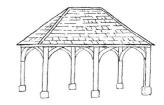
## **Charlbury Chronicle**



Volume 29 Number 3

Autumn 2025

The Charlbury Chronicle is a free quarterly local community publication run by volunteers covering news and events for Charlbury and the surrounding area

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Plus much much more....

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#### From the Editor

Well, what a summer we had! Didn't need to go abroad—though some days perhaps it was too warm. Lets hope that the good weather continues into September for, Farmers Market (13th), and of course our very own Street Fair on 19th and 20th September.

On this note, and having in the past helped organise the Street Fair, I would like to send out a plea to all to come, and offer to help organise this event in the future. It doesn't happen on its own, and without the money raised, the Corner House and Memorial Hall would likely require funding from the Town Council, which would go on all our rates!

If you think you could give up just a small amount of time, then please do come and help! It really is great fun!

New ideas are needed which can only come with new blood. So at the fair this year, go up to any red-shirted person and say you would be interested in helping next year! Thank you in advance!

And it's the Garden Society's Annual Flower and Produce Show on 30th August. For details see the *charlbury.info* page.

Also thanks to Katie Banks, Liz Puttick and Mary Heckman who have all offered to proofread the Chronicle.! Many thanks to you all

And it is with a heavy heart that I have to announce the death of Lynette Murphy, the founder of the Chronicle. She was such a lovely lady and will be sorely missed.

I do hope you all had brilliant holidays!

Susanna Finch

Please note the deadline for articles for the Winter issue is 1st November 2025

Please send all articles to editor.chronicle@outlook.com



## An ancestral trail from Texas, U.S.A to Charlbury

Every year Charlbury Museum welcomes a number of international visitors, and the popularity of the Cotswolds attracts many American tourists through our doors to explore the history of the town. In late July, Rolland Reynolds and his wife Wanda from Texas, booked a private visit at the museum to research Rolland's ancestors who emigrated in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to America.

Rolland had already done extensive genealogical work and written the story of his family history, following the trail from Finstock and Charlbury to Wisconsin, USA.

It is with his permission that I am referencing extracts from his fascinating account.

Rolland's great great grandparents were John Ward Bolton (1821-1886) and Caroline Elizabeth (Cox) Bolton (1832-1916). John Ward Bolton was born in Finstock, the son of Edward and Elizabeth (Ward) Bolton; John Ward Bolton's father and grandfather, Edward 'Neddy' Bolton (1747-1818), were farmers who leased Manor Farm in Finstock: Edward, senior, was a tenant at Finstock Manor in 1774.

The Bolton family continued farming at Manor Farm into the 1950s. Edward 'Neddy' Bolton was a convert to the Methodist Church in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century; Edward's sister Ann 'Nancy' Bolton corresponded with John Wesley who often visited Manor Farm in the late 1770s. The **Methodist Chapel**, **Fishers Lane** was built on land given by Edward Bolton's widow, the chapel opened in 1823.

Caroline Elizabeth Cox, Rolland's great great grandmother's birth certificate names her parents as James and Rachel Cox of Cornbury Gardens, her father's occupation was a 'gardener'. The 1851 census reveals that James Cox was promoted to farm bailiff' for the Cornbury Park Estate, his duties would have included collecting rents, taxes and supervising farm operations. While in Charlbury, Rolland was shown the farmhouse on the Cornbury Estate where Caroline's father lived, and by an amazing coincidence a Cox family had recently resided in that same property, perhaps a distant relative? Rolland is now exploring that path too!

John Ward Bolton and Caroline Elizabeth Cox were married in St. Mary's Church on 22 July 1856. Caroline received a wedding gift from Lady Jane Churchill of Cornbury Park, it was a small mother-ofpearl flask on a chain and a prayer book inscribed 'Caroline Cox from her sincere friend Jane Churchill'. The couple left for America shortly after their wedding on 13 August 1856.

Why did they leave their family in England and head across the Atlantic for Wisconsin? Perhaps inspired by a visit to see his Uncle Jason who farmed in Wisconsin, as John is recorded as a passenger travelling from Liverpool to Port of New York in April 1853, he then purchases 80 acres for \$450 in October 1855 plus further land from his uncle a few months before his wedding day.

He now owned 120 acres of farmland in York Township, Dane County, Wisconsin. John returned to England, married Caroline and their new life in America began.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century many immigrants were attracted to Wisconsin as it offered vast stretches of farmland, perhaps John foresaw a richer horizon for his families' future beyond Manor Farm in Finstock.

John Ward Bolton spent his last 30 years farming in Wisconsin with his wife Caroline, raising four children. Caroline



continued living at Bolton Farm until her death in1916; a photograph from1915 shows her smiling radiantly, life as a farmer's wife in Wisconsin had worked out well for this lady from Charlbury!

With thanks to Rolland Reynolds for

sharing his ancestor's story and coming to Charlbury to 'walk in the footsteps of John Ward Bolton & Caroline (Cox) Bolton'. Rolland would be interested to hear from anyone who can add to his family history story, please contact Sue at\_info@charlburymuseum.org.uk

Thank you to Sue Tokumine and Stella Bristow for opening the Methodist Chapel in Fishers Lane for Rolland and Wanda's visit.

Sue Rangeley

Trustee of Charlbury Museum & Heritage Centre



Rolland Reynolds outside the Methodist Chapel, Charlbury. July 24 2025. The chapel was opened in 1823, on land given by Edward Bolton's widow. Rolland is a direct descendant of Edward Bolton.

# Charlbury STREET FAIR

## FAIR Street Fair 20 September 2pm onwards

Magic, Myths and |Legends is the theme for this year's Street Fair which will be on 20th September form 2pm onwards,

All the usual attractions will be there again this year and we also have more local artisans than ever showcasing their wares. Do come along and join in the fun! We will be selling Draw tickets during the four weeks beforehand so, even if you are away for the day itself, you can still support us by buying draw tickets. Look out for us at the Farmer's Market, where we'll also be collecting Bottles for the Bottle Tombola.

Watch charlbury info for more news about the Silent Auction which has lots of great lots to bid for. Bidding will start a couple of weeks before Street Fair with a final opportunity at the Street Fair.

As well as needing help with putting up and taking down the stalls, we are also looking for people to bake cakes and serve teas and to help with litter picking on Sunday morning. If you are able to support us in any way, please contact me by email

csfsecretary@charlburystreetfair.org or ring me on 07800 744787.

Plans are also underway for our **'Bake-Off' on 15<sup>th</sup> November**. This is an exciting new addition to the Charlbury calendar. Please save the date and watch out for more details nearer the time.

As you know, all these events raise funds for our Memorial Hall and Corner House: particularly the ongoing refurbishment of the Corner House itself.

Liz Partington

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#### Charlbury Beer & Wine Circle

With the Circle's 2024/2025 programme of tastings completed, we have enjoyed two informal social occasions, each of a very different nature. Our annual garden party was held in the wonderful surroundings of a member's garden on a beautiful June evening when the weather was perfect.

Thank you Peter for hosting this very successful gathering. Weather-wise we were not quite as fortunate when it came to our BBQ as, after a settled warm period, the storm clouds gathered and rumbles of thunder got ever closer until, right on cue, the heavens opened for just a few minutes.

Fortunately our use of the Garden Room and its garden gave us instant cover until the rain stopped and we could return to the outside space.

Our year will start in September with our AGM when the business part of the evening will be quickly dispatched enabling us to move on to a visit from TAP Social – which some of you may have seen In Oxford's Covered Market but, with the closure of Botley Road at the railway station, fewer of you will have perhaps ventured to their main premises in Botley. It is an interesting social project, producing beers and bread!

Now entering our 47<sup>th</sup> year, the Circle's new programme will follow our well-established formula and be a mix of tastings hosted by professionals and members. October will see a tasting presented by Ali McLeod of Alimara Wines, when she will tell us about her and her husband Andy's venture into wine making and establishing their business in Catalonia - and give us the opportunity to sample some of their products.

In November we welcome back Preet

Sahota of Edgmond Wines in Shropshire. When Preet visited us a year ago, he presented a memorable selection of South African wines in an enthusiastic and knowledgeable style. We feel sure this will be another great evening.

We are a friendly unpretentious group with varying levels of knowledge about wine. If you would like to join us, you will be made very welcome.

New members and guests are always welcome. However, we do ask you to notify us of your wish to attend.

Brian Murray, Secretary sec.charlburybeerandwine@yahoo.com Ant Horn, Chair charlburybeerandwinecircle@gmail.com



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Head gardener Dom Ford - Plantsman with RHS level 3 qualifications, Former Head Gardener at private estates and former National trust gardener (Greys Court).



#### **News from Charlbury Probus Club**

Sometimes words can be confusing and misleading. Take for instance the title of our club, Charlbury Probus Club: we are in Charlbury, tick, we are a club, tick, but what does Probus mean? Historically it came into being as a formal club for retired Professional and Business men, but times have changed. First and most importantly, it is open to anyone and certainly does not require a person to be either a retired professional or from a business background. I suppose the other word that needs to be clarified is 'formal'. We are a casual, open and friendly group of people whose only connection is the enjoyment of getting together for a lunch and a natter and listening to varied and interesting speakers to follow our lunches. So if that is something that might appeal to you please get in touch and give us a try.

Our next lunch will be on the 3rd of September at our usual venue of Sturdy's Castle and will feature a talk by Jon Wilks, who is a former Ambassador and is Deputy Director at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. He will be talking to us on the subject of Community Integration. Following that, on Wednesday the 1st of October we will host Dr Katie Ewer, who will be talking to us on the subject of Immunology, including the Astra-Zeneca Covid-19 vaccine and other biomedical research. Our final speaker for this year on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of November will be Kim Hughes G.C., a former Ammunition Technical Officer who will speak to us on the subject of Bomb and Mine Disposal in Afghanistan. It doesn't end there though: on Wednesday the 3rd of December we will hold our annual Christmas Lunch at Sturdy's Castle.

We are now looking towards 2026, filling in our speaker programme and thinking

about our other activities which should hopefully include another afternoon concert at the Birmingham Symphony Hall.

New members and guests are always welcome and if you are interested in joining us you can contact the chair, Mike White, on 07710 296814 or mike.ewhite7@gmail.com, or our secretary Simon Handley at simon.handley8@icloud.com

Membership is currently £25 per annum and lunches at Sturdy's Castle are offered at £23 for a one course, or £26 for a two-course meal; tea or coffee with chocolate mints are provided to finish off the meal. There is no obligation to attend every meal. I should also point out that we have a car share scheme that offers transport to those who perhaps cannot drive themselves to the venue.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article, I sincerely hope that you will consider joining us for one or more of our meetings.

