FREE

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF CHESTERTON NEWS

INSIDE THIS

Chesterton	
Festival	

Ben Brown 3
Interviews...

Brown's Field 3
News

Chesterton Pho- 4

Women's 4
Institute

Ben Brown 5

News from the 6
Churches

Hundred Houses 8
Camera Club

Chesterton News

EAST AND WEST TOGETHER

DECEMBER 2011

food4food @ St Andrew's Hall

The food4food community café offers a lunch option with a difference. As well as promoting affordable, freshly made food the café, run by local charity wintercomfort for the homeless also provides job skills training for people with experience of homelessness. The café operates at St Andrew's Hall and was officially opened by the Mayor of Cambridge Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith and the Right Revered Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely in October. The launch event included a buffet lunch and a cake baked by three of the project's trainees, who told the guests a little bit about the circumstances which had brought them to wintercomfort. The charity works year round

to provide support to people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness in Cambridge. The day centre on Victoria Avenue offers a range of support, from ensuring that



basic welfare needs are met, through programmes of learning and personal development, and ultimately to opportunities for participation in workplace training projects such as the café and our sister project food4food catering, which delivers quality buffets to

private clients across the city.

The café is now in full swing and serving hot and cold lunches every Tuesday to Friday lunchtime at St Andrew's Hall. For more information or to get in touch, visit our website www.food4foodcafe.org.uk

We will also be serving Christmas lunches in the cafe between I3th—I6th December. Come and join us for some festive fare and celebrate the season of goodwill by supporting a project which really can change lives in our local community.

Ruth Boogert
Wintercomfort for the Homeless
www.wintercomfort.org.uk

News from Chesterton Community Association

CCA exists to support facilities and promote activities in Chesterton and is delighted to be the publisher of this newsletter and to be part of the editorial team.

So what have we been up to recently? We continue to work with Friends of Milton Road Library to secure its long-term future.

Our Village Sign Competition attracted a very large number of entries, most from the Shirley School and these can be seen via a link on our website. The winner was Meg Clarke of Fen Road. We had many suggestions for a location but no outright winner at this stage.

We are also engaged with the

City Council's open spaces team on ideas for the future of the open space between St Andrew's Road and the river and also Chesterton Recreation Ground in Church Street. We



have suggested replacing the existing changing rooms and public toilets with a pavilion. This would mean quite a lot of things being moved around but the result would be much better

facilities for all.

On 8th March 2012 we will have an event at St Andrew's Hall to promote existing leisure and sporting activities in Chesterton and find out from you what is missing that you would like get involved in locally.

For latest news and how to join see www.mycca.org.uk. We want to make the site as comprehensive as possible and urgently need a webmaster to help keep it up to date. Interested? Get in touch via the contact page.

Michael Bond

Chesterton Community CAROLS



Come & sing your favourite carois with members of CSD Brass Christmas food & drink St Andrew's Churchyard (indoors if too cold/wet/windy) Thursday 22 December, 6.30pm **Editorial**

Santa Claus and Baby Jesus; reindeer and a donkey; tinsel and the straw of a Bethlehem stable: a mixture so varied it would not have been out of place at a planning meeting for Chesterton News! There aren't - to my knowledge - many shepherds amongst us, but the editorial team comprises representatives from a range of community organisations in Chesterton and has worked to create what we hope will be the first in a series of quarterly publications designed to spread the word

about what's happening locally and to help foster community spirit and collaboration amongst us all. Whilst we aim to find grant-funding for future issues, generous funding for this issue has from Chesterton Community Association, Hundred Houses Society and St Andrew's Church, and distribution is by volunteers: our thanks them, and contributors. For newsletter to continue we need your help: do you have

news of an event you would like to publish or expertise you could offer us? If the answer is 'yes' - or even just 'maybe' - please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you.

With festive greetings from all the team,

Eleanor Whalley
St Andrew's Hall
www.standrews-hall.co.uk

Chesterton Festival

Chesterton
Festival 2012 will
run from 29th
June to 1st July
and all are invited
to join in.

Chesterton Festival, now heading into its fourth year, is a wonderful example of an event which is community led, run and attended. Supported by local residents, local organisations, Cambridge City Council and others it aims to celebrate community life in Chesterton.

