

# Chit Chat



Parish Newsletter for the  
residents of  
Chitterne, Wiltshire  
No 105, June 2015

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## Editor's Ramblings

I am writing this on Bank Holiday Monday. I am sitting at my desk, looking out of the window and watching the birds flying and hopping around the garden. Mike must have disturbed some juicy bugs when he mowed the grass. I say grass but actually it is more moss than grass but it's green, which is the main thing. I think we must have a bird's nest on the bank, as there are a pair of blackbirds who keep disappearing into the dense foliage.

I have just been to Budgens where I 'bumped' into Zoe, who used to live in St Mary's Close. She and her family moved just before Christmas and they were back to do the final bits and pieces in their house before, fingers crossed, completion. She reminded me of just what a lovely village we live in. Whilst they are happy where they are, it's just not Chitterne! She said there was always something happening here; whether you did it or not, was your own decision. She thought there was a wonderful community spirit and everyone was happy to help each other. I then received the emails which told me about the recent break-ins. I know some of you don't have a computer and therefore rely on either this newsletter or other villagers to let you know what is happening. I suppose we need to continue to look out for each other and if any of us notice anything unusual, to let the proper people know.

It is good to see our 'intrepid sailors' returned safely. I think Aileen should write a book about their adventures, as I believe she wrote a 'blog' whilst she was away and it was very interesting reading!

I will finish with an interesting snippet I picked up at the pub - there are crocodiles in the cut and maybe even a witch!

## JUNIOR ART COMPETITION



Children, it's not long to go now!

Hopefully over half term, Chitterne's budding young artists have been busy creating their entries for the competition for the **Ernie George Memorial Cup**. This will be held the weekend of the Flower Festival, 20th & 21st June, and all entries will be on display in the Village Hall.

**There will be 3 classes: under 8 years, 8 - 12 years, and 12 - 18 years.**

Entries can be paintings, sketches or a collage. They are to be brought to the Village Hall by **5pm on Friday 19th June**, for hanging.

Entries will be judged by three of Chitterne's artists and the overall winner will be awarded the cup.

Get creative and let's find the next generation of Chitterne artists!

Villagers, don't forget to come along to the hall and have a cup of tea and a piece of cake and admire the talent of our children.

## White Horse Morris Dancers or 'new traffic calming measures'!



## CHURCH SERVICES in JUNE

Sunday 7th Trinity 1  
Sunday 14th Trinity 2  
Sunday 21st Trinity 3  
Sunday 28th Trinity 4

0845 BCPHC (St Mary's Chancel)  
1000 Benefice Tilshead ER  
6pm Songs of Praise BT  
0845 HC DW

Sarah, Rowena & Lisa  
Sarah, Rowena & Lisa  
Jenny Brassey



## ROGATION SUNDAY

The photo is of the Chitterne group outside the Church as we were about to leave for the 2½ mile walk to meet up with the other three church groups of the Benefice, where we had a short service.

Douglas Stobie, John Smedley, Robert Pryor, Virginia Pryor, Rowena Gooch and Gillian Nolan

are obviously in the photo and I took the picture. Sally Oliver joined us en route, and Vinna Smedley joined us at the picnic with yummy food! The Gooch's supplied the coffee and cakes for everyone. Sally Oliver, Rowena, Douglas and I walked back to Chitterne with more dogs than humans! We encountered troop carriers on our way back. Sam, Sally's young labrador, went to investigate a moving vehicle – the soldiers were very amused and stopped the carrier until Sally had retrieved Sam.

*Marcelle Stobie*



## News from the Kings Head

Well, May has come and gone, and along with it some very nice days and some

**well needed rain; the gardens needed it.**

The Darts nights are still going well, as are the Quiz nights. Darts is on a Tuesday from around 8pmish and is great fun, even if you don't play darts. The next quiz is on Friday 5th & then the 19th.

The White Horse Morris Dancers came on the 20th May and what a great night was had by all. They danced outside the front of the pub with a couple of locals joining in. Some villagers thought that we could use them in our traffic calming strategy, as most cars slowed down to see what on earth was happening! Afterwards they came in and sang for a while. The cheese, bacon rolls and cakes seemed to have gone down well after all the dancing, as did a fair bit of ale. They want to come back again, so I will keep you informed. It was nice to see some new faces from the village in for the evening and some that hadn't been around for a while.

The pub will be closed on Tuesday 23rd June, so darts will be on Wednesday 24th at the same time as usual.

Hope to see you all soon.

*Kenton*

## Salisbury Plain Benefice supporting Alabare

**Life on the street is tough; it's cold and dangerous; we should do what we can to help.** If

you have got any warm clothing or camping equipment cluttering your house, Alabare would be only too willing to take it off your hands and give it to those in need and living rough in Salisbury. There is always a need for sleeping bags and mats, waterproof and warm clothing, boots, hats and gloves. If you want to make a donation of clothing or cash to Alabare then it could not be easier. The Benefice has set up a network of local representatives to make your donations as easy as possible.

