aloe Vera Gelly. That was on Tuesday; I was on crutches that day, on one crutch by Wednesday evening (a great start to my Weight Management class) and by Friday I could walk unaided and quite well. I have continued with the ice pack and gel at least 3 times a day, increased my intake of Aloe Vera drinking gel and taken extra Vitamin C for wound healing and more propolis to help infection. The results have been quite extraordinary and I think I have improved on the normal healing time by at least 50%. These products really do work, so if you have had any injuries lately please give me a call: I may be able to help. The Gelly is also excellent for leg ulcers, burns, cuts and grazes as well as skin conditions such as weepy eczema and psoriasis, so is an all-round first aid treatment.

In an effort to improve my fitness levels I have just started on a programme at a local gym. I wonder how many people are aware that GPs in Forest Heath can prescribe an exercise programme which gives you a referral to a gym in Newmarket or Mildenhall. I'm not sure if this would extend to people in Cambridgeshire, but it is worth asking at your local surgery. You are assessed by a personal fitness trainer and given a programme which you do twice weekly for 10 weeks, after which you are reassessed to see what progress you have made.

If you would like any information on any of the subjects mentioned or any other matters relating to health and fitness, or would like to book a nutritional consultation, please contact me: Maureen Penney, telephone 01638 750475 or 07932 172365 (mobile) or email on maureen@jancis-harvey.co.uk

Want to know what's happening in your local Health Services?

A fun, picture-filled magazine including delicious Loyd Grossman recipes is now available, highlighting lots of different schemes benefiting patients in the area. LIFE magazine is a joint publication from all the NHS organisations in Cambridgeshire, illustrating the many ways in which local health and social care services are improving things for patients.

For a free copy, please phone Emma Greenfield at Cambs Health Authority on 01480 398508 or e-mail: emma.greenfield@cambs-ha.nhs.uk

Calling all dog owners

Are you looking for an alternative to kennels or just somewhere to leave your dog for the day? For further details please contact Judy Gear on 721081.

St Margaret's & St Peter's Churches

St Margaret's Church, Chippenham

Visit our NEW Web site at

<http://www.ely.anglican.org/parishes/chippenham>

Snailwell Church News

Christmas Fayre, Saturday 8th December

Our annual Christmas event will be in aid of the Restoration Fund, starting at 2.30pm. Stall will include White Elephant, toys & games, produce, books, jewellery and the Christmas Stall featuring dried arrangements and Christmas gifts. Plus of course our Grand Raffle. If you have anything to donate for the Fayre, please contact Maureen on 577456. I can collect things if necessary.

Carol Service, Sunday 23rd December

The Carol Service will be at 4pm. Again, David Ball has kindly agreed to take this lovely service.

Cambs Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride

Good weather, although a little windy at times, meant we were able to cycle a record 35 miles round 15 different churches, reaching as far as Ingham and Ampton, north of Bury St Edmunds. We even made it back to Chippenham in time for the Tennis Tournament. Thank you everyone who sponsored us. Money is still coming in and it looks as though we have raised over £300. Of this, half goes to St Margaret's Restoration Fund and half to the Cambs Historic Churches Trust, which has helped our church and many others in the area.

Judy Broadway

Sadly no-one from Snailwell entered the ride this year, but nevertheless I am asking for contributions. The money has to be sent off by the end of October, so if you want to give, please contact me at 6 The Street, Snailwell. *Maureen Howes*

From the Revd Anne Haselhurst, Vicar of Fordham

Dear Friends,

This is the first time I have written a pastoral letter for your magazine, though it may not be the last. Because I did not have much notice, I have reproduced what I wrote for Fordham's magazine. I hope it will serve.

Saturday 8th September was the Annual Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride. As usual, I cycled to Bury St. Edmunds via as many churches as I could along the way. It was a lovely day on the whole: a couple of short showers, a few blustery interludes, but really pleasant and cool on the whole, perfect weather for cycling. When you're on a bicycle you appreciate so much more than you can from a car or a bus or a train: all the flowers that grow along the side of the road, the scent of freshly cut wood at a sawmill, two little deer who stood stock-still in the woods as I cycled past. A day like that helps you to understand exactly why the writer of Genesis wanted to say that God looked at all he had made and, behold, it was very good.

