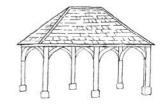
# **Charlbury Chronicle**



Volume 22 Number 2

Summer 2018

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

# Inside this issue:

Charlbury Neighbourhood Forum	2
Walking with the Cotswold Wardens	8
A Day's Life— Marie-Reine Staton	16
Riverside Festival	20
21st Beer Festival	21
Cornbury Music Festival	23
Coffee Break Page	31
What's On	32
Charlbury Church Services	38
Tales from Tanzania	47
Charlbury Community Directory	51

Plus much much more....

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# From the Editor

Well, another packed edition of the Chronicle— and the articles which didn't make last time are Tales from Tanzania which you can find on p.47 and a poem by Rob Stepney "All is well in Lucca", which can be found on p.27.

Congratulations to the Girls U14 Football Team who won the County Cup more can be seen on p.11

On 23rd June, St Mary's will be running a Church Fete from 2-4.30pm - more details to follow so keep an eye out for posters and notices on the website.

On 30 June, our very own Beer Festival on the Cricket Pitch comes of age—its 21st birthday!

Of course, we have the Cornbury Festival on 13 -15 July, then our own Riverside Festival (28—29 July).

Then a really big weekend of festivals with both Wilderness (2 - 5 August) at Cornbury Park and Countryfile Live (2 - 5 August) taking place at Blenheim Palace.

If this wasn't enough The Big Feastival is happening on Bank Holiday weekend hosted by Alex James and lamie Oliver!

Street Fair are still looking out for helpers; both on Street Fair day and the day after.

If you have any ideas on what else you would like to see in the Chronicle, please do contact me at:-

editor.chronicle@outlook.com

I wish you all happy summer holidays!

Susanna Finch

Please note the deadline for articles for the Summer issue is 1st August 2018
Please send all articles to editor.chronicle@outlook.com



On behalf of the Town Council, we are working hard to prepare Charlbury's first Neighbourhood Plan. Over the coming months, you will be able to see and comment on the plan and we want to hear from you. This is YOUR plan which will influence the future of the town and community of Charlbury for the next fifteen years so it is important for us to know what YOU think.

When adopted, the plan will sit alongside the emerging West Oxfordshire Local Plan within the planning process and must be taken into account by the planning authority when ruling on planning applications in Charlbury.

Recent proposed changes to the WODC Local Plan give greater protection to places within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) such as Charlbury and significant developments in the AONB will need to show that they will meet local needs. It will be for our Neighbourhood Plan to identify those local needs and how they should be met.

Charlbury's plan will aim to:

- Ensure that Charlbury remains a thriving sustainable community while retaining its unique character
- Preserve and enhance the beautiful landscape and the historic character of the town
- Recognise the limited scope for new development because Charlbury is within the Cotswolds AONB
- Support limited new development to meet local needs – for families and people of working age, particularly key workers such as teachers and health workers, and for older people in need of assisted living accommodation.

- Favour the development of smaller homes within reach of those on average incomes rather than large executive houses
- Require developments to support the infrastructure requirements of the community

The plan, based on evidence including your views collected through the town survey of 2016, addresses the type, mix and quantity of housing required and where development should take place. We are assessing possible development sites in consultation with WODC – this is NOT to encourage major development but to give us greater control over the number, type, affordability and location of new homes to meet local needs.

We are also investigating options such as Shared Ownership and Community Land Trusts as possible ways to deliver affordable homes now and into the future. If you are interested, please let us know by emailing charlburynp@qmail.com.

With the help of volunteers, a Parish Character Assessment has been produced to support the Plan and is now available for consultation. Please take a look and let us know what you think. Copies are available in the library, Corner House and Deli and also online.

We are aiming to have a draft Neighbourhood Plan available for consultation during September – YOUR chance to influence the plan. After this consultation we will update the plan to reflect comments. We will then submit the updated plan to WODC who will take the plan through the remaining stages including a further period of public consultation and a formal independent examination.

Following any further revisions to the plan, Charlbury electors will be asked to approve the plan in a referendum and, if a majority vote in favour, the plan will be adopted and will become a legal part of the planning process.

Peter Kenrick



# All Together In Charlbury – a local helping hand

Just to remind you that All together In Charlbury (ATIC) is now providing informal help and support to people in the community who need it by linking them up with a Charlbury resident who has offered some of their time to meet requests. **Requests for help can be** made by ringing 01993 776277. The friendly staff of Volunteer Link-Up, who are acting as our call centre, will answer on our behalf.

Between them the members of our growing team of local volunteers are driving people to medical or other care appointments or providing transport for other purposes such as to get to the shops, to take part in a local activity or club or to visit someone. They are helping with shopping and occasional gardening or calling in for a chat or to read to someone.

In the 7 months between September 2017, when we started activity, and March 2018 we have helped at least 20 different "clients" on a total of at least 89 occasions.

We are keen to stress that ATIC can help with short-run transport help in getting into and out of the town centre for people who live in outlying areas of Charlbury and who want to pop in to one of the businesses or go for a coffee with friends or attend an event. As we all know, you can't start to get around our community without encountering a hill (or two) – a daunting or impossible prospect if you cannot walk far and do not have your own transport.

It is clear that awareness of ATIC is increasing, as we are getting new "clients" on a regular basis. We use the word "clients" because we can't think of another more appropriate word. However, we regard the users of our service as our friends and neighbours

and we hope that this feeling is mutual! Feedback from clients about our services is very positive. And, in return, by being a volunteer you certainly get the opportunity to meet people from parts of the town you may not have known or visited before and to have some fascinating conversations along the way. You learn a lot about our community.

We are pleased to say that the value of what ATIC is doing has been recognised with recent financial donations from the Charlbury Town Council and the Long Hedge and Ticknell Charity. We are most grateful for this support, as we are for the initial funding support we received from Charlbury and Overseas Community Projects Ltd (the Beer Festival) and Volunteer Link-Up.

Something about which we are keen to spread the word is the Lions' Message In a Bottle scheme. This is a simple idea designed to encourage people to keep their personal and medical details on a standard form and in a common location – in a little bottle in the fridge. The emergency services will know where to find it in the event of being called to their home. As a minimum it will save the Emergency Services valuable time identifying the person and their emergency contacts and knowing whether they have special medication or allergies.

ATIC has a supply of Message In a Bottles, which we are keen to distribute. Call us on 07487 413892 or email charlburyalltogether@gmail.com.

Meryl Smith

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### Appointments:

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4.30pm - 6.30pm (Mon - Fri) 10.30am - 11.30am (Sat)

#### **Opening Times**

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# News from Charlbury Museum Poachers and pilferers, gamekeepers and glovers

### A walk on the wild side

For 800 years West Oxfordshire was synonymous with Wychwood Forest. Even before the Norman Conquest there was a royal hunting lodge at Woodstock. By the time the Normans arrived, hunting not only provided food for the table but had become a mark of nobility, a way for the aristocracy to socialise and practise for war. They placed many large areas of England under forest law, creating a series of royal hunting forests.

Wychwood Forest extended over roughly 100 square miles and over many centuries it was regularly visited by the king and his courtiers enjoying the thrill of the hunt. It remained a royal forest until the 1850s when an Act of Parliament ordered its enclosure and deforestation. Our exhibition concentrates on the role the forest has played in the lives of ordinary people living in and near the forest, particularly those living in Charlbury. Some earned a living from it as foresters, gamekeepers and agricultural workers.

Others flouted the law by clearing land to provide more arable fields or by grazing their animals illegally in the forest. Many of those living nearby could not resist poaching some of the abundant wildlife there, often ending up in court as a result.

Even the clergy were not immune from temptation – in 1272 Master Bartholomew, parson of the church of



A poacher caught in a trap

Charlbury was sent to prison for receiving stolen venison from two Charlbury men who were known to be habitual poachers.

Over the Easter weekend we were pleased to welcome a record number of visitors. Were you one of them? If not, we would urge you to lose no time in visiting.

We have tried to recreate the feeling of the forest by decorating the museum with tree branches and leaves, stuffed animals and birds. And if you listen while you look, you will even be able to hear the birds of the forest singing among the trees. See how many you can identify!

**Saturday 2nd June** Don't miss our annual **PLANT SALE** and **COFFEE MORNING** A chance to snap up unusual quality plants at bargain prices.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August COFFEE MORNING & BRIC-A-BRAC** Don't miss our popular bric-a-brac sale: collectables, books & vintage items. Come early and get a bargain!

**Coming soon**: an evening of readings and poetry about the Forest. Keep an eye on the website and Leaflet for details.

We are open: Saturdays 10.30 - 12.30 Sundays & Bank Holidays 2.30 - 4.30 also Fridays in August 10.30 - 12.30

Judy Dod



# The Botany Spot

This part of Oxfordshire boasts several rare flowering plants and the Wychwood Flora Group monitors and helps in the conservation of these species. Many are summer flowering and if you are observant you

may be lucky enough to spot the extremely rare **Downy Woundwort** Stachys germanica with 'endangered' conservation status, the beautiful 'near threatened' Meadow Clary Salvia pratensis or the 'nationally rare' Grape **Hyacinth Muscari neglectum** with blackish-blue flowers, much darker than the Garden Grape Hyacinth. Red Hempnettle Galeopsis angustifolia is another pretty flower seen locally but becoming increasingly rare as a consequence of changing agricultural practices (come and see the stand with photos of all the rare flowers at the Wychwood Forest Fair on September 2<sup>nd</sup>).

For many people though, the rarities are actually less important than the common and very beautiful flowers which find life easy here and which flower in abundance throughout the summer months. This time I have selected the large and obvious plants which brighten our summer landscape. One such plant is Perforate St. John's-wort Hypericum **perforatum**, it can reach almost a metre in height and looks like a delicate version of the garden Hypericum, with its slender stems and bright yellow flowers. It may be distinguished from other wild members of the family by the abundant translucent dots on its leaves - easily seen by a very myopic botanist such as myself but requiring a hand lens for older plant hunters with more normal vision!

The Willowherbs form another well-known group of summer flowering plants common in these parts. **Great Willowherb Epilobium hirsutum** is abundant near small streams and rivulets and thrives in the wetter parts of my garden. It is very showy with its pink flowers and grows to well over a metre in height. **Rosebay Willowherb Chamerion angustifolium** is from a different genus but is also a tall plant with beautiful pink flowers in

distinctive spires, often growing near railways or where there have been fires, as a consequence it used to be known as 'bombweed' or 'fireweed'. Another handsome plant flowering in high summer is **Perennial Sow-thistle Sonchus arvensis** with big yellow daisies borne on long stems, again about a metre in height. I found some good specimens in a local farmyard but it is reasonably common on grass verges.

After the dainty **Cow Parsley Anthriscus** 

*sylvestris*, has finished flowering

along the sides of all the local roads,

comes the statuesque **Hogweed Heracleum sphondylium**, another of my stately, tall wild flowers. I have also seen **Wild Angelica Angelica sylvestris** growing in damp places near local streams. These all belong to the **APIACEAE** family (formerly Umbelliferae). The plants have beautiful, delicate flowers and people are now purchasing seed such as **Ammi majus** and the purple-leaved Cow Parsley **Anthriscus sylvestris Ravenswing** from upmarket seed companies, so pretty umbellifers are also becoming a fashionable addition to our gardens.

To end my article I will mention **Himalayan Balsam Impatiens grandulifera**, though not appearing to be abundant in this locality, it is present here and there in damp places, with its wonderful tall flowers, up to about 2 metres in height and its large pinkish-purple or white blooms.

To my nose it also has an attractive, evocative scent and children love the exploding seed capsules! Sadly though it is not a plant to be encouraged; it is not native and devoid of its natural Himalayan predators it can wreak havoc in the English countryside and destroy the ancient habitats.

It is actually an offence to plant this species in the wild and unlike the plants with which I started my article, this one is actively controlled and removed where possible!

Enjoy the summer months and keep an eye open for the interesting flora of West Oxfordshire.

jo@joanna-bell.net Wychwood Flora Group



Charlbury's Own Cinema

The **ChOC AGM** takes place at the end of June. We welcome volunteers to join the committee to help bring films to Charlbury. If you are interested and would like to join us, please contact Richard Cocks on 01608 **810032** or come along to the AGM; the date will be announced in the June edition of The Leaflet and will also be on the Charlbury website.

Our film programme for summer:-

....

Sunday 10th June at 7.30pm: Darkest Hour Cert. PG / 125mins.

Showing less than a week after the release date to community cinemas (4th June), Darkest Hour is an immersive film cataloguing a tumultuous four-week period of British history in the middle months of 1940 between the fall of Norway and the evacuation of Dunkirk. Winston Churchill (Gary Oldman) succeeds the ineffectual Neville Chamberlain (Ronald **Pickup**) as prime minister and faces a desperate race against time to unite rival factions in the government in order to repel the Nazi menace massing on the other side of the Channel.

Almost completely unrecognisable beneath his (Oscar-winning) make-up, Oldman's towering, once-in-a-lifetime performance is at the heart of **Darkest Hour**: this is very much his film. But strong support is supplied by **Kristin Scott Thomas** (as Clemmie) and **Lily James** (*Downton* Abbey, War and Peace) as Churchill's young secretary Elizabeth Layton. Keep an eve out also for a host of fine old British character actors in minor roles.

**Darkest Hour** is an unforgettable film powered by a mesmerising, Oscar-winning central performance from Oldman. Admission: £5 / U15s £3.

mmm Sunday 1st July at 7.30pm: **Exhibition on Screen: Canaletto** And The Art Of Venice Cert.U / 87mins.