The 2011 Festival took place in June and was our biggest yet, with a wide range of activities for such a relatively small community: Friday night saw live music and a picnic outside Brown's Field Youth and Community Centre: Saturday was the big day on Pye's Recreation Ground: an 08:00 start for the volunteers involved in the festival, and an equally late finish, but it was worth it! When you have acts as diverse as Breakdance, Jazz, Bangladeshi singers and maypole-dancing then you know a community is really coming together to celebrate its strength and variety. So many people took part: at one end of the Rec. the Brown's Field and CHYPPS teams supervised children's activities in the Adventure Zone; there were tours of St Andrew's Church; and Chesterton Community Association kept a keen watch over all the stalls, where you could try everything from maggotracing to dancing! Polish Sunday gave the perfect chance to chill out: a leisurely tour around Chesterton and a local history quiz finishing with some well earned beer at the Green Dragon...

Roll on next year!

Chesterton Festival 2012 will run from 29th June – Ist July, and all are invited to join the Steering Group at an open event to whet our appetites on Thurs. 23 Feb. at Brown's Field Youth and Community Centre. If you are interested in coming along, or getting involved in the Festival in any way (arena acts, stalls,



sponsorship, helping out on the day...), please contact Eleanor at St Andrew's Hall on 306150 or email eleanor@standrewshall.co.uk

Ian Manning,
Vie Residents Association
& Sally Roden,
Brown's Field Youth and
Community Centre

Would you like to advertise in the next edition of Chesterton News? Contact Eleanor Whalley on 01223 306 150

Community Support

Mamunur Rashid, whom I interviewed for our newsletter, is somebody who believes in the importance of community. Since 1998, when he came to the UK from Bangladesh, he has been involved in "community works". In May 2006, he was instrumental in setting up the Boishaki Cultural Association, a non-profit organization, which promotes the culture of Bangladesh and organizes social and cultural activities for the Bangladeshi community in Cambridge. "It is good," he says, "for people to get together in a social atmosphere." The Association organizes days out for its members such as a trip to the seaside at Brighton and other interesting places. It also has an educational role, focusing on continuing education among the Bangladeshi community. Mamunur has always had an interest in education and has been a voluntary teacher of the Bangladeshi language to children for two years.

The Boishaki Cultural Association also makes some of the culture of Bangladesh available to Cambridge as a whole. Since the inception of the Chesterton Festival, the Association has taken part by playing traditional folk songs from Bangladesh as one of the Arena

acts. "Bangladeshi folk music," says Mamunur, "is nice music." The folk songs of Bangladesh are many "different types of songs." The 20minute concert at the Festival was a chance to "introduce the music to the wider community." Mamunur thought that the Festival was "a good place to be involved in the community", and a valuable opportunity for the different communities in Cambridge to work together. He tells me that the Association "is just beginning" and that "among the Bangladeshi community, anyone can be a member."

Mamunur Rashid's main focus is on working within the Bangladeshi Cambridge community and promoting Bangladeshi culture in the city. He was also involved recently in raising funds for the victims of the Sidr disaster. For a job he has been a taxi driver in Cambridge for the last 8 year and he likes "the job for its flexibility," giving him the chance to develop his community work. Mamunur is also a Cambridge news correspondent for the community channel, channel S.

He describes Bangladesh as a "hospitable" place and it was there, when growing up, that he first became aware of the



Boishaki Cultural Association

importance of a strong, supportive community life. He sees the Boishakhi Cultural Association as playing a supportive role in the Bangladeshi community in Cambridge. He is also an Executive member of Omar Faruque Mosque & Cultural Centre, and a former Executive member of Bongo Poribar Association: "I enjoy working with the community, I believe that we need to work together."

Ben Brown St Andrew's Church www.standrews-chesterton.org "I enjoy
working with
the
community, I
believe that
we need to
work
together."

Mamunur Rashid

Brown's Field News

On Wed. 21 December from 5-7pm Brown's Field Youth & Community Centre will be having a Christmas Party with Jezo and his Magic and Ministar disco!
There will be magic, games and a buffet. Tickets must be bought in advance (on sale from 5 Dec.) and cost £1 (free for children under 2). This is a family event and all children must be accompanied by an adult. For more details on this or other events please phone

Brown's Field on 01223 420309 or email

brownsfield@cambridge.gov.uk.

