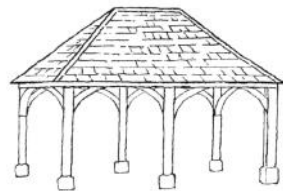


# Charlbury Chronicle



**Volume 24 Number 2**

**Summer 2020**

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

## Inside this issue:

Museum News	3
Charlbury Scout Group	5
Living with Lockdown	6
Coffee Break Page	19
News from Community Centre	20
Charlbury Green Hub	22
Dementia Friendly	26
Charlbury Church Services	28
Charlbury Refugee Action Group	33
Hedgehogs	34
Charlbury Community Directory	39



Plus much much more....

### Contacts:-

Editor: [editor.chronicle@outlook.com](mailto:editor.chronicle@outlook.com)  
Advertising: [gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk)  
Distribution: [brian\\_murray\\_guide@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brian_murray_guide@yahoo.co.uk)

# Charlbury Garage

Hixet Wood, Charlbury, OX7 3SB

**01608 810898**

08:30 – 17:00 Monday to Friday

Attending to motorists' needs for over 40 years, we offer a local, friendly, helpful & trustworthy service

- MOT & Pre-MOT
- Tyres & Exhausts
- Servicing
- Batteries
- Aircon
- Bodywork

Competitive tyre prices

MOT £44

Half-price MOT with Full Service  
Courtesy car available  
Cars bought & sold



[www.charlburygarage.co.uk](http://www.charlburygarage.co.uk)  
[info@charlburygarage.co.uk](mailto:info@charlburygarage.co.uk)

---

## From the Editor

---

What difficult and unusual times we are living through at the moment. People working remotely and educating their children at home and not being able to see family and friends.

But we must thank all those who are helping us get through this. Namely the Coop, Deli, Londis and the Pharmacy and also the Community Centre volunteers who are offering to shop and collect prescriptions, if necessary, to those who are shielding. And we must also thank our wonderful NHS staff, dustmen, postmen and delivery drivers. I go outside every Thursday at 8pm and clap for them.

You will see that this edition is a little thinner than usual due to events being cancelled. Notably Open Gardens, the Beer Festival, Riverside, Cornbury Festival and Wilderness have all been cancelled and we are waiting to hear about Street Fair. We will all have to support

them all next year to make up for revenues lost.

Barbara Allison has collated some articles on Living With Lockdown, which you can read on page 6. And there will be a virtual Garden Society Annual Show—details on page 29.

The Town Council elections have been postponed for a year, along with those for a District Council and the Crime and Police Commissioner.

I have been walking each day (if its not raining) which is something new to me! And doing jigsaw puzzles! You can collect them from the Community Centre, and then take back once done! Something to do.

And thanks to Richard Fairhurst for the Charlbury Website keeping us all updated during this time. We are extremely lucky!

Take care and stay safe.

*Susanna Finch*

**Please note the deadline for articles for the Autumn issue is 1st August 2020  
Please send all articles to [editor.chronicle@outlook.com](mailto:editor.chronicle@outlook.com)**



## Corner House News

The Corner House and Memorial Hall will remain closed until it is safe for people to congregate again. The buildings were donated to the town for use by the inhabitants of Charlbury for (1) Meetings, lectures and classes, and (2) Other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

Over the years, the Memorial Hall continues to fulfil the wish of the original donors providing a very useful venue hosting a great variety of events. Soon, thanks to a contribution from the Beer Festival, improvements to the audio systems in the hall should make public meetings much easier to follow.

Meanwhile, our much-loved Corner House is generally under-utilized and that must be at least in part because the arrangements in the building are no longer what people expect these days. The place clearly needs some radical improvements, whilst fully respecting the attractive character of the building.

Charlbury Southill Solar farm is committed to supporting improvements to Corner House energy-efficiency. Those improvements are expected to include better insulation and other improvements which will help make the rooms more

attractive and comfortable to use. They should also help demonstrate what can be done for the sort of old buildings which dominate much of the centre of our town.

The Morris Room on the first floor is a good space but many find the existing staircase a serious access hurdle. To attend to that, there is a plan to replace that with a new set of easy-to-climb modern stairs, and also to provide a lift to the first floor. That plan, if implemented, would also open up the entrance foyer transforming the welcome and circulation.

Other ideas have come forward that could help restore the Corner House as a vibrant part of the centre of the town.

Change to the legal structure converting the Corner House and Memorial Hall from its present charity status to a Charitable Incorporated Organization could help ensure a better framework to steer the projects forward. There is scope to bring more skills into the trustee structure and the existing committee would like to hear from Charlbury people interested in joining the new group.

*roy@royscott.uk*

### CORNER HOUSE AND MEMORIAL HALL

Office: 01608 810879

Office hours: Mon 9.30am - 11.30am; Wed & Sat: 9am to 12 noon  
(closed first Saturday of every month)

Emergency Contact:  
Roy Scott (01608 810562)



## Museum News

### Help us record an extraordinary year

2020 has not turned out to be the year we were expecting. Far from welcoming you to the museum to view the wagon and remember the end of the Second World War 75 years ago, here we are (at the time of writing) in lockdown, the museum closed, largely confined to our homes, and with the future very uncertain.

Over the last few months, our lives have changed in ways we could not have imagined. We in the museum are anxious to record for future generations the impact of the lockdown on Charlbury.

We'd like to hear from you with your photographs and information about community schemes such as the Bring & Take at the Community Centre, the veg box scheme, and the volunteers who are ensuring that vulnerable residents are supplied not just with food and medicine but also company in isolation.

We want to record the contribution of the many people who are keeping our town going - staff at the Co-op, at Londis and the Deli who have kept the shops open, the postmen and women who keep our letters and packages moving, the refuse collectors, the milkmen, bakers and the newspaper deliverers.

We'd also like to hear from the shops and pubs which have had to close and the many small businesses here and learn how they are faring.

And of course we must record the stories of those residents who have been putting their lives at risk working in the NHS, in local hospices and care homes and with the ambulance service. There is also the story of how modern technology has enabled many people to work from home and for us to keep in touch (after a few false starts!) through virtual meetings,

church services and online concerts and activities.

Please get in touch with your stories and photographs. We can't do this without your help. Please email us on [info@charlburymuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@charlburymuseum.org.uk)

### The History of Charlbury in ..... as many objects as it takes to get through this

Inspired by the wonderful British Museum series, we have been telling the town's story through some of the objects in the collection. We hope you have been enjoying them. There is a new object each Saturday, available on both the Charlbury website and the Charlbury Museum Facebook page.

***A huge thankyou to Richard Fairhurst and his team for all the work they do to keep the Charlbury website going – it has been absolutely invaluable during lockdown.***

All good wishes to everyone living and working in the town, stay safe and keep well.

*Judy Dod*



Quality work at an affordable price by friendly reliable tradesman

All roofing repairs and problem leaks  
Valleys repaired or renewed. Gutters cleaned, repaired or replaced. Fascia and cladding in UPVC. Repointing a speciality Slating Tiling De-moss etc

**All work guaranteed**

**Tel: 01993 868557 Mob: 07833 772080**



## Charlbury Garden Society

Like everybody else, we are mourning the loss of our events this year. The difference with horticulture is that it happens whatever the world throws at us. We may not have had a Spring Show but you only have to look around you to see how Spring has sprung.

I would like to say a few words about Peter Bridgman. Many of you will have had advice and plants from him.

He could not resist sowing seeds, taking cuttings and propagating plants in all sorts of ways. My garden holds many memories of him, as well as the anecdotes he told with each plant.

He was always interested in other gardens and gardeners and supported the Society for many years. He was a regular winner of prize cups from the Society for his varied talents from growing to arranging.

He was very happy pottering around in his garden growing exhibits for the Shows and plants to sell. We will miss him.

The Society are still offering support to members through online events and our new Facebook group. You can ask questions, post photos and video tours of your garden on here.

We have our excellent newsletter which gives up to date information about companies who are delivering plants, compost, etc as well as things happening in the area.

We will be staging a "virtual" show later in the year. Details of this will be on the CGS web pages and will feature a few, varied classes which entrants will enter by online photos. More information on this event can be found on page 29.

We are looking at broadcasting talks and information too, and as always, if you have any suggestions contact the Chair of the Society by email or telephone.

The news reports show that many more people have taken to their gardens during the lockdown and so enhancing our environment even more than usual. The hope is that they will be bitten by the gardening bug and carry on when life resumes its more usual, frantic pace.

One of the only times I completely forget about everything is when I'm in the garden. I have burnt many a cake because I have nipped out to check the greenhouse...there are few good things about lockdown but one can at least take the time to stand and stare at times.

We will keep you informed of any events and look forward to seeing you all in the flesh at some point. Good luck and good gardening.

*Nicola Morgan*

### CHRONICLE ADVERTS

The **inside back cover** is available to advertise your business.

If interested, please ring  
Graham Jowett on 01608 810666  
or email:  
*gjowett2015-  
chronicle@yahoo.co.uk*



## News from Charlbury Scout Group

Scouting exists to engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. Although the Charlbury Beavers, Cubs and Scouts aren't able to do this through face to face meetings at the moment, there is still lots going on and leaders have been working hard to ensure that our young people continue to develop their skills, knowledge and to have fun during Covid 19 lockdown.

Over the Easter weekend, despite the chilly evenings, 10 Scouts, plus some Cubs and Beavers camped away from the comfort of their usual beds in locations such as their gardens, homemade indoor dens and even a well-cushioned bath! This was part of Oxfordshire Scouts virtual Easter Camp and all participants gained a Night Away badge (usually only awarded for an overnight stay with your section).

Several of our Scouts participated in Jamboree on the Internet which is an opportunity for Scouts from across the world to interact online through talent shows, quizzes and sharing jokes. Meetings for all sections have continued via Zoom; as well as discussing issues and badge work the young people have played some games like Kim's Game, Pictionary and Scavenger Hunt to keep their observational and creative skills honed.

Within their gardens and very local area, Scouts are currently working on Naturalist and Forester badges together during these online sessions and during the week, whilst Cubs have been taking the opportunity to look at the

Communicator and Skills badges with codes and messages plus some creative, collaborative story-telling. We were delighted to invest two new Beavers on 23 April (St George being the patron saint of Scouting)! Beavers meet online too, completing their Navigator badge and playing active games.

There are lots of great resources provided by the Scouting movement for games, creative activities and challenges that can be undertaken at home, and these are free to view by anyone, even if your child is not in the Scout movement, please go to [www.scouts.org.uk/activities](http://www.scouts.org.uk/activities)

We hope to be back to face-to-face meetings as soon as possible, but in the meantime, I'd like to thank our leaders for continuing to run such imaginative and entertaining meetings for the young people despite everything else going on in the world just now. A Scout does indeed have courage in all difficulties.

*Cheryl Horsey  
Group Scout Leader*

**DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS**



**Most carpets dry within the hour**  
**Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains**  
**call**  
**GRIMEBUSTERS**

**01993 868924 01865 726983**  
**[www.grimebusters.co.uk](http://www.grimebusters.co.uk)**



## Living with Lockdown: March and April 2020

### From Barbara: realising it's serious

We were staying in Cheshire near Michael (son) and his family, when Kate (daughter in London with Italian husband) texted me late Wednesday night. *Hello...have you guys gone home yet?* I thought this was strange of her, and texted back that we were going home probably Friday or Saturday.

