

Volume 15 Number 3 September 2011

There are two important dates to put in your diaries for next year. The first is that Her Majesty The Queen will be celebrating her Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. Many of you will remember that the *Charlbury Chronicle* organised a wonderful day on Nine Acres to mark the occasion of the Golden Jubilee in 2002. Lots of people came with their picnics, there was singing and music, games for the children and all the rest of it - the great idea was that it shouldn't cost anything, which it didn't. Who would like to organise something this time?

The second thing to remember is that there will be Town Council elections in May and at least two members of the current Town Council will be standing down. Do think about putting your name forward - it's much more interesting if there are more candidates to choose from, and it's a good time to get some new blood and new ideas on to the team.

It is very encouraging that Volunteer Link-Up had a good response to their plea in the June issue for more drivers. As you will read, however, there is another plea now for Volunteer Befrienders to visit elderly people in their homes in Charlbury. See the details on page 11 and think about offering help.

September's Farmers' Market will be celebrating its tenth anniversary in Charlbury, and they will be making a special effort to mark the occasion - see the notice on page 34.

Good luck to all those who are organising this year's Street Fair - it's always a great day for Charlbury every year and it's for a very important cause - the upkeep of the Corner House and Memorial Hall. Enjoy!

Lynette Murphy

Deadline for copy for the December Chronicle is November 1st 2011

CORNER HOUSE AND MEMORIAL HALL BOOKINGS

Please can regular users submit their bookings for the next calendar year promptly in September, when they can be considered and any clashes hopefully resolved.

Steve Andrews

The Story Museum

The Story Museum is a charity and nonprofit company that works to celebrate and demonstrate the power of stories to inspire learning, especially for the young. It takes story performances, exhibitions, activities and ideas to schools and communities. In 2014 The Story Museum plans to open a magical new world centre of children's literature and storytelling in the heart of Oxford. The Museum's patrons are Philip Pullman, Michael Morpurgo, Michael Rosen and Jacqueline Wilson. Its Trustees include publisher David Fickling and children's playwright David Wood OBE.

PLEASE OFFER A HOME TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Meet the world at home! Volunteer hosts are urgently needed to offer hospitality for a one-off weekend, or a few days at Christmas, to international students at UK universities.

HOST visits promote international understanding and goodwill. HOST is a wellestablished national charity, with a volunteer local organiser. Please see <u>www.hostuk.org</u> or call Rosemary Clegg on 01235-868047.

HOPE & HOMES FOR CHILDREN

Prim Birch will once again run a stall at the September Street Fair to raise money for this excellent charity.

Please let her have your bric a brac and toys.

If you give her a ring on 810357 she will gladly come and pick up what you have.

HEADWAY BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION

Congratulations and Good Luck to Jim Pearce who, only a few months after brain surgery, is preparing to run a marathon in support of Headway Oxfordshire. He would be delighted for your support please go to http://www.justgiving.com/ james-pearceo

Bridewell Organic Gardens

will be open on Sunday, 11th September 2011 from 2 - 5pm Teas, plants and Bridewell Organic Wine for sale Bridewell is situated in Wilcote, between North Leigh and Finstock

For more information, please telephone 01993 864530 or 868313



Street Fair Weekend 2011 16th-18th September

Friday 16th - 6:30pm

Annual Egg Throwing Competition outside the Rose & Crown

Come along and have a cracking evening. Teams of Two (min. age 11). Free Entry.

Saturday 17th 1:30pm-10:00pm

The day kicks off on the Playing Close with the traditional **Children's Fancy Dress Competition (this year's theme being 'Under the Sea')** prior to the **official opening ceremony at 2:00pm** outside The Bell **Fairground Amusements & Rides – Stalls - Morris Dancing Children's Entertainer – Exhibitions - BBQ Tombola - Grand Draw – Auction**

New for 2011 – Pied Piper's Conga

Come and join 'Horns of Plenty' www.hornsofplenty.co.uk a 12-20 strong street band playing a lively mix of township, jazz, New Orleans & East-European music at 6:30pm as they weave their way from the Playing Close, through the town and down to Church Street where the evening's entertainment continues through to 10:00pm with music from: 'Every Hippie's Dream' www.myspace.com/everyhippiesdream back by popular demand and playing classic covers from 1960s to the present day and 'The Fenns' – Charlbury-based and fresh from their headlining success at the Riverside Festival

Sunday 18th

10K Run and 5K Fun Run or Walk through Cornbury Park

Start on Playing Close @ 10.30am (Registration from 9.30am) £6 adult, £3 U16, family-friendly fun event. For info, contact: <u>philmorgan717@hotmail.com</u>

Street Fair programmes with event map and full timetable available from all the usual outlets in town and at The Corner House (on Saturdays)

Road Closure – We have again been granted the required road closure order for Church Street and part of Park Street for the day. We would appreciate all parked cars being removed in good time for the stalls to be erected at 9:00am on Saturday 17^{th}



How can we improve your quality of life in Charlbury?

The Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) is a resident led problem-solving group that works with key agencies to tackle top priorities identified by the local community. Every autumn, the NAG, the Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Police Team and the West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership conduct a community engagement survey to find out where they should focus their attention and resources. We want to know how we could improve your quality of life in Charlbury. Is your bug bear speeding cars, poor parking, use of mobile phones while driving, dog fouling, littering, noise, vandalism, etc.?

Do tell us by completing this very short and sharp **survey**: Online at : <u>www.surveymonkey.com/s/53XX5LJ</u> or contact your local PCSO Wesley Smith on **0845 8 505505**, or Valou Pakenham-Walsh on 01608 811338

Thank you for helping the Neighbourhood Action Group!

Valou Pakenham-Walsh Charlbury Town Councillor and Chair of the Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Action Group Tel: 01608 811338 or email: valoupw@charlburytowncouncil.co.uk

Charlbury Day Centre

The last few months have been uneventful and Wednesdays have continued to be the highlight of our members' week. Two have unfortunately had to leave because of ill health, but we have several people who have been waiting patiently to join. We remain uncertain about our future funding, but Oxfordshire County Council have agreed to continue their grant until at least the end of March 2012. We do however still need extra help, both to support our co -ordinator during the day and to drive members to and from the Memorial Hall. If anyone can spare an hour or two a month on a Wednesday do please let me know, as this will alleviate the load put on our existing volunteers.

Bob Tait Chairman

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. Come and meet your friends.

Proceeds for the upkeep of the Corner House and Memorial Hall

FRIENDS OF CHARLBURY LIBRARY

The consultation has begun into the recent proposals from Oxfordshire County Council for its libraries. The Library will remain open with the same facilities but the staff hours will be cut, the deficit to be found with the help of volunteers. The basis of the proposals is the numbers living, working, shopping and attending school within half a mile of the library. There are concerns about the accuracy of the figures used and the fact that schools and libraries are where OCC has chosen to locate them is ignored which distorts the outcome. As the basis is numerical, size matters and smaller rural communities such as Charlbury are disadvantaged. There will be a core of 22 libraries which will be open as at present, 5 who will have to cover one-third of their opening hours with volunteers and 16, including Charlbury, who will have to find two-thirds volunteers. Self-service equipment will be installed for the issue, return and renewal of books. Volunteers will be trained and expected to:

Deal with the day to day issuing, renewal and return of books and other items, including the related financial transactions

Handle enquiries

Ensure the book-stock is displayed attractively and meets the requirements of the community and the county, as all stock forms part of the county's collection

Support library promotional activities such as rhyme times, class visits, Summer Reading scheme

Representatives of the Town Council, Friends, OCC and County and District Councillors have met and put our views forcefully on behalf of the community and we shall prepare our response to the consultation jointly with the Town Council. Ideally we would like the Library to remain open as at present, but accept that may not be possible. We feel that all the libraries should share the cuts in staffing and that the larger libraries with a greater pool of volunteers should be included in the service reductions.

The consultation continues until 30 September and copies of the consultation documents, which include the questionnaire, are available in the Library or on line at <u>www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraryserviceconsultation</u>. PLEASE send in your views. We would like to be aware of those who have volunteered so the Library will be open during Street Fair to answer any questions and to hand out our own questionnaire for volunteers. It will be available also during normal Library hours.

We are grateful to all who have supported our campaign for Charlbury Library, including the Town Council who have arranged the meetings.

Amanda Epps

STOP PRESS: We are very sad to report that Penny Price has decided to take early retirement after nearly twenty years at Charlbury Library in September. She will leave with the thanks and good wishes of us all for her sterling work and cheerful presence in our Library - we will all miss her. - Ed.

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Evening surgery at North Leigh by appointment



POLICE Police Report from **PCSO Wesley Smith**

There have been several metal thefts in the area recently so we

strongly recommend that you review the security of your property. Please consider the crime prevention advice below.

Remove any easy access onto building roofs, such as water butts, waste bins and tall trees located nearby. This makes theft more difficult. Remember to get any necessary approval from your local authority for tree cutting before work starts.

Store ladders in a secure place. This is really important when building works that involve scaffolding are taking place.

Tell your insurance company in advance of any building work that you are doing. Not disclosing this information may affect vour insurance cover.

