

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Where did the last two months go? I was feeling very smug when I started doing some Christmas shopping in October, thinking that it would all be sorted by December; how naïve can one be!!

May I say a big thank you to the wonderful Sue and her 'fairies' for distributing Chit Chat every month. May I also say a big thank you to Murray & Kenton for regularly writing their articles and to Virginia & Marcelle for never failing to send me the Church notices & flower rota.

Please note that Chit Chat is going into hibernation for February and will re-emerge in March. In next month's Chit Chat I will try to put in any information I think you may need.



Whatever you are up to over the Christmas period, I hope you are able to relax and enjoy yourself.

Happy Christmas!



NO EXCUSE!

In April 2014, Chitterne Parish Council was given the opportunity to submit a request for the C22 at Townsend to be considered for a 20mph speed limit. This was considered and accepted by the Warminster Area Board and Wiltshire Council. Plans were drawn up and presented to and then agreed, by the Parish Council. After a short delay to determine how the police could manage enforcement, the project was funded through the Community Area Transport Group and has just been completed last month. Signs are now in place, as shown above. To complement this scheme, posts have been erected to hold speed indicator devices procured.



CHURCH SERVICES in DECEMBER

Sunday 3rd Advent Sunday	9am HC (BCP) Chitterne 1030 Family Communion Tilshead 4pm Advent Service of Light OSG	
Sunday 10th Advent 2	9am HC (BCP) Shrewton 1030 HC (CW) Chitterne 4pm Evensong (BCP) Tilshead	Marcelle
Sunday 17th Advent 3	9am Morning Prayer Orcheston 1030 HC (CW) Shrewton 4pm Benefice Carol Service Chitterne	Marcelle
Thursday 21st	6pm Christingle & Carols Orcheston	
Friday 22nd		Flowers by all
Sunday 24th Advent 4/Christmas Eve	9am HC (BCP) Chitterne 1030 HC (CW) Orcheston 4pm Family Crib Service Shrewton 4.30pm Nativity Service Chitterne 1130pm Benefice Midnight Mass Shrewton	
Monday 25th Christmas	1000 Christmas Communion Tilshead 1000 Christmas Communion Shrewton 1000 Lessons & Carols Chitterne 1000 Lessons & Carols Orcheston	
Sunday 31st Christmas 1	1030 Benefice HC Chitterne	Erika

Should anyone wish to contact the Rector, The Rev Eleanor Rance, please phone 01980 620580

ARMY ACTIVITIES

TRAINING

December will be a quiet month but as ever with range space and training at a premium SPTA remains busy up until the 22 Dec when the range closes for the Christmas break and reopens on 8 Jan 18. Although the range is busy there is little armour on the plain, all the training troops are in the light role with wheeled vehicles. Please report all concerns to the Complaints Help Desk on 01980 620819 in the first instance.

IMBER RANGES

The public are excluded except when the roads are specifically opened. The next planned open dates for 2017 are as follows:

Christmas 0900hrs Wed 27 December - 0800hrs Wed 03 January 18



News from the King's Head

Well December is here and Christmas is just around the corner - seems to have come around quickly.

Darts through December are on Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th and Quiz dates are 8th, as on the 22nd The Mummings will be visiting at around 9pm.

The pub will be open Christmas Day morning from 12 noon; Boxing Day from 1130, after The Hunt moves off. Hope everyone has a great Christmas and enjoys the festive season.

We look forward to seeing everyone over the Christmas period.

Kenton & Sue

REMINDER

A call to all able bodied villagers. Please meet up on Saturday 9th December at 10 o'clock for the annual Cut Clearance event.



This is not connected to the on-going cutting back and thinning exercise of the footpath alongside the Cut but solely to clear the Cut of vegetation and debris so as to ease the flow through the village and mitigate the risk of flooding to those households

at most risk. We are mainly looking for strimmers, mower operator and rakers and intend to burn what is burnable on site. Also we would like to remove any objects and litter that could also disrupt the flow.