Brown's Field Youth & Community Centre also offers a programme of events for children and young people throughout the week. Projects include a Junior Club for ages 7-11 which includes crafts, cooking and sports, a family fun session for parents to enjoy with their child and a creative writing session where young people aged

II+ can have a go at M C i n g a n d a nimation. For a comprehensive list of all the activities at Brown's Field please visit

www.cambridge.gov.uk or pop in to the centre.

Andrea Butler

Brown's Field Youth & Community
Centre

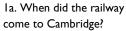


lezo in action

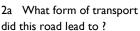
The (Chesterton) News Quiz



The Chesterton Quiz has been produced by the Local History Group.



Ib. What does the bridge go



means of transport?





3a This rest pod is part of what structure?

3b From when was it useahle?

4a Which building does this chap look after?

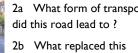
4b When was he installed?



5a What colour is this field?

5b When were the present facilities developed?

See page 5 for answers.



Women's Institute

East Chesterton Women's Institute meets at 7.30 on the fourth Tuesday of the month at St Andrew's Hall.

Like all WIs it is part of the women's movement which began in 1897 in Canada. In Britain the WI was set up in 1915 to revitalise rural communities and to encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War. Today it is no longer an exclusively rural society and can be found in villages, towns and cities throughout the land, on the internet and even

> on Facebook and Twitter, but the emphasis is still on providing a place women to meet, socialise and have an influence on the issues that affect them.

Membership your local WI will bring you into contact with a friendly group of women from your area who meet up every month for chat and a talk or demonstration on a subject of interest. Beyond that it will also offer you a wide variety of events and outings organised by the County Federation, a voice in matters of national interest such as the current Love your Libraries campaign, and access to dozens of courses at its own Denman College in Oxfordshire.

If you would like to come along to one of the meetings you would be made most welcome. Please email annienicol@googlemail.com or ring 07971 004405 for more information.

Dec—Feb Programme: Tuesday 13th Dec 2011 Christmas Party Tuesday 24th Jan 2012 Making Fabric Jewellery Tuesday 28th Feb 2012 Showing your Visitors round Cambridge

Ann Nicol

Chesterton Choral Society presents

FANTASTIC CHRISTMAS

An evening of timeless festive choruses, readings and traditional carols for all to

Monday 12 December at 7.30pm

Chesterton Methodist Church Hall Green End Road, Chesterton Cambridge

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

A new brochure listing all-year-round activities in Cambridge City for over 50s has been produced by the Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age partner-

Copies are available from local community centres, Council reception areas and at www.cambridge.gov.uk.



INSPIRING WOMEN

Unsung Contributions

I met Councillor lan Nimmo-Smith at St Andrew's Hall to talk about his role as Mayor of Cambridge, what the position entails, its challenges and fulfilments, and the themes he has focused on during his time as Mayor.

Each year the council appoints the Mayor for a year. The Mayor is not a party political figure, the parties who make up the council, at the moment Labour and Liberal Democrat, are obliged to share the role on a yearly basis. Ian Nimmo-Smith describes the role of Mayor as a mixture of "ambassador, civic figurehead", of welcoming guests to the city and representing Cambridge at formal occasions. Another aspect of the Mayor's brief is to be the chairperson for council meetings but the role also has important social dimensions. For example, the Mayor's visits to different sections of the Cambridge community are a means, for the community visited, to know itself recognized and valued by the wider community.

As a representative figure in the Cambridge community I ask Ian about what he sees as the social problems facing the city. He talks about the areas of Cambridge where there is a mixture of low

incomes and high unemployment. He also says there are "substance abuse problems" which are being addressed in a number of ways, "through family centres, advice organisations." The solutions to the city's problems come from local action and presence. He is impressed by what he sees as the role of St. Andrew's Hall, "a Noah's Ark", providing both "a springboard for groups within the Church to take forward their interests" and also as a place which provides "a local point of presence for organisations providing social support."