She then rang me straight away, and told us in no uncertain terms - **Go home!** The first signs of the seriousness of corona virus in London had appeared, the Italian health system was being overwhelmed, and as many of us older parents found, our grown up children were ringing us and telling us to go home and stay at home. What a reversal of roles!

The seriousness didn't really hit me until we returned home on Friday. I went out that evening to the Charlbury Society talk, (it was the 13<sup>th</sup> March), and saw all the chairs set out 2 metres apart. Such a strange sight.

At the Farmers Market the next morning, we were all keeping our distance. The next week is a bit of a blur now, but I can remember worrying about meetings and other arrangements, and whether to cancel them. Then came Boris's Total Lockdown address on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Life was going to be very different.

### From Lee: Coffee Klatsch

Times are difficult right now, and we are all trying to keep a sense of ourselves. Helped by the fact that I like to rise early, I find it a good idea to keep the same routine: I make my bed, shower, put on my face and .... then what? (Pause for a little stanza,

"Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far awaaaay; now it seems as though they're here to staaay.")

Well, here in Sandford Rise some of us meet at around 11 am for our daily coffee party. Around six of us haul our chairs and mugs of coffee outside and sit around, two or three in their gardens, a couple of others on the pavement and at least one in the middle of the road. We started off with two metres between us, but after speaking with Professor Sian Griffiths on Oxford Radio, we have now changed it to three (NB she thought it was a brilliant idea).

We meet, we talk, we drink our coffee, put the world to rights, complain about our leaders and have a good laugh. Sometimes we bring along a bagful of books for people to rummage through; at other times we hear about good works done by others or their families to help those in these stressful times. Then we go back to our own homes and lonely tasks-- yet again sanitising our kitchen surfaces, cleaning the bathroom floor or trying to get through to our Banks on the computer. We are lucky to live in a cul-de-sac and don't have the problem of passers-by or traffic.

We find this a great way of keeping our sanity with a little sense of hilarity. The best thing is, as we are not close enough to be a 'gathering', it's perfectly legal.

### From Hugh (and Joan): still not enough time

Despite the cessation of normal activities (Church, pickleball, family visits and social events) I am still not finding time to do all the things I want or ought to do.



I am pleased to say that the Charlbury Refugee Action Group fundraising virtual Tea-party is giving me lots of work recording donations. However the garden is getting more than its usual share of attention and several trays of seedlings are now waiting to be pricked out. Our spring garden has been particularly colourful this year with Hellebores, specie crocus, anemone blanda, daffodils and now primroses and cowslips.

We are rationing ourselves to one 1000 piece jigsaw a week and are scouring our bookshelves for the books we had not got round to reading - a surprising number have come to light. We go to Waitrose once a week for a big shop for us and two neighbours, plus milk and Times from the Co-op on Saturdays. We have a walk each day up to Centenary Wood or round past Cornbury but weeding the garden is our main exercise. We are slowly learning to do Zoom and Skype and I guess we will do some meetings differently in future.

### **From Amanda: re-roofing the Talbot**

My much-anticipated re-roofing of the Talbot has coincided with the 'Covid-19 lockdown and what splendid isolation it has been up on the scaffolding, chatting to passers-by on their daily constitutionals. With the dark side to Coronavirus hidden behind the beautiful Spring days, I'm thankful to have such a special distraction during these unusual times and am terribly grateful for Charlbury's warm welcome and words of cheer and support.

Having the opportunity to get to know the dear old roof with its gnarled cruck beams and 550 years' worth of stories, I've appreciated the origins of the traditional craftsmanship of Stonesfield slate roofing. Is it a 'short bachelor', long wivutt or possibly a 'short cutting'? Just a few of the thirty odd names given to the various lengths of tile. In the absence of generic measurement we use the slaters' stick to help the process along.

Oddly the quiet that has now descended (other than the ever-chattering birds) seems to befit the building as if it were to

say 'these days liken much more to the days of my youth than of recent decades'.

Believed to date back to around 1450, the Talbot has lived through many a pandemic amongst other life changing events, although luckily it missed the 'Black Death' by 100 or so years...oh the luck of youth. If only it could speak of the tales it holds in its now crumbly misshapen and aged form. I very much look forward to living in this beautiful building, even if beauty is in the eye of the beholder!

### **From Kathryn & Steve: At home with two kids and grandma...**

'Where am I going tomorrow?' Our three year old asks us this most evenings - she's used to us saying 'it's a nursery day', 'it's preschool' 'it's Friday with mummy' or 'it's the weekend'. Now the answer is always the same 'we're staying at home'. Both Steven and I are keyworkers so Charlbury School and Little Monkeys are making available provision to help us through this time, which is much appreciated. Our eldest, aged 7, thinks this is a great wheeze since he discovered that the school's keyworker scheme allows him to play on the computer. Our youngest is mostly at home so gets to monopolise Grandma all day.

On days when we're at home we're trying to have some structure in the day - some exercise early on, maybe PE with Joe, or similar, then a mixture of TV time and activities.

We've also spent a week being 'on holiday' at home, including a night camping out for a Beaver's badge, and lots of planting of vegetables and hiding in the garden den. All throughout we have Grandma (my mother-in-law) staying as she is between house moves (aged 78), and in a relatively small house we're really feeling each other's presence.

But we're lucky - we have a garden, a quiet road to play in, with super

neighbours and lots of nice walks and bike rides for our time outside. And the Co-op, the Deli and Deep's sourdough have all been terrific.

I appreciate more the delights of living here, moving through spring towards summer, the quieter roads and skies.... except on Thursdays when Wychwood Paddocks has banging pans, hooting bugles and determined applause for the NHS. Robin was in the JR last September with pneumonia, so it means a lot to us. Last week he got very enthusiastic banging a pan, & broke the wooden salad server he was using as a drum stick!

### **Seen and heard around Charlbury**

Song thrush and chaff chaff in Centenary Wood; a mistle thrush and a cuckoo early one morning

White anemones in the hedge rows –but not as many as last year. English bluebells on Nine Acres and too many Spanish ones in my garden! Primroses in the cemetery and now, cow parsley and cowslips everywhere.

'It is so quiet now with such little traffic. Look, I can walk down the middle of the road!'

'Do you know where I can get some eggs? I haven't had one for weeks. I don't eat many but I just fancy one now'

'We do most of our work round the farms now, and in the Wildlife Park' *'Oh be careful around the animals! Did you read about the tiger in a zoo in America that got Covid19?'* 'Well we don't have to shake its hand!'

### **From the O'Reilly Family: Jody (Heritage Consultant), Shamus (Publishing), Jack (9), and Megan (7).**

We are healthy and well, and so fortunate to be living in Charlbury, where we can safely get out for walks, bike rides and into our garden and allotment; the good weather has helped keep us cheerful. We have elderly relatives further away, and it is frustrating not to be able to help in person. We've spoken frankly to the children and they

understand that their grandparents (and others) need to be looked after carefully, though if we run into a family in town they're not very good at keeping their distance. On all fronts, thank goodness for fast Wi-Fi and video calls.

Both Shamus and I can work from home—having our children around as distracted junior colleagues is occasionally difficult for everyone; we feel like we are not excelling at simultaneous work and home-school cover. My work has continued but it's now slowed to the extent that I too will be furloughed at the end of this month. Shamus' work is desk based but all his travel for conferences has ceased. Jack likes being at home – except when he has school work with his toys right there! Megan says that we are not as good as her teachers, but it's quieter at home. Both of them think lunches at home are better, they miss their friends but are mostly getting on well, which is a considerable relief to us... now wash your hands!

### **From Linda: 'A Bear upon', with thanks to A.A. Milne**

A Bear upon a window sill  
Grows tubby. It's the keeping still,  
When normally of course he'd be  
Mowing the lawn, or up a tree  
Pursuing bees, or picking plums,  
Or writing pomes, or humming hums.

But do not think he minds! His task  
Is all a worthy Bear could ask.  
A sense of purpose swells his heart  
Each time his shift begins. His art  
Is to beguile the passers-by,  
To make them cry, "Oh me! Oh my!  
Look at that most delightful Bear  
Upon the window sill up there!"

So while coronavirus rages  
Round the world and through these  
pages, Bear is at work to make us smile  
Each time we pass his domicile.  
What if he's gained an ounce or two  
around his middle? So would you.

*Barbara Allison With many thanks to  
friends and neighbours for their  
contributions*

# PELLMANS

## Your Local Solicitors

- **Business and Employment Law**

Contracts, Legal Compliance  
and Disputes

- **Property**

Residential, Commercial  
and Agricultural

- **Wills, Probate and Trusts**

Tax Planning and Lasting  
Powers of Attorney

**01865 884400**

**[www.pellmans.co.uk](http://www.pellmans.co.uk)**

**1 Abbey Street, Eynsham, Oxford OX29 4TB**

*Home visits and evening appointments available*

# BLENHEIM TAXIS

Local/National      Airport Transfers

Airport specialists

Complimentary Wi-Fi

**Charlbury based**

**07773 000 444**

[www.blenheimtaxis.com](http://www.blenheimtaxis.com)

email: [enquiries@blenheimtaxis.com](mailto:enquiries@blenheimtaxis.com)

All major credit cards accepted

Corporate accounts welcomed

# Private Client Lawyers

## for you and your family

*"An outstanding niche private client firm...its practitioners are recommended as experts in their field, providing high-quality advice...its client service is second to none and every client is valued equally and treated with sensitivity and genuine compassion."*



We provide expert advice from Wills, trust, charity and tax Solicitors and advisors. Whilst inheritance tax is an issue for most of our clients, we are also experts in advising on other potential threats to the family and its wealth, such as mental incapacity and divorce of children. We are exceptionally sensitive to clients' needs and take the time to understand their individual circumstances and priorities. As a result, our clients benefit from technically outstanding, bespoke advice which is explained clearly and in a straightforward manner. This allows clients to put in place the best arrangements for themselves and their families.

To help you review your current position we are happy to provide a free, no obligation one-hour consultation.



**Anna Burnside** PARTNER  
anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com



**Edward James** SENIOR SOLICITOR  
edward.james@theburnsidepartnership.com

For further information, please contact:  
[info@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:info@theburnsidepartnership.com)



The Carpenters' Workshop, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxfordshire OX29 8ET  
T 01865 987 781 E [info@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:info@theburnsidepartnership.com) W [www.theburnsidepartnership.com](http://www.theburnsidepartnership.com)

FOLLOW US ON:



### Low-High Impact, Mixed Abilities

Dance-inspired exercises to music to strengthen your cardiovascular system, tone your body, develop flexibility, co-ordination and balance, because exercise should be fun

### Charlbury Methodist Church Hall

**Mon & Wed 7-8pm, Tue 10.15-11.15am**

(classes suspended temporarily during social-distancing restrictions)

### **\*\*NEW LIVE-STREAMED CLASSES\*\***

**Louise Barnes—07879 685579**

**[123dancercise@gmail.com](mailto:123dancercise@gmail.com)**



Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs)  
Personal Trainer, Specialist Exercise Instructor  
(Exercise Referral, Back Pain and Postural Stability).