Where possible, keep any gates locked and restrict vehicle access to the site.

Make it difficult for thieves to move • stolen goods by removing wheelbarrows and wheelie bins. Put these items in a secure place.

Maximise surveillance by cutting back tall trees and vegetation which could otherwise provide a screen for intruders to hide behind.

Regularly check your roofs so that any theft of roofing materials is found before it rains and water enters the building, causing further damage.

Encourage members of your community to keep an eve on the building and to report any suspicious activity.

Watch out for workmen arriving unexpectedly at a building.

Display a warning notice that asks people to call police on 0845 8 505 505 if they see vans or workmen around the building between 6pm and 8am, as they could be stealing the lead roof.

Apply anti-climb paint to drain pipes and roof guttering. This restricts access to roofing. Do not apply the paint below a height of two metres. Display warning notices prominently so people know that anti-climb paint is being used. Anti-climb paint can be bought from any security products company.

Protect the lower section of lightning conductor ribbons using a metal cage or sheath securely fixed to the building fabric.

Consider installing security lighting. particularly at roof level where metal roof coverings are present. Check with your local authority if permission is needed to do this.

For further crime reduction advice and general information on community safety in West Oxfordshire please visit: www.saferwestoxon.co.uk

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

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CHARLBURY MUSEUM NEWS

1. Charlbury Museum has once more been awarded a Heritage Grant from the West Oxfordshire District Council. We have been given £500 to purchase MODES software, a programme specifically designed for cataloguing Museum artefacts and documents. It will be a lengthy task to record all the information, but once it is done the Museum will be able to offer a much more efficient service to visitors and researchers. We are very grateful to the WODC for their continuing support.

2. Visitors to the Museum will have seen the 'School Rules' for a girls' charity school in Charlbury in the early 19th century. We have had these printed on to a tea towel, which is on sale in the Museum.

3. Older readers of the *Chronicle* will remember the series of reminiscences of Charlbury in the 1930s, under the name of the 'Wychwood Witch'. The 'Witch' was later revealed as Vic Brackenbury, who died in 2007. The Museum is reprinting these articles in the form of a booklet, with an additional account of 'Charlbury's Dad's Army' - the Home Guard in the 2nd World War. The booklet will be illustrated with contemporary photographs from the Museum's collection.

Charles Tyzack

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CHINESE FOOD TAKE-AWAY SERVICE 10% OFF AT WEEKEND; 20% OFF AT WEEKDAY; OPEN MONDAY EVEN-ING AS FISH & CHIPS NIGHT

From films to live opera and comedy: ChOC's biggest programme ever!

This autumn's programme of films and live entertainment is ChOC's most ambitious season yet. And ChOC events can now be booked online: go to <u>www.chocfilms.info</u> for more information, ticketing, reviews, photographs and trailers.

ChOCLive: A dedicated committee coordinated by Jackie Hague (810713 jackie@chocfilms.info) is choosing acts and performers to bring a diverse programme to Charlbury; opera, folk, jazz, musical comedy, string quartets, poetry recitals, drama and so on... something for everyone. The first two **ChOCLive** events are: **Sunday October 30 at 6.00pm: Shoestring Opera** will be performing one of Mozart's best loved operas, **Cosi fan tutte** at the Memorial Hall. The opera, fully staged and costumed, will play for one nght only. Arranged for 10-piece orchestra by Jonathan Burton and Shoestring's conductor, Chris Davey, it will be sung in the original Italian. The company will have honed its skills first in a private open-air theatre not far from Arezzo. The story is both spicy and salutary! A cynical old philosopher bets his two young soldier friends that he can get their fiancées to be unfaithful to them within 24 hours – but only if they do exactly as he instructs them. He enlists the help of the girls' maid; the lads act up, the girls (and their maid) are taken in, and much confusion, emotional upset and – for the audience – humour follow. Directing the opera, and playing the scheming philosopher *Don Alfonso*, is Charlbury resident Giles Dawson.

Friday November 4 at 7.45pm: Madame Galina, Forces Sweetheart, a show that Madame Galina has performed for the military in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as for the royal family!

"Tickets for the opera (\pounds 15, \pounds 12 for children and full-time students) and for Mme Galina (\pounds 8) are available from Evenlode Books and Charlbury Post Office.

ChOC*Films:* For our autumn films we're choosing quality of film over size of Hollywood budget. These films have proved very popular in independent cinemas and received glowing reviews in the national press. More detail on our website.

Sunday September 11: The Kids Are All Right (cert 15) 'A light, lovingly handled tale about the difficulties of staying in love.' (Film4)

Friday September 23: Submarine (cert 15) Fifteen-year-old Welsh teenager Oliver Tate has two big ambitions: to save his parents' marriage via carefully plotted intervention and to lose his virginity before his next birthday.

Sunday October 9: Of Gods and Men (cert 15) Foreign workers are massacred by Islamic fundamentalists in the Algerian mountains. The army offers protection to a Christian monastery, but the monks realise that they have no choice but to stay... come what may. Based on real-life events in the 1990s.

Sunday November 13: Oranges and Sunshine (cert 15) The true story of a social worker from Nottingham who uncovered one of the most significant social scandals of recent times; the mass deportation of children from the UK to Australia. "A powerful, deeply moving, understated account." (The Observer)

Friday December 2: Benda Bilili! (cert PG) A wonderfully upbeat and entertaining film.

Sunday December11: Potiche (cert 15) Extremely popular French comedy starring Gérard Depardieu and Catherine Deneuve.

All you need to know about Charlbury's most exciting programme of entertainment ever is at <u>www.chocfilms.info</u>

Jon Carpenter (Secretary)

JOHN STANLEY'S WEATHER REPORT



At the Editor's request, this is a shorter than usual report, so I will just give the basic facts;

May 2011:

Highest day temperature - 72° on 6th. Lowest day temperature - 57° on 30th. Average maximum temperature – 64.29° (22 year average 63.71°). Night high 55°, low 36°.

Spring 2011.

Average day maximum temperature for March, April and May – 59.65° (22 year average 57.28°).

June 2011:

Highest day temperature - 83° on 27th. Lowest day temperature - 55° on 12th. Average maximum temperature – 67.87° (22 year average 69.54°). Night high 61°, low 40°.

July 2011:

Highest day temperature - 77° on 4th, 5th and 31st. Lowest day temperature - 65° on 8th, 13th and 20th. Average maximum temperature – 70.03° (22 year average 72.98°). Night high 58°, low 46°.



A BIG 'THANK YOU' FROM VOLUNTEER LINK-UP!

I am the Volunteer Coordinator for Volunteer Link Up, the Volunteer Centre for West Oxfordshire. In June, you kindly published my letter in which I discussed our problems recruiting volunteer drivers in the town of Charlbury. Following publication of the letter, I am delighted to let you know that half a dozen volunteer drivers have now come forward! This is a fantastic result as it means that elderly people in Charlbury will no longer have to rely on drivers living further afield to make essential journeys. I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to them and also to the *Charlbury Chronicle* for its continued support!

In addition to volunteer drivers, we are also looking for volunteer befrienders to support people in Charlbury who feel lonely, or who have difficulty getting out and about. Volunteer befrienders visit people in their homes for a cup of tea and a chat, normally once a week for about an hour. At the time of writing, we have two clients who are urgently awaiting a match - An elderly lady living by herself in Charlbury would like a volunteer to visit her once a week for a cup of tea and a chat. This would provide some respite for her daughter, who is her main carer. She is very pleasant lady who loves talking! Interests include gardening and reading.; and an 86 year-old Charlbury-based lady, unable to leave the house due to recent fall, and with no family living nearby, would like somebody to sit with her once a week while her carer does the shopping.

To find out more about the opportunities available, please call Liz Williamson, Volunteer Coordinator on 07545 923327 or pop into Volunteer Link Up's office at The Methodist Church, 10 Wesley Walk, Witney between 9:00am and 1:00pm, Monday to Friday for an informal chat. Alternatively, you can email us at office@vlu.org.uk or visit our website at www.vlu.org.uk.

PROBUS CLUB REPORT - CHARLBURY IN 1600:

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. Charlbury church has played a major role since a former vicar, Dr Ralph Hutchinson (1593-1606) and President of St John's College, Oxford, was a member of one of the translation committees. This year, following a diocesan-wide initiative from the Bishop of Oxford, St Mary's staged a series of lectures and an exhibition of various bibles during May.

In order to encourage further interest, the Probus Club of Charlbury sponsored a public lecture at St Mary's given by Ms Deborah Hayter of the University's Dept of Adult Education. In her talk, Ms Hayter described rural life in Oxfordshire circa 1600, when the English population was only about 4 million (two-thirds the current size of Greater London). At this time, there was considerable hardship and poverty, exacerbated by the dissolution of the monasteries. There was little national organisation, and towns like Charlbury depended very much on the Parish Council, local nobility, the courts and assizes, and not least, the local constable. The lecture, presided over by Probus chairman Prof Michael Marsh, was attended by over eighty people. Many questions were raised, indicative of the interest generated by the material presented during the lecture. The event was followed by the Club's monthly lunch.