I ask him about what he sees as the challenges of the role. "Having enough time to do all the things you can do." There are, inevitably, "hectic periods." One of the challenges is trying to strike a balance between being "available and responsive" and trying to maintain a guiding theme for his term in the post. Each Mayor, during their year in the post, has a theme or themes, issues which they feel strongly about and wish to highlight. Ian has focused on two while being Mayor, emphasizing the importance of gardens and open spaces throughout the city and focusing on "young people as exponents of performing arts." He believes that the arts, music and theatre offer

an empowering resource for young people. Participating in musical performance or theatre gives young people "a lot of fun, a lot of self-confidence, and a continuing source of interest to keep with them throughout their lives." He speaks with great enthusiasm about the arts, providing "an enriching part of what society can provide." Artistic participation is what matters most socially, lan believes. The difference, for young people, is between "getting into a rock band rather than listening to a rock band." He recently saw an excellent example of this type of participation, a performance of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas by the Cambridge Youth Opera.

What lan finds most fulfilling about the role of Mayor is its social aspect, "meeting people, hearing their stories." The job is an opportunity to appreciate "the different aspects of Cambridge. The contributions people are making in an invisible, unsung way."

Ben Brown
St Andrew's Church
www.standrews-chesterton.org



Councillor lan Nimmo-Smith

"The job is an opportunity to appreciate the different aspects of Cambridge."

Ian Nimmo-Smith

Voluntary service award Nominations wanted

We are looking for nominations for this year's 'Lil Speed Award for Voluntary Service to the Community in Chesterton'. Is there someone you would like to nominate? More details and an application form are available from Sally Roden (457685) or Eleanor Whalley (306150) and via www.mycca.org.uk. Entry deadline: 9 Jan 2012





Quiz Answers

Ala 1845

Alb River Cam

A2a A ferry crossing the river Cam near the Green Dragon pub

A2b A footbridge built in 1937

A3a River Side Bridge

A3b June 2008

A4a Saint Gorge's Church

A4b 1939

A5a Brown's Field

A5b The community centre was opened in 2006

Chesterton Local History Group meets on the third Tuesday in the month at St. Andrew's Hall at 2.30 pm. Contact David Stubbings on 368 279 or email chestertonlocalhistorygroup@yahoo.com

News from the churches

Chesterton Methodist Church, Green End Road

We are hosting the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at our church on Wednesday 7 December at 6pm to which everyone from the community is welcome.

The church has been through a time of change this year, and recently made the decision to come under the umbrella of Wesley Church for the immediate future. Jason Balbirnie, the community outreach worker from Wesley, has been spending a good deal of time in Chesterton in recent weeks. He ran a very successful holiday club at half-term which has brought several new people into the life of the church.

The Wednesday coffee mornings have been re-established (10am-12 noon) and again, this is open to anyone.

Hilary Cheng (Minister) 01223 700778 hilary@chengs.org.uk



St Andrew's Church, Church Street

will be hosting a civic service at them (and much else in local life).

10am. The mayor, lan Nimmo-Smith, accompanied by councillors and officers, will be processing down St Andrew's Road and into the church just before 10am for the annual 'Obit sermon'. All are welcome at the service, which will include some bits of

local history - why we in Chesterton regard Cambridge as a younger brother, for instance, or why the improvement of drains led to the vicar and churchwardens

On Sunday 29 January St Andrew's handing over responsibility for

Regular Sunday services at St Andrew's are at 8am, 10am and 6.30pm.

Full details can be found on our website (www.standrewschesterton.org) or on our calendars, available at the back of church.

Nick Moir (Vicar) 01223 303469 vicar@standrews-chesterton.org

16.10	Harrison-Samuel John
	MIDDLETON-PHILLIPS

Weddings

03.09	Jack ORWELL and
	Georgia TOWERS
24.09	Fred LANGFORD and Sarah ROBERTSON
28.10	Andrew GOTHARD and loanne MANSFIELD

Funerals

12.09	Mark BLACKBURN
28.09	Anthony TILL
29.09	June FORSTER
29.09	Peggy CURRY
04.10	Joan CHILDERLEY

St George's Church, Chesterfield Road



St George's Parish Church at 6pm on the first Sunday of the Baptisms offers a warm welcome to all. Our main Sunday service is a Eucharist (Holy Communion) at 10am, during which there is usually a children's group for part of the service. Once a month all ages worship together in our family service (4th Sunday of the month). We also have a quiet, said Communion service at 8am, and an evening service

month.

