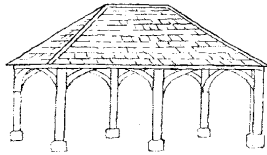


The Charlbury Chronicle



Volume 18 Number 2

June 2014

As usual in Charlbury there is lots to do in the summer months, and a rough count of 'things happening' in this issue comes to nearly twenty entries — and there are lots more advertised around the town and on the Charlbury website. Enjoy!

We would like to record our heartfelt thanks to all those clubs, societies, groups and individuals who responded to our plea for help with our finances. It has been very encouraging that so many of you have felt able to respond to our request, and we hope now to be able to continue without worrying about the *Charlbury Chronicle's* future. My thanks go to Dawn Colvin, our Treasurer, who has overseen our financial affairs since we started in 1997, and has been instrumental in sorting out our recent problems.

Lynette Murphy

Police Report from PCSO Wesley Smith

Remember if you wish to contact me to discuss any police issues please either call the non-emergency number on 0845 8 505 505 or email wesley.smith@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police Post is open on Monday afternoons 12-3pm at the Corner House. Come a long and speak to us about any concerns you may have or call 101 if it's a non emergency or 999 in an emergency.

***Deadline for copy for the September Chronicle is
August 1st 2014***



The Gifford Trust is pleased to announce that preliminary work has begun on the design of the new Charlbury Community Centre. The Centre is expected to include a sports multi-purpose hall, library, computer area and general community space. The current design does not include residential provision as enabling development.

Various funding sources have been secured, including over £160,000 raised through the on-going efforts of the Charlbury Community Centre Appeal group which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this month. Founding members, Lynette Murphy, Diana Potten and Richard Neville have been instrumental in the success of the CCCA. Anthony and Jessie Horn and Charlie and Sheila Peacock have also been huge contributors in the past few years. The CCCA has many more events planned for the year ahead and welcomes help from anyone interested in using the new Community Centre.

Further funding news was announced at the Parish meeting on April 4th when Liz Reason, Chair of The Charlbury Motor Fire Brigade Trust, said that the CMFBT has agreed, in principle, to provide funding towards the new Community Centre. Oxfordshire County Council has provided its draft funding agreement for £348,000. In contract negotiations with OCC the Gifford Trust is being represented by a partner from international law firm Squire Saunders on a pro-bono basis.

Please look out for further updates on our website.

Jill Judson, Trustee, The Thomas Gifford Trust

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNINGS AT THE CORNER HOUSE

A reminder that HOT DRINKS & HOT SCONES are served every Friday morning between 10 and 11.30am at the Corner House in aid of its upkeep.

Come and meet your friends!



The Charlbury Variety Show
Calling all people with talent!
Saturday 11th October, 7.30-11pm
Memorial Hall, Charlbury

As a fundraising event for the Charlbury Community Centre Appeal, we will be hosting a variety show, featuring some of the amazing talent that there is in Charlbury and surrounding villages.

If you are a singer, musician, comedian, dancer, magician or have any other talents that could entertain people, and are aged 16 or over, we would like to hear from you. There will be up to 30 four-minute slots and we hope to have a wide variety of performers. The audience will sit at tables and be served with drinks and snacks during the performance. **This is not a competition**, there will be no criticism, positive or negative, apart from riotous applause!

Please note that the venue may have to be changed — make sure you check nearer the time.

Please contact Tanya Stevenson to register interest or for more information:
billandtanya@outlook.com or mobile: 07871 795748.

Macmillan Coffee morning on Friday

September 26th. (Please note **NOT** the 27th which I put in the *Chronicle* mistakenly.) It will be at The Quaker Meeting house from 10am –12pm. We have been donated some great raffle prizes.....how do you fancy a week in a beautiful Norfolk cottage for six? We will aim to have a good quality bricabrac stall together with our stunning Bring and Buy/cake stall.....not to mention that raffle.

However, response from *Chronicle* readers has not been overwhelming so please do support us, can't do it without you!

Do put the date in your diary and let us know if you can help in any way.

Liz and Bob Tait 810150

elizabethtait@msn.com

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'Charlbury in the First World War'

Sue Rangeley explains the Exhibition at Charlbury Museum

This exhibition explores the life on the Home Front in 1914; the poignant stories of Charlbury's soldiers, sailors, are revealed in displays which interweave factual details with family memorabilia. The war too irrevocably changed the lives of women, within the exhibition are the unique stories of some Charlbury women during the First World War.

It was this facet of the exhibition, **'Women in Wartime'**, that caught my imagination and inspired an exciting journey of research.

It was the magic of Google that brought Nora Constable's story to life; she was born in Charlbury, her father was the landlord of The Bell. The National Archives holds the records of her nursing work; she enlisted in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in 1914. Within a few months Nora was nursing the British casualties of the gas attacks at Ypres in 1915. But what is so special about Nora, is that she was a friend of Edith Appleton, whose famous diaries, *'A Nurse at the Front'*, mention *'Constable'* in numerous entries during 1916, at Etretat. Alas no photo of Nora has emerged (yet!), but her story is truly fascinating.





Hilda Horniblow's story is equally interesting and amazing. Her early life began in Charlbury, her father Frederick Thomas Horniblow was a stationer (his shop was where News & Things is now). The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography holds all the details of her life and career. After joining the Women's Legion in 1915, Hilda was soon showing her talent for supreme leadership, organising mass catering for thousands of men in Eastbourne in 1916. Her wartime photograph may display a gentle, passive smile, but Hilda was a woman of substance! In 1917 she was in France, seconded to the American Expeditionary Force; her role: Chief Controller, in charge of the entire army kitchens. The Women's Land Army uniform would have been a familiar sight in Charlbury; the organisation was formed 1917 despite resistance from some farming communities. For local girl, Maria 'Emma' Oliver, who preferred outdoor life, rather than gloving, this war work naturally appealed; she was only a teenager, working at Hill Barn Farm (off Woodstock Rd) when she enlisted. Emma's story emerges through her possessions: a Land Army armband; a harvesting bonnet, and the reminiscences of her daughter.

The Red Cross in Charlbury was active throughout the war; Lady Margaret Watney, who lived at Cornbury Park, organised fund raising and 'working parties'. Her daughters, Rosalind and Silvia, enlisted in war work, and their stories emerged from Red Cross records and photos loaned by grandchildren. For all the Charlbury women of the 'Red Cross Working Party No. 4420' who made thousands of socks, bandages, slippers etc. for the soldiers, we have no names, only an archive record: *'excellent'*

Perhaps there are more stories of Charlbury women in war time waiting to be told, if you have one please let us know. Maybe a life story to accompany the china figure of a 'Munitionette', whose dangerous factory work Lloyd George praised.

The Museum is open: Sat. 10-12, Sun. & Bank Holidays 2.30-4.30.

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CHARLBURY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (CADS)

To introduce myself, I'm Tim Widdows (c/o Cotswold Frames), and this is my first review for CADS as their new chairman. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Madeleine Wheare for her leadership of the society for the past 3 years which I believe has helped put the society in the positive position that it is today; they are going to be some big shoes to fill but I have a great team on my committee and with their help I hope we can carry on the good work that Madeleine and her team had been doing. At the time of writing of this review we were hoping that the Memorial Hall extension would be well on its way, but with the last of the grant decisions having been postponed the building work has been delayed, but now we have just learnt that final grant has been successful and we hope that the building work will commence soon and we are all looking forward to our winter production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream** in the newly completed Memorial Hall (fingers crossed).

So, an update as to what's been happening: Well again, due to the proposed works to the Memorial Hall, there wasn't a spring production this year. However, we have not been idle; we had a very enjoyable play reading at the end of February hosted by Glenna Chadwick with Michael Palin's witty play "The Weekend."

21st March CADS members John Kearsey and Kate Morris were Question Master and Question Setter for the Charlbury Street Fair Quiz. Committee members past and present made up a team and came a respectable joint fourth place - a great night out for a worthy cause.

23rd March an eager group of CADS helpers dismantled the CADS storage shed behind the Memorial Hall, battling against the rain, hail and sunshine. The space is needed to allow the planned extension to be built; we will replace it with a new storage shed once all the work has been completed.

26th April we held a coffee morning at the Corner House and we would like to thank everyone who came along and supported us.

We look forward now to THE CADS TREASURE HUNT on the 24th June - meet at 7.30 pm at the Spendlove Centre Car Park. Open to the wider community. Come along and join in the fun - traipse around Charlbury searching for clues and then meet up at the Pub afterwards for a drink and a laugh.

We will be holding auditions for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the 2nd week of July (actual date and venue to be confirmed on Charlbury website) Do come along and audition - you would be all very welcome and rehearsals are due to commence in early September..

CADS are a theatre group serving Charlbury and its surrounding villages, we're always ACTIVELY SEEKING NEW MEMBERS - especially if you are interested in working back stage - please contact the Chairman or any member to find out more. Check out our facebook page and our page on the Charlbury website for up-to-the-minute news.

email: charlbury.drama@gmail.com; **website:** <http://www.charlbury-drama.com/>

WHERE HAVE ALL THE BIRDS GONE?

