

the Miller's Tale



ARTS FESTIVAL MUSIC AND FUN ON THE FARMHOUSE GREEN



The New Gateway Jazz Band at the Farmhouse

Saturday the 13th July is a date to a note in your diaries, as it promises to be a bit special. The Hiltonbury Farmhouse as part of the Chandlers Ford and Hiltingbury Festival of Music and Arts is to be the venue for The New Gateway Jazz Band. The afternoon of music will be enhanced by a hog roast and a selection of stalls laid on by the North Millers Dale Community Association.

As well as cream tea, sweets and facepainting for the children, tombola, bric-a-brac and raffle the event will see the return of the ever-popular village stocks.

The performance by New Gateway Jazz Band should be an excellent afternoons entertainment as some of

these reviews suggest:

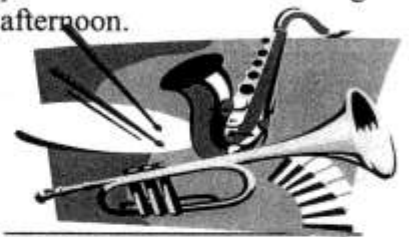
"Successfully re-launched for the millennium, The New Gateway Jazz Band has rapidly become a top jazz attraction in the South of England.

The Band's long history stretches back to the 1960's when it took its name from Southampton's historic road signs that once welcomed visitors to the *Gateway to the Empire*.

Keith Samuel's NEW GATEWAY JAZZ BAND have impressed their fresh style upon local audiences not least at the Tall Ships Race and the Concorde Club. Bill Harvey on trumpet, Roy Sear on reeds, Mountainous Maurice Dennis (aka Harry Strutter) on banjo, Chris Waters - tuba and John Hall on drums.

wider jazz club circuit. The band's first CD *Dixieland Jubilee* was issued to acclaim in early 2002. ("Excellent" - *Just Jazz*)."

So why not come along and support this event, which promises to be a great afternoon.



Inside this Issue

Jazz on the Green	1
Information Board	2
Local Focus	2
Useful Numbers	2
Local Planning	3
Police Message	3
London Coach Trip	4
Kids Corner	6
Coach Club	6
Chandlers Ford Station	7
Easter Convoy	8
AGM	8



Wet and Wilde fun for the recipients of the soaring soggy sponges

Over the last two years the Gateway's distinctive brand of classic jazz has found many new fans at festivals, concerts, on jazz holidays and on the

the Information board



what's on at the community hall?

- Mon:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Rainbows 4.30pm-5.30pm
 Ballet 6.00pm-7.00pm
 Aerobics 8.00pm-9.00pm
- Tue:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Brownies 6.00pm-7.30pm
- Wed:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Brownies 6.00pm-7.30pm
- Thu:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Yoga 7.00pm-8.30pm
- Fri:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm

HALL BOOKINGS:

Contact: Mrs Linda Mandley
 C/o Eastleigh Baptist Church
 Wells Place, Eastleigh, SO5 5LJ
 ☎ 023 80 613210
 between 9.30am-4.30pm weekdays,
 answer-phone at all other times.

Community Hall Keyholder
 Doreen Lewry
 ☎ 023 80 268562

Newsletter team

Phil Heller
 Charles Lewry: editors

Contacts:
 Articles: 023 80265407
 Advertising: 023 80268562

E-mail editor@nmdca.org.uk
 Website www.nmdca.org.uk

Or drop articles into:

8 Weavers Place or
 10 Ashbridge Rise
 North Millers Dale



Welcome to our summer issue of the Millers Tale.

Since our last edition we have had a successful coach trip to London and the new railway service through Chandlers Ford is now up and running.

To look forward to this summer are the musical event at the Farmhouse, a coach trip to Chessington and Wisley and our annual general meeting. It would be heartening to have a good turnout at the AGM, ideally with at least one representative from every street on the estate. By way of encouragement at the end of the meeting there will be, as always, a complementary glass of Pimms.

One of the letters we received was from a Mrs Norman, who expressed concern over the non-appearance of a safe crossing of the railway in Baddesley Road. This is something I can sympathise with as a runner who regularly uses this dangerous route to Valley Park. After communication with the council we have been advised that a pedestrian bridge should be in place by April - May 2004. Watch this space!