## Charlbury Beer & Wine Circle

We too have had to cancel all our planned events for the summer, although we believe one or two members continue to drink beer and wine during the lockdown!

As things stand our next meeting would be the AGM in September and we hope to have a full programme in place for 2020-2021. Meetings are usually on the third Monday of the month in the War Memorial Hall at 7.30pm and new members are always welcome. Subscriptions for the year are just £10 and subsidise our tastings. In the meantime continue to enjoy your favourite tittle and stay safe.

For more information please contact:  
[charlburywineandbeercircle@gmail.com](mailto:charlburywineandbeercircle@gmail.com)



## Charlbury Cricket Club

Like all cricket clubs across the land, the game has come to a halt. The irony, of course, has been that the Spring weather here in Charlbury was full of sunshine, perfect for getting the grounds ready and ideal for playing conditions. But we are in lockdown, guided by the measures to combat Corvid 19 and the English Cricket Board's stipulation to cease all activity, including training, until further notice.

The outdoor season in this country is short enough – barely five months – and there is now a distinct possibility that not a ball will be bowled because of the necessary measure to continue with "social distancing" for a prolonged period. There are times at Charlbury when four teams gather for matches on both our two playing fields and it would be inconceivable that we would be able to stick to the guidance.

The emergency is a much more serious matter and, as a club, we would like to share our condolences to all those who have been affected by the disease. At some stage, however, our beloved game will resume and I'm sure that all our members, men, women, boys and girls, will have the patience and desire to look forward to the day when cricket in Charlbury can return to normal.

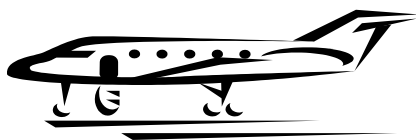
*David Horne, vice chairman*



Not just framers ~ what will you discover ?



Market St ~ Charlbury ~ OX7 3PL ~ 01608 811805  
www.cotswoldframes.co.uk ~ info@cotswoldframes.co.uk



## AIRPORT TRANSFERS WITNEY SHUTTLE

**WE PROVIDE DIRECT  
TRANSFERS FROM  
CHARLBURY TO HEATHROW  
(and other airports & cruise  
terminals etc).**

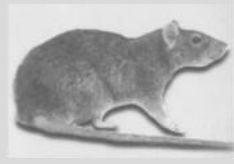
**WE ARE PROFESSIONAL,  
FRIENDLY & EXTREMELY  
RELIABLE.**

**INFO@WITNEYSHUTTLE.COM  
01993 705993  
FREEPHONE: 0800 043 4633**



**Are you  
troubled by:**

**Rats  
Mice  
Moles  
Wasps etc ?**



**Then please call**

**07810 290218**

**Fully Qualified and Insured**



## All Together In Charlbury – a local helping hand

### Reduction of ATIC services during the coronavirus lockdown period

In the light of informed information and advice available from the Government and a range of agencies in the care and voluntary sector All Together In Charlbury (ATIC) has very much regretted that we have been unable to provide transport to appointments of any kind during the period of lockdown. We have also been unable to offer any of our other services which involve contact with "clients".

As caring people who have set up ATIC in order to help others, it goes against our nature to have had to say this - but it is clear that nationally voluntary transport schemes have not been considered to be safe to continue to run either for their volunteer drivers or for any potential passengers.

ATIC will of course aim to resume "normal service" again as soon as we safely can. Please keep an eye on our page in the Community section (Charities and World) of the Charlbury website for any updates, as and when the lockdown

begins to be eased.

In the meantime we are working with Churches Together In Charlbury to organise the Friendly Phone Call service, which aims to provide a friendly voice on the other end of the phone, so that people can help each other keep their spirits up while the social distancing measures are in place.

Our own befrienders are continuing to keep in touch by phone with the people they have been visiting before the lockdown.

Prompted by a couple of recent enquiries, we are also available to try to help people access information about statutory or voluntary or other services, if they don't know where to start.

Our contact number during the lockdown is 07487 413892.

*Meryl Smith*

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

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

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

Email: [burroughs871@btinternet.com](mailto:burroughs871@btinternet.com)  
tel: 07969 208518, 01608 810260

### **CHRONICLE ADVERTS**

Advertise your business in the **Charlbury Chronicle** and reach over 1550 residences.

To place an advert please ring Graham Jowett on 01608 810666 or email: [gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

---

## Charlbury Society

---

Like most if not all organisations in Charlbury, the coronavirus outbreak has brought our activities to a stop.

And we had been in the midst of a very interesting programme of lectures.

In February Dr Alice Prochaska came to tell us about the women's colleges at Oxford. Alice lives in Charlbury, and was formerly Principal of Somerville College, Oxford, so she has extensive knowledge of her subject.

And it showed, for we learned of the first schools for girls which appeared in the 1840s, through to the 1876 act of Parliament which allowed women to enter universities, and then on into the development of women's colleges into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Along the way we heard of the well-known women who benefited from this, and wondered about the potential loss to the nation if they had continued being prevented from reaching their potential.

Our March talk was on the 13<sup>th</sup>, and the pandemic was on its way, but we decided to go ahead, although we did space the chairs in the Memorial Hall out as a precaution.

A large crowd gathered to hear Dr. John Blair, Professor of Medieval History and Archaeology at Oxford, speak to us on 'Anglo-Saxon Wychwood, new thoughts and new discoveries'.

Dr. Blair has an encyclopaedic knowledge of ancient Wychwood, and as the area is right on our doorstep there was a lot of interest in what he had to say. He took

us on a tour of a large number of archaeological sites in the forest, pointing out the remains that survive.

Little did we know that we were attending our last talk for the foreseeable future. We have had to cancel for the time being our two remaining talks for the season, on Sir Henry Lee and Ditchley, and the man who loved Charlotte Bronte. We hope the speakers will be back at some time.

We have also postponed our planned outings to Ditchley Park and Owlpen Manor. We look forward to better times when we can do these.

We are due to meet again for our winter lecture season in October, but as I write we have no idea if these can go ahead. Do look out for our notices around the town, and on the web site, for we have some very good speakers lined up.

Note too that when we do meet again, it will be on the first Thursday of the month. After looking at room bookings in Charlbury we have decided that Fridays clash with too many other events, while Thursdays are fairly quiet.

There has been some positive feedback so we are hopeful that more people will take the opportunity to join us for some excellent talks.

We hope that our very popular talks and outings are a part of Charlbury life again before too long. Meanwhile, we wish all members and friends the very best in these difficult times.

*Peter Bennett  
Chairman & Treasurer*

## Charlbury Day Centre

As we all know the Day Centre has been closed for 7 weeks now!!!

We have organised that the members still have a hot two course meal taken to them every Wednesday lunchtime, which is done by the Volunteer Helpers at the Day Centre, and has proved a great success!! I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of the members to say a great big thank you to every one concerned from the shoppers to the cooks to the delivery drivers, it is a great effort by everyone weekly and as ever the food is fantastic!!!

I talk to all of the members weekly, and I have to say I am amazed at the positive attitude they all have in these really difficult times.

Personally, I have never known anything quite like this ever in my lifetime, and some do remind me that of course, that they have lived through a War!!

It is quite clear that Charlbury has a great community spirit, everyone is helping everyone, whether its prescriptions, telephone calls or a bit of

shopping, or such like, all very organised, which helps takes some of the worries away for the members.

I am often being asked when can we all get back together again; obviously nobody knows the answer to that, but rest assured when we know, everyone will be told.

It will be lovely to see everyone again and after a couple of weeks of settling back in, the idea is to have a Celebration Party, with a good old sing song, so I'm busy sorting out the music, and I know some of the members are practising something to show us all, so lots to look forward to!!

We are blessed with fantastic weather at the moment most of the time, thank goodness, thinking back to previous years March/April could be very wet and cold, so I think the sunshine really helps, fingers crossed that it continues!!

Keep fit and well, and Stay Safe,

*Karen. Day Centre Coordinator.*



*Members at the Day Centre*





Dear Corners

Thank you for bearing with us in these uncertain times—we were hoping circumstances might change, but we’ve now bowed to the inevitable and are very sad to announce the postponement of this year’s festival.

We are delighted to have secured dates for next summer at Great Tew—9th, 10th & 11th July, and we’ll repeat most of the same line-up along with some new names and special guests.

Your tickets remain valid for 2021 and we would greatly appreciate it if you are able to defer your booking to next Summer’s event. This will help us enormously to support our ongoing costs and longstanding loyal team, who will no doubt need our help during what may well turn out to be a very difficult summer. All ticket holders will be contacted by our ticketing partner, Eventim.

We can’t wait to deliver to you another wonderful weekend in 2021 and trust you’ll all remain safe and healthy in the meantime.

Best wishes

Hugh and the Cornbury Team



# THE THEATRE CHIPPING NORTON

We are blessed in this area with a small but fabulous professional theatre offering a huge variety of performances, films, screenings and exhibitions, as well as a fantastic community and education programme for people of all ages.

For many, a visit to the panto at Chipping Norton Theatre is the highlight of Christmas, and at this point in the calendar the building should be buzzing with casting, creative work and ticket sales.

Instead, The Theatre is, for the moment, a rather sad and very quiet place. We have, at most, a single member of staff working from what is now a dark and slightly chilly building. Most of the theatre staff have been furloughed and a skeleton staff of part-time workers remain to keep the organisation running for the rest of the closure. Panto hopefuls are auditioning for Rapunzel by video, the script is being reviewed behind the Artistic Director's closed front door. The box office has found a temporary home in the front rooms and studies of the box office team (you can still call them on 01608 642350 or visit our website [www.chippingnortontheatre.com](http://www.chippingnortontheatre.com) to book tickets!).

As we progress through the coming months, we hope to be able to share creative content and ideas with our audience via email and social media to keep spirits up and are launching a brand new play writing scheme 'Speak as One', inviting members of the public to write short monologues or duologues for the voice, and to submit their completed scripts to The Theatre. A team of script-readers will select the best entries to be recorded and released professionally, with the resulting audio podcasts available online via The Theatre's website and social media. To help introduce participants to the process of writing audio drama, we will be releasing some

special resources presented by a range of industry experts.

We are obviously doing everything we can to keep The Theatre's head above the water by reducing our outgoings until we are allowed to reopen. We are making as many savings as we can, none-the-less, every month we are closed costs The Theatre £20,000 and eats into our modest reserves.

A huge number of people have responded generously to our 'Head Above Water Campaign', helping us to stay afloat until better times. At the time of writing the fund stands at over £50,000 and the stream of messages in support of The Theatre has been moving and encouraging.

We are applying for Arts Council Emergency funding, and are pleased to have received the higher level (£25,000) corona virus business grant from WODC in addition to their usual annual funding.

But even with this support our future is tricky; a closure beyond panto season would have a significant impact on our finances, taking us into a forecast deficit of over £200,000; and yet we fully appreciate the role we must play in supporting the current restrictions to bring down the spread of disease and avoid a second spike, and would not seek an early end to restrictions on economic grounds alone.