How very much more terrible was it, then, to be stopped in my tracks the following Tuesday afternoon, just after the repeat of The Archers had finished after lunch, to hear the news bulletin on the radio telling me that two planes had, seemingly deliberately, flown into the World Trade Center in New York, and then to spend the rest of the afternoon unfolding with greater and greater horror, to know (or to remember afresh) that there are people in our world who are so filled with hate that they are moved to destroy themselves along with as many people as they possibly can?

When I first wrote this no one knew who these people were or what their grievance was. Now we think it has become a little clearer though much is still hidden. And I suppose that is part of what makes this attack so uniquely shocking. We are used to such things happening in war. We hardly know how to react when we have no idea who our enemies are. Except that there will always be, along with the grief and the shock, a desire for vengeance. That is understandable, and our hearts and our prayers go out to all who have been affected by this terrible tragedy. We think of the injured, the bereaved, the emergency services, the hospitals, those who were traumatised simply by being there, and those who have been moved to despair at the way our world seems to be moving more and more in the direction of senseless violence.

But I hope that in the long run other counsels than the counsels of vengeance will prevail, because if they do not, then there may really be very little hope for humankind. Now, more than ever we need to look to the cross and to see it afresh and with new clarity. On the cross, Jesus drew all the anger and all the hurt and all the violence of our world to Himself - even the terrible events of Tuesday the 11th of September - those, too, He bears. His answer to hatred, the answer which comes from the heart of the Master of the Universe, is to disarm it with love. It is an answer which, as human beings, we find it hard, sometimes impossible, to make, but it is the answer that He has always given and always will give. Therefore, our hope and our salvation must lie with Him. If we offer Him all our grief, all our bewilderment, all our anger, He will make it possible for us to bear it.

With my love and prayers, Anne Haselhurst

Parish Council News

New bus services to Newmarket & Ely

Following the responses received on the form in the last Newsletter, two new community bus services will be starting on Saturday October 20th. The buses will provide links to Newmarket, Cambridge and Ely every Saturday. The service is part of the County Council's new Connexions project, funded by the Cambs Rural Transport Partnership, Cambs County Council and East Cambs District Council. Phone 01223 717755 for details.

The service requires users to buy their tickets **in advance only**. Tickets will not be available on the bus, but you can pre-buy a book of 8 single tickets. Single fares are £2 from Chippenham to Newmarket, £1.50 from Snailwell, and £2.50 to Ely from either village. The timetables will be on display in the bus shelters and more publicity should be coming round nearer the date.

Bus service C3	Out	Return
Chippenham	10:07	14:00
Snailwell Green	10:12	13:55
Newmarket Tesco's	10:17	13:50
Newmarket Bus station	10:22	13:45

Bus service C4	Out	Return
Snailwell Green	10:45	15:47
Chippenham	10:50	15:42
Ely, Market Street	11:45	15:05

Tickets will be available from the following places:

Chippenham Tharp Arms
Fred Fuller, 39b New Street
Eileen Smalley, 73 New Street

Snailwell Bryan and Betty Orme, 5 The Green
Maureen Howes, 6 The Street

Current Planning Applications

Plans recently considered by Chippenham PC:

- Hotel and conference centre, manager's house, change of use to off-road activity park for motorsport use, kart track and driving circuit, Chippenham Road, Kennett, 01/00650, for Wildtracks Ltd.
- Insertion of window into existing gable end (retrospective), 1 Scotland End, 01/00798, for Mr & Mrs S Wilson

Plans recently considered by Snailwell PC:

- Two new residential dwellings, The Old Cattle-yard, The Street, 01/00815 for Mrs A Crawley
- Erection of classroom and construction of trailer pit (amended), British Racing School, Newmarket Road, 01/00510.

Village Hall extension: Good news at last

I'm pleased to report that the extension project has received the offer of a grant of £10,000 from the Countryside Agency's "Vital Villages" scheme. We are very grateful to them for their generosity and thank Alan Broadway for the work he put into the application. This is a really good start to our fund-raising.

We are also very grateful to Paul Mangell, Diana Drake and members of the Village Hall committee and other village clubs who are helping to raise money for the extension in different ways. *Fred Fuller, Secretary*

Neighbourhood Watch

First of all as you most probably know, we have a new Inspector at Ely Police Station, who has assured us he will try to address the problem of no information from the Ely sector over recent months.

We also have a new Community Beat Officer, PC Hobson, whose mobile phone number remains the same as before (0774 0734971).

I have been advised to let people know not to leave car keys lying inside the house visible to the petty thief. It is well known that now car locks have become increasingly sophisticated it is easier for the thief to break into your house and steal the car keys than to break into the car.

