



Chit Chat



Parish Newsletter for the
residents of
Chitterne, Wiltshire
No 108, September 2015

Editor: Lindsay Lucas, Chapel Cottage, 01985 850058 - chitchat.39@gmail.com

Editor's Ramblings

I can just picture you all lying on your sun loungers reading this in the garden with a glass of something cool by your side; the children are happily splashing about in the paddling pool; the dog is sleeping in the shade; someone close by has a barbie on the go; you can hear the jingle of the icecream van in the distance and are contemplating stirring yourself to go in search of a cooling icecream.

Come on, it's Bank Holiday weekend; it's bound to be glorious weather! The children are due to go back to school in a couple of days, so of course the rain will stop and we will all be able to turn off the heating and bring out the summer clothes! I know it's not been as bad as that, but honestly, I am sitting here writing this with my socks on, a long sleeved t-shirt plus a cardigan, trousers and a hot water bottle!! I know we live in an old house and it takes ages to warm up but it's August; it's summer; my sun cream has not had its lid off, and those white linen trousers that I bought on that hot day in May/June are still in the wardrobe, having never been worn! At least we won't have a drought and the garden is looking very green and lush.

September sees the start of the new academic year. I know some of the children are starting school for the first time - how exciting; some are going to start their secondary education - what an adventure; some are either beginning or returning to university and college - exciting and adventurous, and some are having a bit of time just to think about the future. Whichever category you fall into I hope it all goes well and you work as hard as you can and are happy. I was really happy throughout my school and college days, as I loved all the new experiences they had to offer and the new people to meet.

Temporary Closure of: A360 (Part) and B390 Chitterne Road (Part), Shrewton

(Ref: TTRO 3875)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:

- a) A360 (Part), Shrewton; from its junction with B390 Chitterne Road in a north-westerly direction for a distance of approximately 610m.
- b) B390 Chitterne Road (Part), Shrewton; from its junction with A360 in a westerly direction for a distance of approximately 1.8km.
- c) A360 (Part), Shrewton; from its junction with The Common to its junction with B390 Chitterne Road.
- d) A360 (Part), Shrewton; from its junction with The Common in a north-westerly direction for a distance of approximately 1km.
- e) B390 Chitterne Road (Part), Shrewton; from its junction with A360 in a westerly direction for a distance of approximately 1.8km.

To enable: Wiltshire Council to carry out kerbing, carriageway reconstruction, carriageway resurfacing, drainage, road marking and signing works.

Dates and periods of closure:

- a) 07.09.2015 - 20.09.2015 (2 weeks)
- b) 21.09.2015 - 04.10.2015 (2 weeks)
- c) 05.10.2015 - 11.10.2015 (1 week)
- d) 12.10.2015 - 16.10.2015 (5 nights)
- e) 19.10.2015 - 23.10.2015 (5 nights)

Alternative routes:

- a) Northwest along the A360 Maddington Street, southeast on the A342 Nursteed Road, south on the A345 Salisbury Road, west on the A303, northwest on the A360 Amesbury Road and vice versa.
- b) West on the B390 Chitterne Road, southeast on the A36, northeast on the A303, northwest on the A360 Amesbury Road and vice versa.
- c) Northwest along the A360 Maddington Street, southeast on the A342 Nursteed Road, south on the A345 Salisbury Road, west on the A303, northwest on the A360 Amesbury Road and vice versa.
- d) Northwest along the A360 Maddington Street, southeast on the A342 Nursteed Road, south on the A345 Salisbury Road, west on the A303, northwest on the A360 Amesbury Road and vice versa.
- e) West on the B390 Chitterne Road, southeast on the A36, northeast on the A303, northwest on the A360 Amesbury Road and vice versa.

The closure and diversion routes will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

For further information please contact Balfour Beatty Living Places on 01249 468582.

A map of the routes will be on display on the Village Hall notice board.