We would therefore be very grateful if you felt able to support our Head above Water campaign:  
[www.chippingnortontheatre.com/head-above-water](http://www.chippingnortontheatre.com/head-above-water)

Thank you

*Helen Datson*  
*Head of Fundraising*  
[hdatson@chippingnortontheatre.com](mailto:hdatson@chippingnortontheatre.com)



All types of tree work  
carried out including  
stump removal &  
hedge cutting.

Contact us today  
for a free quote  
NPTC Qualified & fully insured.

📧 [kptreecare.co.uk](http://kptreecare.co.uk)  
✉ [kptreecare@outlook.com](mailto:kptreecare@outlook.com)  
☎ 07788 289344  
📞 01993 891526

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters



**Hook Norton**  
Veterinary Group

**Hook Norton Hospital**  
T: 01608 730085

**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU, WE ARE OPEN**

Our Hook Norton Hospital is open, however, all branches are closed until further notice due to COVID-19. Please visit our website for up-to-date information regarding services & COVID-19.

Our Equine & Small Animal Teams are able to provide telephone and video consultations. We can post, and where appropriate, deliver medications\*.

Our Farm Team is still working to provide veterinary care for our farm clients, including TB testing.

\*T&Cs apply.  
See our website for more details.

[www.hooknortonvets.co.uk](http://www.hooknortonvets.co.uk)  
**24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE**



## Pickleball

When the Charlbury Community Centre opened in September 2017, Charlbury Pickleball was one of several clubs that set roots at the centre though no one imagined just how much Charlbury would embrace this little known sport.

Since its start and up until lockdown, the club had amazingly grown to running four two hour sessions every week with a core membership of around 40 to 50 players, many of whom regularly attended two or more sessions per week.

In fact, Pickleball is the most played sport at the centre if not in all of Charlbury! For those who haven't heard of Pickleball, it is a relatively low impact racket sport played on a badminton sized court with a hitting action much as tennis and is often described as a mix of tennis, badminton and table tennis.

Most of those who have tried it have been hooked by how easy it is to learn to

play but it can also be a good workout for anyone looking for a challenge. It is incredibly age friendly with many members able to play Pickleball at a stage in their lives when they would not be able to handle say tennis or badminton. But an even bigger appeal is it's just great fun! There is also a very big off court social side to the club with frequent get togethers and outings during the year.

Obviously, with the country in lockdown and a fairly uncertain future in so far as how life will change in the next few months, the club has suspended all activities for now. However, we are looking ahead to continuing as soon as possible and have updated the courts with new nets and other equipment and plan to further extend session times.

If you would like any further information about Pickleball or the club, details are available through our website [www.dinkanddrive.co.uk/charlbury-pickleball](http://www.dinkanddrive.co.uk/charlbury-pickleball) or please feel free to contact Vijay on 01993 891043 or email [vijaysmobile@gmail.com](mailto:vijaysmobile@gmail.com).

But for now, we wish all of you all the best of health and hope you take care and stay safe.



## Charlbury Street Fair

This year we currently do not know how the COVID-19 national emergency will evolve, and what the situation will be concerning events like the Street Fair.

Nevertheless, the optimists as we are, are still progressing with arrangements until circumstances and deadlines help us to make the decisions as to whether to proceed or not. This is indeed what happened with the March Quiz Night where we had too few bookings to make it worthwhile.

As a reminder, the theme chosen is "Charlbury 2020 - aligning with the Climate Emergency as declared by the Town Council.

For up-to-date information, see [www.charlbury.info](http://www.charlbury.info) and [www.charlburystreetfair.org](http://www.charlburystreetfair.org)

To contact me by email please use [csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org](mailto:csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org).

*John Dora, Chair, CSF Committee.*



# Coffee break page

Compiled by Pat Court

All about birds!

We are all spending time in our gardens at the moment and noticing the birds more than ever; and how lovely it is to see them. Two quizzes – both about birds.

1. Batman's partner
2. Collectively known as an unkindness or a conspiracy
3. A young one is called a squab
4. Gulp?
5. Angry William?
6. John Keats poem that begins "My heart aches and a drowsy numbness pains my sense" is an ode to which bird
7. Boast?
8. Which bird of prey has the country name of "Windhover"
9. He designed St Paul's Cathedral
10. A royal angler?
11. This bird features on the RSPB logo
12. Is our Editor feeling slightly off colour?
13. This bird has a tendency to steal shiny objects
14. Which bird's scientific name *Apus Apus* is derived from the Greek meaning "without feet"
15. Chaucer described this bird as "full of treachery"
16. Folk lore says you should doff your hat when you see this bird
17. The male of this bird has a blue base to its beak and the female has a pink base
18. This bird features on the badge of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club
19. 2 under Par
20. A regular activity done for enjoyment

## birds

O	I	H	C	N	I	F	F	A	H	C	C	S	W
C	V	S	B	O	S	H	E	H	R	L	E	W	O
N	W	W	L	A	O	P	I	L	R	L	A	A	W
O	R	I	A	N	K	K	A	W	P	E	C	L	O
A	O	F	C	A	C	E	C	R	C	L	W	L	T
F	O	T	K	N	H	O	U	U	R	D	U	O	E
I	K	W	B	I	H	E	V	N	C	O	I	W	R
E	N	K	I	E	W	V	R	W	E	V	W	E	G
L	I	C	R	T	R	W	A	O	L	E	V	W	E
D	B	O	D	I	K	O	B	C	N	N	L	I	I
F	O	N	W	K	N	R	A	V	E	N	N	O	O
A	R	N	O	T	A	T	H	R	U	S	H	T	K
R	E	U	K	W	S	I	W	K	L	A	R	K	U
E	C	D	V	A	L	T	P	I	G	E	O	N	U

DUNNOCK  
SPARROW  
KITE  
RAVEN  
CUCKOO  
PIGEON  
DOVE  
ROOK  
EGRET  
OWL  
WREN  
SWIFT  
SWALLOW  
CHAFFINCH  
ROBIN  
BLACKBIRD  
HERON  
FIELDFARE  
LARK  
THRUSH

Answers on page 38



## CHARLBURY Community Centre

### News from Charlbury Community Centre

As you can imagine, our activities over the past few months have completely changed. The Community Centre was quick to offer its services as a hub for the Coronavirus aid programme in Charlbury. Our staff have stopped doing their normal jobs and switched over to answering phone calls, streaming exercise sessions and organising a huge rota of volunteers to help people who are in self-isolation. We are delighted with the response from the community, with over 200 people volunteering their services to help the vulnerable and elderly. At time of writing we are regularly helping 103 households with shopping, collection of prescriptions and a range of other help upon request.

#### **Helping Charlbury to stay fit**

Jason, with much technical help from his son Jamie and Paul Jenkins, is offering a variety of online classes each week to help keep our community fit. Jason is also offering online Personal Training and gym sessions—to book these, please email [info@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk](mailto:info@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk). We ask for a contribution of £5 per household for Circuits and £3 for Line Dancing—but for those who are struggling financially they need only let us know and we'll waive the fee. We are also encouraging people to continue paying their gym standing orders to help support us and if you do this, all classes are free. The following sessions are on offer each week:

- Tuesdays, 12-1pm – Line Dancing (for regulars)
- Wednesdays, 9-10am – Lean Gym, a circuits class
- Thursdays, 6.30-7.30pm – Super Circuits
- Fridays, 12-1pm – Line Dancing (for beginners)
- Sundays, 10-11am – Sunday Family Circuits
- One-to-one "Motivational Gym" sessions and personal training sessions are also available with Jason

The links to these classes and further instructions about how to take part are on our website and are also emailed out each week to people on our mailing list. More classes may be offered as time goes on.

On our website you can also find a link to a Strength and Balance session, run at the Community Centre by Louise Barnes through Age UK. You can watch and follow this session for some gentle exercise.

#### **Other things happening at Charlbury Community Centre**

- A Give and Take scheme for everyone in our community. This 'pop-up' foodbank is set up in the Community Centre lobby and is accessible from 9am -5pm every day. Donations of food and essential items as well as monetary contributions are welcome. Please contact Betsy Glasgow [bglasgow@theridgegroup.com](mailto:bglasgow@theridgegroup.com) or the community centre for more information.

- Puzzle swap. People are donating jigsaw puzzles for adults and our volunteers will take them to people who want to borrow one – or you can arrange to pick one up yourself from the lobby.
- Coffee morning. In an attempt to recreate some of the social benefits of our popular Friday morning Coffee Club, we will take a coffee and small cake to people and arrange a phone chat at the same time.
- Twice weekly sales of Deep's sourdough bread, baked in Charlbury (Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm until sold out)
- Deliveries of fresh vegetable boxes from Styan's farm. (Saturday afternoons)
- Codfather Fish and Chip van (Sundays 4.30-8.30pm)
- Friday Fish and Chip van (Fridays 5-8.30pm)
- Thai to Go is offering take away deliveries in Charlbury on Wednesdays. Contact them on 07971 345106 to order.

Further information about all these schemes is on our website:  
[www.charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk)

In the meantime the Thomas Gifford Trust has been looking at how we can make ends meet in these tricky times and applying for grants, charity and government aid wherever possible.

We hope you all stay safe and well. We are heartened by the support of all our fantastic volunteers and the amazing community spirit being shown in so many ways. Please look after your neighbours, and spread the word about how people can get help. We look forward to seeing you all at the Community Centre again when everything is back to normal.

*Tanya Stevenson  
 Charlbury Community Centre*



Christine Elliott, organiser of the weekly veg box scheme

## **Salon Copenhagen**

3 Pendle Court, Pond Hill, Stonesfield OX29  
 8PZ

Telephone (01993) 891101

### **Unisex hairdressing & Nail Bar**

**Easy Free Parking**

***All aspects of hairdressing undertaken  
 by our experienced professionally  
 trained stylists***

***Our Nail Bar offers OPI Manicure,***

***Pedicure & Gelish Polish***

***Ear Piercing also available***

***Open Tuesday to Saturday***

***Find us on Facebook***



Food has been keeping me going physically and mentally through this lock-down and I've been so pleased that I've been able to help the people of Charlbury get a good supply of fresh veg straight from local growers.

Organising the Styan veg box collection on a Saturday afternoon so that 100 families could collect their food safely was an interesting challenge and it seems to have worked well. The original idea came from Nikki Rycroft and Janet Burroughs arranged it with the Styan family from the Vale of Evesham who regularly come to our Farmers Market. Liz Styan is thrilled that Charlbury stepped up to help them find new customers after they lost their pub and restaurant trade. Turns out we are now their biggest drop-off after Kings Heath in Birmingham which is a long-established market, so well done Charlbury! See the event advert on [www.charlbury.info](http://www.charlbury.info) for links to place an order.

I am also fortunate that I co-founded The Kitchen Garden People four years ago with Emma Mills and Dan Betterton and have therefore been allowed to get out of the house and help produce food and deliver it to our members. I can't tell you how lucky I have felt going up to Honeydale Farm just above Ascot-u-Wychwood with its views over the Evenlode, where we are part of the new FarmED venture. I've also been picking asparagus every other day throughout May at our original Chadlington Kitchen Garden—a welcome "chore" these days. We grow following organic methods and we operate as a CSA – Community Supported Agriculture—where our members pay a fixed amount each month and receive an equal share of whatever we produce each week throughout the year. See our website [www.thekitchengardenpeople.org](http://www.thekitchengardenpeople.org) to find out more.

