



Around Radlett

SPRING 2013

98



The Newsletter of Aldenham Parish Council • www.aldenham.gov.uk



Painting by Joan Scrivyer

Chairman's Message



Councillor Ron Worthy
Photo: Ken Morris Photography

May I first wish you all a happy and healthy 2013. The last year was filled with many major events, not all blessed with good weather. 2013 will be a little tame by comparison, but I am sure that with the help of decent weather we can all enjoy the events the Parish Council have planned for you.

Unfortunately the year ended on a low point with the announcement that The Secretary of State for communities the Right Honourable Eric Pickles MP is minded that the Rail Freight Terminal should be built on Radlett Airfield. This despite many objections from all the Communities surrounding the Airfield.

This illustrates what I had intended to be to the subject of this

piece. There is always some confusion as to what a Parish Council does. It is the bottom tier of local government and is very much concerned with local issues. To put this into context, the Parish Councillors are all people who live or work within the Parish and are therefore much more in touch with local residents and their concerns. District and Borough Councillors come from a much wider catchment and represent various parts of that District or Borough. Of the 39 Borough Councillors on Hertsmere Borough Council only 4 represent the Parish of Aldenham. Whilst for the County Council the Parish has one representative. These Borough and County Councillors do a wonderful job in representing us but decisions are made by the wider council which may not always reflect the desires of the residents. For decisions such as the Rail Freight Terminal the final say comes from Central Government, who despite not knowing the area seem to be able to make decisions without reference to the needs of the local populace.

Councillor Ron Worthy
Chairman
Aldenham Parish Council



RADLETT AND ALDENHAM
GOOD NEIGHBOURS



Radlett & Elstree Neighbourhood Policing Team

Website Address: www.herts.police.uk
Pc Philip Tuck
PCSO Iain Boyd
PCSO Gavin Wright
PCSO Tim McGreevy
Phone: 01707 354192 (Neighbourhood Police Team)
101 (Non Urgent)
999 (Urgent)
Email: NPTBorehamwood@herts.pnn.police.uk
Follow on: twitter.com/RadlettPolice

Community Safety Partnership (Radlett)

Valerie Kane
Hertsmere CSP
Civic Offices
Elstree Way
Borehamwood
Hertfordshire
WD6 1WA
email: partnership.support@hertsmere.gov.uk
valerie.kane@hertsmere.gov.uk
Phone: 020 8207 7801
Fax: 020 8207 7478

Radlett Chairman
Councillor Dan Griffin
email: cilr.dan.griffin@hertsmere.gov.uk

Radlett Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator
Angela Thomson
email: at@thomsons.co.uk

The painting on the front cover of this edition is by kind permission of local artist Joan Scrivyer, who lives in Park Street. It is based on a photo taken for 'Flight' magazine dated April 1939. It shows a Handley Page Hampden medium bomber taking off in a southerly direction from Radlett Aerodrome at Park Street. It was flown by Handley Page's chief test pilot Major Jim Cordes and shows its undercarriage has just begun retracting. The northbound train is a LMS train of empty coal wagons travelling from Cricklewood to Toton, near Nottingham, it is hauled by a Beyer Garratt locomotive. The tower of Napsbury Hospital is in the background.

See pages 6 and 7 for further articles.

DISCLAIMER

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CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

Every Tuesday from 10am to 1pm.
First Floor, The Radlett Centre.
Sessions operate on a 'drop-in' basis. If required appointments can be made on 0844 826 9703

What's On Locally

Remember to check the Aldenham Parish Council website for all up to date events and meetings www.aldenham.gov.uk

Sunday 3 March 3pm

The Annual Civic Service at the Radlett Centre. Everybody welcome

Sunday 3 March 7pm

Radlett Support Group for the Peace Hospice, Pub quiz and finger buffet, The Three Crowns, Bushey Heath, High Road, Wd23 1EA £5 per person, come alone or in a group. All proceeds in aid of the Peace Hospice. Further info and tickets in advance please call Clare 07788940660

Saturday 9 March 10.30-12.30pm

Radlett Choral Society Jumble Sale, UFC Hall, St Road, Radlett. If you would like to donate jumble please call 01923 856758

Monday 11 March 8pm

The Annual Parish Meeting, at The Radlett Centre. Your opportunity to find out and raise questions about what your council does for you

Tuesday 12 March 2013 8pm

Radlett Music Club Dante String Quartet at the Radlett Centre

4 - 7 April

Radlett Youth Council Skate Park event

Saturday 13 April 7.30pm

St John The Baptist Church, The Brinsmead Piano Trio. Programme

to include music by Beethoven, Schumann and Ferguson. Tickets £10 include refreshments. Tickets can be purchased on the door or any additional information please contact 01923 857017

Wednesday 17 April 8pm

The Radlett Horticultural society Talk on 'Hardy Geraniums' by Jacky Violet. Vision Hall

Thursday 18 April 2013 8pm

Radlett Music Club. Peter Facer (oboe) and Christopher Guild (piano) at Karl König Hall, Delrow Community, Summerhouse Lane, Patchetts Green, Aldenham, WD25 8DL

24-27 April 8pm

Radlett Players present 'Run For Your Wife' at the Radlett Centre.

Saturday 11 May 10.30am-12.30pm

St John the Baptist, Spring Coffee morning

Monday 13 May 2-3pm

Radlett Horticultural Society, The Best Spring Plant Sale in Hertfordshire. At the Scout Hut in Scrubbitts Park Road

14-18 May 7.45pm (Saturday matinee 2.30pm)

Royal Light Operatic Society, The High School Mikado at the Radlett Centre.

For tickets please contact the box office on 01923 859291

Monday 27 May

Radlett Cricket Club are hosting the Middlesex 1st XI CB40 One-Day match against Yorkshire 1st, with a number of international players on show

Wednesday 29 May 8pm

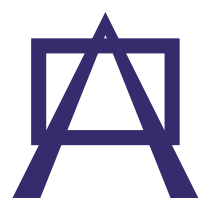
Radlett Horticultural Society Talk on 'Easy Plants for difficult places' Alexia Balance. Vision Hall

Sunday 9 June 12-4.30pm

The Scarecrow Competition at the Radlett Fair. The ever popular competition for the funniest, most original and best scarecrows in Radlett is open to all girls and boys of not more than sixteen years of age. The theme this year is Nursery Rhyme characters. Organised by the Radlett Horticultural Society, there will be cash prizes, rosettes, and certificates for all entrants. Lots of fun for all. Details from paulbalen@btinternet.com

Saturday 15 June 3pm

St John The Baptist Church, Harrow Male Voice Choir. Tickets £10 to include tea and scones. For more information please contact 01923 857017



Radlett Art Society

The Radlett Art Society is thriving. It was founded by Tom Coubro in 1966 and offers art in all its forms. We have been going for 47 years, membership now stands at 300 including artists and non-artists. The Society is run by an enthusiastic committee, each of whom take responsibility for an aspect of the work involved.

