

# Chit-Chat

Parish Newsletter for the  
residents of  
Chitterne, Wiltshire  
No 74, August 2012

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## Editor's Ramblings

Let me introduce myself. My name is Lindsay Lucas & I am your new editor. I have lived in Chitterne with Mike, my husband, for an unbelievable 19 years! Although I tried to involve myself as much as possible in village life, it is only since retiring that I feel I have the time to make firm commitments; hence volunteering to become the editor.

When I knew I was going to take over as editor, I sat down one afternoon & thought how was I going to put my mark on it. I think what we have is brilliant & it is brilliant no matter who becomes the editor. It exists & lets us know that for such a small village there is so much on offer, should you wish & should you know about it. Over the coming months I will try & keep you up to date with what is going on & perhaps encourage you to become involved in something you never thought about doing. I will include a lot of the usual articles but I will also include some different ones as well – watch this space!

Of course I need your help in this. If there is something you wish to share with everyone, please send me a short piece, either by email, or put it in my porch. This is a Chitterne newsletter. I want it to be for everyone in the village. If there is a problem you need to tell me about it but also come up with a solution, not just say 'I don't like this' but 'I don't like this & have you considered doing this....' I think the posh expression is 'positive criticism'!

I just want to finish by saying a HUGE thank you to my predecessor Kato – I am sure you will all agree she did a magnificent job. OK, so the Chit Chat wasn't always out on time, (you think that is going to change!) but when it came, I for one, made myself a cup of tea, sat down on the sofa & read it from cover to cover. I always thought she managed to capture the flavour of what was happening in the village – hopefully I will be able to continue in the same way. So go on, put the kettle on, get the biscuits out, put your feet up & give yourself five minutes peace!



Some would say 'summer, what summer?' Some would grab the travel brochures & fly off somewhere exotic in search of the sun. Others would put up the gazebos, don the wellies, get out the golf umbrellas, pack a picnic & head for Chitterne's Sports Field for a great fun family afternoon to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee!

And that's just what we did & if you didn't, for whatever reason, you missed a fantastic time. People donned their red, white & blue clothes; made decorative Jubilee hats; got out their best red, white & blue paper plates with matching napkins; some even painted their nails red, white & blue & that wasn't just the ladies!! Food & drink was everywhere – Jubilee cupcakes, union flag cakes, cucumber sandwiches (with the crusts off of course!), burgers, strawberries & blueberries, lemonade, beer, wine, champagne – you name it, it was there.



Entertainment was provided by the amazing Will Blake Seven Piece Band & most people got up & 'strutted their stuff' or 'shook their booty'! Additional entertainment was in the form of 'how long can I keep my hoola hoop going' & for some it was a very long time & for others 'better luck next time'! In honour of Her Majesty, we all assembled & sang the National Anthem, led by a young lad who knew every word – it brought a tear to one's eyes.



A few photos for our village friends who could not make it to the Jubilee

In the evening a huge number attended the Jubilee Pub Quiz which was a great success. There were so many people that chairs were being brought in from the garden; people were popping home for some & for those very late comers, there was standing room only.

Kenton did an amazing job behind the bar, with Barry & Evie manning the bar-b-q, thus ensuring everyone was 'fed & watered'!

Photos courtesy: Liz Emmerson and Andy Brand

## CHURCH SERVICES in AUGUST

Date	Church Services	Cleaning & Flowers	
Sunday 5th August Trinity 9	0845 BCP HC	Chitterne	Jeanne Unsworth-White
Sunday 12th August Trinity 10	1000 Group Service	Shrewton	Jeanne Unsworth-White
Sunday 19th August Trinity 11	1000 Matins	Chitterne	Anne Neve (Chancel)
Sunday 26th August Trinity 12	0845 PC	Chitterne	Marcelle Stobie

# ARMY ACTIVITIES TRAINING IN JULY & AUGUST

23rd – 27th July sees exercise **CROSSED CANNONS** with extensive artillery live firing (late night firing on 24th & 26th July). The Land Warfare Centre's second largest armoured exercise (SABRES THRUST) also takes place during this week with armoured manoeuvre by Challenger 2 tanks and Warrior armoured fighting vehicles across the whole Plain.

23 July onwards preparations begin for the next **Op HERRICK** Mission Specific Training (MST) exercise involving 4 Mechanised Brigade which starts on 14 August.

