



CHALGRAVE NEWS

Autumn / Winter 2002



USEFUL CONTACTS

Member of Parliament		Andrew Selous	01582 662821
Parish Council	Clerk	Mrs Brigid Heley	01234 381913
	Chairman	Ken Green	874107
	Vice Chairman	Frank Griffin	874126
	Councillors	Dot Brinklow	874228
		Michael Leary	874201
		Roger Masters	873039
		June Horne	
		Tony Cornes	874605
District Council			01582 472222
	Councillor	Norman Costin	874232
County Council			01234 363222
	Councillor	Rhys Goodwin	210629
Chalgrave Church	Vicar	Rev Liam Matthews	872298
	Secretary	Mrs M Hibbert	872828
Schools	Lower	St Georges	872360
	Middle	Parkfields	872555
	Upper	Harlington	873836
Home Watch		Dot Brinklow	874228
Doctors		Drs A Long/J Perkins	872222
Toddington Library			873626
Electricity Board emergency			0800 7 838838
Water Board emergency			0845 7 145145
Police			01582 401212
Chalgrave Memorial Hall			
	Secretary	Wendy McGinty	874043
	Booking Secretary	Lyn Green	874107
Senior Citizens Committee			
	Secretary	Lyn Green	874107
West Charity			
	Clerk to the Trustees	Norman Costin	874232
Mums and Tots		Vacant	
Cricket Club	Chairman	John Kirwin	876349
	Secretary	David Cestaro	873887
Chalgrave Youth Club	Leader	Wendy McGinty	874043
Toddington Beavers/Cubs/Scouts		David Yirrell	875410
Toddington Rainbows/Brownies/Guides		Gill Hiscox	875239
Toddington Tennis Club		Ray Smith	874148
Chalgrave Parish News		Tony & Jean Cornes	874605
		Lyndie Lothian	874166
		Frances & Roger Masters	873039

O.K.

so we didn't win the world cup, we didn't win the cricket, we didn't win Wimbledon, we didn't win the Golf, shares are falling, house prices are rising, interest rates are going up, the National Health Service is in a muddle, the education service is in a muddle, the railways are in a muddle, crime is rising and we still haven't captured Osama Bin Laden. BUT, the good news is that Chalgrave Parish News is out on time.....almost!

We hope you enjoyed the last issue, despite some of the articles being a little (or a lot) out of date, and an occasional breakdown in the spellchecker. Things can only get better.

If you have any comments to make about the Chalgrave News, or indeed suggestions to improve it, then either contact one of the editorial team or drop a letter in the post box outside the Memorial Hall.

This month sees some fine contributions, and a number of competitions for you to win fabulous prizes, such as a meal for two at The Plough and cash. So let's have lots of entries and more contributions. Remember, any unsolicited contributions that get printed will receive £10.

Last issues picture puzzle was in fact a view of the old Chapel in Tebworth. No correct answer was received so we are rolling over the prize to this issue. Yes, £20 for the first correct written answer received.

Thanks once again go to Peter Kuys, Stephen Eagleton and Mike Wells for their generosity and assistance in producing this terrific publication.

Don't forget this is your Newsletter and your contributions are essential to keep it going. Any old photos of the parish would also be welcomed (returned within 48 hours). The deadline date for the next edition, due out early December is the 15th October.

Happy reading.

**WHAT'S HAPPENED AROUND THE PARISH SINCE THE LAST
CHALGRAVE NEWS?**



Church chandeliers stolen

**Jack McGinty is the
Winner of the Chalgrave
Parish Millennium
Youth Award**



**Traffic calming gates
erected on Toddington
and Hockliffe roads**

**Many villagers fly
the flag for the
World Cup**





**Harley Davidson
motorbike catches
fire causing damage
to two cars**

**We celebrate the Queen's
Golden Jubilee with
games and
street parties**



- ◆ **New Parish Council elected**
- ◆ **Plough beats the Queen's Head at cricket**
- ◆ **Water mains have been renewed**
- ◆ **More rubbish dumped on the Chalgrave Road**

Blackberry Cordial Mash and strain blackberries through coarse cheesecloth, without heating them. To every quart of juice add 2 cups of sugar. Tie in a thick muslin bag, 2-4tsp grated nutmeg, a few pieces of whole cinnamon, 1 tbsp whole cloves and a small piece of mace. Boil juice and spices slowly for 25minutes. Remove spice bag and stir in 2-4 tsp vanilla extract. Pour into sterilised jars to within 1/2" of the top. Seal immediately.

*WHAT'S IN YOUR DRAWERS?
BY
FLORRY BUNDA*

Last issues' photograph taken outside the original thatched Queens Head pub showed local farm workers enjoying a liquid lunch!

This time, we have a very old photograph of Daniel Hart, believed to be great grandfather of the late Eric Ludgate, a lifelong farmer of this parish

Mr Hart is pictured here in his work smock which it was the custom to wear inside out during the week to keep it clean for church on Sundays



Pictured left is Mr Hart with an unknown lady who we believe to be his wife.

Go on. What's in YOUR drawers? Have a rummage and share with us those interesting old photos that give us a glimpse of the rural history of Chalgrave.

THE CHALGRAVE NEWS PUTS A FEW QUESTIONS TO THE NEW CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL —JUNE HORNE

What do you want the Parish Council to achieve over the next twelve months?

I want to see the Traffic Calming in Tebworth completed and a scheme looked at for Wingfield.

Obviously if any schemes put forward are too much for our finances then these will have to be shelved until sufficient funding is available.

