

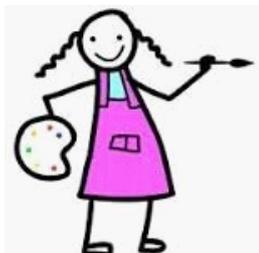


# Chit Chat

Parish Newsletter for the  
residents of Chitterne, Wiltshire  
No.171 May 2021

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## ART CHALLENGE



An invitation to the young of Chitterne to take part in a fun competition!

To support All Saints Friends Trust, we are asking young people to help us design a series of cards, no larger than A4, featuring the church in Chitterne, that can be used for birthdays, Christmas, thank you notes and so on.

There are three "classes" of entry for the competition:

- For those up to the age of 7
- For those aged from 8 to 12
- For those aged 13 to 17

There are prizes for the best in each group including, for the oldest, an amazing mosaic workshop for two with Emma Abel of abelmosaics at the Grange, Chitterne. All materials/tools provided.

Tana Knyvett, Angela Milne, Emma Abel and Murray Kent will be the "Judging Panel" - **judging will take place at the end June, dates to be announced**, so there is plenty of time for everyone to consider how THEY see the church, from the back, front, side, top (?) or bottom! Even, hopefully, from the inside - depending on COVID restrictions.

Please encourage everyone to take part, it will be so good to see local young people being involved!

Any queries, please contact Gillian on 850391 or [nolan545@btinternet.com](mailto:nolan545@btinternet.com)

Wylde Valley  
**ART TRAIL** 2021  
Saturday 1 - Sunday 9 May

18 Emma Abel  
maker of wildlife  
mosaics

48 VENUES  
140 + ARTISTS  
EXHIBITIONS  
OPEN STUDIOS  
GALLERIES  
WORKSHOPS

1030-1730 open studio  
10% sales to wildlife charities  
supporting critically  
endangered species  
Covid guidelines in place

FREE ART TRAIL BROCHURE  
[www.wvat.co.uk](http://www.wvat.co.uk)



Thanks to Jo Wood and Alistair Pett for applying a coat of seasoning oil to help preserve our nearly new slide. I hope the children will appreciate their efforts!



### DON'T FORGET

Election of Police & Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire police area  
Election of councillors to Wiltshire Council  
Thursday 6th May  
Chitterne Village Hall

## Ian Cutler

All your fencing and landscaping needs

6 Abdon Close

07753466869/850408

## MARK'S GARDEN SERVICES



**Potters Pottering**

Free quotes

No job too big or small

Quality service

Competitive rates

07887297060

01980 620858

## HONEY FOR SALE



Murray has a new stock of Salisbury Plain honey selling to support the upkeep of Imber Church. Just give a call on

851785.

For further information please visit [www.imberchurch.org.uk/events](http://www.imberchurch.org.uk/events) for the latest on opening dates for the summer.

## PLEASE REMEMBER



It's that time of year again, when grass areas are being mowed and therefore the perennial subject of dog poo has landed on my door step yet again, metaphorically speaking.

The "poo bin" along back lane is regularly full up which leads me to conclude that the majority of dog owners do behave in a responsible manner when clearing up after their pets. All I would say to the transgressors is would they like to come and clean underneath anyone's mower that has ploughed through poo or clean their child's shoes after they had inadvertently trodden in poo or their own for that matter? I doubt there would be many takers, so please, please clean up after your dog it is the responsible and sociable thing to do.

Thank you

## PLANT SALE

This is just to remind everyone that we will be holding the Plant Sale on Saturday 15th May at Pitts House from 10.30am to 12 noon with 2 separate spacious areas available to sell plants and cakes. There will be various announcements via Petenet prior to this date confirming plants that are ready to be planted out and which can be bought early, via a click and collect system, similar to last year.



Despite the many frosts we have had in April things are now growing and we hope to have lots of vegetables and flowers to sell. If anyone would like to donate a cake we will have a cake stall and would love to sell as many as possible. You may also remember that in last month's Chit Chat we mentioned that Rowena was going to take cake orders in advance, ready for you to collect on the day. Please contact her directly if you would like to pre-order any of the following on 850893:

- Light fruit cake (loaf tin size) £3.00
- Victoria Sponge with strawberry or raspberry jam filling £4.50
- Chocolate Sponge with chocolate butter icing filling £5.00
- Plain Scones (pack of 10) £1.50
- Meringues (pack of 10) £2.50
- Flapjacks (pack of 10) £2.50

All made to order with free range eggs

The Just Giving page will be set up soon and the money raised will be divided between Jack Winter's Leg Up Legacy Fund and our church.