The main aim of the Society is to stimulate interest in painting, sculpture

and allied subjects by illustrated lectures given by experts in their fields, we hold one each month, and by organised visits to galleries, museums, exhibitions, country houses and places of artistic interest, in this country and in Europe.

The Summer Exhibition is the highlight of the Society's year, and is open to all members wishing to show and maybe sell their work. We invite schools, other societies, the wider community and visitors from further afield.

For practical artists we organise workshops for members of all abilities

who paint and draw in any medium – life, portrait, still life, and we hold demonstrations by visiting artists. In the summer we meet for outdoor sketching.

Social events include an Exhibition luncheon and a Christmas festive supper.

Our current annual subscription of £24 (students £6) represents excellent value for all the events the Society offers. So do come and join those of us who enjoy this excellent amenity.

For further information please contact Carmen Beal on 01923 854567.



the radlett centre

BOX OFFICE: 01923 859291

www.radlettcentre.co.uk

MARCH

Art Exhibition:

Ground Floor – Bricket Wood Art Club

Apthorp Gallery – Rina Bakis

Fri 1 Shappi Khorsandi 8pm

Sat 2 Katy Setterfield as Dusty 7.30pm

Sun 3 Gay's The Word 7.30pm

Mon 4 Chris Packham: Wild Night Out 8pm

Tue 12 Dante String Quartet 8pm

Wed 13 Marty Wilde & The Wildcats 8pm

Thur 14 Art Society Lecture 8pm



Shappi Khorsandi

Tue 19 Dogs Don't do Ballet 1.30pm & 4pm

Wed 20 Colin Fry: The Happy Medium 8pm

APRIL

Art Exhibition:

Ground Floor – Eva Ederry

Apthorp Gallery – Karen Joss

Tue 2 - Fri 5 – Musical Theatre Workshop

Sat 6 A Night of Dirty Dancing 7.30pm

Wed 10 The Wind in the Willows 11am & 2pm

Thur 11 Art Society Lecture 8pm

Sat 13 On the Funny Side of the Street 7.30pm

Sun 14 All-Jewish Xmas Variety Night: The Overflow Show 7.30pm

Thur 18 Roy Orbison & Friends 8pm

Fri 19 Les Miserables 8pm

Wed 24 - Sat 27 – Run For Your Wife 8pm

Sun 28 You're The Top 7.30pm

Tue 30 The Gruffalo's Child 1.30pm & 4.30pm



The Gruffalo's Child

MAY

Art Exhibition:

Ground Floor & Apthorp

Gallery – Art Expo

Wed 1 The Gruffalo's Child 10.30am & 1.30pm

Sat 4 Sleeping Beauty 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Sun 5 Big Girls Don't Cry 7.30pm

Wed 22 Four Farces 8pm

Tue 14 – Fri 17 – The Mikado 7.45pm

Sat 18 The Mikado 2.30pm & 7.45pm

Sun 19 Art Fair 10am-4pm

Tue 21 Blood Clinic 12pm-8pm

Thur 23 Art Society Lecture 8pm

Tue 28 We're Going on a Bear Hunt 1.30pm

Wed 29- Fri 31 – We're Going on a Bear Hunt 11am & 1.30pm



Sleeping Beauty

www.radlettcentre.co.uk www.radlettcentre.co.uk www.radlettcentre.co.uk

Radlett Centre - Centre of the Village

I am often asked what a typical day at the Radlett Centre involves, and even after all the years I have managed the venue there is no standard answer to that question.

For the uninitiated, The Radlett Centre is a 300 seat theatre on the corner of Watling Street and Aldenham Avenue, that also houses a Café Bar, three meeting rooms, two gallery spaces and the offices of Aldenham Parish Council. Running the venue involves forward planning, whilst servicing the range of events that take place in any particular week. The theatre converts to a flat floor space, so the in-house technicians have to be organized to ensure that the main hall is configured correctly for the particular demands of the day.

The theatre is the home of many local societies including Radlett Players, Radlett Light Opera, Radlett Music Club and Radlett Art Society and a lot of the year is taken up with their varied events.

A subsidy from Aldenham Parish Council allows local societies, organisations, schools and charities



to benefit from a 50% discount on the published hire rates. Each professional theatre show comes with its own technical requirements, which normally requires advance rigging of the lighting equipment to a particular plan. Depending on time, this may be done the evening before but usually early on the day of the show before the acting company arrives. When they do arrive the "Get-In" takes place, which is the theatre term for fitting the stage up with scenery, lights and sound equipment. Get-Ins are carried out with military efficiency with the in-house technicians working alongside the

incoming company's own staff to a tight deadline. Then after the show there is the Get-Out, which is usually a great deal quicker than the fit up.

Whilst all of that is going on, the Meeting Rooms are set up depending on the demands of the day and the Café Bar is getting ready for the busy lunchtime trade. Upstairs in the office bookings are taken up to two years ahead and professional shows one year ahead. Weekend dates go particularly quickly and, with the exception of the holiday month of August, there is not a weekend date to be had before January 2014 already. For customers who like to be very organized tickets are already on sale for the December pantomime run of Aladdin!

So there you have a flavour of a typical day at The Radlett Centre.

Greg Dexter - General Manager

If you would like further details on any aspect of the activities or events at The Radlett Centre, please email admin@radlettcentre.com.



The Radlett Society and Green Belt Association

What's special about Radlett? Location? Housing? Schools? Everyone will have a different answer and the Radlett Society & Green Belt Association – the local Civic Society – does its best to represent the general views of residents. Membership is open to all – visit www.radlettsociety.org or call 01923 855139.

One of our main challenges is safeguarding the Green Belt, which keeps Radlett and the surrounding villages protected from urban sprawl and amalgamation. We have devoted considerable resources to opposing the proposed SRFI [Rail Freight Interchange] at Park Street that threatens to seriously impact the openness of the countryside on our northern 'doorstep'. Monitoring the Green Belt is an ongoing brief and we would very much welcome extra support on the Committee to keep us up-to-speed.