Stephen Cavell, Hon Secretary,

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or further information and to place a booking please call 01993 885 200

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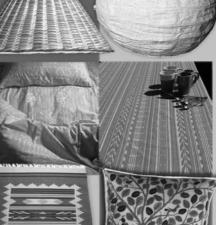
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CHARLBURY BEST KEPT GARDENS 2011

Each year Charlbury Town Council hosts a Best Kept Garden Competition. All gardens in Charlbury are judged – the only condition is that they must be visible from the road or footpath. This year's judging by the Charlbury and District Garden Society took place in mid-July. The judges looked for gardens which were well designed, with a good variety of plants, and a garden that was well kept and plants in good condition. Cups were awarded for the first prize in each category. The results for 2011 were as follows;

A Large Garden – Blandford Cup -

Alan and Liz Burroughs, Laburnums, The Slade,

- B Medium Garden Horticultural Society_Trophy Francis and Kirsten Wybrants 2 Shilson Lane
- C Small Garden Chairman's Vase Mike and Kay Legget 50 Ticknell Piece Road

D Individual tub/basket/ window boxes - Charlbury Society Shield Margaret and Jimmy Mills 41 Hughes Close

Congratulations to all winners! The prizes and cups will be presented after the Society's Annual Flower and Produce Show in September 2011 *Geoff Holmberg*

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CHARLBURY TOWN COUNCIL REPORT, No. 60 By Councillor Helen Bessemer-Clark



Looking back at the Town Council Report for September 2010, it is noted that many of the items are almost the same, showing the timelessness of some of the Town Council activities, with just a few dates and names changed. But there are also many new ventures and actions that take place each year, which also show the ongoing and future issues that are being tackled by the Council. It is hoped that those who might wish to get involved in such progress will be encouraged to stand for election next year.

Town Council Annual Meeting: On 25th May. Nick Potter was re-elected Chairman and Gareth Millar re-elected Vice-Chairman for the second year running. The other Councillors, who all sit as Independent Members, are: Helen Bessemer-Clark, Ian Cox, Susie Finch, Willem Hackmann, John Harrison, Reg James, Nicolette Lethbridge, Valou Pakenham-Walsh, Ron Prew and Liz Reason. Appointments to the Council's Committees and nominations to other bodies were also made of which a full list can be obtained from the Town Clerk. All 12 seats will be available for election on 3rd May, 2012. Details can also be obtained from the Town Clerk.

Local Government Election: On 5th May Hywel Davies (Cons) was elected to represent the Charlbury Ward (which includes Finstock and Fawler), on West Oxfordshire District Council. Hywel lives in Finstock. The previous District Councillor, Mike Breakell (LibDem) stood down at the election and is thanked for representing the ward for 9 years. The other District Councillor for the ward is Glena Chadwick (LibDem) whose seat becomes available for election next year.

Annual Boundary Walk took place on May 29th (Rogation Sunday). It was well attended– up to 20 at one stage. As Tony Graeme is standing down after a long and much appreciated stewardship of this activity, it is hoped a replacement will be found to carry on this work. Surely someone has some strong walking boots to which they would like to give an airing? Thanks as always to the Hobil family for lunch arrangements and to all the stewards and helpers.

Open Surgeries These seem to be successful, though the position will be reviewed at the Council Meeting in October. Meanwhile, the next Surgery will be in the Corner House on October lst.

CTC Website. This has now had 11,432 Unique Sessions (i.e.' hits' which were followed up) – which is an average of 31 visitors per day. We hope that it will continue to be a useful source of information about the Council's activities.

Pavilion The Formal Opening by David Cameron, MP took place on 13th May. The Club Room is to be named in memory of the late John Merriman, former Councillor, Parish Council Chairman and Chairman of Nine Acres Recreation Ground Management Committee, in recognition of all he did for the Town. More money is still needed to complete the disabled access and for additonal fixtures and fittings. Any donations towards this will be gratefully welcomed by Robert Caston, Chairman of the Committee. **Charlbury Station** The new platform and bridge opened for travellers on the 0713 train to Worcester on June 6th. A more formal opening ceremony took place on June 10th when a framed photograph showing the station in a) 1971 (when the double lines stopped) and b)2011 (when the double lines started again) was presented to the Town Council by Network Rail. The back had been signed by all the engineers etc involved with the project. Speeches were made by representatives of Network Rail, First Great Western, the Town Council and the CLPG President, Lord Faulkner of Worcester. There is to be an even

more formal opening of the line in August. Further improvements are still being made to the new bridge and platform. The Staff and Students of Abingdon and Witney College are designing the garden on the new platform. First Great Western have applied for a Government Grant to extend the Car Park into the old Allotment/ Works site and the town Council have strongly supported this proposal, as it will hopefully take away some of the pressure on parking already experienced in the town with more passengers using the station.

Affordable Housing South Oxfordshire Housing Association (SOHA), the Registered Social Landlord (RSL) arranged a Public Consultation on 15th June in the Corner House where residents could see and comment on the plans for the proposed scheme at Little Lees. It was attended by about 100 people of whom nearly half sent written comments to SOHA. Once analysed these ideas will be incorporated, where possible, into the plans so that a new Planning Application can be made. The result of the Environmental Survey will also be included.

The Library:: OCC want to make severe cuts to the Library opening hours and are seeking volunteers to help run the Library for two thirds of current staff hours. It is **NOT** going to be shut down. A meeting was held between County Staff, Town, District and County Councillors and the Friends of Charlbury Library on 26th July as part of OCC's Library Service Consultation. The Friends of the Library are now preparing a response to the consultation for which they will be seeking the Town Council's support. The consultation period continues until 30 September, and it is important that as many people as possible respond. Forms are available at the library or can be completed on line. In the meantime the Library will continue to open as usual.

Nine Acres It is depressing to note that the play equipment has been vandalised. This entails a cost to the Council, which means less money for other more important matters. **Grants for the Financial Year 12/13 :** Any organisation that thinks it may need a Financial Grant from the Town Council for the Financial Year 2012/13 must obtain an application form from the Town Clerk and return it to him together with supporting documents by mid-day on 31st October. Late bids cannot be considered. The Clerk can advise on what can, and cannot, be grant aided under the Local Government Act. Electronic applications can be submitted by prior arrangement with the Clerk.

Dean Pit Household Waste Recycling Centre. As many of you know, this is to be shut by OCC on 30th September. The Town Council have strongly opposed this action, especially as a new facility at Kidlington is now being delayed. We await a further decision as to whether a substitute Centre can be found near Chipping Norton.

Cornbury Park Premises Licence: The Council has been asked to report that West Oxfordshire District Council granted this on 10th January and that it was reviewed and amended by a District Judge at Banbury Magistrates Court on 5th May. Full details of the amended Licence can be obtained from the District Council. Enquiries about events at Cornbury Park should be made to the Estate Office.

Owners of properties with overhanging branches are asked to cut these back to allow pedestrians full use of pavements. It is difficult for those with prams, or wheeled shopping baskets, to have to step into the road to avoid these obstacles.

To contact the Town Council, email the Town Clerk, Roger Clarke, at <u>charlburytc@btinternet.com</u> or telephone 01608 810608 during normal working hours (weekdays 9.0 a.m. - 5.0 p.m. but NOT weekends or Bank Holidays)

ORCC working to support Digital TV Switchover Programme and its Help Scheme

This September, the analogue television signal will be switched off forever and replaced with a digital signal. TV equipment will need to be digital-compatible, otherwise it will display a totally blank screen.

ORCC is working with Digital UK, an independent not for profit organisation formed by broadcasters, to assist Oxfordshire consumers in the conversion.. There are two Switchover dates for Oxfordshire. 14 September (BBC2) and 28 September (all remaining analogue channels - ITV, BBC1, Channel 4, Channel 5).

ORCC has been appointed by Digital UK to mobilise local organisations and volunteers in Oxfordshire to help their service users and residents in their community to make the switch to digital TV successfully.

ORCC will be publicising the Switchover Help Scheme, run by the BBC, which has been set up to make it easier for older and disabled people to switch to digital TV. People are eligible for the scheme if they are aged 75 years or more, have lived in a care home for six months or more, get (or could get) certain disability benefits, or are registered blind or partially sighted.

The Help Scheme is run by the BBC and can provide:

Easy to use digital TV equipment

A security-checked installer

A 12 month aftercare service.

This will cost only £40 or is free to people who are in receipt of benefits.

Everyone who is eligible for the Help Scheme has received a letter telling them all about it but not everyone may have read it or understood what is on offer and how to get help. These are the people that ORCC will be urging local organisations and volunteers to reach.

Organisations will be encouraged to hold events and presentations, giving advice on how to switch over to digital TV. There is funding available through a Small Grants Scheme to encourage extra events locally. Materials developed to help run events and explain switchover can also be provided.

Key figures - "supporters" - in the community will be asked to check that vulnerable people they know who are eligible for the Help Scheme have understood what is available and are accessing the Scheme if they need to.