Fresh fruit and vegetables are an essential part of a healthy diet and help our gut bacteria keep us happy. Living under lock-down has changed our lives so much—some people have really taken to cooking, but this can be very difficult when you are living alone – and even I recognise that I don't feel like cooking if it's just for me.

Fortunately I'm not on my own and so I am happily cooking vegetarian meals every day. I would be really happy to cook some extra for anyone living alone who is finding cooking for themselves difficult, so please contact me (01608 811057).

I have had fun posting to the new CharlburyCAN Instagram site launched to make up for the cancellation of the Food Festival in April. Have a look to find out my favourite recipes [www.instagram.com/charlburycan/](http://www.instagram.com/charlburycan/) and share your own with #charlburyCANcook etc.

The apple blossom has been magnificent this year and if there has been good pollination then we could be facing the prospect of a bumper apple harvest. But, with lock-down restrictions and social distancing I just can't imagine how I can pick and distribute apples this year.

Picking is a solitary occupation so as long as the owners let me pick then I will have apples to give away, but the bun fight Big Apple Take-Aways just won't work at all! I've been trying to work out what we can do but haven't thought of a good safe solution yet.

So, I would like to share this challenge with the rest of Charlbury—if you have any suggestions please contact me:

[christine.elliott@ghostwind.com](mailto:christine.elliott@ghostwind.com) Christine Elliott, Charlbury Green Hub





## Friendly Phone Calls to combat the “lockdown blues”!

Would you like to be part of a scheme to help Charlbury residents keep their spirits up while social distancing is in place?

Our new local Phone Call service is a way of continuing the idea of having a chat with neighbours over the fence, on the doorstep or out and about round the town, while we all have to stay in our homes as much as possible.

The service is being organised by All Together In Charlbury (ATIC) and Churches Together in Charlbury (CTC)

If you would like to share a friendly phone call every so often, we can pair you up with someone else in the town who is interested in the idea. Call us on **07487 413892** and give your name and number.

If you think someone else might like to share a call, you should first get that person's permission and give the person's name and phone number and your name and phone number when calling **07487 413892**.

*Meryl Smith*

## CHRONICLE ADVERTS

Advertise your business in the **Charlbury Chronicle** and reach over 1550 residences.

To place an advert please ring Graham Jowett on 01608 810666 or email:  
[gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

RECYCLING CENTRES OPEN 18 MAY



FOR ESSENTIAL USE

## Recycling centres open on 18 May for essential use

Oxfordshire County Council will re-open Household Waste Recycling Centres on 18 May, for essential use.

Essential use means waste that cannot be stored at home, or would cause harm to health if stored.

There will be new site rules to ensure social distancing and the safety of residents and site staff.

*We are  
Open*

This includes reducing opening hours to 8am – 4pm to allow for cleaning, limiting the number and size of vehicles coming in and contactless payments only.

Queues are likely, so if it can wait, please do. If it's waste that can be disposed of legally and responsibly in another way, such as weekly kerbside collections or district council collection services, please do that.

Full information about the changes to recycling centre rules can be found on their website.

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastereopenquestions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastereopenquestions)

Goodbye  
Weeds



Prices from  
**£15** \*per quarter



With prices from as little as £15\* per quarter for providing a great service, is it any wonder that 40% of our new customers come to us through recommendation.

Hello  
Beautiful  
Lawn



So, call today for your **FREE** lawn analysis:  
**01869 345333**

\*Prices based on a lawn size up to 60m²

**Are you in pain ?**

**During the lockdown if you need advice**

**Call Charlbury Osteopaths**

Osteopaths are trained to diagnose and treat musculoskeletal pain and problems. If you are not sure about the cause of your pain and would like advice call Laura on one of the following numbers.

**Tel: 01608 811 999 or email: [info@charlburyosteopaths.co.uk](mailto:info@charlburyosteopaths.co.uk)**

**Mob: 07811 103450**

Further information on [www.charlburyosteopaths.co.uk](http://www.charlburyosteopaths.co.uk)

7 Shilson Lane, Charlbury, OX7 3PD (off Park Street)

**Although the practice is currently closed, I will do my best to help by phone, email and, if necessary, using video calling to assess and suggest suitable exercises and/or treatments for your problems.**



## Wigwell during the COVID-19 Emergency

So much has changed in the world in recent weeks and the Wigwell Friends have not been immune from this. Regrettably, it has been necessary for the Wychwood Project to suspend all working parties, including those on Wigwell, and we also had to cancel the Wigwell Friends AGM scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March.

On the up side, the permissive paths through Wigwell remain open offering wonderful opportunities for daily individual exercise and dog walking for local Charlbury residents (within government guidelines on safeguarding and social distancing of course). While the emergency is in place you should not visit the reserve (or anywhere else) as a group nor should you linger there. Nevertheless, if you are able to include a walk through the reserve as part of your individual daily exercise, keep your eyes and ears open and take a few moments to appreciate the diversity of the flora and fauna as you pass through.

Listen to the birdsong, see how many different butterfly species you can recognise and look out for bumble bees and other important pollinators. As the summer progresses notice the rich meadow flora, particularly in the eastern sections of the site. Meadow Clary (*salvia pratensis*) will be flowering in June in the field beyond the bridge over the stream but PLEASE admire this "near threatened" species from a distance!

Although future plans for Wigwell are on hold at the moment, we look forward to being able to restart work on the site when it is safe to do so, hopefully before too long. As well as increasing our monitoring and recording of species, we plan to make improvements to the permissive path by installing sections of boardwalk and steps along the route to make the path passable in wet conditions and also to protect wet spring-fed habitats. We also hope to begin limited and controlled trials allowing vegetation and scrub to develop in a few clearly defined areas with the impacts being carefully monitored. If you would like to be involved with this work when we are able to restart, we would love to hear from you and welcome you as a Wigwell Friend.

If you want to know more about the Wigwell Friends or if you see anything interesting or unusual while walking through the site, please let us know by emailing [wigwell.friends@gmail.com](mailto:wigwell.friends@gmail.com) or calling me (Peter Kenrick) on 01608 811021.

Always remember when visiting ecologically important sites like Wigwell, **"Please take nothing but pictures and leave nothing but footprints!"** Also, in these days of COVID-19 **"Please observe social distancing, respect others and Stay Safe!"**

## Thinking of people living with dementia and their carers during coronavirus lockdown

The **Alzheimer's Society** website has a lot of information aimed at supporting people living with dementia and their carers during the coronavirus situation: [www.alzheimers.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/coronavirus)

This includes:

- Information for people affected by dementia
- Activity ideas for people living with dementia
- Supporting a person living with dementia
- At home
- Living alone
- From a distance
- Who falls ill
- In hospital
- In a care home
- If a person with dementia in a care home falls ill
- FAQ and useful organisations

**Dementia UK** also have a special Coronavirus section of their website: [www.dementiauk.org/get-support/coronavirus-covid-19/](http://www.dementiauk.org/get-support/coronavirus-covid-19/)

**Dementia Oxfordshire** have increased the support they provide by telephone but have stopped home visits. They are now providing practical advice about managing the Corona virus situation as well as providing Dementia specific advice.

You can call the Dementia Oxfordshire Support Line 01865 410210 Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 pm. Also have a look at their website: [www.dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk)

### The "This is me" leaflet

At a time when we are all conscious of the possibility of someone known to us needing nursing or other care away from home, it may be worth having a look at the "This is me" leaflet.

This has been produced by the Royal College of Nursing and the Alzheimer's Society and intended to provide health and care professionals with information about a person living with dementia as an individual.

The leaflet can be found on the Alzheimer's Society website: [www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/publications-factsheets/this-is-me](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/publications-factsheets/this-is-me). Or Dementia Friendly Charlbury can provide a copy – phone Meryl Smith on 810192 or email [charlburydf@gmail.com](mailto:charlburydf@gmail.com)

"This is me" is about the person at the time the document is completed and will need to be updated as necessary. The leaflet includes the following kinds of information:

- Full name and the name I prefer to be known by.
- Where I currently live, how long I have lived there, and where I lived before.
- My home and family and my life so far: Place of birth, education, work history, travel, etc.
- Things which may worry or upset me and things which may help if I become unhappy or distressed. What usually reassures me, eg comforting words, music or TV?
- My hearing and eyesight: How do I usually communicate, eg verbally, using gestures, pointing or a mixture of both?
- My mobility: Am I fully mobile or do I need help? Do I need a walking aid?
- My eating and drinking: Do I need assistance to eat or drink? Can I use cutlery or do I prefer finger foods? Do I wear dentures to eat? My medication: Do I need help to take medication? Do I prefer to take liquid medication?

*Meryl Smith*



## Charlbury Pre-School News



## Walking with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

While we await guidance on how and when to re-open, we are missing our pre-school community and look forward to being together again. We have been trying to support our families with home learning ideas through the lockdown and are enjoying receiving pictures of the fun and imaginative activities the children have been getting up to.

We've had reports of lots of craft, cooking, nature spotting and science experiments going on, as well as updates on the bean plants that some of the children took home with them from pre-school.

We have been updating the children on what is happening in the pre-school garden (including news on the frogspawn in the pond) by emailing pictures. We have enjoyed looking for bears and rainbows in people's windows and many Charlbury Pre-School families have been participating in 'going on a bear hunt' by putting teddies in their windows too.

We're disappointed not to be taking part in the Art Week as the children had been working hard on their exhibits. Hopefully there will be an opportunity to show these off at some point. Fundraising activities are on hold for now but we will post any news on the Charlbury information website and look forward to seeing everybody soon and raising more money for our wonderful community-focused charity.

We currently have places available in September, so do get in touch via [admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk) for further information.

*Jackie Daish*

Normally at this time I would be letting you know about our walks during June, July and August. They are lovely months for walking and exploring the area not too distant from Charlbury.

As with many things, all of our warden activities are suspended. No working parties looking after the Public rights of Way or woodlands. No trimming of the grass at the Rollright Stones or care of other ancient monuments. No walks.

Some of you will have a copy of the Cotswold Lion with a list of walks but none of these will be taking place. Some of you will be looking out for a new Cotswold Lion which might have been available during June. For the period July to December all of the walk information will be online, [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk). That is also where there will be a clear indication of when we are able to start our walks again.

Walking with just one or two people in the countryside is a low hazard but when numbers are mid-teens or more social distancing can become a problem. We are following guidelines and will be delighted ourselves when we are given the all clear to resume leading guided walks.

Meanwhile please enjoy your walks in and around Charlbury helping to keep the paths well used and perhaps even reporting those places where things are not quite in such good order as you would like.

We look forward to welcoming you on one or more of our walks in the not too distant future.

