

75TH ANNIVERSARY

VICTORY IN EUROPE AND VICTORY IN JAPAN



I had planned on writing this in April ahead of a planned VE Day event, but COVID-19 and lockdown put paid to that, but with VJ Day fast approaching I am excited to be able to expand on my article and detail the first Village Event since March.

75 years ago George VI was the King of the United Kingdom, Victory in Europe had been celebrated and Victory in Japan was approaching.

On the 7th May 1945 the formal act of military surrender was signed, ending 6 years of war in Europe that had cost millions of lives, destroyed homes & cities and had brought huge suffering to the populations of entire countries. In Britain, Winston Churchill marked the occasion by declaring 8th May a public holiday. The Home Office issued a circular instructing the nation how to celebrate; "Bonfires will be allowed, but the government trusts that only material with no salvage value will be used." The Board of Trade did the same: "Until the end of May you may buy cotton bunting without coupons, as long as it is red, white or blue, and does not cost more than one shilling and three pence a square yard." On the 8th May people across the country held street parties, with neighbours pooling food as it was still rationed. During the evening, as celebrations continued in London, the then Princess Elizabeth (the now Queen) and her sister Margaret decided to wander incognito through the city.

During the early hours of the 9th May the celebratory illuminations in London were turned off. The war in Japan was still being fought and austerity was the order of the day. The war in Japan would last for another three months and during this time, soldiers that had fought in Europe, worried that they would be redeployed to fight elsewhere. They underwent additional training, specifically in jungle warfare. Luckily, in the end, no soldiers were redeployed. Fighting across the Asia-Pacific took place from Hawaii to North East India, with many thousands of Armed Forces personnel being involved in the bitter fighting. After days of speculation, the then US President Harry S Truman, broke the news at 7pm on 14th August at the White House, followed later at midnight by Britain's new prime minister Clement Attlee confirming it, saying: "The last of our enemies is laid low." The following day, Japan's Emperor announced on radio the surrender. Thus, 15th August 1945 was officially named as Victory in Japan day and World War Two was finally over.

So now 75 years on we fast approach 15th August and the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day, having had to postpone our planned event for VE Day due to the lockdown, I am pleased to be able announce we will be holding a joint VE and VJ Celebration event on 15th August at the Village Hall. The evening will start at 7pm, with food, drink and a live singer, who will sing a variety of wartime and swing songs including Andrew's Sisters and Vera Lynn. Further details will be published on Petenet once they are finalised.

Our celebration aim is to remember all British, Commonwealth and Allied Forces, without whom victory, the freedoms and the way of life we enjoy today, would not have been possible.

Mark Webb

VILLAGE HALL NEWS



The trustees of the Village Hall are now in a position to take bookings for the hall, with effect from the 1st September. There are comprehensive guidelines to ensure it is and remains a safe environment and you will be directed to these when you initially make an enquiry about booking the hall. Systems, within the hall, have been put in place, and we would kindly ask you to abide by these when you are there.

The very much missed Breakfast Club should resume on Saturday 5th September but check in next month's Chit Chat, as government guidelines can change things.

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

KateBee's Kitchen

If you live in Chitterne, Codford, Shrewton or Tilshead, I would love to deliver freshly-made, restaurant-quality dishes to your doorstep.

My passion for nourishing, homecooked food stems from growing up on my family's farm in the West Country. Having learnt to cook in a farmhouse kitchen, I love making the most of seasonal ingredients and creating dishes which are colourful and full of flavour. Since completing Leiths Essential Cooking Course I have been working as a private chef.

My menu will change weekly and I would love to hear from you.

Contact me either via email katy.besent@gmail.com or give me a ring on 01985 851 264 to place an order or discuss your requirements.

GLUTEN FREE GOODIES

Gluten free brownies, millionaire shortbread and scones available to order.

£10 a batch

Delivered to your door

Contact via email or phone

suzhucks@yahoo.co.uk

01985 850849

The New Chitterne Takeaway - Every Monday Night

International Street Food - 4 Meat & 4 Vegetarian dishes to choose from

Early slot from 6.30pm & a late slot from 7.30pm

Email us at eddibbles1@gmail.com or call 851712 for the full menu including desserts

Secure payments taken online, current hygiene recommendations and social distancing observed.

QUIZ NIGHT

Chitterne Village Hall
Virtual Quiz

Every Friday 8.30pm
start

Requirement:

Internet Access + Laptop/PC/Smart device + pen & paper. Some would also say that a glass of something & a bit of chocolate, helps!

Come and join the fun!