Mike White (Chair Charlbury Probus Club)

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#### **Charlbury Garden Society**

It's been a busy summer for Charlbury Garden Society. **Catherine Goyder**, one of most hard-working committee members, has organised both the Open Garden event and the Self Drives for many years. Below she recounts how much they were enjoyed this year:

Open Gardens for Nature Recovery was a very successful and enjoyable event which raised £2,500 for Street Fair. The Corner House garden with its purple Rosemoor Geraniums which is maintained by the Garden Society has rarely looked better.

Charlbury and Finstock Morris provided entertainment as did the School choir who sang nature songs whilst teas were served in the hall and display boards showcased nature photos from Charlbury Gardens.

A total of 12 public and private gardens were open and enjoyed by more than 300 people with more children than usual enjoying the quiz. Whilst it is not possible to write about all the gardens two deserve a mention; John Moore's filled with ingenious suggestions to increase biodiversity and the Primary School, which opened its Little Wild Garden, planted as outreach by Little Wild Things.

All the participants enthusiastically shared their gardens and showed how crucial our gardens are for increasing biodiversity.

We arranged two visits in June. The first was to Asthall Manor where Tim Mitchell showed us round the Kitchen garden.

There was much to learn and discover and we are welcoming Tim back to return to Charlbury on November 20<sup>th</sup> for a Workshop on composting. Rosie Pearson

joined us and took us round the Manor garden, where roses cascade down the Jacobean manor walls and intriguing paths lead off into the woodland, lake and Windrush valley.

The second visit was to Long Mead, a thousand year old hay meadow mentioned in the Domesday book at Swinford near Eynsham.

Catriona Bass of the Long Mead Foundation took us for an evening walk as the wild flowers sparkled like gems in the low evening sun and talked about their work restoring wild flower meadows.

A group from Charlbury are learning how to propagate wild flowers and in the Autumn we will be planting plugs grown from Long Mead seeds in the Mill Field in Charlbury.

We will also hopefully have had a wonderful Annual Show on 30<sup>th</sup> August. We are working hard to preserve this tradition when other village/town activities such as these are dying out.

We have lots of other things to look forward to in the Autumn, including our AGM and Harvest Supper on 9<sup>th</sup> October, a Plant Swap on 18<sup>th</sup> October, Tim Mitchell's talk on Composting on 20<sup>th</sup> November and our annual Wreath Making evening in December.

If you would like any information about joining the Garden Society or can offer help with any of our activities please get in touch.

alisonjderham@gmail.com or membership@charlburygardensociety.org .uk.

Alison Derham

#### ANNOUNCING NEW CLASSES FOR SEPTEMBER!

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## Could buying milk from the Co-op be considered yoga if you bump into someone you know?

So why the title? Well, community and yoga are about connection with ourselves, each other and the world around us. As part of my yoga teaching studies, I really enjoyed learning about how yoga can be many things, as well as thoughts and actions. It got me thinking; when bumping into my students in the community and a joyful connection is experienced, why can't that be yoga too? And perhaps that's a helpful starting point for those who are curious and have been wanting to explore yoga? Do you enjoy positive local interaction? Do you enjoy calming and centring experiences? If you enjoy physical movement and meditation too, then I invite you to come and share a class.

This last year of setting up and sharing classes locally has been quite a journey, and I thought it powerful and hopefully inspirational to share with you why. My own practice has changed quite a lot because of what I've learned from you. A few years ago, I started my teacher training in a central Oxford studio where classes were attended by a mix of local drop-ins. The anonymity of students and lack of interaction beyond the mat benefited my nerves in the early days.

However, since setting up my practice here in Charlbury, I appreciate the communal aspects of yoga and cherish the greater benefits it brings. I have found it both energising and joyful to grow with my students and learn as much from them as they hopefully learn from me.

The word 'yoga' actually means 'union' or 'yolk' in Sanskrit; to bring together body, mind and soul, this can be both for an individual or shared with a wider group. From my own practice and talking with students, nearly all seem to agree that a group of people can generate more energy and connection together than an individual, so that at the end of an hour's group yoga practice, the journey for an

individual potentially is greater. Furthermore, if the group have a connection before practising together, then the group practice can be become even more profound, focused and rewarding. This last detail was something I didn't learn in my training or find in the city studios. I thought it was something a community of our size, skills, values, and loveliness should be aware of and treasure.

I've listed a few classes I am planning to run; however, I would also like to hear from you if you want to practice yoga in a different way or wish to create a specific local class.

Tuesday evening class - 7-8.00 pm

Wednesday morning class - 9.15-10.15 am

Friday morning class - 9.15-10.15 am

Weekly video class (sent to you to complete in your own time) - see website

One-to-one teaching - see website

All classes are taught in the Green room (back room) at Charlbury Memorial Hall. For more details, please visit www.pocketfarm.uk/yoga or contact Brek directly on 07779 579482.

If you want to give yoga a try please mention Charlbury Chronicle for a free class.

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#### **Cotswold Line Promotion Group**

Two very different organisations are asking for public opinion about rail services.

Firstly, the Rail Delivery Group (formerly the Association of Train Operating Companies) has announced the National Rail Passenger Survey with the intention of gaining the views of 10,000 passengers each month, for one year.

This is twice the size of the most recent survey and it is expected to give national and localised opinion.

No doubt we can all identify rail users' principal concerns; the price of tickets, overcrowding, unreliability of services and poor communication when things go wrong. The first data is expected to be available by October.

It is not possible for you to ask to participate; passengers will be approached during a journey or at a station.

If you are asked to participate, please do take part as public opinion matters - particularly as we approach renationalisation of the railways through the formation of Great British Railways.

More directly relevant to us in Charlbury is the County Council's ambitious rail plan for Oxfordshire, called **OxRail 2040:** A **Plan for Rail.** OCC has a requirement to develop and adopt a new rail strategy as set out in the Council's statutory adopted Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP).

A one-month period of public consultation will open on 28th August on the County Councils' *Let's Talk Oxfordshire* (LTO) platform, where the draft plan, supporting information and a consultation questionnaire will be

available. This will be the main means by which you can express your views on the proposals.

Support will be available for people wishing to engage with the consultation but who don't have internet access.

Please do participate, whether you use the railways on a regular basis, only occasionally or have yet to do so, as the new policy will have far reaching effects for all of us. CLPG will post a remindernotice on *charlbury.info* immediately before the consultation opens.

CLPG will again be supporting Street Fair. Please come along to our stand to learn more about the group's activities.

We'll have a competition on the day and if you can answer some questions about the legendary Isambard Kingdom Brunel, we will have some interesting prizes to be won - and don't worry, if you don't find time to do your homework on the great man, we'll have answers on our stand.

Brian Murray bee.emm100@yahoo.com



#### All Together In Charlbury – a local helping hand

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### Coffee break page

Compiled by Michele Marietta

Can you do all the anagrams below—all are related to Charlbury.

#### Charlbury Anagrams!

- 1. anubis lycra wroth
- 2. clothed swots
- 3. acorn wonders
- 4. alchemy currycomb nutrient
- 5. after rites
- 6. tweekers
- 7. mostly netlike
- 8. bell hut
- 9. audi chestnut doug
- 10. cosmos leftward
- 11. elaine scanner
- 12. archbishop curry morally
- 13. albrecht elvis february
- 14. ceres honour
- 15. radically whiner
- 16. abhor porch scullery
- 17. hersh oreo sheets

Answers on p 37



#### Summer Highlights & Looking Ahead at Charlbury Pre-School

We've had a wonderful summer term full of creativity, learning, and sunshine!

The children made the most of our lovely playground and enjoyed hands-on activities like exploring textures making recycled paper, and potion-making where they experimented with mixing colours. Messy gloop play encouraged markmaking with chopsticks, while crafts and painting allowed them to discover how colours can be changed and combined.

We explored healthy eating by making watermelon pizza, learning about the importance of variety in our diets. And our sensory activities helped children practice using tools safely and build confidence with fine motor skills.

We were lucky to welcome our local police officers, who led a fingerprinting activity that sparked lots of curiosity and conversation. And we also enjoyed a special end-of-year trip to the adventure playground at Blenheim Palace, travelling by bus—an exciting adventure in itself!

#### **Preparing for School**

This term we've supported our older children as they get ready for school, from practicing putting on uniforms to meeting Reception teachers in the setting.

Familiar faces on transition days helped calm nerves, but it's the strong friendships built during their time at Pre-School that will really help them settle and thrive in September.

We celebrated their achievements with a sunny graduation picnic, full of smiles and goodbyes. We're so proud of all our leavers and wish them every success in their next chapter!

#### Thank Yous & Farewells

A heartfelt thank you to Amy, who leaves after three dedicated years with us—we wish her all the best in her new role.

Thanks also to Magda for supporting our finances and to Jean, our treasured

Forest School volunteer.

We're grateful to Charlbury Town Council and Wilderness Festival for funding our new planters, giving children the chance to learn about biodiversity right outside our door.

#### **Fundraising activities**

It was so lovely to see so many of you at our stall at the Charlbury Beer Festival! Thanks to John and the team at Five Ways for procuring the ice lollies and our Pre-School mums for the 'hard pops' which we hope will become a regular feature!

Our next event is the Charlbury Street Fair – we hope to see you there. In the meantime we've launched a crowdfunding campaign for a new sensory shed which you can find on our socials @friendsofcharlburypreschool along with information about new events, including crafting days!

#### New Treasurer needed

Managing the running costs of Pre-School is a constant challenge as government funding only covers part of what's needed to run a high-quality setting like ours.

That's why we rely heavily on fundraising and careful financial management.

We're now seeking a new Treasurer to help guide us. If you're local, financially literate, and can spare a little time, please visit our website for the role description.

#### **Looking Ahead**

We can't wait to welcome children—new and returning—back for the autumn term. We are open Monday – Friday from 8.30am–5pm during term time. To find out more contact us at admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk

The Pre-School Committee www.charlburypreschool.org.uk



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#### Riverside Festival 2025—Our best ever

The sun shone, the bands sang and the crowd clapped. What a great weekend; we started with an apposite blessing from Rev Fergus, who -whilst claiming no personal credit - had been praying hard for us and lo! The Lord did giveth, we had almost no rain (almost....). The community came out in your droves from the moment we opened the gates, and just kept coming. The site was as busy as its ever been and our huge range of entertainment was enjoyed by all (well, we couldn't hear any booing above the huge cheers).