*Rosemary Wilson*

**Charlbury Church Services** - These activities are subject to the latest advice from the government. Check updates on the Community pages on [www.charlbury.info](http://www.charlbury.info)



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

Contact: Secretary (01608 810107)

**Sundays** Service at 10.30 am. Fourth of each month with Methodists in Fishers Lane

**Thursdays** 7.30 pm at the church for midweek study/discussion

[charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/dyershill/](http://www.facebook.com/dyershill/)



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

St Mary's Church, Charlbury and All Saints Shorthampton

Full details of all church services are available in the Leaflet or in the Church porch

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

[www.stmaryscharlbury.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscharlbury.co.uk)



**Friends' Meeting House, Market Street**

Meeting for Worship at the Friends Meeting House

Sunday mornings 10.30am

For further details contact Sue Terry (01608 811033)  
email: [sueeterry@btinternet.com](mailto:sueeterry@btinternet.com)



**Methodist Chapel, Fishers Lane**

Sunday services at 10.30am

Further information from Gill Grason (01608 810154)



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

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

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

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

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

## St Mary's

Whilst St Mary's & All Saints are closed for all worship, we are live streaming services. The Eucharist is celebrated at 8am Sunday morning and 9am Wednesday, livestreamed on You Tube from the Vicarage. Past services can also be viewed.

The link is [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDb4SzPvqBJTn2VWS9COq\\_g?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDb4SzPvqBJTn2VWS9COq_g?view_as=subscriber)

Hymns can be seen at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU6tXRs\\_07RA-HpjJnvjW1A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU6tXRs_07RA-HpjJnvjW1A)

You are invited to join with the Christian community across the Diocese every morning at 11am and say the Lord's Prayer and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

*Loving God,*

*We pray for all those who are suffering because of the coronavirus, may they know your healing power.*

*When we are afraid for ourselves and our loved ones, give us your strength and courage.*

*When we feel alone and isolated, reassure us with a sense of your presence.*

*Give wisdom to those in authority and may our community work together for the good of all.*

*We give thanks for those who care for others and ask you to bless them in all they do.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus, healer and physician. Amen*

A willow cross has been installed in the churchyard. Members of the local community are invited to tie ribbons onto the cross as a symbol of those people and events they are praying for, or wish to remember. The ribbons will be taken down at the end of each month, so that there is space for new ones.

Thanks to the efforts of the Flower Team, St Mary's churchyard was decorated with flowers and bunting as an act of Unity, Remembrance, Respect, Commemoration and Celebration for VE Day over the Bank Holiday 8 – 10 May.



## Charlbury Garden Society

### Virtual Show

Due to the current pandemic the Charlbury Garden Society has had to cancel some of its events, including the Spring Show.

This means that the gardeners of the town were not able to show off their excellent growing skills, and we were not able to enjoy a room full of their bounty.

The solution is to go virtual, like so many other organisations. Here's how it works:

There are five categories

1. The tallest sunflower
2. The largest vegetable
3. The longest vegetable
4. The funniest/oddest shaped vegetable
5. A perfect flower

Take a full resolution photograph and send it **as an email attachment** to [showsecretary@charlburygardensociety.org.uk](mailto:showsecretary@charlburygardensociety.org.uk). The deadline is September 12<sup>th</sup>, the scheduled date of the Annual Show.

This is open to all ages. Don't forget to add any measuring devices in the photo, or state the measurements taken, plus your own name and location in the email.

While you may have to wait for the vegetables, there are flowers now that are begging to have their picture taken.

There will be no prizes, but we'll post the photos so everyone can enjoy the results.

*Kathy Broughton  
Charlbury Garden Society*



## Charlbury Town Council News

### Changes to Town Council operation during the COVID-19 crisis

In these unprecedented and difficult times the Town Council is continuing its work to support the town and community but it has been necessary to make a number of operational changes in line with government guidelines to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 outbreak and to ensure social distancing.

- *All Town Council meetings and councillor surgeries have been cancelled until further notice.* This includes the monthly planning and full council meetings as well as other committee and working group meetings. The Annual Parish Meeting (APM), originally scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> April, was also cancelled.
- *Essential day to day operations of the council are being carried out by an Emergency Committee* comprising the Chairman (Richard Fairhurst), Vice Chairman (Peter Kenrick) and the Town Clerk (Roger Clarke) in consultation with other councillors by email or telephone.
- If you have any matters for consideration by the council during the emergency you can contact the Town Clerk in the normal way via [charlburytc@btinternet.com](mailto:charlburytc@btinternet.com) or telephone 01608 810608 9am to 5pm (not weekends or Bank Holidays).

### Town Council Elections Postponed until Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

All local elections originally scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 have been postponed for a year and will now be held on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**. This includes the election of all members of Charlbury Town Council as well as elections for a West Oxfordshire District Councillor and the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner. The term of office for all current incumbents (including all town

councillors) has been extended for a year in line with this postponement. During this additional year, the current Chairman (Richard Fairhurst) and Vice Chairman (Peter Kenrick) will remain in post and councillor appointments to committees and working groups will continue unchanged.

### Community Support during the COVID-19 emergency

Wide ranging support for vulnerable members of the community and others affected by the lockdown is available in Charlbury with much of it being provided by volunteers and co-ordinated through the **Charlbury Community Centre**. For details contact the Community Centre on **01608 811878** or at [info@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk](mailto:info@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk) or see the Charlbury website ([www.charlbury.info](http://www.charlbury.info)).

**A very big THANK YOU** to all volunteers and others involved in providing this support service. We are particularly grateful to the **Thomas Gifford Trust** and the staff and volunteers of the **Charlbury Community Centre**, supported by **ATIC** (All Together in Charlbury) and **Churches Together in Charlbury**, who were able to set up the support service very rapidly at the onset of the emergency. The town council has been pleased to support the Thomas Gifford Trust in their co-ordination of the support effort.

**THANK YOU** to local shops and businesses and their staff who have been able to stay open and worked hard to keep us supplied with essentials.

**THANKS** also to the Charlbury Website ([www.charlbury.info](http://www.charlbury.info)) and its users and also to this **Charlbury Chronicle** for keeping the community informed and up to date.

We would also like to **THANK** everyone in the community for the high level of observance of the government guidelines on social distancing and for respecting



the safety and comfort of others.

Finally, we echo the nation in applauding the work and dedication of NHS staff and carers as well as refuse collectors, posties, delivery drivers and everyone else who is continuing to work in difficult circumstances to help us all through this crisis.

### **THANK YOU ALL!**

#### **Access to Town Facilities**

Sadly, most of the town's important and popular community facilities have had to be closed during the COVID-19 emergency. These include the Corner House and Memorial Hall, the Charlbury Museum, the Charlbury Community Centre and Library, the Play Areas on Nine Acres and at Ticknell Piece, the Nine Acres pavilion and hard surface (tennis courts). The open spaces at Nine Acres and the Mill Field remain open for individual daily exercise but please observe government regulations and guidelines including social distancing at all times.

#### **Allotments**

Allotment holders have been very active on their plots and we would like to congratulate them on the well-tended and productive state of most of the plots. Working on the allotments has evidently been a welcome, healthy and therapeutic activity for plot holders during the lockdown.

#### **Boundary Walk**

The annual boundary walk planned for rogation Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020 was cancelled in line with government guidelines. We hope to be able to organise this traditional event again in future years.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Following the 6-week public consultation last autumn, all of the responses have been reviewed and the draft plan has been revised in preparation for submission to West Oxfordshire District Council. Once the draft plan has been submitted, WODC must progress the plan through further stages including a further period of public consultation, examination and a referendum of voters within the parish before the plan can be adopted as

a "Made Plan". During the COVID-19 emergency, WODC is not able to carry out this work and therefore, regrettably, formal submission of the revised draft plan has been postponed.

#### **Other Matters:**

**Congratulations to Andy Pickard** on receiving the **High Sheriff of Oxfordshire's Award** in recognition of his long commitment and contributions to the community and life of Charlbury. It is largely through Andy's dedicated efforts and determination that the wonderful Riverside Festival has been delivered year after year as a free, safe and family-oriented event open to all. But for the COVID-19 outbreak, Riverside would be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year in 2020. Andy's contribution to the life of Charlbury goes way beyond Riverside including, for example, helping to ensure the continuing availability of the Shed as an affordable performance space in the town.

#### **Charlbury Honoured Citizens Awards**

Announcement of awards for 2020 has been postponed due to the current emergency because it is important for us to be able to honour recipients and to celebrate volunteering in Charlbury in an appropriate manner that is not compatible with current restrictions. Many thanks to all who submitted nominations.

**Public Events** In view of the COVID-19 outbreak most public events within the area during 2020 have been cancelled including the Charlbury Beer Festival, the Riverside Festival, Cornbury Festival (at Great Tew) and Blenheim Nocturne Live. At the time of writing, no decision had been made concerning Wilderness Festival or Street Fair.

**Overhanging Branches. Encroaching hedges etc** It is lovely to see nature thriving and vegetation growing at this time of year but please take a little time to trim hedges and cut back branches overhanging pavements. Please be considerate to others. Thank you.

Together, the community of Charlbury will come through these difficult times and we can emerge stronger and wiser.

**STAY SAFE!**

This has been a very strange time! The lockdown started on my birthday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, so I celebrated with some friends on a Zoom call, in what was to become the first of many such social calls. We are all getting a lot better at using the available technology, and as I write WODC and the County Council are preparing to have their first online full council meetings. Like many people I speak to, I find that technology doesn't make up for the fact that we are not able to get together in person, and may not be able to do so for many months to come, but it does help, and we have seen some wonderful initiatives, such as the Speakeasy, using technology to help us through the lockdown.

Charlbury, like every community in my ward, has a large number of willing volunteers, who are helping those who are required to self-isolate with shopping for food and medicines. The number of people who have come forward as volunteers is amazing. It shows how strong the community spirit is, and how generous so many people are, and I would like to thank everyone for all that you are doing for your neighbours. I know that many of you have also been impressed by the work that our binmen have continued to do throughout the pandemic, and I have passed on the thanks of Charlbury residents to them.

The County Council has been very much at the centre of managing the pandemic. The shortage of PPE has been a great concern to all, especially in the care sector. In April the County decided to allocate £1 million to the purchase of PPE for carers when it became apparent that the government had failed to provide this. This has been distributed to care homes and also to carers who visit people in their own homes. Financial help has also been given by the County Council to care homes to ensure that they are able to maintain the level of PPE that is required. As well as social care, Public Health is a County Council responsibility. The lack of testing has been a great concern. Testing is now available at the New Street car park in Chipping Norton. Mental health during the lockdown is also a big concern for many and help is available 24/7 for adults on 01865 904997, and for children on 01865 904998.

Who knows, by the time you read this we may be out of the lockdown, but if not then I hope everyone in Charlbury will remain safe and well throughout this pandemic, and I look forward to seeing you again soon. If you need to contact me, please do so as I am always available, and of course I continue to work as your County and District Councillor.



### **News from Charlbury's Riverside Festival**

You won't be surprised to hear that this year's Riverside Festival is cancelled. However, the good news is that we had a very successful Riverside last summer with huge support from festival goers and local businesses, so we're in good shape to put on a great show next year on Charlbury's Mill Field. For updates follow us on Instagram and Twitter @riversidefest, join us on Facebook

@CharlburyRiversideFestival or visit [riversidefestival.charlbury.com](http://riversidefestival.charlbury.com)

Another piece of good news, Andy Pickard who has run Riverside from the very beginning has been given a High Sheriff of Oxfordshire award in recognition of great and valuable services to the community. As well as pulling together a team of volunteers to organise Riverside every summer for the past 25 years, Andy organises music and food for many fund-raising events, volunteers at the local school and preschool and takes care of Charlbury's Shed music, comedy and drama venue in Nine Acres Lane.