For more information about the switchover and how to help, please contact Jayne Bullock, ORCC, Jericho Farm, Worton, Witney, Oxon OX29 4SZ. Tel: 01865 883488. Email: orcc@oxonrcc.org.uk

(The Chronicle received this notice in June 2011)

Switching to digital-only TV

Oxfordshire, parts of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire will begin switching to digital-only TV on 14 September 2011. The two-stage process will complete two weeks later on 28 September. This means the existing analogue TV signal will be switched off and replaced with a new, stronger digital TV signal.

Switchover is happening so that Freeview services (digital TV through an aerial) can be extended to people who can't currently get them. Any analogue television left unconverted will no longer be able to receive TV programmes after the switchover. If you already have Freeview, you will need to retune your TV on the day of switchover. Oxfordshire Rural Community Council will be running advice points in Didcot and Witney to help with any questions you have about switchover, including re-tuning, equipment and the Switchover Help Scheme.

The advice points are taking place from **10am to 4pm** on **14th**, **15th**, **28th and 29th September**.

- Didcot Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot
- Witney The Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney

If you have a question about the switchover or what you need to do, please pop in to one of our advice points and we will be able to help.

(The Chronicle received this notice in July 2011)

COTSWOLD DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

The Cotswold Decorative and Fine Arts Society resumes its lecture programme on Wednesday, September 14th, after the summer break. The title of the lecture is "The Queenes Pickture - Portraits of Elizabeth 1st" by Dr Gillian White. This lecture examines the portraiture of 'Good Queen Bess' and traces the development of an English icon from tentative beginnings to the triumph of royal propaganda.

On October 12th the lecture will be "Pleasant Sensations: French Rococo Paintings" by Catherine Parry-Wingfield and examining the paintings of Watteau, Boucher, Fragonard and Chardin. On November 9th Clare Phillips will lecture on "Decadence and Dreams: Jewellery from around 1900".

Lectures will take place at Bradwell Village Hall, Burford. It begins at 2pm with coffee and tea available from 1.15. Non-members are very welcome (suggested donation £8).

For further information, please see our website www.cotswolddfas.org

CLUBS, GROUPS, SOCIETIES

Charlbury Garden Society Annual Flower and Produce Show

It has been a rum old year with a dramatically cold winter, an exceptionally warm and dry April, and not much so far of a summer. There have been times when plants were weeks behind their normal growth and times when they raced far ahead. The implications of all this for our fruit and veg will be clear at the Garden Society's Annual Show in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 10th September. And, who knows?, there may even be a bumper crop.

There are seventeen cups to be awarded, and substantial prize money for the best garden produce, jam, handicrafts and photography. Special classes for children include vegetable monsters and miniature gardens, and there is the opportunity for families to make a combined entry. You do not have to be a member of the Society to exhibit at the show. But the membership fee is only £3 and you then benefit from a discount at six local garden centres. Schedules showing the many classes of exhibit and 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

Rob Stepney

Charlbury Bowls Club

Short Mat Bowling starts soon We've had a great season outdoors with our club doing very well in the League as well as various other competitions and friendly matches. October is the start of our short mat season where we spend those dark, cold winter evenings rolling-up indoors. The aim of the game is to get your bowls as close to the little white ball as possible, trying very hard not to hit that silly little block of wood that seems to get in the way. Club night will be on Wednesdays from 7pm from October so why not come along and give it a go. Our friendly club is a great way to meet other people from their local community. There is always a warm welcome for newcomers and youngsters are particularly encouraged. As a club we offer excellent facilities, with a fully-stocked bar, two changing rooms, a wellmaintained six-rink bowling green for the outdoor season, plenty of room for two short-mats indoors and ample parking. So, why not come along or if you would like further information give me a call.

Heather Hill, Hon Secretary (810229)

The Charlbury Society

Once again, The Charlbury Society has organised a diverse and wide-ranging selection of topics for the new season of its monthly talks. The autumn programme is: **13 October**: Elaine Steane - "The Roman Way" ;

10 November: Jim Asher - "Oxfordshire Butterflies";

8 December: Geoffrey Ellis - "Impressions of Charlbury since 1900: An Outsider's View"

As mentioned at the AGM in May, the new season's series of talks will be held on the second **THURSDAY** evening of each month, at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Membership subscriptions to the Society remain at £8.50 for the year, and we always welcome visitors – who we charge £1.50 per meeting.

The Charlbury Society aims to educate and to entertain, as well as giving members and visitors the chance to socialise over coffee and biscuits after each talk. We warmly invite everyone from Charlbury –

CLUBS, GROUPS, SOCIETIES

and beyond – to join us. For more information, please contact the Chairman.

Simon Walker, *Chairman,* Lowe's Cottage, Hixet Wood Charlbury OX7 3SB Tel: 01608 811414 e-mail: <u>simon.iets@btinternet.com</u>

CHARLBURY WI

Charlbury WI is enjoying a successful third year, with an exciting calendar of talks and social evenings to appeal to women of all ages and interests. In June members enjoyed a hands-on evening of felt making with Jaany Ravenscroft, while in July we were entertained by the adventures of Rosemary Philmore with her talk "Holiday with a difference." We are pleased to report that our "frock swap" evening at The Bell back in June raised £101 for the Nine Acres Sports Pavilion Appeal, so thanks to all those who came along and enjoyed the evening with us. Our next event will be a stall at this year's Street Fair, so do please come and pick up some home-made treats and produce. We are always looking for new members and welcome visitors so come and receive a warm welcome at one of our regular meetings in the Morris Room in the Corner House at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

For any questions or queries please contact Pat Hill (secretary) 810714 or Lindsey Leach (president) 819292 or visit our page on the Charlbury website.

CHARLBURY TOWN FC has

resumed training on Tuesday evenings, 6.30pm at Nine Acres. If you are interested in joining us please pop down or contact Keith Claridge on 07870426707 or 01608 810201.

CHARLBURY WINE AND BEER CIRCLE The programme for

2011 to 2012 is; September: AGM, quiz and chat October: Wine Tasting November: Take-Away Meal December: Christmas Party January: Cards evening (whist) February: Wine Tasting March: Wine Tasting April: Safari Supper May: Annual Dinner June: Barbecue July: Garden Party August: Open houseNew members always welcomed. For further information and full programme, please ring 810700 John Moore

CHARLBURY JUDO CLUB

Why not try something new! The Judo Club meets on Mondays during term time from 6pm to 7pm at the Memorial Hall. Girls and boys from 5 to 11 years are welcome to come along and join in any session - and the first club evening is free! Judo is great fun and develops balance, confidence and agility which complement other sports. It is taught by experts in a friendly yet disciplined way. For those who really get the bug there is the opportunity to compete at regional and national levels. For more information please call Jonathan on 01865 884339 or 07967 349864, or just come along to a session. Our first session of the new term will be on Monday September 12. For further details see www.oxfordshirejudoclubs.co.uk

Jonathan Gerrans

Items for this section please to Julia Caston (810240)

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ROY SHADBOLT – a life of gardening

I was born in Charlbury and was brought up in the house in Hixet Wood where I live now. I had a brother Ron, who was eighteen months older than me. I went to the Infants' and Primary school locally. I did not pass the exam to Chipping Norton and so stayed on at the Playing Close school. Mr Lawson took us for gardening. The plots were where the Co-op is now. Each class had its own plot and we all grew different vegetables, which were used in the canteen. I really enjoyed doing this. When I came to leave most of my friends went off to work at the car factory in Oxford. My brother was working on the Cornbury estate as a gardener. He was doing well and Mr. Buckle the head gardener told him that if I wanted to work there I could. So in 1950 at the age of 15 I went there as a garden boy.

The Cornbury estate at that time was owned by the Watneys, the brewing family. There were ten gardeners - four worked in the greenhouses, four in the vegetable gardens and two at the seven acre Pleasure grounds that surrounded the house. The greenhouses grew bananas, grapes, peaches, nectarines and cherries. Beer barrels were used for planting trees such as peaches. In the greenhouse full of peaches they had bags rather like bras to catch the fruit so that they did not fall off when ripe and bruise. Grapes would be picked in August and then taken to the fruit room. The stem of the grapes would be put into a bottle of water and then they would last until the end of January. The Watneys had an estate in Sutherland north of Inverness. When they were up there three boxes of fruit and vegetables would be sent up to them. It all had to be packed very carefully. The peaches were wrapped in cotton wool. They were sent off at 5.30. pm on the Monday and the chauffeur would pick them up at 9.30 am in Inverness. Crops not needed by the family were sold locally. At Eights week in Oxford our strawberries were sold for a pound but that came down to ten shillings after the week. We grew flowers out of season- tulips. lily of the valley. Hellebores would be forced and sold for Christmas at sixpence each. One greenhouse had 1,000 carnation plants. There were carnations in the House all season. They were picked every Thursday and taken up there at 10 am. A lady, Mrs. Guy, came up from Charlbury to arrange them. We supplied flowers to Critchley's, a shop by the New Theatre in Oxford People used to go there to buy flowers for the actresses.