A fascinating journey into the life and art of Venice's famous view-painter. No artist better captures the essence and allure of Venice than Giovanni Antonio Canal, widely known as Canaletto.

The remarkable group of over 200 paintings, drawings and prints on display offer unparalleled insight into the artistry of Canaletto and his contemporaries, and the city he became a master at capturing. The film also offers the chance to step inside two official royal residences -Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle to learn more about the artist and Joseph Smith, the man who introduced Canaletto to Britain.

Cinema-goers will embark on their very own 21st century Grand Tour, visiting the sites enjoyed by their 18th century counterparts and immortalised in Canaletto's views - from the Rialto Bridge to the Piazza San Marco, and the Palazzo Ducale to the Church of Santi Giovanni e Paolo. Guided by Royal Collection Trust curators and the world's leading experts in Venetian history, the film is not only a wonderful way to see the exhibition, but an opportunity to get closer to Canaletto and the city that inspired him.

To comply with the film licence agreement, admission will be £7 but will include a small glass of wine or a soft drink.

Sunday 12th August at 7.30pm: The Post Cert. 12A / 115mins.

.... Katharine Graham (Meryl Streep) is the first female publisher of a major American newspaper - The Washington Post. With help from editor Ben Bradlee (Tom Hanks), Graham races to catch up with The New York Times to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets that spans three decades and four U.S. presidents. Together, they must overcome their differences as they risk their careers, and freedom, to help bring long-buried truths to light.

Admission: £5 / U15s £3.

All films are shown in the Memorial Hall. Doors and the popular wine and beer bar open 45 minutes before the scheduled performance time.

Jackie Hague



# Walking with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

The following walks are all a reasonable distance from our villages. The walks vary in distance and difficulty so you can choose something to suit your ability. Sorry but dogs are not allowed on walks with the Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens.

All walks are led by the Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens and as such are not "just a ramble in the countryside". The themed walks are a way of understanding and appreciating our Cotswold landscape.

More information can be found at www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

## Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Haymaking and Merrymaking

An easy walk of 5 miles Dancing on the village green in nearby Bledington was a regular activity 100 years ago and the name still lives on in Morris Dancing circles. Grassland for hay would have been raked by hand in a bygone age but the orchids [hopefully] should still be abundant.

Start: Pebbly Hill Nursery Bledington

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 10:00am The Charlbury Circle Line

A moderate walk of 6 miles lasting 3

By a mill Stream, the River Evenlode, a nature reserve, a quarry and a salt way there is a lot to see on this walk. A good reasonably priced lunch can be had afterwards at The Bell.

Start: The Bell Inn Charlbury

# Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 10:00am

Edging Along

A moderate walk of 10 miles lasting 5 hours

A low level walk to Arlescote via Lower Tysoe and Radway and a hilly return along the wooded ridge of Edge Hill using the Centenary Way, passing the historic site of the battle of Edge Hill. Bring a packed lunch.

Start: St Mary's Church Middle Tysoe

### Sunday 8th July - 10.00am

History of Hornton & Surrounding area.

A strenuous walk exploring the history of this area famous for its ironstone. Start point - Shutford Parish Church. Please park considerately on roadside in village. 11.5miles 5hrs Please bring a packed lunch.

### Tuesday 24th July - 4:30pm Rollright Stones

5 miles - 3 hours

An early evening walk from Salford to the Rollright Stones and return in time for a meal where there are local options.
Start Salford village. Please Park considerately near the village hall.

### Sunday 5th August - 2:30pm Long Day, Short Day, More Day and Muffitie

2 miles – 1.5 hours

A Sunday afternoon stroll around the village of Stonesfield; once a centre for the production of the characteristic Cotswold roofing slates.

Start: near the Post Office in Stonesfield. Please park considerately

# Thursday 23rd August – 1:00pm Tea and Pots

6 miles - 3 hours

A walk through woodland and along field tracks with far reaching views. Finish at Whichford Pottery in time for a cuppa. Start: Whichford Pottery CV36 5PG

# **Wednesday 29th August – 10:00am** *R U Kidding{ton]?*

7 miles 3.5 hours

A lovely walk along the Glyme Valley to Kiddington and where the grounds of the hall were one of the first projects undertaken by Capability Brown. Optional pub lunch at the end of the walk.

Start: The Crown Inn Church Enstone

# **Charlbury Society**

As you read this report the Charlbury Society will be in the midst of its summer recess following its AGM in May and the summer outing to Croome on 12 June. But the work of the Committee continues in planning for the next season of talks, opening with a talk on 12 October on Cotswold Wildlife, fifty years ago and now.

The second talk in November will be on Women's Suffrage which is celebrating its centenary and in December the topic is Oxford's Military History. Look out for the notices around town and on the events section of Charlbury website for further details nearer the time. There is a very interesting series of talks planned for next year so we hope that there will be something to whet your appetite.

A topic that has caused some discussion around a number of societies is the new rules on General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). All members will have been contacted and received information about the details that the Society holds about them – name, address and e mail. This enables information about upcoming talks,

information about the AGM, newsletters and other topics of interest to members to be communicated by e mail. Individuals' information is stored electronically by the Secretary on a private computer and no details are shared with third parties. If you do not wish your details to be kept then please contact the Secretary to ask them to be removed. If you take this decision it is unlikely that you will receive reminders about upcoming events.

I stood down as Chair and Committee member at the May AGM as my five year term of office had concluded and I am aware that continuing members of the Committee have taken on additional work as no new Chair came forward. I would like to close by asking you to consider giving some of your time as a committee member of Charlbury Society - please make that step. My thanks go to the current committee members for all their support and commitment over the past few years. I shall of course continue to support the Charlbury Society whenever I Anne Lawson-Porter can.

Out-going Chair, Charlbury Society

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 at the

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

For smaller children we provide a play area with toys. There is also a **Traidcraft** stall selling a range of fairly traded foods, crafts and cards.



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# Charlbury Town Youth Football Club

Charlbury Town Youth Football Club will be hosting its 6-a-side Tournament on Sunday June 10 on Nine Acres Recreation Ground. 90 teams from all over Oxfordshire, and beyond, will be joining us for what is usually a fantastic day of football. Please come along and support our players.

The Club has just celebrated yet another very successful year - with silverware for some of our teams!

Our U14 Girls team, which has been playing in the Oxford Mail Girls League for the last 4 seasons, won the prestigious Oxfordshire County Cup - a 3-0 win over Kidlington with 2 goals by Gaby Heath; and 1 by Annabel Jenkins. They will also contest the Final of the Oxford Mail Girls League Cup Plate, again against Kidlington, on May 12 at Thame United FC.

Our U11s and U9s teams have both enjoyed success in the Witney and District Youth League. The U11s have reached the Final of the main trophy event, the Champions Cup, with a last-minute 2-1 victory over Hook Norton in a tight and nervy semi-final. The Final will be played at Carterton Town FC on May 13 against a strong Kingston Colts side. Any local support would be very welcome!

Our U9s also achieved success in their Champions Cup competition, winning the trophy on March 25 at Carterton Town FC. Owing to bad weather, the semi-final had been played only the day before, so the team didn't have long to prepare, but were ready for a tough game against local rivals Combe, who hadn't been beaten in two years. The early stages of the game saw both teams playing good passing football, with a couple of opportunities to score at either end.

The first real chance fell to Jenson Wheatley who did well to open the scoring for Charlbury with a shot from the edge of the box after an excellent pass from Harry Hayes.

Jacob Cox made a couple of fine saves, and Rowan Campbell made some vital interceptions in defence, before Owen Woodley scored with a great header from a corner just before half-time to make it 2-0 at the break.

The second half saw some of the best football Charlbury had played all season. Thomas Corbett continued the scoring, and Euan Griffith added a fourth. There were some great runs from Olly Hinton and Molly Jenkins, whilst Ned Busby didn't put a foot wrong in defence.

James Purchase scored the fifth to make the final score 5-0. An excellent win against a very good Combe team, and the result of all the hard word that the whole Charlbury squad had put in during the season.

Charlbury Town Youth Football Club are currently looking to increase our player numbers across most of our age groups.

We are a fully inclusive club and cater for all abilities, offering a high standard of coaching, a safe, friendly and enjoyable environment with fantastic facilities for our players to train and play their matches.

Should your children or their friends wish to have a free taster at one of our training sessions or if you would like more information on the football club, please contact our club chairman Adrian Westbury on awestbury@ridge.co.uk, give it a go you cannot beat the buzz you get from being involved in a team sport!

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

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

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



### WI News



# Post Office move to Coop

Charlbury WI continues to flourish with new members and new activities. In addition to our speakers at our monthly meetings, we have craft workshops, theatre visits and we will be present at The Big Feastival demonstrating skills. If you feel inspired to try new activities and make new friends then why not try Charlbury WI?

At our April meeting we had a visit from the Medical Detection Dogs and in May we debated the WI resolutions, and for "light relief", we had a Quiz devised by one of our members.

In June Jen Best will come and talk about *Dorset Buttons* and in July Carol Anderson will give us an insight into *Glove Making in Oxfordshire*, which is particularly relevant to us in Charlbury.

In August we have our "Summer Jolly" - so let's find out what it is!!

Just a reminder that the Yack and Yarn group of WI and non-WI members meets in The Bell, Church Street, Charlbury on the first Tuesday of the month, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. All are welcome, just turn up.

You are welcome to come along to the WI as a visitor to have a chat and see what we do, before deciding whether to join.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Details of forthcoming events are on the Charlbury website or contact Margaret Jowett at <a href="mailto:charlburywi@gmail.com">charlburywi@gmail.com</a>.

Susie Finch

The Post Office has agreed to relocate Charlbury Post Office to The Midcounties Co-operative, Spendlove Centre, Enstone Road, Charlbury, Chipping Norton, OX7 3QR on

### Monday 14 May at 1pm.

Post Office services will be delivered from an open-plan till alongside the retail counter of the convenience store.

The opening hours will be

Monday - Sunday: 7am - 10pm.

This will mean that the branch will open an extra 59 hours a week, including all-day Sunday and Saturday afternoon. The branch will also open significantly earlier and will close much later, making it far more convenient for customers to visit.

Clare Downs, Head of Commercial Partnerships at The Midcounties Cooperative said:

"As a community retailer, we are delighted to soon be welcoming Post Office customers to our branch. Adding Post Office services will be of great benefit to the local community."

The branch at 8 Market Street, Charlbury, OX7 3PN closes with the current Postmaster's agreement on

# Saturday 12 May at 12.30pm.

The move is part of a major modernisation programme across the Post Office network designed to make it easier for customers to do business, through longer opening hours and modern open plan environments



# Charlbury Bowls Club

The cold and wet winter and spring did not prevent the Oxbrew Bowls Green of Charlbury Bowls Club from looking in great condition for the start of the season on 28 April, a testament to the work of our green-keeping team of volunteers. Work on the clubhouse and outdoor area has given a makeover and fresh feel to the club which members and visitors greatly appreciate.

Our thanks must go to all our club sponsors including premium sponsor Charlbury Garage, Oxbrew and Hydac. Now the summer outdoor season is underway, anyone is welcome to make a visit on a match night to spectate.

What could be better than sitting outside on a balmy evening watching bowls, drink in hand, enjoying the facilities of a local community club in a lovely setting? You can find our fixture list at www.charlburybowls.co.uk or come along any Tuesday evening from 6.45pm when club competitions are taking place.

Bowls is not just a summer sport, and Charlbury compete in the West Oxon

division of the Oxfordshire indoor shortmat bowls league throughout the winter. We entered two equal teams in the 2017/18 season with several new players in their first competitive season. Our Oaks team finished mid table while the Willows team will take the experience into next season and be much improved. Both teams finished the season very strongly demonstrating the improvement in skill and competitiveness.

Eddie Abbey, Ray Hill and Christine Kuznik performed admirably in the West Oxon triples competition, getting through six matches to reach the semi-finals. Finals night was held at Charlbury Bowls Club but the home team lost against the eventual winners, a very impressive North Leigh trio.

Club competitions continued throughout the winter and culminated in the early April finals where Eddie Abbey edged out Clive Briant to win the singles competition, and Shaun Morley and Ray Hill defeated Eddie Abbey and Clive Briant in the final of the pairs.

Our Easter Bingo attracted 100 people who had a great evening and as the twice-yearly event has grown, we plan to make our Christmas Bingo even bigger and better and reduce the entry fee to all to enable even more people to enjoy the experience of Bingo, Charlbury Bowls Club and our wonderful bar!

Shaun Morley



Charlbury Bowls Club



# THE CHARLBURY SWIFTS

They're back! The first returning swift was seen above Charlbury on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Now the Charlbury swifts are swooping and shrieking around our rooftops again like feathered homing missiles.

They have been away for nine months, and they will be here for only three months – just enough time to return to last year's nests, lay their eggs and rear their young before speeding back to Africa.

Since we last saw them these incredible birds have been in the air all day and night, never touching ground or any solid thing. In fact the youngest birds remain air-born for fully two years after they have launched themselves into space from the nest in which they hatched. Swifts feed exclusively on the wing, and they can sleep and mate in the air too. It is said that they rest half the brain in sleep, while the rest of the brain keeps them in flight. They are the most accomplished fliers - but hopeless on land. The swift's Latin name is Apus which means 'no feet' - a bit of an exaggeration because they do have tiny legs, curled under their bodies, but good for nothing except for clinging to the wall at the edge of their nest and for wriggling around inside. If they fall to ground they can never get up again.