Thank you all so much for your help and support and we hope to see many of you on the day - socially distanced of course!

Nicholas & Emma Tel: 850416

Across the Plain WI  
**FUN NIGHT IN!**

**Happy 3rd Birthday to us!**  
**Hip, Hip, Hooray!**

**Tuesday 4th May 2021**  
**7.30 - 8.30pm via ZOOM\***

\*This should be our last online ATP WI event this year... fingers crossed!

**You are cordially invited to join us online to celebrate our 3rd Birthday!**  
**We're going to do it in our usual style with some great party fun & games and some other stuff... shhhh! It's a surprise.**  
**Guests are very welcome to join us.**

Online meeting details and a link to the FREE ZOOM application will be sent to ATP WI Members via email prior to the meeting. Please confirm attendance via email to: [acrosstheplainwi@gmail.com](mailto:acrosstheplainwi@gmail.com)

**zoom** Video Conferencing  
To join us at one of our online events, all you will need is your PC, Laptop or Smartphone with a built-in camera; the free ZOOM application; your lippy; and your sense of humour! We'll do the rest.

**theWI** INSPIRING WOMEN  
...Across the Plain WI...  
Live a little Laugh a lot Do some good

Based in Chiltons with members from across the south of Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire Email: [acrosstheplainwi@gmail.com](mailto:acrosstheplainwi@gmail.com)

## DOWN ON THE FARM



The spring started with great promise and the spring barley was planted in record time and the germination looks really good. However if the forecast of no prospect of rain in the next 10 days (today being the 22nd) comes to fruition there will be many stressed crops struggling to draw up the moisture required. The average rainfall for April is around 55 mm and thus far we have had around 5 mm so that gives an idea of just how short of moisture the crops are. Combined with that there have been the consistently cold nights, which again slows down the growth pattern, as many keen gardeners will have noticed. Any farmer wanting to plant their maize crop will also be frustrated as soil temperature is a vital indicator of when it is the right time to plant. The later you plant, the lower the yield, but the seed does not like sitting in cold ground.

You will have all noticed that Eric has been busy rolling his crops. This is another important operation as the rolling helps compact the top soil and prevents the loss of moisture through evaporation. He has also been rolling his grassland in order to level off and flatten the mole hills and tank track marks that are easily seen from the top track at West Farm. This makes hay making later on, a much easier operation.

On the subject of fields and crops Eric has asked that we all take a little more care with our walking habits. Grass is as much a crop as any cereal crop that may be planted. If you check on the Wiltshire Council rights of way website you will probably be surprised to find that on both sides of the C 22 Tilshead Road there is just one footpath on either side. The north side is from the track by the horse paddocks at The Stables along the top of the field and down to No 1 Townsend and the south side is from West Farm along the back of Brook Walk and Abdon Close which is blocked anyway with garden rubbish and rubble. The rest of our walking is courtesy of Eric's good nature and the MOD and all Eric is asking is that, instead of walking across any of his fields, we take the route around the perimeter. Please try to keep to that request and remember that we are walking on someone's factory floor, from which he earns his living; it's not a lot to ask.

The nursery field at West Farm is now filling up with new born calves and the lambs on the Shrewton Road are enjoying dry backs which all goes to prove that you can't please everyone at the same time, but we know that.

*(It's great to have Farmer Kent back with us; we've missed you!)*

## CHITTERNE MOWERS



Paul Pike is looking for a volunteer or two to help him cut the verges on the Tilshead Road. Some of his muckers are getting a bit long in the tooth so some support would be very welcome.

Please call Paul on 851053 or mail to [paulmpike@gmail.com](mailto:paulmpike@gmail.com)

Thank you

## FUN QUIZ NIGHT



Friday nights starting at 8pm

**Requirement:** Internet Access + Laptop/PC/Smart device + Zoom + pen & paper. Some would also say that a glass of something & a bit of chocolate seems to help the little grey cells work!

Nobody takes it too seriously; it's just a chance to meet people and have a bit of fun. Scores do not have to be declared and there is a rota for volunteers willing to set the quiz.

