

Chit Chat

Parish Newsletter for the
residents of
Chitterne, Wiltshire
No 106, July 2015

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Believe it or not, when I started working on this edition of Chit Chat I was worried that I would not have enough articles to include and then a few days later, I am having to shorten some and not include others. I have even managed to squeeze in the Puppies For Sale advert at the bottom of the page.

One thing that did happen which I have been unable to include, is the escape yet again, of some cattle. This time they managed to get to the sports field; I'm not sure how the cricket pitch is after their visit! The main thing is that I hope I have captured what has been happening and what is going to happen in the village.

Did you go along to see the beautiful flowers in the church and have a cup of tea and a piece of cake in the hall? We weren't able to make it, although I did manage to help create some of the display, but I hope you agree that Dave managed to capture the beauty and colour of the displays. A huge amount of effort goes into organising this event and I would like, on your behalf, to say a great big thank you to Helen, Beccy and Marcelle.

Can I, once again on your behalf, welcome any new people to the village. I think you will find us a friendly bunch and will be glad you made the move. Why don't you come along to some of the events on the back page and judge for yourself.

Springer Spaniel Puppies For Sale

KC Registered

Excellent working pedigree

Liver/white & black/white available

Lovely markings

If interested, please contact Hugh or
Sophie on 01985 841405



For those of you who couldn't get to the Flower Festival (me included) here are some beautiful photographs of it taken by our resident 'David Bailey' - Dave Robinson. Many, many thanks Dave.

CHURCH SERVICES in JULY

Sunday 5th Trinity 5 (Chancel)	0845 BCP HC	ER	Jenny Brassey
Sunday 12th Trinity 6	1000 Benefice	ER	Gillian Nolan
Sunday 19th Trinity 7	1000 Family Service	ER	Gillian Nolan
Sunday 26th Trinity 8	0845 HC	DW	Lindsay Lucas
Sunday 2nd Trinity 9 (Chancel)	0845 BCP HC	ER	Lindsay Lucas

ARMY ACTIVITIES

TRAINING

July will be a very busy month on the Plain with 8 Armoured and Armoured Infantry sub-units conducting low and intermediate level armoured manoeuvre training in a series of 2 week exercises. In addition the Plain will see the largest Armoured exercise in the calendar, Ex LIONS STRIKE, involving the Combined Arms Tactics Course using the Imber and Larkhill dry training areas from 18th – 23rd July. At the same time four of the Royal School of Artillery courses will combine for their largest training exercise of the year, Ex CROSSED CANNONS, during which AS90 and Light Gun live firing will take place. As a consequence, Armoured vehicle usage of the tank crossings on the A360, A345 and A338 will increase and with dry weather conditions dust clouds may produce a hazard at these crossings.

Information about low flying is available from the MOD Low Flying Advisory Service (0845 600 7580) or on line at www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area.

I had a bit of a shock when I stood on the scales the other day. I knew I was overweight but by quite how much was a surprise. I know I am 6 foot with a reasonably athletic frame but there is no excuse for being three to four stone overweight.



So, lifestyle change required. Methinks, I have been here before, several times, and I've never managed to stick at it. So I thought what about if I was losing weight with the extra burden that it might be doing other people some good as well? I'd have to stick at it then being the gentleman of my word that I am.

Whilst driving through the villages have you noticed cPads? Well you might know them better as defibrillators? Community Public Access Defibrillator to give them the full introduction. They sit in a prominent location in the village in a cabinet and should someone suffer a cardiac arrest there will be the equipment at hand to perhaps save their life. Anyone can use them. You don't need to be a paramedic. The machines actually instruct you in what to do should the need arise. Anybody can use one and carry out life preserving work until the paramedics arrive. The machines are not cheap but when lives are at risk who looks at the cost?

I've set up a page on a website where, if you feel you would like to help purchase one of these for the village, you can pledge your support. However vital for me personally, my weight loss is a bit of a sideshow to the main event which is the need to have a defibrillator in the village. If you would like more info on how they work or how they have been used in other villages please feel free to get in touch. I've given myself a target to raise the money within 30 days as of today so there is a cut-off date on the giving website. As for my weight that might take a couple of months longer but since the start I have lost 9lbs.

Let's hope the defib is something that never gets used, although it's comforting to know it's there.

Make a pledge here: <https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/Chitterne-AED>

More information from SW Ambulance Service <http://www.swast.nhs.uk/What%20We%20Do/defibrillators.htm>

Thanks, James Timoney (Plain Ales brewer) Bow House - beside the Village Hall

News from the Kings Head



What a lovely month June has been. It really has made a great show in the gardens around Chitterne.

Congratulations to all the people involved in the Nepal Fund Raising Night; a great amount of money was raised, so well done Chitterne.

The Quiz on Friday nights (every fortnight) has been very entertaining and it is nice to see some new teams with people coming in from other villages to take on the Chitterne teams. The next dates are Friday 3rd, 17th and 31st July. Come along and see if you can win the £20 drinks voucher; someone's got to win, so why shouldn't it be you!