When I started as a garden boy, I used to leave home at 7.15 pm and cycle to the House. My first job was to go to the cook and see what she wanted from the kitchen garden that day. Another job I had was to pollinate plants in the greenhouses with a rabbit's tail. My Saturday job was at 11.30 sharp to sweep the three sets of steps going down to the Head gardener's house and the paths roundabout to make sure they were clean and tidy at the weekend. The rest of the time I did jobs for the gardeners. I had half an hour for lunch and three quarters of an hour for dinner. I finished at 4.45 pm, I was paid £2..2..6d, which was 5 shillings above the going rate. I gave a pound of this to my mother. The Agricultural Union recommended that all workers should have one week's holiday but we had two. We also got milk at half price and a load of firewood every year. There is an account of my time as a garden boy in a book by Susan Campbell "A Calendar of Gardeners' Lore revealing the Secrets of the Walled Kitchen Garden." When I got home work did not stop. I had to help my father on the allotment on Crawborough. My grandfather lived near us and kept pigs, so there were jobs there. At harvest we helped in the fields. There is a

picture of my brother and myself working in the Lees Rest field. The corn is piled in stooks and there is a Canadian woman driving the tractor. When work was finished we would go down to the YMCA run by Mr Shayler and there we could play snooker, billiards and cards. But at 7 o'clock the cinema would open and we went there. It was open five days a week. By ten o'clock I would be in bed.

After I had been at Cornbury for a while Mr. Buckle, the head gardener, said that I should go to another garden like Blenheim and get more experience. I did not want to and I preferred to be able to live at home. I learnt a lot from Mr. Buckle. I used to help him set up his show of carnations at one end of the tent at the British Legion Flower show. At the end his flowers would be auctioned off and fetched eight shillings a dozen – the money going to charity. He also used to exhibit at the Oxford Town Hall. He was very proud that he beat Havergal Waterperry. He got first prize with his orchids. We liked this as four of us would get to go to the show one day and four others the next. We'd spend half the day at the show and then go to the pictures. He also showed sweet peas and he came fourth in a London show. **He said he would not have come first but he lost to the other two because their stems were longer.** He had a method for growing sweet peas up to twenty feet. He would grow the first seven feet and then he would grow it horizontally for another seven feet and then very carefully erect them making sure the stem was not damaged. The process would begin again till it reached the height.

When I first went to Cornbury two brothers Jack and Ernest Hutt worked there – Jack looked after the vegetable garden and Ernest, who always wore a stiff collar to work, looked after the pleasure gardens. In 1955 I was asked to take over from Jack. The soil in the gardens was excellent. We used to dig nine tons of turf from the park and make a havrick layering the turf and manure. This would stand for two years. Then a fire was made under a bath of water with a grid on top. The earth was placed on this and steamed and so sterilized. The Cornbury soil when tested has always done well. In 1966 Mr Watney died. He left everyone a week's wages. Cornbury was bought by Lord Rotherwick. The estate was run in a much less labour intensive way and many employees lost their jobs. I stayed on and became Head Gardener in 1972. I had married a house maid from the House and we lived in the Gardener's cottage. We had a son, who has gone into banking not gardening. There were only 2 gardeners beside myself and I found I was working a seven day week. I was made redundant in 1990 and I decided to be s elf-employed. I still worked for Lord Rotherwick at Rangers' Lodge for three days a week and for his brother Charles at Finstock Manor for two days. In 1997 the old Lord Rotherwick died and Rangers' Lodge was let out. I decided to retire though I did do odd gardening jobs. Now I concentrate on my own garden.

I remember Mr. Hutt telling me that gardening is in you or it isn't. Gardening is easy if you get it right but getting it wrong makes it hard. If you get your garden in good condition in April you get ahead. When you are gardening time does not matter.

Roy Shadbolt was interviewed by Diana Potten

HISTORY OF OLD CHARLBURY

THE TOWN HALL, CHARLBURY Chapter 3 Entertainment 1939 – 1960

World War II: Charlbury and surrounding villages were filled with soldiers during WWII in private billets and public buildings. The Army requisitioned the Town Hall at the beginning of the War, believing it to be a local authority building. After an appeal, it was returned to the Quaker owners, but continued to be used for ENSA concerts and parties for the troops. The garden behind the Town Hall became an Army cook-house, complete with cold store. Soldiers would spend time in the Royal Oak Coffee Tavern, where they could sit by the fire with a hot drink. The Royal Oak was the ARP headquarters for a time and held the codes for action to be taken when invasion was imminent.

In 1936 Mr C H Morris had given the Scouts the site for the Scout Hut in Nine Acres Lane. The Corner House in Market Street was opened in 1939 as a social centre for a Girls' Club, with club rooms, library and dance hall. It was presented to the towns-people in 1945 by Mr Morris, and the County Council library was formally opened in 1948. The Parish Room at the original Vicarage in Church Lane was used for film shows, whist drives and meetings by the new Vicar, Mr T J Wood, from 1940. After the war it served as an extra classroom for the primary school and is now part of Queen Anne Cottage. Parties and dances were also held in the Victory Hall and the YMCA Hall during the War.

The Town Hall Cinema: Following magic lantern lectures, the cinematograph and velograph in the 1890s, a cinema show began in the Town Hall in November 1927 for 3 nights a week, managed by the Empire Cinema, Woodstock. The first picture to be shown was "The Devil's Circus" with Moira Shearer. In December 1931 Mr Constable of Middle Barton (which had its own cinema) applied to renew the licence to show films in the Town Hall. Frank and May Jeffs took over the Royal Oak as caretakers in the late 1930s and then ran the cinema from c.1939. When the owner, Mr William Albright, died in 1943, the property was offered to the Parish Council but was declined, and Mr and Mrs Jeffs later bought it. The cinema was reached via an alley in Park Street, and there was a long narrow path for queues round the cinema wall to the door of the box office. The projection box was reached via the garden, and projectionists included Vic Merry, Harold Sandalls and Walter Ford, and a few soldiers who helped with film projection as light relief to their normal duties

The programme changed twice a week, usually consisting of a main feature, B feature and the Gaumont British news, and concerts and meetings continued to be held on Wednesdays and Sundays, when there was no film show. . On VJ Day there was a free cinema show for the children in the afternoon.

The cinema continued through the fifties with extra shows for schools (eg the 1953 Coronation film). It became a regular twice-weekly commitment for many customers from Charlbury and surrounding villages. But as television and cars became commonplace, audiences gradually dwindled and the cinema closed in December 1960. The Royal Oak and Town Hall were sold in 1962 as a private house, and the Hall was demolished.

By this time the War Memorial Hall had been built in the Corner House garden, and with the Corner House it became the focus for Charlbury's entertainment. Charlbury's own Cinema (ChOC) is now reviving the old traditions.



www.hooknortonvets.co.uk

NEWS FROM CHARLBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school was delighted with this year's academic results, particularly in the context of recent media reports about educational underachievement in primary schools in Oxford and across the county. This year's SATs results at Charlbury School are above National expectations in Reading, Writing and Maths at the end of both Key Stage 1 and 2 (7 and 11 year olds). Proportions of children achieving higher levels than the national averages are particularly impressive in both key stages, and the progress of children with special educational needs clearly demonstrates that every child is being given good support and opportunities for fulfilling his or her academic potential.

Extending the children's imaginations beyond the national curriculum, pupils recently became involved with a Charlbury Beer Festival project to fund the building of a solar-powered water heater for an orphanage in New Delhi. Members of the Beer Festival committee came to school assembly to talk about the children's home, Karm Marg, and to explain the benefits of solar heating. Year 5 pupils then helped to design and build their own solar-powered water heater in the school playground using local recycled materials. The heater was later transported to the Cricket Club in time for the Beer Festival, where the hot water it produced was used for washing hands and beer glasses! The hope is that the school will develop links with Karm Marg in the future to make new contacts and friendships in India.

Closer to home, we are exceptionally lucky to live in a place like Charlbury with such a diversity of talented and interesting people. The school is therefore keen to revive the 'Knowledge Well' project, originally set up by former parent governor Birgit den Outer, whereby local volunteers come and meet with the children in school once or twice a year. If you would like to demonstrate a special skill, talk about your work, or share your knowledge of your home country and language please contact the school on 01608 810354 or via the website at www.charlbury.oxon.sch.uk.

Vicky Buser, Parent Governor

The CSA has been hard at work raising more funds for the school. Recent events include a tea & cake stand at the Rally Show back in May, face painting and selling soft drinks at the Beer Festival, followed a week later by the school summer fair, on a gloriously hot afternoon! This was our 8th year at Cornbury Festival, this time at Great Tew, raising a total of £3800. We have had a very good year thanks to the hard work of a dedicated bunch of parents, but also due to the support from the rest of the school and the wider community. Thank you!! As I write this we are making our final preparations for a tea, cakes & scones stand at the Wilderness Festival in August, which we will be doing jointly with Finstock School.

Alex Westbury, CSA Chair

CRANDALL UNIVERSITY OXFORD PROGRAMME - 2012

ACCOMMODATION FOR CANADIAN STUDENTS.