I'm not talking about pigeons and jackdaws, but the small garden and countryside birds which the RSPB shows to have declined, almost to invisibility, during the last nine years since I came to live in Charlbury. Why has it happened?

Increased pollutants from agribusiness and industry, vehicle emissions and the loss of wild hedgerows and woodland are among the most likely causes; and these factors seem to result from our modern way of life, as does the most important change of all: Climate Change. The overwhelming majority (around 95%) of scientists who have researched the issue of Climate Change have concluded that man's activities, particularly in vastly increasing the emission of carbon dioxide, are responsible. I have no cause to doubt them: loss of polar ice, raised sea levels, topsy-turvy weather patterns are ample proof. So what can we, as individuals, do about it?

If we think the future matters, it means that we need to control the tendency to take from the planet without giving anything back. And this is where individual choices and actions matter. "Buy what you need, not what you want" is a good maxim, even though it cannot always be applied!

I share a quite large, old stone house, with a pleasant garden partly devoted to fruit and vegetables. Stone buildings are not the easiest to insulate: there are no cavity walls to fill, so we have installed extensive double-glazing and as much insulation as we can get into our awkward roof; we heat only the rooms in regular use.

During the winter we have found our newish condensing-boiler far more efficient than its predecessor. We benefit from solar panels fitted a few years ago, which provide hot water on bright days. A cheery log fire warms the sitting-room and reduces gas consumption. Low-energy light bulbs predominate, but we still need a few conventional bulbs to aid close work, though this will change as technology improves.

My mother's injunction, "Waste not, want not!" applies not only to energy use, but to domestic shopping. We try to buy locally-produced organic food whenever possible, and avoid out-of-season food, particularly when flown from abroad (bananas and tropical fruits the exception!). In the kitchen, we reduce gas consumption by using a tiered steamer for multiple items, and try to use the electric oven for multiple dishes.

We have greatly reduced our car-mileage to around 4,000 miles a year. Neither of us now needs to commute, visits to family and holidays are rare, and most of our shopping is now on foot. The train is an increasing alternative. Flying, which produces truly massive amounts of CO₂, we avoid, except for a very rare treat on a holiday abroad.

We have had encouragement and advice for most of these measures from Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales, and local activists, to all of whom we owe a debt of thanks. Our actions have certainly not lessened the fullness of our lives, have greatly increased the comfort of our house, have reduced our bills; and perhaps most important of all, our carbon footprint. And it's not been difficult!

David Ouvry, Charlbury Green Hub

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COTSWOLD DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY

‘El Greco: Vision and Reality’ is the subject of the Cotswold Decorative & Fine Arts Society’s lecture on June 11th. As 2014 is the anniversary of El Greco’s death, we’ve planned a lecture to explore this vivid and revolutionary painter.

The lecturer, Gail Turner, read history at Oxford and History of Art at the Courtauld Institute.

Please note, there are no lectures in July or August.

Charlbury Art Society offer an Art Bursary

Charlbury Art Society (CAS) in continuation of its aims to encourage art appreciation and artistic pursuits amongst its members and the local community is now able to offer a Bursary of £300 to a local person who is undertaking, or about to undertake, study for a formal art qualification at a recognised educational establishment.

CAS will select one person to receive this bursary based entirely on its judgement of suitability of those who submit an application on a standard form supplied by the Society. If in the opinion of CAS there is no suitable applicant then no selection will be made.

Application forms can be obtained from the Secretary and must be returned no later than the 1st July 2014. Applications will only be considered when applied for on the correct application form. For these contact: Marion Coates 01608 810116, or after the 15th June Geoff Clifford 01608 811006.

LATE SPRING

Many find that others who have lost a loved one can offer valuable comfort and support. The Chipping Norton Late Spring Support Group meet over coffee and cake in the front room at Highlands every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 10am to noon.

If you would value the opportunity to meet with others who understand, please telephone Joan (07827235453 or 01235 849427) for more information.

You can visit our website :
www.latespring.org.uk

West Oxfordshire's Council Tax remains second lowest

Figures released by the Government show that West Oxfordshire District Council is, once again, charging the second lowest council tax rate out of all the 201 shire district councils in England.

West Oxfordshire District Council's share of the Council Tax for a Band D property in 2014/15 is set at £81.63 a year, which breaks down to £1.50 a week for providing all its services including waste and recycling collections, environmental health, leisure centres, housing and planning.

The District Council has been praised by Government for freezing its Council Tax charge for the fourth year running and official figures show that by doing this the District Council's element of the bill has actually fallen in real-terms by 13%. Cllr Simon Hoare, Cabinet Member for Resources said: "It is excellent news for our residents that West Oxfordshire District Council is recognised as one of the leading authorities in the country for providing low-cost value for money services. This has been achieved through careful planning and an on-going efficiency savings programme."

At £81.63 a year West Oxfordshire District Council's Council Tax rate is half the national average and is the lowest of the five Oxfordshire district councils. West Oxfordshire's share of the Council Tax bill is about 5 % of the overall bill that Oxfordshire taxpayers receive. The bulk of the bill (79%) is payable to Oxfordshire County Council to cover major services such as Education, Highways, Social Services and the Fire and Rescue Service. The rest of the bill covers police and parish / town council services.



Charlbury Pre-school

Charlbury Pre-School would like to start by thanking everyone who supported us during Art Week. All the staff spent two terms working with the children to produce some spectacular displays and we were proud to show work from every child who attends the pre-school.

We also wanted to thank everyone who stopped at the Corner House on May 17th to play games and have a cup of tea. The Pre-School relies on everyone in the community supporting us and we have some exciting events coming up. Please do try one of our delicious bacon sandwiches at the next Farmers' Market in June, and the famous pig roast will be at both Wilderness and Cornbury. We are also going to be serving tea and cakes at the Riverside Festival, so please do come down to the Mill Field and join us.

We are also still taking registrations for September so please ring or email to arrange a visit. Our number is 01608 811200 or email: admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk and we are located on Park Street opposite Cornbury Park.

Liz Gupta

Little Wild Things are all set to come out to play...

Today there are a million ways to entertain children, but it's increasingly the case that these involve sitting down indoors. However, ask any adult for their favourite childhood memories and you'll hear all about the outdoors – finding frogs, digging for buried treasure and damming streams. In our busy lives the pressures of work and the wonders of technology mean that our children are spending less time outside than any previous generation. We care about this, and so we've set up 'Little Wild Things' – a new Charlbury-based community interest company, which aims to inspire children and adults about the natural world.

We provide outdoor nature play for children in West Oxfordshire, giving them the chance to make mud pies, climb trees and build dens. Set in a local woodland, we'll be running exciting hands-on sessions for children and their families. These positive experiences of nature at an early age will help children become confident outdoors and encourage them to take an active interest in the future care of our environment. We want children to love being outside, because we believe nature is something you can never grow out of.

Get involved with Little Wild Things all year round, and please join us for our launch party on Sunday 1st June to meet us and get muddy! Visit our website for more details.

Christine Donaldson and Charlotte Hansford, Little Wild Things
littlewildthings.org.uk

NEWS FROM CHARLBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

In this edition of The Chronicle I'm pleased to report on a number of community projects that the school is becoming involved with over the coming months.

Firstly, the school will be taking part in this year's Artweeks open studios festival. As one of the venues on the Charlbury trail, the school will be displaying pupils' artwork, selling cakes and refreshments, and running art workshops for children. We'd like to thank members of the school's fundraising body, the CSA, for making this happen, and we hope that it will be an enjoyable and successful event for everyone.

The school is also looking forward to participating in Charlbury's Community Led Plan. Representatives from the project will be coming into school over the summer months to discuss its aims with the children, and to explore ways of encouraging pupils and their parents to share ideas for improving the town in the future.

Broadening out to the wider community beyond Charlbury, we're also excited to be working with the Low Carbon Hub, an Oxford-based social enterprise, to assess the feasibility of installing solar panels on the school's roof to generate renewable energy. As part of its 'Solar energy for schools' programme, the Low Carbon Hub is working with a number of schools in Oxfordshire to reduce carbon emissions across the county, and solar panels are already successfully up and running at the Cherwell and Matthew Arnold schools in Oxford. As well as providing discounted green energy to the school (electricity generated by the scheme will be sold to the school at a reduced rate), the project also provides educational opportunities for raising awareness of energy use and climate change. Charlbury Primary School is part of the international 'Eco-Schools' initiative for improving the environment. This project therefore particularly appeals to us as we look towards qualifying for the Eco-Schools' highest-level 'Green Flag' award, continuing on from the work the school did to integrate sustainable practices into everyday school life to gain the scheme's Silver award. In addition, in summer 2011 pupils at the school learnt about the benefits of solar heating when they designed and built a solar-powered water heater in the school playground with members of the Charlbury Beer Festival. At the time of writing various surveys, assessments and applications are being conducted on the school's behalf by the Low Carbon Hub to check the viability of the site, and we are waiting to hear whether the project can go ahead. If all goes to plan, then we hope that pupils will soon be seeing a renewable energy source in action on our own site.

Finally, if you are new to Charlbury, you might be interested to know that we are always looking for local residents to join our Knowledge Well scheme so that we can find ways to tie-in your particular skills, knowledge and experience with national curriculum subjects to broaden the children's education. If you would like to contribute to this scheme we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school on 01608 810354.