Free kids entertainment, country craft skills, medieval reenactment, Jazz, Blues, Rock, Pop an Indie all rubbed shoulders across four stages and well over 50 acts.

There are so many bands that we cant thank them all, but we must mention our partners Lee, Grace and Deadly from Quickfix recording for running the Gary's stage, Glenda and her crew for the Fringe Stage, and Chris for the buskers stage. Mainstage-Mark, on the er... main stage kept our mindboggling carousel turnaround of bands going, a feat in itself not least when you get a massive band with half a dozen instruments each (no names, no pedal steel boys.....)

Caz ran a fantastic kids zone - giving all the adults an excuse to hang about a bit more and Matt marshalled the country craft area displaying a huge range of skills and traditions. We were very pleased to see our Next Generation coming through and particular props are given to Florence and her gang, Ollie and Oscar and the team who got stuck into the really horrible task of litter picking as we closed at night. Big thanks to HarryJon for handling that whole environmental services side of things - definitely the worst job. Probably the

most vital job is run by Ian and Jody and the medics, but in some ways the most important is the bars; that's the biggest contributor to the running-costs, and Arthur, Helen, Tash, Laura and 'Scotch' Iain kept the thirst slaked and tills ringing - but the huge crew of volunteers did the wet work and kept it all ticking along, a massive and continued thanks to all those who helped on the bar - and elsewhere. Oh and to The Lamb at Crawley for sponsoring the reusable cups or you would have had anything to drink out of! We must also say a huge thanks to Giles and the team from Hook Norton Brewery who again got stuck in and made it all so easy.

Special mention to Christina 'Two Hats' for running the stewards and our social media - and we give a big thank you to our great team of stewards of course for keeping you all informed and safe and flogging all those programmes! Big shout to 'lifer' Vickie for flogging a load of programmes AND all the T-shirts (in record time this year), and of course to another real artist 'T-shirt' Jon for another stunning design print on the....oh you do the maths.

We also often miss out on what keeps these incredible acts coming back to play for nothing: its the way we treat them, feed them and how they sound. So huge thanks to Anna for supplying the food (and being another 2 hatter for doing the programme) and the Simons-frommaintenance for cooking it, and to Martin and Jimmy and their team for making Riverside sound far better than we have any right to. We are sad to say one of our stalwarts wont be back next year; Martin from Control Sound who has been providing all the sound equipment for .... lets say "20 odd" years, he is retiring and we want to extend our heartfelt thanks



for his amazing help and service over the decades - maybe we will see you on the other side of the crash barrier next year. You'll have seen some great photos on social media of the festival and thanks to Andy-Pitoad and all the 'toggers who make us look so good.

We often like to say that Riverside runs on Karma and gaffa tape but obviously it also runs on actual money. So thanks to the Widdows family, The Bull, Charlbury Beer Festival, all the advertisers and sponsors and especially Charlbury Town Council who all cough up the hard stuff that bridges the gap between what it costs and what the people of Charlbury drink.

Finally we had better blame Andy for starting all this and Dave for encouraging him (and hi to Chris, currently on extended leave, hope you're doing OK mate). And Uncle Chris, where would we be without you (where were you??)

The Riverside crew would like to send our thanks to the whole of Charlbury for supporting the festival, for sitting with us in a field and enjoying the variety or arts, craft and culture that we have on offer from around The Golden County (and a bit beyond). Our sceptered island here in the Windrush will see a huge milestone for the team next year; our 30th Anniversary, can we make it better than this year? It won't be easy, because that was just marvelous, but this whole massive crew will give it a right good lash.

See you there. Cheers!

The Riverside Crew (in full effect, aiii, massive, kintal)





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#### Community café and shop in the Corner House

The possibility of hosting the Deli and Café in the Corner House first came up a few years ago soon after the move of the library from the Corner House to the Community Centre.

The idea was not pursued at the time and the deli settled in to the old Barclays Bank building across the road. Instead of the deli, Cornerstone was established and took up residence in the former library rooms.

But the idea to bring the deli and café into the community building has now been renewed because their lease of the old bank building is coming to an end.

Whilst leaving Cornerstone firmly where it is, it also seems appropriate that a community café should occupy another space in the building donated to the town as a community heartland.

The precise future of the deli is not yet entirely certain but the Corner House trustees are doing what they can to help the deli survive and flourish. They think having a community café in the building is consistent with the expectations of the building's donor, Mr Charles Morris.

When, as a domestic house, the Corner House came on the market in the late 1930s, Mr Morris was living at Lea Place and decided this building on the central crossroads should no longer be a private residence but a community asset for the benefit of everyone. He purchased the house at his expense and then donated it to the town.

He wanted the house to promote physical and mental training and recreation and social, moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms or otherwise "as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish".

If the existing continue, the training and recreation rooms was well as a continue, the training and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms or otherwise "as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish".

The current trustees believe that a community café can contribute to that goal as set by Mr Morris. A cafe provides a space where all can come together and in an informal setting and enjoy social exchanges with opportunities to consider, if they wish, morality and issues of the Common Good as envisaged by Mr Morris.

Mr Morris only imposed two absolute conditions on his gift. (1) the property was not to be used for private profit but only for the good of all; and (2) with rare exceptions, the Corner House should be an alcohol-free zone.

All this was set out in the conveyance document back in 1946 which was accepted on behalf of the town by over twenty prominent citizens, including the vicar at the time, a representative of the parish council and of the Women's Institute.

Some think that an agreement from so long ago should no longer apply and that view is open to discussion.

Although the existing deli and café is technically a commercial business, a limited company, it has a broad shareholding by about 130 local residents. It is, in effect, a community endeavour. The terms of occupancy offered to the deli allow legitimate wages to be paid but prohibit the extraction of private profits and so entirely honour Mr Morris's terms. If a profit is made it must be directed for community good.

If the existing deli and café is to continue, the trustees regard them as their first choice for operating a deli and café in the Corner House.

We will see over the coming months how this works out.

Roy Scott, chairman of the trustees



#### Charlbury's venue for well-being benefits

Anyone who has popped their head around the door to see what goes on – or who has brought something in to be fixed – will know that the Workshop is a lively, well-equipped place.

We have now been properly open for a year and a half, and we are really pleased that we have been able to achieve so much in a relatively short time.

Our aim in setting up the Workshop has been to give anyone and everyone a place where they can find help to improve their well-being through reducing loneliness and finding an alternative to social isolation. And that aim is based on solid research.

The UK Men's Sheds Association, with which we are affiliated while being available to both men and ladies, has found that a majority of people who attend a 'shed' such as ours regularly are less likely to be anxious or depressed. Loneliness and social isolation also fall markedly, with the camaraderie found there being a great support.

Other factors that can make people feel socially isolated can include the death of a close family member, health issues, and work-related things such as retirement or redundancy. So, we have been liaising with the recently appointed well-being advisor at the Medical Centre, with Healthwatch Oxfordshire, and with people from the NHS Intensive Treatment and Support team in Witney.

All of these are involved in social prescribing, with the aim of "breaking the cycle of misery, loneliness and sometimes illness that occurs when

people's ability to socialise has an impact on their well-being". They now know that we are here to help where appropriate.

As well as that, we are actively supporting the Charlbury Men's Group that Alan Jenkins and others launched a couple of months ago. At the moment, the Group is using the Workshop as a venue for its meetings, and we look forward to being able to cooperate more widely with it and its members as time goes on.

Aside from setting out our stall like this (and we will be having one outside the Workshop on Street Fair day), what else has been happening here over the past few months? We have had a regular stream of things to repair; old garden benches seem to be a favourite.

The Town Council has sought our help with repairing damage to benches from Nine Acres and a door off the Enstone Road noticeboard. And a real highlight was a visit from the Girl Guides one evening, when it was hands-on woodworking and learning the practical skills involved in putting up some shelves.

We look forward to welcoming other groups who would be interested in doing something similar – just get in touch and we will see what we can organise.

And as a reminder: the Workshop is open on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons for woodworking and things like that, and on Wednesday mornings for soft crafts. If you see the sign outside the door – we're open!

Simon Walker

## Charlbury Community Workshop Sharpen up for the autumn trim!

Save the date: our next sharpening session will be on Saturday 13th September, from 9.30 to 12.30.

Bring your secateurs, shears, scissors and anything else that needs sharpening.

Cutting-edge prices – cash or card

And don't forget – we're usually open 9.00-12.30 Tuesdays, 10.00-12.00 Wednesdays and 2.00-4.00 Thursdays.

www.charlburycommunityworkshop.org.uk



## OF YEAR! OH YES IT IS!

Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS) are pleased to announce their 2025 pantomime will be ALICE IN CUCKOO LAND by Peter Nuttall.

Lorna Woodhams and Helen Wright are co-directing for the first time. One of their initial challenges to overcome was to find an appropriate script for a small cast. After reading several texts and examining various plots ALICE IN CUCKOO LAND was decided upon as it is a traditional pantomime but with modern twists. Both directors loved the local connection to Oxford with Alice in Wonderland and Lewis Carroll. Even though for a small cast there is a wide range of characters. All the well known and much loved will appear; Floppy the White Rabbit, Chester the Cheshire Cat,

Hatter, Queen, King and Knave of Hearts, Tweedle Dum and Dumber. Even Santa Claus! With a great story line and opportunity for audience participation it is a date not to be missed. If that's not enough Tim Widdows will be returning as the Pantomime Dame.

Performances are Thursday-Saturday, November 20<sup>TH</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm with a Matinee 2.30pm, at Charlbury Memorial Hall.

Tickets on sale from October from No.5 Market Street, Charlbury, cash only. Prices and further details on Charlbury Website-Community-Arts-CADS.

If you would like to be involved in any way-stage crew, Front of House, costumes, hair and make up do get in touch with Director Helen Wright at hjowright@gmail.com We are also looking for sponsorship. Again do email the Director if this is of interest.

Sally Aldridge Secretary



## News from the Charlbury Patient Participation Group.

It is really important to let CMC know if you no longer need your booked appointment ,whether with a GP or another clinical member of staff, so that vital appointments can be offered to others.

**Staff changes.** The lead nurse Kirsty McVey left CMC in July to take up a position as the lead diabetic nurse elsewhere. Dr McIntyre will be leaving in November for a very well earned retirement, and Dr Yamamoto is relocating in October.

