

Chit Chat

Parish Newsletter for the
residents of
Chitterne, Wiltshire
No 104, May 2015

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

I am sure most of you know that Jeanne George, one of my predecessors as Editor of the village newsletter, died on April 1st but I know some ex-villagers read Chit Chat to keep up to date with life in Chitterne and won't have heard the news. She was buried beside 'my lovely, wonderful Ern who I miss more every day' as she used to say. I used to send her Chit Chat every month as she still wanted to keep an eye on what we were all up to!

This month's Chit Chat has lots to keep you sitting, whilst you have your cup of tea and a slice of cake. Please, can I just remind you that if you think I am not putting in something that you think I should, you need to let me know. I know I am wonderful but telepathic I am not! Many thanks to all those people who do contribute either monthly or casually.

I have been aware that there have been a few villagers who have had a particular tough time of late, so on behalf of you all, may I say that it is good to see things are improving.

JEREMY DID IT!

"I ran the London Marathon in 4hrs 48mins and I am still walking!"



Thank you for all your support; it made the pain worthwhile. It was a fantastic day from the start. It was very emotional seeing so many runners and more so the spectators, who were brilliant calling out one's name and cheering me on. I saw my lovely family in several different places and it was actually quite pleasurable for the first 14 miles, before it got more difficult with the amino acid building up in the muscles! I can recommend it to anyone who is half tempted to give it a try but for me, it's definitely never again!"

(Congratulations Jeremy. What an amazing achievement. Editor)



CHEERS GEORGE!

Earlier this year George Unsworth White retired as the Tower Captain, a position he had held for 20 years. During this time he not only was responsible for the maintenance of the bells, the organising of the ringing for practices and services, but he also introduced many people to the art of ringing. We are very indebted to George and fortunately he is going to continue as a ringer. At the moment we have a band of seven regular ringers who

all contributed to a presentation to George of an engraved pewter tankard, to commemorate his many years as Tower Captain.

The ringers meet on Monday evenings, at 6.30pm to practice for an hour, and ring for the 10am services on a Sunday. They also, as required, ring for weddings and special occasions, which this year included, as you may have heard on Thursday, 23rd April, for St. George's Day, and this month for the 70th Anniversary of V.E. Day and in June for the Magna Carta.

If anyone would be interested in ringing or would like to see the bell tower, they would be very welcome to come along on a Monday evening at 6.30pm or alternatively ring Sally Oliver, 851240.

ELECTORS' MEETING - 11 MAY

On Monday 11 May at 7.00pm, the annual Electors' Meeting will be held in the Village Hall. This is your opportunity to hear what the Parish Council have been up to and to question councillors and make suggestions. We have invited a representative from Wiltshire Police to give a short presentation on what resources they have available to carry out their tasks in relation to traffic matters and also how they link in to Wiltshire Council. There will be time allocated for questions. I very much look forward to seeing you at this meeting.

Please note that the annual Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 18 May at 7.00pm also in the Village Hall.

Mike Lucas - Chairman

CHURCH SERVICES in MAY

Sunday 3rd Easter 5	0845 BCP ER	Veronica Reid & Elizabeth Johns
Sunday 10th Rogation	6pm Songs of Praise Shrewton	Virginia Neal
Sunday 17th Easter 7	1000 Family Service DW	Virginia Neal
Sunday 24th Pentecost	0845 HC DW	Marcelle Stobie
Sunday 31st Trinity	1000 Benefice Orcheston ER	Marcelle Stobie

HOW NOT TO GO DOG SHOPPING



The Labrador Rescue Trust Ltd has just held its annual Help a Labrador in Need week. Like all charities we need funds to maintain the very high standards we aim for in rehoming labradors, which for a variety of reasons, cannot remain in their present home.

Here I would like to say a big "Thank you" to the few who supported my coffee morning both on the day and since with generous donations.

The aim of rehoming is to get a happy dog into a happy, caring home. This is achieved by carefully assessing each dog, and thoroughly inspecting potential owners and their homes as to suitability. It then falls to an Area Coordinator to marry the information to get the right dog in the right home, where, hopefully, it will spend the rest of its life. With the expansion of the internet, things have changed significantly, and we are getting less dogs for rehoming. This is a worrying development as there is no check on how genuine the "owner" is or assessment of the dog/puppy on offer by a knowledgeable person. It is known that in some cases dealers and suspect characters use apparently respectable and honest people to pose as the owner. There are no background checks of either owner or the animal on offer. There are all sorts of tricks and ruses used, and once money has been exchanged, there is no redress if things go wrong.

