



SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

www.seergreenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Our Newsletter is delivered twice a year to all Seer Green households. We also regularly post information on our Notice Board opposite Lamb's Newsagents and on our website.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

At 10pm on Monday 4th August, well over 100 villagers attended a candlelit service at the War Memorial to remember the 100th anniversary of the declaration of the First World War and to honour those from our village who gave their lives in that war. This service, organised by the Parish Council and the village churches, was part of the national campaign, "Lights Out", to commemorate this event. It was a moving short service, and many retired later to the Jolly Cricketers which was lit by candles and showed the national service from Westminster Abbey, with the candles being dimmed at 11pm.

On Sunday 9th November there will be the annual Remembrance Day service in the village, again organised by the two churches, and we would encourage as many villagers as possible to attend. The service will commence at the Jubilee Hall at 10am (concluding at about 10.40am) and will be followed by a procession to the War

Memorial where the act of remembrance will take place at 11am. Arrangements have been made for



School Lane to be closed from 10.30am until 11.30am to allow the procession and service to take place in peace. **Please remember that no traffic will be allowed in School Lane during that time.**

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION RESULTS

As Seer Green won the DeFraine cup last year, the village was entered for the Tindall Cup which only the previous year's winners are eligible for. Unfortunately Seer Green did not win but received 85 points out of a possible 100 and a 'highly commended' certificate.

These are the judges' comments for Seer Green:- *"The local shops were generally tidy and there was a nice feature of a dog bowl outside the dog grooming shop. There was some litter around which spoilt the area. The Jolly Cricketers had a nice show of flowers.*

The Holy Trinity Church looked good and the graveyard was well maintained, the cemetery was excellent and an example to all. The new War Memorial was clean and tidy. It was a shame that chains prevented people from driving in the entrance of the cemetery as parking on

the road is not ideal. The Baptist Church was tidy and litter free. The Green Meadow playground and play facilities are well maintained and litter free and the Jubilee Hall was obviously well used. The Recreation Ground is well maintained and was in use during our visit. It was good to see the Union flag flying at the Scout Hut. Long Grove Wood is a great facility for the village and obviously well used. The Jubilee Walk was nice and would benefit by having some seats."

The organisers of the competition congratulated everyone involved for maintaining such a well kept village.

For information: Chains were installed at the cemetery entrances to prevent non-cemetery parking and are easily removed by those wishing to visit cemetery.

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARD 2014

For the last three years the Parish Council has presented a small award to recognise the person, judged by the Chairman, as having made a significant contribution to the village community.

Several very worthy nominations were received this year, and after much consideration the Chairman decided that the award should go to **Charlotte Baggins** in recognition of her work to bring the community together.



Charlotte Baggins being presented with the award by Chairman Dennis Scourfield



Charlotte with Ruth Samuel

Charlotte was nominated by Seer Green resident Ruth Samuel who wrote "*Charlotte works hard to bring our community together. She helps organise social events like the Spring and Autumn shows, and she actively encourages residents to join quiz nights and other social events.*"

Charlotte was presented with the award, during Seer Green Gardeners' plant sale.

THANK YOU PERKIN ELMER

Earlier this year the Facilities Manager at Perkin Elmer contacted the Parish Council about their company's Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

He wrote that their company prides itself on its social responsibility and each year they undertake a day's giving. This entails each employee, where practicable, giving up one day of work to support the local community with their labour. This has seen employees working for the National Trust clearing footpaths and streams or



painting fences, rooms for schools, scouts, community centres, etc.

For two days this year, Perkin Elmer employees have helped to clear and improve the Recreation Ground. They have cleared a large section of undergrowth around the cricket nets and have also painted the fences. The reclaimed area has provided much more space and our thanks go to all of the staff who helped improve it.

THE GREEN MEADOW CAMPAIGN

One of the Parish Council's ongoing projects is the revitalisation and development of Green Meadow into a safe and aesthetically pleasing area, offering a diverse range of equipment and facilities that can be shared by children, their parents, grandparents and the whole community.