Darts are still going well on a Tuesday evening, so if you want to have a bit of fun come along for about 8.00pm.

Some regulars may have noticed we have lost our 'Chitterne Chapter Motor Cycle Group' since Nick moved to Wilton but we have a new 'Chapter' with some equally powerful machines, lead by Erica, Paul and Murray!



Hope to see you soon. Come along, have a drink and enjoy the evening sunshine in the garden

Kenton

CODFORD SURGERY SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Retirement

Many of you know that Jane and I will be retiring from Codford on the 1st October 2015. We will be leaving with heavy hearts as it has been a privilege to accompany so many of you on your journeys through health and life, some of those journeys have been joyful, others less so. So many of you have been kind and generous to ourselves and our family over the years and have become friends as well as patients. It has been a real privilege for me also to work with such talented, conscientious and compassionate work colleagues in whose capable hands I have no qualms about leaving the practice. My place will be taken by **Dr Hugh Bond** a very well thought of and experienced GP from Salisbury; he will bring great expertise and a calm steadiness to the practice. I am sure you will all make him very welcome. It is time to hand over the running of the surgery to a younger team and the evidence of that is already apparent with the refurbishment that is currently taking place.

John Fishwick

(There are other items from the above newsletter which I will include next month. Ed.)





The Curry Evening held in aid of The Umbrella Foundation in Nepal was a resounding success. We raised a grand total of £2200.00 which included £200.00 from Pam's plant sale.

A great thank you to one and all, from our marvellous chefs (curry and pastry) and washer uppers, Plain Ales for contributing the I.P.A (what else could you drink with a curry?), our band of helpers with setting up and taking down, all those who donated and or purchased raffle and auction items, those who could not attend but made donations and all those who came along on the night, without whom we would have had nothing.

To keep in touch with how your generosity is being used, go to www.umbrella.org where you can catch up on their blog or www.facebook.com/TheUmbrellaFoundation which is right up to date with information of the temporary schools they have built and all their latest news.

In the meantime we are setting about registering Umbrella as a charity here in the UK to benefit from the Gift Aid scheme. They are registered everywhere else but there was obviously an oversight along the line.

Murray and Pam

CHITTERNE CUDDLY ANIMAL CHALLENGE

Soft toys, namely cuddly animals were hidden around the village. The point of the exercise, besides a bit of fun, was for children and adults to guess how many were hidden. Children were also asked why you should be kind to soft toys and recycle the clean ones.

There were a number of responses to this question but the ones the children wrote certainly added to the merriment. One child said, 'You wouldn't want to be friendly with someone who pulled the head off a teddy!' Another speculated that if you damaged someone else's toy you might have to buy them another! The most memorable concerning the star prize for the children of a One Direction tin of marshmallows. She said that one of them 'has a tattoo on an unmentionable part of his body!'

Fortunately the vicar brought us back to the straight and narrow by pointing out that many children do not get any toys, so you should recycle them for that reason alone.

The answer to how many toys there were was 16, which no one guessed. The closest guess by an adult was Hayley and the marshmallows was won by the young girl who 'knew about' One Direction.

£8.70 was raised for the Village Hall and is hoped the cuddly toys find new homes soon.

Graham

Beccy and Helen would like to thank everyone for all their hard work for the Flower Festival.

From the pew and pillar gangs, to those who did such wonderful window and floor arrangements. Thank you for those who manned the Church and to Marcelle and her helpers who produced such delicious lunches and teas in the Village Hall.

Also we would like to thank all those people from the village who came to see our flowers and supported us so generously.

Firstly, many thanks to everyone in the village who either cooked, baked or made salads for the weekend. To those who helped in the kitchen, I hope you were not too exhausted by your efforts, I felt that it was quite a lot of fun - thank you for your time.

Sadly we didn't get the numbers we were expecting, but on the other hand we had a great many comments on how good the food was and how helpful we all were, so it was positive from that point of view.

We sold all of your little gem lettuces, Erika, thank you for those and I enjoyed meeting your chickens!

Thanks to all of you who supported us, Marcelle

JUNIOR ART COMPETITION

Unfortunately there were not as many entries for the competition as we had hoped but to those who did take part, a huge thank you and well done.

In the under 8 category, Xanthe was 1st & Bea came 2nd. Poppy won the 8-12 & also the Ernie George Cup.

Jo, Poppy's mum said, 'Poppy painted her rabbit Benji & was speechless when she was presented the cup. All the entries were amazing; I think we have some budding artists in Chitterne.'

A huge thanks to Katherine, Tana & Sue for their time and expertise.



FARMING NEWS by Murray Kent



Are you a hay fever sufferer? Nowadays we tend to associate hay fever with some of the more exotic pollens blowing around in our airspace. Oilseed rape is a good example that affects many people. Pollen from trees also springs to mind but the main culprit is lurking in the name - hay fever - and there you have it.