Because of its unique position surrounded by Green Belt, Radlett is unable to grow outwards. Instead, many house sites are being re-cycled. Pushed-on by zero-rated VAT on new-builds, the pace of re-development seems to be quickening. This can represent a threat to our built heritage and houses with historic character, and if a recent decision by the Hertsmere Planning Committee is a precedent, even traditional 'Arts & Crafts' homes in conservation areas are no longer safe from re-development.

Local planning policies are common throughout Hertsmere – what goes for Bushey, Borehamwood & Potters Bar applies to Radlett also. Where previously there were special Radlett planning 'rules', now it's 'one size fits all'. You can read the policies in the Hertsmere Local Plan at the Library or on-line at www.hertsmere.gov.uk/planning.

Many readers may know that we have actively supported residents of Willow Way and Folly Close in their campaign to resist proposals by developers to build on land in Willow Way that's presently rear gardens. As long ago as June 2010, the coalition government took steps to protect garden land from development; local authorities were sent letters directing them to treat back gardens as 'greenfield' and not 'brownfield'. The difference is that a greenfield site has more protection under the Local Plan, whereas brownfield is considered to be previously developed land. Hertsmere seem to have been rather late in implementing this directive, leaving the way open for developers to exploit the weakness.

In the case of 3-11 Willow Way, the developer proposes to squeeze four large houses within the space created by roughly five back gardens. To maximise the use of site, the houses will have at least 4 bedrooms and this means that habitable space is required in the roofs. By pretending these houses are only 2-storeys, the developer was able to reduce the normal 28-metre spacing - from existing residences - to 20-metres, causing a cramped site with considerable loss of

privacy all round. Many other key planning considerations were effectively 'rubber-stamped' by officers who simply said it 'ticked all the boxes' and 'raised no objections'.

At the November 2012 Planning Committee, the scheme was rejected unanimously. However, following a re-submission of virtually the same 4-house scheme, the January 2013 Committee switched its support 6-2 in favour of the proposals which, in our view, still represent an unacceptable over-development of the site. However, this vote was set aside owing to a procedural mistake by the Committee Chairman and the proposals will now be heard as a completely new application in February. This may be academic because the developer has appealed the first refusal, bringing the Planning Inspectorate into play and the possibility of a Public Inquiry. We shall be ready.

The society is working with Aldenham Parish Council to put together some policies under the 'Localism' legislation, with a view to formulating a Neighbourhood Plan. This won't be easy as, despite the Government's headline of giving more say to local people, there are numerous hoops and hurdles to negotiate. And we cannot over-ride any Borough Council policies! Please help us to be positive and proactive in improving Radlett. Join the Radlett Society today, we need your support!

**Graham Taylor, Chairman,
Radlett Society & Green Belt Association.**

*To the Editor,
Housing Development*

The Radlett community should have more influence in new housing development. We need better, more affordable housing, in keeping with the neighbourhood, but we are facing random gross overdevelopments across our village, such as the back garden infill in Willow Way.

Most planning decisions are determined by policies and guidance from government. Hertsmere Council officials work closely with the developers, and in most cases recommend approval. Hertsmere Planning Committee councillors have many applications to decide and are under pressure to approve them.

Currently Aldenham Parish Council and the Radlett Society and Greenbelt Association object strongly to inappropriate developments but their views can be disregarded. Members of the community have difficulty being represented and raising sensible objections.

In the spirit of localism, our community and local councillors should make decisions for our community, working with developers, balancing development with privacy and green space. If we do not Radlett could become urban sprawl.

Martin Bigg

Handley Page at Radlett

From 1930 until 1970 Radlett aerodrome played an important part in Britain's aircraft industry. During that time it was Handley Page's main assembly and test flying facility and approximately 2800 aircraft were built there. Numerically the Halifax bomber of the Second World War was way ahead of anything else, with 1592 coming off the Radlett assembly line. A further 4586 were sub-contracted to other manufacturers.

The company was founded by Frederick Handley Page (1885-1962) who was knighted in 1942. It had small beginnings and began building its first aircraft in 1908 at Barking. In 1909 it became the first limited company in Britain for the design and manufacture of aircraft.



Sir Frederick Handley Page at a garden party in 1960.

During the First World War larger premises and an adjacent flying ground were acquired at Cricklewood. There they built the O/400 heavy bombers and when peace returned some of these became airliners. Handley Page Transport was one of the earliest airlines, beginning a Cricklewood-Paris service in 1919. It was merged with some smaller airlines in 1924 to form Imperial Airways. Other types of bombers and airliners were produced but by the late 1920s it was becoming obvious that a large grass aerodrome surrounded by encroaching suburbia was no longer viable.

In March 1928 test pilot Major James

Cordes was ferrying an Avro biplane from Manchester to Cricklewood when, on reaching St Albans, he found the visibility deteriorating and had to land in a large field just north of Radlett. He continued the flight a day or two later. With the requirement for new premises becoming urgent Cordes suggested to the management that his emergency landing field would make a good aerodrome. Soon a deal was done with the farmer, Mr Slaughter, and Radlett aerodrome was born. A large hangar was constructed and the aerodrome was formally opened by Prince George (later Duke of Kent) on 7 July 1930. Chief test pilot Tom England then gave a flying display in the HP39 'Gugnunc', starting the engine in the hangar and becoming airborne before reaching the doors. The Cricklewood factory was retained, accommodating design offices and major component workshops until 1965, when everything moved to Radlett.



Handley Page HP34 Hare torpedo bomber over the new Radlett aerodrome c.1930. View looking north.

During the early 1930s Handley Page produced the HP42 airliners for Imperial Airways, and the Heyford, the RAF's last biplane heavy bomber. The rearmament of the 1930s saw the Harrow and Hampden medium bombers on the production lines, but the Halifax was



View south over Radlett aerodrome in 1992 with gravel extraction just beginning.

the company's primary task in the Second World War. It first flew in 1939 and would comprise 40% of the RAF's heavy bomber force.

After the war the company built the Hastings military transport for the RAF and the Hermes and Herald airliners. In 1946 and 1947 the Society of British Aircraft Constructors held their first annual shows there before moving to Farnborough.

Handley Page's biggest project after the war was the Victor jet bomber which, with the Valiant and Vulcan, formed the UK's nuclear deterrent force until the task transferred to the navy's submarines. The Victor, which had first flown in December 1952, continued in RAF service long after the other 'V-Bombers' because it made an excellent air-refuelling tanker. The Victors finally retired in 1993.