If you are interested in joining us, please email [l.lucas112@outlook.com](mailto:l.lucas112@outlook.com)

## CRICKET SEASON STARTS



Sunday 9th May

Chitterne Warm-up game

2pm start

## VILLAGE HALL AGM

Thursday 6th May



This will be a Zoom meeting and if you are interested please email Lindsay for the details and joining instructions - [l.lucas112@outlook.com](mailto:l.lucas112@outlook.com)

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Just to let you know that on Sunday 23rd May, the Village Hall has been hired as a stop for an organised Bike Race in and around some of the local villages. The periphery of the field will be used for parking. This is a very well organised event and it follows Covid Guidelines.

## CODFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting will be on the 19th May when Lois Phillips will be speaking about "Green Manures and Cover Crops". It is a subject that not many of us know much about so it should be most interesting.

HOPEFULLY this will be the last time we will meet via Teams; but as usual your invitation will be sent the Sunday before and if you haven't received it, please phone Karen on 01985 850258 and she will forward it on to you.

Our Plant sale will take place on 22nd May - face to face this time - from 10am to 12 noon at Punch Bowl Farm, Chitterne Rd, Codford. BA12 0LX by kind permission of Greg and Carola Puddy. Please bring any plants for sale to the Farm on the Friday at 3.30pm to allow the Committee to set up and price them.

Further details ring Karen on 01985 850258

## EDINGTON ARTS

With the Roadmap now unfolding according to plan, wind and brass playing has been given permission to resume in church. Edington Arts is therefore confident that the first concert on Saturday June 12th starting at 7.30pm, will go ahead. The excellent international brass quintet Fine Arts Brass will be performing a lively and varied programme of works written or arranged for brass quintet, including by Bach, Piazzolla, Malcom Arnold, de Falla, Rossini and songs from the 1920s. It will be a wonderful evening of actual live music in performance - a first venture back to normal musical life.



The safety of everyone is paramount. Seating in the Priory Church will be socially distanced, meaning that numbers will necessarily be very constrained, and that tickets will be allocated to specific seats. If you would like to come as a group of up to four people, please arrange for a single transaction so that seats may be allocated appropriately. All tickets will need to be paid for and will be issued in advance; regrettably there can be no walk-ups on the day, and even worse, there will be no bar in the interval!

Should there be a glitch in proceedings, Edington Arts will need contact details to communicate any changes of plan as well as fulfilling test and trace requirements, so please be prepared to give your details when you order your tickets. Please either ring Chrissy on 01380 831256 or email [sue@edingtonarts.org](mailto:sue@edingtonarts.org).

Edington Arts recommends that you buy your tickets as soon as possible (£20/15/10 as usual with 18 and under free). If demand is heavy, a waiting list will be in operation.

## SOMETHING FOR THE LITTLE GREY CELLS

1. What is the birthstone of May - it represents love & success?
2. Who did Queen guitarist Brian May marry in November 2000?
3. Historically what style of dancing is linked to May Day celebrations?
4. In the nursery rhyme 'Nuts in May', on what sort of morning are the nuts gathered?
5. Which tennis championship normally begins in the last week of May?
6. On 1st May, what did Queen Victoria open in London?
7. In the sitcom 'May to December', what occupation had Alec Callender?
8. Who said, 'May the force be with you'?

## ARMY ACTIVITIES

### TRAINING

May has Exercise JOINT WARRIOR continuing until mid-May followed by Exercise WESSEX STORM that continues into July. Both these exercises will have the red flags flying in the West & Centre in order to ensure we maintain the safe place as there will be live firing and lots of manoeuvre.

A notice to all local population in relation to troop activity and noise levels on SPTA:

- increase in training activity could be noticeable due to less training last year due to COVID-19
- training that would have taken place in Canada has been relocated to UK and some of that training is on SPTA
- it is a Defence decision to relocate the training and DIO responsibility to meet that training demand. We manage noise by using a sound monitor system called the Gunfire Noise Analysis Tool (GNAT) and we permit up to 130db sound level, before we actively start restricting the units firing.

All firing times are published monthly on the Gov.uk site

Health and Safety reminder for ALL Military Training Areas and Ranges:

- do not touch or tamper with Military debris.
- wash your hands before you eat.
- clean your footwear before you enter your car or home.

## CHIT CHAT NEXT ISSUE

Please may I have all contributions for the June issue by Saturday 22nd May. Either email them to the Chit Chat email address which is on the front of this newsletter or pop them into the porch.