Dr Mason will hopefully return to work at the end of the summer, in the meantime her case load is being managed by locums and other clinical staff. We welcome Dr Jamie Ballard who will join the practice on 1st September. His sessions will be on Mondays and Tuesdays.

**Social Prescriber**. Liz Woolven works for the charity Oxfordshire Mind which is contracted to provide wellbeing services to the Rural West PCN. Liz has much experience in providing help, information and support to people to draw up plans to improve their wellbeing. Liz offers face to face meetings on Fridays and telephone support on Wednesdays for up to 6 sessions.

People can self refer by calling CMC, or be referred by their clinician. Liz will speak to the Charlbury community centre about joining the You Move scheme: www.oxfordshireonthemove.org Patients can be referred to the scheme which offers reduced rates on some physical activities.

**The NHS App.** It appears that in the future the NHS App will be used more and more as the method of communication with patients. The committee shares PPG members concerns about this move which we feel will disadvantage some patients who do

not have access to the internet, do not own a smart phone, tablet or laptop and/ or find it difficult or are unwilling to use digital technology. But we know that many are keen to use it but daunted by the process of setting it up.

You may know that we carried out a face to face survey on 8th August, to gain an understanding of the issue in Charlbury and to establish whether people would be interested in coming to a session to help them download and use the App or to learn how to get on to the internet.

The short survey was carried out with the help of Jaz Kundi from Healthwatch Oxfordshire and we hoped to meet as many people as possible.

Charlbury Men's Group held a meeting on the 8th August , led by Alan Jenkins from our Patient Group Committee. At the last meeting in July the group discussed helping people who may need and want support setting up an NHS app.

One of the group reported that he had helped two people recently to set up the NHS app. The survey work on the morning of the 8th coincided with this which was very helpful.

At the time of writing only one CMC patient is eligible for treatment with weight loss drugs for obesity such as Mounjaro and Wegovy under current NHS criteria.

#### **Autumn vaccination**

**programme.** CMC intends to hold covid booster and flu vaccination clinics in the autumn. We'll have more information nearer the time.

Regretfully, last year, take-up of the flu vaccination was poor and as a result, and across the country many people succumbed to flu . Fewer vaccines have been ordered this year to avoid wastage.



**Measles**. It is really important for parents to ensure their children are vaccinated with MMR to avoid serious illness from measles which is a highly infectious virus. Please check that your child has not missed this vital immunisation which is available at any age should it have been missed .

The effect of system failures. There have been two system failures in the last few weeks when CMC, and all other GP practices in Oxfordshire, were unable to access computer systems and the internet. We understand that it is impossible to have patient consultations without access to patient records because the risk of error is too high. Patients requiring urgent medical attention are advised to call NHS 111. The telephone line into CMC also relies on an internet connection.

CMC and the Patient Group hope that you will understand that at times like this, there is nothing the Practice can do until the system is restored.

Nikki Rycroft , on behalf of Charlbury Patient Group Steering Committee

Patientgroup.charlbury@nhs.net



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An independent practice established over 40 years ago, HNVG has a passionate team, dedicated to providing professional veterinary care of the highest quality for your pet, equine and farm animals.

Charlbury Branch Opening Hours: Monday - Friday 8.00 am - 6.45 pm Hook Norton Hospital Opening Hours: Monday - Friday 8.00 am - 6.45 pm Saturday 8.00 am - 2.00 pm

#### YOUR LOCAL, INDEPENDENT VETERINARY PRACTICE

## ATIC

#### **News from ATIC**

### Services available to support independent living and care at home

The event organised by AgeUK Oxfordshire in Chipping Norton on 17 July which focused on services available to support independent living and care at home yielded a wide range of useful contacts and information. Some examples are as follows:

## Specialist services for visually impaired people and deaf and hard of hearing people

The Hearing Impairment Team and the Visual Impairment Team are based in the Adult Social Care offices, Bradbury Lodge, Gordon Woodward Way, Oxford OX1 4XL. You can make appointments for them to see you at their office or in your own home or you can talk to them by phone, text or email.

The Teams can assess your situation and provide information, advice and support and can tell you about equipment and other services that will help with day-to-day living.

You can contact them yourself (or through a friend or relative) as follows: in writing to their office; by phone – Visual Impairment 01865 894935 or Hearing Impairment 01865 894925; by email: visual.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk or hearing.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk; or by texting 07713 329501 for either team.

#### **Better Housing Better Health**

This is a charity operating a free advice service on home energy improvements. They operate a helpline to enable you to access services, advice and financial support in order to improve the energy efficiency of your home.

They also offer free home visits in order to carry out a Warm and Well Assessment. Call them on 0800 107

0044 (weekdays 9.00 to 5.00) and they have a website: www.bhbh.org.uk

### Assistive Technology (technology to support you in your everyday life)

The County Council have produced a booklet as a guide to the kinds of gadgets and equipment available and how to get them, which you can download from their website; https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/social-and-health-care/adult-social-care/living-home/introduction-daily-living-aids/assistive-technology. (A short cut is to go the www.oxfordshire.gov.uk and Search for Assistive Technology.) The Assistive Technology website page also sets out some basic information.

The Council has a team who run a free clinic for impartial advice to help people make informed decisions on the kind of technology which may help them. You can call 0345 050 7666 to book a clinic appointment.

If you are not good at accessing material online and would like a copy of the booklet mentioned in this section, email *charlburyalltogether@gmail.com* or phone 07487 413892.

#### Age UK advice on avoiding scams

Age UK have produced a useful booklet on how to protect yourself from being scammed in various ways. This can be downloaded from their website: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/services/information-advice/guides-and-factsheets/ It is in the Money and Legal guides section. Or you can place an order for a hard copy by calling their advice line on 0800 169 6565 or by emailing orders@ageuk.co.uk – include your full postal address.

#### The Lawrence Nurses care in your home team

The team organise a Walk and Talk group on the third Wednesday of every month



starting at 1.30 p.m. followed by coffee and a chat. For further details and opportunity to join the group phone 07780 950873 or email office@lawrencenurses.org

There is also a Comforting Conversations bereavement support group facilitated by Sam Sole supported by the Lawrence Nurses team. This meets at Over Norton Village Hall, Choicehill Road, Over Norton OX7 5PP on the first Wednesday of every month. For further details and opportunity to join the group phone 07824 866913 or email <code>samanthasole@icloud.com</code>

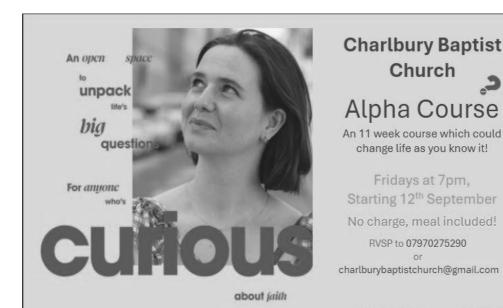
For more information about the Lawrence Nurses service go to their website: https://www.lawrencenurses.org/

#### Help from ATIC and for ATIC

And finally, don't forget – to ask for ATIC help with transport to an appointment, with a practical task or someone to come to have a chat from time to time call **01993 776277**. The phone line is staffed from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Monday to Friday with a regularly-checked answerphone when Volunteer Link-Up staff are not available.

We will always welcome new volunteers to help us provide our service. If you would like to find out more, please contact ATIC on our organisational mobile number - 07487 413892 - or email: <a href="mailto:charlburyalltogether@gmail.com">charlburyalltogether@gmail.com</a>.

Meryl Smith







### ST MARY'S CHURCH CHARLBURY 6th CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Festival (CTF) this year, and we hope you will participate by decorating a tree. The festival will run from December 12th to January 2nd, 2026.

We look forward to welcoming the community to participate in festive competitions and exciting holiday events.

Information and timings about the festival can be found on the Charlbury website and in other local publications.

#### Ways of helping include

- Encourage your school, charity, street, friends or family to decorate a tree.
   Booking forms are available from the Charlbury website or from Anna at the CTF email below. The booking form will be open from September 1st.
- Providing help in setting up or catering support for the festival
- Sponsoring the publicity, the opening event, the quiz or the set-up of the festival

If you or your organisation would like to participate in the festival this year, support us, or have any queries, please register using the QR code or contact Anna.

The money raised will be donated to the St Mary's appeal and will contribute to the parish's outreach work. We would love to hear from you if you're interested in getting involved.

We will also collaborate with Cornerstone to support local families struggling to afford Christmas gifts for their children with the Giving Tree. Please consider stopping by the Community Centre, Cornerstone, or St Mary's to help support a local kid in need!



Anna Boardwell - charlburyctf@gmail.com St Mary's Church Office - parishoffice@charlburychurch.uk

#### **Charlbury Church Services**



#### Charlbury Baptist Church, Dyer's Hill

Contact: Secretary (01608 810107)

Sundays 10.30am. Weekly worship with Communion

usually on the first Sunday of each month

Join our live-streamed services: see our church

website on charlbury.info

Tuesdays at 7.30pm Bible Study/discussion in person or

on zoom

Our garden. A place to sit quietly and enjoy at any time.

charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com www.facebook.com/dyershill/



#### St Mary's C of E Church, Church Street

St Mary's Church, Charlbury and All Saints Shorthampton Full details of all church services are available in the Leaflet or in the Church porch

Parish Office (01608 810230)

https://www.charlburychurch.co.uk/



#### Friends' Meeting House, Market Street

Meeting for Worship at the Friends Meeting House Sunday mornings 10.30am

For further details contact Sue Terry (01608 811033)

email: sueeterry@btinternet.com)
You are very welcome to join us



#### St Teresa's R.C. Church, Fishers Lane

Wednesday Mass: 9.15 am (followed by Adoration/Benediction) except in Lent when Stations of the Cross)

Friday Mass: 9.15 am

Sunday: 9.15 am Parish Mass.

Priest. Fr Clive Dytor, The Old Drapery, Church Street,

Charlbury. Tel: 07484 158642.

#### **Churches Together in Charlbury**

We are increasingly aware that extreme weather events have become regular occurrences around the world. Floods and fires are no longer described as 'one in a hundred years' catastrophes.

Farmers in this country are concerned about low yields as a result of the hot weather and lack of rain and have been feeding their stock on fodder intended for the winter due to the shortage of grass.

We know that in other parts of the world food production is even more precarious.

This is why Churches Together in Charlbury supports Christian Aid's work helping farmers find new ways of adapting to the changing climate.