In the 1960s the company was resisting pressure to merge with the big manufacturing groups. They designed and built the 18-seat Jetstream commuter airliner. Despite the Jetstream's promising start the finances were not sufficiently sound and Handley Page folded in 1970 after failing to secure an additional Victor tanker contract. The Jetstream became successful, but under the British Aerospace name.

Alan Dowsett
Handley Page
Association
Newsletter Editor.
January 2013.

Right: Memorial placed at the Colney Street entrance to Radlett aerodrome in July 1990



Hampden bombers ready for delivery to the RAF in April 1939. Seen from the railway bridge, Old Parkbury Lane.



The first three Jetstream prototypes by the Colney Street hangar in 1967.

Stop The Rail Freight Exchange



an obligation given by unilateral undertaking although opinion is divided as to how this could then proceed.

Towards the end of 2012 a new website was launched mapping locations where bombs struck during the London blitz and interestingly this shows that several bombs landed around the perimeter of Radlett Aerodrome. Mr Pickles letter on 20 December 2012 represents another bombshell to land in this area as it would appear he is prepared to allow a developer to succeed where the German Luftwaffe failed and obliterate this particular piece of the Hertfordshire countryside.

It is therefore paramount that pressure is now applied to HCC urging them to reaffirm their long held position of refusing to be bound to any planning obligation in respect of the former airfield AND commit to retain the land in public ownership. This piece of land is the last large piece of Green Belt land between St Albans and London, so HCC must be urged not to sell the family silver. Please go to https://consult.hertsdirect.org/petitions/petition?petition_id=74614

Contact: Cathy Bolshaw 07710 327969

Following a planning saga which has run for over 6 years with two public inquiries and a Judicial Hearing, Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, announced on 21 December 2012 that he was minded to approve the development of Strategic Rail Freight Terminal (SRFI) on the site of the former Radlett Aerodrome.

In his decision letter in July 2010, Mr Pickles stated that he was of the opinion that a SRFI at another site in Colnbrook might meet the policy requirement whilst causing less harm to the Green Belt. He consistently held this position and in September 2012, when then faced with an Inquiry at Colnbrook, advised that he was *"...of the view that the two schemes (Radlett and Colnbrook) raise similar and inter-related issues. He considers it likely that their comparative merits will be a significant material consideration in his determination of the Radlett proposal. Furthermore, he considers that a decision on the Radlett proposal and the reasoning for that decision may have a significant bearing on his determination of the Colnbrook proposal. Given this, he is of the view that re-opening the inquiry into the Radlett appeal and conjoining it with the planned inquiry into the proposed SRFI at Colnbrook is likely to lead to a more coherent and consistent decision-making process overall"*.

This position gave support to the opinion that the outcome would be an SRFI at either Radlett or Colnbrook.

His letter of 21 December stated he was of the opinion that a re-opening of the Radlett Inquiry was unnecessary. This represented a complete about-turn and with the lack of any reasons or explanation, we are only left to speculate why. However, there is increasing opinion that the general economic situation may be a factor and that internal government pressure may have influenced the decision making process. If this so, Mr Pickles should be reminded that private sector investment is not a reason in itself, or indeed in planning law, for approving new developments. Furthermore, the nuance of the letter now suggests that the outcome may well be a SRFI at either Radlett or Colnbrook or indeed BOTH.

However, Mr Pickles does have a clear concern in that the developer has not gained the support of the airfield landowner, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). He is therefore allowing the developer until 28 February 2013 to provide him with a planning obligation that binds the County Council with all other parties with an interest in the site.

If the developer fails to provide a binding agreement then Mr Pickles will consider

ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE

LESSONS FROM A
S.T.A.T. REGISTERED
MEDICALLY QUALIFIED
TEACHER

The technique is of particular benefit to persons suffering from chronic backache, stiff neck and a host of muscular-skeletal problems, but can also benefit more obscure symptoms such as headache, tiredness, tension and fatigue

For further information
contact:

Milton Simanowitz
7 The Avenue, Radlett
Telephone and Fax
01923 855007



ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

www.aldenham.gov.uk

To contact a Parish Councillor go to councillor@aldenham.gov.uk

ALDENHAM EAST



Councillor Gill Balen

Chairman of the Communications Committee
Member of the Planning Committee
Member of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee
Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Member of the Gravel Allotments Trust
Representative of the Platt Subsidiary Foundation



Councillor Viv Charrett

Chairman of the Planning Committee
Member of the Communications Committee
Member of the Community Development Committee
Representative of the Street Scene Forum
Representative on the Aldenham Alms Houses



Councillor Caroline Clapper

Member of the Community Development Committee



Councillor Saleem Khawaja

Member of the Planning Committee



Councillor Neil Payne

Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee
Member of the Planning Committee
Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Member of the Communications Committee



Councillor Ron Worthy

Chairman of the Parish Council
Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Representative on Platt Subsidiary Foundation
Representative on the Radlett Centre Trust

ALDENHAM WEST



Councillor Tony Butwick

Member of the Community Development Committee
Member of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Member of the Communications Committee
Representative on the Radlett Village Institute Management Committee
Representative on Association to contain Elstree Aerodrome



Councillor John Howley

Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Member of the Strategic Planning Committee
Member of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Representative on Herts Association Parish & Town Councils Executive Committee
Representative on Radlett Village Institute Management Committee
Representative on the Radlett Centre Trust



Councillor David Lambert

Chairman of the Gravel Allotments Trust
Member of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Member of the Planning Committee
Member of the Strategic Planning Committee
Representative on Aldenham War Memorial Hall Trust



Councillor Estelle Samuelson

Chairman of the Community Development Committee
Member of the Planning Committee
Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Member of the Communications Committee
Vice-Chair of the Radlett and Shenley Community Safety Partnership



Councillor Garry Walton

Member of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Member of the Community Development Committee
Representative on Aldenham Country Park Advisory Board
Representative of the Street Scene Forum



Councillor Chris Wilkins

Deputy Chairman of the Parish Council
Chairman of the Parks Open Spaces Committee
Member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
Member of the Community Development Committee
Member of the Strategic Planning Committee
Member of the Communications Committee
Representative on RAIFA (Radlett and Aldenham International Friendship Association)

Parish Council Offices

Aldenham Parish Council, 1st Floor, The Radlett Centre
Tel: 01923 856433/858399, Fax: 01923 852214
Email: clerk@aldenham.gov.uk

Office Opening Hours: 10am - 4pm Mon to Fri,
Parish Manager: Peter Evans
Email: Peter.evans@aldenham.gov.uk

All parish councillors can be contacted at the council office.