A range of other events and activities are held in St George's Church and St George's Hall during the week.

For more information about St George's, or to enquire about weddings or baptisms, please phone: 01223 423374.

Lynda Taylor (Curate)

04.11

24.07	Luke Robert John CORDELL
28.08	Sophie Lily KEEN
Funera	ls
19.08	Dorothy WISE

Kathleen Mary

SANDBACH

A letter from Revd Nick Moir, Vicar of St Andrew's

Dear friends

There was a famous Christmas Day during the 1914-18 War when there was a ceasefire, and the two armies emerged from the trenches and played a game of football. They even sung Silent Night together before returning to their trenches and the return of hostilities the next day.

What does that scene tell us? That there is something about the Christmas story that uniquely affects us. On the human level, it is the birth of a child – something that can turn the most hard-bitten of fathers into cooing sentimentalists. On the more divine level, it is the claim that the birth of this child has opened the eyes of the world to the very nature of God.

The story that surrounds it helps, not least the 'Peace on earth' of the angels. And the other stories that are told at this season – such as A Christmas Carol – reinforce our sense that Christmas has a magic all of its own.

As years pass by, however, the magic can fade somewhat. Christmas Day doesn't seem that different from any other day (it did feel very different when we were younger). We tend then to look to the next generation to rekindle that special feeling – and perhaps even only to enjoy Christmas through our children and grandchildren.

I often hear people saying 'Christmas is for children'. But is it? I used to brush that comment aside (at least inwardly) and say (or think), 'Of course it's not just for children; Christ came for all

of us and it's for all of us to marvel and celebrate.'

But there is another way of looking at it. There is a scene in the gospels when children who were enjoying being with Jesus were shooed away by those who were next to him. Jesus rebuked those disciples, saying, 'Unless you become like a child, you cannot enter the kingdom of Heaven.' In other words, he was saying that if you want to discover fullness of life you must rediscover your own childhood – become a child again!

One of the blessings of parenthood (and, I imagine, grandparenthood) is that you have the chance to revisit your own childhood – as, for instance, when fathers rediscover their longing for train sets. Playing with children, sharing their toys or reading them stories can reawaken the child within.

Parents also find that they want to protect their children from some of the murkier aspects of being 'adult'; consequently they can find themselves turning back to a simpler and purer morality themselves. Not surprisingly then, the parents of young families look to the church as a place of safety and nurture for their children - but also for themselves. And the church seems to welcome large numbers of them, especially at Christmas where the divine, Christian story intersects with their very human story at the celebration of a birth - and in all the hopes and fears that come with it.

So I don't worry if Christmas

is for children, because maybe the key to it is for all of us to become like little children – and only then will the wonder of it all be rediscovered by us rather world-weary grownups. Christmas is for everyone, but only by becoming like a child can we truly enter into it.

If that is so, it is just like the kingdom of Heaven of which Jesus spoke.

A very happy Christmas to you all.

Yours sincerely

Nice

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Chesterton Methodist Church

Sunday 4 December

11.00 am Christingle

Sunday II December

11.00 am Holy Communion

Sunday 18 December

4.00 pm

Carol Service

St George's (Church of England)

Sunday 18 December

10.00 am Parish Eucharist and Nativity*

6.00 pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve, 24 December

4.00 pm Christingle Service*

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, 25 December

10.00 am Parish Eucharist*

*Services especially suitable for families with young children

St Andrew's (Church of England)

Sunday 18 December

4.00 pm Christingle & Family Carols

Monday 19 December

7.00 pm 'A Garland of Carols'

Senior Youth Choir Christmas Concert

Tuesday 20 December

3.00 pm Crib Service followed by Christmas crafts in Hall with younger children in mind