Swifts feed only on tiny air-born insects and small spiders carried on gossamer threads blown by the wind. They migrate to Europe because our long summer daylengths enable them to feed their chicks from early dawn to late dusk - a much longer day than in the tropics where they spend their non-breeding time.

When you see a flight of swifts screaming as they pass a house, they are usually 'adolescent' birds reacting to the presence of mature birds on a nest. The nesting birds will scream back to protect

their homes. They are otherwise silent as they dive in and out of their nests on insect-gathering sessions.

Swift behaviour has been studied in the University Museum in Oxford since the late 1940s. The birds enter the tower of the building through ventilation shafts and dozens of pairs make their nests in boxes within. In the breeding season you can watch the activity within one of the nests, on a web-cam which is linked to a screen on the ground floor of the museum. This year, Oxford has been nominated as 'Swift City' and they have been awarded a lottery grant for further study of swifts in the rest of the city.

In Charlbury, the Art Society has adopted the swift as an emblem for a mosaic project to decorate the Community Centre. There will be notices to recruit volunteers during the summer. In the tower of St Mary's Church a block of 9 nesting boxes has been installed inside the vents at the level of the bells. So far we have not been successful in attracting swifts to run the gauntlet of the cheeky jackdaws, attempting to make their own nests and then to put up with the deafening sound of the bells every quarter of an hour, day and night. Other churches have achieved it, so I remain optimistic.

Although we have a good colony of swifts in Charlbury, the bird is nationally endangered, with populations diving by almost 50% in the last 25 years. RSPB experts have suggested two main reasons for this decline. Like other insect eating birds, the swift is suffering from a drastic reduction in insects caused by an increased use of agricultural insecticides in Britain and in their winter feeding grounds in Africa.

The second cause is the loss of their nesting sites in our towns and villages. Swifts make their rudimentary nests in cavities within walls and roofs of our buildings.

In our home improvements and with insulation of our roofs we have tended to close up these spaces and deprive swifts of their homes. It is quite easy to reverse this situation, by providing

weather-proof spaces for the swifts in new-build or when you undertake work on your roof. There needs to be a minimum 16 foot drop to the ground. This is to allow the juvenile swifts to level out when they make their first drop from the nest into space. They are going to remain in the air until the time comes for them to find their own nesting site in two or three years' time.

You can create a cavity within a stone or brick wall, or you can fix swift nesting boxes to the wall near roof level. Once you have made your new nest site there is a CD of swift calls which you can play to attract them. Swifts are a colonising species, and if you trick them into thinking that there is already an active nest in your house, they will look around to find a suitable site for themselves.

I'd be delighted to assist any Charlbury folk to help our swifts by making suitable nesting sites within their properties. E-mail me on photos@andrewlawson.com And there is an excellent swift charity that you can consult, www.swift-conservation.org

Andrew Lawson



### CHASTLETON HOUSE

# Looking to get involved in something new for 2018?

Do you have lots of enthusiasm, an interest in heritage and enjoy meeting new people? Help bring Chastleton House to life by joining our volunteer team.

Chastleton House is nestled in an unspoilt Oxfordshire valley, the slow creep of time has given this cherished family home an informal and timeless atmosphere.

We've got a variety of volunteer roles available including **Room Guides**, **Flower Arrangers**, **Garden Guides** and **Visitor Welcome**.

Come and find out more about joining our volunteer team at Chastleton. Alternatively you can send an email to **chastleton@nationaltrust.org.uk**, speak to one of the team on **01608 674981** or head to the National Trust volunteering website **www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteer** 

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# A Day's Life: Marie-Reine Staton— Vif Images

Marie-Reine and Ian Staton run Vif Images, Charlbury's local greetings card (and more) business. I bought one of their cards, an aerial view of Charlbury, at Hilltop Garden Centre, so I asked Marie-Reine how they managed to take the photograph.

Ian has recently obtained his private pilot's licence. He learnt to fly at Enstone Airfield, on a Dimona, a motorised glider. This meant we could fly over Charlbury, and I would take the photographs, 100s of them, and select the best to use for our cards. We could also take aerial views of other places. We have recently bought our own glider, a Grob, and hope to use it to explore Wales, the Lake District, and Scotland, and even fly to France. It would take five hours to fly from Enstone airfield, where the plane is based, to the Auvergne, my home area. I am really looking forward to doing this, as it would enable us to see many hilly places that I find I can't get to now, as I can't scramble up as I used to, due to arthritis.

Where did the name of your business come from?

I wanted to call our business 'sur le vif', a French expression which means 'to capture the moment', (ideal for a photography business!) but this was already taken as a business name. So we kept the 'vif' and became Vif Images. We were both still working as teachers when we set it up, to make sure it would work for us in our retirement. I retired four vears ago as I found I couldn't do both teach and run the business. Now we are both retired. Ian does the technical work, taking most of the photographs, adapting them on the computer, and designing the cards. I am the more public face. I manufacture the products, and look after our clients. Right from the start, our trademark has been to have an opaque image on the inside of the cards, which was unusual at the time, as well as the clear photographs on the

front. We also do a lot of 'medleys' that is several photographs together on the front.

We began by making our own Christmas cards. I sold them at the school fair, and people said that I should try and sell them in shops. I went to see Tim Widdows (Cotswold Frames). He said that if I bought a folding machine, he would consider selling my cards. He is now my 'guru' and I always discuss my ideas with him. One Street Fair day, a steam train went through Charlbury station. At 7 in the morning, in the pouring rain, I was at the station taking photos. By noon, 20 cards, with the date and train on, were in Tim's shop. Throughout that day, we made more and more cards for him, and even put the train onto towels and mugs. It was lovely to have the time to do this.

Now we make cards for local shops to sell in Charlbury, Islip, Chadlington, Chipping Norton and more. The Café de la Poste in Chadlington is our most successful outlet at the moment. Our two main themes are local views and flowers. We also put our photographs on to merchandise such as cups or mugs, towels, rulers, bibs, - whatever the customer wants and we can do. We make a load of Christmas presents for people, and then they tell us what does and doesn't work.

Local artists often come to us for their promotional cards for their exhibitions, as we can be very flexible, producing their cards quickly, in any quantity they want. For Art Weeks, for example, we would produce a few cards, and then the artists could order more as they wanted them. We are currently working in readiness for Art Week for Marv Knowland, an artist exhibiting in Chadlington, taking her still life paintings and printing them onto cards, aprons, coasters, tea towels, etc. and also for Marion Coates, a Charlbury artist and calligrapher. A recent innovation is the use of microfibre for tea towels. We can't print onto cotton or linen tea towels, but our prints onto microfibre are becoming more popular. We are also working with

St Mary's to produce photographs with quotations and poems on, to try to involve the community and encourage people to visit.

How did you come to live and work in England?

I was born and raised in the Auvergne region of France, and studied to become an English teacher there. As part of the course, I had to spend a year as a French assistant in a school in England, and went to Kirbymoorside in North Yorkshire. I loved the countryside in that area. Ian was working as a maths teacher in the same school, and we married in 1978. So I went from being an English teacher in France to being a French teacher in England! I worked firstly at Oxford High School for eight vears, and then had twenty four years at Magdalen College School. I was the first full-time female teacher at the school, and now after all these years, it has a female Head. I still keep in contact with the school, producing some of the merchandise that they sell to raise funds for bursaries, and regularly working there if they need someone to cover.

We spend a lot of time in the Auvergne, and have now bought a house in a village called Le Mazet St Voy. It is small, with only 1100 or so inhabitants, and is the most Protestant village in France. It is in an isolated area, now called Le Plateau des Justes, which in WWII sheltered many Jewish children from the Nazis. Albert Camus, the famous French writer, wrote one of his novels 'La Peste' in Le Mazet in 1940. Our house is surrounded by forest, and while we can't see our neighbours, we only have to walk out onto the street to see people. Everyone is very friendly. We have become so involved in the life of the village that now we are the Official Photographers, and take photos of people, especially children, and events. We are particularly busy at the Carnival time, when around 15000 people come to Le Mazet. Our products are very popular and many shops in the area take them. A local florist takes our flower

cards. One lady makes chocolates, and her shop is in Le Puy en Velay, on the Pilgrims route to Compostella. We have taken many photographs of Le Puy and of her chocolates, and when she has chosen the photos she likes, we print them on to her boxes, mugs and so on for her.

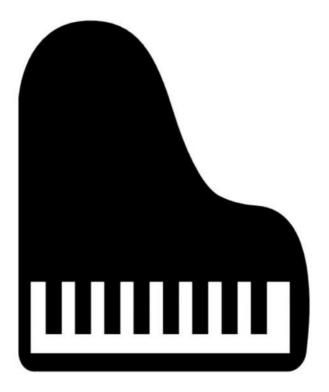
What do you do besides working?

I read a lot, and love 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century English women writers. And now I have joined St Mary's choir, and got to know more people. I have a cherry tree in the garden here, I let the birds eat the cherries and then I make wine from the leaves. Both here and in France I make wines, jams and other preserves and pick wild fungi. And of course, take our two dogs for their walks. I am very lucky. We have a lovely balance to our life.

Marie-Reine Staton was talking to Barbara Allison



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## The Oxfordshire Performers Club

A Performers Club has recently been set up for adult amateur musicians who are seeking opportunities to perform in a friendly and supportive environment.

The Oxfordshire Performers Club, which meets at the Eynsham Music Room every 6 weeks or so, is for players and singers, at any level and with any instrument, who just want to gain experience and confidence at performing, without the pressures of a formal concert. Players perform to each other, friends and family, and can perform all or just part of a piece.

The Club welcomes learners (particularly nervous ones) who can try out their pieces at the Club before their examination. We also welcome experienced players who simply lack sufficient opportunities to perform. Some very experienced players try out pieces at the Club first, before performing them at a formal concert.

Our next concert dates are at 3pm on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found on the website and the Facebook page.

#### Website:

www.oxfordshireperformersclub.co.uk.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/oxfordshireperformersclub/

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### Classical Music

The annual series of music appreciation classes at The Bell continues on **Wednesday 6 June** with an exploration of music inspired by Sun, Moon and Stars.

The following class on **Wednesday 18 July** is on musical families.

Further classes will take place in September and October. The classes run from 10.30 to 3.30. Lunch is available (but not included).

The tutor is Kate Eckersley, a professional singer and teacher. No technical knowledge is expected.

The class fee is £16, but there are discounts for block bookings.

Please contact Peter Fry on 01993 359189.

# Sing Day

**What:** Vivaldi's Gloria and Bob Chilcott's 'The Voyage'

Conductor: Peter Hunt

**Where:** The day's rehearsal will take place in Chipping Norton Secondary School, Burford Road, OX7 5DY. The day will end (after tea and cakes) with a performance in St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton, OX7 5NT

**When:** Saturday 16 June, from 10am— evening performance at 5.30pm

**Tickets:** £25, (under 16s free). Sheet music will be provided

For more information and to register: contact

tickets@cncs.org.uk, tel 07988 233299

**Website:** www.cncs.org.uk



# RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL

28-29 July 2018

# FREE ENTRANCE

250 years ago equestrian impresario Philip Astley decided to expand his daring riding displays with fresh crowd-pleasers. He pitched up on a patch of waste ground in London's Waterloo, drew a ring and filled it with a series of quirky acts. In addition to his bareback riders, there were clowns, jugglers, acrobats, and other novelties. This is thought to be the world's first circus. And, this year, along with events across the country, Charlbury's Riverside Festival will pay homage to the ultimate showman, Philip Astley, and all the eccentricities of the Big Top.

# Be part of the greatest show in Charlbury

We can't promise bareback riders, trapeze artists, strongmen or, indeed, strong women, but, as always there will be a cornucopia of wonderful musical acts and family fun. We're also hoping to attract a host of folk with circus skills, so if you're a dab hand at juggling, know a magic trick or two, excel at stilt walking, have acrobatic tendencies or just enjoy clowning around, we'd like to hear from you.

We're planning a packed programme of circus-inspired activities for junior festival goers so come and help with the entertainment. For those with a musical talent, take a turn on the Buskers' Stage in the Tea and Cakes Tent. No prebooking required; just turn up and have a go.

Also, we're also always pleased to promote the activities of local organisations at Riverside, so if you're a member of a local group and would like the chance to attract new members or get your message across for free to the public, email admin@riversidefestival.charlbury.com

This year's Main Stage line-up includes two Riverside favourites, Oxford music

mainstays, Zurich and The Mighty Redox. Other acts to look out for are US country punk band Speed Buggy USA and popular popsters Candy Says. As in previous years, local record stores Rapture in Witney and Oxford's Truck Store will run the Second Stage, and there are a variety of acts performing on the Fringe Stage.

After a very successful Green Field site last year we've invited back local bee keeper Tom Worsley, who will offer honey tastings and advice on how you can help our struggling bee population. The Green Field will also give festival goers the chance to find out more about traditional crafts and meet local artists.

In addition to the Riverside bar serving locally brewed craft beers, the Pimm's and Tins tent returns along with the Riverside Gin and Tonic lounge and the popular Pre-School Tea and Cakes tent. There is also a wide assortment of stalls selling traditional festival fodder from burgers and pizzas to curries and noodles.

If you've not been involved in Charlbury's Riverside Festival before, be part of it this year. Not only is it good fun, but it's also a great way to meet like-minded people. If you can help, even if it's just for an hour or two, email volunteer@riversidefestival.charlbury.com

Riverside Festival is on Saturday 28 July (12pm–10pm) and Sunday 29 July (11am–8pm) on the Mill Field, down Mill Lane opposite Charlbury Station. Only disabled and emergency parking is available onsite. With limited festival parking at the station and in the town, it's recommended you walk to the festival, if possible. Like all festivals, festival goers cannot bring bottles and cans onto the site, but, unlike other festivals, the bars and refreshment stalls will be selling drinks at very reasonable prices.