Hertsmere Borough Council

Aldenham East
Councillor John Graham
Tel: 07976360961
jgraham@britishlegion.org.uk

Councillor Charles Goldstein
Tel: 01992 652222
Cllr.goldstein@hertsmere.gov.uk

Aldenham West
Councillor Danny Griffin
Tel: 01923 856121
dangriffin@thehirealliance.co.uk

Councillor Caroline Clapper
Tel: 07818427745
carolineclapper@hertscc.gov.uk

Hertfordshire County Council

Caroline Clapper
Tel: 07818427745
carolineclapper@hertscc.gov.uk

MP for Hertsmere

James Clappison
Tel: 020 7219 4152
Email: tillaye@parliament.uk

Forthcoming Committee Meetings From March – May 2013

March

Monday 4	Planning
Friday 8	Strategic Planning
Monday 11	Annual Parish Meeting
Wednesday 13	Parks and Open Spaces
Monday 18	Planning
Tuesday 19	Full Council
Wednesday 20	Finance and General Purposes

April

Tuesday 2	Communications
Monday 8	Planning
Thursday 10	Community Development
Monday 22	Planning
Thursday 25	All Faiths
Tuesday 30	Full Council

May

Thursday 2	Elections
Wednesday 8	Parks and Open Spaces
Monday 13	Planning
Monday 20	Planning
Tuesday 28	Full Council and AGM

Contact the Parish Council office for times of meetings.

Minutes from the Committee meetings are uploaded to the website once they have been approved and signed by the Chairman at the following committee.



ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

www.aldenham.gov.uk

Tree felling

Many of you will have noticed that some trees on the common areas in our parish have been felled in recent years. You may well have been concerned and wondered why.

About five years ago we embarked on a five year plan, which began with surveys of the condition of all our trees. The surveys were carried out by qualified tree specialists (arboriculturalists). The experts identified many trees which were diseased and/or dangerous and even more that required lopping, pruning and

cleaning. It is as a result of this expert advice that the felling has taken place.

The Parks and Open Spaces committee have been keen to avoid any unnecessary felling since, apart from the obvious loss of many established and attractive trees, there has been a considerable financial cost to bear. It would have been foolish, however, to have ignored the advice of experts. To have done so would have presented the twin risks of danger to the public from falling branches or whole trees and disease spreading to other trees.

All the felling identified in the original surveys has been completed. We

are now aiming to commence a tree replanting programme, starting at Phillimore Recreation Ground. We will soon prepare the ground for replanting by grinding out the stumps and roots of the old poplar trees, removing the old Laurel bushes and filling the resulting holes with fresh soil. This will leave the area looking bare for a while, but it is necessary work prior to the planting of new trees.

Please be assured that the decision to fell has not been, and will not be, taken lightly.

Councillor Chris Wilkins, Chairman of Parks and Open Spaces Committee

Planning Issues

Recently there have been several very contentious planning applications from developers who wish to build cul-de-sacs of new homes in the rear gardens of existing homes, or to build flats where individual houses currently exist.

The Planning Committee of the Parish Council vigorously oppose such developments, believing that these will

change the nature of the village, and in many cases are of a more suitable design for a London suburb than a small rural town.

As a statutory consultee of Hertsmere Borough Council we express our views strongly to the Planners and, together with the Radlett and Green Belt Association, we lobby Hertsmere to reject such unsuitable plans. We may not always be successful in this but will not give up fighting to preserve the

integrity of Radlett and its surrounding villages for future generations.

The hope is that when we will be able to complete a Neighbourhood Plan for Radlett, we may have some more ability to channel the development activity in a way which will maintain the character of Radlett as opposed to turning it into another London suburb.

*Councillor Viv Charrett
Chairman of Planning*

Winter Fair



There were a variety of craft stalls inside the Radlett Centre, with a mini funfair and food stalls filling the car park.

Aldenhams Parish Council would like to thank everyone who came and took part, and we hope to see you at the next Winter Fair.



A fun festive day was had by all on Sunday 2 December at the Radlett Centre for Aldenhams Parish Council's Winter Fair. Excitement filled the air for arrival of Olympic Boxer Anthony Joshua MBE, who switched on the Christmas Lights.



Carols were sung by a children's choirs and a visit from Father Christmas topped off a great community event.

Aldenhams Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 11 March 2013 at 8pm in the Radlett Centre. All welcome. For any further enquires please contact Lucy Jackman on 01923 856433 or APCComms@aldenhams.org.uk

Platt Subsidiary Foundation

Platt Awards 2013

Are you under 25, living in Radlett, Aldenham, Letchmore Heath or Round Bush?

Are you planning an expedition or project?

Apply for a Platt Award!

- You must show sufficient drive and initiative to be planning an expedition or project away from home where you will face a variety of physical and intellectual challenges.
- These challenges could be provided by the Scout Association, your School, University or gap year schemes arranged by charities or specialist organisations.
- Community projects are favourably considered.
- Awards, from £200 to £800 are granted to an individual rather than as a contribution to general funds. You must raise a percentage of necessary funds.
- Interviews take place in April and Governors' decisions are announced by the middle of May, 2013.

For details on how to make an application please contact:

Alan Taylor

The Secretary

The Platt Subsidiary Foundation

71 Loom Lane, Radlett, Herts, WD7 8NX



Lucy Kilham's Malawi trip

Completed Applications to be returned by 31 March 2013.

Lucy Kilham's Malawi trip

"Last summer I was fortunate to receive a grant from the Platt Subsidiary Foundation that helped me to travel to Malawi with other pupils from Aldenham School to work alongside the charity Ripple Africa. Founded in 2003, Ripple Africa is based on the Northern shore of Lake Malawi. Its aims include improving the standard of education, preserving and developing the environment, and creating opportunities for the local communities.

My first week was spent relaxing on safari in Zambia where I was able to get a fantastic insight onto the life of animals there both by day and by night. We saw many elephants, hippos, giraffe, and monkeys wandering near our camp. We had some really close encounters with animals, particularly

around the camp at night. It was fortunate we had a guard to look after us.

Next we travelled by minibus to Lake Malawi where, incidentally, I celebrated my 17th birthday. We spent time at both a local primary and a secondary school where we played and sang with the children, repainted an existing secondary school in bright colours, and made mud bricks for the building of a new primary school. We also built some chango chango motto – fuel efficient stoves made from mud bricks – in some of the houses and played football and netball with the children.