Christmas Eve, 24 December

7.30 pm Nine Lessons & Carols

11.30 pm Midnight Mass

Epiphany, 6 January

7.30 pm Holy Communion followed by Epiphany cake & Madeira

Sunday 8 January

6.30 pm Epiphany Procession

St Laurence's Roman Catholic Church

Sunday 18 December

4.00 pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve, 24 December

6.00 pm Vigil Mass (especially for children)

11.15 pm Carols and Readings

12.00 pm The Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, 25 December

9.00 am Mass of the Dawn

11.00 am Mass of the Day

Hundred Houses' Camera Club

The club has only been going for three years, but has accomplished a lot in a short time. How did we start? Like most good ideas, over a cup of coffee at the Hundred Houses Residents' coffee morning. From that conversation we booked a meeting room and started our monthly meetings. At first it was like the blind leading the blind...

Some tenants from Granta Housing came to one or two of our first meetings, which was good as their support worker knew quite a bit about digital cameras and is a keen photographer. We have had speakers from different camera/video clubs to give advice and tips, a former Cambridge News photographer talked about his life as the paparazzi. We learnt how to cut our own picture mounts, and must now be doing something right as club members have won prizes in two competitions. In January 2012 a tutor from a higher education college in Cambridge will show us how to use our cameras to their full potential, and how to enhance photographs using software.

For the last two years we have organised and sponsored a photography competition as part of Chesterton Festival. The first year's theme was 'A Picture of

Chesterton', and we received 37 entries for the over-18s category, which we thought was quite good for a first year. The club was so inspired by entries that we have now produced a DVD showing a pictorial walk around Chesterton, and sold 100 copies, which is very satisfying.



The Camera Club stall at the 2011 Chesterton Festival

At last year's Festival we ran our second competition, 'Recreation and Leisure', sponsored by the Hundred Houses Society. This time we received a total of 110 entries from the three age categories over 18s, under 18s and under 9s. We believe the increase in entries from young people was due to the help and support of Brown's Field Youth & Community Centre and Granta Housing who provided six cameras which were loaned out to enable young people to take and enter their pictures. We also had a stall

at the Festival, selling our framed original photographs, digital clocks and unique greeting cards. At the end of a very pleasant day, the icing on the cake was that our stall was awarded a prize for the best-dressed stall. Our gazebo was decorated 'VE day' and we had dressed in period costume.

The Camera Club will be organising the photography competition again for Chesterton Festival 2012: we want your take on Chesterton, with a caption to your picture. Please join in with 'THE BIG SNAP' and enter your photograph (s) (up to 6 per person). The competition is judged each year by three independent judges and we have no input or sway on their decisions...

If you would like more information on the photography competition or details about the Camera Club, please email tenantsnews@btinternet.com or call 07795816625

Valerie Cutting
Hundred Houses Society

North Area Info.

Your local Ward Councillors:

East Chesterton

City Councillors

Cllr Gerri Bird (Lab) Tel 01223 457239 Email gerribird@sky.com

Cllr Susannah Kerr (Lib Dem) Tel 01223 457238 Email susannahfkerr@gmail.com

Cllr Roman Znajek (Lib Dem) Tel 01223 369310 Email roman.znajek@ntlworld.com

County Councillor

Cllr lan Manning (Lib Dem) Tel 07931 958 169 Email ian.manning@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

West Chesterton

City Councillors

Cllr Max Boyce (Lib Dem) Tel 01223 358292 Email maxboyce@cix.co.uk

Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith (Lib Dem) Tel 01223 457257 Email iannimmosmith@gmail.com

Cllr Damien Tunnacliffe (Lib Dem) Tel 07514 939459 Email damientunnacliffe@yahoo.co.uk

County Councillor

Cllr Kevin Wilkins (Lib Dem) Tel 01223 523284 Email Kevin.wilkins303@gmail.com

North Area Committee Dates

Area committees provide the opportunity for you to give your views and ideas for improving community life in your neighbourhood. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings .

East and West Chesterton come under the North Area Committee. The dates of future meetings are 26th January 2012 and 22nd March 2012.

For more information visit http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/democracy/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?Id=199

For information on events and activities in the North of the city, visit the North Cambridge Community Forum Facebook page: http://www.facebook.com/northcambridgecommunityforum?sk=info