Levels of training on much of the Plain during the first two weeks of August will be low as preparations continue for the next pre-Afghanistan Mission Specific Training (MST) period. Troops and equipment will arrive on the Plain on 14/15 August to conduct operational pre-deployment training.

Exercise **PASHTUN DAWN** (14th August to 2nd September inclusive), will take place across the whole Plain including "back door" areas that are normally quiet. PASHTUN DAWN will involve over 6,000 troops, 300 tracked and wheeled armoured vehicles, and both fixed wing aircraft & helicopters. Large convoys, some in excess of 80 vehicles, will operate on the training area and there may be disruption to traffic at tank crossings on the A360, A345, A338, A3026 and Chitterne/Tilshead roads.

**Military Flying** – Helicopters, Hercules (C130) & fast jets may be active at any time. Fox Covert Dropping Zones will be active for most of the period.

## Imber Ranges

The public are excluded except when the roads are specifically opened & access is then limited to three tarmac roads. It is planned to open roads through Imber as follows:

28 Sep (1800) to 30 Sep (1800) St Giles's Day weekend.

Note. St Giles's Day is celebrated each year with a church service in Imber. Unfortunately, due to essential road works, the road from Imber to Joan a Gore Cross will not be open.

1. Even when the roads are open the village remains out of bounds to the public.
2. These dates may change if operational training needs dictate.
3. Church opening times can be found at: [www.imberchurch.org.uk](http://www.imberchurch.org.uk)

Complaints about low flying should be made to 0207 218 6020 or e-mail [lowflying@mod.uk](mailto:lowflying@mod.uk).

Please report suspicious activity to **PLAINWATCH (01980 674700)**  
If a crime is taking place call 999 & do not challenge the offenders

Useful telephone numbers  
SPTA Walks Line/Access Timings: 01980 674763

Complaints about Firing Noise should be made to (01980) 620819.

## Village Treasure Hunt Sunday 16th September

Before the days get shorter & we all retreat into our homes, we thought it would be a good idea to get us all out & about & have a bit of fun.

This is an activity for everyone – babies, toddlers, teenagers, mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, best friends & even well behaved dogs!

Further details will be in next month's Chit Chat.

### A few extra Jubilee photographs



## News from the Kings Head:

Thank you for the continued support of the locals. We have had some very successful events over the past couple of months. There have been some excellent quizzes set, including the very successful Jubilee one & more recently, a St Trinian's one – fancy dress was optional, & all I can say is 'you should have been there!' The next pub quiz will be on Sunday 29th July at 8.00pm.

The Wine & Cheese Tasting evening went down well & later in the year we should have another one.

Tuesday darts nights are going from strength to strength, with teams of 4 to 7 players, providing good entertainment. A 'Boys versus Girls' match was held, where the boys narrowly beat the girls. The girls then requested a 'Grudge' match, when unfortunately some of the girls' star players could not attend, & the boys once again won. On Thursday 26th July there is the 'Regrudge' match which will be very seriously fought as the girls are determined to win. I will let you know how that went in the next issue.

**Bookings are now being taken for food** – either call in or phone on 850770. I will be doing the cooking & I have an excellent team of bar staff to support me.



Friday - Fish 'n' chips (eat in or take away) 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Saturday - Lite bites 12.00-2.00pm

- Menu board 7.00pm-9.00pm

Sunday - Sunday roast 12.00 -2.00pm

See you all soon.

Kenton

**There is a change of time for Thursday prayers from 5.30 to 5.00pm. In July & August they will be in St Mary's Chancel (unless it is raining) when we will go to All Saints. From September onwards weekly prayers will be back in All Saints.**

# BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

## HOW DO THEY DO IT?

The other big event in the Chitterne calendar was the Flower Festival held in the Church over the weekend of 23rd/24th June. As it will be 150 years this November since the Church was consecrated, the theme 'The Saints' was chosen.



Every year when we walk into the Church, we all take a gasp & say, 'Wow!' & this year was no exception. The Church was filled with a riot of colour, yet remained peaceful & tranquil.

There was such a talent on display. For those of you who say, 'I don't know what I am doing I just stick the flowers in & hope for the best', take it from someone who has no flower arranging ability, other than taking the cellophane off & sticking them in a vase, you do know what you are doing!! My only grumble is that I would love you to put your name beside your arrangement, so that I will know whose creativity I am admiring.