I found the trip to be an exhilarating experience that I will remember for the rest of my life and I am very grateful to the Platt Subsidiary Foundation for helping me take part."

Lucy Kilham

New Team Rector Appointed

The Anglican team ministry of Aldenham, Radlett and Shenley is to have a new team rector; this appointment also means the ecumenical Parish of Radlett will have a new vicar.

Following the retirement of Rev'd William Hogg at the end of September the ecumenical Parish of Radlett has been without a vicar and looks forward to the arrival of Rev Canon Javaid Iqbal from the Diocese of Leicester.

Canon Javaid Iqbal is a senior and experienced priest from the diocese of Leicester. He comes to us very highly recommended by his previous colleagues, including our own Bishop of Bedford who worked closely with Javaid in the years before he came to St Albans. Javaid's experience includes

time spent teaching Christianity in Pakistan as well as long experience of parish and diocesan life here in England. He holds a Masters degree from the University of Birmingham. He has a particular interest in and experience of inter-faith and inter-religious matters, which will stand him in good stead as he relates to people of other faiths in our area. Javaid is married to Mussarat who is deeply involved in the life of the parish where they are now, and his eldest daughter Sophia presently chairs the Bishop's Youth Council in Leicester Diocese.

The Rt Revd Paul Bayes, Bishop of Hertford, said: "both the Archdeacon of St Albans and I are delighted that Canon Javaid Iqbal will be coming to the diocese as Rector of the Aldenham,

Radlett and Shenley team ministry, working in particular in Radlett. Javaid and his family have made enormous contributions to the life of the church in the diocese of Leicester, and we look forward to welcoming him here and to receiving the richness of his experience."

Church Warden of Christ Church and St John in Radlett, Mike Hardwick, said "Canon Iqbal has a broad experience of different church traditions. We are greatly looking forward to him joining us after Easter."

This is particularly exciting news for the team as Rev'd Vincent Oram, Team Vicar of Shenley has transferred to Stevenage.

David Clout

Coal Tax Posts

In the last issue of Round Radlett I gave you a little teaser about the next article I hoped to write, so here we are.

WHERE ARE THEY – and what are they?

The Where? is easy. There are two in Radlett, one on the left-hand side of the entrance of Malt Lane beside the United Synagogue and another on the right-hand side of Watling Street (travelling north), just past the last cottage at Marble Arch. It is said that there was a third, near the bridge (High Bridge) where Watling Street crosses over Tykes Water, but this probably disappeared when the road was straightened some 50 years ago. I cannot see why there would have been one at this point and think it unlikely.

There are several more in Harper Lane, between Watling Street and the Napsbury/Shenley roundabout.

The What? takes rather longer to explain. They were introduced by The City of London in 1845 as a means collecting duty on imports of coal into London. Coal brought into London via the Port of London had been taxed since mediaeval times but by the middle of the nineteenth century there was increasing trade by canal and railway which meant that the City was losing out on its revenue.

Various Acts of Parliament were enacted to redress the problem. In 1845 a boundary was set at a radius of approximately 20 miles from the General Post Office at St Martin's le Grand in the City. Duty was payable on any coal brought past that boundary and in 1851 an Act of Parliament permitted the erection of boundary markers to indicate where this somewhat irregular boundary lay.

In 1861 a further Act – The London Coal and Wine Duties Continuance Act – was passed, reducing the area to that of the Metropolitan Police, plus the City

of London, and new marker posts were erected to show the new boundary. These posts were usually of cast-iron, painted white, bearing the arms of the City of London together with the regnal year of the Act, ie 24, being the 24th year of the reign of Queen Victoria.

The monies raised by the coal duty did not just fill the coffers of the Corporation but were used for many good and worthy causes. In 1667 money was needed to rebuild and renovate London following the Great Fire of 1666 and the First Rebuilding Act of 1667 was passed authorising an increase in the duty payable for this purpose. St Paul's Cathedral, the Guildhall, various city churches and Newgate prison all benefitted from the money so raised.

By 1694 the Corporation was still in debt and another Act was passed "for the Relief of the Orphans and Other Creditors of the City of London", giving the Corporation the power to impose (for the first time) a duty on each cask of wine entering through the Port of London. This was a forerunner of the 1861 Act which led to the setting up of the Coal-tax Posts although the duty on wine was not payable if brought in to London by rail or canal.

Despite rumours that a tax once imposed is never repealed, the taxes on both wine and coal were abolished by an Act of Parliament in 1889.

The 220 or so Posts that are known still to exist in an irregular circle round London were given protection 1990 by their inclusion on the list of Historical Monuments, where they are somewhat bizarrely listed as Grade II Buildings of Historical Interest.

A little piece of history which we have swept past in this article refers to the Metropolitan Police. Older residents of Radlett may remember that at one time we in Radlett were at one time within the Metropolitan Police Area. The origin of that reason is not for this article but it is interesting that the extent of the Coal Tax area was also the extent of their remit, thus including Radlett and



Malt Lane

Shenley within that area.

Incidentally, records and history do not tell us how the tax was collected - there is no trace or record of any kind of hut or building adjacent to the Coal Posts.

*Philip Eastburn
philip.eastburn@mail.com*

WANTED - PAINTINGS, PHOTOS AND ARTICLES

The Communications Committee responsible for compiling Around Radlett are always pleased to receive paintings, photographs and articles on local events. Please send them to APCComms@aldenham.org.uk



WEBSITE

Please remember to visit the Aldenham Parish Council website at www.aldenham.gov.uk for update news on the local area and any event that are taking place in your area.

ADVERTISING

There is currently a waiting list for advertisements in Around Radlett. Should you wish to be added to the list please send your details to APCComm@aldenham.gov.uk.

The cost for 2013 is £45 back page advertisement and £40 for an inside page advertisement.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

The RADLETT AND DISTRICT U3A continues to go from strength to strength. It now has over forty Interest Groups with more groups gradually being set-up. The groups are varied and there is always the opportunity for members to create more groups if they wish. An Events Committee has been set up and in the future we should see more visits and trips organised. Please keep up-to-date with events by visiting our website U3Asites.org.uk/radlett, or see the bi-monthly Newsletter, or check the noticeboard at monthly meetings.

In November 2012, the R & D U3A Committee reluctantly made the decision to move the monthly social meetings from the Vision Hall in Radlett to the Bushey Police Club in Bushey. The priority had been to stay in Radlett but the size/car parking facilities of local venues proved prohibitive. However, the move to Bushey Police Club has been successful. The accommodation offered is large and suits our needs, the car parking is more than adequate and disabled facilities are well catered for. The venue is on a bus route and a car sharing arrangement has been set up for those who require it.