Fingers crossed, but not getting too excited, we hope that Wiltshire Council might at last come up with some assistance with silt removal.

Hopefully see you on the 9th.



Murray Kent



**NOT TOO SHABBY
NOT TOO CHIC**

**GIVING FURNITURE A
NEW LIFE**

**ON SALE AT THE KING'S
HEAD**

**Pop in during
opening times for a
look**



News from St Thomas à Becket School Tilshead

We are of course moving into one of our busiest terms in school with the approach of the festive season and preparations are well under way.

To kick off the festivities we took part in the Devizes Lantern parade following a lantern making workshop run for children and parents by Mrs Bishop. As usual it was a lovely evening with entertainments and a Christmas Market.

We donated over 20 boxes to the Trussell Trust for their Christmas Box appeal. These presents will make their way to abandoned children living in state care in Bulgaria and Serbia, to poor rural schools and kindergartens, women's refuges, prisoner's children, housebound elderly people and refugee centres.

Children have been invited to sing carols at Stonehenge Visitor Centre on 13th December as a part of their late night Christmas Shopping Event. We will be singing from 6 – 6.30pm so please come along to listen and shop. We will also be carol singing in Tilshead village on the 18th so I hope you manage to hear us at one of these events.

We have had our annual Christmas Bingo in the village which is always a popular event and raises much needed funds for the school. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported us.

We are lucky to have a fantastic PTFA which does a great job to support us and (especially considering we are such a small school) raises an amazing amount of money to enrich our children's education. They have just purchased 8 new laptops so that we are now able to teach a whole class ICT with every child having access to a laptop which is fantastic! In addition they have bought a Bluetooth speaker that we can use with an iPod. This enables us to be far more flexible with music we use and removes the problem of sound in the church and the CDs jumping. The PTFA are also generously contributing towards the cost of our Pantomime trip to see Jack and The Beanstalk at Salisbury Playhouse.

At the beginning of November the whole of Key Stage Two took part in an orienteering and cross country event at Lavington School. Everyone involved did really well and St Thomas à Becket came first overall in the whole event which is amazing, so well done to everyone. I would especially like to say well done to Ollie and Monty who came first and third in the Cross Country Running and showed great stamina and determination.

We will end the term with an end of term service for children and parents which will include: performances from each class and our musicians; the younger children will perform the traditional nativity; older children will read lessons and Canon Rance will involve the children in the blessing of the crib for the church.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!



WOMEN'S REFUGE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

There will be a collection of gifts for the Salisbury Women's Refuge in the church after the Carol Service at 4pm on Sunday 17th December.

Any gifts for the women or children will be welcome, however what the ladies really appreciate are gift vouchers to enable them to choose gifts for their families.



Thank you,
Virginia Pryor

POPPY APPEAL



Chitterne raised £467.29 in the Poppy Appeal. This is a splendid sum; many thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

Virginia Pryor



Thanks to the support and generosity of the Village Quizzers and The King's Head, the Royal British Legion Pub Quiz on the evening of 10 November, collected a fantastic £217.63 for this very worthy charity. Lest We Forget.

Cheers
Andy

RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED PLEASE



Once again, we are putting out a request for anything you may have that you think would be suitable for the Raffle at the Christmas Party. Please give it to either Lindsay Lucas (850058) or Pam Kent (851785). Many thanks

MEAN WATER LEVELS

The Daily Mean Water Levels for Chitterne and Tilshead, as issued by the Environment Agency, do not give cause for any alarm.

On October the 20th the reading was 81.14, the 13th November 79.35 and the 19th November 79.23. This is 1.91 decrease in the depth of the water table and there is a long way to go before we reach ground level. There will be an update in January Chit Chat and if there is a sudden deterioration PeteNet will keep us up to date.



