



# Chit Chat



Parish Newsletter for the  
residents of  
Chitterne, Wiltshire  
No 102, March 2015

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## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

I learnt last night that a good friend of mine is moving quite soon and I felt rather sad. She assured me it wasn't to the other side of the world and that we would still see each other.

That is true but it reminded me of two sets of villagers who have recently been caught in horrendous traffic - one travelled 400 metres in two hours, and the other 70km in five hours!! I thought if I get caught in that sort of snarl, it may as well be the other side of the world! I know that is a slight exaggeration but I was a bit in shock when she told me. You think people are always going to be there but of course they aren't; life dictates that changes have to be made. I always think that the sign of a true friend is when you meet up after a few years and you almost pick up from where you left off; those friends are precious.

I have to be honest with you all and say that I have struggled with this month's Chit Chat. My favourite 'farmer' was the one caught up in the horrendous traffic jam for five hours and in the end had to come off the autoroute and find somewhere to stay, only to get up at 1am the next day, to travel on to the Channel tunnel, to get back home. Needless to say, providing an article for me was not top of his priority list! I had lots of bits and pieces but nothing substantial and so was in a bit of a panic. And then the cavalry came in the disguise of a couple of friends. I showed them what I had got so far and they suggested a few tweaks and developments and hey presto, I sat down this morning and it all came together - I hope you all agree! I just want to publicly say a huge thank you to those friends, which brings me full circle, as one of them, is the one who is leaving - boo hoo!



## CALLING ALL CHILDREN - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

According to Kenton, the landlord of The Kings Head, the Easter bunnies will be visiting the pub around the end of March, to set up an Easter display in the end window. They asked him if he thought the children of the village would help them, as they have so much to do, they thought they would run out of decorations, and of course he said yes, as he knows what a wonderful bunch of children live in the village.

This is what they would like you to do please. They would like you to decorate an egg with paint or felt tips or by sticking on bits, or anything else you can think of. Once you are finished, ask your parents if you can bring your egg along to the pub at lunch time on either Saturday 28th or Sunday 29th March. If you can't manage those dates, you could ask your parents if they could bring you along on Tuesday evening - the pub will be open 6pm. The Easter bunnies have left some small presents to say thank you for your help.

Of course, it doesn't just have to be children from the village who help out, as the bunnies know there are quite a lot of you who have grandchildren who may want to help, so please get them to join in as well.

**The Easter bunnies just wanted to remind you to make sure your egg is hard boiled or blown!** They can remember once picking up a beautifully decorated egg which cracked when they held it a little bit too tightly and all the insides ran out. It took them ages to wash the gooey mess off their fur! Thank you for your help.



## CHURCH SERVICES in MARCH

|                                |                           |                                |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st Lent 2              | 0845 BCP HC IC            | Nicola Horsfall (no flowers)   |
| Sunday 8th Lent 3              | 1000 Benefice ER          | C & M Pearson & Lillian Hopton |
| Sunday 15th Lent 4             | 1000 Mothering Sunday ER  | (no flowers)                   |
| Sunday 22nd Passiontide begins | 0845 HC DW                | Spring clean by all            |
| Sunday 29th Palm Sunday        | 1000 Benefice Shrewton ER |                                |

## EASTER EGG RAFFLE

A few villagers were chatting one night in the pub about the forthcoming visit of the Easter Bunnies, when Kenton suggested that he would run a raffle and the proceeds could go to a local charity.

Below is a short article about the charity itself and some photographs. The tickets, priced at £1 each, will be on sale at the pub, so please come along and show your support. If the pub is somewhere you don't go to, there are plenty of villagers who would be very happy to buy some on your behalf. Thanks.

In 1970 Joan and Bill Puddy set up Wylie Valley Disabled Children's Riding Charity which has been financing horse riding holidays for physically disabled children between the ages of 11 and 16 ever since.

Every summer, up to 20 children, along with a dedicated team of volunteer helpers, spend a week under canvas in Heytesbury Park near Warminster. The camp is a completely self-contained community that brings together horses and people to create a unique environment combining learning, therapy and fun ... really.... it's lots and lots of fun for everyone involved.

Daily activities at the camp include riding, swimming, trips to local attractions and days out. For this to be possible each disabled child has a team of 3 to 4 amazing voluntary helpers, who give freely of their time each year, several in fact for the last 45 years! This makes for a camp of between 80 - 100 people and it's not cheap to put on a week of this kind - inevitably the camp expenditure is huge.