CHURCH SERVICES in SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th Trinity 14	0845 BCP HC (St Mary's Chancel)	Jane Harley
Sunday 13th Trinity 15	1000 Benefice Shrewton ER	Jane Harley
Sunday 20th Trinity 16	1130 Harvest ER	S & R Gooch Lisa Murray
Sunday 27th Trinity 17	0845 HC	S & R Gooch Lisa Murray

ARMY ACTIVITIES TRAINING

After a quiet August, training will resume at moderate levels throughout the month of September.

Armoured manoeuvre training will take place across all areas throughout the month with at least five local sub-units on the Plain each day. Activity will peak in the week **21 – 25 September** when the Land Warfare Centre Armoured and Armoured Infantry courses deploy on Exercise **COMBAT TEAM**. 11 Signal Brigade will be running a major communications exercise for the majority of the month and Headquarters 3rd (UK) Division will conduct a command post exercise in the latter half of the month.

During exercises, access may be restricted on Larkhill Ranges and in the Chitterne – Shrewton – Tilshead Triangle north of the B390.

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

HOPE YOU SOON FEEL BETTER



I know that there have been a few villagers who have recently had to spend a day or two in hospital. Now that you are home, we wish you a speedy recovery and will soon see you around the village.

There have been others who have just not been feeling great and we would like to think that things will sort themselves out quite soon.

WOOLSTORE CODFORD

Wednesday 2nd September
7.30pm

DARK HORSE

Tickets available from Budgens £6

Director Louise Osmond chronicles the career of race horse 'Dream Alliance'. Owned by a syndicate of working class people in a small town in Wales, the horse defied convention, injury and expectation to win some of the most prestigious races in Britain. The picture is as textbook an underdog story as anything to have come out of Hollywood, and yet it's the sincerity of the principals who tell the story that make it so uniquely compelling.

If you are driving in Wiltshire and see a part of the road that needs repairing, you may wish to report it. The telephone numbers to do so are:
Highways Agency (A303/A36)
03001235000
Wiltshire Highways 03004560105
They respond very quickly.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2015

DISTRICT ROUND

WEST WILTS - MEDIUM VILLAGES

Chitterne was runner up in this category and the following is the judges' report.



Hedges, trees, walls, fences, banks and verges were mostly well-looked after with just a couple of exceptions where things looked untidy rather than "natural". Residential gardens and outbuildings were also of a high standard and we were especially impressed with Abdon Close. We assume all the residents of Chitterne are super-fit with the provision of exercise apparatus right in the middle of the village in what is one of the best-maintained sportsfields we have seen, a real boon to the village and a credit to those who look after it. The village green was fine but, although there were some allotments in good use, there were also some which looked neglected which is a shame for such a valuable village asset. We saw no real problems with footpaths and were particularly impressed with the work that has gone on to make the stream so tidy (even if it is dry at the moment). The village hall was very tidy with an inviting area round the back and both churches, burial grounds and the war memorial were maintained to a high standard. The pub, with its welcoming array of flowers, and its car park were neat and tidy. Telephone kiosk and notice board were good, with up-to-date notices and we saw no fly-posting and very little litter. The map was good and there is obviously a good community spirit as instanced by the restored wooden signpost and the provision of many activities in, and the overall well-kept appearance of, the village.

Areas to improve:

1. Allotments
2. Some verges

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

News from the Kings Head



Another month gone by and what a mixture of weather for our summer.

The evenings seem to be drawing in but it's nice to have people using the outside space to take advantage of the warm evenings.

Darts are still going well on a Tuesday; we seem to average 5 people per side, so this makes for a good match, even if I have to play!

The Quiz nights are getting more popular with a few new faces about. The next Quiz nights are Friday 11th and Friday 25th September.

I would like to say a big well done to everyone who did their part in the food at the Village Hall on the Imber Bus Tour Day on Saturday 22nd August; what a great job. Many people called in to the pub as well, as they looked around Chitterne.

Hope to see you soon.

