

Coopersale Chronicle

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A Guide to What's On in Coopersale
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Thank You

The villagers who live in Coopersale would like to thank the following public houses for their generous gifts of two free lunches to be given as raffle prizes at the dances on New Year's Eve and Valentine's Day.

We are truly grateful to John and Sheila Paget at the **Theydon Oak**, Darren at **The Merry Fiddlers**, Mick at **The Garnon Bushes** and Dave and Jean at **The Moletrap**. The winners of these prizes were highly delighted and the money raised goes towards improving the facilities at the Institute Hall which is improving year on year.

ST MARK'S GOSPEL

There will be a reading of St Mark's Gospel by Brian Milne in St Alban's Church, on Saturday April 8th at 7.30pm.

Admission is free although there will be a Retiring Collection. Wine will be available during the interval.

Chair Fund

Following our recent improvements to the hall, we now want to replace the existing chairs. New chairs will cost about £10 each so we need to raise about £1000. We plan to raise funds for this project this year and get the new chairs early next year. We will be looking for grants from the Town and District councils as well as organising several fund raising functions. We hope that as many residents of the village as possible and other regular users of the hall will help by making donations to the chair fund. If you are a taxpayer and are willing to sign a gift aid certificate, you could get 5 chairs for the cost of 4.

Contact Chris on 572568 to contribute.

Race Night

Do you fancy a flutter? The Institute Committee is hoping to arrange a Race Night, provisionally on 29th April. For details of an evening out with a difference, contact Dave or Tina on 578521 or look out for posters nearer the time.

Look Out – There are Thieves About

There have been several burglaries from garden sheds in the village recently. Please make sure your sheds are secure and report suspicious activity to the police.

Hall Fees Increased

Our expenses for running the hall have increased quite dramatically in recent years. The hall is classed as a business and as a result our gas bill has increased dramatically; it is now 50% more than 15 months ago and our annual bill will probably be about £1,800. The cost of insurance has nearly doubled and there have also been large increases in the charges we have to pay for rubbish disposal, which is not covered by the council tax that we pay. As a result the committee has decided to increase the fees for hiring the hall to £10 per hour during the week and £12 per hour at weekends (including Friday evening).

If you would like to hire the hall please contact Chris on 572568.

What's On at the Institute?

Pre School	Every weekday in term time from 9 am to 12 noon. Contact: Cathy Kemp, Tel: 01992 571101
Brownies	Meet every Wednesday (term time only) from 6.30pm to 8.00pm Contact: Mary Gill Tel: 01992 813253
Group 2000	Meet 3 rd Wed every month from 8 pm to 10 pm (except August) Contact: Mrs Rosemary Willis Tel: 01992 575827
Horticultural Society	Meet every month (except Jan & Feb), usually 3 rd Monday, from 8.00pm to 10.00pm Contact: Mrs Tina Keehner, Tel: 01992 578521
Floral Art	Meet 2 nd and 4 th Mon each month (Mar to Nov) from 7.30pm to 10.00pm Contact: Mrs Myra Amos, Tel: 01992 522442
Karate	Meet every Tuesday 4.30 – 5.30, 5.30 – 6.30 & 6.30 – 7.30 pm, and Thursday 5.30 – 6.30 pm. Contact: Lynne Aston, 01992 573666

Family Party

The Institute Committee is hoping to arrange a family party this summer. Ideas being considered include a disco, Bar-B-Q and activities for youngsters. However we need ideas and some willing helpers, preferably parents with young children.

If you can help in any way, even if only with ideas, or selling tickets, please contact Tina on 578521.

Table Top Sale

There will be a Table Top Sale on the 18th March from 9am to 12 noon, sellers can set up from 8am. Tables are only £5 each; to book a table call Tina on 578521.

To pick up a bargain, just turn up any time between 9 and 12, but don't leave it too late or you'll miss the best deals.

Do you enjoy this?