Vicky Buser, Parent Governor, Charlbury Primary School



CHARLBURY TOWN COUNCIL REPORT NO. 71

By Councillor Nick Potter

Charlbury Town Council: The Town Council elected in May 2012 is now 2 years old and half way through its term of office. Cllr. Jim Holah, first elected in 2012, resigned from the Council on 17th March for personal reasons. He is warmly thanked for his contribution to the Council. The vacancy was advertised and an election requested. Only one candidate had been nominated by the Closing Date, 24th April, and so Harriet Baldwin has been elected unopposed to the Town Council.

Pot Holes: Those pot holes and other road surface problems that are known to O.C.C. Highways are marked with white or green paint and are in the programme for repair. Those with no markings (even if next to a marked one) need to be reported to O.C.C. Highways or they will not get done. Telephone: 0845 310 1111.

The Annual Parish Meeting: This was held on 4th April in the War Memorial Hall and was attended by about 30 members of the public together with Councillors. A number of topics were raised concerning traffic, speeding, ignoring road signs, size of vehicles, state of the roads/streets, vehicle and pedestrian management at the station and maintenance of the Mill Cut. All the points were discussed at the Council Meeting on 16th April and will be reported to the Police, O.C.C. Highways, or other relevant authorities.

The Town Council Precept: The total given in Charlbury Town Council Report No. 70 (*Charlbury Chronicle* March 2014) was wrong and should read £80,910.72. The other figures are correct.

Councillor Surgeries: These are set for Saturday 7th June, 2nd August, 4th October, and 6th November. They are held at the Corner House 10-12 noon.

Defibrillator: An anonymous benefactor has donated a substantial amount of money to West Oxfordshire District Council to purchase defibrillators for nominated towns and villages in the District of which Charlbury is one. The Council hope to be able to install the defibrillator on the wall of the Co-op (subject to agreement) where it will have easy access for all. This equipment can save the lives of those who suffer Cardiac Arrest. It is not for Heart Attacks. Once it has been installed the Ambulance Service have offered to lay on a Training Session for all those who are interested, at no cost; details in due course. The installation of the defibrillator does not undermine the role of the First Responders who live in Charlbury and in fact will compliment the work they do. The Town Council is considering the purchase of a second defibrillator to be installed somewhere in the area of the Fire Station (subject to agreement) but will have to obtain grants to the value of some £2,000.00 for this.

Wigwell: The Nature Reserve which is the property of Thames Water is thriving and after a long gap, negotiations are proceeding so that its management can be handed over from the Town Council to the Wyckwood Project in the summer.

Centenary Wood: The woodland which is maturing nicely is the property of Oxfordshire County Council who are responsible for its management. Any queries about Centenary Wood should be referred to Vicky Fletcher at O.C.C. Countryside Services on 01865 815420. She is the Historic and Natural Environment Team Leader. There is no longer a County Forester and the Oxfordshire Woodland Project has been cut with the Manager made redundant.

Riverside Festival: Permission has been granted by the Town Council for the use of the Mill Field free of charge on 26th and 27th July subject to conditions and the issue of a Licence by West Oxfordshire District Council.

Public Events: A number of public events are planned to take place in and around Charlbury during the summer and, although they are enjoyable events for some, they are a nuisance for others. Matters concerning Traffic Management including Car Parking and matters concerning Public Order including Anti-Social Behaviour should be reported immediately to Thames Valley Police on 101. Matters concerning Noise should be reported immediately to West Oxfordshire District Council on 01993 861000 (weekdays 0900 – 1700hrs) or 01993 705056 (weekends and out of hours).

Overhanging Branches, Wheelie Bins, Dog Fouling: These are all ongoing problems causing inconvenience for the people who use our pavements. Please cut back branches that hang over pavements and likewise trim back hedges and plants that are difficult to pass especially with prams etc. Please put your wheelie bin and black boxes away once they have been emptied and please remember that you are responsible for your dog so “Scoop it, Bag it, Bin it”!

To contact the Town Council, email the Town Clerk (Roger Clarke) at charlburytc@btinternet.com or telephone 01608 810608 9am – 5pm.

(Not weekends or Bank Holidays).

Further information can be found at www.charlburytowncouncil.co.uk

CHARLBURY FARMERS' MARKET 2014
On the Playing Close between 9am and 1pm on
Saturday, June 14th

Charlbury Farmers' Market is administered by Thames Valley Farmers' Market Co-operative Ltd. The Market is organised by Nick Potter, Roger Watts and Geoff Burroughs. The contact address is: Lancut House, Lyneham Road, Milton-under-Wychwood, OX7 6LW tel: 0784 328 7091 email rogerw@bfocus.co.uk

NEWS FROM THE CORNBURY PARK TEAM

The Wilderness Festival takes place in Cornbury Park from 7-10 August 2014 and OX7 residents have snapped up the substantially discounted tickets for locals which have been on sale this spring. These special tickets are now sold out, but you may well discover opportunities to win tickets in local raffles and prize draws. Further details and tickets at: www.wildernessfestival.com

This year's tree planting on the Cornbury Estate is complete, with most of the new trees – oak, thorn and others – at Ranger's Lodge. The new grain barn at Smallstones is nearly ready; this will greatly reduce farm vehicle movements on the Charlbury to Burford road between Smallstones and Kingstanding. The walling maintenance is on-going in the park and a further stretch of dry stone walling at Ranger's Lodge on the Charlbury to Burford road begins in June; this new wall will be set further back from the sharp bend to improve visibility and safety for drivers.

Once again we'd like to remind you that while you are most welcome to walk on the official footpath along the perimeter fence connecting North Lodge to Southill, do be alert to potential wildlife hazards such as bees, snakes and deer. Please stick to the paths and keep well away from the river and the grazing stock - for your safety and theirs - and please do keep your dogs on leads. A reminder too that the permissive cycle route which follows the same path is open from spring until October every year, but there is no public access to the deer park for cars, walkers, runners or cyclists, except during special events.

Follow us on Twitter @CornburyPark and at Facebook.com/CornburyPark, or get in touch by emailing us at: estate@cpark.co.uk, phoning on 01608 811 276, or signing up for alerts at www.cornburypark.co.uk

Oxfordshire Advocacy We are looking for volunteers for our next training courses

Oxfordshire Advocacy is an independent, confidential free service supporting adults in Oxfordshire to get their voice heard and their wishes taken into account.

Volunteer advocates work with people needing support to: challenge decisions, uphold rights, attend meetings, make a complaint.

If interested, our next training course is in :

Oxford on 12th 13th and 20th June 2014.

For an informal interview, please contact: jacinta.sands@oadg.org.uk

Tel: 01865 741200

Website: www.gettingheard.org



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E patriciafreeman5@googlemail
Www. Patricia Freeman Silversmith.com

Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock

We run an extensive programme of courses for adults within the school all year round (apart from school holidays).

A full copy of our brochure and current offer is available to download on the Marlborough School website www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/community/index/html

If you would like a free printed copy of our brochure or to book a place please telephone **01993 813592** or email comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk

It is possible to join some of our weekly classes after week 1 if there is still availability – please ring to check.

All our courses are competitively priced to give our students great value for money.

For up to date and comprehensive information about availability on courses please see the school website (as above) as courses become full they are listed for your information.

Mrs Jenny Bodinham

Marlborough C of E School, Community Education, 01993 813592

Wychwoods Estate Agents have once again had a hugely successful response to their annual Easter Art Competition

The art competition was first launched four years ago with Burford Primary School, and now Shipton-u-Wychwood, Ascott-u-Wychwood, **Charlbury** and Chadlington primary schools all participate.

This year's competition was based on the participants designing an Easter Bunny Mask. Over 200 entries were received and Wychwoods found that the children are getting more creative every year. Some of the creative masks even included sweet wrappers and real rabbit's hair!

Alex Holmes had the enjoyable task of handing out the prizes and certificates to the winning entries at the schools.

"Wychwoods thoroughly enjoy organising this competition along with the local primary schools. Every year we always have a very enthusiastic response which we are delighted to see. Although we sell and rent many homes in the area, it is fantastic to be involved in the community in other ways"

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

9.15 to 11.30am
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.

CHARLBURY MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels prepares and delivers meals on Tuesdays to residents of Charlbury, Chadlington and Stonesfield

Meals cost £2 delivered

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Please ring Marjorie Glasgow on 01608 810161 or Jan Griffiths on 01608 810440 if you can help. We are also accepting names for new recipients for our waiting list. Please ring Marjorie .

CLUBS, GROUPS, SOCIETIES

CHARLBURY BOWLS CLUB

There's nothing better than being out in the sun enjoying a game of bowls! Why not come along and join us? You can try free of charge up to six times before becoming a member and what's more we will lend you everything you need. All we ask is you wear flat shoes. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 6pm for a practice, play friendly games against other clubs at weekends and inter-club competitions. We also have a men's league on Thursdays who are currently in Division 2. Once a member you will have your own key to the green, so you can practice as much as you want. All new members get £10 off the joining fee. So what are you waiting for? Come along and have a go. You are all very welcome.