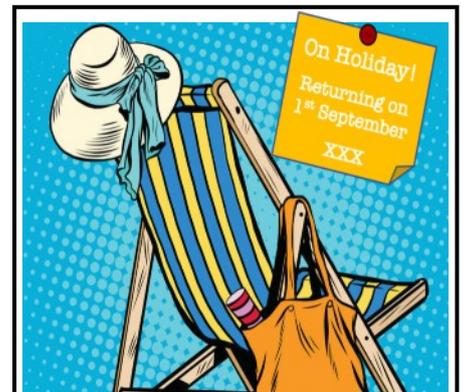
INDEPENDENT LIVING

For those of us who might feel a little vulnerable, or have concerns about a friend or neighbour, the following link is most useful:

<https://adults.wiltshire.gov.uk/Information/telecare-and-assistive-technology>

The reason to mention this now is that there are companies that will cold call you, and they target the elderly, to try to sell you their equipment.

Make sure that you only use the accredited scheme run by Wiltshire Council. It is there to help.



We've decided to take a short break but will be back on Tuesday 1st September for some more fun & games.

PS. We're hoping to hold our next WI event outdoors (weather & COVID-19 permitting). Watch this space

Be safe and have a great Summer!



Hello Boys and Girls,

The Parish Council is very happy to tell you that you can now go and play in the playground. Yippee!

Please make sure that you read the notices placed around the playground and do your best to follow the rules which are set out here as well:

- If any of your family are feeling poorly please don't come into the playground
- Please wait your turn on any piece of equipment until it is not being used and keep a safe distance from the other users
- Please do not bring picnics into the play area, they are fine on the field
- This nasty virus can be spread by shouting so please try not to shout too much; we know that is hard
- Even if you want to, you must not run up to any of your long lost friends and give them a hug
- Ask your Mum or Dad to make sure you have some hand sanitising gel with you and give your hands a good clean every time you finish on the slide, seesaw or swings. If they come with you they could bring some wipes, especially good on metal surfaces like slides
- Try not to touch your face; that's another hard one
- Take all your litter home with you please

Most of all enjoy yourselves and have a lovely time in our wonderful park.



CHITTERNE RESILIENCE GROUP

The use of the services of members of the CRG has dropped off considerably over the last few weeks, so consequently we have taken the



decision to put the group into 'mothballs'. However, the good news is that everyone has agreed to take up the mantle again if and when the wretched virus causes us more problems. To those of you still using the services of your 'street rep' I would ask you if you would, perhaps, be able to venture out yourselves. If you feel unable to do so please contact Murray on 851785 to arrange some help. The prescription collection service from Dr Butcher's house will cease forthwith. This is due in part to the relaxation of movement for all of us and also that Dr Butcher's son, who was our main courier has left the practice and moved away. Dr Butcher has stated that if matters take a turn for the worse the scheme will somehow be resurrected, so a large thank you to the Butcher family who will no doubt be relieved not to have us banging on their front door.

Finally I would like to say a big thank you to all the street reps and their deputies. You have done a sterling job for all the villagers who had need of help. It was a comfort to know you were there.

Murray Kent

PLANT SALE FUNDS USED FOR TILSHEAD SCHOOL WILDLIFE GARDEN

Our village Plant Sales in May 2018 and 2019 raised money for St Thomas a Becket CE Primary School to build a wildlife garden in their school grounds. The total amount raised over both years was £790.05 and I was thrilled to receive the email below from the Head Teacher which explains how the money is being spent. Mrs Meredith then kindly asked me to visit the school and see the garden for myself and meet a couple of the children who had been involved. It was great to see all the wonderful work they had done and hopefully it will now be enjoyed by all the pupils for many years to come, all thanks to our village's generosity.

'Since returning to school after lockdown the Year Six children have been hard at work on a wildlife project. They cleared and replanted the wildlife garden with herbs, flowers and fruit trees; transforming it from a weed and bramble filled wasteland to a beautiful haven. They then each researched an animal which might visit the garden. Taking inspiration from the book The Lost Words, they created a beautiful book of art, poetry and information about each animal to gift to the school. Finally, each child designed and made an item for the garden to encourage their animal to visit; we now have a bird table, a pond, a bee hotel, a hedgehog den, a bug house, a butterfly feeder and a bat box!

This project has been fantastic for the children, particularly at this difficult time when the Coronavirus has meant planned activities had to be cancelled. It has been an amazing way to promoting positive wellbeing as well as being something they could be involved in together and continue in a safe way adhering to all safety and social distancing guidelines. It has also been a chance for the children to give thanks for their time at St Thomas à Becket Primary School before they transition to secondary school. The children started this term feeling worried that their last term at primary school would be spoilt but in fact it has turned into a truly special time.