The local contact is Elizabeth Johns, Dolphin House, Chitterne. My telephone number is 850039.

For more information on the charity contact the charity direct (alabare.co.uk) or Paul Taylor in Orcheston. Also please remember as a registered charity Alabare can benefit from gift aid if you are a UK tax payer.

Many thanks,



*Elizabeth Johns*

**Codford Artisan & Independent Traders Market  
Sunday 19th July  
1200 - 4pm  
Codford Village Hall**



If you would like to book a stall email [thecraftloftcodford@hotmail.com](mailto:thecraftloftcodford@hotmail.com) or contact Steph on 07834157776

## ARMY ACTIVITIES TRAINING

**Training levels on the Plain in June will be average for this time of year.**

Armoured training by the Kings Royal Hussars, 1st Battalion The Royal Welsh, 1st Battalion the Yorkshire Regiment and 1st Battalion the Mercian Regiment, will be concentrated in the **first 2 weeks and the last 2 days of the month** with Challenger and Warrior sub-units conducting Armoured manoeuvre training.

The **2nd week of June** will see the Armoured and Armoured Infantry courses from the Land Warfare Centre conducting their final exercise **TEAM SPIRIT** in Challenger tanks and Warrior armoured fighting vehicles across the full length of the area together with the Armoured Cavalry course Ex **BADGERS STRESS** in CVRTs.

The **last 2 weeks of June** will see the Field Training Unit training 1st Battalion The Rifles using the Army Weapons Effect Simulation system on Exercise **WESSEX STORM**. As a light role infantry unit 1 Rifles will be conducting training mainly on foot and in wheeled vehicles.

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](http://www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area).

Complaints/Enquiries should be made to **01980 620819**.

## WHITE HORSE MORRIS DANCERS

Many thanks to Kenton for arranging such a great evening, albeit a rather chilly one!



## CALLING ALL WAITROSE SHOPPERS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE!

You will all be familiar with the green token scheme at Waitrose, where you can choose



after your weekly shop which of three local community groups to "donate" your token to; at the end of the month the pot (of we think £1000) gets divvied up in proportion to the number of tokens donated. A number of other village halls have benefitted in the past and your committee has decided we ought to get in on the act! We are not sure how long it will take for our nomination to get to the top of the pile but, in the meantime, we would urge you all to save your tokens until such time as it does, when we can load them all up and benefit our village rather than a pre-school group in Warminster!

Many thanks

*Anthony*

## FARMING FACTS by Murray Kent

Spring is upon us, hurrah! One of the more basic pointers to spring is that the grass is now growing, a little too quickly for my liking, but all the grazing animals are enjoying a fresh flush of nutritious sweet grass. This flush of grass through April and May is one reason why farmers like to calve their cows down (dairy or beef) in March so mother cow produces high quality milk from a protein and energy rich natural product that comes in much cheaper than the conserved grass and other feeds that supplement the grass in the winter. Beef animals finished on grass will out-taste any intensively reared beast. The same goes for sheep and the traditional spring lambing season.

It is also interesting to watch the speedy growth of the spring sown crops. Around us we have spring barley that is now shooting away and the winter sown wheat has woken from its winter slumbers and you will soon see young ears of corn appearing. Not so good for the hay fever sufferers is the oil seed rape, but thankfully we are now in petal drop so the problem is receding, however there are plenty more pollen providers lining up to keep some of us sneezing away.

One aspect of the country code worth noting is the danger from cattle. I don't want to be alarmist but there have been some terrible fatal accidents over the years concerning walkers with dogs. There is no law about keeping cattle away from footpaths and normally there is not a problem. However a cow with a new born calf can become very aggressive if she feels her calf is being threatened so it makes sense to give them a wide berth when calves are about to be born, which is right now for some of the cattle in our immediate vicinity. If you do get caught out, the first thing to do is to let your dog off the lead. The dog can run faster than you and the cow will probably give chase to the dog. Never walk up to look at the calf to see if it is alright. If you are worried try and find someone at the farm to warn them. If the cow still prefers the look of you, then stand your ground and shout and holler as loudly as you can at it; only run if you think you can vault the gate or jump the fence before the cow gets there! Best of all, if worried, don't enter the field in the first place.

Since starting this piece we have had a mass escape of cattle. They escaped down Back Lane and actually made it as far as the Village Hall. They were in the field on the north side of Townsend and the gate by the pony paddock had been left open. Please do make sure that all gates are closed when you have passed through them and if you see an open gate with cattle in the field please shut it as 40 odd cattle can do a lot of damage to your garden! As I have said before, we are fortunate to have a very tolerant farmer in our midst when it comes to walking the land, let's keep it that way.

To finish I would like to leave you with a piece of rural culture.

Spring is sprung  
The grass is ris  
I wonder where the birdies is  
The bird is on the wing  
But that's absurd  
The wing is on the bird.