And of course it is not just the flowers that one should mention. Nothing in this village would be complete without having some sort of food attached to it! Once again you came up trumps! The gallant, & at times weary, body of ladies in the kitchen served morning coffee, with the all important cakes, delicious lunches, & afternoon tea. On my stint in the kitchen there was a couple who came to all 3 meals in the same day!! Now that's high praise.

### Parish Council News

The Electors meeting was held on Monday 14th May at which Aileen Fenlon was re-elected as chair of the Parish Council. Reports were made by Aileen reference the Parish Council work; Douglas Stobie on Community Speed Watch; Mike Lucas on Community Area Board matters.

Following this meeting the Parish Council met & the following matters were discussed:

#### Warminster Area Board Meeting

M Lucas continues to attend & will keep pressing for improvements to traffic calming measures in the village.

#### Chitterne Housing Needs Survey

A preliminary report has been supplied by Wiltshire Council. Councillors will discuss it at their next meeting.

#### Annual Accounts

All paperwork is with the external auditors. The accounts must be approved by 30th June 2012.

#### Sports Field Wall

Lime Repair in Shepton Mallet has looked at the wall & will come up with an estimate for the repair/stabilisation of the stretch nearest the play area.

#### Waste Site Allocation DPD Examination in Public (EIP)

EiP on 25th April was attended by V Neal, D Stobie and Cllr Newbury. The questions asked were very specific and related to 'whether the allocation as made is sufficiently justified and whether the site selection criteria have been applied consistently and fairly, particularly in relation to visual impact and traffic'. It will take the Inspector at least 2 months to write up the report and form her conclusions. Wiltshire Council has made some changes to the document since the EiP and these are now open to public consultation. See Wiltshire Council website for details.

### Village Hall News

I will begin this latest news from the Village Hall with a huge THANK YOU to the Village for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with such gusto at the Party in the Park & later (for those still standing) at the Jubilee Quiz in The King's Head.



Next on the near horizon is the Chitterne Village Fete during the afternoon of Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September. This year we are combining the Chitterne Produce Show, Village Fete & Fun Dog Show into one mega event. The theme of the Fete is the "Chitterne Participation Olympics" with Gold, Silver and Bronze prizes for the top participation performers.

The key attractions for the day are:

- Chitterne Produce Show
- Mini Fun Fair Sideshows
- Fun Dog Show
- Traditional Fete Sideshows – sideshow volunteers contact Andy Cameron or Kato O'Driscoll
- Mini Assault Course
- Snail Racing – so get your snails in training!
- Grand Raffle – ticket sales volunteers contact Tor Strong
- Bottle Stall – for bottle donations contact Doris Windsor
- Cake Stall – for baking donations contact Jo Booth
- Craft Stalls – stall holding volunteers contact Gillian Nolan
- Refreshment Bar selling beers, soft drinks and ice creams

The Hog Roast & Barn Dance originally planned for the Fete Day has transformed into a Village Halloween Party on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October, so start planning your scary costumes now!

Saturday morning breakfast club is going to be on the first Saturday of the month, starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> August. Bacon butties & tea or coffee will be served from 9.30 – 11.30am in the Village Hall. Come & join us.

**We are still looking for volunteers and donations for the Stalls & Sideshows... so please support where you can.**

Look forward to seeing you at the Fete!

### Just a bit of fun!

Identify these sweets/chocolate bars from the following cryptic clues:

1. edible fasteners
2. refined folk live here
3. wobbly children
4. wise guys
5. dairy route
6. a theme

answers next month

## LOTS OF THANK YOUS!!

Once again we were so lucky with the weather at the annual Plant Sale at Pitts House – after weeks of wind & rain I was prepared for the worst, but on the day it was fine & we even saw some sun! As usual it was a great success & we raised £440.05 (£2 up on last year!) This is due to the fantastic work & generosity of so many people & I would like to say a huge thank you to all the helpers & providers of the wonderful plants & cakes & also to all of you who came & made it a happy morning. The money goes to the Church & jacksplace (registered Charity No:1002832) part of Naomi House Hospice, for young adults with a life limiting condition. This year we were really pleased to welcome someone from Naomi House who was able to tell us all about the wonderful work they do there & I know they will be extremely grateful to receive our donation.

Many thanks to everyone & see you next year!

*Emma Walters*

### Flowery Thanks

A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this year's Flower Festival such a successful & happy event. The flowers, catering, cakes, open gardens & craft stall all lived up to the high reputation they have acquired. We raised £1,983.74 for the Church Fabric Fund, down on last year, but in the circumstances that is quite understandable. A full breakdown of the figures is on the Church notice board.