Being a small school, with small classes we have been able to continue provision through this time for the majority of the time in ways that has been trickier for larger schools to manage.'

Emma Walters

FOR SALE

Plenty of Yummy Imber
Honey still in stock

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purchase



Ian Cutler

All your fencing and landscaping
needs

6 Abdon Close

07753466869/850408



WANTED!

The Village needs
a new Flood
Warden. The post

consists of co-ordinating a response to any flood risk that might affect the village, organising on an annual basis the clearing of the Cut and attending, if felt necessary, Wiltshire Council / Environment Agency meetings for exchange of ideas.

The Cut clearance has been most successful since 2014 when we have facilitated the flow of water through the village as quickly as possible.

Since the 2014 flood we have invested in a large range of equipment including a petrol driven pump, 2 electric submersible pumps, a generator and other pieces of ancillary kit.

Fortunately never used in anger.

This is not a lonesome post and the turnout of villagers for Cut clearing and emergencies is always very gratifying.

Please contact Murray Kent on 851785 if you can help fill this post.

THANKYOU

Maureen, Christine and family would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their lovely condolence cards, letters and messages following the sad death of Alan; although currently a difficult read they are a great source of comfort. It is lovely to know that Alan was held in such high regard.

Thank you also to everyone who turned out to pay their respects on the 9th July; we are sorry that, owing to the Covid-19 restrictions, we weren't able to accommodate you all at the service.

A further thank you to Jenny Brassey, Sarah Gooch, Jane Harley, Elizabeth Johns, Vinna Smedley, Marcelle Stobie, Jeanne Unsworth-White and Virginia Pryor for the beautiful floral tributes in the church. We were very touched by such a kind gesture.

We may in the future consider a fitting memorial service/gathering and, if this is the case, we will of course share the details.

WILD FLOWER QUIZ ANSWERS

Apologies for the lateness of this but I completely forgot to put it in July's Chit Chat. Many thanks to Dave Robinson for compiling it; it certainly got my brain working!

1. Dandelion
2. Bittersweet
3. Cowslip
4. Vipers bugloss
5. Daisy
6. Self heal
7. Snowdrop
8. Teasel
9. Dog rose
10. Scarlet pimpernel
11. Star of Bethlehem
12. Lily of the valley
13. Old man's beard
14. Sneezewort
15. Buttercup
16. Eyebright
17. Yarrow
18. Foxglove
19. Bluebell
20. Birds foot trefoil
21. Field poppy
22. Groundsel
23. Herb Robert
24. Shepherds purse
25. Golden rod
26. Lords and ladies
27. Harebell
28. Cranesbill
29. Ground elder
30. Stinking hellebore

A GENEROUS OFFER

You may remember that in the April Chit Chat there was a very generous prize for the winner of The Sweets & Chocolate Quiz, kindly donated by one of the villagers, Michael Neve. Michael has once again shown his generosity and is offering a fantastic deal for any villager who wishes to stay in his hotel - The Bloomsbury Hotel, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London. Mike & I have been very fortunate and have stayed there and it is a wonderful hotel and is in an excellent situation for exploring London.



We open the hotel - or will try to, third attempt - on Friday September 4th which also happens to be, to the day, 20 years since I opened in 2000, so our birthday.

Normal rates in the months to Christmas would be well over £400 and even now are at a minimum of £250+. I would like to offer a Chitterne villagers rate up to Christmas, subject to availability - there will be some days still where I expect strong demand, weekends just prior to Christmas for example - of £125 inc VAT and £150 inc VAT and breakfast. I am sure you will agree it's still a decent discount off new rates anyway.

If anyone wants to book, please email me directly to - michael_neve@doylecollection.com



A notice has been placed in the phone box by the village hall stating BT's intention to remove it. As we are still in a "not spot" area for

mobile phone signals the phone box is essential to the community if ever there was an emergency or accident involving a non resident.

We have just 24 days left to register an objection by post which has to be sent to:

The Chief Planning Officer
Wiltshire Council
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
BA14 8JN

or email for the attention of the Chief Planning Officer at:

developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk

Please make your objection if you think the phone should be retained, making sure to include the postcode BA12 0LH



You never know what you're going to find on your 'doorstep'! Recently Pete & Jackie Bull had 'unexpected guests'!

An Army Major is on a mission to walk from Land's End to Edinburgh in a bid to fund research into his daughter's rare genetic condition - but he will be doing it barefoot. He said, 'There are four dozen times a day where I sit down and think I can't take another step, never mind go another mile, then I think about my daughter and I stand up and march on.' This was one of the times he sat down, and he did get up!

CHIT CHAT NEXT ISSUE

Please may I have all contributions for the September issue by Saturday 22nd August.