It is one thing to buy goods over the internet, but dealing in live creatures can lead to great disappointment and expense if that new pet has not turned out as you believed and hoped for. If you want a dog/puppy, go to a reputable breeder (not a puppy farm) or a registered charity, but please, not the internet.

Lilian Hopton

DORIS'S BENCH

On Saturday 4th April, the bench bought in memory of Doris Windsor, was unveiled by Nick, Doris's son, outside the Village Hall.

A good crowd gathered, having already had their bacon butties and cups of tea, at the Breakfast Club.



Understandably it was an emotional occasion but I am sure Doris would have approved. It is an ideal position, especially if you are waiting for someone; much better than sitting on the Church wall and getting strange looks from passers by.



News From the Kings Head

Another month has gone by and what a lovely April it was; lots of sunshine and warm days. Sometimes the wind gave us some chilly moments. It's been nice to see people out walking or on bicycles and motorbikes, stopping off for some refreshments or a 'wee' stop.



I must congratulate Andy and Lorna on winning the Easter Egg in the draw for the Wylie Valley Disabled Children's Charity. Thanks very much to everyone who took part and we managed to raise £145.

Don't forget we have the **Morris Men** coming on the **20th May** at about 8pm.

The **Forces March** will also be passing through the village on the **24th May**, so get out there and cheer them on. They do 5 ultra marathons in 5 days!

We had a very successful Quiz on Friday which was set by newcomer Beth's uncle. (I think that was the relationship) It was good to see some new faces and kept the 'regulars' on their toes!! The next **Quiz Nights are on the 8th and 22nd May** and Darts, on a Tuesday, is still an enjoyable evening, so come along and throw some arrows.

Hope to see you soon.

Kenton

THE FORCES MARCH 2015 SUNDAY 24th MAY

Chitterne have been invited to carry the "Emblem of Endurance and Endeavour" from Chitterne to Shrewton as part of this event.

The Emblem is due to arrive in Chitterne (at The Kings Head) at about 2.00pm and we would then take responsibility to march with it to Shrewton.

I am asking for volunteers to help me carry the Emblem to Shrewton. If you would like to volunteer, please can you let me know before Friday 22nd May so that I can make the appropriate arrangements to get us back to Chitterne. (no, you don't have to walk back as well!)

Thanks

Mike Lucas 850058



CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Edington Arts is delighted that the international choral composer and 'hero of contemporary choral music' **BOB CHILCOTT** is



coming to Edington Priory Church on **SATURDAY 20th JUNE** to take a day's workshop on his own **St John Passion**.

The workshop runs from 9.30 to 5.30, followed by a full run-through public concert from 6pm to 7pm. Cost for the day is only £20, £18 Edington Angels, and £10 students in full-time education or training. You can download an application form from www.edingtonarts.org, or phone Anne Curtis on 01380 831454.

Concert tickets at £10, also bookable through the website, or ring 01380 871549 or 831256.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

Congratulations to Andy & Lorna for winning the fabulous handmade Easter Egg, kindly donated by Kenton. Liz Emmerson drew out the winning ticket on Easter Monday and also was presented with £145, the amount raised for the Wylie Valley Disabled Children's Riding charity.



The Charity sent a lovely letter congratulating us on the success of the Raffle and also to express their appreciation of our organisation and generosity in raising such a magnificent sum. This letter can be seen in its entirety in the pub, as it didn't scan successfully.

FARMING FACTS by Murray Kent

(writing this in sunny France)



I know I should be informative and keep away from politics, but with an election on the horizon I will make my comments, editor allowing, and you can draw your own conclusions.

First a few questions:

1. Is there enough food in the world for us all?
 2. Do we import food from third world countries that could actually be fed to their own population?
 3. If we could produce more food for ourselves, would this help others less fortunate than ourselves?
 4. Have you seen the solar panel fields popping up around us, notably along the A303?
 5. Have you counted the number of solar panels on the new warehouse at Solstice Park?
 6. Ditto for our wonderful visitor centre at Stonehenge.
- Hopefully you can see where I am going here.
7. Is it right to take out good productive agricultural land and basically cover it with mirrors?
 8. Is it right to build large new industrial units, agricultural barns and office blocks and not have a mandatory requirement to instal solar panels?

You might ask what has brought this on. Well you can love them or hate them but our neighbours across the Channel seem to have a much better approach. Most new barns here in the South West of France have a complete solar panel roof; industrial units glisten in the sun, feeding the grid with essential



electricity supply. The fields grow crops to feed the cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens and humans. It all seems to make such logical sense to me, but our politicians must know something I am blissfully unaware of.