Heather Hill, Hon Secretary

01608 810229

charlburybowlsclub@hotmail.co.uk

CHARLBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We're delighted our 2014 programme has proved so popular and have been pleased to welcome lots of new visitors to our meetings this year. Our change of venue in January, to The Cornbury Suite behind The Bell, has made parking much easier and proved a real benefit to speakers and members with equipment to bring along as well as giving us lots of space for activities. It's also extended our evenings as we regularly enjoy a drink in the bar after meetings! We've had great fun learning to crochet and circle dance, as well as enjoying talks by a published author and also a member of the Oxford Geology Group. Enthusiastic geologist Paul Sargent described how the fossil bones of a giant

reptile were found just 3 miles away in Stonesfield in 1824, resulting in the first full written account of what would later be called a dinosaur.

Chris Smith, from the Oxford School of Motoring, will be giving useful driving tips and advice at our June meeting. A driving instructor with over 30 years' experience, he uses relaxation and positive thinking to ensure his students are confident and composed! Our July speaker, Valerie Burton, promises a fascinating talk about the history of the Witney blanket industry, in which she worked for many years, taking us from its beginnings about 900 years ago to its demise in 2002. We'll be finding out the origins of the term 'tenterhooks', how (men's) urine was used as bleach and how the noise of the machines led workers to become expert lip readers!

Charlbury WI meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in The Cornbury Suite, The Bell at 7.30pm. Information about our forthcoming meetings can always be found under the 'Events' section on the Charlbury website or by contacting Pat Hill (President) on 810714 or Louise Cashman (Secretary) on 676995. We take a summer break in August and meet up again in September. Do join us – we are always pleased to see new faces and guarantee a warm welcome.

Trish Cavell

CHARLBURY CRICKET CLUB

More cricket is now being played at Charlbury than at any time in the club's 140 year history. This positive celebration of the game is wonderful, but there is also a need for us to bring in new players. Our thriving youth section helps by introducing boys and girls to the great game and supplying fresh talent to the senior teams. Yet we are

CLUBS, GROUPS, SOCIETIES

always on the lookout to welcome others into the wide range of cricket that we offer. Adult training evenings are on Wednesdays throughout the season, start 6.30pm. If you are interested, just come along or, alternatively, contact any of our captains via the club website. A simple overview of just the home matches for the 2014 season shows how much cricket is actually going on: three teams in the Oxfordshire Cricket Association's leagues and cups, women's teams in the ECB Midlands League and Oxfordshire midweek league, Sunday , senior friendlies, Ernie Clack midweek knock-out competition and midweek evening friendlies, plus youth games for Under-11s, U13 and U15 boys and girls teams and an U17 side. In addition, we also host some county matches and finals days. We have a dedicated team of coaches, ground staff and club officials who help steer us through such a busy programme and keep the club a central part of life in Charlbury. If you feel you can help the club in any way, do not hesitate to become involved. You will be most welcome.

David Horne

CHARLBURY MUSIC CLASS

Meetings of the Charlbury Music Class continue at The Bell with a *History of Music for Keyboards* on Wednesday July 2nd from 10.30 to 3.30. Our professional tutor is Dr Kate Eckersley who has been running these classes for over 30 years and speaks about the subject and plays examples on CD. These are enjoyable meetings with no pressure. Attendance usually numbers 20-25. There is a 50-minute lunch break—most people lunch at The Bell, but this is not compulsory and the cost is not included in the attendance fee.

The fee for a single class is £20 for the day including coffee, (with reductions for block bookings). Attendance in 2013 averaged 20-25. No technical musical knowledge is required of those attending, and the atmosphere is friendly and informal. Please ring Peter Fry on 01993 359189 for full details.

Charlbury Garden Society Summer Show

The Society's Summer Show is on Saturday 21st June in the Memorial Hall. As well as the roses and sweet peas which fill the hall with such scent and colour, there are classes for other flowers and for fruit and vegetables. In the *Groovy Growing* section, children can enter a miniature garden or edible necklace (instructions in the Society's annual programme) as well as new potatoes or salad vegetables they have grown themselves.

Staging is 8.30-10.45 am, and the show is open to the public from 2-4.30 pm. Schedules containing an entry form will be available in advance from the station, pharmacy, library and post office and can also be found via the website. You do not have to be a member of the Society to exhibit but members benefit from a discount when buying goods at six local garden centres.

The Society's Annual Flower and Produce Show will be on 6th September.

Rob Stepney

Bessie Marchant – author (1862-1941)

Bessie Marchant lived in Gothic House in Church Street. She was a prolific author, producing some hundred and fifty books, serial stories and many short stories. They appealed to all ages. She was a regular contributor to "Little Folks". In the later years of Queen Victoria's reign G.A. Henty was famous for his adventure books for boys. Angela Brazil was also producing schoolgirl stories. Bessie Marchant brought something new with her tales of resourceful girls and women, who triumphed against the odds. The dust covers of the books promised excitement: girls riding horses in exotic places, another girl controlling a rearing horse and another following and spying on some people are just a few examples. The titles were alluring too - "Hope's Tryst – A Story of the Siberian Frontier", "The Bonded Three, A Story of India", "Norah to the Rescue- A Story of the Philippines" were some. Her books were set in many lands and yet she herself never went out of England. Despite this she managed to create a really authentic background to her stories. Charlbury resident Jennifer Bartlett lived with her parents in Myrtle Cottage opposite Bessie Marchant, who often visited them. Jennifer's mother, Mrs. Price, used to tell the story that they had a long corridor in their house and Bessie Marchant was standing in the doorway of it waving her arms and legs around. On being asked what she was doing she said she was trying to imagine what it would be like to be in an earthquake. Certainly she did a lot of research and through meeting a Dr Macray, the Vicar of Southleigh, she gained access to the Radcliffe Camera and the Bodleian.

Her upbringing did not seem likely to give her literary aspirations. She was born in 1862 of farming stock in the village of Pelham in Kent. There were few books in the house and it seemed that she read Fox's "Book of Martyrs", probably at school, and hated it. She received no formal education until she was eleven, when her mother sent her to a local Dame's school, run by a retired lady's maid from the big house. This did not last long as her mother suspected that her teacher was drinking and so sent her to a boarding school in nearby Canterbury. It was no more successful. When they found she wrote the letter B the wrong way round, they set her to making pothooks. She also did not get enough to eat. Her mother now decided to employ a governess for Bessie and her elder sister, while her brother went to a proper school. She learnt enough to be employed as a teacher in a Baptist school in London in her early twenties. It was at this time that she started writing. In 1889 she became the second wife of a Baptist Minister, Jabez Comfort. His sermons were said to last up to an hour. He gave up the ministry and opened a small school in Hitchen, but later moved to Witney. His clever young wife helped him with this school. It is said she learnt Latin overnight and then taught it the next day. It was while running the school that she found time to write again. One of her earliest books was for boys, "Tommy's Trek, A Story of the Transvaal". Another book claimed to be her first was "Broken Barriers" in 1889 but it was "The Bonded Three" set in India that really established her reputation. The story of a white planter living in isolation, the description of the damp heat, the sense of danger, the relationships of the children and servants are all deftly presented.

While she was in Witney the sales of her books were such that she and her husband were able to close the school and she was able to devote all her time to writing. In 1904 they moved to Charlbury, where they rented Gothic House for much less than their house in Witney. The house had been neglected and mice had eaten away the gas pipes, so

the lighting consisted of oil lamps and candles. The house changed hands several times but the Comforts were eventually able to purchase it for £450. Apparently Bessie took a bath every morning downstairs, though where that would be in the present house is not clear. She would dash up stairs with little on and get dressed. She worked in what is now the Music Room but was then called the Library. She sat at a table with a window behind her and looking out through the French doors to the garden. Her manuscripts were neatly written in a copperplate hand though she later used a typewriter. It is said that her husband carefully corrected her work and when he died in 1915, the publishers were surprised to receive a script from her written with the usual gusto but full of spelling errors and having little punctuation. Blackie's were her main publishers and they included her books in what they described as "pretty little stories". One of her first books sold for nine old pence.

Bessie Marchant did not really benefit as much as she should have from the huge number of books she produced. She did not understand fully the business side of things and she sold the copyright of her books outright for anything from £20 to £60 and thought she had done well! It was not until 1930 that she employed a literary agency to look after her sales, which improved things. She resorted to letting rooms in Gothic House and Jennifer Bartlett can remember ladies living there. Bessie was working right up to her death and one of her books was published posthumously. Her daughter Marchant Comfort continued to live in the house and when a cousin inherited the things in the house she asked Briony and Andrew Lawson, who were buying the house, to keep the collection together there. There is glass-fronted cupboard containing most of her books. There are neatly tied up manuscripts, letters and pictures. One of these shows her working in her corner of the library looking out into the garden. Jennifer Bartlett's father and Bessie Marchant shared a birthday and because he enjoyed her books, she usually gave him one on that day. In December 1921 she gave him one, which was inscribed with something she probably felt had guided her life :-

"The work we set out to do with all our heart and soul and strength
is the work that succeeds"

Diana Potten

In aid of The Friends of Shorthampton Church

**CHILSON VILLAGE
OPEN GARDENS**

Sunday 29th June 2- 5pm

Jazz and Home Made Cream Teas

Everyone, except their dogs,
most welcome

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

**Oxfordshire Historic
Churches Trust
Ride and Stride**

will be on

Saturday 13th September. For further
information please contact Sarah Potter
on 01608 810388.