The Christian Aid Week appeal in May this year in Charlbury raised £3575; of this £3222 was Gift Aided, giving an additional £805.50, so that the total from the collection was £4380.50.

We are very grateful to the small group who organised the collection and those who delivered envelopes round the town, to Cornerstone for receiving the donations and to everyone who gave so generously.

Our next event at the beginning of August was the Holiday Club for 4 to 11 year olds in St Mary's Parish Church. The theme this year was 'Rumble in the Jungle' drawing on many stories in the Bible involving wild animals.

The Holiday Club is an eagerly

anticipated community event with fifty children taking part every year and support from all the local churches.

On Saturday 20th September, we will be busy again running the Home Made and Home Grown stall at the Street Fair. Donations of cakes, pies, jam, fruit and flowers will all find satisfied customers. Contact your church representative for more information or to offer help.

We look forward to running the stall and making a contribution towards the upkeep of the Corner House and Memorial Hall.

Much later in the autumn, on Sunday 23 November at 10 am we will be holding a united service in St Mary's.

This will be a service of Holy Communion led by the vicar, followed by our AGM.

As this will be the Sunday before Advent we will be planning our Reverse Advent Calendar appeal for useful items for the Porch day centre which supports homeless and other vulnerable people in Oxford.

This collection to help people struggling with a variety of personal and social problems completes the year's activities for Churches Together in Charlbury.

Rosalind Scott

Secretary to Churches Together in Charlbury

Come to relax, unwind, read the papers, catch up with friends and colleagues and enjoy some delicious home-made cake along with a steaming cup of Fair Trade tea or coffee

#### Font Cafe

St. Mary's Church, Charlbury 10am to 12 noon every Thursday

For smaller children we provide a play area with toys. Free Wi-Fi available

## CHARLBURY REFUGEE ACTION GROUP

We'd like to say a huge 'thank you' to all our helpers and supporters in the community who enable us to continue to support the plight of refugees and asylum seekers.

Whether you attended a fundraiser, came to a talk, made a donation, or contributed items for our collections for Calais, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the Beer Festival for having us back to run the wine and gin tent this year.

Thank you too to all our guest speakers: Patrick Derham for his interesting and inspiring talk about his work with the Alsama Project, and Helena Cullen of Asylum Aid for joining us on World Refugee Day to discuss the government's asylum policy.

CRAG's Sunday concerts, given by internationally renowned musicians, have become an integral part of Charlbury life. They have also raised thousands of pounds for refugees.

This year we are offering an eclectic programme of classical music, seeing the return of many popular CRAG artists including Richard Boothby and Fretwork, Paul Barritt, Maggie Cole, and the Somerville Choir, and offering some wonderful new musical experiences.

All tickets include complimentary tea and CRAG'S legendary homemade cake. Tickets for individual concerts can be bought from our website at <a href="https://www.charlburyrefugee.org.uk/">https://www.charlburyrefugee.org.uk/</a>

or you can buy a season ticket for all 6 concerts for a bargain £96!

All the musicians donate their concerts to CRAG, which means that every pound you spend on your tickets will be sent directly to refugee charities. The first concert is on Sunday October 5th



We'll be back at this year's Street Fair so please do visit our stall for a chat. And if you have an idea for a fundraising event, or perhaps you'd like to help publicise or run one, we'd love to hear from you! Please email us at:

info@charlburyrefugee.org.uk Vicky Buser



#### Relaxed performances designed to be accessible including for people living with dementia

#### "The Light" cinema in Banbury

Located in Spiceball Park Road, Banbury, OX16 2PA. Go to their website for details of facilities and screenings and parking arrangements: https://

banbury.thelight.co.uk/dementia-friendly.

There is a showing of "The Duke" on Wednesday, 10 September at 12.00. This is the story of a man who stole Goya's painting of the Duke of Wellington saying he would return it to the National Gallery on condition that the Government invested more in care for the elderly."A true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage." Starring Helen Mirren and Jim Broadbent

#### **Chipping Norton Theatre**

Details of relaxed performances can be found on the Theatre website: https://www.chippingnortontheatre.com - Your Visit - Access - Relaxed Events. To check up on forthcoming performances go to What's On - Access

On Wednesday, 5 October at 7.30 p.m. they are showing "Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale".

On 28 November at 11.00 a.m and on 11 December at 4.00 p.m. they are showing "Beauty and the Beast"

#### **Moving Music**

Moving Music concerts combine performance by professional and other musicians of a high standard, along with sing-along songs for the audience. Refreshments are served from 30 minutes before the concerts, allowing the audience time to park, come in, settle down and socialise before the concert starts.

For details go to this website http://soundresource.org.uk and click on Moving Music. Otherwise contact Danielle Battigelli,

**email:** movingmusicconcerts@gmail.com **Tel:** 01865 251305 and ask to be put on her mailing list. You will also need to contact Danielle to make a booking, if

you wish to attend one of their events.

The next Moving Music Concerts are on Thursday, 9 October from 2.00 to 3.00 p.m.at Rush Court, Shillingford Road, Wallingford OX10 8LL, and 11.30 to 12.30 and 2.00 to 3.00 on Friday 5 December at Dorchester Abbey, High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames OX10 7HH. Further details can be found on the website (see above paragraph)

#### An opportunity to take part in dementia research

There is a memory and cognition research team based in Oxford made up of research nurses, therapists and practitioners. They carry out studies involving people who have memory problems including dementia. The team carries out the following types of research:

- One-off questionnaires
- Studies involved a therapy or intervention provided at home
- More involved clinic-based drug studies
- Biomarker studies

The team are currently looking for volunteers to take part in a number of different studies. If you are interested in finding out more, phone 01865 902694 or email

memory.research@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk There is a Research and Development website here: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/ research – Go to Themes - Dementia

#### "Dementia together" magazine

Published by the Alzheimer's Society six times a year for people affected by dementia. The August/September 2025 edition can be seen on the Society's website www.alzheimers.org.uk/ - go to About Us - News and Media - Dementia together magazine.

#### **Charlbury Society**

The Society's 2025/26 season begins with our Summer Party at 5 pm on Bank Holiday Monday (August 25) in the Memorial Hall Garden Room, and - if we can avoid Bank Holiday weather - in the garden outside.

We'll have full details of the season's talks, which start in the Memorial Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm, starting on October 2 and then on November 6.

From December, we'll move back to monthly meetings via Zoom, until we resume in the Memorial Hall on March 5, April 2 and May 7

By the end of August, the season's full programme will be on our website and on display in our notice board outside the Pharmacy. You will also notice our new banner on the Playing Close railings a few days before each talk. We hope you will join us and if you would like to become a member for an annual subscription of £10 for all 8 talks, please come to our August 25 Summer Party, our Street Fair stall on September 20 or contact Memsec.charlsoc@gmail.com

Our website's at www.charlburysociety.org.uk and our page on the Town website is

https://www.charlbury.info/ community/22

Mike FlanaganTrustee

#### CHRONICLE ADVERTS

Advertise your business in the **Charlbury Chronicle** and reach over 1600 residences.

To place an advert please ring Graham Jowett on 01608 810666 or email: adverts.chronicle@outlook.com



#### Charlbury WI News

This year, on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, WI groups will be celebrating 110 years of the WI. Charlbury will be incorporating the celebration at our Harvest Supper on the 17<sup>th</sup> September with members and invited guests.

If anyone has any WI related pictures or stories we would love to see them. The present WI began in 2009 after the original WI lapsed for several years – we do have some way to go to reach even our 50<sup>th</sup> but fingers crossed we do just that!!

The year seems to be racing along but we have recently enjoyed a "Day at the Races", and in August our meeting is a thought-provoking talk by Jeremy Sharp on "Understanding the Holocaust Through the Life of a Victim and His Family". In October we shall be entertained to a "Calendar of Song" by Lesley Morris and Keith Harris. Then, before we know it we shall be getting involved in Christmas Crafting and the final meeting of the year which is our Christmas Meal.

If you are interested in joining, we meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the Memorial Hall 7.30pm. Visitors warmly welcomed – and yes, we do make some very tasty cakes to have with a cuppa!!

Pat Court









Summer term is always a busy time for Charlbury Scout Group. We held our Annual General Meeting in June, electing a new Chair and Treasurer and taking the opportunity to thank all our leaders, assistants, young leaders, trustees and committee members (plus parents!) who continue to ensure a busy and exciting programme, whilst ensuring a safe environment and financial stability for the group.

Here are some extracts from the report:

**BEAVER COLONY** (6-8 year olds): "We have hiked to Finstock and experienced a night hike; cooked damper bread on the open fires, made and enjoyed pancakes; built catapults and enjoyed an Easter egg hunt; created Christmas shoe boxes for the Shoebox Appeal; celebrated Founders day, visited the library, and considered our promise and what it means to do our best

"Between them the amazing Beavers have been awarded over 100 badges during the year including working as a colony on book reader, cyclist, gardener, health and fitness, space, and navigator level 1; and challenge badges including adventure and team work."

**CUB PACK** (8-10.5 year olds): "Last year I commented that we had not achieved so many Challenge badges in the pack and it is with some pleasure to report that our Pack earned 31 of them in the last 12 months, with one Cub completing them all to earn their Chief Scout's Silver Award. During meetings Cubs have also earned badges in Emergency Aid, Road Safety and Fire Safety.

More recently we have been working on shelter-building and different lashings

one needs to build solid ones as part of our Pioneering badge. We are looking forward to our upcoming Group Camp and we have a great programme planned.

"Once again the 1st Charlbury six performed incredibly well in the North Leigh Hike this year, again posting the fastest Cubs section time and even overtaking 4 Scout sections who had started before us! They should be very proud of what they achieved. No pressure for next year to get the hattrick..."

**SCOUT TROOP** (10.5-14 year olds): "In the Autumn, Scouts played Boccia and Goalball (paralympic events) to learn about how people with different abilities can participate in sports.

We also had a visit from a Belgian Scout Leader to find out about how Scouting is run in other countries and had a good discussion about how we might like Scouting to change in the future.

"The Spring term saw a focus on astronomy, with the Scouts making telescopes from a kit, and welcoming a visitor from Chipping Norton Amateur Astronomy Group.

They were very impressed with the Scouts' knowledge of the solar system and beyond. We made 'tin can' pancakes, some Scouts also took part in Master at Arms (rifle shooting) events with other troops and one Scout was selected to represent Oxfordshire at the Scouting UK Youth Forum.