We shall soon be altering the clocks for winter-time, so please get your time-switches on for lights and even your radio to deter would-be intruders. If you are going away for a few days this is well worth the effort. The village Neighbourhood Watch will always assist if required.

Contact the following NW people in Chippenham:

Julie Ransome (721190) & Catherine Barrow (721745),
Manor Farm end of the High Street & Scotland End
Brian Drake (720825), Palace Lane & Snailwell Road
Sharon Twite (720065), New Row area
Anne Crawley (720221), Chippenham Park & Parkside
Fred Fuller (721234), Tharp Way & New Street
Adrian Kidd (720342), Central village.

THE NEXT MEETING of **Chippenham** Parish Council will be on Thursday October 25th at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Snailwell Parish Council's next meeting will be held in St Peter's Church on Thursday 4th October at 7.45pm (*please note change of date*).

Christmas Bonus for Chippenham Pensioners

The Parish Council looks after two village charity funds which are used to give a Christmas bonus to pensioners in the parish. **If you received the bonus last year, you need not re-apply.** If you'd like to apply and are not already on our list, please fill in the form below. Ladies of 60 or over and gentlemen 65 or over are eligible to join. Please return the form to the Clerk at 50 High Street by Saturday December 1st.

I/We would like to receive the Chippenham Christmas Bonus. Please add my/our name(s) to the list.

Name (*please print*):

Address:

The Parish Churches of Chippenham & Snailwell

Church Diary

October

Sun 7th *Trinity 17*

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 2 *Timothy 1:1-14*

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

HARVEST FESTIVAL Snailwell **5.30pm**

Sun 14th *Trinity 18*

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c 2 *Timothy 2:8-15*

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 21st *Trinity 19*

Genesis 32:22-31 2 *Timothy 3:14 – 4:5*

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 28th *Last Sunday after Trinity*

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 2 *Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am

Matins Chippenham 11am

November

Sun 4th *All Saints' Sunday*

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 *Ephesians 1:11-23*

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 11th *Remembrance Sunday*

Job 19:23-27a 2 *Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17*

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE Chippenham **10.45am**

Sun 18th *2nd before Advent*

Malachi 4:1-2a 2 *Thessalonians 3:6-13*

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 25th *Sunday next before Advent*

Jeremiah 23:1-6 *Colossians 1:11-20*

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am

Matins Chippenham 11am

Questions of Faith

Our monthly talks on the theme "*Jesus and...*" are continuing on the last Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall, 7pm – 8.15pm. Our October session will be led by Bob Torrens on the subject "Jesus & forgiveness". In November we are to discuss a series of questions posed by the Rural Dean at his last talk. For further information please ring James Broad on 721393.

Snailwell Harvest Festival Sunday 7th October, 5.30pm

Please come and share this celebration with us. David Ball has kindly agreed to lead the service. As usual the collection from the Harvest Festival will go to charity. The fruit and vegetables are all for sale after the service with the money being added to the collection. If you can spare some fruit or vegetables from your garden or allotment could you bring them to the church to add to the decorations, please? Anything not sold will be donated to Newmarket Day Centre. We're sorry there will be no Harvest Supper this year. We are very short of flower arrangers for the Harvest service, so if you would like to help please let me know. Also if you could spare time to join our cleaning rota we would be very grateful.
Maureen Howes, 577456

Snailwell Sunday Rotas

Readers/sidesmen Flowers & Cleaning

October 7th	Betty	Harvest flowers: everyone Cleaning: Terry & Maureen
October 14th	Kurt	Bryan & Betty
October 21st	Michael	"
October 28th	Maureen	Sophie & Jane
November 4th	Betty	"
November 11th	<i>Remembrance Service at Chippenham</i>	
November 18th	Kurt	Terry & Maureen
November 25th	Michael	Bryan & Betty
December 2nd	Maureen	"

Reserve cleaner: Audrey Rooks, Tel: 720130. If these dates don't suit, please swap and contact Maureen.

Post-service refreshments at Chippenham

You may notice a new rota appearing below. We have recently started serving wine, soft drinks and nibbles after the service every week, which has made a very friendly and relaxed end to the service and has been much appreciated by our visiting vicars. Glasses are provided, and as a guide we suggest you supply 2 bottles each of red & white wine, plus optional nibbles and some soft drinks for the children and drivers. Any queries, please contact Fiona on 720677.