Please leave dogs at home, only assistance dogs will be allowed in.

For the latest festival info go to riversidefestival.charlbury.com

Kathryn Custance



# The Twenty-first Charlbury Beer Festival: Saturday 30 June

Here in Oxfordshire we have a number of reasons to remember the date 30 June.

It was on 30 June 1860 that the historic Evolution Debate took place at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History – the first time that the theories of Charles Darwin had been debated in public.

30 June is also the birthday of cricketer M.J.K. Smith, who was captain of Oxford University Cricket Club before going on to captain Warwickshire and England.

And the novelist Nancy Mitford – who grew up at Asthall Manor, ten miles from Charlbury – died on 30 June 1973.

Debates, cricket and storytelling may also play a part in this year's Charlbury Beer Festival, which takes place at Charlbury Cricket Club on Saturday 30 June from midday till late.

Along with 50+ real ales, there will be cider, wine, Pimm's and good-quality soft drinks, children's entertainment, the Culture tent an the World Aunt Sally Open Singles Championships.

There will be live music throughout the day – with all money raised going directly to good causes.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Edward Fenton



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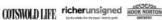








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# CORNBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL

# Well I really didn't think I'd be doing this again!

After last year's Fabulous Finale, we closed down the whole Cornbury Music Festival operation, got rid of loads of stored stuff we'd been hanging on to for years and generally moved on. Then the emails started to roll in 'I'm a 66 year old woman who's been coming to your festival for 14 years – it's one of the highlights of my year – I come on my own, make new friends and most importantly feel safe and relaxed – please don't stop', 'We have our family reunion every year at Cornbury to commemorate our son who was a Cornbury fan but died of cancer several years back – you can't stop' – and on it went. To my shame I didn't realise what the festival meant to people.

I'd been so wrapped up holding the whole thing together it had never occurred to me that people actually really liked it – loved it even! Then my landlord at Great Tew rang up with the message that the mighty Universal Music Group were looking at our site for a new festival and was I ready to let the site go?? Gosh that was quick. Then my favourite email 'You can't stop doing Cornbury because it doesn't belong to you – it belongs to its audience. If you're no longer up to the job we suggest you step aside and let a younger man take over!'. Now I was cross – I'm only 58! I went to see my backers – 'you can't stop now Hughie, you've finally worked out how to do it' – so I'm back on the scary festival rollercoaster.

Of course we've got another fabulous line-up that crosses the genres and the generations: UB40, Jimmy Cliff, Stereo MCs, Danny & The Champions of the World, Alanis Morissette, Caro Emerald, Squeeze, Deacon Blue, Mavis Staples, Amy MacDonald, PP Arnold, Pixie Lott, Nina Nesbitt, Marc Cohn, Mari Wilson and loads more along with our Charlbury Riverside Stage featuring lots and lots of local Oxfordshire talent. We'll have all the regular Cornbury delights from a cornucopia of culinary offerings including Goan Seafood Curry from Cornwall and the legendary Woks Happening to a fantastic range of festival shops and a brilliant Completely Kids Zone. Even our comedy line-up is pretty special headed by the great James Acaster and featuring a specially selected Edinburgh Fringe preview.

And on top of all that we've pulled off a bit of a coup and landed a World Exclusive!! Yes the marvellous Hairy Bikers have honoured us with the debut appearance of their Hairy Bikers Festival Feast – a pop-up wood fired restaurant adventure. This is a bookable seated restaurant in the middle of our festival serving delicious dishes from the Bikers brilliant Mediterranean Adventure cook book – I've been lucky enough to taste the whole menu with the aforementioned Bikers – and it was simply marvelous. I ate too much and laughed a lot.

So best you come along and join myself – old bloke with a hunched back looking anxious – the delightful Bikers and a host of international pop stars with a pretty good tune or two - you never know it really might be the last one.

Cornbury Music Festival is from 13-15 July at the Great Tew Estate. To book day and weekend tickets and for more information go to *cornburymusicfestival.com*. Local festival fans can avoid booking charges by buying their tickets direct from the Chipping Norton Theatre box office

Hugh Phillimore, Cornbury Music Festival Director



# Charlbury Community Centre

From Strength to Strength

Those of you who came to our public meeting in April will know that we continue to put on more and more activities to help build up the strength physically and socially - of our community and all the different age groups and sectors within it. To this end we have recently introduced a Strength and Balance Class on Monday afternoons for older people and those who struggle with balance; as well as several sessions for our very youngest, the Under-5's and even the as-yet unborn! So we now have a Bump-to-One Group and Well Child Clinic on Tuesday mornings, and Stay & Play and Toddler Gym sessions on Wednesday mornings. We have the Beer Festival and County Council to thank for grants to set the Under-5 activities in motion and Age UK are sponsoring the Strength and Balance Classes and monthly film shows.

#### **Prime Slots Available**

As some sports can now take their activities outside, we have some afternoon and early evening slots available for hire, which were hitherto fully booked in the winter. Please look at our website or call in and ask if you would like to set up a regular class, have a regular session of something, or book a one-off game of something. The Community Centre is also a great venue for children's parties - we have hosted several now where Jason has entertained the children with some age-appropriate sporting activities in the main hall, followed by an hour or so eating, drinking and maybe games or dancing in the Thomas Gifford room.

### **Responding to Suggestions**

We are always interested to know what people want and in what ways we can improve our offerings. For example, we discovered that the After School Activity Club, which runs from 4 to 5pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

was not attracting any secondary school children. So this term we have kept this on, but added a later session on Thursdays from 5 to 6pm for those of secondary school age. It seems the buses get back too late for this age group to easily make a 4pm start and also, they tend to prefer less structure in their sessions. Let's see how this works out – it's an experiment for now, but at only £1 a session what's not to like?

Other suggestions that people have made and which we intend to put into action, include:

- Running Club/Fun Run in the Autumn
- Water fountain to reduce use of plastic bottles (currently you can get drinking water and refill your containers from the jug on the café counter)
- Bootcamp

### **Fundraising**

As we expected, it's expensive to run a Community Centre, even an energy efficient one. Whilst our income is healthy and many people are using the centre, expenditure slightly exceeds income at the moment. Therefore it is necessary to continue our fundraising to help make the books balance and we are also looking at some of our costs to see where savings might be made. Some of the forthcoming fundraising events are:

- A Monthly Quiz with a different quiz master each time, so no two will be the same, but they will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month (except September, when it will be on the 19<sup>th</sup>). Price £5 a ticket. Please come along.
- Pimms Stall at the Beer Festival on 30<sup>th</sup> June - and this year a clothing sale as well.
- Comedy Night at the Memorial Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> July - with professional stand-up comedians. A night not to be missed and tickets will sell out, so get yours as early as you can from the Community Centre reception desk, or from www.flockcomedy.com. Ticket price £12.

There are rumours that there might also be another Variety Show and another scratch choir events in the autumn, but plans and dates are not fixed yet.

TG's café – a real community space
The café is turning out to be a popular area for socialising. For example, after the Strength and Balance Classes people are encouraged to stay, or come at 3.30pm and chat, drink tea, play board games etc., knowing there will be other people around at that time with whom they can talk. And it's handy when you take the children to the park or the library, or watch them playing football, to know that you can get them an ice-cream, or a healthy smoothie, and yourself a cuppa to keep you warm.

#### A Plea

There are some things we'd like to draw to your attention in order to help us keep the Community Centre clean and pleasant for all users:

- Please do not bring buggies into the sports hall and make sure you remove your outdoor shoes before using it. The floor is getting marked and potentially damaged. Similarly, only water can be consumed in the sports hall – no food or sticky drinks. It takes our volunteers an age to clean it (thanks Jim!).
- Please do not come into the carpeted library area with muddy or dirty shoes on. The carpet and the bean bags get very dirty, very quickly.
- Please look after your children when in the centre. It's disruptive to other users if they are running around, especially in the library, and making a lot of noise. By all means use the books and read them a story or let them read themselves, but please replace what you use in the correct place and ensure your children treat the centre and its belongings with respect.
- This applies to the teenagers and school children too. If you enjoy having this space available, and clearly many of you do, we ask that you please treat it with respect and care. No feet on the furniture please!

We do not allow your own food or drinks (except water of course) to be consumed in the centre. Instead you can help us boost our income to keep all our charges low by buying your refreshments from our café.

We are delighted with the support we are getting from the people of Charlbury and we feel proud that the Community Centre is helping Charlbury to become a healthier and fitter town! There are too many things going on for me to mention them all here, but do browse our website www.charlburycommunitycentre.org.

There is a new events page to show you the one-off events we hold, or if you click on sport, you will find a list of all the sporting activities you can do. You can look at the timetable on the home page to see when there are available spaces. This timetable is also displayed on the new outside notice board. And if you haven't done so already, please visit us and see the centre for yourself!

Please follow us on Twitter: @CharlburyComCen, Facebook: @Charlburycommunitycentre or Instagram: charlbury.community.centre

> Tanya Stevenson The Thomas Gifford Trust

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# All Together In Charlbury – a local helping hand

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- Transport to appointments or activities/ visits
- ♦ Occasional household tasks/gardening
- ♦ Shopping
- ♦ Help with a form or letter or something else
- ♦ Someone to pop in for a chat

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email: thepcbuddy@gmail.com web: www.thepcbuddy.co.uk

# All is well in Lucca

For reasons that we will probably never know, Zita – the patron saint of house-maids – is portrayed in a medieval wall painting in Shorthampton Church. She was born in northern Italy and spent her life in domestic service in Lucca.

The marbled streets still cool, an early, Lemon-yellow Tuscan sun That matches the plane trees' changing shade Shines through Zita's window in the wealthy weaver's house --Almost a halo around her bed --And rouses the maid to her daily job of baking bread.

Later, in the cellar kitchen, Kneading flour and water in the trough Zita is distracted from the dough And goes to attend a beggar knocking at the door. She is known by all – disliked by some – For her attention to the poor.

In spite, a servant tells the Lady of the house That Zita, neglectfully, has given up her task: While others must work to meet the household's needs She spends her time in self-indulgent deeds.

The mistress storms down the stairs. But, when she sees the kitchen, Holds her hands in wonder to her head. Amid an urgent whispering of wings, Angels are busy baking Zita's bread.

Rob Stepney

from *Words Go Out to Play* by Adrian Lancini, Edward Fenton, John Lanyon and Rob Stepney, The Charlbury Press, 2018.

# CORNER HOUSE AND MEMORIAL HALL

Office: 01608 810879
Office hours: Mon 9.30am - 11.30am; Wed & Sat: 9am to 12 noon (closed first Saturday of every month)
Emergency Contact: Ron Prew (01608 810060)



# "I am a carer and I am stressed out"

Dementia Friendly Charlbury (DFC) has recently been contacted by an Admiral Nurse who lives near Charlbury and works for SweetTree Homecare Services based in London. Admiral Nurses are specialist dementia professionals who focus on the needs of family carers; providing psychological support, home and lifestyle advice, and connection to additional services.

Admiral Nurses are developed and supported by Dementia UK, a national charity: www.dementiauk.org. In Oxfordshire there are some Admiral Nurses employed by the Order of St John to work in their care homes but not in the community.

Our contact has made us aware of the following sources of information and support for carers:

Even if you do not have access to an Admiral Nurse, you can always speak to the Admiral Nurses Direct dementia helpline on 0800 888 6678. This is open from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. on weekdays and 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. at weekends (excluding Bank Holidays).

Don't forget our own local dementia support service: Dementia Oxfordshire whose helpline number is 01865 410210 (9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday).

Dementia UK have produced some useful information leaflets which are available here: https://www.dementiauk.org/understanding-dementia/advice-and-information

Another useful resource is Dementia Diaries: dementiadiaries.org - a website where you can hear from other people in a similar situation and their experiences.

There is also our local Oxfordshire carers' support organisation, Carers Oxfordshire: www.carersoxfordshire.org.uk.

The "MindED for Families" website funded by Health Education England and hosted by the Royal College of Psychiatrists has a module called "I am a carer and I am stressed out". It was developed for carers looking after an older person with a mental health issue but it is transferable. If you go to the site's home page: <a href="https://www.mindedforfamilies.org.uk">www.mindedforfamilies.org.uk</a>, you may have to register but it is free. But if you use the website address as follows:

https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/ Content/ i\_am\_a\_carer\_and\_i\_am\_stressed\_out

you should get direct access to the module.

Educating children through dementia awareness programmes in schools is a good way to improve understanding of the disease and support for those who develop it. DFC has organised a dementia awareness session for Charlbury Primary School, to which the pupils and staff were very receptive and have asked for a follow-up session.

A website launched by Alzheimer's Research UK called Dementia Explained: kids.alzheimersresearchuk.org has been designed specifically for young people, with information split into three distinct age groups – Young Kids, Juniors and Teens.

# Assistance for vulnerable missing people

Thames Valley Police are publicising a new tool to help find missing people with dementia, launched in partnership with search and rescue teams of Thames Valley. The Herbert Protocol is a form to record key information about a person with dementia. This should be completed by carers or family members in case they go missing.

It is hoped that adopting the Herbert Protocol will help to ensure that the police and partner agencies, including the volunteer search and rescue teams, have the best possible information should someone with dementia go missing and a search needs to be conducted to find them.

For further details go to the TVP website: www.thamesvalley.police.uk/about-us/ publications-and-documents/herbertprotocol.