Taking of running, by the way, I am running the Chicago Marathon in October to raise money for the Hope and Aid Direct charity, see page 8. If anyone would like to sponsor me please get in touch with Charles at 8 Weavers Place.

Useful Numbers

Instead of thumbing through the Telephone Directory or Yellow pages to find that important number, look no further than the Millers Tale. If you have any suggestions for a useful number that is not included please contact us

Editor Millers Tale Phil 023 8026 5407
 Editor Millers Tale Charles 023 8026 8562

Emergencies

Electricity 0345 708600
 Gas (escapes) 0800 111999
 Police (non urgent) 0845 045 45 45
 Southern Water 01961 714585

Schools

Hiltingbury Infant School 023 8026 5414
 Hiltingbury Junior Scholl 023 8026 1808
 Knightwood Primary 023 8026 1900
 Merton County Junior School 023 8026 5255
 Thornden Secondary School 023 8026 9722
 Toyndee Secondary School 023 8026 9026

Post Office

4 Ashdown Road 023 8025 2791

Local Services

Chandlers Ford Library 023 8026 7393
 Eastleigh Library 023 8061 4646
 Eastleigh Tourist Information 023 8064 1261
 Eastleigh Borough Council 023 8068 8000
 Solent Blue line Buses 023 8033 6235
 Southampton Int Airport 023 8062 0021
 Red Funnel Ships 023 8033 3042
 Railway Enquiries 0845 748 4950

Medical Services

Millers Dale Surgery 023 8026 2488
 Park Surgery, Hursley Road 023 8026 7355
 Boyatt Wood Surgery 023 8047 2126
 Fryern Surgery 023 8027 3252
 Eastleigh Heath Centre 023 8061 2032
 Brownhill Surgery 023 8025 2188
 Southampton General Hospital 023 8077 7222
 Winchester Hospital 01962 863535

Dentists

P R Dodd 157 Hursley Road 023 8026 7141
 M Mansourian 67 Bournemouth Rd 023 8026 7889
 Clover Dental Practice Fleming Rd, N Baddesley 023 8073 8787

se sparks ellison
 Independant Estate Agents

NOW OPEN
25% DISCOUNT

OFF OUR STANDARD
SOLE AGENCY FEE

ON PRODUCTION OF THIS ADVERT
 94 WINCHESTER ROAD
 CHANDLERS FORD

023 8025 5333

Local Developments

The Chandlers Ford and Hiltingbury Local Area Committee met on Wednesday 28 May at the Methodist Church Dovecot Centre and a variety of planning issues were discussed. Below are a few of the local developments that may be of interest to residents of North Millers Dale.

Ashdown Arms/Tabby Cat Development

Planning application has been approved for the Devine Homes development at the location of the former Ashdown Arms Public House. This is planned to be two blocks of flats containing a total of 36 apartments. There is to be parking provided for 47 cars and a cycle storage area. The construction will involve the demolition of the pub, clearance of the original petrol station site and the demolition of the bungalow 186 Hiltingbury Road. Whilst the removal of what now constitutes an eyesore to the area could be seen as a bonus, the long-term effects of yet more traffic to the already overloaded Hiltingbury Road can only be detrimental.

Hiltingbury Rec Skate Park

Considerable work has already taken place on the recreation ground; specifically the main sports fields that is to be resurfaced. Prior to this, work is to be carried out to improve the drainage. It is hoped that the new surfaces will be usable by the end of September.

It is also planned to change the location of the skate park to an area alongside the road opposite to the Ashdown Arms. This park would be equipped with a 'teen shelter' and security lighting. New footpaths will be added to the rec. This new location has received the support of the local police as it can be more easily be policed by passing patrol cars and is sufficiently open to maximise the safety of the young people using the facility.

Verge Parking

Some of the Local Area Committees have been looking at the problem of verge parking. Decisions are being made as to whether to enforce a Byelaw deterring verge parking or to implement alternative measures such as wooden posts to prevent parking or 'grass-crete' to minimise verge damage.

The Chandlers Ford and Hiltingbury Area Committee have resolved that the Byelaw should be enforced on a trial basis, looking specifically at Merdon Avenue and Brownhill and Kings Roads. Although no prosecutions have been made Engineering Services have sent out several advisory letters to offenders.

Hiltingbury Road is another area to be investigated, particularly with reference to the areas near the school and the recreation ground.