IAN CUTLER

**KINDLING &
SEASONED
HARD WOOD LOGS FOR
SALE**

**01985 850408
07753466869
6 Abdon Close**

EMMA COLE



**ACUPUNCTURE &
other Chinese
therapies**

01985 850928



WELCOME

To anyone who has recently moved into the village, may I extend a huge welcome on behalf of all 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. So, Tanya, hope to see you at Breakfast Club!!



WELCOME!

We have to welcome to the village SID, his brother el SID and their cousin SAD.

By the end of the year they will either be smiling or frowning at us, and the passers by, reminding us all at what speed we are travelling. So a big "thank you" to Valley Farm and 2 anonymous donors who donated enough money to purchase two of the SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices) and thanks to the Parish Council for raising matched funding from the Area Board for the third.



CURRY NIGHT

Saturday 27th January 2018

Not a charity night, just an evening of good food, fun & a fabulous raffle!

It is with sadness that I report the death of Raymond Poolman, of Sunnysdene, Warminster Road. He was 84 and had lived in Chitterne all his life apart from a brief spell of National Service in Germany. Like his father he worked for many years in farming for Victor and then Laurie Wallis at the Manor. After he was made redundant he worked for the REME in Warminster until retirement. On behalf of you all, may I send our condolences to Freda, his wife.

Ray's funeral is on Monday 4 December at 1.30 pm at the church.

GET WELL SOON

A few villagers are having a bit of a rotten time at the moment; it always seems worse around this time of the year.

For those of you who have been in hospital or are due to go, we wish you a speedy recovery. For those of you who have received some bad news, we just want to let you know that we are thinking of you.



DECEMBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRISTMAS WINDOW



Friday 1st - Monday 25th
King's Head

The Chitterne Fairies have contacted Kenton and said that they will return this year to set up the Christmas Window. However due to an increased work load, they will only be changing it every third day, so come along and have a look, especially the children.



SUDAN LUNCH CHITTERNE VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 6th
at 12.30 pm

(Our annual fund raising effort is to support the Schools in South Sudan)

Tickets £7.50 from:

Mrs Christine Pearson
m_pearson7@sky.com
01985 850240

Mrs Virginia Pryor
virginiapryor@btinternet.com 01985
850255

GREEN BIN DATES

Monday 11th



BLACK BOX & BLUE BIN DATES

Thursday 14th & 30th



VILLAGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday 16th

7.30 to midnight

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

GAMES

DISCO (later on in evening)

BUFFET & BAR

Tickets £10 - available at
Breakfast Club or from:

Pam 851785 or Lindsay 850058

The evening starts off with
some fun & games, followed by
a buffet supper & finishing off
with a disco.



Breakfast Club

Saturday 2nd
0930 - 1130

Village Hall

Come along for a bacon butty, toast, or an egg butty and a mug of tea or coffee. Other goodies may be on offer if the village 'Mary Berry' has had time! If you are new to the village, this is a great place to meet your fellow villagers.

Please don't forget to bring along a decoration to hang on the Christmas tree, as some of the ones we have got are now looking a little worse for wear.

Christmas Party tickets will also be on sale. (See separate notice)



STITCHING GROUP

We meet in the Village Hall on **Friday 8th at 1030**. 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.

LIBRARY VAN

The next date is **Friday 8th**. The van parks outside the Village Hall from 1140 - 1200.

For those of you who are new to the village, this is a great facility. 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's FREE!



QUIZ NIGHTS

King's Head Pub
Friday 8th 8.00pm
for 8.30pm start



Winning team receives
a £20 voucher to spend on drinks

DARTS

King's Head

Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th
8pm for 8.30pm start



HOUSEHOLD WASTE DATES

Thursday 7th & 21st

ANNUAL CUT CLEARANCE

Saturday 9th

1000 Village Hall
Car Park

(further information
inside)



THE MUMMERS

KING'S HEAD

Friday 22nd December at 9pm

This is a fun evening & really starts Christmas off for us all, so why not come along & see what it is all about.

Chit Chat next issue

All contributions for the January/February issue by **Thursday 21st December** by hand or email to: chitchat.39@gmail.com
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.