Chippenham Sunday Rotas

SUNDAY	Oct 7th	Oct 14th	Oct 21st	Oct 28th	Nov 4th	Nov 11th	Nov 18th	Nov 25th	Dec 2nd
SIDESMEN	Jan	Anne	Julie	Brian	Jan	Anne	Julie	Brian	Jan
READERS	Eileen	Chris	Anne	Brian	Peter	Jan	Eileen	Brian	Chris
FLOWERS	(Harvest)	Joyce	Joyce	Jennifer	Jennifer	Jan	Jan	Nicola	Nicola
CLEANING	Judy Eileen & Mary	Julie	Paul & James	Fiona & Mandy	Judy Eileen & Mary	Julie	Paul & James	Fiona & Mandy	Judy Eileen & Mary
WINE	Sean & Moira	Julie	Isabel & Terry	Isobel & Paul	Bonnie & Ian	Louize	Mandy & Steve	Anne	Fiona & Peter

THE CAPTAIN'S DIARY

Chippenham Cricket Club tour Monday June 4th – Friday June 8th

Monday 4th June

Weather:

Glorious sunshine

We met at the Tharp Arms at 12 noon. Simon “the bus organizer” Heather had told us it would be picking us at 12.15pm. Tour shirts supplied courtesy of James Broad and Badlingham Bulls were handed out and we waited. And we waited, and we waited a bit longer. We were keen to get to our destination,

Ross-on-Wye, quickly as the England/Pakistan test match was drawing to an exciting conclusion and we wanted to get down there to see the end. Kevin Pallant, self-appointed fines chairman, already had a fairly substantial amount against Simon’s name when he eventually arrived at 1.20pm with the bus and our driver for the week, Bruce Tricker. Plenty of stick for Simon who counted that he had saved us all a fortune as the bus was £200 cheaper than anywhere else.

Finally at 1.30pm we were on our way. Spent half hour trying to get the radio going so we could listen to the cricket, then Simon phones the van hire company to be told by them that it doesn’t work! More stick for Simon.

At 3.45pm, just in front of a sign saying Ross-on-Wye 32 miles, our “£200 cheaper than anywhere else van” broke down. Huge amount of stick for Simon.

A van full of males all speaking confidently but contradictory decided to wait 10 minutes and see if it starts! By some sort of miracle it did but unfortunately not for long. We proceeded to complete the final 32 miles with a series of stops, a number of high speed trips round service stations and a general speed that saw us regularly drop from 60 miles an hour to 20 in about 0.6 of a second.

Still it “was £200 cheaper than anywhere else!”

We got off the bus to find England had collapsed in the Test Match and lost.

The nightmare journey was quickly forgotten when we checked out our accommodation for the week which was superb. The golf course was only 20 yards away and most of us headed straight for this leaving Simon to phone the RAC.

Had a great round of golf in glorious weather and Simon joined us for the last couple of holes, where in an attempt to release some of his frustration and not knowing his own strength he accidentally hit two of my golf balls into a field some 50 yards the other side of the green. More stick for Simon.

When we returned the van had been towed away with the “it may be back in the morning” message from the RAC man.

We then headed into Ross for plenty of food, wine and more stick for Simon.



Tuesday 5th June

Weather: Still Glorious

Following a game of golf in the morning and due to no sign of the van, we started out early to our first fixture against Wormlow. Good news when we got there, the pub was right next to the ground. We gather in there for our pre-match meal of three pints of beer and a ploughman's. Just into pint two we notice the opposition warming up outside and feel they might be good.

I go out win the toss and let them bat.

For the next 3 hours we spent most of the time chasing the ball or looking for it in the nearby fields. Our plight was not helped by each time we looked up one of our supporters was seen coming out of the pub with a tray of beers!

Off 40 overs Wormlow amassed a massive 319 with their number four scoring a new club record 214 not out. Apparently he was normally a bowler.

At tea we took a fair amount of ribbing from our supporters about being out of our depth and it was hard to disagree.

When we came to bat we did ourselves proud. At one time we were 202 for no wicket with Andy Mangell making 53 (retired hurt) Simon “the coach organizer” an excellent 74 and myself 90. We really had them worried and with some great encouragement from our well lubricated and amazed supporters we looked like winning. Unfortunately in our chase for runs at the end we lost wickets and finished on, what was a record for us, 278-8.

Despite losing we were very proud of our performance and ready for a beer with our proud supporters. What’s more the bus was back. Unfortunately when we got to the pub they had ran out of beer, our supporters had drunk it all!