The move to Bushey Police Club has also allowed the membership to be increased. As from 1 January 2013 the membership re-opened and all those on the waiting list have now been admitted. In the future, membership will be restricted to those who live in the civil Parish of Aldenham, which includes Aldenham, Radlett, Letchmore Heath, Round Bush and Wall Hall, the civil Parish of Shenley and Shenleybury as well as Patchetts Green and Ridge.

Monthly social meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 9.45 am for 10 am at the Bushey Police Social Club, Aldenham Road, Bushey, WD23 2TR.

To arrange or offer a lift contact: Almoner, Barbara Bernard at email geraldjbernard@hotmail.com

To join or start an Interest Group contact: Tricia Milne at email patricia.milne41@gmail.com

To make membership enquiries contact: Sandra Taylor at email sandra.taylor123@o2.co.uk



The Festival this year will be held on Sunday 9 June at the Phillimore Recreation Ground, as usual. The Festival Committee have re-booked Jive Pony, who came to us three years ago, and who have been receiving rave reviews from audiences all across the country.

The Committee would like to ask if anyone can offer their help with the organisation, either in the run up or on the day. This would be greatly appreciated. We also have a specific need for someone with Project Management experience and also electrical and technical drawing skills.



RECENT FESTIVAL GRANTS

This year the Festival has awarded the following grants to local organisations:

- £200 Phillimore Court residents' Christmas lunch.
- £500 to So Theatre, a local dance group, for costumes.
- £200 to cover the cost of Community transport for 14 pensioners from Phillimore Centre to go on a Christmas trip to Wickstead Park.
- £500 to Radlett & District U3A to purchase a projector for presentations.
- £1500 to provide two picnic tables and seats to go alongside the proposed café in the children's area at the Phillimore Recreation Grounds.

Any further application for funds for organisations with the Parish of Aldenham should be made to Viv Charrett (viv@charrett.com)

Viv Charrett

Tabard Rugby Football Club



Tabard Rugby Football Club has had its home in Radlett for over 50 years at the King George V playing fields, off Cobden Hill. Anyone who has been to the ground on a winter Sunday morning, where there are up to 250 youngsters from the age of five upwards training or playing rugby, will know that Tabard features prominently in the community. Although the youngsters are very important to the club and are where the future lies, there are also very strong men's senior sides and a senior women's team as well.

The senior men have known success at all levels. Playing on Saturday afternoons, Tabard are currently top of their league and they have also won the Hertfordshire County Cup 11 times, more than any other Herts side.

With successful women's teams and the youngsters, both male and female, providing teams all the way through to the Colts (18 years of age) and an under 23 team, Tabard is basing its future on home grown players as well as those coming to the club by other means. The club has excellent facilities, as can be seen by a quick visit to Cobden Hill, with two full size pitches (one floodlit), mini



pitches and a clubhouse with excellent facilities.

The Senior men train on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and the women on Wednesday evenings.

Full details can be found at www.tabardrfc.com or contact Peter Cook 0208 207 5564.

Sure Start Children's Centres

Calling all Families with au pairs and nannies in Aldenham & Radlett.



Several au pairs in Radlett recently attended some free training provided by Aldenham & Radlett Children's Centre. This training was specifically for au pairs and nannies in the area and gave them the skills they needed to safely care for children in their charge.

Two training courses were provided; one course was 'Save Life, Emergency First Aid'. This course teaches techniques such as how to save a baby or child's life; it gives the opportunity to practice

baby and child CPR and baby and child choking, plus there is lots of relevant information burns, cuts, head injuries etc. The other course we provided was 'Personal Safety' and covered such topics as doorstep discipline, safety of personal belongings, when to call 999 etc. This was delivered by the local PCSOs.

Would you like peace of mind in knowing that your au pair/nanny is skilled and confident in caring for your children? You can help them to acquire the skills they need to safely care for your child by ensuring they attend more of these free courses provided by Radlett Children's Centre. The courses they are able to access include: 'Keeping themselves and your children safe'.

'Save a Life First Aid' 'Fun with Stories' 'Rhythm & Rhyme'.

As well as these bookable courses your au pairs and nannies are welcome to attend all the universal sessions we offer in Radlett such as Play & Stay and Creative Play. A copy of the full programme of all our sessions can be found on the Children's Centre website at: www.hertsmere-leisure.co.uk.

If you would like any further information or would like to register your interest in your au pair or nanny attending any of the bookable courses then please call the Children's Centre staff on 01923 673698. www.hertsmere-children.co.uk



2nd Radlett Guides

On Saturday 10 November, members of 2nd Radlett Guides arrived at Buckingham Palace to complete the final stage of the Jubilee Greenway Walk.

5 Guides and 4 leaders, plus a Brownie and 2 Scouts completed the 60km walk which they split into 6 stages over the year as a challenge to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year.

The Guides really enjoyed seeing the sights of London, especially the Olympic Park and the Orbit on the first stage they walked and the entertainers by Jubilee Gardens on the final stage. Everyone learned lots about London and its buildings, parks and history as they walked along the bank of the Thames, as well as under it through the foot tunnels and over it on bridges.

When they arrived at Buckingham Palace they were delighted to receive their Walk London certificates marking completion of the entire 60km route.

Leaders: Susie, Lesley, Julia and Anita Guides, Brownies and Scouts: Sam, Laura, Ben, Katie, Kieran, Emily, Poppy and Annabel.

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The Trenches

The area known locally as 'The Trenches' was sited at the rear of The Warren towards Porters Park Golf Club and approached by Park Avenue. Cottages either side of Park Avenue were occupied by local farm workers and those employed at Aldenham Lodge Hotel. Today, the cottages have been demolished and houses now stand either side of the road. The area was not used as actual trenches but as a training ground for soldiers who were destined for the front line in World War I during the 1914-1918 conflict.

The information for this article was gathered from Mrs Edie Oakley, now in her early nineties. She remembers her late husband Laurie's father, who worked at Aldenham Lodge Hotel and lived in one of the cottages in Park Avenue, telling stories of how the Oakley family often entertained soldiers, who were being trained in trench warfare, by giving them tea and playing 'Brag' (a popular card game at the time).

In the 1920's, Edie also remembers going to The Trenches with her aunt and sister to gather blackberries and latterly, when she joined the Girl Guides, building camp fires there.