"Since Easter, the Scouts have been busy with expedition route planning, map reading and an Enstone to Charlbury hike. We've also been putting



up tents and practising shear lashing for camp gadgets, as well as planning a rail trip and playing disc golf "

Following the AGM, our main event was Group Camp in July for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, leaders and parents. This year we went farther afield, to Ferny Crofts Scout Centre in the New Forest. The young people took part in several adventurous activities (zip wire, archery, go karting, raft building, orienteering and shelter building).

We were extremely grateful to the Co-op for a grant, which helped to subsidise the cost for young people this year, enabling 6-13 year olds to share in the experience of Scouting for all.

We had amazing support from the parents who attended (57 people on site in total), everyone working together to set up tents and event shelters, cook, wash-up, strike camp and support the young people – thank you all!

\*\*\*\*\*

Finally, a few words from our previous Chair:

"As we look ahead to another year of exciting adventures, we also say goodbye to two valued Scout Leaders and several trustees who are moving on. We thank them sincerely for all they've contributed over the years and wish them the very best for the future.

"However, these departures bring us to a critical moment. Unless we are able to find new SCOUT SECTION LEADERS in the coming weeks, we will regrettably have to TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SCOUT SECTION ACTIVITIES IN CHARLBURY until we can return to safe, minimum staffing levels. This is not a decision we take lightly, but one we must consider to ensure the safety and quality of the experience we offer our young people.

"If you or someone you know might be interested in helping—even in a small way—please don't hesitate to speak to one of our team. We offer full support and training, and you would be joining a warm, welcoming community with a shared commitment to making a difference."

\*\*\*\*\*

Leading and supporting a Scouting section is so rewarding - sharing your enthusiasm for outdoor activities, being part of a team planning and taking in part in adventurous expeditions, learning new skills yourself ... Charlbury Scouting needs you!

Cheryl Horsey

1stcharlburyscouts@gmail.com

## Walking through Charlbury's gloving history

Here we continue our walks through Charlbury's once thriving gloving industry.

#### Walk 2: Gloveresses galore and Pensons Yard: Five Ways/Hixet Wood to Sheep Street

Start at Hixet Wood where it comes out at Five Ways, and look diagonally across the junctions at the HYDAC Factory building, on the corner of Finstock and Woodstock roads. It may be slightly screened by hedges. This was built as a gloving factory by a Worcester firm **Dent Allcroft** in 1935, production stopping in WW2, and continuing again after its end. In the 1960s, the firm was advertising for experienced seamstresses to work on their specialised gloving machines, doing more complicated work. 'Pique and PXM makers required, indoor and outdoor', that is for women to work in the factory (indoor) or in their own homes (outdoor). The applicants had to contact the firm by telephone on Charlbury 283!

But a few years later, in November 1968, the firm decided to concentrate their works in Warminster, and closed their factory here. They did however promise to continue employing the 'male leather glove cutters and female leather glove makers who are able to work in their own homes'.

Now, turn and walk along Hixet Wood towards to the town centre. *William Albright junior* (1777-1852) restarted the gloving industry in the early 1800s, by forming businesses with some experienced glovers, and encouraging the men and their families to move into Charlbury. Over the next twenty years, hundreds of people came to work for these new businesses. His aim was to relieve the poverty in the town, especially by giving employment to women who could sew the gloves at home for the gloving employers. They would be able to work as and when they

could, to earn money to supplement the men's low wages for labouring work, but still be able to take care of their children and their household duties.

By 1861, the flood of people moving here had stopped: everyone had crammed into the available spaces in barns, hovels and even malthouses, and **Hixet Wood** would have provided some of this cheap accommodation.

It became one of the main areas where the gloveresses lived. In 1861, there were 22 gloveresses here, and with Sheep Street's 12, Fishers Lane's 9 and Park Street's 8, over half of the town's 90 or so gloveresses recorded in the census lived in this end of the town. Many were married (or widowed) women, working often with their young daughters. The leather was cut by the gloving firms, and the pieces given to the women to sew together to make the gloves.

Fifty years later, all that had changed. There were only half the number of gloveresses in 1911 as in 1861: almost all of them were single women, and some described themselves as glove machinists. While many of them must have worked in the factories, others worked from home, using machines lent or sold to them by the gloving firms. It was one of the social changes that gave young women the ability to earn their own living. Interestingly, the census shows very few married women were working in gloving, and we don't yet know why.

Walk along Hixet Wood and stop at the bottom of the slope down, by Stream Cottage. There is a triangular manhole cover in the centre of the road. With care for traffic, stop and listen to the running water -it is the **Sandford Brook**, coming from by Tanners Court, where the old tanning pits were. Just up the road on the right is **Southdown Cottage**, which used to be the last set of gloving workshops of *William Bowen (c1845-1910)*, a partner in *Bowen Bros*. He lived in the next house up, **Melody House**, formerly called **Lauriston**, from

at least 1893 to 1899, and continued to run his gloving business from there.

Continue up along Hixet Wood into Sheep Street, and stop at the entrance to **Bayliss Yard**. Look up at the path: now it is a lovely, quiet, tranquil walk up the Playing Close, but the area was quite different nearly 200 years or so ago. It was an important centre of glove making from before 1820 or earlier, and likely to have had the only sizeable firm in the 1850s and 60s. The factory, in a building called the Cottage, would have been a hive of activity. Skins and processed hides would be brought from the tannery and bleaching grounds, glovers and even some gloveresses worked there, the cut gloves were distributed to glove sewers all over the town and the nearby countryside, and the newly-opened railway station at Charlbury connected the business to the large gloving and shopping centres of Oxford and Worcester.

The shop on Sheep Street, now No.11, would have had deliveries of clothes and groceries from their suppliers, and delivery boys taking goods to customers. There would have been noise from the horse-drawn wagons and carts, people -workers, suppliers, agents, customerscoming and going, and even possibly local schoolchildren using the path as a shortcut to their school on the Playing Close.

Who were the glove manufacturers? The first here was *John Penson (1781-1860)*, an Oxford-born man who came to Charlbury in response to William Albright's attempt to revive the industry. In 1841 the yard was called **Pensons Yard**. It is one of the forgotten street names in Charlbury, along with Back Lane (now Pooles Lane), Chapel Lane (now Fishers Lane) and Watts Lake (now Park Street). In censuses from 1851 to 1911, the buildings along the path were always included in **Sheep Street**, but by 1921 it had become **Bayliss Yard** 

**John Penson** bought the land and few buildings in this area, including the large

shop premises, in 1815. We know little about his firm, nor who and how many people he employed. In 1843, he sold his land and business here, including the tannery, to *Samuel Pritchett (1814-1887)* a glover from Woodstock. Samuel expanded the business enormously and end up employing 60 men and boys in 1851 and 49 in 1861 in his factory and tannery, and 820 women 'sewing but most of the women working for two more masters'.

But in late 1871, he was made bankrupt (for the second time) and the factory closed. This must have been a devastating event for the town, with so many men and women out of work. The glove manufacturers, **Bowen Brothers**, were just beginning in Charlbury, but probably employed few people, so some of the glovers may have considered going to live and work in other towns such as Woodstock. Thankfully the women could continue to work for other masters from the outlying towns and villages, as the systems for bringing the work to them were guite developed, and gave the families some money to keep going. It was many more years before **Dyke** Boots and Farmer (around 1891) and especially *Fownes Bros* (in 1895) were operating and providing employment to more people.

The factory premises (as far as we can tell) were empty until the 1890s, when they were used by **Dyke Boots and Farmer**. There are newspaper accounts of a fire in 1893 ('in the glove factory formerly owned by Mr Pritchett') and a burglary in 1894. By 1910, the firm had moved to its Fishers Lane premises, and just before WW1, employed just three glove cutters. The Bayliss Yard premises were possibly then turned into dwellings.

We can end our walk here. Do go along Sheep Street into **the Museum** and look at the gloving exhibits there, and read more about the making and sewing of gloves which occupied the lives of so many Charlburians years ago.

Barbara Allison July 2025



#### Rivers & Flooding

**Evenlode Catchment Partnership -** "Restoring the Evenlode catchment for the benefit of all"

The Evenlode Catchment Partnership (ECP) is a dynamic collaboration of over 20 organisations and countless individuals, united by a shared commitment to improving the water environments within the Evenlode catchment which covers the northwest of Oxfordshire. Since our establishment in 2014, the ECP has been dedicated to enhancing water quality, improving flood management, enriching biodiversity, and fostering greater community engagement with our rivers.

Wild Oxfordshire hosts the ECP and leads the natural flood management (NFM), river restoration and wetland creation projects. Changes in land management and river engineering have had a big impact on our wildlife and biodiversity. Natural flood meadow habitat is rare in the Evenlode catchment due to changes to arable farming and past dredging activities, whilst weirs and other barriers block the passage of fish and reduce their access to spawning grounds.

As temperatures rise with climate change in the UK, extreme rainfall days are likely to increase. Recent large-scale flood events in the Cotswolds hit the national headlines, but behind the scenes the ECP delivered one of the first effective lowland NFM projects, demonstrating that NFM on a landscape scale works! Following Storm Bert (Nov 2024) our NFM interventions prevented flooding for all 12 homes at risk in Milton-under-Wychwood.

#### Field corner bunds in action

In 2018, natural flood management measures were installed on a farm above Miltonunder-Wychwood to reduce flood risk in the village below. The first photo shows a group of people standing in the bottom of a field bund on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024.





The second photo shows the same field bund in action on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024, following Storm Bert. The water is around 2m deep at its maximum and the bund is holding back around 1700m³ flood water. On this occasion, the houses along the Littlestock Brook in Milton-under-Wychwood did not flood.



Through regular monitoring of our NFM scheme on the Littlestock Brook, it has been thrilling to learn that not only does this project reduce flooding, but it brings multiple benefits including increased biodiversity.

Landowners can also help by increasing the organic matter in their soil which will increase the capacity of the soil to retain water. Many of the landowners along the floodplain are now reverting their arable fields to grass. This will have multiple benefits including sequestering carbon, reducing erosion of soils and keeping nutrients on farms.

The ECP's work has gained recognition for its impact, with coverage in outlets such as *New Scientist* on our water quality citizen science work. We have used our river restoration and natural flood management projects as models for learning and best practice. Together, we are making a lasting difference to the health of the Evenlode's rivers and the communities that depend on them.