*Kathryn Custance*



## News From Charlbury Refugee Action Group

**Well, coronavirus or no coronavirus, Charlbury Refugee Action Group is certainly keeping up the work!**

The virtual **Easter Tea Party** that Hilary organised raised over £1200! It was attended by 112 people. Delicious cake recipes were distributed, we partied together in Zoom rooms and had great fun.

The proceeds have been sent to help relieve the suffering of over 40,000 refugees in Greece for whom **self-isolation is not an option** and the dangers immense.

**The party is over but you can still contribute** (£5 or more if you wish) and in return you will receive the recipes to create your own party. Please make a transfer to Charlbury Refugee Action Group, sort code 089299, a/c 65789036. Mark it "Tea party" and then email [hilaryjbarber@aol.com](mailto:hilaryjbarber@aol.com) to confirm your donation – whereupon the recipes will be sent to you. Thank you for your continued support.

**Total funds raised since last September** total £13,421 to date. We expect Gift Aid in the year to amount to around £1,000, so thanks to Hugh for setting that up.

It was well worth it, and do remember that you can Gift Aid donations to us. We have sent £7,900 to NGOs supporting refugees in France, £4,806 to Greece, and just recently £300 to Asylum Welcome in Oxford to help provide a food bank for asylum seekers stranded there.

We're certainly going to top £15k this financial year, thanks to you!

**Our concert impresario, Val, is organising a virtual concert.** Nick is in charge of the tech! Performers who have sent recordings or agreed to participate include Margaret Fingerhut, Alastair and Gill Ross, Sebastian Comberty and Maggie Cole, Brian Boothby, Dorian Ford, Eight in a Bar, Jane Downer, Philippa Davies and Jenny Larsson (who has composed a piece specially for us). Never before will such a line-up of diverse star performers have come together in the ether for an hour or more of superlative music making, all for CRAG and for you. Watch the Charlbury website and the town notice boards for more details.

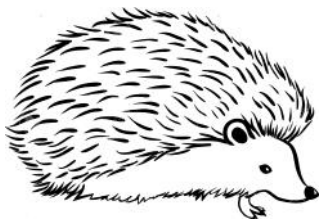
Another fundraiser in the pipeline is a **downloadable recipe book of your favourite CRAG cakes**. We are blessed with a team of champion bakers whose wares are so popular at our concerts and cafés. While we still cannot provide the social events at which their cakes can be enjoyed, nonetheless we can share the recipes with you.

**We've always been aware that CRAG is important in two ways.** Of course, our main task is to fundraise for groups of volunteers working round the clock to feed, clothe and house refugees and asylum seekers principally in Greece and the Calais region of France. **But we do this by organising events that contribute to the social life of Charlbury.** Social life remains difficult at present, and that makes our fundraising tricky too. But we're working on it, and hope to bring you some more interesting and enjoyable activities over the summer.

**Love from the team!**

[charlburyrefugee@gmail.com](mailto:charlburyrefugee@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/charlburyrefugee/](https://www.facebook.com/charlburyrefugee/)



## HEDGEHOGS !

The Charlbury Climate Action Planning meeting in February seems such a long time ago now, when we were envisaging the future and what Charlbury could look like in 2040. My personal thought at the time was to support and encourage the wildlife biodiversity around town and with all that has happened in the last couple of months, I feel this is more important than ever.

As I write this it is Hedgehog Awareness Week this week, 3-9<sup>th</sup> May, so although I am not as passionate about hedgehogs as some other species (the swifts have arrived!), I'm thinking about hedgehogs especially. I find it encouraging when I see or hear them, it makes me hopeful that they could thrive as a part of the larger ecosystem, here in Charlbury.

I was walking along Pooles Lane a few days ago, and 4-year old Jemima pointed out a photograph of a hedgehog that someone had put in their window. Quite a few people have put hedgehog photos in their windows, perhaps you have seen them? Jemima told me she had never seen a real hedgehog, although she knew what they were. But I got to thinking wouldn't it be nice if we could help Jemima and all the children in Charlbury see real hedgehogs?

Although they often come top in the Royal Society of Biology UK's favourite mammal poll, hedgehog numbers have been plummeting. Since the year 2000 hedgehogs have decreased 50% in rural areas and 30% in urban areas.

The industrialisation of agriculture is a major contributor with the loss of hedges and food for wildlife including hedgehogs. Hedgehogs literally hog the hedges; they are edge specialists. Studies show that on average 17 different kinds of biocides

are applied to agricultural land which wipe out food for wildlife in the landscape—including that for hedgehogs and creating ecological deserts. In addition, some 100,000 hedgehogs are killed on the roads, but also road systems cut off the hedgehogs' natural corridors, stopping them from moving around. Of course, hedgehogs have natural predators - badgers and foxes, but in a balanced ecosystem where everything is thriving, this is really not an issue.

The world we have been in since the lockdown, with a lighter footprint, has made us increasingly aware of nature around us, of bird song, and perhaps hedgehogs in our gardens. And it's given us time too to think about the future and the world we want.

Earlier this year Bovis Homes joined forces with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and launched a campaign to protect hedgehogs and other endangered creatures. It is installing hedgehog highways to existing development and future sites which will also help other small mammals, birds, frogs and insects.

*We can all do something.*

Kirtlington Wildlife and Conservation Society have been connecting their own gardens for their very own Hedgehog Street as a part of the national campaign, do look at this, it's inspiring, [www.kirtlingtonvillage.co.uk/kirtlington-hedgehog-street](http://www.kirtlingtonvillage.co.uk/kirtlington-hedgehog-street)

We can all be hedgehog champions and take care of Charlbury hedgehogs too. We can work out how many hedgehogs we have and where they are. Apparently a viable population is 32 hedgehogs in 90

## HEDGEHOGS ! (contd)

hectares, I am trying to imagine what that means in Charlbury. We can work with our neighbours and make sure that our very own hedgehogs have highways and access to all our gardens unimpeded. They will travel several kilometres and to many gardens in one night.

We can have wilder gardens and leave wild spaces for hedgehogs to make a home; be careful with any strimming; keep netting off the ground; cover drains; check before we have a bonfire; and not leave litter.

We can help with feeding food and making shallow water is available so they can drink – hedgehogs are lactose intolerant so milk makes them ill. Hedgehogs are meat eaters, they appreciate meaty pet food perhaps in a hedgehog feeding station so it doesn't attract other animals.

If you find a hedgehog during the day, it might be injured or unwell so check to see if it needs looking after. If it does, put the hedgehog into a cardboard box and keep it warm and quiet, cover it with a towel, offer it some food and water and then contact The British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890 801 and they can offer advice.

I highly recommend this fabulous talk from the ecologist and author, Hugh Warwick (Hedgehog Hugh) which he's just recorded for The British Hedgehog Preservation Society, do watch ! <https://vimeo.com/413318476> I was thinking of inviting Hugh Warwick to Charlbury, would anyone be interested ?

What future would you like? Would we like more hedgehogs in Charlbury and a healthier ecosystem?

Please tell Jemima if you see her, someone has heard a hedgehog in their garden in Charlbury - so perhaps she might see a real hedgehog after all!

The UK Government's Environment Bill, which has had its second reading in Parliament and so is likely to become law in its existing form will require public authorities 'to consider what action the authority can properly take, consistently with the proper exercise of its functions, to further the general biodiversity objective.'

Eynsham are looking at pilot areas to increase Biodiversity, <https://eynsham-pc.gov.uk/org-news.aspx?nid=1220#news> .

We can do the same in Charlbury, A Charlbury Community BioDiversity map is being planned.

Sorry no cute pictures of hedgehogs with this. I would love to hear from anyone about evidence of hedgehogs, and indeed about wildlife in Charlbury, send me an email, [fgregory@dircon.co.uk](mailto:fgregory@dircon.co.uk).

Useful links: / [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk),

[www.hedgehogstreet.org/about-hedgehogs/hedgehogs-history/](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/about-hedgehogs/hedgehogs-history/)

[www.hedgehogstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/SoBH-2018\\_final-1.pdf](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/SoBH-2018_final-1.pdf)

[www.change.org/p/help-save-britain-s-hedgehogs-with-hedgehog-highways](http://www.change.org/p/help-save-britain-s-hedgehogs-with-hedgehog-highways)

Flora Gregory





## News from the Charlbury Patient Participation Group (CPPG)

It will come as no surprise that The PPG has not had a meeting during the last month and that many of our projects are 'on hold'.

However, we have been keeping members informed of changes at the Charlbury Medical Centre and in local hospitals which have occurred as a result of the coronavirus, via e-mails, in postings on the news section of the forum, and in the Spring Newsletter which is available on-line.

Go to the Charlbury Home page. and you will find a box labelled Community. Click on CPPG. Near the bottom of this page you will find a pdf file entitled Spring 2020. Unfortunately for this issue we have been unable to distribute hardcopies.

### News from the Practice.

All staff at Charlbury Medical Centre are very busy at this time as they are also covering some clinics at Carterton, but would like to thank patients for being understanding and accommodating with this different way of working.

As the lock down continues many medical practitioners are becoming concerned that there is risk that serious conditions are being missed and long-term conditions are not being treated. It is important that if you experience worrying symptoms you do not hesitate to contact your GP.

### Call your Practice to seek advice on any of the following:

- Unexplained bleeding
- Significant bruising in different areas of the body without obvious injury
- Unexplained weight loss
- Unusual thirst, very frequent urination
- New and persistent headaches, not improving with painkillers, especially if accompanied by dizziness and/or nausea

- Moles which grow, change shape, colour, start itching or bleeding
- Any new lumps anywhere on your body
- Breast cancer can have several symptoms, but the first noticeable symptom is usually a lump or area of thickened breast tissue. Most breast lumps are not cancerous, but it is always best to have them checked out by a doctor.

### New 24/7 Mental Health Helpline.

There has been huge pressure on the 111 service as a result of the pandemic. It is a relief that there is now a new 24/7 helpline specifically for mental health patients:

- Adults can ring 01865 904 997
- Children and Young People 01865 904 998

### Hearing Aid Batteries

A Charlbury patient who needed more hearing aid batteries for her NHS hearing aids would like to share the following information:

If you use NHS supplied hearing aids – or if you know someone who has them – the process for obtaining batteries for the duration of the Coronavirus emergency is as follows:

- Batteries for NHS Hearing Aids issued by the Audiology Department at the John Radcliffe: The Audiology Department is able to post batteries to patients who are registered with them. Please email: [audiology.department@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:audiology.department@ouh.nhs.uk)

Give your name, date of birth, address and postcode and the type of batteries you require (colour). If you are registered with them (and this includes clinics at Witney and Chipping Norton), there is no charge for this service.