*Virginia Pryor*

Our names are Barnaby Dean & Rory Lomas. We are setting up a small business for mowing, bush-cutting, weeding etc.

Prices will vary depending on the size of the job. We are mostly available on weekends & in the summer holidays.

Phone: 850017 Barnaby or 850274 Rory  
Email: Rory@ocelotssystems.com

This is just to say a HUGE thank you to all the people who came to the Pub Quiz on 20th May & supported the Jubilee auction. This was the start of fund raising in memory of Thea. Thank you to anyone who donated a 'lot', & a huge thank you to Nigel for being the auctioneer – if you fancy a career change, that could be it! On the night we made £312, which exceeded my wildest dreams! Donations of £41 brought the total to an amazing £353!!

We had so many extra 'lots' that we decided to hold a raffle at the Jubilee Quiz on 2nd June & once again your generosity amazed me. With tickets being sold both at the 'Right Royal Knees Up' & at the quiz, we raised £218! If you are quick at your maths, you will have realised that that makes a grand total of £571!!

When we set out to start this fund, & had our meeting about ways of raising money, none of the above was part of the plan! I just thought it would be a nice idea to do an auction, not realising just how wonderful a place Chitterne is & how generous everyone can be for a worthy cause! We have a Treasure Hunt that we would like to do in September & hopefully we will see you there.

*Lindsay Lucas*

I would just like to say a huge thank you to Barry for being so patient in showing me how to use the publishing program needed to produce this newsletter. I, in my innocence, thought it was just a bit of 'cut & stick' using Word & throw in a few pictures to make it look pretty! How wrong can one be! After this I think I will be looking for a job as a journalist! So to all of us who complained that Chit Chat was late, shame on us, as it is not as easy as you think!

*Editor*

## Calendar of Events

Date	Day	Event	Time	Place	Contact
28th July	Saturday	Cricket v Oxymorons	2.00pm	Sports field	Anthony 851108
29th July	Sunday	Pub Quiz	8.00pm	Kings Head	
3rd August	Friday	Fun in the Sun	12.00 - 1.30pm	Sports field	
10th August	Friday	Kneeler group Mobile library van Fun in the Sun	10.30 - 3.30pm 11.40am 12.00 - 1.30pm	Village Hall Outside VH Sports field	Ann Moody 851103
12th August	Sunday	Cricket v Bill Twiston-Davies XI Pub Quiz	1.00pm 8.00pm	Sports field Kings Head	
17th August	Friday	Fun in the Sun	12.00 - 1.30pm	Sports field	
24th August	Friday	Kneeler group Mobile library van Fun in the Sun	10.30 - 3.30pm 11.40am 12.00 - 1.30pm	Village Hall Outside VH Sports field	
26th August	Sunday	Pub Quiz	8.00pm	Kings Head	
2nd September	Sunday	Cricket v President's XI	2.00pm	Sports field	

Regular events: Bell ringing every Tues. 6.30pm at Church; Darts every Tues. at 8.00pm at Pub; Yoga Essence every Weds. at 7.15 at Village Hall; Pilates every Friday at 9.30am at Village Hall

## FUN IN THE SUN 2012

Don't know what to do over the holiday? Fed up already? Well, this might be the answer.

Wiltshire Council is running free, yes free sports sessions for children aged 5 – 11 during the summer holidays.

All sessions are delivered by qualified, CRB checked coaches.

### Where is it taking place?

Chitterne Sports Field

### When is it?

Fridays 27th July, 3rd August, 10th August, 17th August, 24th August

### What time does it start & end?

12pm – 1.30pm

### What will I be doing?

Activities will include football, athletics, volleyball, tag rugby, dodgeball, kwik cricket, tri golf, archery, ultimate Frisbee & much, much more!

### What do I need to bring?

You must bring a signed consent form – download from the website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/funinthesun](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/funinthesun)) or collect one from Kato at Well Cottage, Shrewton Road or ring her on 850016. You also need a hat & water bottle.

## Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the September issue by Monday August 27th, by hand, cd or email to: [chitchat.39@gmail.com](mailto:chitchat.39@gmail.com), tel:850058 or in the porch at Chapel Cottage, Shrewton Road. To download Chit Chat from the village website: [www.chitterne.com](http://www.chitterne.com), click on the Village Life link on the home page, then click on Newsletters & the monthly issue you want. You will need Adobe Acrobat to read them. Downloads may take a few minutes.