Grimsby found us somewhere else where we celebrated with a few drinks plus steak, chips and salad all round. (Those on a diet didn’t bother with the salad).

Wednesday 6th June

Weather- A.M. Sunshine, P.M. Overcast and getting colder.

Due to foot and mouth our original fixture had to be cancelled but we did manage to arrange an evening match against Ledbury. Therefore we decide to take advantage of the facilities and have our own version of The Ryder Cup during the day. Kevin Pallant and myself captained two teams and the match finished in a very exciting tie. Unfortunately someone suggested that Kev and myself played off to find the winner, which we did and I lost. And Kev didn’t let me forget it. By the time we reached the Ground for the match the weather had turned and there was a cold wind and even some rain. The good news was there was a pub right next to the ground again.

THE CAPTAIN'S DIARY continues...

Once again we let the opposition bat first and thanks to some good bowling from Steve Game, Richard "Woody" Ward and Kevin Pallant we gave ourselves a good chance by restricting them to 122. When we came to bat we started well, until Jon Van de Peer who had made the journey all the way down just for this match, was run out by James "crunchy" Crispe. Those of you who know Jon do not need his reaction described. Crunchy was so busy apologizing that he was soon out as well and despite a late effort from Steve Game we fell 11 runs short. To make matters worse when we got to the Pub our supporters had disappeared with the beer kitty!

Thursday 7th June

Weather - Sunshine/Showers

After some doubt about the game being on we were pleased to set off for the match and our pre-match meal at the pub in Goodrich, our final opponents. The bad news when we got there was that the pub was at least ½ mile from the ground. It was though an excellent establishment and we enjoyed our pre match preparation there that centred on trying to convince a number of players that they were fit enough to play one more game. By the third pint we had 11 names and I headed to the ground to once again put the opposition in to bat.



The Goodrich ground was very small (which suited us as no one was keen on running too far) and there was always going to be plenty of runs scored. The highlight of our fielding display was an unbelievable diving catch on the boundary by "American" Bob Ennis and three wickets for Paul "Grimsby" Fishpool. At the end we felt that we had done well to restrict them to a score of 217. In reply we were 70-1 at one time, thanks to 47 from Simon but then fell away badly and it was only due to a late 50 from Cess Robinson that we managed to reach 180.

Despite losing all three games we were in the mood to celebrate. Our first ever tour had attracted an excellent cross section of people, it had been great fun and taken place in a lovely part of the

world. We enjoyed a great night, a great meal, at which Grimsby for organizing the trip and Bruce for doing all the driving were thanked for their major part in its success, and a great more alcohol!

Friday 8th June **Weather - Sunshine**

Largely due to the levels of alcohol consumed the night before it was a quiet trip back to Chippenham. We decided not to stop on the way just in case the van didn't start again and arrived back in sunny Chippenham in time for lunch, at the Tharp.

Darren Hughes

Recent results

<u>5th August</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	Chippenham 219-5 dec	<i>P Fishpool 58, A Wright 47</i>	Old Wilhads 140-8	<i>C Robinson 4-19</i>
<u>22nd August</u>	<u>Won</u>	Holkham Hall 181		Chippenham 182-7	<i>P Fishpool 52</i>
<u>26th August</u>	<u>Lost</u>	Chippenham 256-5 dec	<i>K Pallant 57, A Wright 54</i>	Strange Fruit 257-9	
<u>30th August</u>	<u>Won</u>	Chippenham 170-9	<i>J Crispe 66</i>	Old Chelmsfordians 89	<i>P Wright 3-4</i>
<u>2nd September</u>	<u>Won</u>	Lidgate 36	<i>R Ward 3-11 C Robinson 4-5</i>	Chippenham 37-1	
<u>9th September</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	Chippenham 222	<i>A Wright 105 S Heather 66</i>	Six Mile Bottom 215-8	<i>Chop Heather 3-33</i>
<u>15th September</u>	<u>Won</u>	Chippenham 213-9	<i>P Fishpool 64</i>	Pimlico Strollers 72	<i>P Wright 4-19</i>
<u>16th September</u>	<u>Won</u>	Chippenham 160-7	<i>A Wright 52</i>	Risby 107	<i>S Neal 3-25 C Heather 3-20</i>
<u>23rd September</u>	<u>Won</u>	Exning 188-7	<i>P Wright 3-28</i>	Chippenham 178-8	