The Charlbury Beer Festival: a reminder of what it's all for.....

The Charlbury Beer Festival has just awarded our annual overseas grant for 2014 to Cecily's Fund, to buy school shoes for Zambian children orphaned by AIDS. Last year the CBF, with support from many readers of the *Chronicle*, raised nearly £25,000 for local good causes, and each year we give one grant (typically £1,000–2,000) to an overseas children's charity with Charlbury connections. The Director of Cecily's Fund, Molly Brech, is a Charlbury resident.

Cecily's Fund was set up in 1998 in memory of Cecily Eastwood, a Stonesfield 19-year-old who died in a traffic accident while on a gap year volunteering to help children in Zambia. With its Zambian partners, Cecily's Fund provides Zambian orphans with everything they need to go to school, and helps some of them to go on to train as peer health educators and teachers, giving them a far better chance of growing up to be self-reliant, and to live healthy, fulfilling lives and bring hope to others. As Julie Grime of Cecily's Fund explains, 'Providing a child with a good solid pair of shoes is a key part of our commitment to their education. School shoes are especially important for Zambian children who often have to walk long distances to school.' It's a great example of how a local organisation can contribute to improving the lives of poor children in disadvantaged places, and CBF is proud to be able to channel part of the proceeds from our 2013 event to this cause.

Joanna Elliott

The Seventeenth Charlbury Beer Festival will take place at Charlbury Cricket Club on Saturday 28 June 2014, from midday. There will be live music and other entertainment, children's activities, good food and drink, and the World Aunt Sally Open Singles Championship – and it's all in a good cause.



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Street Fair 2014 to feature a Spitfire Flypast!

Street Fair will be held this year on **Saturday 20th September** with a theme of **"Flying Heroes"**.

As a special attraction we are very excited to announce that this year's event is set to feature:

A Flypast by a Spitfire from the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight!

We are also hoping to feature other Spitfire-related attractions - so watch for further announcements.

Evening Entertainment: We are delighted to announce that the evening entertainment on Street Fair day will be provided by two very popular and talented local acts namely, **Jess Goyder** (previous festival appearances include Glastonbury, Cornbury and Wilderness) followed by **The Village Idiots** (back for a third year by popular demand)

Other Street Fair News: Our year got off to a great start with another enjoyable and successful **Quiz Night** in March and I would like to give special thanks to Kate Morris and John Kearsey from CADS for compiling and compering the Quiz, to Tim Newbold for the excellent food, to the Street Fair team and helpers for making it happen and to all the teams who took part.

Open Gardens – Sunday 1st June – 2pm to 6pm: Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to take a gentle stroll around the centre of Charlbury and view a range of beautiful gardens, large and small, lovingly tended for your enjoyment. As always, teas and cakes will be available in the Memorial Hall throughout the afternoon.

Will you Help?

Street Fair is YOUR event, celebrating and supporting YOUR community so why not become part of it? As the Street Fair team, it is our pleasure to keep alive this long standing tradition in Charlbury and to bring these events to you. But without more help and support there is a real danger that this much loved feature of the Charlbury calendar may wither and disappear. If you love and enjoy Street Fair please help us to keep it alive and exciting. There are so many ways you can help. Perhaps you help to run a stall, serve teas, sell draw tickets for us, make a cake or two, help us with publicity and social media or just lend a bit of muscle to help with set up and clear up. Are you a whizz with Twitter, Facebook and other social media? If so we would love to hear from you. Do you have an odd hour or two to spare to make a few phone calls for us perhaps? Perhaps you have some new ideas for future Street Fairs. It all helps.

If you want to keep Street Fair alive and you can help in any way, ***please*** get in touch at csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org or call me on 01608 811021. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Kenrick - Chairman

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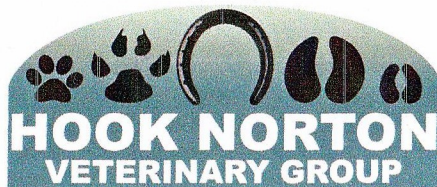
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CHARLBURY
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Consultations by Appointment - Monday to Saturday

Main Hospital at Hook Norton
Equine & Farm Tel: 01608 730085
Small Animal Tel: 01608 730501

Branch Surgery at Deddington
Tel: 01869 337732

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

www.hooknortonvets.co.uk

A Dementia Friendly Charlbury

A newly-formed group of volunteers want to ensure that Charlbury is a friendly and welcoming place for everyone to live in, especially people with memory and thinking problems.

We have designed a quick and easy survey to find out what is needed. Watch out for the survey forms which will be displayed in key locations in the town. If you feel you have something to tell the group, please complete and return the form – there are several easy ways to do this. We are also still taking registrations for September so please do ring or email to arrange a visit.

For further information about the Dementia Friendly Charlbury Group contact Meryl Smith. We will have a page on the Charlbury website: www.charlbury.info or contact Sue Smith on 07833 952514.

Meryl Smith (01608 810192)
merylsmith192@btinternet.com

RESULTS OF THE 'AND QUIZ' FROM THE MARCH CHRONICLE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. early - (bright and early) | 17 Deliver - (stand and deliver) |
| 2. top - (top and tail) | 18 Thick - (thick and thin) |
| 3. E - (A&E) | 19 Gabanna (Dolce & Gabbana) |
| 4. peace - peace and quiet) | 20 Posh - (Posh and Becks) |
| 5. plough - (plough and harrow) | 21 Roses - (Guns'n'Roses) |
| 6. pears - (apples and pears) | 22 Sardinia - (Sea and Sardinia) |
| 7. Wills - (Burke and Wills) | 23 Gretel - Hansel and Gretel) |
| 8. B - (B&B) | 24 Interesting - (pale and interesting) |
| 9. Seine - (Seine-et-Marne) | 25 Sour - (sweet and sour) |
| 10. Hudson - (Thames and Hudson) | 26 Lyle - (Tate & Lyle) |
| 11. Ride - (park and ride) | |
| 12. Roses - (castles and roses) | |
| 13. Saye - (Saye and Sele) | |
| 14. Cover - (cut and cover) | |
| 15. Publish - (publish and be damned) | |
| 16. Jammu - (Jammu and Kashmir) | |
- Thank you to all who took part—your remarks were noted by Peter Barber. Congratulations and a bottle of wine to the winner**
Mrs Peggy Haslam

Lawrence Home Nursing Team at Fifteen

In May 1999 an open meeting was held with a view to setting up a home nursing service for terminally ill patients in Chipping Norton and the surrounding area. In May this year the team celebrates its fifteenth birthday! The LHNT is now well established and has provided care to over 560 patients enabling many of them to die at home. This has involved over 3000 visits covering 16,000 hours of nursing. The LHNT has a team of 18 experienced registered nurses.

We receive very positive feedback : ' *We would not have been able to keep him at home if you were not able to find the wonderfully calm and helpful band of nurses*'; ' *Thank you for the loving care you gave to Mum in her last few days. For me you were a godsend, enabling me to not have to worry through the nights*'; ' *Dr Lawrence has left a wonderful gift for everyone in the area*'.

We were deeply saddened earlier this year by the death of Mike Howes a founder Trustee. Mike was nursed at home by his family with the support of the LHNT.

As we embark on the next fifteen years it is important that the future of LHNT is secure; please support the work of the LHNT at the following events:

8th June - Classic Car show, Churchill

20th June 2014. Danny Phillips is holding the 'Jane Phillips MBE Memorial Golf Day' at Chipping Norton Golf Club. Jane was a driving force in setting up LHNT.

28th June – LHNT volunteers will be providing tea and cakes at Charlbury Beer festival.

So many people have done so much to contribute to the success of LHNT. Thank you to you all.

Jenny Nolan, Registered Manager, lhntoffice@gmail.com, 01608 641549

The Friends of Charlbury Library

Thank you to all those who have offered their services as Library Volunteers. We had an excellent turn out to the 'recruitment' meetings in February and potential volunteers are now in the process of attending induction and training sessions run by the County Library Service. The involvement of volunteers will go 'live' in August following a three month introductory period.

If you haven't yet registered an interest in volunteering, either working with library users or behind the scenes, it is never too late to contact us:

Rosalind Scott : rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk

Jill Judson: j.judson257@btinternet.com

Particular thanks to Gill Heighway, our Librarian, and to James Hazlewood and Anne Manwaring of OCC's Library Service for all their help and support with this new initiative.

Jill Judson



RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL

26-27 July 2014

Go wild on the Mill Field

This year's Riverside Festival promises to be the wildest ever! As well as celebrating local music talent at Riverside, we're celebrating nature, encouraging our younger festival-goers to appreciate the wild wonders around them with fun back-to-nature activities.

Building on the success of last year's Bushcraft skills sessions and Physics in the Field experiments, we've invited Charlbury's Little Wild Things to explore that timeless childhood plaything the stick, giving children the chance to use their imaginations to create, swords, wands, puppets, even dens. We'll also have a willow maze, storytelling, nature trails, music workshops, and arts and crafts sessions.