#### **Charlbury Town Council News**

Contact: Lisa Wilkinson, Town Clerk at charlburytownclerk@gmail.com or 07311 259412. c/o Corner House, Market Street, Charlbury, OX7 3PN. www.charlbury-tc.gov.uk

#### **Meet the newest Town Councillor**

Charlbury Town Council has recently co-opted Caspar Morris into its ranks. A long-term and well-known resident of the town, Caspar will bring a lot of experience and understanding to the council from his time in both the Fire Service and local government.

#### **Town Survey News**

The results of the Town Survey are in! You have asked us for (among other things) better communication, an improved website, improving walking and cycling routes, dog-friendly spaces, improvements to the play parks, and tackling overgrown hedges and weeds.

The website is already done, and we will be continuing to offer monthly councillor surgeries at various places across the town in the coming year. As with last year, there are a lot of requests for changes in areas outside our control, such as Airbnbs and public transport. We will continue to push for changes in those areas with the relevant authorities.

#### Local Governance in Oxfordshire

Charlbury Town Council has been engaging with OCC and WODC concerning the proposals to alter the makeup of local governance in Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council are to be merged into one body: a unitary council which will take over the responsibilities of both.

This is a major change in the way local government is run in the county. There are currently three options on the table, details of which can be found on the Charlbury Town Council Website:

charlbury-tc.gov.uk/local-governance-consultations/

#### **Land and Nature**

You may see Yellow Rattle on the Mill Field - after a reintroduction by the Land and Nature Group, funded by Sustainable Charlbury and supported by many volunteers, the plant has been successfully reintroduced. The ground is now prepared for the introduction of further species that should enable the ancient, species-rich water meadow to reappear.

The idea is to return parts of the Mill Field to the way it would have looked prior to being laid to grass. If you want to understand more of what's going on with this in the future, there is an interpretation board in the Mill Field.

#### **Walkers Are Welcome**

A programme of monthly guided walks has now been started by Charlbury WAW.

The first walk was held on Thursday, 10th July, through the Wigwell and back via



#### **Charlbury Town Council News**



the Old Shed. The second walk is scheduled for Thursday, 7th August, through the Mill Field, where WAW will be able to highlight the work underway, including the restoration of a section of floodplain meadow.

Further details can be found on the Charlbury Town Council website.

**Charlbury Community Works!**CCW!, aided by a dedicated band of volunteers, have been out in force again, tidying paths, cleaning kerbs and generally keeping the town looking good.

Recent work can be seen at the junction of Woodfield Drive and Hixet Wood. Details of CCW! projects will be displayed on the Town Council website.

Please don't hesitate to get involved by cutting back any of your bushes/trees which hang over the street and maintaining the area outside your house.

Lisa Wilkinson Town Clerk

#### From County & District Councillor Liz Leffman

01608 810153, 07741 073088 liz.leffman@oxfordhshire.gov.uk

#### **Grapevine August 2025**

OCC has just concluded our engagement with local residents on local government reorganisation, which has included an online survey, focus groups, including one with young people, and a paper residents' survey sent to 6000 randomly selected households.

A meeting with business leaders from across the county took place on June 28<sup>th</sup>, and we have also engaged with town and parish councils. OCC also recently commissioned the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny to undertake a survey of opinions on how we can ensure that the new unitary structure, whether for one, two or three unitaries, retains and reinforces democracy at a hyperlocal level, which could include giving greater powers to some town councils.

Conversations are also progressing with the councils in Berkshire to set up a Combined Authority which we hope will be in place in 2027 following publication of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill which went through parliament in July. This will give us more regional say over things like our transport network.

But for the time being OCC remains responsible for roads, and of course parking enforcement, and I am very pleased that we have seen a significant increase in the number of visits from the enforcement team recently in Charlbury, following a request made by me to officers in July. On one notable day the enforcement team issued no fewer than 17 tickets! Unfortunately, we can't have

the team here every hour of the day, but I hope the extra activity will now discourage people from parking illegally. If you see an illegally parked car you can contact OCC through the website at

https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/reportparkedvehicle.

Regarding the roads, we have recently completed surface dressing on 100 roads across the county, and a maintenance programme is about to begin which will se a number of the roads in this area resurfaced.

The County Council has been planning for some time to introduce traffic filters in Oxford city which are designed to reduce traffic congestion in the city centre, but this has had to be delayed because of the work that is going on at Botley Road, which we now know will continue until August 2026.

In the meantime we have been asked by the bus companies to find a way to reduce traffic and speed the buses up. We are proposing to introduce a temporary congestion charge in the city, and this is currently under consultation.

A decision on whether to go ahead with this will be coming to the County Council cabinet in the early autumn, and if it is agreed, a charge of £5 per car journey will be levied.

However, everyone living outside the city will be able to apply for 25 passes per year to drive into the city, so for most of us it should still be possible to take the occasional car journey into the city.

#### **CORNER HOUSE AND MEMORIAL HALL**

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Office hours: Mon 9.30am - 11.30am; Wed & Sat: 9am to 12 noon
Emergency Contact:
Roy Scott (01608 810562)



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#### **Charlbury Arts and Nature Recovery**

I'm sitting in the shade watching the peacock butterflies feeding on the buddleia flowers. There is a buzz of bees in the lavender and under the shrubs a blackbird is foraging in the dead leaves. In the further distance the browning fields give way to golden crops and the trees move gently in the warm breeze. Kites soar overhead and higher still a group of swifts are screaming faintly and swooping speedily.

Charlbury is a beautiful place to live, with fantastic views and a vibrant and interesting community that nurtures us all. We are so fortunate to be so close to nature in surroundings which enrich us and provide inspiration to so many people in Charlbury.

2025 is the Year of Launching Nature Recovery in Charlbury and Charlbury Arts is joining in with this initiative.

The Charlbury Arts Spring Show was held with the Charlbury Garden Society Spring Show in April and we were delighted with the submissions of art works which were displayed at the Memorial Hall. At the Spring Exhibition we encouraged artists to contribute to our 'bug bunting.' Children were given an A4 linen flag. They chose a bug to create a colourful image. When this project is complete the Nature Recovery Group will display the bunting at their events.

The Youth Art Group, sponsored and supported by Charlbury Arts, meets in the ArtRoom in the Corner House on Wednesday evenings. This lively group of teenage artists are mentored by established artists in a variety of art

activities, most recently printing nature cards which will be for sale at their Tree Hugging Festival on 30th August on The Playing Close. Do join in, hug a tree, join a photo hunt and competition and take ownership of beautiful work from budding artists.

The Youth Art Club is seeking volunteers to help at the sessions and young teenage artists to join when it restarts in September. See our contact details below for more information.

If you pop into St Mary's Church in Charlbury you can enjoy 'Path to Minster Lovell,' a triptych created by Charlbury artist Elaine Kazimierczuk. These large works celebrate the shapes and colours of the living environment, a response to a local hedgerow, with its intricate assemblage of wild beauty.

Nature Recovery is the theme for the Charlbury Arts Autumn Show and we are excited to include a special exhibition of Nature in Textile from the Evenlode Textile Group. Members of Charlbury Arts may submit works for display and for sale. Watch for the entry form in Charlbury Arts Newsletter which will give details of how to submit works and the closing dates. We are always delighted to welcome artists new to exhibiting and to share their pride and pleasure in seeing their works on display, especially if they are then sold!

Start working on your Nature Recovery entry now!

Ioanna Shakir

For more information, contact charlburyarts@gmail.com



Summer brings excellent walking opportunities, though high temperatures can cause dehydration, heatstroke, and insect bites—so bring plenty of water as not all routes have refreshments.

Dry weather allows lighter footwear and more comfortable conditions. New walk leaders, Chris and Aileen Eaton and Mark Jones, have joined Charlbury.

Facebook users can join *Cotswold Wardens and Friends* for updates, including walk schedules and cancellations. Current walks are listed on *www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk*, with new walks added regularly. Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August

#### **Chippy South Circular**

Easy: 4 miles, 2 hours

10:00am start

Start point: Chipping Norton Town Hall Steps OX7 5NQ

A varied walk mostly in open countryside with pavement walking through the town.

Friday 15th August

#### **Explore the Tip of the Cotswolds**

Moderate: 5 miles 3 hours

10:00am start

Start Point: Upton House Car Park

[National Trust] OX15 6HT

Unlike other parts of the Cotswolds this area has fewer wooded valleys but sits on the escarpment offering wonderful views. Time allows for a short drink stop at a local hostelry.

This walk is in conjunction with the National Trust and places have to be booked. To do this call 0344 249 1895 or email <a href="mailto:nteventquery@capita.co.uk">nteventquery@capita.co.uk</a>

Thursday 21st August

#### Cotswold Warden Walks

#### Little and Long

Moderate: 8.5 miles 4.5 hours

10:00am start

Start Point: Little Compton Church, Church Lane, Little Compton GL56 0RZ

Over varied terrain, including some ups and downs and some lesser used paths, we may even take you somewhere new!

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August

#### Disorder on the Border

Moderate: 8.5 miles 4.5 – 5:00

hours

10:00am start

Start point: Milton under Wychwood – corner of the playing field opposite The

Hare OX7 6LA

A circular walk from Milton to the pretty village of Fifield and on into Gloucestershire, passing some remote farms and Little Rissington Airfield

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August

#### The Bard and the Stones

Moderate: 10 miles 5 hours

Start: 9:30am

Start point: Chipping Norton Town Hall steps, park in New Street Car park OX7

5LĠ

A gradual climb out of Chipping Norton to the Rollright Stones, an area of mystery and myth. Return via a different route

Wednesday 10th September

#### **Around Brailes Hill**

Easy: 5 miles 2.5 hours

10:am start

Start point: Brailes Village Hall OX15 5AS

An easy walk with one main incline



affording great views across this quintessential landscape.

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September

#### Sherborne - Just Because

Moderate: 8.5 miles 3.5 hours

Start 10:00am

Start point: Water Meadows Car Park Sherborne GL54 3DL

The leader is doing this walk just because she wants to share her enjoyment of this

landscape with you. Hence the title.

Rosemary Wilson

## Wednesday Lunch Club Paid staff and volunteers needed

Every Wednesday the charity Charlbury Day Centre runs a popular lunch club for older people from 11.30-2pm.

We have a paid manager, and she would ideally love a job-share partner, to cover a Wednesday per month.

This would be a paid position but only for about 4-8 hours a month and would be extremely flexible as the two people could work out which Wednesdays suited them to cover. It might suit a parent with children at school for example.

Please contact Kath@songspace.co.uk if you might be interested or have any questions.