There have also been many advancements in technology that can help someone with dementia to maintain their independence by going out alone, while giving family members peace of mind that there is a safety net in place, in case they get lost. This includes devices that operate using GPS.

A person with dementia can wear a special watch or necklace, or carry a unit with them. The GPS means that their location can then be tracked online.

If you have any comments or concerns to pass on to DFC – or if you would like to join us – you can contact us via Sue Smith on 01608 811007 or Meryl Smith on 01608 810192 or email us at charlburydf@gmail.com .

Also please contact us, if you do not have access to the internet but would like to look at the information on the websites mentioned in this article.

Meryl Smith



Connect . Inform . Support

Dementia Oxfordshire is a service offering information, advice and support to people living with dementia and their families. Our team of dementia advisers visit people in the confidence and convenience of their own home - with the aim of helping them feel valued, informed and supported with all areas of their diagnosis. The service also holds regular support groups across the county, where those living with dementia can meet others who are experiencing some of the same challenges that come with the condition.

The service is free to access and operates a dedicated support line. Please contact this number if you would like to make a referral, or for any general information and advice. Staffed by our dementia advisers, you can call us between 9.00am – 6.00pm Monday – Friday **01865 410210** 

www.dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk

# CHARLBURY DELI AND CAFE



# Here's to a sizzling summer!

Ice-cream sundaes · homemade waffles

- fabulous new range of cakes from Tarte & Berry
- lovely courtyard garden (currently in full bloom)
- · and of course, lest we forget, the wonderful coffee...

Old Bank House, Market Street, Charlbury www.charlburydeli.cafe



# Charlbury Carer and Well-being Group

Monthly meetings in Charlbury for Carers and People with Memory Problems

A new group is starting in Charlbury in June offering fun and relaxing activities for carers and for people with memory problems. The two hour sessions will give time for socialising and for enjoying creativity together, and will also offer carers a break and support.

Supported by Age UK Oxfordshire, the group will be run by Clare Carswell (Dementia Champion and Community Arts Organiser at Blossom Arts) and Rhonda Riachi (Healthcare Trainer and Facilitator at Autumn Gold Education). Clare and Rhonda have many years of experience in running community activities and supporting carers.

### Charlbury to pioneer the model

Charlbury has been chosen as a pilot site for the groups, as there is no regular group for people with memory problems in the town. The first four sessions from June will be free of charge, thanks to funding from Age UK Oxfordshire. Options for continuation funding will be explored with the group and with local charities and agencies.

Activities might include reminiscence sessions, simple arts & crafts, music or poetry, depending on what activities the group members enjoy most.

"The arts have a vital role to play for people with dementia. Research demonstrates that visual arts, music, dance, digital creativity and other cultural activities can help to delay the onset of dementia and diminish its severity."

Lord Howarth of Newport, co-chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Arts, Health and Wellbeing

#### **Volunteers** needed

If you enjoy meeting people, joining in with simple creative activities, helping with refreshments, and can spare four hours a month, then this may be a fun activity for you too. You will need some understanding of dementia (training can be provided), plus patience and a friendly approach. Email Rhonda on *rhonda.riachi@outlook.com* for more information.

#### Get in touch now

If you have memory problems or if you care for someone with memory problems, and you would like to join in or know more about the group, please email Rhonda on rhonda.riachi@outlook.com or phone 07533 248659 and tell us what activities you would enjoy doing in a small group.

Rhonda Riachi and Clare Carswell



# Each answer begins with the relevant letter of the alphabet from 1 (a) to 26 (Z)

- 1. What chemical element has the symbol Sb?
- 2. Which annual event begins at Putney and ends at Mortlake?
- 3. Which was the only English cheese to be mentioned in the Domesday Book?
- 4. What nationality was the female spy Mata Hari?
- 5. Which city does the extinct volcano known as "Arthur's Seat" overlook?
- 6. What type of pastry is used to make Greek/Turkish sweet Baklaya?
- 7. Which novel features the character Philip Pirrip?
- 8. Which ornamental fabric is named after the Devon village in which it has been produced since the 17th century?
- 9. The Lusitania sank off the coast of which country?
- 10. Corvus Monedula is the Latin name of what creature?
- 11. On which planet was Superman born?
- 12. In which seaside town did Dylan Thomas write much of his work?
- 13. What do the French call Shrove Tuesday?
- 14. Which planet in our solar system has a moon called Triton?
- 15. What colour is the rind of Port Salut cheese?
- 16. In which city is "La Boheme" set?
- 17. Which capital city is nearest to the equator?
- 18. Timperley Early and Cawood Castle are variations of what garden crop?
- 19. Where was Norman Stanley Fletcher incarcerated?
- 20. How many humps does a Bactrian camel have?
- 21. What is the name of a 4-stringed instrument of Hawaiian origin?
- 22. What is the name of a flavouring extracted from the orchid plant?
- 23. What was Prince William's nickname as a child?
- 24. What is a fear of strangers or foreigners called?
- 25. Which house wore the White Rose in the War of the Roses?
- 26. Who was the King of the Olympian Gods?

Compiled by Pat Court

# What's On in Charlbury

If you would like to include your event in this list, please contact me at editor.chronicle@outlook.com just stating your organisation, time of the event, and place of the event.

### May

30-Art Society outing

#### June

- 2—Museum Plant Sale & Coffee Morning, 10am
- 2—Town Councillor Surgery, 10-12pm, Corner House
- 5-Yack & Yarn, 7.30pm, The Bell Inn
- 6—Classical Music Appreciation, 10am—3pm, The Bell
- 9—Farmers Market, 9am—1pm, The Playing Close
- 9—CPPG Coffee Morning, 10-12noon, Charlbury Medical Centre
- 9-Ramsden Fete, 1-4pm, OX7 3AU
- 9—CRAG Sizzling Safari Supper, Redding Wyck House, 7pm (p.39)
- 10—6-a-side football tournament, Charlbury Youth Football, Nine Acres
- 10—ChOC, "The Darkest Hour", 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 15—Carers Support Day, 10-7pm, Eynsham Village Hall
- 16—Sing Day, 10am, Chipping Norton School
- 20—WI Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 22-24 Tandem Festival, Ramsden, see www.tandemcollective.org
- 23—St Marys Church Fete, 2-4.30pm—details to follow.
- 27—Quiz Night, 7.30 for 8pm, Charlbury Community Centre
- 30—Charlbury Beer Festival, midday—late, Cricket Club
- 30-vOx Chamber Choir, 7.30pm, St Mary's

### July

- 1—ChOC, "Exhibition on Screen", 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3—Yack & Yarn, 7.30pm, The Bell
- 4—Garden Society Annual Coach Trip (p.36)
- 13—Comedy Night, Memorial Hall
- 13—15—Cornbury Music Festival, Great Tew Estate
- 15—Oxfordshire Performers Club (p.19)
- 18—WI Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 28-29-Riverside Festival, Mill Field
- 31—Holiday Club begins

### **August**

- 1-3 Holiday Club, St Mary's (p.40)
- 2—5 Wilderness Festival, Cornbury Park
- 2-5 Countryfile Live, Blenheim
- 4—Museum Bric a Brac and coffee morning
- 7—Yack & Yarn, 7,30pm, The Bell
- 12—ChOC, "The Post", 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 15—WI Meeting venue tbc
- 24-26 The Big Feastival, Churchill

# Weekly events

### Monday

9.30am—Toddlers Group, Memorial Hall 1.30-3pm—Tennis Club

2.30pm—Strength & Balance, Community Centre

4-5pm—After School Activities, Community Centre

7-8.30pm—Scouts, Scout Hut

### Tuesday

10-11am—Bump to One, Community Centre

11-12pm—Well Baby Clinic, Community Centre

6pm-Bowls Club

8pm—Wychwayz Border Morris, Scout Hut

#### Wednesday

9-10am—LeanGym, Community Centre 10-11am, Stay & Play, Community Centre 11.15-12pm, Toddler Gym, Community Centre

2.30—4pm—Walking Football, Community Centre

4-5pm—After School Activities, Community Centre

7.45pm—Bell Ringing, St Mary's

#### Thursday

10-12pm—Font Café, St Mary's
4—5pm, After School Activities,
Community Centre
5—6pm, After School Activities,
Community Centre
5-6.15—Beavers, Scout Hut
6.30—8pm—Cubs, Scout Hut
6.30-7.30pm—Circuit Training, Community
Centre
7-9pm—Tennis Club
7-8pm, Walking Football, Community

# Centre Friday

9.30am—Exercise for 50+, Memorial Hall 2-5pm—Tennis Club 7pm—Choir Practice—St Mary's 7-9pm—Youth Club, Community Centre

#### Sunday

10-11am, Circuit Training, Community Centre



# Charlbury Charlbury Street Fair 15th September

This year's Charlbury Street Fair is on 15th September, and we will be grateful to Radio 4 presenter Kathy Clugston who will be opening the Fair.

We've already been very busy getting paperwork filled in (road closure applications for Park Street, Sheep Street and Church Street, entertainments' licence...) and we have had a very successful 'Quiz Nite' in March with over £1600 raised (Wow! thank you All!).

As is normal, we are planning the Egg Throwing competition on the evening of Friday 14th September and new for this year on Fair day will be a 'Bake Off' style competition.

Another new event will be 'Last Night of the Proms' where we will be arranging an evening in the Memorial Hall on 8th September to screen the BBC's Proms event - along with a bar, singing and flag waving it promises to be lots of fun.

Open Gardens sadly won't feature this year, but in no time, September will be here.

This year the Children's' theme is 'Wizard of Oz' and we will be encouraging the Stalls and ANYONE to pick up the theme and dress up on the day!

If you want to help on 14th, 15th - or the day after (there's a bit of packing and clearing up to do on Sunday morning) do please get in touch. Oh and we still seek one or two Masters of Ceremony!

To contact us and for up-to-date information see www.charlburystreetfair.org.

John Dora Chair, CSF Committee.



# The Charlbury Patient Participation Group

The CPPG now has 31 members. Each member receives regular updates by email and is able to give rapid feedback to the surgery via the CPPG.

### **News from the CPPG:**

**Dr. Golder has recently retired.** He has been replaced by Dr. Kate McIntyre who will be starting work at the surgery in July. In her previous post she was lead GP in dementia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/asthma, palliative care and prescribing.

The surgery is currently advertising for another doctor to cater for the increase in the local population.

**The Hub:** It is not always possible to offer the facility of same –day appointments to all patients. If a patient with a non-emergency condition asks for a same-day appointment and there is no capacity at the surgery, where appropriate, the patient is referred to the pharmacy for advice or is offered a telephone consultation. If the patient does not wish to take up one of these options, they can be referred to the Hub based at the Windrush Centre, Welch Way in Witney.

The Hub is not a walk –in centre, so you have to be referred by the surgery. Children and other patients who are regarded as an emergency will always be seen at the Charlbury surgery on the same day.

# **Charlbury Surgery on-line Facility:**

As a Charlbury patient you can now go on-line to book an appointment, request a repeat prescription, check your test results, and access your medical record. Forms can be picked up at reception in the surgery.

**CPPG liaises with other local Health Providers** in the locality to obtain upto-date information. For example the
ORH Trust, Health-Watch and the

Ambulance Service.

**The Ambulance Service** is concerned about non-visibility of house numbers and names, especially at this time of year when signs can be obscured by greenery .

Although crews have Sat-Nav and local knowledge, when visiting for the first time not being able to see a name or number clearly from the roadside could result in valuable minutes being wasted while trying to locate the house of the caller.

The Ambulance Service suggests that you should check that your house sign is visible from the road and makes the following recommendations:

- Make sure the sign is not obstructed by trees or greenery
- 2. If possible, at night switch on outside light if an ambulance has been called
- 3. The house name or number should be at least 3inches in height and 4 feet from the ground
- 4. If the property is more than 75 feet from the roadway, the house number or name should be placed on a postgate or box no further than 25 feet from the edge of the street.

**A Carers' Support Day** is being held in Eynsham Village Hall on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June between 10 and 19.00. All Welcome.

NB. The CPPG is hosting an informal coffee morning on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 10:00 am -12noon at the Charlbury Medical Centre. All are welcome .Please come along and find out more about the CPPG and give us feedback.

Meanwhile to join the CPPG please contact us with your name, address and telephone number at: Patientgroup.charlbury@nhs.net or pick up a leaflet from reception at the

surgery.

Any information that you give will be used lawfully, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2018



## Charlbury Refugee Action Group

## We've helped some desperate people, thanks to you!

Since last September we have raised £12,500 between us. Here's how you helped raise the money, and where it has gone.

Over £7000 came from the Tea Concerts. The Christmas Art Café brought in £575, the Bring and Buy £920, Churches Together in Together raised £150, Charlbury Quakers donated £163, and personal donations totalled £1114. And we've just added £475 from the SE Asian supper evening organised by Gene Teo Cooke.

We also operate an online donation page to enable supporters to make their own donations straight to Help Refugees, with the added advantage that you can add Gift Aid. Individual donations on that page since September 1st have totalled £3175, to which people have added £180 in Gift Aid.

So far we have sent £7071 of what we have raised to the charity Help Refugees (who support dozens of voluntary relief programmes across Europe, but especially in Greece and in the Calais and Paris regions of France) and a further £3800 to the charity Refugee Community Kitchen who provide hot meals for well over a thousand refugees daily sleeping rough in the Calais area and (appallingly) on the streets of Paris.

Thank you so much to all of you who have helped.