Riverside is one of the most popular events in the Oxfordshire music calendar with all the family. What began life 19 years ago as a jazz picnic for friends, now boasts more than 40 acts playing everything from folk music to blues, rock, ska and hip hop, attracting thousands of music lovers of all ages, and yet Riverside is still the friendliest, most relaxed music festival in Oxfordshire and, astonishingly, is still completely free to enter.

Take part

As well as the two main stages, the Fringe stage returns this summer – last year Riverside Fringe featured everything from song and dance acts to performance poets and a contortionist. If you would like to take a turn email fringe@riversidefestival.charlbury.com to ensure a slot.

If performing is not for you why not volunteer to help? We rely on volunteers to keep Riverside free and it's a great way to meet new people. It takes 100 volunteers to get the show up and running. Before the festival itself they assemble stages and the pontoon bridge; set up sound systems; erect fencing, marquees and stalls. Then on the weekend itself we need volunteers to pull pints, sell programmes and T-shirts, help run the kids section and generally keep the festival goers happy. If you would like to help, even if it's just for an hour or two, email volunteer@riversidefestival.charlbury.com or call Chris Johnson on 07787 436552.

Line-up

The Epstein will headline Riverside on Saturday. Other acts booked so far include The Standard, The Mighty Redox, Brickwork Lizards and The Knights of Mentis. Come and join us - the entrance is down Mill Lane opposite Charlbury train station. Like all festivals, festival goers cannot bring bottles and cans onto the site - the two bars and other refreshment stalls will be selling drinks at very reasonable prices - and please leave dogs at home, only assistance dogs will be allowed in.

Gates are open from 12pm – 10pm on Saturday 26 July and 11am to 8pm on Sunday 27 July.

More information on Riverside and the Riverside Stage at The Cornbury Music Festival at Great Tew (4-6 July) at www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com

Christmas Church Services

Charlbury Baptist Church



Sunday Services at 10.30am
Communion: 1st June/6th July/24 August
Café Service: 15 June & 20 July
Joint Services at Methodist Church: 29/6, 27/7, and
3rd & 17th August
Church Contact: Kay Colyer (810107)
e-mail: charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

St Mary's C of E Church



Full details of all services in Church porch
or see *The Leaflet*
The Rev'd Judy French, The Vicarage, Church Lane,
tel: 810286
www.stmaryscharlbury.co.uk

Friends' Meeting House, Market Street



Meeting for Worship at the Friends Meeting House
For further details contact Paula Dunleavy (646056)

Methodist Chapel, Fishers Lane



We are 'At Home' on the **third** Thursday of the month for a talk or discussion on a subject of interest. There is a light lunch available for all who'd like to stay.
Everyone very welcome.

Sunday services at 10.30am

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



Sunday Masses
9am at St Kenelm's, Church Enstone
11am at St Teresa's, Charlbury
Daily Mass 9.30am St Teresa's, Charlbury

Rev Aldo Taparo, 5 Enstone Road, Charlbury OX7 3QR
tel: 810576 or see www.communicate.co.uk/oxford.stteresacharlbury

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHARLBURY have several shared activities, Including the Bible Study Fellowship.
For further information contact Rosalind Scott - rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk or ring 810562

PARISH PRIEST TO LEAVE ST MARY'S

Rev'd Canon Judy French who has been Vicar of St. Mary's Charlbury and All Saints Shorthampton for the past 17 years has been appointed as the new Archdeacon of Dorchester (i.e Oxfordshire). She will be leaving Charlbury at the end of May.

Judy has just celebrated 20 years as a priest, being one of the first women to be ordained into the priesthood in April 1994. She will be sad to leave Charlbury and all the wonderful people who live here.

Rev Jan Feilden

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHARLBURY

Last year the churches in Charlbury decided to try to raise £5000 for the Afghan Women's Educational Centre (AWEC) in Afghanistan, through a community partnership scheme arranged by Christian Aid. During Lent this year people attending bread, soup and cheese lunches gave over £1,800 for the project and this together with some generous donations means that we have already sent over £3,300 to Christian Aid – two thirds of the total we are aiming for.

Large numbers of women came out to vote in the recent presidential elections in Afghanistan, in spite of intimidation in some parts of the country, showing that the work of organisations like AWEC is bringing results.

One of the aims of AWEC is to establish local councils, known as shuras, where both men and women can contribute to local affairs. There are now 89 women's shuras meeting every month. For women who have previously had their needs ignored, even by family members, it is a life-changing experience to be able to express their views openly and share in discussion. In some places, women have been invited to attend male shuras to offer their ideas for cooperative decision-making in the community. Electing women to positions of leadership in the shuras is challenging negative perceptions of women, and women are now being consulted by their male counterparts.

We will continue to fundraise for AWEC until we reach the £5000 target. This will then be eligible for matched funding from the European Union bringing the total to £20,000.

The security situation in the north and west of Afghanistan is becoming worse but women working for AWEC say the regions taking part in the project have not been affected too much and work is continuing as planned. Their aim is for a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan in which the rights of all are respected, despite the challenges of the security situation. Our aim is to encourage and support the people of Afghanistan who are working for change.

*Rosalind Scott – Secretary
Churches Together in Charlbury
rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk*

Report from County Councillor Rodney Rose

Rodney.Rose@Oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 810419; 07919298277

You probably will know flooding is one of my responsibilities and it has kept me somewhat busy since Christmas. Following the floods I hosted a flood forum for all parishes in Oxfordshire from which a summary will soon be available on the Oxfordshire County Councils website.

This report would not be complete without a summary of the OCC budget position: The budget was decided at the full Council meeting on 18 February. A council tax increase of 1.99% was agreed and whilst any increase should be avoided, this small increase of 46p per week for a band D property means that some valued services can be retained. Despite all the savings and reductions there were some positive announcements: An additional investment of £800,000 to end 15 minute personal care visits by extending the time of visits; an extra £350,000 will be available for the setting up of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub in Oxfordshire; there will be £1m extra for general highway maintenance to be spent across the county – with priorities for this spend to be determined during the coming months; a total of £400,000 will be set aside as a contingency to deal with problems stemming from flooding and other winter weather issues – the exact nature of how this money will be spent will be determined once full assessments have been made when waters have subsided; a total of £315,000 will be invested in community budgets. It has been a challenging budget and now we have to make sure we deliver the savings. The word from the Chancellor of the Exchequer is that we are but half way through the cuts needed to put the Country back on track, so it looks like we still have some work left to do.

Report from District Councillor Liz Leffman 01608 810153

liz.leffman@westoxon.gov.uk

The recent application for the solar farm at Southill has been supported with letters by more than 50 local residents, and many more lent their support following the various public meetings. At the time of writing, the Uplands Area Planning Committee has yet to meet to decide whether it can go ahead or not, but it has been recommended for refusal by planning officers. This is very disappointing to the team that put the proposals together, as a great deal of work went in to engaging with the community, and ensuring that visibility of the site would be minimal, so that the landscape, which we all care about, would be protected. It is to be hoped that if councillors do refuse permission on this occasion, modified plans can be submitted. If so they will have my personal support.

As usual, a lot of my time has been spent making sure that the environment in Charlbury is kept clean and tidy. I've had a lockable dog bin installed by the Bowls Club following several incidents of dog mess being thrown onto the bowling green. I'm pleased to say that we seem to be having fewer problems with rubbish left uncleared at the Spendlove, though I have had to get in touch with WODC officers recently about the amount of rubbish left lying around after the recycling lorries have been through. This is due to the doors of the lorries being left open so that rubbish flies out when the lorries move on. I'm pleased to say that my complaints have been taken seriously and the contractors have been told to close the doors to prevent this from happening. If anyone sees a lot of rubbish around after the lorries have been, please do let me know, and I will take this up again.

Report from District Councillor Hywel Davies (01993 868004) 07917 055120

hywel.davies@westoxon.gov.uk or hywel.davies7@btinternet.com

A famous philosopher once defined politics very simply if crudely as a matter of answering two questions – ‘Who gets what’ and ‘Says who’?. Explicit in these two questions is the concept of conflict between those who want X and others who do not want X. Elected politicians are the ‘Says who’ in this conflict of interests. So how do these conflicts become resolved. In the UK, politicians get democratically elected by the majority of those eligible, those ‘who want to get what’. The elected are the ‘says who’. So how do decisions in favour of one interest group and against another get decided.

In our area, the Conservative run District Council has a number of tools in deciding.

The first is a simple overarching objective to make West Oxfordshire the best place to live, work and visit’. A tad hyperbolic and overblown the cynic might say. However, I have found it a very useful lodestar in reaching a view and very practical and useful actions have flown from a clear appreciation of the objective.

For our area to be great place to live we need clean streets, efficient rubbish collection and a dedication to our immediate environment . We must build the needed amount of housing both private and social. We need to ensure that the utility companies fulfil their duties most particularly Thames Water. We need to support and fund community projects. The list goes on and on. We must build a modern infrastructure hence the huge investment in high speed broadband that is now underway, to attract business that will provide permanent, well paid jobs. We must continue our free parking policy to support local centres and the retailers and markets who trade there. Finally the tourist trade is estimated to bring over £200million of income to the area every year. Why do so many tourists want come here? Because it is simply one of the one most beautiful areas of the country. Truly an area of outstanding natural beauty. We should work very hard to keep it that way.

