

ADLESTROP EXPRESS

Issue 2 - February 2007

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Events:

March

19th Parish Meeting 7.30pm

24th Annual Litter Pick
10am

24th Church Cleaning 2.00-
4.00pm

27th Annual Church Meeting
7.30pm

28th Lent Lunch 12.30 -
2pm

April

TBA Jinnie Holts Daffodils &
teas

8th Easter Curch Service -
easter egg hunt

14th PCC Open Village
Meeting 10.00am Village
Hall

19th Village Hall AGM

21st 'We Will Rock You'

Adlestrop Residents Association

Welcome

Welcome to the second edition, and the first for 2007, of the 'Adlestrop Express'

For such a small village as Adlestrop, it is amazing how much goes on that has the effect of bringing the community together.

Perhaps that is partly

to do with the fact that we have a 'Residents Association', or is it due to it being a very small village where just about everyone knows each other on first name terms? Whatever the reason, Adlestrop remains unique for its character and sense of community that make it a very desirable place to live, (and where else is there that has a world renowned poem immortalising it's now disused railway station?) That was certainly a reason for Carole and Ernest Johnson choosing to buy Leigh Cottage. We will be welcoming them as new neighbours and residents when they move in sometime in the summer once the building and alteration works have been completed.

A diary of events is currently being planned for the year. The main event will be the 'Village Open Day' that was so successful last year. Thanks to the efforts of just about everybody, nearly £2000 was raised for the Church, Village Hall and our chosen charity, 'The Villager Bus'. A new committee under the chairmanship of Sue Main is being formed to run this year's event. It is a great opportunity for people to get involved with village life and get to know each other a little better, so if you would like to contribute your time and talent to this good cause, please contact Sue on 658675.

This year it is hoped that the Village Hall will have been successful in applying for grant funding to build an extension to the kitchen at the Village Hall. Much work has been done by the Village Hall committee in preparing a business plan to support the financing. A key principle to the plan is that the Village Hall must be a viable venue that can support itself financially once the extension has been completed. This will require commitment and effort, not only by the committee led by Ralph, but from the whole village. So please be generous with your time and money to help keep the hall as a focal point for the many things that happen in this village.



Roger Turner, Chairman Residents Association

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Future Dates

9th May Residents Association AGM

21st May Parish Meeting AGM (to be confirmed)

17th June Gardens Open Day

8th September Historic Churches sponsored walk & bike ride

23rd September Harvest Supper

Congratulations

Congratulations to David & Fran on the news of their wedding. We wish them both a happy future together

Quiz Night - 19th January 2007

The annual quiz night was another success. A winning combination of Dewar, Edwards & de Brule (mainly Dewar) won this year as Geoff & Victoria were unable to compete because they had set the questions. Thanks to Geoff & Victoria and to Richard for acting as quizmaster. The quiz made £82.50 for the village hall.

News from the Parish

Vacancy - Chairman & Vice Chairman

The next Parish Meeting is held on **Monday 19th March at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall. This is the last meeting before the AGM where there is a vacancy for Chairman & Vice Chairman. Please could I have any nominations with the persons consent by the beginning of May. The role of the meeting is to liaise with both the district and county council to help improve local services. The planning process whereby the Parish has fourteen days to comment/object to planning proposals is fundamental in keeping the village unspoilt whilst permitting sensitive improvements to properties which enhance peoples lives. Although there should be consultation within the Residents Association and the estate before planning permission is sought from the District Council, the careful checking of the actual planning application is vital to ensure that any future planning proposals fit into the amenity of the village. The 'transport collection' near Station Cottage is a prime example of a planning application that had no conditions placed on it thereby allowing the applicant to use the site as he is doing without any redress. Please let me know if there are any items that you would like to see on the agenda

Julia Edwards, Parish Chairman

News from the stables

The frustrating winter continues for Adlestrop Stables. Many of the fancied horses have been placed without winning whilst the younger ones continue to mature with the hope of running in the spring. An old favourite in the stables, Chopneyev has carried the flag by winning twice, once at Hereford and once at Huntingdon. The application of blinkers has made him concentrate and bring him back to something like his old form.