Housing Needs

The thorny issue of whether Chandlers Ford should be enlarged with yet more housing was addressed by the 'Housing Needs Survey 2002'. This highlighted the need for 'affordable' housing to be made available in an area with a much higher proportion of larger and detached properties than the national average. The report identified the need of so called 'concealed households' where for example a child continues living with parents but intends to move out and start a home of their own. A recommendation was made that roughly a third of new housing should be designated subsidised and affordable one or two bedroomed homes. This realistically could only apply to developments of greater than 15 dwellings. The recent survey revealed a shortfall of 4440 affordable dwellings in the Borough as a whole and 505 in the Chandlers Ford and Hiltingbury area.

Further details and the 76 page report can be found on the councils website. www.eastleigh.gov.uk



Following a visit from our local Police Officer the Millers Tale has been promised a Police Force contribution to our newsletter. Since it did not arrive in time for this issue I thought it might be a good idea to pre-empt their article by asking if residents might have issues that they wish to raise with the Eastleigh Police Force. This would give them the opportunity to reply in their article and might set up a useful dialogue.

Several streets have already set up Neighbourhood watch schemes that not only have the advantage of improving security for the homes in the scheme but also can enable a significant reduction in household insurance premiums. One of the services offered by the Police is a regular update of crimes occurring in the Eastleigh area in the form of an emailed newsheet. This often carries good advice to householders that may help prevent them from also becoming victims. The bulletin is sent out by Guy Smales of the Eastleigh & Romsey Neighbourhood Watch Association. If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin he can be contacted on GUYSMALES@aol.com.

If you would like to make any comments or ask questions to the Eastleigh Police please send them to either 8 Weavers Place, editor@nmdca.org.uk or 80 268562 and we will try to make sure that they are dealt with by the relevant member of the Force.

Cornucopia

The curtain and soft furnishings agency is now OPEN in Chandlers Ford. So if you're renovating, moving, re-decorating or just fancy a change and you need top quality curtains and other soft furnishings at affordable prices, then make sure you come to us first!

Cornucopia

*18 The Central Precinct, Winchester Road,
Chandlers Ford. Tel: 023 8026 7777*



The Wheel Of Fortune

because it seems to me that you always get one person who is late arriving for the coach, or you have enforced stops at overcrowded service stations, or even worse, you do not really have the time to do the things that you wanted to do because of the timetable.

movement whilst you are on your flight. If you have not been on the Eye before because of a concern about heights, there really is no need to worry. It is certainly not like going on the Big Wheel at the fairground, and there is no feeling of leaving your tummy behind when you are going over the top.

This did not appear to be the case with this trip. I am pleased to report that the coach and passengers all arrived outside the Farmhouse at the allotted time of 9 a.m., a little over an hour and a half later, we arrived at the London Eye, and even better, the coach and all the passengers arrived back at the Eye by 6 p.m. and we were all back at the Farmhouse by 7.45.

It really is a fantastic piece of engineering. If you have been put off because of fears it will break down, or you are afraid of heights, set aside your fears. This is not at all frightening. If you get the collywobbles, there is a little wooden bench in the middle of the pod, to sit, but the view is so good, you will not want to sit down.

We were fortunate with the weather, because although it was not a perfect sunny day, the weather was clear enough to ensure an excellent view for those of us who went on the London Eye. For those of you who have been on the London Eye before you will know there is hardly any sense of

Once we got off the Eye, there was no need to go very far to eat or be entertained. Very close to the London Eye are the Saatchi Gallery,

Report by Phil Heller

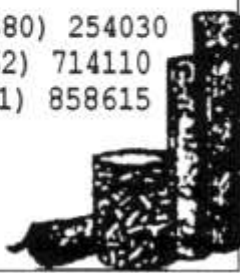
Finally, we managed to get together a large enough group of North Millers Dale residents to make a coach trip worthwhile. On 10th of May we organised a trip to London, with the option of a flight on the London Eye.

Our idea of visiting London and letting the coach take the strain was thoroughly vindicated, because as the family groups arrived back at the coach, we had all had a long and tiring day around London. I am not normally a great fan of coach outings,

Graham Parrick
CARPET FITTER

Free Quotations

Telephone:
C/Ford (02380) 254030
Twyford (01962) 714110
Mobile (07831) 858615



All types of
fencing supplied
and erected



All types of
flooring supplied
and laid

FLOORING & FENCING
LTD

Common Road, Chandlers Ford, Hants
Telephone: (02380) 253524/253184
Fax: (02380) 270359

a Dali exhibition, and the London Aquarium. My family stopped and watched some street theatre whilst walking towards the Hungerford Bridge to cross the river, before setting off into town.