(As always, Murray gives us 'food for thought'; something to talk about over a pint and a packet of crisps, although mine's a glass of pink! Editor)

Brian and Soo would like to say a big thank you to all those who made their Ruby Anniversary Party such a great night. Unfortunately we will not have the Air Ambulance collection outcome until after this issue has gone to print, so we will let you know in the June issue.

Jim's Gardening Services

Grass & hedge cutting
Borders

Any handyman type of work in & out of the home

Jim Fetherstonhaugh

01980 621471 or 07775563405

JUNIOR ART COMPETITION



All budding young artists are invited to enter a competition for the **Ernie George Memorial Cup**. This will be held the weekend of the Flower Festival 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!



FLOWER FESTIVAL

**Saturday 20th
& Sunday 21st
June**



As our theme this year is Music of The Masters, we will need a few props to help decorate the Church.

If anyone has any musical instruments lurking in their houses, i.e. violins, guitars, flutes, trombones etc, we would love to borrow them.



Please contact Beccy Parker on 01985 850023 or Helen Carter on 01985 850925.

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 or contact Steph on 07834157776

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



STITCHING GROUP

The next get togethers are on **Friday 1st & 15th May 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.

LIBRARY VAN

The next dates are **Friday 1st & 15th May**. The van parks outside the Village Hall from 1140 - 1200.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Saturday 2nd May
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.

WOOLSTORE CODFORD

Wednesday 6th May
7.30pm

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

Tickets available from Budgens £6



QUIZ NIGHT

Kings Head Pub

Friday 8th & 22nd May

8.00pm for 8.30pm start

Winning team £20 voucher to spend on drinks

Good fun evening



Church Spring Clean

9th May at 1000

More hands make light work, or at least a shorter time spent in Church!

Rogation Sunday, 10th May Walk and picnic

On Sunday 10th May please join us, the four churches of Chitterne, Orcheston, Shrewton and Tilshead – **Salisbury Plain Benefice** – for our Rogation Sunday walk and picnic on the Plain.

Walking: We'll be leaving at 10.45 from Chitterne Village Hall or 11.00 from Shrewton Rec, and Tilshead and Orcheston Village Halls. We'll arrive at 12 noon where our four villages meet, the cross tracks south of Copehill Plantation, at GR SU 031454.

Driving: Via Tank Crossing M (signposted off the A360, north of the CCF Camp, south of Tilshead). Park at Copehill Plantation and walk down to the cross tracks for the meeting at 12 noon.

Picnic: Please bring your own picnic. Cake and hot and cold drinks will be provided at Copehill Plantation.

7.45 am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Shrewton

10.45/11.00 am Walk or drive from the four villages to the cross tracks

12 noon Meeting at the cross tracks

12.30 pm Picnic and hot and cold drinks at Copehill Plantation

6 pm A traditional 'Songs of Praise' service at Shrewton Church

All the Benefice is invited to gather for hymns and songs, poems, readings and prayers chosen and introduced by members of the Benefice (or, if you are really shy, on your behalf). See suggestion slips in our four churches, or email Eleanor directly by **1st May** – reveleanorrance@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 18th May at 7pm in the Village Hall. All villagers are invited to come along to listen to the discussions. Nearer the time the agenda will be available online and on the village noticeboard.



MORRIS MEN KINGS HEAD

Wednesday 20th May
8pmish

VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Saturday 23rd May

10.00 meet at Village Hall to discuss plan of action

This is in preparation for the 'Best Kept Village' competition.



Come along armed with secateurs, trimmers, wheelbarrows, brushes etc and work alongside your fellow villagers.

Refreshments will be available in the Village Hall.

This is another good way of meeting each other and what else would you be up to on a Saturday!

PLANT SALE

Saturday 16th May
10.30 - 12.00



In aid of the village church and the Southern Spinal Injuries Trust.

Please come and join us for free coffee and biscuits and the opportunity to come and stock up on plants (including vegetables) for the garden.

As usual there will be a raffle with wonderful prizes and lots of cakes and jams etc.

If you have anything you would like to sell do please let me know and I can come and collect them the day before. I am hoping everyone else's seedlings are doing better than ours!

Many thanks and hope to see lots of you on the day.

Emma Walters 850416

CHITTERNE CRICKET CLUB

Sunday 24th May

2pm

Avon Valley CC



Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the June issue by Saturday 23rd May 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.