The ups and downs of racing were proven by the sad death of Piano Player who unfortunately fell at the last hurdle at Warwick and had a horse land on his shoulder. The injury meant that the horse had to be put down and brought about the end of a promising career. However fortunes changed for owner Steve Jenkins and Fran Colling when King Jack, a horse they have a share in, made an impressive winning debut at Folkestone. The young staff at Adlestrop continue to show character and we were all delighted that three of them were nominated for stable staff awards of the year with PA Jo Saunders reaching the final three of the Special Merit award. This year the yard will not have many runners at the Cheltenham Festival as many of the stable's young horses are on the young side to compete there yet. However it is hoped that the stable's fortunes will change as the ground dries up in March and April as this suits many of the stable's incumbents. Our small but select flat string have now come back into work after a winters break and this year it will comprise of about a dozen horses including five two year olds. All three of Adlestrop Stable's two year olds won last year and all are looking forward to keeping up the fine record Adlestrop has with it's flat horses.

Richard Phillips, Adlestrop Stables

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Weddings

We have 2 weddings in Adlestrop to look forward to this year. Zelig's niece, Camilla Fraser, is getting married here on 31 March and David Regan & Fran Ashley are due to get married on 1 September.

Annual Church Meeting

This is on Tuesday 27 March at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Daffodils & teas

Jinnie Holt will be running her popular annual Daffodils & Teas at Reality House in aid of the Church. This will be towards the end of March or in early April

Easter

Church in Adlestrop on Easter Day (8 April) is 0930. We will keep it fairly light and simple with a view to it being suitable for old and young alike. We hope to repeat last year's Easter egg hunt for the children immediately after the service.

News from the Church

Thank You

Christmas seems a long time ago but this is the first opportunity to record a formal thank you to everyone who contributed to the decoration of the Church and also to extend a particular thank you to Jeremy & Sue Main for hosting the party after the Carol Service and to record the thanks of the carol singers to Jinnie Holt for them with mulled wine & sausages at Reality House after the carol singing. £125 was collected at the carol singing for Macmillan Cancer Support. Two other thank yous which also go back some time (but relate to events since the last issue of Adlestrop Express):- * to the Price family, and in particular Dorothy Price, for their annual gift of the wreath for the Remembrance memorial in the Church. * to Richard Phillips for allowing us to visit the stables back in November - with particular thank yous to Richard and his staff for making us so welcome, to Richard for kindly agreeing that donations should go to the Church (we raised £80 net of expenses) and to everyone who came for their support and generosity.

Church Cleaning

We have decided to arrange a day for Spring Cleaning of the Church. Many other parishes do this on an annual basis. This has been set for 2.00-4.00pm on Saturday 24 March. It is hoped that it will be fun to get together with the opportunity also for convivial chatter! Please come along armed only with dusters and polish. We will provide everything else. Come for the 2 hours or just drop in for whatever time you can spare. We will finish up with a nice tea for those who last the course. Please book in with Jinnie (658306) or Anne (658428).

Lent Lunch

Every year we have 4 lunches during Lent in different parishes throughout the Benefice. Jinnie Holt is hosting one of these lunches at Reality House on 28 March. The title is a slight misnomer - not a fast as might be expected during Lent but a simple and delicious lunch of soup, bread, cheese and fruit. Those attending are requested to give donations which, after payment of costs, go to charity. This year the nominated charity is Douglas House Hospice in Oxford which is twinned with Helen House Hospice (which has recently featured on BBC2); Douglas House provides hospice care specifically for teenagers and young adults. An opportunity for a convivial lunch for a worthwhile cause. Do please come and support Jinnie.

PCC Open Village Meeting

We are convening a village meeting to discuss various issues which concern the village as a whole (not just those who go to church). The subjects to be discussed include:- * Church bells : it may be recalled that the possible restoration of the bells was raised a few years ago. It has been on the back burner. We need to consider as a community whether we can restore the bells and whether this is feasible. * Graveyard : we need to discuss the lack of space in the churchyard for burial. This should concern the village as a whole since anyone resident in the parish has the right to be buried in the churchyard subject to there being available space. We will shortly reach the point where we run out of space. * The role of the church in the community and how we are going to be able to maintain it in the years ahead. We will circulate a letter inviting everyone to the meeting and with further information. It will be at 1000 in the Village Hall. The meeting will conclude by 1200 at the latest (it has already been pointed out by the racing aficionados among us that it is Grand National Day and whilst the race is not until much later in the afternoon there are those who will wish to watch all the preliminaries!