We are always on the lookout for suitable hosts for the above programme, which happens every year between January and April. We need accommodation within walking distance of Charlbury station and the Coop, for one or two students at a time. Each student needs a room big enough to study in, with cupboard space in your kitchen for their food.

The students are all aged between 20-24 and come from strong faith-based backgrounds. Many of them forge strong, long term friendships with the people who accommodate them, and they are extremely appreciative of their time in Charlbury which is unlike anything they experience in Canada

If you think that you might be interested in offering accommodation for our 2012 programme and would like to know more, please contact either Helen Wright (07702 087802) or Gill Colman (01608 810211)

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GUNS AND ROSÉS

The Charlbury Beer Festival has continued to grow ever since the first small event in Memorial Hall in 1998, and it's now one of the largest independent beer festivals in the country. But since we moved to the cricket pitch three years ago, there has always been a nagging guestion: 'What happens if it rains and no one turns up?' This year we were put to the test. On the dot of noon, the gates and the clouds opened simultaneously and the rain fell mercilessly. But was anyone put off? Judging by the gueues, apparently not. Even the Prime Minister came along, paid his £10 (for entrance, beer tokens and souvenir glass), and sampled a couple of the fifty real ales on offer. (David Cameron's son Arthur came in for free because he's under 18 ... We let his security men in for free too, because they looked a bit scary and were probably carrying guns.) In the end around 2000 people came to enjoy the live music throughout the day the children's entertainment - the wide range of food on offer – the inaugural World Aunt Sally Open Singles Championships oh, and the beer, cider, perry, Pimm's, soft drinks and wine - to raise around £19,500 for local and international good causes. Other good causes such as the Lawrence Nursing Home and the Charlbury School Association also benefitted directly from the stalls that they ran at the event. For information on how to apply for funds or if you're interested in becoming a sponsor or otherwise helping out - please visit our website. www.charlburybeerfestival.org. We're

www.charlburybeerfestival.org. We're planning next year's event already (with more loos, we promise!) and we hope to see you there.

Edward Fenton

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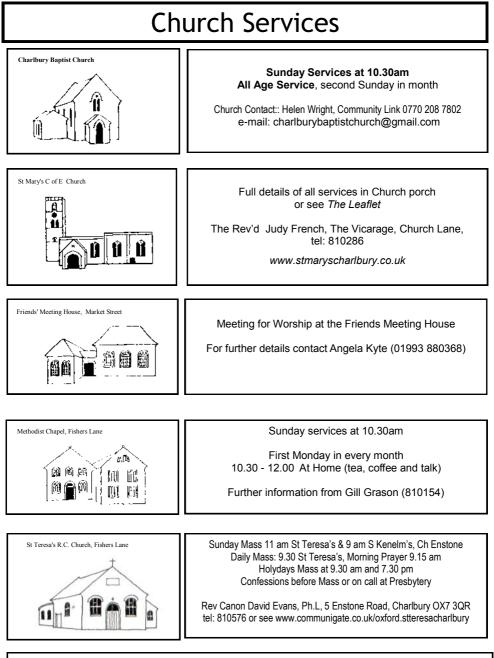
Contact David Burton on 07799 471499 Or email 123drb@gmail.com

NEWS FROM CORNBURY from the Cornbury Park Team

This September at Cornbury Park we're hosting a number of charity walks and runs. On 18 September we welcome the Charlbury 10k Fun Run: the start time is 10.30am on The Playing Close - register on the day. On Saturday 24 September the NSPCC Sponsored Walk, 'Hike Against Cruelty to Kids' starts at Cornbury Park, featuring a 12 mile and 22 mile walk (for information or to register, visit www.nspcc.org.uk/cotswoldshack or call the NSPCC East appeals office on 01908 328060.). And finally on 25 September, it's the Friends of Finstock School 10k race at 11am (for information please go to http:// sites.google.com/site/finstock10k)

In other news, Waterman's, the livery yard in Cornbury Park, has a newly refurbished outdoor ménage. Waterman's welcomes horse owners who seek a friendly quiet yard to enjoy their horse riding. It has an American style barn with large loose boxes with automatic drinkers for up to 12 horses, secure tack room, feed store, superb grazing, indoor and outdoor ménage and fabulous off road riding in the Wychwood Forest. For further info please call the Cornbury Park Estate office or check the Cornbury Park website at www.cornburypark.co.uk

We are always happy to answer any questions that you might have about Cornbury - please get in touch by emailing us at: <u>estate@cpark.co.uk</u> or phoning on 01608 811 276.



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

Churches Together in Charlbury

Earlier this year, Churches Together in Charlbury marked the 400th anniversary of the making of the King James Bible with a series of events starting with a concert and finishing with an exploration of a glorious modern hand-written and illuminated Bible.

On Thursday 3 November we will be following the theme by looking at the influence of the Bible today. Luke Walton, Culture Programme Manager for the Bible Society, will be speaking and showing a film in Charlbury Parish Church. The meeting will start and 7.30 pm. Luke grew up in Charlbury and now has international responsibilities. Everyone is welcome.

Churches Together exists to do more than study and learn together. This year we have raised £3822 for Christian Aid through arranging lunches and house to house collecting. We have supported children's activities at the Riverside Festival and organised the Children's Holiday Club. Church Friends try to meet anyone new to Charlbury and give them information about the town. We run a home-made and homegrown stall at the Street Fair in aid of our community facilities in the Corner House and Memorial Hall. And members of all the churches play an active part in the many organisations that we enjoy in Charlbury.

More information from Rosalind Scott, Secretary to Churches Together in Charlbury, tel. 01608 810562. Email rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk

BAPTIST COMMUNITY LINK

On June 1st I began an exciting new venture working as Community Link for Charlbury Baptist Church. I will be undertaking a short audit throughout Charlbury over several months to gain further knowledge of our community. The next step will be to introduce some taster events matching some of the requests identified. If community support is forthcoming there will be some exciting times ahead.

Details of our current activities can be found on the Charlbury Website— Communities/Churches/Charlbury Baptist Church.

I should also take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Baptist Church is part of the North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank. We would like to request donations of all types of larder food with a sixmonth shelf life. All food donated is made into parcels for distribution to families in need within our area.

If you would like to call in and see me regarding any ideas you may have, drop off any food donations, or just for a chat, I would love to see you at our Open Tuesday Mornings 10-12 or Wednesday afternoos 2-4. If you are away from Ibury during the day please contact me to arrange a more suitable time.

> Helen Wright, Community Link 07702 087802 Church: 810964 on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

'to bring joy into the life of a child '

We invite you to take part in **Operation Christmas Child** by filling a shoebox with games, toys and useful items for a needy child. Anyone and everyone can take part to bring joy into the life of a child such as Vanya. "Little Vanya is just four years old. Sadly he has no mother or father. Home for Vanya is a tiny hospital ward deep in the chilly city of Mogilev in the country of Belarus. He has cerebral palsy which limits his movement and breathing and so he spends his days in a cot. When the OCC team delivered Vanya's shoebox the two children who share his room had their mothers with them but Vanya was alone. His eyes were empty and he was listless. A team member gave Vanya a teddy bear from his box and gently stroked his face. Though he is unable to speak his big brown eyes lit up with delight and his beaming eyes spoke more than words ever could."

It's not too early to start collecting items and empty shoeboxes and further details will appear with the October edition of The Leaflet. We shall be holding regular craft days to share ideas and make things at pocket money prices. For those of you who can't wait, much more information can be found on the website <u>www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk</u> If you need an empty shoe box or have items to donate, these can be brought to the Baptist Church at the top of Dyer's Hill on any Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon or Sunday morning between 11.30 am and 12 noon. If you are too busy to complete a shoebox, donations are welcome and we will fill one in your name.

Please bring your completed boxes to the Baptist Church on Saturday, 12 November between 10 am and 12 nooon and join us for coffee and refreshments.

Joan Belshaw (810130) Charlbury Shoebox Co-ordinator

Report from District Councillor Hywel Davies (01993 868004) <u>hywel.davies@westoxon.gov.uk</u> or <u>hywel.davies7@btinternet.com</u>

Thank you for electing me on 5th May. The last ten weeks have proved very exciting and interesting. I have managed to meet a large number of people in Charlbury who work so hard to maintain and improve all our lives. I give my support to them all when it is required.

Dean Pit has been a major issue and I was delighted when the District Council offered a real solution in seeking to develop Greystones. This site is on the A361 near the Chipping Norton rugby field. It is proposed that a Planning application is made as quickly as possible. Dean Pit would cost £1million to upgrade, this new will cost a tenth as much. A massive saving in public money and a convenient place to dispose of waste. This a perfect example of a practical, pragmatic approach to solving local problems.

I am holding a surgery at the Corner House 10am-12 on 22nd October. Please come along if you wish to discuss any issues with me.

Report from District Councillor Glena Chadwick (810555) chadwick@glena.plus.com It's the begiinning of the school holidays as I write but when you read it, they will be nearly over. I hope some of you taken advantage of the activities and courses run at WODC's leisure centres. There was a wide range on offer; roller-skating, gymnastics, racquet sports and lots more. If you have not been aware of this do discover what's planned for the next school holidays.