Do you live in Garnon Mead, Chevely Close, the Northern end of Coopersale Common, or anywhere else in the village? Can you help with the distribution of the Chronicle? If so, please ring me on 572568 and let me know .

Chris

Coopersale & Theydon Garnon School

This last half term has been very busy for us at the school. On the 18th January a company called Perform came to work with the Key Stage 1 pupils on a drama workshop. All the children had a fantastic time.

On the 25th January parents of the year 6 pupils were invited to an evening meeting to explain to them how the SAT's were going to be carried out and what the children would be expected to know. Most parents attended and they found it very informative especially when put in the test situation!!

On the 3rd February all the children took part in the RSPB school bird watch. The children carried out a bird survey as well as learning about the birds that they can see in their local environment.

Some of the Key Stage 2 pupils took part in the team cross-country competition. All the children trained every week during the lunchtime. We are delighted to report that the girls in the year 5/6 category came third. Our first cross country success. Another sporting triumph happened when our netball team beat Ivy Chimneys by a large margin.

The school council organised a rainbow day where each class came to school dressed in a different colour. The funds raised are being sent to World Vision to support children in Africa; this was the charity chosen by the children for the year.

The PTA/Friends of Coopersale and Theydon Garnon have run a lot of activities for the children since Christmas. These included a children's bingo night which was a great success and a craft session where the children decorated a bird house. They also financed a visit from the Star Lab which is a mobile planetarium. All the children visited the planetarium and learnt about the constellations. They were absolutely fascinated.

Next half term the PTA/ Friends of Coopersale and Theydon Garnon are planning an Easter bingo session as well as a craft activity linked with Mothering Sunday. Some children are going to County Hall in Chelmsford to put up an exhibition of Key Stage 2 art. There will also be various sporting fixtures and celebrations held near Easter.

If you would like to know more about your local school please come and visit us.

Coopersale Horticultural Society

The next meeting will be on Mon 20th March, when there will be a talk about Flavoured Breads. The evening starts at 7.45pm and costs just £1, inc. refreshments.

There will **not** be a monthly meeting in April, due to the date of Easter; however, the Spring Show will be held on Sat 8th April. There will be prizes for cookery, handicrafts and children's competitions as well as for gardeners. Entry is available to non-members, so why don't you have a go at one of the many classes.

The meeting in May will be on Monday 15th at 8pm. The subject for our talk will be "The Jewels of Royal Families in Europe", starting at 7.45pm. Entry is just £1 and includes refreshments.

Institute AGM

This year's Institute AGM will be held on Wed 26th April at 8.15 pm in the Institute hall.

We would love to see a few new faces at this meeting, which is your chance to find out a little more about the varied activities that take place in the village and to suggest ideas for the type of function which you would.

If you would like to help in a more practical way, why not offer your services as a committee member. Meetings are very friendly and informal and we only meet about four times a year.

If you would like to know more, or wish to stand for election, contact Fiona on 560694 or any member of the committee.

Group 2000

We started the New Year with a Cheese and Wine Party; 14 members attended and we all had a lovely evening catching up with Christmas, holiday and family news.

Our talk on February 14th was Amusing Funeral Stories given by Chris Winter. We were regaled with extremely amusing tales and anecdotes. In fact even before he started his stories we were crying with laughter so, despite the subject, it was a really good evening.

On March 15th we have Jackie Clay coming to give a demonstration of Thai Foot Massage, Swedish Massage and Indian Head Massage. The evening is for "Complete Relaxation" so why not come along and give yourself a treat? The cost is only £2 to include tea and cake.

Rosemary Willis (575827)

RUBBISH

As most of you know, collection of recyclable waste now includes glass, paper, plastic, steel & aluminium cans and garden waste. These items should be placed in blue boxes or clear and white bags, as appropriate, to reduce the amount of rubbish being put into land fill.

Unlike the black bags which are collected every week, recyclable waste is only collected on alternate Wednesdays, the next dates being 8th and 22nd March.

If you put your waste out on the wrong day, please don't leave it on the pavement until the following week, but move it out of the way and put it out again later.