Lakes Update

The silt extracted from the lakes is to be spread across the paddocks and re-seeded. This has been scheduled for March. Justin Whitfield has machinery and labour commencing this work on the 12th March and it is anticipated to last for about a month. With having labour and machinery on site, and in an effort to complete the works as quickly as possible, it is intended that work will take place throughout the week including weekends.

Annual Litter Pick

This cleaning operation has the aim of picking up all the litter that has accumulated in the verges and ditches around the village. Volunteers should gather in the village hall car park at 10:00. Bags and Gloves will be provided.

News from Residents Association

The first meeting of the year of the Adlestrop Residents Association took place on Monday 12th February and was very well attended. We had the opportunity to meet and welcome to the village Carole and Ernest Johnson who have purchased Leigh Cottage and plan to move in later this summer once proposed alterations have been completed.

The Chairman reported on a biannual meeting that committee members had with David Surtees Dawson, the surveyor for the estate, at the beginning of December. Various matters of maintenance that concern the residents in the village were raised, including a number of tree related maintenance tasks that the estate will be looking into in the future. One particular topic concerned the clearing of vegetation that obstructs access to footpaths, and it was agreed that villagers should be encouraged to report any excessive overgrowth to the ARA in order that as a community we can work with the estate to maintain public rights of way to a reasonable standard. This will be reviewed at future Residents meetings. Through the ARA, a question has been asked 'would it be possible for the residents to plant trees to commemorate an event such as a public anniversary or remember the birth or death of people related to villagers?' Discussions that followed identified some of the problems that would concern future maintenance and the responsibilities that would be involved with this, but DSD has offered to discuss this with the trustees of the estate at a future meeting.

At the meeting it was agreed that the village would hold an **Open Day** to raise money for local good causes as usual. The date set was **Sunday 17th June**. A committee to organise the event will be co-opted by the Village Hall Committee who take responsibility for the day, and Sue Main has been confirmed as the committee's chairperson for this year. If anybody would like to get involved with this event, please contact Sue on 658675.

Finally, the matter of being aware of neighbours and friends in the village who may become ill and need help that was raised at the October 2006 meeting and has resulted in the **Community Care Scheme** was confirmed. The first step to implementing this was to produce an up to date village directory (with the approval of those to be included) to act as a contact reference and this has now been produced. As a community, we now have to consider how to go forward.

It has been pointed out that the Church also has a pastoral care programme, whereby a person is appointed to bring the necessary help together when needed. In the case of Adlestrop, that person is **Anne Brooks** who can be contacted on **658428**. Additionally, the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council has set in motion an initiative to appoint 'Village Agents' whose job it is to work with local communities to offer advice and help when it is needed. This will involve identifying the authorities who can provide help with services, funding and specialist needs when necessary. The agent for this village is **Jenny Simpson** from Broadwell.

This really demonstrates that there is plenty of help available for people in need, but there is a danger that we may all believe that someone else is taking care of matters when in fact no one has been given responsibility. So perhaps we should all maintain vigilance and make sure that if a neighbour has not been seen or heard of for a while, that someone has investigated and checked that all is well, and if not, then help is available from an appropriate source.

Roger Turner, Chairman Residents Association

Post Office

Monday 4 - 5 pm

Thursday 9 - 30 - 12 - 30pm

Thursday 4- 5pm

Friday 4 - 5pm

News from the Village Hall

Planning permission for the new extension has been granted from Cotswold District Council. The final builders quote should be arriving very soon. This is needed for the grant applications because the criteria for these grants asks for three tenders. A builder who wished to quote decided in the New Year to change his mind and this meant I had to find another builder consequently the process has taken longer than anticipated.

We were unfortunate in losing our Social Services group on Fridays because of their rethink on funding this group therefore we lost our income of £100 a month. We decided to try and re-coup this money by organising a Lottery based on the National Lottery bonus ball.