The lunch club is running well, but our volunteer numbers have dwindled over the last few years, so we are looking for new recruits. We have three types of volunteer and each would only be needed for one Wednesday a month to fit your availability:

#### General helpers

You would come to the Memorial Hall from 11am-2pm and help to set tables, make drinks, chat to members, help the manager with the entertainment and help with washing up and clearing away. (You get a free lunch for your troubles!)

#### **Drivers**

You would drive someone from their home in Charlbury to the Memorial Hall at 11.30am and collect them to take them home again at 2pm.

#### Cooks

we have a rota of cooks who make a meal once every 4-5 weeks for about 14 people. You would need to shop for the food and cook it on the premises then help with the clearing up. You would be required to do a short, online, food hygiene awareness course.

If you'd be able to offer your services in any of these categories we would love to hear from you - please contact the chair of the committee, Tanya Stevenson by emailing tanyams64@outlook.com.

Lastly, although we are full at the moment we have a short waiting list if you would like to come along to lunch club - it's a fun and friendly group which helps people to make social connections as well as getting a freshly cooked two- course meal once a week for a contribution towards costs of £6 per session.

You can contact Tanya or Kath on the email addresses above to be added to the waiting list.



The Branch AGM will be held in the Anne Downer Room at Charlbury Corner House at 8.00pm on Thursday 16 October 2025. All members are encouraged to attend. Anyone who would like to join the Branch is most welcome.

Other than the AGM our monthly committee meetings will be held at 3.00pm in the Anne Downer Room.

#### 2025 Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale in Charlbury and the surrounding area from 25 October to 8 November. If you could to help with the Appeal please contact Kim Harrison on 07826 898496

The Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Saturday 1 November 2025 with raffle, cakes and poppies for sale. For further information please contact Kim Harrison on 07826 898496.

**The Annual Band Concert** will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Friday 7 November 2025 with "Jubilee Brass". There will be a raffle, light refreshments and a licensed bar.

Details may be obtained from the Poppy Appeal Organiser or from posters in the usual places nearer the time. Tickets, at £10 per person, may be purchased in advance from the Cotswold Frames or on the door.

All the proceeds will go to Poppy Appeal and everyone is welcome, members and non-members alike.

Remembrance Day Parade and Service – Sunday 9 November 2025. The Charlbury Parade forms up at the Spendlove Car Park at 2.30pm and the Service is at 3.00pm in St. Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome to join the parade and/or the service. The parade will be led by Pipers and Drummers of the Scots Guards Association [Berks, Bucks and Oxon Branch] under the direction of Pipe Major Steve Duffy [details correct at time of going to press] and commanded by the Charlbury Branch President, Major Nicholas Potter [late Scots Guards]

Marjorie Glasgow , Lord Lieutenant, will take the salute. Wreaths will be laid by the Branch, Charlbury Town Council, Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and Charlbury WI.

After the Service and Parade tea and biscuits will be available for all marchers, Legion members, serving and ex-serving service personnel, in the War Memorial Hall.

The rehearsal for all standard and flag bearers, wreath layers and readers etc will be at St Mary's Church at 6.30pm on Thursday 6 November 2025.

**The National Two Minutes Silence** will be at 11.00am on Tuesday11 November 2025. Please support this small yet significant event.

#### Branch Centenary 13 January 2026.

The Branch will celebrate its centenary on 13 January 2026.

To mark this wonderful occasion we are in the planning stage for 2 events.

- Sunday 18 January 2026, to participate in the morning service at St Mary's Church
- A trip to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire in late Spring 2026.
- Entry to the Arboretum is free. At present we are hoping to secure sponsorship towards the price of a coach and, if successful, travel

costs may be kept to a minimum.

We are keen to establish interest for this trip so, if you are interested, would ask that you contact Jane on 01993 357468 or Gary on 07726 898499 by 1 October 2025.

For more information about the work of the Royal British Legion, becoming a member or for assistance, please contact Nick Potter [Branch President] on 01608 810388, or Gary Harrison [Branch Chair] on 07726 898499. Any queries about subscriptions should be made to the Membership Secretary, Gary Harrison on 07726 898499.

The telephone number for the Royal British Legion Contact Centre is 0808 8028080.

Jane Parsons Secretary

#### CHARLBURY FARMERS' MARKET on the Playing Close between 9am and 1pm on Saturday, 13th September

Charlbury Farmers' Market is administered by Thames Valley Farmers' Market Co-operative Ltd. and organised by

Geoff & Janet Burroughs.

Any queries, please contact Geoff or Janet on the contact details below.

#### Email:

burroughs871@btinternet.com tel: 07969 208518, 01608 810260







#### **Police News**

Charlbury has had a few incidents of number plate thefts.

Thieves often steal plates to use them to commit other crimes, which means you could be wrongly blamed for offences such as parking fines or speeding tickets.

This can cause a lot of hassle, as you'll need to prove that you weren't the one responsible.

To help protect your vehicle, please follow these tips:

- Park in well-lit or busy areas whenever possible
- Use anti-theft screws to secure your number plates
- Check your plates regularly and report any thefts to the police straight away
- Avoid leaving your vehicle unattended in isolated spots
- Install dashcam

If you have any further information, please contact police on 101.

## Free Anti-Theft Number Plate Screws at Southcombe Garage

Southcombe Garage in Chipping Norton have a supply of anti-theft screws for number plates and will fit them free of charge. Please call ahead to book an appointment.

#### Contact details:

Southcombe Garage

Oxford Road, Chipping Norton OX7 5QH 01608 643999

Wesley Smith PCSO

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#### CHARLBURY COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Please note that it is the responsibility of each organisation listed in the Community Directory to notify any changes to the Editor

Artweeks - Maureen Sparling (07779 779121)
All Together In Charlbury (ATIC)

To request help (01993 776277). To contact management committee (07487 413892)

**Baptist Church** - Kay Colyer (01608 810107) charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS) Sue Haffenden, Secretary 01608 676642

charlbury.drama@gmail.com www.charlbury-drama.com

Charlbury Art Society (CAS) Kati Eidenbenz charlburyarts@qmail.com

**Charlbury Beer Festival** - Michael Peake info@charlburybeerfestival.org

www.charlburybeerfestival.org

Charlbury Beer & Wine Circle - Brian Murray
(01608 819091)

**Charlbury Bowls Club**—Chris Webb secretary@charlburybowls.co.uk

Charlbury Bridge Club— Secretary Monica Wilkinson (01608 810560)

Charlbury Canoe Club - Carol Hicks (07765 837110) clhicks1@hotmail.com

**Charlbury Chronicle** - Susie Finch (07879 693733) *editor.chronicle@outlook.com* 

Charlbury Community Centre—Daniela Jenkins (01608 811878)

Charlbury Community Speedwatch charlburycsw@gmail.com

**Charlbury Community Workshop** www.charlburycommunityworkshop.co.uk

Charlbury Conservation Area Advisory Committee Juliet West Secretary

julietwest@ymail.com

Charlbury Cricket Club -

www.charlburycricketclub.co.uk

Charlbury Lunch Club- Tanya Stevenson (07871 795748)

**Charlbury & District Probus Club** 

Mike White - CPCKingfisher.ed@gmail.com **Charlbury Green Hub -** Christine Elliott (01608 811057) www.charlburygreenhub.org.uk

**Charlbury Garden Society** 

secretary@charlburygardensociety.org.uk www.charlburygardensociety.org.uk

Charlbury Ladies Luncheon Club—Gill Grason (01608 810154)

Charlbury Morris - Peter Smith (01608 811007)
peter@charlburymorris.org

www.charlburymorris.org

**Charlbury Museum** - Curator curator@charlburymuseum.org.uk

**Charlbury Open Gardens** - Catherine Goyder csfgardens@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Pioneer Country/Western Club (Ray & Margaret) (01993 831345)

Charlbury Pre-School—Emily Dytor emilydytor@gmail.com (01608 811200) Charlbury Royal British Legion - Nick Potter

(01608 810388) **Charlbury School** -Head (01608 810354)

office@charlburyschool.org

Charlbury School Association -

charlburySA@outlook.com

**Charlbury Scout Group -** Cheryl Hornsby - cheryl@redstonecomputers.co.uk

**Charlbury Society** - Chairman, Nikki Rycroft n.rycroft@doctors.org.uk

**Charlbury Street Fair** - Chairman—Alan Carreras (csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Tennis Club - Mark Jarman (01608 811692) charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk

Charlbury Town Council—Lisa Wilkinson, clerk (07311 259412) charlburytownclerk@gmail.com Charlbury Town Football - Russell Jefferies 07779 729920 admin@charlburytown.co.uk

**Charlbury Town Youth Football Club** - James Ball (01608 810270) *jolliecat@btinternet.com* 

**Charlbury Town Walking Football** 

John Munro walkingfootball@charlburytown.co.uk (07388 010496) www.charlburytown.co.uk/walking -football

**Charlbury Wildlife Society** 

charlburywildlifesociety@gmail.com

Charlbury Women's Institute - President - Louise Barnes charlburywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk Corner House Community Bookshop—Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811899)

**Corner House and Memorial Hall** -Office (07826 056496)

**Churches Together -** Rosalind Scott, (01608 810562) *rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk* 

**Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens** - Simon Walker (01608 811414) simon.iets@btinternet.com **Dementia Friendly Charlbury**— Meryl Smith

(01608 810192) charlburydf@gmail.com

Friends Meeting House: Sue Terry (01608 811033) email: sueeterry@btinternet.com)

Holiday Club parishoffice@stmaryscharlbury.co.uk Methodist Chapel - Sue Tokumine (01608 810366) suetok@hotmail.com

Mind in Chipping Norton (Mental Health Support) (01608 645296)

**Riverside Festival** - Andy Pickard (01608 810635) admin@riversidefestival.charlbury.com www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com

St Marys C of E Church Rev. Fergus Butler—Gallie (01608 810230)

parishoffice@charlburychurch.uk

**St Teresa's RC Church** Fr Clive Dytor (07484 158642)

**Sustainable Charlbury** - Liz Reason (01608 811212)

The Bell Inn (01608 692887)

The Bull Inn (01608 810689)
Thomas Gifford Trust- Chris Potts (01608

811878) chris.potts@blakemorgan.co.uk United Nations Association (West Oxfordshire) – Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811338)

Walkers are Welcome Tony Merry 07580 917584 tonyhmerry@qmail.com

Wychwayz Border Morris - Teresa Duester (01608 810934)

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