## CPPG contd

- Specsavers (Witney): Specsavers (Witney) will supply batteries for NHS Hearing aids. Please ring them on 01993 779977 and provide the following information:

Your name, date of birth, address and postcode (delivery is by courier) and the type of batteries required (colour). Specsavers may ring you back to confirm details. There will be a charge.

\*\*\*

### **Do you have equipment on loan from the NHS that you are no longer using?**

NHS services in Oxfordshire together with the County Council are appealing for the return of equipment you are no longer using. Any equipment which has an NRS sticker on it eg walking frame , chairs, hospital beds: telephone 01869 225 420 or e-mail: [enquiries@oxfordshire.nrs-uk.net](mailto:enquiries@oxfordshire.nrs-uk.net)

\*\*\*

A reminder from the ambulance service to make sure that your house number or name is easily visible from the road and that it is not obstructed by foliage. If possible, at night switch on an outside light if an ambulance has been called.

# COMPUTER HELP

**Broadband and Wireless. Installation and Training.  
Problem solving. Jargon-free advice. Upgrades.  
Digital Photos. Virus Protection and Removal.**

*Call or email me, Len Kehoe*

*- Computer Science graduate  
with over 30 years experience*

**phone: 01993 810125**

**mobile: 07944 877437**

**email: [thepcbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:thepcbuddy@gmail.com)**

**web: [www.thepcbuddy.co.uk](http://www.thepcbuddy.co.uk)**



## PROFESSIONAL ARBORICULTURE

**ALL ASPECTS OF TREE  
SURGERY  
UNDERTAKEN**

**FULLY INSURED**

**FREE QUOTATIONS**

**(01993) 868001**  
**office@jagtrees.co.uk**  
**www.jagtrees.co.uk**



The following regular advertisers were closed until further notice due to Coronavirus at the time of going to press:

**Brian's Barber Shop**

01608 810630

**Mallams** 01865 241358



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

### **If you need:**

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

**Local ATIC volunteers are here to help**

**– call 07487 413892 during lockdown**

### **Coffee Break answers**

1. Robin; 2. Raven; 3. Pigeon; 4. Swallow;  
5. Crossbill; 6. Nighthingale; 7. Crow  
8. Kestrel; 9. Wren; 10. Kingfisher  
11. Avocet; 12. Greenfinch; 13. Jackdaw;  
14. Swift; 15. Lapwing; 16. Magpie;  
17. Starling; 18. Owl; 19. Eagle; 20. Hobby

## **Enjoyable, friendly Art Courses & Workshops**

**in Combe, Stonesfield and Finstock**

For more information contact:  
***gabrielekern31@gmail.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

**Artweeks** - Wendy Clifford (01608 810006)

**All Together In Charlbury (ATIC)**

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

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

**Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)**

Helen Wight, Secretary  
*charlbury.drama@gmail.com*

*www.charlbury-drama.com*

**Charlbury Art Society (CAS)** Sec: Kati

Eidenbenz (01608 810911)

*secretary@charlburyarts.co.uk*

**Charlbury Beer Festival** - Nick Millea

*nick.millea@btinternet.com*

*www.charlburybeerfestival.org*

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

**Charlbury Bowls Club** - Shaun Morley  
*enquiries@charlburybowls.co.uk* (01993 868134)

**Charlbury Bridge Club**— Secretary Monica  
Wilkinson (01608 810560)

**Charlbury Canoe Club** - Hugh Belshaw

(01608 810130) *hughandjoan@uwclub.net*

**Charlbury Chronicle** - Susie Finch (01608

810861) *editor.chronicle@outlook.com*

**Charlbury Community Centre**—Daniela Jenkins  
(01608 811878)

**Charlbury Community Speedwatch** —  
*charlburycsw@gmail.com*

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

*www.charlburycricketclub.co.uk*

**Charlbury Day Centre** - Bob Tait (01608 810150)

**Charlbury & District Probuss Club** Mike White

(07710 296814) *mike.ewhite7@gmail.com*

**Charlbury Green Hub** - Christine Elliott  
(01608 811057) *www.charlburygreenhub.org.uk*

**Charlbury Garden Society**

*chairman@charlburygardensociety.org.uk*

**Charlbury Ladies Luncheon Club**—Gill Grason  
(01608 810154) and Frances Canham (01608

811176)

**Charlbury Morris** - Peter Smith (01608 811007)

*peter@charlburymorris.org*

*www.charlburymorris.org*

**Charlbury Museum** - Curator—

*curator@charlburymuseum.org.uk*

**Charlbury Music Class** - Peter Fry (01993  
359189)

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

**Charlbury Pioneer Country/Western Club**

(Ray & Margaret) (01993 831345)

**Charlbury Pre-School**—Laura Barwood

*laurambarwood@hotmail.co.uk* (01608 811200)

**Charlbury Royal British Legion** - Nick Potter  
(01608 810388)

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

*office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk*

*www.charlbury.oxon/digitalbrain.com*

**Charlbury School Association** -

*office.2100@charlbury.oxon.sch.uk*

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

**Charlbury Society** - Chairman, Peter Bennett  
*pkbennett@btinternet.com*

**Charlbury Street Fair** - Chairman—John Dora  
(01608 811328) *jmdora@btinternet.com*

**Charlbury Tennis Club** - Mark Jarman (01608

811692) *charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk*

**Charlbury Town Council**—Roger Clarke, clerk  
(01608 810608) *charlburytc@btinternet.com*

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

**Charlbury Town Youth Football Club** - James

Ball (01608 810270) *jolliecat@btinternet.com*

**Charlbury Women's Institute** - President -  
Miriam Evans (01608 430807)

*charlburywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk*

**Charlbury Youth Theatre**—Andy Graham  
*andyg2439@gmail.com* (01608 659462)

**ChOC Cinema** - Jackie Hague (01608  
810713)

**Corner House Community Bookshop**—Neil  
Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811899)

**Corner House and Memorial Hall** -Office (01608  
810879)

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

**Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens** - Harriet  
Baldwin (07779 157410 or 01608 811718)

*akanid90@gmail.com*

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

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

**Holiday Club**

*parishoffice@stmaryscharlbury.co.uk*

**Macmillan Cancer Care** - Liz & Bob Tait (01608  
810150)

**Methodist Chapel** - Sue Tokumine (01608  
810366) *suetok@hotmail.com*

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

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

*www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com*

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

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

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

**The Bell Inn** (01608 810278)

**The Bull Inn** (01608 810689)

**Thomas Gifford Trust**- Chris Potts (01608  
811878) *chris.potts@blakemorgan.co.uk*

**United Nations Association (West  
Oxfordshire)** – Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608  
811338)

**Wilderness Festival**—*www.wildernessfestival.com*

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

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



**Charlbury's  
Police Community  
Support Officer**

**C9837 Wesley Smith**

To speak to us about any concerns you may have:

**call 101** if it's a non-emergency

**or 999** in an emergency

[www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)

also sign up for free crime alerts  
[www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)

## CHRONICLE ADVERTS

Advertise your business in the  
**Charlbury Chronicle** and reach  
over 1550 residences.

To place an advert please ring  
Graham Jowett on 01608 810666 or  
email:  
[gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

## MAILING LIST

We have a mailing list for people wishing to receive the *Charlbury Chronicle* who no longer live in the town. **Now £4.50 per four issues; £6 per four issues for overseas subscribers.** Large-print £2.50 for **each** copy. If you wish to be put on the mailing list, please contact Dawn Colvin (address in right hand panel).

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, Graham Jowett, whose address is in the panel on the right.

## CHARLBURY CHRONICLE CONTACTS

Editor: Susie Finch

tel: 01608 810861

e-mail: [editor.chronicle@outlook.com](mailto:editor.chronicle@outlook.com)

Assisted by:

Julia Caston: 01608 810240

Barbara Allison: 01608 811262  
and others

Treasurer & Advertising:

Graham Jowett,

2 Lees Heights, Charlbury OX7 3EZ

tel: 01608 810666

[gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjowett2015-chronicle@yahoo.co.uk)

Mailing List: Dawn Colvin

3 Enstone Road, Charlbury OX7 3QR

tel: 01608 810545

Distribution:

Brian and Shelagh: 01608 819091

Robert Caston: 01608 810240

*And thanks to Graham Jowett for proof-reading this issue of the Chronicle.*

The **Charlbury Chronicle** is produced and distributed free to every household in Charlbury. All those involved in its preparation work on a voluntary basis.

The **Charlbury Chronicle** aims to be impartial and independent and cannot be held responsible for any of the views expressed in its pages. The editor reserves the right to alter or adapt any articles submitted for publication although hoping to discuss any major changes with the authors first.

The **Charlbury Chronicle** acknowledges the support of our advertisers and individuals who generously contribute to its funds and hope that any reader using their services will mention the **Charlbury Chronicle**.

Printed by

KMS Litho Ltd, Hook Norton, OX15 5LS

01608 737 640

[enquiries@kmslitho.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@kmslitho.co.uk)

[www.kmslitho.co.uk](http://www.kmslitho.co.uk)



# Denshams Butchers

'Purveyors of quality meats, poultry and game'  
49 High Street, Witney, OX28 6JA.

**01993 703714**

[www.denshamsbutchers.com](http://www.denshamsbutchers.com)

**Email: [denshamsbutchers@yahoo.com](mailto:denshamsbutchers@yahoo.com)**

We are delivering, free of charge (as always) to Charlbury and the surrounding area. Please call the shop to place your order; our staff are happy to guide with suggested quantities and tell you about our weekly special offers. In addition to all the usual meat products we have ....

...a range of  
Vegetables and salad  
Sacks of potatoes  
Teabags  
Coffee milk  
Pasta and rice

The shop is open! We have installed full screens to protect our staff and customers. We operate a one in one out system with contactless payments.

We are open for slightly reduced hours in order to process all the deliveries but if you are able, do pop in before 2pm Mon – Saturday.

Stay safe.

# SHAW & Co.

Providing legal advice in London and Oxfordshire for 35 years

1 Church Street

Charlbury

Oxfordshire OX7 3PW

Telephone 01608 810100

andrew@shawandcompany.co.uk

**Wills, Probate and Administration**

**Powers of Attorney**

**Executor & Trustee Services - Inheritance Tax Planning**

**Property - House and Flat Conveyancing**

**Commercial Leases and Landlord and Tenant matters**

**Commissioners for Oaths**

*"...probably the best and most approachable lawyers I have ever used....."*

10 Market Place  
Chipping Norton,  
Oxon OX7 5NA  
Tel: 01608 644808  
Fax 01608 644809



22 The Parade  
Oxford Road  
Kidlington,  
Oxford OX5 3DB

[www.fairfaxandcompany.co.uk](http://www.fairfaxandcompany.co.uk)  
[charlbury@fairfaxandcompany.co.uk](mailto:charlbury@fairfaxandcompany.co.uk)

1 Church Street  
Charlbury  
Oxon OX7 3PW  
Tel: 01608 811146  
Fax 01608 810050

15 High Street  
Bloxham  
Banbury  
Oxon OX15 4LT

**Free Valuations No Sale—No Fee**  
**Specialist Lettings Department**  
**Independent Mortgage Advice**  
**Low Cost Buildings Insurance**

**Fairfax & Co. offer unbeatable value and  
expert property advice from professionals**