Not only do they need to cover food and consumable catering items for 90 mouths 3 times a day but also marquees for the holiday children's sleeping accommodation, activities, day trips, resources, coach hire and insurance. Phew! So as you can imagine any help they receive be it large or small is very gratefully received.



The photographs of last year's camp say far more than I can about the fantastic time the children have, as do their brilliant helpers.

Liz Emmerson



## News from the Kings Head



I cannot believe another month has gone by. I have noticed that the days are definitely getting longer, as I don't need to put the lights on until later.

It's still good to see The Cut is flowing and it looks as if Chitterne will stay dry this year. I've noticed that we have the ducks back again this year, so hopefully they will stay and have their ducklings.

I have been reliably informed that the Easter bunnies will be visiting the pub around the 1st April, so check out the end window for an Easter display. To help with this I would like any **children in the village to decorate an egg** and bring it along. Remember to make sure your egg is hard boiled or blown! All the children will receive a gift for taking part.

There will also be an **Easter raffle** in aid of the Wylie Valley Disabled Children's Fund. Tickets are £1 and will be on sale in the pub. The prize will be on display, so come along and have a look. (I am hoping it will be a large Easter egg or something similar)

**Darts evenings** continue on a Tuesday evening. This is a fun, fairly non competitive night and it doesn't matter if you have never played before, as there is always someone to help you along.

**The Quiz Nights** have been very successful, with a couple of new teams coming along - a new couple from Clockhouse and a couple from The Stables with their friends. Once again it is a good fun night, with the usual banter and arguments with the quiz masters! *(Further details are on the back page.)*

Finally, my operation was successful and I am totally 'armless behind the bar

Hope to see you soon.

Kenton

*(It's great to see Kenton back behind the bar so soon and hopefully he will continue to make a speedy recovery.)*

**Opening times:**

Monday - closed

Tuesday - Saturday - 6pm

Sunday - 7pm

Lunchtimes on Sat. & Sun. - 1200

**Rolls available Saturday & Sunday lunchtime £1.20**

## SPEED AND LORRY WATCH

**The Chairman of the Parish Council and General Sir Nick Parker, met with our MP and a representative of Wiltshire Roads Department to highlight the problems of speeding and overweight vehicles.**

The outcome was total negativity, largely due to lack of priority and funding. The main conclusion emanating from the meeting is that we have to keep pressing for action. This can be done by continuing with Speed Watch and getting involved with the new Lorry Watch. Measurement of our concerns can be measured using our Speed Watch programme. But it needs people to man the camera. If you give only a one hour of your time during the three week periods we have the camera, this would be helpful, although more would be better.



Volunteers should contact **Douglas Stobie** on **01985 851048** or Email [dmms@btinternet.com](mailto:dmms@btinternet.com)

## VILLAGER TAKES ON LONDON MARATHON



**My name is Jeremy Major and I am taking part in the London Marathon on Sunday 26 April in aid of the Southern Spinal Injuries Trust. See <http://www.ssit.org.uk/chairman-leads-the-way/>**

My on-line giving page is at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JeremyMajor>

I helped establish the charity in 2006 when my secretary broke her neck. We quickly came to realise that there were a lot of people with spinal injury who could not afford basic equipment and other things

which we help to supply. The current climate is difficult for charities so we need as much support as possible.

Many thanks  
*Jeremy Major*

## WATCH OUT!



Please could you put a notice in the next mag warning all people who walk their dogs on the Plain to be aware that a "gin trap" was found in the grass on the Plain at the top of the hill off the B390, walking towards the Army village.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Anthony & Cleopatra
2. Lancelot & Guinevere
3. Moet & Chandon
4. Pyramus & Thisbe
5. Romeo & Juliet
6. Mills & Boon
7. Mulder & Scully
8. Edward & Mrs Simpson
9. Barbie & Ken
10. Othello & Desdemona

That wasn't too difficult, was it! Even if you didn't know who Pyramus was, by a process of elimination, you would have got the answer!

## PLANT SALE

**The annual Plant Sale will be held at Pitts House on Saturday 16th May this year.** Once again it will be in aid of the village Church and The Southern Spinal Injuries Trust (Reg Charity No: 123166). The Southern Spinal Injuries Trust raises money to help support the regional spinal centre in Salisbury and people living with spinal cord injury in the region. The charity's aim is to enable greater independence and quality of life for people with spinal injuries. We are really happy to be supporting this charity for a second year and hope that we can raise lots of money again to support this wonderful cause.



I hope spring is round the corner so we can soon get into the garden and start growing plants to sell - anything goes so be brave and perhaps try something different this year!