With the development and rationalisation of the toddler area and the recent addition of picnic tables at the top end and the attractive circular bench around the tree in the middle now complete, we are commencing the final phase of the project; namely the purchase of items of play equipment suitable for children aged 7+.

Since this is likely to be the most costly phase of the project and the Parish Council has limited funds available to allocate to it, grant aid will need to be sought. Companies offering such funding require proof that what they will be helping provide is something that is required and will benefit the community, usually involving some



New tree seat in Green Meadow

form of survey and we decided who better to help us than the users themselves. Accordingly, in July we enlisted the services of the children from Seer Green School Years, 6, 5, 4 and 3 who produced drawings and, in the case of Years 5 and 6, detailed, scaled models of equipment and recording of interviews about what they would most enjoy playing on in Green Meadow.



Our next step is to agree what pieces of equipment to purchase, get costings from suppliers and, armed with our latest survey, get busy applying for grants. We are also considering a path across the meadow to provide a safer route to school and to relieve some of the congestion on the pavement. We have obtained financial assistance should this go ahead. By the time you read this, we hope to have completed a survey to ascertain how popular this might be and therefore we await developments.

In the meantime, we hope that everyone is enjoying using the new equipment that arrived in Green Meadow last November.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER

The South Central Ambulance Service have asked if there are any volunteers in the village who would consider being a Community First Responder in Seer Green.

"If you are interested, you will be:

- Aiding us to help save lives.
- Helping people in your community.
- Benefiting from essential lifesaving skills."

Community First Responders (CFRs) use lifesaving skills, such as the use of the automated external defibrillator (AED), to provide early and often vital intervention for patients suffering life-threatening emergencies in the immediate vicinity of where they live or work.

Once an ambulance crew arrives at the scene, CFRs work alongside a clinically qualified practitioner.

If you are physically fit, (you need to be able to comfortably carry a medium sized response bag and perform CPR at the patient's side until the ambulance arrives and is able to take over) aged 18 years or over, hold a full UK current driving licence, have access to a car and can spare some time (approx 20 hours per month) to help those in need then you could be eligible to join the Community First Responders scheme.

In order to be a qualified volunteer you must attend a training course. For more information either email cfr@scas.nhs.uk or call on 0800 587 0207.

NEW COUNCILLOR - TIM NORTON

I have lived in Seer Green with my wife for 31 years. Our two children attended Seer Green School and I helped along the way with PTA functions and Cubs football. I was also involved with coaching at Beaconsfield Cricket Club.

Now that I have retired from a career in Air Traffic Control, I am able to enjoy my hobbies of cycling and golf. I am also a member of Seer Green Singers.

I now feel I'm in a position to contribute further to the community and I see participating on the Parish Council as a real opportunity to do this.



AROUND THE PARISH...

DOG FOULING

Unfortunately the summer has seen an increase in the amount of dog fouling at the Recreation Ground. This is not only unsightly but anti-social and a serious health hazard for the sports teams and other users of the area. Bins are provided so please be a responsible owner/dogwalker and clean up after your dog. It is the law.

OPEN GARDENS

On June 29, 10 gardens opened their gates to the public to raise money for the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance. It was the first time the village as a whole had hosted an Open Gardens event. The 10 sites were spread throughout the village, and ranged from a small family garden to a 3.5 acre garden, a floral garden, the school spiritual garden, Seer Green allotments and the Seer Green vineyard. With no idea how many people would visit on the day, the Air Ambulance suggested it might get up to 150 people. The actual number was 355! Congratulations to Seer Green Gardeners who organised the event and raised £2,500 for the Air Ambulance.



NEW WOODLAND PATH AT SCHOOL

The village school has in its grounds part of the Long Grove Wood. A pathway has now been created in the school part of the woodland to enable school children (and staff) to enjoy the variety of trees and wild flowers. This will be an important educational resource.

This section of the wood is private but if you have a genuine interest in visiting the woodland please contact the Seer Green CE School office on 01494 676344.



SEER GREEN PARISH CLERK

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