Not everyone who went on the trip went on the Eye; some used the convenience of the coach and the competitive price just to have a day out in London. The Foster family took the opportunity of taking their kids for a first proper day out in London and showed them some of the famous sights like Buckingham Palace. Others went to the Museums; Janet for instance had a few hours in the Victoria and Albert Museum. I heard stories on the coach of visits to Harrods. My family went to Hamleys and Libertys.

The general consensus of opinion was that it was a good day out, and most of the people who went on the trip said that a repeat trip to London would be something they would welcome again.

The NMDCA will therefore run another coach trip to London, perhaps in the winter for a shopping / theatre trip, or possibly next year. The trips can of course, only go ahead if we receive enough people to make the trip worthwhile. The NMDCA is not a profit-making organisation, but we do need to make enough money to cover our costs. We cannot afford to make losses on the events we run, so if there is not sufficient support, the event cannot take place

Special thanks to Richard Mollon for putting a lot of time and effort into organising this trip. In the event, Richard was not even able to go, because he had builders

doing work at home, so he organised the London Eye and the coach, and did not see the fruits of his labours.

Thanks also to the families who supported us. Some of the people, who were able to come on this trip, were among those who have not been able for various reasons to come along to some of our other events. On that basis, a coach trip was a new experiment for us, and one, on the evidence of our first attempt, we will be able to repeat. Thanks again to the Moorse, Moore, Rawson, Maunder, Foster, Croft, Lewry, Armstrong, and Henderson families for their support, and we hope to see you again

Future ideas for NMDCA Coach trips

We have learned from our first venture to London that our best course of action is to provide our residents with an interesting place to visit, but also to give them the opportunity of just using the coach if the general area is interesting but they do not want to visit the attraction.

We have asked your opinion about where you would like to visit in past editions of the Millers Tale, and those replies have not been forgotten. As we have now got the idea of coach trips starting and finishing from the Farmhouse up and running, we have the following ideas for future trips:

- Royal Horticultural Gardens Wisley / Chessington World of Adventures
- Windsor Castle / Legoland
- Tower of London / Greenwich
- London Christmas Shopping / Theatre trip
- Cité Europe Calais Christmas



Stockists for:-

- Lilliput Lane - Winnie the Pooh -
- Cubist Cats - Comic Cats - Flower Fairies -
- Yankee Candles - Woods of Windsor -
- Crazy Clocks - Byzantium Crystals -
- Melamine Table Mats - Belgian Chocolates -
- etc, etc, etc
- Gifts for Men - Pewter Tankards & Flasks

Shopping

These are ideas for the future but we are open to suggestions. If you have any ideas that you think will attract enough support, let us know, and we will certainly consider your suggestions

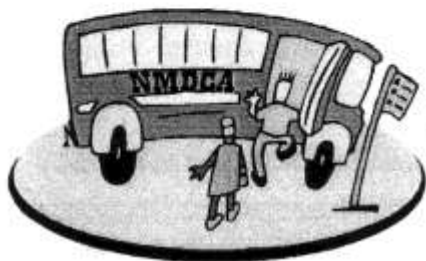
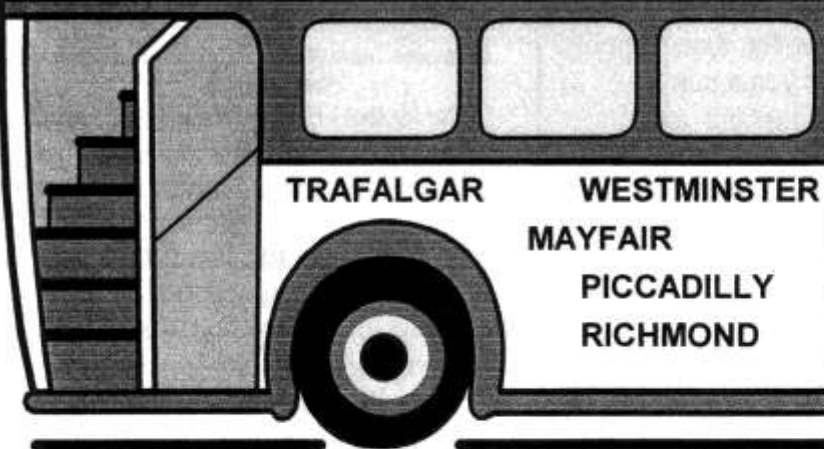