HAPPY LAWN MOWING



Thanks so much to everyone who came to the Plant Sale this year.

Once again we were blessed with perfect weather (the third year in a row!) and we all had a great morning. I am thrilled to say that we made **£651.00** which really is fantastic. We could not raise this sort of money without the wonderful work and generosity of many people, so a huge thank you to everyone who grew the plants to sell; everyone who made the delicious cakes; everyone who donated to the raffle; all the helpers and also to everyone who came and made it such a successful morning by donating so generously.

The money raised is split between the village Church and The Southern Spinal Injuries Trust. We will be sending SSIT a cheque for **£325.50** which will go towards helping people living with spinal cord injury in the region. I know they will be hugely grateful.

*Emma Waters*

## VILLAGE CLEAN-UP



Please may I, through Chit Chat, thank all the volunteers who came out to support the village clean-up, last Saturday. Everyone worked very hard and Chitterne really does look neat and tidy. I would also like to thank the Village Hall Committee ladies for providing the bacon butties to give us energy for the work ahead.

*Mike Lucas*

A **BIG** thank you to everybody who donated, on the occasion of our Ruby Wedding Anniversary, to Wiltshire Air Ambulance. We raised **£193.03**. Many thanks, Brian & Soo.

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

In the Hall over the weekend 20/21 June, whilst the Church is awash with beautiful flower displays, we in the Hall will be dispensing coffee, lunches and teas over both days. **PLEASE** get in touch if you



could help in any of the following ways:  
bake cakes, make salads or desserts, or generally help in the



kitchen.

Many thanks, Marcelle - 851048  
or email: marcelle.stobie@btinternet.com

## Village Grapevine



If you already receive round robin emails from Pete Sawyers about goings on in Chitterne and from Anthony Knyvett about Neighbourhood Watch, read no further. If you don't and would like to do so, please drop them both an email to:

**JP\_monte@btinternet.com** and  
**knyvett@btinternet.com**

so they can add you to their list of recipients.

Have you noticed the revamped signpost at the junction of the Shrewton & Tilshead Roads? The



top half was rotten & needed replacing. This was not a job for Wiltshire Council. Virginia Neal's dad, Nigel, volunteered to sort it out and here is the result.

**THANK YOU**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## Wylie Valley Art Trail

Finishes Sunday 31st May

A festival of visual art & craft in & around the Wylie Valley

In our village call in to see **Derinne Pargiter's shaker boxes & Vicki Portman's jewellery**

2 Clock House Cottages, Shrewton Road

## STITCHING GROUP



The next get togethers are on **Friday 12th & 26th June** 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 lunch.

## FOR SALE

**Child's desk on rollers with 3 drawers and slide out work surface - good condition £10**



**Rowing machine Little used (!) £40**

Anthony and Tana Knyvett 851108

## WOOLSTORE CODFORD

Wednesday 3rd June  
7.30pm

## TESTAMENT OF YOUTH (12A)

Tickets available from Budgens £6



## CURRY EVENING



Saturday 13th June

7.30pm

Village Hall

Tickets £7.50

Available from Pam & Murray Kent  
01985 851785

In aid of Nepal Earthquake Appeal



## Wednesday Prayers at 5.30pm

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

## HANDYMAN



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

**Brian Lee**

01985 850671

Mob:07901550279

## QUIZ NIGHT

Kings Head Pub

Friday 5th & 19th June

8.00pm for 8.30pm start

Winning team £20 voucher to spend on drinks

Good fun evening



## BREAKFAST CLUB

Saturday 6th June

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 your fellow villagers or just sit and read the newspaper.



## WARMINSTER CIVIC CENTRE

## MOVIE MATINEES

17th June

## TESTAMENT OF YOUTH

All films start at 2pm, doors open 1.30pm

£3.50 including tea/coffee & biscuits

Tickets available from the Civic Centre



## WELL ROTTED MANURE FREE! COLLECTION ONLY

Virginia 851133

## CHITTERNE CC

Sunday 7th June

2pm

Michael Horsfall X1

Sunday 21st June

2pm

Stockton CC (away)

## LIBRARY VAN

The next dates are **Friday 12th & 26th June**. The van parks outside the Village Hall from 1140 - 1200. This is a great facility, so come & have a look.



## FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June



**Not long to go now. If anyone would like to open their garden would they please let us know.**

Beccy Parker on 01985 850023  
rc.parker@outlook.com

or Helen Carter on 01985 850925  
carter714@btinternet.com



## WELCOME

To anyone who has recently moved into the village, may I extend a huge welcome on behalf of all the villagers. One of the best pieces of advice we were given when we moved here was, for the first year, to go to everything that was happening and then after that, decide what we really enjoyed and do it again the following year. If you just go on what someone recommends you may miss out on something that is fantastic.

## Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the July issue by Monday 22nd June 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.