We are surrounded by acres of hay fields all topped with seed heads wantonly distributing their pollen for us all to inhale. There are approximately 160 different species of grass in the UK. From high yielding varieties bred for their nutritional value, weed grasses that infest cereal crops and are becoming more and more difficult to control, especially since the straw burning ban, special amenity grasses for sports areas and public places, to ornamental grasses in our gardens.

Next time you go walking take a good look at the grass heads waving in the wind, pick some heads and take them home to see if you can identify them. You will be looking for the likes of Cocksfoot, Timothy, Meadow Fescue, Bent grass, Meadow Foxtail and many types of Ryegrass. You should be able to Google these names for identification.

Hopefully with the onset of haymaking the density of pollen will be greatly reduced and if our farmers on the ranges had their own way this process would be well in hand. But we have a big BUT. For centuries our farming folk have managed to be the custodians of our countryside and make their own day to day farm management decisions. After all they are in the main big boys now, well trained and responsible. Sadly some one has decreed that haymaking cannot commence on the ranges until the 1st of July. This is set in stone and does not take into account the vagaries of the weather and seasons. I believe that the thinking behind this is the protection of ground nesting birds, who like the haymakers also are guided to an extent by the seasonality of the conditions. Perhaps more ground nesting birds might be protected if there was better control of the natural predators such as the magpie, jay and the black carrion community and, dare I mention it, the badger and fox that scan the plain for the eggs and young chicks.

So there you have it. By the time you read this haymaking will be commencing and soon the soggy handkerchiefs and red noses will be a distant memory, until next spring!

It is with sadness that I report the death of Michael Pearson of The Stables. On behalf of you all, may I send our condolences to the family. Christine, or 'Little Chris', as she is affectionately known, would like to say thank you to all the villagers who very kindly supported her through this rather difficult time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



WOOLSTORE CODFORD

Wednesday 1st July
7.30pm

**Kingsman: the
Secret Service**

&

Wednesday 29th July
7.30pm

**The Second Best Exotic
Marigold Hotel**

Tickets available from Budgens £6



LIBRARY VAN

The next dates are **Friday
10th & 24th July**. The van
parks outside the Village
Hall from 1140 - 1200.

This is a great facility, so come
& have a look.



HANDYMAN

Tiling, small building jobs, decking,
laying slabs & basic plumbing

Brian Lee

01985 850671

Mob:07901550279

CHITTERNE CRICKET CLUB

Saturday 11th July
2pm
Oundle Ramblers



Sunday 26th July
2pm
Oxymorons

Wednesday Prayers at 5.30pm



Don't forget that until
the end of August the
prayers will be held in
St Mary's Chancel.



QUIZ NIGHT

Kings Head Pub
Friday 3rd, 17th &
31st

8.00pm for 8.30pm
start

Winning team £20
voucher to spend on drinks

Good fun evening

Don't worry if you don't have a team
as there are always plenty of people
around the bar to join - they even won
last week!

Codford Artisan & Independent Traders Market



Sunday 19th July
1200 - 4pm
Codford Village Hall
FREE PARKING

For further information contact
Steph on 0783415776

DON'T FORGET!

CALLING ALL WAITROSE SHOPPERS

A request from the village hall
committee

Our nomination
is in but we have
been told it will
be at least 6
months before
we see it as an
option - so lots of
time to store up lots of tokens!



Many thanks
Anthony

BREAKFAST CLUB

Saturday 4th July
0930 - 1130



in the Village Hall
Come along for a bacon
butty and a mug of tea or
coffee.

This is a great place to
meet up with your fellow
villagers or just sit and read the
newspaper.

STITCHING GROUP

The next get
together are on
**Friday 10th & 24th
July** from 1030 in the
Village Hall.

We are a friendly
bunch of ladies who
have a common love
of stitching but we are equally happy
to have a coffee and a chat. For a
small cost we sit & have a soup &
bread & cheese lunch.



You are invited to an Elizabethan
Evening featuring a production of *The
Three Musketeers*

SATURDAY 1st AUGUST

Manor Farm Corsley

7.30pm

Pre booked sit down supper served from
6-7pm

Licensed Bar

Tea and Coffee

Adults £14, Child £7, Supper £8

claire@manorfarmcorsley.com

01373 832 113

www.theelizabethanevening.com



DID YOU KNOW?

Every Wednesday
morning at 9.05

outside Village Hall

Real Coach bus, X88 goes to Bath

Arrives in Bath at 10.30

Leaves 1.30

Arrives Chitterne just after 3.00

£5 single, £7.50 return

Bus passes accepted

Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the August issue by
Sunday 26th July by hand, CD or email to:
chitchat.39@gmail.com, telephone 850058
or in the porch at Chapel Cottage.
To download Chit Chat from the village
website: www.chitterne.com, click on the
Village Life link on the home page, then
click on Newsletters and the monthly
issue you want. You will need Adobe
Reader and downloads may take a few
minutes.