Many thanks in advance for all your help.

Emma Walters (850416)

## HOPE YOU SOON FEEL BETTER

Over the past few weeks there have been a number of villagers in hospital for a few days and we wish them all a speedy recovery.



Some villagers are still feeling a little under the weather or have loved ones who are having a bit of a hard time. Some are not their usual happy self for various reasons. We hope that you are soon feeling better and back enjoying life again.

## NEWS FLASH



Just to let everyone know to keep off the roads on Tuesday mornings as I am starting my driving lessons again....hahahaha.....aargh!!!

*Jo Booth*

*(Thanks for the warning but well done you !)*

## BABYSITTER AVAILABLE

*My name is Phemie and I am Virginia & John Neal's daughter. I am a reliable 16 year old available for babysitting. Please ring me on 851133.*



## 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.

For what is on, look on the back page.

## MORRIS DANCING

*Do you fancy watching some Morris Dancers? Hopefully in next month's Chit Chat there will be an announcement about a local group coming to The Kings Head - watch this space!*

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 2nd March  
7pm

Village Hall

All villagers are invited to come along.

## BREAKFAST CLUB



The next Breakfast Club is on

Saturday 7th March  
0930 - 1130

in the Village Hall

Come along for a bacon butty and a mug of tea or coffee.

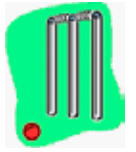
This is a great place to meet your fellow villagers or just sit and read the newspaper.

## CRICKET CLUB AGM

Saturday 21st  
March at 1130

Kings Head

All members, potential members and supporters are welcome.



## WOOLSTORE, CODFORD

Wednesday 4th March  
7.30pm

MOVIOLA presents  
MY OLD LADY (12A)

Impressive three leads - Kevin Kline, Kristen Scott Thomas & Maggie Smith - in a story of a middleaged American who inherits a flat in Paris only to find it occupied by an uncooperative 90yr old woman, and that - into the bargain - he has to pay her a fee while she lives in his flat!

Tickets available from Budgens  
£6

Changes to the order of films caused by release date problems

## Flower Festival Meeting



Calling all Flower Arrangers (and anyone who would like to help) to a meeting in the Church on

Saturday, 7th March at 10.30 am

I know that it is still very early on in the year (April being busy with Easter holidays) but we thought it would be a good idea to get together to discuss this year's theme. Do hope you are able to make it.

If there are any problems, please telephone Beccy Parker on 01985 850023 or Helen Carter on 01985 850925.

## WOOLSTORE, CODFORD

Wednesday 1st April  
7.30pm

MR TURNER (12A)

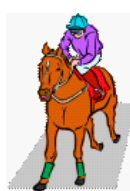
Tickets available from Budgens £6

## THE GRAND NATIONAL LUNCH

SATURDAY 11th APRIL at  
1.30 P.M.

CHITTERNE VILLAGE HALL

HERE WE GO AGAIN!



The Chitterne Branch of the South West Wilts Conservative Association is holding its annual Grand National Lunch.

Please book early to guarantee a starting place for an excellent lunch plus all the excitement of the world's greatest steeplechase live on screen.

Reservations from:  
Virginia Pryor, Chitterne House  
virginiapryor@btinternet.com  
01985 850255

Tickets @ £11 each  
(Cheques payable to Chitterne Grand National Lunch)



## STITCHING GROUP

The next get togethers are on Friday 6th & 20th March 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. If you are interested in coming along and want to find out more information, phone Sarah Gooch on 850893.

## QUIZ NIGHT

Kings Head Pub

Friday 13th & 27th  
March

8.00pm for 8.30pm  
start

Winning team £20  
voucher to spend on  
drinks

Good fun evening

Don't worry if you haven't a team as there are always plenty of people who would be happy to join you.



## LIBRARY VAN



This is an excellent facility for our village. The van visits every other week and parks outside the Village Hall at 1140. Nick, the manager, is there to welcome you and recommend books that perhaps you wouldn't have thought of reading. There are books for everyone, including children. You can easily join. Just bring along one form of ID with your name and current address, and it is FREE! There is a lift for those of us who may find stairs a bit of a problem and a hearing loop. The next dates are Friday 6th & 20th March.

## SPRING CLEANING



On Saturday 21st March from 10 o'clock, the spring clean of the church will be carried out. So retrieve the rubber gloves; find the feather duster; pick up the Pledge & join us. Remember, 'many hands make light work!'

## Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the April issue by Tuesday 24th March 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.