## A sizzling safari supper

Alison Eastwood is organising a Safari Supper for sociable food enthusiasts, and places have been filling up fast! Will you join them? Proceeds will go to CRAG. Alison writes:

"Come to Charlbury's Very Own Sizzling Safari Supper on Saturday June 9 from 7pm. Tickets are £25 per head, with proceeds to CRAG. Bring your personal bottle!

The evening begins with Pimms and canapés at 7pm at Redding Wyck House, Market Street. Main courses and desserts follow at various mystery venues in town, ending with coffee and sweeties back at Redding Wyck House, 10pm till late.

Dress code: Sparkling/Black tie/Sizzlin. Get your tickets asap from Alison Eastwood on 01608 811651, text 0787 089 3223, or email stableyardalison@gmail.com

### Where have all the concerts gone ...?

Don't worry, they'll be back... but not just yet. Sunday afternoons may not seem quite the same during the summer, but be patient! From October Val is promising us a new series of these now almost traditional musical entertainments -cum-tea-parties. The 2017-18 season entertained hundreds of people with fabulous music that a town of our size will rarely hear once, let alone six times in a year!

So watch this space!

## Help us to keep in touch

Like all other organisations, however small, CRAG has to conform to new regulations governing the information we hold on members and supporters, and how and if we may contact you. We have emailed all members already with a link that enables you to sign up afresh, and the form explains exactly what we shall do with the data we hold and how you can see it and correct it for yourself.

Whether you are an old member rejoining, or a newcomer to CRAG, here's where you go.http://eepurl.com/dstDGT You will find the link on our page on the Charlbury website too.

Jon Carpenter



### LOW IMPACT / HIGH IMPACT OPTIONS DEMONSTRATED Mixed abilities – suitable for 18-50+

Belly-dancing, latin dancing, ballet dancing, jazz dancing, boxing, hip-hop, Pilates inspired moves, and more. Good at toning all your body and developing

## Charlbury Methodist Church Hall Mon & Wed 7-8 pm, Tue 10.15-11.15 am

"We all can dance...when we find the music that we love." ('Giraffes Can't Dance'. G Andreae)

# GUTS, BUTTS No GUNS

**ENDURANCE: STRENGTH FUN CIRCUITS** 

# EXERCISES TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS WITH MUSIC ACCOMPANIMENT Mixed abilities – suitable for 18-50+

Aerobic exercises to build cardiorespiratory fitness/ stamina coupled with targeted resistance training of major muscle groups to strengthen the core and more and improve daily performance.

## Charlbury Methodist Church Hall Mon & Weds 8.15-9.00 pm

"Man does not cease to play because he grows old. Man grows old because he ceases to play." (George Bernard Shaw)

#### TRIAL SESSION £3.50 - JUST WALK IN

Louise Barnes, Life Changers Personal Training

Enquiries: 07879 685579 123dancercise@gmail.com

Charlbury web-site: Business/Health/Lifestyle



Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs) Personal Trainer, Group Fitness Instructor, Exercise Referral Instructor, Specialist Exercise Instructor (back pain), Postural Stability Instructor

## **Three Worcestershire Gardens**

## Wednesday 4th July

Our annual coach trip will take us to three of Worcestershire's finest gardens: Harrell's Hardy Plants Nursery, Conderton Manor and Whitcombe House.

The cost is £30 per person, including tea/coffee at all gardens (two with cake). Please bring a picnic lunch.

We depart the Spendlove Car Park at 9 am promptly.

For further information and to reserve a place, please contact Sarah Potter on 01608 810388 or email sarahpotter@btinternet.com



Spring is always a busy time for any gardener and members of the Charlbury & District Garden Society have been very active too.

Since the start of the year, the Society has held a number of interesting talks on a variety of subjects. We were very lucky to welcome local horticultural practitioner Jenny Chambers and Master Composter Jan Holah to the 'Secrets of the Soil' talk in February.

They were joined by Sarah Geeson Brown from Ryton's Garden Organics. Collectively they gave a number of tips and recommendations on how to treat the soil as a living organism, encouraging the presence of fungi, microbes, bacteria and worms. Information was also provided about the 'No Dig Movement', particularly useful in raised beds.

In early March retired university lecturer, countryside warden and bee keeper Ian Gourlay from Bridewell Gardens at Wilcote gave an inspiring talk about social and therapeutic horticulture and how it assists many people recovering from or managing a diverse range of mental health problems. The gardens are close to Charlbury and they will be hosting an open garden event on Sunday 13th May from 2pm to 5pm. For further information visit www.bridewellgardens.co.uk.

Our annual Spring Show held in conjunction with the Charlbury Arts Society was a huge success in spite of the snow which had blanketed the area only a week before. Geoff Holmberg, Chairman of the Garden Society was delighted however when 28 people, including 7 children aged between 4 and 14, brought in 103 entries on the Saturday. The hall soon looked very

spring like with narcissus, hellebores and other spring flowers on display. There was also a collection of flowering pot plants which featured a stunning display of orchids.

The Ian Tolputt cup (donated by a local grower and former judge in 2015) for Best in Show was awarded to former Show Secretary and retired Chairman Nick Johnson by the Society's President Peter Bridgman. Nick had only arrived back from a business trip in Uganda earlier that morning so he was delighted to win all seven categories he had entered. "I decided to buy some new Spring bulbs last year," said Nick. "This is the result and I am thrilled to have won Best in Show for my yellow trumpet Narcissus."

If you did not enter an exhibit in our Spring Show, now is the time to start planning entries for our **Annual Flower and Produce Show**, held on

#### Saturday 1st September

This is the centrepiece of the horticultural year and the show for all the family. There are classes for fruit, vegetables, cookery, jam, handicrafts and photographs. Again there are several classes for children judged in two age groups 4-7 years and 8-14 years. There are now a magnificent 18 cups to be awarded at this show, as well as substantial prize money. The cup is also awarded for the Best Cultivated Allotment.

If you are not a member, annual membership is just £5 per person (or £8 per couple a the same address). All members receive a Membership Card listing all the events together with a Member's card which enables discounts at various Nurseries.

To join please contact our Membership Secretary on 01608 811378 or email membership@charlburygardensociety.org.uk or visit www.charlbury.info/community/30.

Michelle Heather

## Charlbury Church Services



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

Contact: Secretary (01608 810107)

Sunday services at 10.30 am. Fourth of each

month with Methodists in Fishers Lane.

**Thursdays** at 8pm. House group. See noticeboard

for venues.

See website / phone for details charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/dyershill/
Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning and Cake Sale at

the Corner House



#### 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.

Vicar - Revd Dr Sally Welch Parish Office (01608 810230)

www.stmaryscharlbury.co.uk



#### Friends' Meeting House, Market Street

Meeting for Worship at the Friends Meeting House Sunday mornings 10.30am For further details contact Paula Dunleavy (01608) 646056)



#### Methodist Chapel, Fishers Lane

Sunday services at 10.30am Further information from Gill Grason (01608 810154)



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

Sunday Mass. 9.15am every Sunday at St Teresa's. 9.00am on second Sunday of each month at St Kenelm's Enstone.

Weekday Mass. 9.30am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at St Teresa's.

Parish Priest. Fr Tony Joyce, Holy Trinity, Chipping Norton (01608 642703). Charlbury Catholic Parish Council joint chairs: . Clare Carswell and Mike Flanagan (chair.stteresaschurchcharlbury@gmail.com)

Website: https://stteresaschurch-charlbury.com/

## Churches Together in Charlbury

By the time you read this in June, it will be hard to remember the snow in March which led to disrupted transport and cancelled events. We were unable to hold one of the planned Lent lunches but even so we raised over £1300 for Christian Aid's work with the Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. Most of these refugees are now in Bangladesh where they are now facing another threat as the cyclone season approaches. We grumble about icy roads and cancelled trains, but the Rohingya refugees living in temporary shelters supported only by bamboo are in far more danger from the weather.

The theme of Christian Aid Week in May was 'Together we are stronger than the storms', focussing on Christian Aid's work in Haiti. An earthquake hit Haiti in 2010. Many homes were destroyed. Through Christian Aid's partner organisation KORAL new homes were provided built strong enough to stand up to an earthquake. Then one terrifying night in 2016 Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti. In one place only one house was sturdy enough to stand up to the storm - a house built by KORAL for a family who had been made homeless by the earthquake six years before. Fifty four people took shelter in that house while the cyclone lasted.

Christian Aid is not only helping people to prepare against natural disasters but along with other agencies is campaigning to make us more aware of the dangers of climate change and the unpredictable and extreme weather associated with our warming atmosphere and seas. In Charlbury we support Christian Aid both for the help given to people in dire emergencies but also for the challenge to us and to our country to take the difficult decisions that could make the world a safer place for everyone.

Rosalind Scott Secretary to Churches Together in Charlbury

## Springtime and Harvest

Spring cleaning this year - can you give a thought for harvest, please? At Charlbury Baptist Church we are collecting old tools for harvest this year. Giving our haul between Tools With A Mission (TWAM) and Workaid, we hope that any unwanted but NOT broken tools will be used both at home and abroad to help people learn a trade and help them help themselves. At the moment we have no storage facility so, please, keep them until September when we will willingly take them off your hands. A list of tools required will be on our notice board on Dyers Hill (it is too long to place here) but it can go from the small (nuts, bolts, screws and hinges) to the larger sewing machines, knitting machines as well as garden and bricklaying tools.

If you would like us to send you a full list, please e-mail charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com or look at our webpage on the Charlbury website. Thankyou – and, of course, feel free to come and join us at our Harvest service.

## SIZZLING SAFARI SUPPER in aid of CRAG

## Saturday June 9 at 7pm

Join us for this FUN FUN evening!

We start at Redding Wyck House (opposite the Quakers) for canapés and Pimms at 7pm.

Then for main course and dessert we move to various mystery venues within walking distance.

For coffee and sweeties we all come together again .

Bring a personal bottle!
 Dress code; Sparkling, Black Tie,
 Sizzling

Tickets: Alison Eastwood stableyardalison@gmail.com 0787 089 3223



### **KEEP THE DATE - 9 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Ride and Stride - a good day out for all the family

## Whether skateboard or roller skates or Shanks's Pony this is for YOU!!

On Saturday 9 September the roads of Oxfordshire will see hundreds of cyclists and walkers taking part in OHCT's annual sponsored Ride and Stride. Whatever the weather, they visit as many churches as they can to raise money to help maintain Oxfordshire's churches of all denominations.

These buildings are focal points in our communities. They connect us with past and future generations, and we all expect them to be there for the major events in our lives, but they receive no government funding and cost a lot to maintain.

The annual Ride and Stride is not just a good way of raising money for a very good cause; it is also good exercise and good fun for all the family. You set your own target and, just when you think your lungs cannot cope with any more, you reach another church offering refreshments and encouragement and an excuse to stop and have a look round.

You do not have to be a churchgoer to take part and enjoy a really good day out. Nearer the time you will be able to get the sign-up and sponsorship forms in each of Charlbury's churches. You will also be able to sign up online at ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/

And for children of Primary School age there will again be a junior version – a bike rally round the five churches of Charlbury. Some forty children took part last year and enjoyed it enormously despite the rain. Let's hope for better weather this year! We really look forward to having you with us!

Alison Eastwood 0787 089 3223 stableyardalison@gmail.com

Basil Eastwood 0796 997 0003 basil.eastwood@gmail.com

## **Holiday Club**

#### 'On Your Marks'.

Children aged 4 to 11 are welcome to the Churches Together in Charlbury holiday club at St Mary's church, each morning from Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, with a special service for all ages on Sunday 5th August.

This year, we will be presenting key events from St Mark's Gospel within a sports theme.

There will be a taste of some of what will be on offer at St Mary's Messy Church service on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Look out for more information on posters and on the St Mary's and Charlbury websites soon.

To register your interest email parishoffice@stmaryscharlbury.co.uk



### Corner House News

As many of you may be aware, the fabric of the building of the Corner House is in much need of repair.

Plans are currently afoot to decide which is the most urgent and will be carried out as soon as possible.

However, all this repair needs funds so we would ask you all to support Memorial Hall and Corner House fundraising events, which includes Street Fair.

Don't forget to visit the Community Bookshop or the Community Shop—you never know what you may find there!

And on 15th September—Street Fair Day—a Vintage & Pre-Worn Fashions and Accessories Sale will take place in The Corner House.

Please support this wonderful community building.



## News from Charlbury Library

The new library continues to be busy with customers young and old and we still have new customers joining. Is there anyone left in Charlbury who hasn't joined yet? I'm sure there are plenty! Joining is free and takes just a couple of minutes to fill out a form, either in person at the library, or online at https://libcat.oxfordshire.gov.uk. Once you have registered, you can take out up to 20 books per person (bring a strong bag!) or hire DVDs, audio books and music collections.

As we can't hold an endless stock of books in branch, for £1.20 per item, you can order in and reserve items from other branches, effectively giving you access to every library in the county!

We are part of Oxfordshire Libraries County Stock Rotation system, which means every week or two, we send on a selection of books to our next rotation library, which is Old Marston, to top up their stock. At the same time, Charlbury library receives a regular top-up of books from Hook Norton library. So, as well as all the new books that have been bought especially for Charlbury, this rotation system allows us to keep our stock current and fresh, hopefully keeping our

customers coming back to find new titles to interest them.

Our Digital Helper sessions have been well attended so far. They are free and are generally held once a month on a Monday morning, with the next session being Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May. If you need some one-to-one digital confidence building or specific advice or tuition on how to get more from your smart phone, tablet or laptop, then leave your details at the library and we'll put you on the next available session.

We are still working on a regular slot for a library Rhyme Time session – details should be available very soon.