Kids Corner



ARCH EUSTON WEMBLEY OVAL
 CHARING NELSON SOHO BANK
 EROS TATE TOWER VICTORIA
 EMBANKMENT PADDINGTON STRAND

A	B	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	A	C	D
Y	T	N	E	M	K	N	A	B	M	E	W
L	W	E	U	S	T	O	N	A	N	B	E
L	N	S	S	F	G	L	Y	O	R	A	S
I	E	T	O	H	A	F	T	A	E	N	T
D	L	R	H	V	A	G	G	I	W	K	M
A	S	A	O	I	N	L	J	E	O	K	I
C	O	N	R	I	A	R	C	H	T	L	N
C	N	D	D	F	E	R	O	S	M	A	S
I	N	D	A	Y	E	L	B	M	E	W	T
P	A	R	C	H	A	R	I	N	G	O	E
P	T	P	Q	D	N	O	M	H	C	I	R



NMDCA Coach Club

Following the successful London Trip
 We now plan to organise a coach trip to



Chessington World
 of Adventures

And



This is planned to take place on Saturday 13th September.
 Please contact Richard Mollon 80265362 or Phil Heller
 80265407 for more information and to book your place on
 this trip.



THE TRAIN NOW ARRIVING AT...

The first passenger train for 34 years stopped at Chandlers Ford Station on May 19th. Although not widely advertised a small group of people including local councillors were there to greet the new arrival. On the Thursday following, my wife and I thought we would try out the new service and go on an excursion to Southampton.

After a pleasant walk down to the station from Millers Dale we arrived at the station. The temporary ticket office was shut, as it is only open in the mornings. However this was not a problem as



after boarding the perfectly on-time train we were sold our ticket by a very helpful and friendly guard. His only teething trouble seemed to be that his ticket machine had not been updated with Chandlers Ford prices yet, so he had to take a trip down to the guards van to check up the prices in his vast book. When he returned with his book, we were able to get some other prices from him. It seems that trains caught after 9am qualify for cheap day returns. Our return trip to Southampton was £4.80 each, not necessarily cheaper than using the car but a pleasant alternative.

Other cheap day return prices were: Eastleigh £2.50, Parkway £3.80 and Romsey £3.20. At peak times Parkway is £5.20 and Romsey £3.90. Not only is the service new but the trains are also. The seats were clean, comfortable and colourful. The doors are push-button sliders rather the old-fashioned hinged slammers. Useful announcements and LED displays keep you in touch with the next approaching station.

As indicated in our last edition the station buildings are still being worked on, the foundations are there but not much else. The platform has no shelter from the elements and can only be accessed from either Valley Park or Station Lane. The footings for the pedestrian bridge have been laid which should allow

access from the flats just below the bend in the Hursley Road and work is progressing on the new pathway down from the side of the road bridge.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the pricing structure is the cost of standard day return trips to London. The ticket to Waterloo from Chandlers Ford is £38.80 whereas from Southampton Airport is £42.90; this represents a saving of over £4 on the ticket alone. If the saving on a days parking and the drive to Parkway is also added in, then the attraction of using our local service becomes obvious. Just for completeness a return ticket from Eastleigh to London is the same as Chandlers Ford at £38.80.

The timing of the trains seems to be intended to coincide with changing at Eastleigh rather than Parkway, which means that some of the advantages of the fast through trains are compromised. However, a typical commuter journey could involve catching the 06:42 from Chandlers Ford arriving at Waterloo at 08:03. To arrive at Waterloo from Parkway at the same time would mean catching the 06:52 so there's not a lot in it. To find out details of your particular journey visit www.southwesttrains.co.uk/ which will give you timetables and prices to enable you to do comparisons.

For many people this will be a great new facility and may reduce several unnecessary car journeys on our desperately overcrowded local roads. The service is funded as a six-year experiment after which it's continuation will be reviewed. Hopefully it will prove to be a popular new way of life for many people and it's future will be assured. The government are always suggesting we should leave our cars behind and use other forms of transport. This may take us one step closer to realising this vision.