So the ‘Says who’ have guiding principles to decide ‘who get’s what’. We will never all agree that every decision made is the correct one but at least we can be reassured that these decisions are made for reasons that we believe to be in the best long term interests of us all.

Oxfordshire County Council Bus Review

Although final details have not yet been announced, we do now know that the C1 Charlbury RailBus will continue to be operated by GoRide and that the X9 Chipping Norton-Charlbury-Witney service will be operated by Pulham’s Coaches instead of Stagecoach.

The on-demand Charlbury Taxibus service T1 is being withdrawn due to insufficient demand. The changes come into effect from 2nd June.

On the railways, there are only minor changes to train times. The main change is that the present weekday 2005 from Charlbury is retimed to 1943 from 19th May and will arrive in London 30 minutes earlier than at present.

WHITE ENVELOPES

Dear ladies, please take note of this -
That when you've made that final kiss
And are dealt a blow by cruel fate -
You lose your husband, dearest mate -
Your troubles really start to come,
White Envelopes are the 'dirty scum'!
Your husband always saw to those ...
Your role was just to tend his needs
(and keep the garden free of weeds!)
But when he went—instead of me,
He left me anything but free,
Tied to white envelopes, come by post,
Some brown, some buff, but white the most!

Demands to pay for things I hardly knew existed,
Mortgages & Council Tax, insurance, bills,
And awkward things to do with wills -
You spend your days feet deep in files -
Papers seem to stretch for miles,
They use up every diner's seat
(and leave me nowhere else to eat)
The one you want is buried deep
It must be there in that large heap -
The lawyer wants it really soon
'Yesterday would be a boon'
'Faxes & schedules won't suffice'
'An email would be really nice!'
And so dear ladies do take heed
One day sadly you may need
To do the paperwork and to know
Who seeks to make a final blow -
What to do, before too late, and
How to make the lawyers wait!
'Email, what's that?' we Oldies say
'I'll send a letter, that's much better,
And so simple, and so easy to put in a
WHITE ENVELOPE!

Submitted by Moira Wyatt

Charlbury Museum

Coffee Morning & Bric-a-Brac
Tempting Cakes & Prize Raffle

Saturday June 7th
9.30-12.00

Dust if you must ...

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better
To paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or sow a seed,
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb
Music to hear and books to read
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must but the world's out there,
With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain.
This day will not come round again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not always kind.
And when you go, and go you must,
You, yourself, will make more dust.

Anon

Submitted by John Moore

PROBUS CLUB

Brief notes about forthcoming outings:

**Watermill Theatre Summer 2014 Visit –
CALAMITY JANE
Thursday 14th August 2014 – Matinee
Performance**

Visit to Kelmscott Manor –
On **Thursday 2nd October** Probus Club has
arranged a visit to Kelmscott Manor, arriving
by coach and leaving by boat to Lechlade (a
two hour trip), where we meet the coach again
to return home.

**For full details contact ;
Steve Cavell, Flat 6, Wychwood House,
Enstone Rd, Charlbury, OX7 3QR.
Telephone 01068 811504**

ChOC and ChOC/live News

ChOC's programme for the summer has three very different films.

"About Time" Sun, 8 June; Cert 12, 2 hrs. A **Richard Curtis** film, smart, sweet, funny and genuinely moving.

A young man learns from his father that he can travel in time, and plans to use the power to find a girlfriend. With **Bill Nighy, Domhnall Gleeson, Lindsay Duncan, Rachel McAdams and Tom Hollander**.

Tim, the shy son of eccentric, well-off parents leaves the family nest in Cornwall to take up his barrister pupillage in London and, yearning for love, meets Mary, whose under-par frock and non-glam fringe can't deflect his and our appreciation of what a babe she is. Their relationship is made fraught by Tim's secret superpower: he can travel back in time to any point in his own past, and correct his dopey mistakes, though creating new ones along the way.

'A good-natured fantasy romance of such utterable daftness that it's impossible to dislike. ... There are some nice gags and some ingenious narrative turns'(Peter Bradshaw, 'The Guardian').

'You go to [Richard Curtis] for films to nestle in, where you can spend two hours dreaming that you live in a house as elegantly rumpled as the Lake family's Cornish retreat, spend your evenings skipping through west London in fancy dress, and pass long and lazy summers drinking tea on the beach and playing ping pong in the garage with Bill Nighy.' (Robbie Collin, 'Daily Telegraph')

"Blue Jasmine" Sun, 13 July; Cert 12A, 1hr 35mins. Directed by **Woody Allen** and starring **Cate Blanchett and Sally Hawkins**. Seen by some as a tribute to 'A Streetcar Named Desire' (Independent) and by others as a contemporary version of Greek tragedy, or as 'a sharply observed, post-economic crash comedy-drama that addresses such pertinent real-world concerns as class, gender and corporate criminality'. 'Woody Allen's 'best in two decades' (Telegraph) and 'pure movie-going pleasure' (Guardian). 'There's something cathartic about a contemporary film that's willing to explore madness as an expression of who a person really is.' 'Blanchett is beyond brilliant, beyond analysis. This is jaw-dropping work, what we go to the movies hoping to see, and we do. Every few years.'

Why we think you will want to see it: 'Beautifully crafted, fantastic performance by **Cate Blanchett**, interesting study on the human condition, and more. Gloss with depth. ... It is a tour de force of acting. Woody is back in his own territory.'

"Sunshine on Leith" Sun, 17 August; Cert PG, 1hr 35m. Directed by Dexter Fletcher, cast includes Jane Horrocks, Peter Mullan, George MacKay, Jason Flemyng and Antonia Thomas. A joyous, jubilant, heartfelt musical about the power of home, family and love. It is the tale of one tight-knit family and the three couples bound to it, as they experience the joys and heartache that punctuate all relationships. And they do it all while singing to the euphoric music of The Proclaimers.

A sell out in Chipping Norton Theatre, we think you'll enjoy it because it's a feel-good romp with some great songs and good performances.

Films are shown in the Memorial Hall. Doors and licensed bar from 6.45pm, film begins at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 (£3 for U15s on PG, 12 and U rated films).

CORNER HOUSE & MEMORIAL HALL NEWS

The good news is that we have been successful in securing the final WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd) grant for the Memorial Hall extension project, so the work will proceed this year. However there was a delay in the WREN March approval process, so the work cannot now realistically commence until the summer and cannot be completed until late Autumn.

Although the Hall and Garden room will be available during this period, this will inevitably mean that the kitchen will be out of action. Users are advised to speak to the Caretaker about booking during the period July – December about the supplementary use of the Larcum Kendall room and Corner House kitchen during this time.

Stephen Andrews
811212

Local Investors Club to be formed.

A new investors club is being formed in the area aimed at those regularly trading stocks and shares or wish to understand more how the stock market works.

The idea is to meet over dinner once a month in a local pub/restaurant (which has Wi-Fi access) to exchange ideas, tips and recommendations.

At each meeting a member will present a subject of interest, be it a particular group of shares or an industry overview from their particular background. There will be occasional invited speakers on relevant subjects like spread betting or even IHT and tax issues.

The group may also decide to collectively invest. If you are interested please call 01993 83 1967.

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LARKUM KENDALL (1721-1795) Blue Plaque unveiling: a Day to Remember

Stop press: The unveiling of the Blue Plaque for Charlbury-born Larcum Kendall, the 18th Century watch- and chronometer-maker, took place in the Museum garden on Saturday 3rd May.

Organised by The Charlbury Society, the event was a great success, with Ron Prew doing the honours with the actual unveiling. There will be a full report in the next edition of the *Chronicle*.

Simon Walker
Chairman, The Charlbury Society

WYCHWOOD PROJECT - 15th ANNUAL WYCHWOOD FOREST FAIR

Sunday 7th September 2014

The 15th Annual Forest Fair will return to CORNBURY PARK, Charlbury on

Sunday 7th September 2014 **Make a note in your diary NOW!**

Over 160 stands promoting local products and services, local suppliers of food and drink, entertainers from Morris Dancers to ferret racing and a Rural Craft area ,

“All the Fun of a Rural Fair” -

All the profit from the event will go towards the on-going work of the Project in its work of “Restoring Landscapes, Inspiring People” .

For further details please contact the Wychwood Project Office 01865 815423 or

Michael Drew 01993 702624, or e-mail wychwood@oxfordshire.gov.uk or
michael.drew@totalise.co.uk

or visit the Wychwood Project website at www.wychwoodproject.org.

Country Dancing in the Charlbury area! Stonesfield Folk Dance Club continues to offer an enjoyable way to enjoy music and gentle exercise, to meet and make friends locally in Stonesfield Village Hall each Wednesday at 8 pm.

We dance traditional English country dances, dances of the Regency/Georgian period, square dances, and many other dances in ‘set’ formation. A partner is not essential, and assistance is given to all those who wish to give it a try. Dances are ‘walked-through’ in advance and prompts are called throughout the dance; supreme fitness and experience are not requirements – and you can relax with a cup of tea at ‘half-time’!