Finally, the library is regularly staffed with our bank of dedicated and hardworking volunteers, many of whom offer their time for one session per month, sometimes two. If you would like to find out more about volunteering in Charlbury Library, again, please pop in or phone the number below.

Julie Ward Manager, Charlbury Library 01608 811104 charlbury.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

## The Friends of Charlbury Library

Thank you to all our increasing number of library users for helping us to maintain our wonderful new space in good order. We hope you are enjoying the chance to browse and to sit and read. Julie has referred above to our willingness to welcome new volunteers and this will be especially true from September when we will be staffing the library with volunteers for alternate Saturday morning sessions. If you have been wanting to become a library volunteer but are unable to

commit to weekday sessions, this could be the ideal opportunity for you to join us!

In the hope that summer will eventually arrive properly, the Library Service will be providing details about the 2018 Summer Reading Challenge in due course. Do look out for them. In the meantime, happy reading to all our library members!

Jill Judson Chair of the Friends of Charlbury Library



## Charlbury Town Council news

Celebrating contributions to Charlbury life

Charlbury is a lively, thriving town and it is thanks to the hard work of volunteers, helping people through every stage of life from Preschool to the Evergreens. Town facilities such as the Corner House, Memorial Hall and Community Centre, churches, clubs and societies all function through the selfless dedication of so many. Visitors to Charlbury often remark with surprise how many events are advertised on the noticeboard outside the Corner House.

The Town Council would like to recognise the contribution that volunteers make to Charlbury life by, each year, giving one or more people an award. Many other local town councils already run a similar scheme.

We are still working up the details of the awards, but the intention is that the first award could be given in 2019. Nominations would be invited from any resident of Charlbury, and would then be considered by an independent committee. We would therefore be delighted to receive nominations before the end of January 2019. However, if exceptionally you feel that an award should be made this year, please do let us know.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The APM took place on Friday 6th April in the Memorial Hall, with addresses from Town Council chairman Peter Kenrick, district and county councillor Liz Leffman, and representatives of Charlbury organisations.

Nicolette Lethbridge was re-elected as the APM representative on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee, and Christine Elliott as the APM representative on the Centenary Woodland Committee. Attendance this year was again low but, as ever, the meeting provides an opportunity for residents to ask questions of the Town Council.

#### Summer events

We are pleased to welcome the succession of summer festivals back to Charlbury once again and hope the many visitors will enjoy our lovely town. If you encounter any issues that cannot be resolved by contacting the organisers, please call:

- anti-social behaviour and traffic issues: Thames Valley Police, 101
- noise: West Oxfordshire District Council, 01993 861000 (office hours) or 0845 303 9706 (other)

#### Station car park enlargement

Great Western Railway is continuing to consider options for enlarging the car park at Charlbury station. Unfortunately, initial design work with Network Rail suggests that the second deck on the existing sunken area could be prohibitively expensive. Town councillors have expressed concerns that creating spaces in the meadow parallel to the railway line would adversely affect the landscape and potentially exacerbate flooding. We will continue to engage with GWR to ensure that any new development is beneficial not only to the station and its setting but also to the town itself.

#### **WODC Local Plan**

Following the independent inspection of West Oxfordshire District Council's Local Plan, the District Council has made several revisions.

In particular, the new document gives much stronger protection to Charlbury's setting within the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and no longer contains a target for new houses to be built within the Burford/Charlbury area. Instead, development will only be permitted "where the proposed development is shown to accord with national and local policy", including AONB status. In particular, new developments on the edge of town "will be particularly

closely scrutinised and will only be supported where there is convincing evidence of a specific local housing need". As a result, the Jefferson's Piece development has been removed from the plan; the developer could still choose to bring a proposal forward, but the revised Local Plan sets a high bar for it to be given planning permission.

The revised plan also includes a stronger commitment to "retaining the existing level and variety of services and facilities" in Charlbury and other small towns, as a result of representations by Charlbury Town Council.

#### In brief

- We are very pleased to see the hard work of the Neighbourhood Forum volunteers coming to fruition with the progress in Charlbury's Neighbourhood Plan (see separate report). We would encourage everyone to keep an eye out for the consultations on the plan and its supporting documents in the coming months.
- Thank you to those who assisted with the annual Boundary Walk on Rogation Sunday, and to those landowners who gave permission to cross their land.
- Congratulations to the under-14 girls' football team for winning the Oxfordshire County Cup Final!

**Contacting your Town Council** 

All our meetings are open to the public. Full council meetings will be held in the Corner House at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th June, 25th July and 22nd August, with Planning & Correspondence two days before (8pm unless there is a speaker).

The next open 'surgeries' will be in the Corner House from 10am-12pm on Saturday 2nd June and 4th August.

You can email Roger Clarke, the Town Clerk, at *charlburytc@btinternet.com* or phone 01608 810608 (9am–5pm weekdays, not weekends or bank holidays).

Richard Fairhurst



## From Robert Courts, MP

robert@robertcourts.co.uk

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Rodney Rose in March. Rodney worked tirelessly for the Charlbury community, with an enthusiasm and determination that I hugely admired. He was a champion for the local area, and greatly respected by all. He will be sorely missed.

Many of you have contacted me about the condition of roads in West Oxfordshire, and I am very aware of the damage that has been done to our roads during these past winter months. I have listened to your concerns and I have campaigned for more funding to fix potholes right across the constituency. I therefore welcome the Government's recent announcement that local roads badly affected by winter weather will benefit from a further £100 million to help repair any potholes and other storm damage.

This means £1.8m will be available for Oxfordshire to repair potholes; when coupled with other funding announcements, this means we will have nearly £3m to fix our roads.

The Highways Team at Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) are working hard to address these issues, using this funding to patch the areas that need it most, and I welcome the good work they have done so far. Nevertheless, I know there is more to do, and I continue to push for more funding – but this is certainly a large step in the right direction.

As ever, if there is anything you wish to raise with me, please do not hesitate to contact me at:-

robert@robertcourts.co.uk.

#### From County & District Councillor Liz Leffman

01608 810153 liz.leffman@westoxon.gov.uk

At the County Council meeting in late March, I put forward a motion asking the Council to actively lobby for the dualling of the remainder of the Cotswold Line. I am happy to report that the motion was carried unanimously, and so the County Council is now committed to this course of action.

This is important in the context of the development that is being proposed for West Oxfordshire, which will mean a lot more people travelling to and from work in other parts of the county on a regular basis. Oxfordshire has agreed to a deal with government that includes £250 million for infrastructure, but that is entirely earmarked for roads, not rail. So a commitment to developing rail is really important as this will help to reduce congestion on the roads, and ensure that we have a rail service that is fit for purpose, which at the moment it is not.

On the subject of roads, I am constantly being contacted about potholes. The County recently agreed a budget for 2018/19 of £3 million for road repairs. This is a drop in the ocean; the Cabinet Member responsible for our roads admitted at the last County Council meeting that we need £150 million to bring the county's road network back to a satisfactory standard. Most potholes are repaired using the "tarmac and shovel" method. This is very uneconomical, as

we have seen, because as soon as there is any snow or rain, the tarmac gets washed out. 27,000 potholes were repaired last year using this method, at a cost of approximately £60 per pothole. The alternative method, using a machine known as a Dragon Patcher, is much more efficient, and provides a longlasting repair which covers a larger area. The one machine that the county owns filled 6,000 potholes last year at a cost of between £15 and £20. The County is buying another machine, but the Lib Dem group argue that we should be buying more, as they will pay for themselves eventually. We will continue to argue for this.

In the last Chronicle I wrote that we could kill two birds with one stone by using recycled plastic to repair our roads and, in fact, I have since learned that Oxfordshire is testing this method of repair. If it works it could solve a lot of problems in one go.

The County Council has recently set up a Councillor Priority Fund of £15,000 per councillor. This is available for local organisations, who can apply to me for funding from this pot. If you have a project that will benefit the local community and which needs some financial support, please contact me to discuss this, as I may be able to help.

## **Charlbury Day Centre**

By the time that this edition of the Chronicle comes out we will have had our  $21^{st}$  anniversary celebrations and said thank you not only to all our wonderful current band of volunteers, but also paid tribute to all those, who had the foresight and drive to get the Day Centre off the ground all those years ago.

I am pleased to report that since my last rather pessimistic entry our membership has increased and we have secured a bit more funding. However, we still have a vacancy for another member and, of course, we always have vacancies for new volunteers to drive people to and from the Memorial Hall, assist cooking midday meal or to help during our day there. So if you would like to do any of those things or you know anyone, who might enjoy being a member, do please contact either

Bob Tait 01608 810150 taitsofbrice@tiscali.co.uk or Carolyn Connolly 01608 819001 cadk@dconnolly.freeserve.co.uk

Bob Tait, Chairman

#### From District Councillor Andy Graham

07908 832632 andyg2439@gmail.com

My role on the council as your representative continues to be as challenging as it was three years ago. The Local Plan is at the final stage now and we all hope this will now steer us in a direction of stability and less of property speculation. Whilst recognising the need for certain housing which benefits the local people of Charlbury, there is also the need to preserve the natural beauty of the area which is part of our heritage.

I am happy to report the Charlbury Youth Theatre is going from strength to strength and the junior group will be performing their performance of Into the Wychwoods at the Charlbury Community Centre on Saturday June 22nd at 2pm and 3.30pm. The youth theatre has been going for 3 years now following on from the success of previous youth theatre in Charlbury. A fairy tale composition with much fun and laughter as a short

outdoor event. This is our first collaboration with the community centre and we hope for many more. I am proud of my continuing association with young people in our town.

Another matter for sobering reflection regards the plight of the homeless. I was contacted the day before the Easter break at about 4.30pm from a distressed mother in West Oxfordshire saving her 20 year old daughter, who has some mental health issues and had been homeless, was asked to leave her Oxford accommodation by the next morning. I spent the weekend contacting the leader of the council and other staff to ensure something was done. I was successful in resolving this issue, but WODC must do something about the immediate needs of the homeless in our district as there are another 80 or so people that are still homeless. The fight goes on.



## Charlbury Art Society

The Art Society have arranged a coach Outing to the River and Rowing Museum in Henley-on-Thames on **Wednesday** 30<sup>th</sup> May.

There is a good permanent exhibition at the Museum including a special John Piper display, plus an exhibition of Barbara Hepworth sculptures called 'Finding Form'.

In addition, the Bohun Gallery, which is ten minutes walk from the Museum, has another exhibition of John Piper work.

Coach Fare: £12; entry to the Museum: £9.50; A talk about the exhibitions: £3; coffee or tea on arrival: £3

Please contact Julia Reid on 01993 868457 for availability. The coach will leave the Spendlove car park at 8.45am and leave Henley at 4pm to return.

## vOx Chamber Choir returns to Charlbury on 30th June

Following its successful concert at St Mary's last July, Oxford's leading a cappella chamber choir will be returning to Charlbury on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, for its summer concert.

The centrepiece of the concert will be J.S. Bach's motet *Lobet den Herrn*, *alle Heiden* (Praise the Lord, all ye nations), BWV 230.

The choir will also perform a number of other masterpieces through the ages from Palestrina, Tallis and Byrd through to Gustav Holst, Morten Lauridsen and Fric Whitacre.

Further details, including how to buy tickets, can be found on the choir's website www.vox-choir-oxford.co.uk.

7.30 p.m., 30<sup>th</sup> June, St Mary's Church.

## Charlbury Pre-School though play.

To celebrate the change of season (or perhaps to give it a friendly nudge along) our children performed various

spring rites. For Mother's Day they grew daffodils in pots to take home to mums all over Charlbury. They also tended the Pre-School garden and gleefully watched a new crop of tadpoles hatch.

#### What's new

Katy Hopkins is our newest member of staff. Katy is undertaking her training and the children and staff love having her with us. Longstanding member of staff Jenny Gerring is having her leaving party on 29th June. All those children and parents with whom she has worked are welcome to join her for an afternoon of fun and food.

We were visited by an Ofsted Inspector on 15th March. She spoke to parents, children and staff and observed us in action throughout the day. We were assessed as being a 'good' provision, and the written report acknowledged many of the areas in which we have improved since the last inspection three years ago. Here are just a few of the Inspector's positive comments:

'Children are motivated to learn and demonstrate good levels of confidence, showing they feel safe and secure.'

'Staff promote kindness and children learn to respect each other.'

'Children are motivated to play and explore the interesting resources and learning environment'.

'Children are keen and enthusiastic learners and show particularly good skills in literacy and mathematical development.'

On behalf of all the parents and children at the setting the committee would like to thank Chris and her team for the sustained and detailed work they have put in to achieve this recognition. However the real result is a brilliant little setting where children love to learn

#### **Thanks**

As Charlbury Pre-School is a charity, we rely on the support of individuals and organisations in the community, who have been so generous with their time, money and resources.

Recent fundraising successes include the Band-ioake event held at the shed on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Thanks to Chris Venables (quitar), Dave Anderson (bass) and Ali Donaldson (drums) for their rousing performance as backing band, and to all the brave souls who took up the mic. Thanks as ever to Andy Pickard for setting up and letting us use the venue free of charge.

We'd also like to thank Will Ord once again for sharing his time and expertise on 19 April. Will drew on his considerable experience in talking about how parents and teachers can foster creativity, curiosity and a love of learning in children. The event was well attended and saw some stimulating and lively discussion. Thanks also to Charlbury Primary school for hosting the event.

By the time this piece has gone to press we will have participated in Charlbury Artweeks. We anticipate interest from both present and prospective parents, as well as from Artweeks viewers popping in to see our children's work, whilst refueling with tea and cake.