Kenton

Harvest Appeal Shopping List

At the Harvest Service on 20th September there will be a food collection in aid of the Trussell Trust and Alabare. Please bring along any of the following:

- Pasta sauce (jar/tin)
- Meat (tinned)
- Fruit (tinned)
- Sponge pudding
- Milk (UHT/powder)
- Sugar (500g)
- Fruit juice (long-life)
- Fish (tinned)



Any fresh fruit or vegetables will be taken to Alabare. Thank you.

GUESS WHO?



Caught in the act at Breakfast Club! You too could have as much fun, if you come along.

Yes, it's Barry!

FARMING FACTS by Murray Kent

By now harvest should be well and truly under way and in many cases completed. How different it all is now from days of yore. In pre-war days, and for even a decade after the war, the main machine would be a binder. This machine, either horse or tractor drawn, would go into a field of ripe corn, cut the crop which fell onto a canvas elevator. To ensure it all fell in the correct position a sail turned set to push the crop gently onto the elevator. At the top it would collect into bundles and be tied with twine and then expelled onto the corn stubble (what's left of the stem after cutting). This was called a sheaf. These sheaves would then be picked up by hand and stacked vertically in a group of 6 or 8 sheaves into a stook. Stooking was usually the job of youngsters and other volunteer workers. These stooks remained in place until collected by a horse or tractor drawn cart with one man stacking them and others walking alongside pitching the sheaves up with pitchforks. The cart would be taken to a rick yard where the process of building the rick commenced. These were usually round and build up to a height of 15 to 20 feet. The rick, with its conical shaped top, would then be thatched to make it weather proof.

At a later date, anytime throughout the winter or following spring, the farmer would employ a contractor to bring along his threshing machine. The best part of this process was trying to catch the rats and mice as they ran out of the rick. The threshing machine could best be described as a static combine harvester where the sheaves were thrown in one end, beaten with beater bars taken over straw walkers, which moved like a modern day cross trainer, gently pushing the straw to the back of the machine with the grain falling through onto sieves beneath. The sieves would sort out the small weed seeds and eventually the corn (wheat, barley or oats) would drop down a chute into hessian sacks. No health and safety then, for the sacks would weigh anything up to 75 kilos! The sacks would then have to be stacked in a granary, somehow keeping the rats and mice at bay. This was often achieved by building the store on staddle stones, now a much sort after garden decoration. Basically they looked like mushrooms and the vermin could not climb up because of the overhang. The crop remained there until such time as the farmer sold it to a grain merchant or ground it down to feed to his stock.

How would he sell it? Most rural towns have a corn exchange and this is where the farmer would take a sample to show to the various merchants present and hopefully strike a deal. The whole process was dirty, dusty and very labour intensive but looking back, for I can remember farm holidays as a boy, there was a certain romanticism that is not found today, but 'today' will have to wait until next month as Ed has told me I've gone on enough! *(I would never say that Murray, as I am always so grateful for your articles. I find them so interesting and this month you have left us on a 'cliff hanger'!)*



FAREWELL PARTY for John & Jane Fishwick Wednesday 30th September 6.30pm CODFORD VILLAGE HALL



You will know that our highly respected and much loved Doctor and Senior Practice Nurse, John and Jane Fishwick, are sadly retiring from Cherry Orchard Surgery on Wednesday 30 September 2015.

Their friends and patients from the whole area covered by the Surgery will be marking their departure with an **Informal Drinks Party between 6.30 and 8pm on Wednesday 30 September in the Codford Village Hall**. Although they do not want a lavish party we cannot let them go without giving them our greatest thanks and presenting them with a token of our deep affection.

Every patient of the Cherry Orchard Surgery is invited, including children, but we will need to get some idea of numbers, so you are requested to collect a **FREE** ticket from one of the outlets below which will give entry to the Hall and a glass of wine. **Tickets will be available from Wednesday 19th August at the Kings Head or from Anthony and Tana Knyvett. If you intend to come please pick up a ticket by Monday 21st September**, to give the organisers an idea of the number to cater for. There will be a **box available at each location should you wish to make a donation**, from which any surplus will go to the Equipment Fund in the Surgery.