We need further members to preserve our dancing heritage, to promote a sociable atmosphere and to keep the club viable. Our charge currently is £2.50 for each club meeting (first attendance is free!) We’d like you to give it a try; just ‘turn up’ on a Wednesday, or for more information give Des Thompson a call on 07977 291501

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A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!
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HATFIELD HOUSE GARDEN and
THE ROYAL NATIONAL ROSE
SOCIETY GARDEN of the ROSE
on Wednesday 2nd July - £25
Leaving the Spendlove Car Park at
8.30am

For further details please telephone
Sarah Potter 01608 810388

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - CHARLBURY BRANCH

Assistance: The way in which the Royal British Legion provides welfare assistance, advice and financial support to those in need has changed. Oxfordshire is now part of the new South East Midlands Area with an office in Aylesbury from which the Area Manager will deploy the 45 trained caseworkers throughout the 6 Counties [Beds, Bucks, Berks, Hants, Northants and Oxon] as required by the Royal British Legion National Contact Centre. Counties and Branches no longer have any responsibility for casework other than to put those in need in touch with the Royal British Legion Contact Centre: Telephone 0808 802 8080.

Visits: Depending on demand the Charlbury Branch is hoping to organise 2 visits this year, probably in the autumn. The first is a guided tour of RAF Brize Norton which is now the largest RAF station. There can only be a maximum of 10 people per trip and travel will be by private car so there should be no cost other than a donation to the Poppy Appeal. The other destination is the RBL Poppy Factory in Richmond, Surrey. Many people were unable to go the last time we organised this trip. Again numbers are limited, this time to 16. Travel will be by coach at a cost of about £25 per head and a further charge for lunch at the factory. So that arrangements can be made please make an expression of interest for either one or both trips to the Branch Secretary, Jane Parsons on 810822 by 12 July .

Coffee Morning: The Branch will be holding a coffee morning at the Corner House, Charlbury on Saturday 19 July

Standard Bearer: Sharon Mortimer has stood down as Charlbury Branch Standard Bearer. Sharon is warmly thanked for all her effort and support having previously been the Women's Section Standard Bearer. The Branch therefore needs a volunteer to be our Standard Bearer. If you are interested or need more information please contact Nick Potter on 810388 or Derek Fowler on 811706.

Information: For further information about the work of the Legion, how to join or how to obtain assistance, please contact Nick Potter (Branch President) on 810388 or Derek Fowler (Branch Chairman) on 811706.

PLEASE NOTE:

Distribution of the Charlbury Chronicle will be during the last week of February, May, August and November. If you receive more than one copy, please notify the distribution coordinators, Brian and Shelagh, on 819091 and if you know of someone who does NOT receive a copy, let Brian and Shelagh know and the necessary arrangements will be made for future delivery.

MESSING ABOUT ON THE RIVER

For the last three years volunteers have been assisting our Lock Staff on the Thames at the 45 locks along its length between Lechlade and Teddington. Now, ahead of our fourth season, we invite you to apply to become a Volunteer Assistant Lock Keeper at a lock near you.

The Environment Agency, which is navigation authority for the Thames, is now recruiting for the 2014 season and are looking for volunteers who can commit to assisting at least one day a week between May and the end of September. Volunteers can agree their hours with lock keepers but need to be available at least from 11 to 5. Volunteers are particularly needed along the river between Reading and Lechlade. Volunteering is a great way to meet people and to find out more about the Thames, its history, wildlife and management. At the same time volunteers know that they are doing something worthwhile that is really appreciated.

Our Volunteer Assistant Lock Keepers work alongside paid lock keepers. They help boats pass through the lock safely: taking ropes, directing traffic, and operating sluices and lock gates. They help maintain the site: painting, tidying and gardening. They provide information to visitors, be they on foot or afloat, so that they can make the best of their time on the river. Visitors really appreciate the local knowledge that volunteers can provide.

All applicants are invited to an assessment at a local lock. Here they will have the role explained to them and be shown what it involves in practical terms. They will also be assessed to decide which site may be most appropriate for them and to ensure that they have the physical capabilities required. After successful completion of the assessment, they attend an induction course which focuses on safety and preparing them for the lock side.

On the lock side the volunteers follow a documented training programme before being signed off to take charge of the lock on their own. This will only be for short periods, while the paid keeper is at lunch for example. The volunteers are there to augment the service provided by paid staff rather than to replace them. Volunteers are provided with some uniform and can claim mileage for travel to and from a lock local to them. They also receive a monthly newsletter which keeps them in touch with what is going on along the river and other activities of the Environment Agency.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering on the Thames and to receive an information pack and application form, please contact the Volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk

We have found articles like this have been very effective in prompting interest in our work and I would really appreciate your support. I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Demetri Somarakis

River Thames Volunteer Team - Waterways

Environment Agency

Red Kite House, Howbery Park, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, OX10 8BD

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

Arts Week - Di Gold (810256)

Baptist Church - Helen Wright (07702 087802)

charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

Madeleine Wheare 810092 www.charlbury-drama.com

charlbury.drama@gmail.com

Charlbury Art Society (CAS) Sec: Lee Belcher (819003)

Charlbury Beer Festival - Liz Donnelly (810056)

liz.donnelly@yahoo.com www.charlburybeerfestival.org

Charlbury Bowls Club - Secretary, Heather Hill - 810229

Charlbury Brownie Guider - Fay Kempson 01993 779350

819117 - chamber@charlbury.info

Charlbury Canoe Club - Hugh Belshaw (810130)

hughandjoan@uwclub.net

Charlbury Chess Club - Bob Douglas (811083)

Charlbury Chronicle - Lynette Murphy (810688)

lynette.murphy@cchronicle.plus.com

Charlbury Community Centre Appeal *Jessie Horn* (810473)

Charlbury Cricket Club - Colin Olliffe (01993 704108 or 07909 978863) colin.olliffe@gmail.com

www.charlburycricketclub.co.uk

Charlbury Day Centre - Bob Tait (810150)

Charlbury Evergreen Club - Ken Taylor (811441)

Charlbury Fairtraders - Cara Williams (811284)

car@michaelcara1965.plus.com

Charlbury and District Garden Society

Geoff Clifford (811006)

Charlbury Morris - Peter Smith (811007)

peter@charlburymorris.org - www.charlburymorris.org

Charlbury Museum - Celia Faulkner (810656)

Charlbury Open Gardens - Vic Allison

vic.allison@btinternet.com

Charlbury Music Class - Peter Fry 01993 359189

Charlbury Pioneer Country/Western Club

(Ray & Margaret) 01993 831345

Charlbury Pre-School Jan Stubberfield (811200)

Charlbury Royal British Legion - Nick Potter (810388)

Charlbury School - Jane Holt, Head (810354)

office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk

www.charlbury.oxon.digitalbrain.com

Charlbury School Association - Sarah

Brooks - office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk

Charlbury Scouts & Guides - Charlbury Scout

Group - Marcus Goodwin 01608 676207

Charlbury Society - Simon Walker, (811414)

Charlbury Tennis Club - Mark Jarman (811692)

charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk

Charlbury Town FC - Keith Claridge 810201 or 07870426707

Charlbury Street Fair - Peter Kenrick (811021)

csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Town Youth Football Club - Lynn Gorton

01993 869248 carlylynn@uwclub.net

Charlbury Green Hub- Christine Elliott (811057)

www.charlburygreenhub.org.uk

Charlbury Women's Institute - Secretary - Louise Cashman (676995)

CHOC Cinema - Tim Widdows (811805)

schoc@charlbury.info

Churches Together - Rosalind Scott,

(810562) rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk

The Bell Hotel (810278)

The Bull Inn (810689)

Cotswolds Guided Walks - Kevin Myhill, Walks Leader (737490) **Four-**

shires LETS Group (skill swaps)

Ann/David Morton - (676302)

Friends Meeting House- Angela Kyte (01993 880368)

Holiday Club - Sue Holiday (810694)

Little Fishes Under 5's Group - Kate (811579)

Macmillan Cancer Care - Liz & Bob Tait (810150)

Mind in Chipping Norton (Mental Health Support) 01608 645296

Methodist Chapel - Gil Grason (810154)

The Probud Club of Charlbury Steve Cavell (811504)

stephen.cavell@yahoo.co.uk

Riverside Festival - adin@riversidefestival.charlbury.com

www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com Andy Pickard (810635)

Shed Theatre - Teresa Laughton (810934)

St Marys C of E Church Rev Judy French (810286)

St Theresa RC Church Fr Aldo Tapparo (810576)

Street Stage (touring youth fusion company) Anneke Hay (811269)

Sustainable Charlbury - Liz Reason (811212)

Thomas Gifford's Charity - Margie Glasgow (810161)

www.charlbury.info - Richard Fairhurst

United Nations Association (West Oxfordshire) -

Neil Pakenham-Walsh (811338)

Wychwayz Border Morris - Teresa Laughton (810934)

Wilderness Festival—www.wildernessfestival.com



**CHARLBURY'S
POLICE
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**Our Police Community
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