Edie writes 'My mother and her sister came to Radlett in 1912, my father was in the army, in the Royal Scots Fusiliers, he enlisted in 1909. He served through the wars years in the trenches in terrible conditions. He never talked about those years. However, I do remember him saying that whilst serving in the Battle of the Somme, "I went over the top with Winston Churchill"; they were in the same regiment. He was awarded the DCM when his officer was injured and he led soldiers in his regiment to safety. He was a prisoner of war for a short while but I do not know the dates. In 1915 he became a Warrant Officer Class II. He was discharged in 1921. He started the Radlett and Aldenham British Legion and received 'The Colours' from Major A M Sassoon, who at the time owned Piccotts Manor, now known as the Bhaktivedanta Manor in Letchmore Heath'.



Warrant Officer Charles Goble in 1914 (picture courtesy of Mrs Edith Oakley)

In those days, workers such as Charles Goble received no sick pay from their employers and social service payments were unheard of. As a result many villages and towns started their own 'pay-in clubs'. Charles Goble created the Slate and Loan Club at The Railway Inn (now Prezzo). Each person wishing to join, would sign up and pay a weekly sum. This enabled them to draw sick payments and receive a loan if required.

Other 'locally known' areas given unofficial names include: 'Marble Arch', the road at the bottom of The Avenue leading to Watling Street, at one time it was a single track road under the railway bridge and was closed off in the 1980's re-directing the route to The Avenue and The Heath via Beech Avenue. 'The Shute' or 'The Slips' is the pathway from The Cross Path (opp Scrubbits Park Road) down to Aldenham Road. 'Dogger's Alley' is the pathway from the bottom of 'The Shute/The Slips' to Aldenham Avenue (behind Slade Court, the Post Office and the Red House).

Are there any other 'local names' you are aware of? Contact APCComms@aldenham.org.uk or Aldenham Parish Council on 01923 856433

Pot Holes

The pot holes in and around Radlett, are getting worse and seem to be an on-going problem. The photo below shows a large pot hole at the top of Gills Hill.

Hertfordshire Highways welcomes reports from residents about pot holes in their neighbourhood. To report, or to follow, the progress of a pothole repair go to www.hertfordshirehighways.com. It is helpful to give the full address of the nearest property to the pothole concerned including post code if possible. Measure the size of the pothole particularly the depth.

Potholes are dangerous for cars but more importantly it leaves cyclists and motorcyclists vulnerable to accidents, so if you ride a bike please protect yourself and wear a helmet.



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Radlett Rotary Five Fields Fun Runs & BBQ

Monday 6 May 2013 (May Day) – 1.5 km & 5 km



This year's fun run will take place on the May Day Bank Holiday Monday 6 May. Once again, the sponsor for this event will be local chartered accountants, Nagler Simmons, without whose support this wouldn't take place.

All entry fees will go to Rotary charities as usual, and as last year, we hope you can also help raise sponsorship for our associated charity, Crohn's and Colitis UK. This is a Herts-based charity which supports people affected by these devastating bowel conditions, and which also funds vital research. More information is available at www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk

There will be two events, making it open to absolutely everyone. There will be a shorter run of 1.5 km starting at 10.00 am for anyone under the age of 11, followed by the 5 km event for those aged 7 & over, starting at 10.30 am. For very young children in the 1.5km event, we would request that a parent accompanies them.

Both runs will start from the Tabard Rugby Club grounds, off Cobden Hill,

and will be totally off-road. The runs will start from the rugby club grounds and involve running through the 2 adjacent cricket club grounds, the Rose Field and also Salters Field, making five fields in total – hence the name!

Please come and join in, no matter your running level or fitness, and put this date in your diary now. It will be fun and has been designed for everyone - seasoned runners, regular and occasional joggers, and also for novices. The cost is £6 for the 5k event and £4 for the shorter run. There will be medals for all finishers, as well as trophies for the winners and for the winning team in the 5km event.

If you have never run before, then for either race we recommend that you do at least a couple of practice runs just to get yourself in the mood and to give yourself an extra sporting chance. So put on your running shoes and start practising. We look forward to seeing you there!

There will be a BBQ for you to enjoy, so please don't rush off after the event.

Following the Fun Run during the afternoon at Radlett Cricket Club, Middlesex County Cricket Club 2nd XI will be playing a One Day Trophy Competition Match against Sussex CCC 2nd XI starting at 1.00pm. Entrance to the ground is free and all runners and spectators will be welcome to come and watch some professional cricket and to use the pavilion for refreshments. Radlett is now the ground used by Middlesex CCC for the majority of their 2nd XI one-Day and three -Day matches.

Entry forms for the fun runs will be available from various places, including the Parish Office, or can be downloaded from www.naglersimmons.co.uk. Alternatively, email simon.pyzer@btinternet.com (or ring on 01923 854978).

Also for your diaries, on Bank Holiday Monday 27 May, Radlett are hosting the Middlesex 1st XI CB40 One-Day match against Yorkshire 1st XI, with a number of England international players on show.

2012 The wettest year on record

It's official, in 1910 rainfall figures were first recorded and 2012 has gone down as the wettest year in history but still we had months of a hosepipe ban.

Affinity Water, formerly Veolia, have reported that the high levels of rainfall in the Autumn/Winter period of 2012/2013 have meant that the groundwater levels are now approaching record highs for this time of year and it is not anticipated that water restrictions will be introduced in 2013.

An Affinity Water Asset Specialist said 'Even though there is now plenty of water everyone should be mindful that water is a precious source'. He added 'customers use on average 166 litres

of top quality drinking water per person per day. If each person reduced their consumption by five litres per day this would make a huge impact on the amount of water available; leaving the tap running while brushing your teeth wastes over six litres per minute'.

What can every household do to save water? Water your garden with rainwater from water butts, they fill up amazingly quickly after a down pour, buy them from www.getcomposting.com or www.affinitywater.co.uk/savewater. Educate your children/grandchildren not to run taps, keep a jug of cold water in the fridge for drinks, encourage children, and of course adults, to brush their



teeth by using a beaker full of water only, here's how, 'you need one plastic beaker, a toothbrush and some toothpaste - fill the beaker with water, wet the toothbrush, brush teeth, rinse teeth from beaker, rinse toothbrush from beaker, throw water away' - only half a pint or 10 fl ozs of water used!

For more information on water efficiency and to claim water efficiency devices go to www.affinitywater.co.uk/efficiency.

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