### Upcoming events

The Pre-school Pop-Up Shop will be open 10am-4pm in Friday 18th May and Saturday 19th May, selling secondhand children's clothes and toys, at The Curiosities Company, 39 Sheep Street. A big thanks to Simon Himmens-Warwick for lending us this space.

Also look out for the Pre-School stall at the Farmers Market on Saturday 9 June, where we will be serving bacon butties, tea and homemade cakes, as well as running children's activities to keep the little ones occupied while the grown ups peruse all the fabulous local produce.

Following several highly entertaining fundraising gigs, we will be hosting another evening of live music at The Shed on Saturday 7 July. And with the festival season just around the corner, we are running the following festival stalls: At Charlbury Beer Festival on Saturday 30 June we will have an ice cream stall selling frozen treats. At Cornbury Festival on 13–15 July we will be bringing a Charlbury Pre-School Pizza Bar to the kids area for budding chefs/artists/mess-makers to make their own pizza.

At Wilderness Festival on 3–5 August we are excited to be teaming up with local Chef Louis debuting his fabulous food stall **Wottheduck**, serving confit duck burgers with hand cut Parmesan and truffle oil chips!!

As ever, we welcome enquires from interested parents and their children. We currently have 40 children attending but still space for more, so do get in touch if you'd like to come and have a look around and find out more about what we do: (01608) 811 200; admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk

Tristan Lee



Many of you will remember Liz Gupta, previous Chairperson at Pre-School, who has moved to Tanzania. Her daughter Jaya, has written about life there.

#### Dar es Salaam

Dar es Salaam is the biggest city in Tanzania (it's not the capital that's Dudoma). There are very high tall buildings packed with rich people. When you go on a walk I don't know where any woods are, so you can go to a beach or by a road. It gets dusty on the road and it gets very hot by the beach.

#### The Roads

In Dar es Salaam, the roads have holes and they get bigger and bigger when it rains. These are called potholes. The way they get so big is like this. Say there's a pothole on the road and it rains then the pothole expands and it becomes bigger.

#### Safari

In Tanzania and in other places like Kenya and Africa there is something called safari. Safari works like this. You go on a road, all around the car is a savannah with lots of animals living in it, like white and black rhinos, cheetahs, leopards, antelope and lions.

#### School

In Tanzania there are lots of schools like DIA, Reader Rabbits. I go to IST - it stands for International School Of Tanganika. At school we play math games on the computers like Prodigy and Raz-kids. They are very fun. There is an elementary IST school and a secondary school.

### Amazing Birds

Like the lilac-breasted roller and the magnificent bird of paradise. They are beautiful, but sadly you don't get them in England. The lilac-breasted roller is about the size of a blue jay. The magnificent bird of paradise has a long tail about the length of my hand (a seven year old's hand) the rest of it's the size of a blue jay.

### Animals you don't want to meet

In Tanzania, there are animals you don't want to meet. The snakes you should not meet are the black mamba and the green mamba. My friend once had a python in her garden, the python is also deadly. Anacondas are also deadly. There are other snakes that are deadly but I do not know them.

Jaya Gupta (Aged 7)



## **Charlbury Green Hub**

## You might not want it but others will

Visiting Dix Pit at Stanton Harcourt lately I've been quite depressed seeing so many usable things being dumped even if they are recycled, it would be far better to find someone to reuse them. I managed to rescue some things by talking to the owners who "didn't want them any more and couldn't think of what else to do with them", I then took them to the Bring & Take and of course they were snapped up quickly! We are lucky in Charlbury having the Bring & Take twice a year, and also having such a successful advertising website on Charlbury.info; so our community is no doubt much better off than most for finding someone else to take stuff we don't want. Freegle & Freecycle are great websites to advertise things within a wider but still local area and for finding really good things for free rather than buying new, and then there is eBay for advertising more specialist things to a wider audience.

If we give things to a charity to raise money then we want them to get as much as possible, so it is better to take things to a charity shop direct than use a plastic bag through the letter box which usually involves the collecting agency getting a fee. Even better, register for Gift Aid with the charity shop so they get your paid tax refunded for the amount they sell the goods for.

Duvets and pillows are fine for the Bring & Take and the few left over went to Oxford's Gatehouse centre for the homeless – they were gratefully received. Although we can put textiles out for collection by WODC (in a bag on top of blue-lid bin), this excludes duvets and pillows and Dix Pit don't take them either even though the last time I went I saw duvets and pillows sticking out of the

textile skip right next to the sign clearly saying NOT to put them in.

We can also put small broken electrical appliances (WEEE) in our black box for collection by WODC, but larger WEEE items need to be taken to Oxfordshire County Council's Dix Pit. Also remember Bannor Electrical in Chippy do a great repair service and also take unwanted things, repairing if necessary, to sell on table outside to raise money for St Mary's Church at Chippy.

Dix Pit also take other things for recycling that aren't collected by WODC – use the rubble skip for stones and broken china, they also have skips for all sorts of wood, hard plastics, fluorescent tubes, and metals (we can only put domestic cans, tins and aluminium in our blue-lid bins). Interestingly, after the waste in our light grey bins has been incinerated at Ardley (opened Autumn 2014) any little bits of metal are extracted from the ash for recycling,

It is tempting to hang onto things in case you need them later, there must be thousands of glass jars and metal lids being saved in houses all over the country for that jam-making that often never happens – probably best to just keep a few best shaped ones and put the rest out for recycling.

After decorating, there'll be bits left over you might want to use again and store them in your shed? But then maybe you don't use them and they're stored so long they're ruined? This is where our DIYspares webpage can be useful to advertise what you're hanging onto in your shed in case anyone else could use them – this is great for paint, offcuts of wood or insulation, screws, nails etc.

Send a photo and it can be categorised on the webpage so that anyone can have a browse to see if we have something here in Charlbury before driving off to Witney to get something new. Currently there is a wide selection of paint available for the taking.

Olio is a new idea for us in Charlbury for giving away food you're not going to use but which is perfectly edible. Go to *olioex.com* to register and start today – use it on the web or a phone app. There are lots of items already available in Charlbury for anyone and everyone to take free, but I am refusing people from further afield so that Charlbury people can take first pick.

Take used batteries to the Co-op, or leave in envelope on top of blue-lid bin, or take to Dix Pit, or drop off at the Bring & Take or our stall at the Farmers Market. To make things easier for you, we also collect light bulbs, charcoal water filters, bras, spectacles, and printer cartridges.

Christine Elliott

### Ramsden Fête.

The Food Hall, open from midday, has a wide range of hot and cold foods to suit all tastes. The bar offers Pimms, Prosecco and artisan gins from local suppliers.

This year there will be even more craft stalls, and dog agility displays alongside the Dog Show – yes, this is a dog-friendly event.

For children there is a small fairground, water splash, bouncy castles, coconut shy, try-your-strength plus many more games. Games for old and young include tug-of-war and egg-throwing. If you need a rest, sit down and enjoy Maypole Dancers, Clog Dancers, Morris Men, the Yarnton Brass Band and West Oxfordshire clarinets.

The fête is on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June and runs from 1 to 4pm (food & drink stalls from 12pm) and is at Wynter's Close in the middle of Ramsden OX7 3AU. Visit www.ramsdenvillage.co.uk website for general information.



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CHARLBURY BRANCH

Branch Coffee Morning
Will be held on Saturday 28 July 2018 in
the Corner House. For information
please telephone 810822.

2017 Poppy Appeal
The 2017 Appeal in Charlbury, Finstock,
Taston and Fawler raised £5225. Thanks
to all who donated and our collectors.

2018 Remembrance Day

11 November 2018
The Branch will be holding the usual parade and Service on Sunday 11
November however, to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War 1 we plan to line our route from The Playing Close to St Mary's Church with poppies. If anyone would like to help with making poppies or help with their layout etc please contact Jane Parsons on 01608 810822.

#### Assistance

For further information about the work of the Legion, how to join or how to obtain assistance, please contact Nick Potter [Branch President] on 01608 810388 or Derek Fowler [Branch Chairman] on 01608 811706 or Jane Parsons [Branch Secretary] on 810822. The Branch Membership Secretary is Barry Canham on 01608 811176 who will assist anyone who is still experiencing difficulty with the new membership subscription system. The telephone number for the Royal British Legion Contact Centre is 0808 8028080. This is a countrywide service.

There is a Royal British Legion Pop In Centre which is held in the Congregational Church, Welch Way, Witney on the second Thursday of the month between 10.30am and noon. Where "information, advice and guidance is available for serving members of the Armed Forces, Reservists, Veterans and their families". These sessions are run by Legion staff and although held in a church have no religious association.

Jane Parsons

## Salon Copenhagen

3 Pendle Court, Pond Hill, Stonesfield OX29 8PZ

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Coffee Break answers

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## 50+ LOW IMPACT AEROBICS CLASS

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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 (01608 810025) Baptist Church - Kay Colyer (01608 810107) charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

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

Charlbury Art Society (CAS) Sec: Kati Eidenbenz (01608 810911)

secretary@charlburyarts.co.uk

**Charlbury Beer Festival** - Jim Holah *jimholah50@yahoo.co.uk* 

www.charlburybeerfestival.org

Charlbury Beer & Wine Circle - John Moore (01608 810700)

Charlbury Bowls Club - Shaun Morley enquiries@charlburybowls.co.uk (01993 868134)
Charlbury Bridge Club— Secretary Monica

Wilkinson (01608 810560)

Charlbury Canoe Club - Hugh Belshaw (01608 810130) hughandjoan@uwclub.net Charlbury Chronicle - Susie Finch (01608 810861) editor.chronicle@outlook.com

Charlbury Community Centre—Jenny Chambers (01608 811878)

Charlbury Community Centre Appeal—Tanya Stevenson billandtanya@outlook.com

Charlbury Cricket Club - David Horne Vice Chairman dw3horne@gmail.com

www.charlburycricketclub.co.uk

Charlbury Day Centre - Bob Tait (01608 810150)

Charlbury & District Probus Club Mike White

(07710 296814) mike.ewhite7@gmail.com Charlbury Evergreen Club - Ken Taylor (01608 811441)

Charlbúry Green Hub - Christine Elliott (01608 811057) www.charlburygreenhub.org.uk Charlbury Fairtraders - Cara Williams (01608 811284) cara@michaelcara1965.plus.com

Charlbury Garden Society
Chairman@charlburygardensociety.org.uk
Charlbury Ladies Luncheon Club—Gill Grason
(01608 810154) and Frances Canham (01608
811176)

Charlbury Morris - Peter Smith (01608 811007)

peter@charlburymorris.org

www.charlburymorris.org

Charlbury Museum - Celia Faulkner (01608 810656)

Charlbury Open Gardens - Eileen Kenrick (01608 811021)

csfgardens@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Music Class - Peter Fry (01993 359189)

Charlbury Pioneer Country/Western Club (Ray & Margaret) (01993 831345) Charlbury Pre-School—Laura Barwood

laurambarwood@hotmail.co.uk (01608 811200) Charlbury Royal British Legion - Nick Potter (01608 810388)

Charlbury School - Jane Holt, Head (01608 810354) office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk www.charlbury.oxon/digitalbrain.com

Charlbury School Association - Tara Midgen office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk

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

**Charlbury Society -** Secretary Susan Merry (01608 811022)

Charlbury Street Fair - Chairman—John Dora (01608 811328) jmdora@btinternet.com Charlbury Tennis Club - Mark Jarman (01608 811692) charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk Charlbury Town Council—Roger Clarke, clerk (01608 810608) charlburytc@btinternet.com

**Charlbury Town Football** - Keith Claridge (01608 810201 or 07870 426707)

Charlbury Town Youth Football Club - James Ball (01608 810270) Jolliecat@btinternet.com Charlbury Women's Institute - President -Margaret Jowett (01608 810666)

charlburywi@gmail.com

Charlbúry Youth Theatre—Andy Graham andyg2439@gmail.com (01608 659462) ChOC Cinema - Richard Cocks (01608 810032)

Corner House Community Bookshop—Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811899)
Corner House and Memorial Hall - Office (01608 810879)

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

Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens - Harriet Baldwin (07779 157410 or 01608 811718) akanidi90@gmail.com

**Dementia Friendly Charlbury**— Meryl Smith (01608 810192) charlburydf@gmail.com

Fourshires LETS Group (skill swaps) Ann/David Morton - (01608 676302)

Friends Meeting House: Angela Kyte (01993 880368)

Holiday Club - Sue Holiday (01608 810694) Macmillan Cancer Care - Liz & Bob Tait (01608 810150)

Methodist Chapel - Gill Grason (01608 810154) Mind in Chipping Norton (Mental Health Support) (01608 645296)

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

**Silent Sitting**—Bill McMullen (01608 811430) billmcmullen@phonecoop.coop

St Marys C of E Church Rev Sally Welch (01608 810230)

**St Teresa's RC Church** Fr Tony Joyce (01608 642703)

Sustainable Charlbury - Liz Reason (01608 811212)

The Bell Hotel (01608 810278) The Bull Inn (01608 810689)

**Thomas Gifford Trust**- Margie Glasgow (01608 819253)

United Nations Association (West Oxfordshire) - Neil Pakenham-Walsh

Oxfordshire) - Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811338)

Wilderness Festival—

www.wildernessfestival.com

**Wychwayz Border Morris** - Teresa Duester (01608 810934)

**www.charlbury.info** - Richard Fairhurst



# Charlbury's Police Community Support Officer

## **C9837 Wesley Smith**

To speak to us about any concerns you may have:

call 101 if it's a non-emergency

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www.thamesvalley.police.uk

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