There was some alarm recently when old style refuse lorries were seen in Charlbury collecting recycling. Actually it was a testament to the success of the new scheme. The amount of recycling has increased so much that three new lorries were needed (which came into service at the end of July) and, momentarily, some of the older lorries had to be pressed into use.. However, none of the recycling they collected went to landfill but all to its correct destination.

May Gurney, the new contractors, gave councillors at WODC an excellent presentation recently to show how the new scheme is bedding down and achieving its aims--basically more recycling. Actually the **total** amount collected has also fallen. When this was queried the contractors said that research has shown that in areas where food waste is collected, people notice how much they are throwing away (not the waste conscious citizens of Charlbury I'm sure !) and then change their shopping habits accordingly----so people can change !

Report from County Councillor Neil Owen (01993 8308751)

On Tuesday 26th July the first Charlbury Library consultation meeting took place. What could have proved a difficult meeting was admirably chaired by Nick Potter. The Friends of the Library, led by Amanda Epps, subjected the Council contingent, Cllr Judith Heathcote, John Jackson and Karen Warren, to sustained and astute questioning over the Council's proposals regarding the future of our Library. The public position is clear - we want to keep the Library open as it is. However, we must consider the use of volunteers for some of the opening hours. To this end, there will be more consultation, I'm sure more horse trading and wrangling to achieve the best possible outcome. At some point we must identify the 'volunteer potential'. There is never an infinte pool of volunteers and with so many people already serving the community, it is hard to see how many more can be coaxed out. For myself, in a rush of madness, I have offered to man the Library desk for a few hours at some point. Therefore, if you can see yourself doing a stint, please come forward. We cannot have a meaningful dialogue with the County without knowing our potential strengths. However, we have a strong home team ie Friends of the Library, Town Council and your local Councillors, and I am sure we look forward to the next stage in the consultation process.

The Highways Department at OCC were successful in a bid to Central Government for funds for major projects ie enlargement of Thornhill Park and Ride etc, but I can hear you saying 'very good, but what about our local roads?'. As I see it, that extra cash could release funds set aside for these strategic projects to be ploughed back into 'bread and butter' maintenance. I hope this is the case but we shall see. Also the winter maintenance programme is being worked up, about which more later.

In conclusion, I hope you all had a fine summer and I look forward to the Street Fair.

The Royal British Legion – Charlbury Branch

The Branch AGM will be held in the Corner House at 8.00pm on Thursday 20 October 2011. All members are encouraged to attend. Anyone who would like to join the Branch is most welcome to attend.

The Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning will be held in the Corner House on Saturday 5 November 2011 with raffle, cakes and poppies for sale. For further information please contact Jane Parsons on 810822.

The Annual Band Concert will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Friday 11 November 2011 with the fantastic "Accidentals", once again. There will be a raffle, light refreshments and a licensed bar. Details may be obtained from the Branch Secretary on 810822 or from posters in the usual places nearer the time. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Cotswold Frames or on the door. All the proceeds will go to Poppy Appeal and everyone is welcome, members and non-members alike.

The National Two Minutes Silence will be at 11.00am on Friday 11 November 2011. Please support this small yet significant event.

The British Legion Darts Cup will be competed for in the Annual Open Pairs Competition in aid of the Poppy Appeal at the Olde Three Horseshoes on Saturday 12 November 2011. Pete Scarrott has kindly agreed to organise the competition. He can be contacted for details on 810921.

Remembrance Day Parade and Service – Sunday 13 November 2011. The Charlbury Parade forms up at the Spendlove Car Park at 2.30pm and the Service is at 3.00pm in St. Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome to join the parade and/or the service.

The parade will be led by Pipers and Drummers of the Scots Guards Association (Berks, Bucks and Oxon Branc) under the direction of Pipe Major Steve Duffy (details correct at time of going to press) and commanded by the Charlbury Branch President, Major Nicholas Potter (late Scots Guards).

The salute will be taken by Sir John Birch KCVO, CMG. Sir John is a former U.K. Ambassador to Hungary and served with the Middlesex Regiment from 1954 -1956. Sir John lives in Church Street.

Wreaths will be laid by the Legion, Charlbury Town Council and Thames Valley Police. After the Service and Parade tea and biscuits will be available for all marchers, Legion members, serving and ex-serving service personnel, in the War Memorial Hall.

The rehearsal for all standard and flag bearers, wreath layers and readers etc will be at St Mary's Church at 6.30pm on Thursday 10 November 2011. For any further information please ring Nick Potter on 810338.

The Poppy Appeal: Poppies will be on sale in and around the Town 28 October -12 November and at Charlbury Station on the mornings of 1 and 8 November. Mick Charlesworth, who lives in Finstock, is the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Charlbury and the surrounding villages.. Anyone who would like to help with the Poppy Appeal in any way is asked to get in touch with him on 01993 869283.

(continued on next page)

Festival of Remembrance – Royal Albert Hall

Due to cancellation of an earlier instruction, the Charlbury Branch <u>may</u> be allocated two tickets for the evening performance in the presence of the Royal Family (and on TV) on Saturday 12 November 2011. The ticket allocation is normally confirmed during September. Any member who would like to express an interest, please contact Jane Parsons on 810822.

For more information about the work of the Royal British Legion, becoming a member or for assistance, please contact Nick Potter (Branch President) on 810388, Derek Fowler (Branch Chairma) on 811706 or Jane Parsons (Branch Secretary) on 810822 or visit the website at www. Charlbury RBL.org.uk

We were 'green' without knowing it!

This article in an American newspaper was seen by Alan Burroughs who thought that Chronicle readers might find it of interest

A cashier said I should bring my own grocery bag because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. I explained 'We didn't have the 'green' thing in my day'. He responded 'That's the problem. You didn't care enough to save our environment.'

Right. We returned and reused milk, soda and beer bottles. We walked stairs as there wasn't an escalator in every building. We walked to the grocery, we did not climb into a car to go two blocks. Diapers were washed, we didn't have disposables. Clothes dried on a line, not with an energy-gobbling machine - wind and solar power dried them. We had one TV or radio, not one in every room. The TV screen was small, not the size of a room. In the kitchen we blended and stirred by hand; there weren't machines to do everything.

When we sent a package, we used newspaper, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. We didn't burn gasoline to cut the lawn. We used a push mower. We exercised by working and didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills; drank from a fountain instead of plastic bottles; and replaced razor blades instead of throwing away the razor.

Kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. We didn't need gadgets to receive a signal from satellites 1,000 miles in space to find the nearest pizza joint.

Sadly this generation laments how wasteful we were because we didn't have the 'green thing' back then?

Non-emergency Patient Transport Consultation

Oxfordshire NHS is looking to make savings in many areas of their service and the nonemergency patient transport is one of those services. A consultation is running until 31 July to gather the public's views over the proposal to cut £200,000 from the transport service, which costs the NHS approximately £3million a year. The NHS hopes to do this by reinforcing the eligibility criteria and ensuring that patients who may be able to use 'walk on' transport do not receive the service. However, the proposed cut in the service will likely put further pressure on the **voluntary car schemes** in Oxfordshire and will have a disproportionate effect on vulnerable people in rural areas of Oxfordshire who have little to no access to public transport services.

If you would like to read more about the consultation and/or would like to put forward your comments, then please go to the consultation webpage: https://consult.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk/consult.ti/PatientTS/consultationHome

or contact Judy McCulloch on 01865 334363 or email: judy.mcculloch@oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk

Free ORCC guide for homeworkers in rural communities wanting to get together

A free ORCC guide has been published for homeworkers interested in getting together informally with others in their community. The ORCC Business and Community Links Worker, Catharine Arakelian, has written up practical examples and experiences gathered from talking with homeworkers and visiting local community-based business groups over the last six months.

The guide is available online at www.oxonrcc.org.uk

If you are running a business from home and would like to get together with other homebased workers in your community for social interaction and mutual support, contact Catharine who is here to promote and support new initiatives of this kind: <u>cath-</u> <u>arine.arakelian@oxonrcc.org.uk</u>.

CHARLBURY FARMERS' MARKET 2011

Charlbury Farmers' Market will celebrate its 10th anniversary on the Playing Close between 9am and 1pm on Saturday, September 10th 2011

The first pilot Market was held on Saturday July 14 2001 There will be lots of stalls, a Birthday Cake, the Great Charlbury Breakfast and lots of other attractions.

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-u-Wychwood, OX7 6LW. Tel 0784 328 7091 Email rogerw@bfocus.co.uk

Final Update on the New Pavilion and Changing Rooms

We were fortunate that the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon David Cameron officially opened our new Nine Acres Pavilion on 13th May. This became a relatively informal occasion perfectly captured by Christine Elliott on a seven-minute video posted on the Charlbury website.

The provision of this pavilion was the result of a considerable local effort which needs to be recognised. Firstly, the Town Council set aside a fixed amount of money each year for eleven years which, as Nicholas Potter pointed out, means that everyone in Charlbury has indirectly contributed to the project. A special thanks needs to go to the Town Clerk, Roger Clarke, whose support, advice and hard work has helped make this pavilion a reality.