The response to this idea was truly amazing from villagers wanting to help the hall in this way and the committee would like to thank you all for supporting us, you all obviously feel very positive about the future of the hall which is excellent.

The winner of the first draw was No 8; John DeCani.

Ralph Price, Chairman Adlestrop Village Hall

Leigh Cottage

Carole & Ernest Johnson would like to introduce themselves:

We have two children - Philip married with three children living in Somerset and Kate unmarried and living in London. We have lived in Staffordshire, Norfolk and Australia. Carole is very interested in the Arts, music, reading, gardening and likes to play tennis regularly; Ernest (normally called Erno) is happy to be retired after setting up and selling his own business, loves horses where if not at home can be found feeding carrots to Richard's lovely horses. We spent some 18 months trying to find a village and a cottage in the Cotswolds until we found both in Adlestrop. Since then we have come to realise just how lucky we have been. Adlestrop is not only a very pretty and unspoilt village but just as important it has a most friendly community to which we want to fully contribute. We are very grateful to Nick, Roger, Stuart (and Margaret with her flap jacks!) and Douglas for their help in the lease and enfranchisement and to our neighbours Anne (whom we promise not to smoke out again) and John & Judith. We are seeking planning permission to remove the conservatory and replace with a kitchen in a style sympathetic to the village with a marginal increase in square footage. We hope to take up residence by September, in the meantime we are living in Broadwell (01451 832127).

Two Goodbyes

We have said goodbye to two old friends at funerals in January & February. Kenneth Harington who lived to the ripe old age of 95 died on 13 January and his funeral took place on 26 January. He was married to Maureen nee McCalmont who lived at both Adlestrop Park and Adlestrop House as a child. They lived in Oddington for some years before Kenneth moved after Maureen's death to live with his son and family at Great Rissington. Kenneth continued to worship at Adlestrop with his family until ill health intervened. Nell Collins also lived to a good age (92). She died on 29 January and her funeral took place on 14 February. She was married to Josh and they were Anne Brooks' predecessors at Vine Cottage in the 1970s and early 1980s when Nell was very active in village life. Sadly, Josh died in the 1970s so Nell lived for many years as a widow. All 3 of their daughters were married at Adlestrop - to the accompaniment of the bells in those days!

Nicholas Mason

Adlestrop Express

This is the second issue of a quarterly round-up of news and events in Adlestrop. Please submit any news, views or items of interest to Martin & Julia Edwards
Julia@canonbury.co.uk
01608 659396. **Deadline for next issue is 4th May 2007**

In this issue articles have been presented without any editing and as written by their authors. Therefore we cannot accept responsibility for any inaccuracies and as such comments should be addressed to the article authors.

Join us

Some of you are aware Adlestrop has a Residents Association which meets at regular intervals during the year. **All** residents of the village are invited to join this association for a fee of £1 per person. This association is for **you**.

The Association and the meetings are a way of airing your views and listening to views of others concerning village life, plans for the village and views and plans of the estate management.

I am the committee member for the **tenants** of the village - those of you who rent your property. If you have any points you wish to bring to the notice of the committee let me know. You must understand that not all problems are the responsibility of the committee but we can give guidance as to what is covered. Those who have joined but not yet attended a meeting why not come along to the next meeting on to get some idea of what happens. It is the opportunity to air views and listen to others views. If you have not joined and would like to attend contact me and I will let you how to enrol.

George Hill, Committee member Residents Association

A message from Nicholas & Zelig Mason

We are having a party for Archie & Catriona on Sunday 1 April. This may go on rather late into the night - among that age group this seems to be regarded as one of the essential ingredients for a successful party! It is appreciated that a Sunday evening (prior to a working day) may not be the ideal choice but the date is determined by the wedding of Zelig's niece on the preceding day - we are making use of the marquee! We hope that we are sufficiently isolated that no one will be unduly disturbed and that you will bear with us on this special occasion. If anyone is concerned or wishes to know more please let us know! **Nicholas & Zelig Mason**

Let it snow!, Let it snow!, Let it snow!

An impromptu day off was enjoyed by many in the village - many of who could be spotted tobogganing down Main Street or walking to the Fox.