The Hiltonbury Farmhouse
Chandlers Ford

A true community pub

presents **Jazz on the Green**

with **The New Gateway Jazz Band**

on **13 July 12 - 4**

Hog Roast @ £3.95

Telephone: 023 8026 9974

Raffle
in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Relief
& NMDCA

Stalls
etc



EASTER AID CONVOY RETURNS



The Chandlers Ford Hope and Aid Direct team completed another successful trip to the Balkans when they returned from their Easter Convoy. Their convoy comprised eight 7.5 tonne trucks and five 38 tonners. The destination this time was Serbia, which was reached after a four-day drive. Susie Barker, one of the volunteers, takes up the story.

'The main part of Serbia is very flat bordered by mountains in the distance. There were no signs of war as in Kosova and it appeared a great deal more affluent. However, there are 300,000 displaced people in Serbia who will probably never go back to Kosova. They are very much resented by the local people who feel they are a drain on their limited resources. We learned that at one centre for displaced people where the municipality had laid on a water supply, the locals had padlocked it so they still had to walk 2km for water.

Three of our trucks visited the Hospital Asta, a very large, four-storey building. Here we unloaded two trucks with medical equipment including spa baths to equip a new wing for which the money had run out.

Friday it was an early start and we left for Leskovac at 8.00am. We drove down through Nis. Both these towns had prisons notorious for their brutal treatment of Albanians during and after 1999. It was a very long drive around 2.5 - 3 hours. We went to a refugee centre where we were taken around their homes. (A very basic block of flats, with very small rooms and whole families sharing the tiny space). We then gave out our aid to everyone there. This included giving one man a new wheelchair. He had one previously but had given it to someone he felt was more in need than himself. He was,

however, paralysed from the waist down. His story was very sad. He was Serbian but had married an Albanian girl. While escaping from Kosova in 1999, they were caught by a group of KLA fighters. They shot his wife dead and placed him in freezing water for 24 hours, causing his paralysis. We were invited in for a drink with one family. The wife had been a professor in Pristina in Kosova and her husband a schoolteacher. Neither had been able to work since being in Serbia.

Easter Sunday we went to Lingva Warehouse and also met a Roma family and took in gifts. Went to a pretty derelict theatre where all the seats had been taken out and 15 families had put up partitions made up of wooden crates and had blankets hanging to separate rooms. They had made their homes in the auditorium for eight years. The theatre was very dilapidated with few windows and only a little light from a few light bulbs. It was a dreadful situation, and they themselves felt there was little hope to change things. We met a man from Karlovac there. His house had been burnt down during the fighting in Croatia in '94. At least, we were able to give them the usual supplies of food, toiletries etc plus a large number of carpet tiles with which to carpet the floors of their tiny "rooms".

We are very thankful for the huge amount of support we received from everyone at home including friends and neighbours, local churches, the reporters, photographers and readers of the Southern Daily Echo who made the whole trip possible. Over 130 tons of aid was delivered to refugees from Croatia and Bosnia plus those internally displaced from Kosova.'

I apologise for the lack of continuity but I have had to edit the report quite heavily to fit the space (ed). If anyone is interested in viewing the full report, please email editor@nmdca.org.uk and I can send you a copy. Another convoy is due to leave in the autumn.



North Millers Dale Community Association

A.G.M.

Tuesday 1st July at 8pm
In the NMD Hall, The Deanery

All residents welcome to have a say in your local association.

This is your opportunity to get involved or talk to the committee members. Come and join us for a glass of Pimms after the meeting

If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, we are very interested to hear from you. Anyone with an unusual job, hobby or pastime, please get in touch with either Phil or myself (see page 2) We are always pleased to receive letters about local issues, sometimes we can help to resolve them.

Reflexology & Massage

Reflexology is a gentle form of natural healing which has been practised for centuries. It involves pressure to reflex points on the feet. Reflexology gently and effectively maintains good health while building up the body's immunity to dis-ease. It is an excellent antidote to stress and therefore eases stress related conditions.

A reflexology treatment will leave you feeling deeply relaxed; a vital, yet often under rated factor in maintaining good health.

Why not try reflexology for yourself and enjoy an hour of pure relaxation?

Contact Sue Rowe on:

Telephone: 023 8025 5451
Mobile: 07979 887174
e-mail: suc@roweonline.co.uk