The three sports clubs who will use the pavilion all ensured that an agreed amount of money from each of them was available on time, enabling work to commence. Thanks therefore to the Tennis Club Committee at that time (Nick Johnson, Steve Handley, Mark Jarman, Mark Curtoys, Dierdre Lunney and Judith Haynes), also the Senior Football Club, especially Russell Jeffries. Keith Claridge and John Fitzgerald. The Youth Football Club under Clive Brooks should also be thanked. In addition Clive managed to raise money through the Oxfordshire Community Foundation.

The previous Chairman of the Youth Football Club, Chris Staddon, put in place a Football Development Plan, which was essential to raise funds through the Football Foundation and our thanks go to Chris.

Dean Vincent, one time pharmacist in

Charlbury, raised considerable sponsorship money by running the London Marathon and was the first individual to contribute to the pavilion fund.

Thanks also to members of the Nine Acres Committee - Gill Williams for fundraising events and Eileen Kenrick, Treasurer, for not only managing the funds but putting a lot of personal effort into the project.

Local organisations such as the Charlbury Beer Festival Committee, Charlbury Firebrigade Trust, CAWAG, the W I, Churches Together, and Street Fair Bottle Stall all made their contribution.

A special thanks to the numerous residents of Charlbury who recognised the importance of a new pavilion in the heart of Charlbury and made donations, many of them unsolicited.

Finally, our sincere thanks to Ina Merriman who very kindly decided to provide the pavilion fund with considerable monies, from those donations given in memory of John Merriman. John campaigned for many years to replace the old unacceptable pavilion with the new one, which we now have.

The Nine Acres Committee believes that all this shows Charlbury at its best.

Robert Caston 810240

Dean Pit Household Waste Recycling Centre is closing on 30th September 2011

Oxfordshire County Council regrets that the Dean Pit Household Waste Recycling Centre will close permanently on Friday 30th September 2011 at 5pm.

The number of visits to the site has decreased in recent years, along with improved recycling collections from the kerbside. In addition, the temporary planning permission is due to expire on 30th September 2011 and the site cannot legally operate beyond this date.

Your nearest alternative Household Waste Recycling Centres are:

Dix Pit, Stanton Harcourt, near Witney, OX29 5BB Alkerton, near Banbury, OX15 6HZ Ardley, near Bicester, OX27 7PH Please see location map on reverse.

If you would like further information please contact us on:

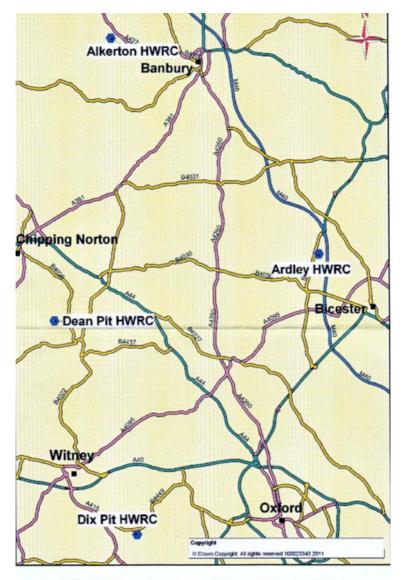
waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk 08450 50 45 50 www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste





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Dix Pit – located southwest of Stanton Harcourt village, signposted off A415 and B4449.

Alkerton – 7 miles west of Banbury, signposted off the A422 Stratford road, north of Alkerton village.

Ardley - near Bicester, just off the B430, 1 mile south of Ardley village.

D'OVERBROECK'S COLLEGE

Open Days

Ages 11–16 at Leckford Place

Tuesday 27 September, 5.30–7.30pm. Tel 01865 302620

Sixth Form

Saturday 15 October, 10am-1pm. Tel 01865 310000

Based in North Oxford, d'Overbroeck's College is a coeducational independent school with a separate Sixth Form of 250 students. It is described in the Good Schools Guide as 'a place of energy and laughter, of single-minded determination among students to do the best they can.'

A coed independent school based in North Oxford doverbroecks.com

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) Charlbury Baptist Church - Helen Wright (07702 087802) charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS) Madeleine Wheare 810092 chaburv.drama@gmail.com www.charlbury-drama.com Charlbury Art Society (CAS) (810116) Charlbury Beer Festival - Liz Donnelly (810056) liz.donnellv@vahoo.com www.charlburvbeerfestival.org Charlbury Bowls Club - Secretary, Heather Hill - 810229 Charlbury Business Community - Joan Belshaw (810130) hughandjoan@uwclub.net 819117 - chamber@charlbury.info Charlbury Canoe Club - Hugh Belshaw (810130) hughandioan@uwclub.net Charlbury Chess Club - Bob Douglas (811083) Charlbury Chronicle - Lynette Murphy (810549) lvnette.murphv@cchronicle.plus.com **Charlbury Community Centre Appeal** Lynette Murphy (810549) lynette.murphy@cchronicle.plus.com Charlbury Cricket Club - Colin Olliffe (01993 704108 or 07909 9788863) 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) michaelcara1965@yahoo.co.uk **Charlbury and District Garden Society** Nick Johnson (810507) Charlbury Morris - Peter Smith (811007) peter@charlburymorris.org www.charlburvmorris.org Charlbury Museum - Jennifer Bartlett (810312) Charlbury Open Gardens - Vic Allison vic.allison@btinternet.com Charlburv Pre-School Jan Stubberfield (811200) Charlbury Royal British Legion - Nick Potter (810388) Charlbury School - Jane Holt, Head (810354) office.2100@charlburv.oxon.sch.uk www.charlbury.oxon/digitalbrain.com Charlbury School Association - Sarah Brooks - office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk Charlbury Scouts & Guides - Fiona Snell (810565) fiona@snellfamily.me.uk Charlbury Society Simon Walker, (811414)

Charlbury Town FC - Keith Claridge 810201 or 07870426707 Charlbury Street Fair - Barry Cooper barrycooper@prisymid.com or 07770 225673. Charlbury Tennis Club - Mark Curthovs charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk Charlbury Town Youth Football Club - Lynn Gorton 01993 869248 carllvnn@uwclub.net **Charlbury Area Waste Action Group** (CAWAG) Christine Elliott (811057) www.cwaq.orq.uk: info@cwaq.orq.uk Charlbury Women's Institute - Secretary Pat Hill 810714 CHOC Cinema Jon Carpenter (819117) choc@charlbury.info Churches Together - Rosalind Scott, (810562) rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk The Bell Hotel (810278) Cornbury Music Festival - Hugh Phillimore (0207 229 2219) mail@comburyfestival.com www.comburyfestival.com **Cotswolds Guided Walks** Fourshires LETS Group (skill swaps) Ann/David Morton - (676302) Friends Meeting House: Angela Kyte (01993 880368) Holidav Club - Sue Holidav (810694) Little Fishes Under 5's Group - Kate (811579) Macmillan Cancer Care - Liz & Bob Tait (810150) Mind in Chipping Norton (Mental Health Suport) 01608 645296 Methodist Chapel - Gil Grason (810154) The Probus Club of Charlbury Michael Marsh (810029) mike@mikemarshmd.plus.com Riverside Festival - Andy Pickard (810635) admin@riversidefestival.charlbury.com www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com Shed Theatre - Teresa Laughton (811000) St Marys C of E Church Rev Judy French (810286) St Theresa RC Church Very Rev Canon David Evans (810576) Street Stage (touring youth fusion company) Anneke Hav (811269) Sustainable Charlbury - Liz Reason (811212) Thomas Gifford's Charity - Trevor Jones (810644)

trevor.jones@ophiopogon.com www.charlbury.info</u> - Richard Fairhurst United Nations Association (West Oxfordshire) – malcolm.harper@ukonline.co.uk_tel: 07778 450515



CHARLBURY'S POLICE OFFICER

Our Police Community Support Officer is C9837 Wesley Smith who works out of the Charlbury Police Office at the Spendlove Centre.

This office is open for general enquiries, lost property and the production of documents etc, Mondays 12 noon - 3pm and Fridays 9am - 12 noon. 9am – 12 noon on the 1st Saturday of each month

To contact your PCSO call 0845 8 505 505

If anyone is interested in helping to run the Spendlove Centre Police Office please get in touch with Rosie White, Volunteers Coordinator, Thames Valley Police, 01993 814065 or email her

We have a mailing list for people wishing to receive *The Charlbury Chronicle* who no longer live in the town. Now £3.50 per four issues; £6 per four issues for overseas subscribers. Large-print £2.50 for each copy.

Please note that **ALL** cheques for advertising, mailing list or donations should be made payable to *The Charlbury Chronicle* and should be sent to the Treasurer, Dawn Colvin, whose address is in the panel on the right. Editor: Lynette Murphy Hundley Cottage, Hundley Way Charlbury OX7 3QY tel: 01608 810549 fax: 01608 811952 e-mail: Iynette.murphy@cchronicle.plus.com

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