A book for personal messages to John and Jane will be available on the night at Codford Village Hall and for three weeks after that in the Codford Surgery. Codford Village Hall has limited space so please come prepared to be in the open air and coats and umbrellas should be brought. Should the weather be against us and to help you plan, **the presentation will take place promptly at 7.45 pm.**

Car Parking will be a problem so car sharing would help enormously. Thank you.

We hope that you will be able to attend to see John and Jane off in style.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME



Small glass greenhouse
4'x6'
Includes staging (shelving)
Comes apart
To be collected
Rita Woollard 850448

Here are the answers to last month's Summer Fun Quiz.

1. Sunshine on My Shoulder
2. Sunny Afternoon
3. Summer in the City
4. **This was totally wrong!!!**
5. Here Comes the Sun
6. The Summertime Blues
7. Seasons in the Sun
8. Waitin' on a Sunny Day
9. Ain't No Sunshine
10. I Don't Care if the Sun Don't Shine

Number 4 should have read **WTSGD** not **WRAGD**! My fingers obviously moved one space across the keyboard when typing T & S! Sorry. The answer would have been 'When the Sun Goes Down'. I didn't know it either but I thought some of our younger readers would - sorry Dave!

CONGRATULATIONS



Well done to all our younger villagers who have just received their GCSE, and A Level results. We hope it was what you wished for. If any of you are going to university or college, have a great time and work hard!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DARTS



Kings Head

Tuesday 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th September

8.00pm for 8.30pm start

All abilities welcome

Another great way to meet fellow villagers

BREAKFAST CLUB



**Saturday 5th Sept.
0930 - 1130**

in the Village Hall

Come along for a bacon butty and a mug of tea or coffee. There are usually some other goodies to choose from as well.

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

HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday 20th September

Village Hall

After Harvest Festival Service, which is at 1130am



Everyone is welcome

Do come along and bring your children

Tickets can be obtained from Virginia Pryor 850255 or emailing on virginia Pryor@btinternet.com

Tickets are £5 for adults & free for children of 12 and under

STITCHING GROUP



The next get togethers are on Friday 4th & 18th September 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.

CHITTERNE CRICKET CLUB



**Sunday 6th September
2pm**

Presidents XI

This is the last game of the season and is always good fun. Pack a picnic and come along.

Farewell Party for John & Jane Fishwick



Wednesday 30th September

6.30 - 8pm

Codford Village Hall

LIBRARY VAN

The next dates are Friday 4th & 18th September. The van parks outside the Village Hall from 1140 - 1200.

This is a great facility, so come and have a look. Nick the manager is there to welcome you. There are books for everyone, including children. There is a lift for those of us who may find stairs a bit of a problem and a hearing loop. You can easily join. Just bring along one form of ID with your name and current address, and it's FREE!



GREEN BIN DATES

**Monday 7th & 21st
September**



BELL RINGING



Ever wondered what to do on a Monday evening at 6.30? Why don't you come along to the church and learn how to ring the bells.

Next ring is on September 7th. If you are interested please contact Sally on 851240 or just come along on the night.

TIDWORTH MILITARY PAGEANT

26th September

Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo

Gates open approx. 1630

FREE

A bring-a-picnic, party-in-the-park type event, with bands, fireworks, Welsh male voice choir, King's Troop RHA musical ride and historical re-enactors. No barbecues and no dogs please!

PILATES



Restarts on **Friday 4th September
0930 - 1030
Village Hall**

If you are interested come along and have a chat with Caroline.

QUIZ NIGHT

Kings Head Pub

Friday 11th & 25th

8.00pm for 8.30pm start

**Winning team receives a £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.

Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the October issue by Friday 25th September 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.