

**ON OUR WEBSITE THIS WEEK**

**CLIVEDEN SLIDE:** This manor house's reputation as a playground for the rich and famous is being restored with the addition of a 17.5m steel slide. It has been installed on the south terrace



whilst restoration work is underway and is open to the public. Find out more in our video report. Visit [www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/video](http://www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/video)

**WEDDING BELLS:** Have you got married recently. Send us your wedding photographs to feature in our online gallery. See [www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/weddings](http://www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/weddings) for more.

**GRAVITY GRAND PRIX:** Wacky racers returned to Cookham Dean this weekend for the seventh annual Gravity Grand Prix. A mobile grand piano and a bubble-blowing baby buggy were among the creative karts on show. See a video from the event at [www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/video](http://www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/video)



**WEEKEND EVENTS:** Trying to find something to do this weekend? Check out our comprehensive guide to events and activities across the area at [www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/Entertainment/Events-Diary](http://www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/Entertainment/Events-Diary)

**MANDELA:** A chronicle of Nelson Mandela's life journey from his childhood in a rural village to his inauguration as the first democratically elected president of South Africa is portrayed in *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, starring Idris Elba and Naomie Harris. Watch the trailer in the online entertainment section.



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# Check! Teacher wins championship place

**Maidenhead & Twyford: Chess guru taught himself game at age of five**

**Speed Read**

**CHESS** player John Wagner will be competing in the British Chess Championships 2014 thanks to win at the Berks and Bucks Chess Congress. The 59-year-old taught himself to play from a book when he was five.

**A** SELF-taught player secured a place at the 2014 British Chess Championship after winning the championship section of the 49th Annual Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Chess Congress.

John Wagner, 59, of Chaseside Avenue, Twyford, was also awarded the Berkshire Individual Champion Cup as the highest placed Berkshire player in the tournament held on August 26.

The tournament, at Polehampton Junior School in Kibblewhite Crescent, saw more than 100 players battle it out in

**'He is higher rated than me so I was not expecting to win'**

By Lucy Elder  
[lucy@baylismedia.co.uk](mailto:lucy@baylismedia.co.uk)

six rounds across each of their sections.

John, who was playing in the top section of the day, won with four wins and two draws over the two-day competition.

The Maidenhead Chess Club member's deciding match came in the fifth round against his former pupil Matthew Wadsworth, which he won.

He said: "Seven years ago I was teaching Matthew chess!"

John has been a member of the club for about 15 years and also coaches at junior training sessions on Saturday mornings, which is where Matthew once played.

Matthew, who finished



**CHECK MATE:** John Wagner taught himself to play chess at the age of five.

second overall, is now the top rated under-14 player in the country and has played across the world for England.

"He is higher rated than me now so I was not

expecting to win," added John, who was runner up in last year's tournament.

At the age of five, John taught himself chess from a book and first joined a chess club at the

age of about 15 when he joined Charlton Chess Club in London.

He now works at Bracknell Forest Council and lives with his wife Jenny.

## Go ahead for indoor pool plan

**MAIDENHEAD:** Pupils at Newlands Girls' School can look forward to making a splash after plans to build a new indoor swimming pool were given the green light by councillors.

The proposals include replacing the existing outdoor pool with a bigger, new facility.

It would also include the installation of changing rooms, a store and plant room.

The pool would be used primarily by the school but would also be made available for swimming lessons for the wider community, including disabled users.

Speaking at the town hall meeting on Wednesday, August 28, Cllr Claire Stretton, (Con, Boyn Hill) said: "I do remember swimming in this pool a very long time ago."

"I think it is long overdue that these girls at Newlands Girls' School have an indoor pool for swimming."

## Time for beauty?

**HURLEY:** The Peshurst Insurance Services office at Clocktower Lodge in Henley Road could be converted to a beauty treatment business.

Rachel Wheatley from TIME Beauty has submitted a planning application to the Royal Borough.

A decision is due by October 23.

## New homes plan

**TOWN CENTRE:** Councillors have backed plans to demolish two houses at 26 to 28 Forlease Road and build eight flats in their place.

The plans include replacing the existing houses with a mix of one, two and three bedroom flats. Nine parking spaces are also included in the plans.

The decision was made at a meeting at the town hall on Wednesday, August 28.

## Historic 14th century church opens

**WHITE WALTHAM:** St John the Baptist Church will open its doors to the public for the first time later this month as part of the Heritage Open Days scheme.

The church, founded in 1337 by Sir William Trussell, will be open from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, September

14. Guides will be on hand to give tours and point out the venue's historic memorials, including the tomb of Sir William and remnants of the 14th-century armorial glass that once filled its windows.

Heritage Open Days celebrate England's architecture and culture by offering free

access to places that are usually closed to the public or normally charge an entry fee.

The church is located in Shottesbrooke Park, a private estate to the west of White Waltham and visitors can gain access through the entrance gate in Broadmoor Road.

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