The Green Belt and conservation area are always under threat from planning applications and I would hope to have the support of the councillors in giving a fair assessment of any planning applications that are sent to us.

More attendance by Parishioners to the meetings This makes the councillors aware that they are not the only ones with an interest in the Parish and gives encouragement.

What will you as Parish Chair be doing over the next twelve months?

I hope to carry on in the same manner that has been successful over previous years, but to add my own personal touch.

I have already issued a PC Newsletter to inform Parishioners of changes and if any further occur, I intend to make further issues.

I would like more information on the finances of the Council to be available on a quarterly basis to enable up-to-the-minute information to be issued to Councillors. I feel this is essential in the current year as we have election costs to pay for the 2002 election and are looking at an election in 2004.

I would not want to have to refuse grants to various Parish organisations because we have been lax with our financial control. I am sure our current and previous clerks have not allowed this to happen but the Council are not always aware of the financial position when making decisions.

Does being a Parish Councillor take up a lot of time?

It depends on the time you are prepared to give. It can mean just turning up for the monthly meeting or getting more involved in the items that are discussed. Councillors have all been given responsibility for a section of the work carried out by the Council. Therefore more involvement than just attendance at meetings will be required from the current Council.

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Grand Jubilee Games

On Sunday 2 June members of the two villages of Tebworth and Wingfield, along with their families and friends from further afield, enjoyed themselves at the Annual Fete and Fun Day (known colloquially as The Chalgrave Games). The Dog Show, children's races, welly-throwing, Tug O'War and Ken Green's Jubilee It's a Knockout were just some of the events in which people of all ages took part.

Hot food was provided by Pat Cooke and Chris McDonagh who worked hard on the Bar-B-Q, and beverages were on sale from the beer/tea/wine/squash tent - thanks to Jim McGinty and Paul Cherry for giving up their day to work so hard on our behalf! Candy Floss and ice-creams went down well with the kids, and the tombola did its usual roaring trade - thanks to Gwen and family for their non-stop efforts.

The Games themselves were preceded by the annual Youth Tournaments held the day before, for the youngsters of the parish. A good turn-out meant that table-tennis, basketball and football trophies were hotly contended. The results were as follows:

Table-tennis: Winner - Fred McGinty Runner-up - Jack McGinty

Basketball: Winner - Matthew Brand, Runner-up - Nick Botfield

Football: -Winners - Lee Merton, Fred McGinty, Paul Cook, Paul Draycott, Tom Colenutt Runners-Up - Darren Matthews, Ian Draycott, Nick Botfield, Gary Leggett, Adrian Webb

On the day itself the competition entries were of a very high standard, (especially the one and only cake!), and the results were as follows:

Art Competition 1.Megan Chapple, 2 Elizabeth McClurg, 3 Samantha Chapple

Winner of the Chalgrave Church Cup: Jill Jones

Flower Arranging

Cake

Julie Ambury

Wendy McGinty

Photography

1. Duncan from the Woodlands! (Sorry no surname)
2. Duncan from the Woodlands! 3. Katherine Masters

Thanks to Rev Liam Matthews for his discerning judging!

The Jubilee celebrations continued in the evening with a live band and barbecue - Nice'n'Cheezy entertained everybody superbly and

(Continued on page 7)

Roger Fenwick provided disco back-up - I enjoyed it - I hope you did too!

The results of the children's races on the day were as follows:

Under 6

Egg and Spoon - 1. Connor Gaddesden 2. Imogen Parry

3. Hayley Wilkinson

Sack - 1. Lauren Harper 2. Connor Gaddesden

3. Imogen Parry

Skipping - 1. Lauren Harper 2. Connor Gaddesden

3. Imogen Parry

Under 12

Egg and Spoon -1. Megan Chapple 2. Lucy Colenutt

3. Katherine Masters

Sack - 1. Megan Chapple 2. Jessica Haynes

3. Buff McClurg

Skipping - 1. Megan Chapple 2. Katherine Masters

3. Martha Attack

Over 12

Three-legged - 1. Ian Draycott and Nick Botfield

2. Jo Finch and Sarah McGahey

3. Kathy and Lauren Harper

Sack - 1. David Ralley 2. Tom Colenutt

3. Lucy Colenutt

Local sponsors ensured generous prizes were awarded. **Special thanks** to:

KING OF THE CASTLES, OLD BARN NURSERIES, SIGNS OF THE TIMES, THE QUEEN'S HEAD, THE PLOUGH, CHALGRAVE SPORTS CLUB AND CHALGRAVE CHURCH.

And of course to the friends and families of the Memorial Hall Committee who worked so hard before, during and after the event.

{Apologies about the dog show results - for some reason nobody wrote them down - I do know that Monty McDonagh from the Vicarage was chosen as The Best Dog in the Parish - let us know if you can throw light on any more of the results and they will be duly recorded in the next magazine}.

Wendy McGinty

COMPETITION PAGE

PICTURE PUZZLE



Where is it?

A meal for two at The Plough, Wingfield for the sender of the first correct answer opened.

CLUE : Somewhere in Chalgrave only two paces from the highway!!!



Guess the names of the
three Chalgrave girls
and win a large
box of chocolates.

Entries in the post box at
the village hall.

It's a roll over! WIN £20 !!!!!

Open to all ages

Submit a photo depicting
"Holiday Time in Chalgrave"

Please put your entry in the
village hall post box together
with your name, address and
telephone number
Any photos will be returned.

Judges decision will be final

*Come on and help us to make
the new Chalgrave News an
interesting read over the
years ahead.*

PARISH COUNCIL :-GRASS CUTTING AND FOOTPATHS

As outgoing chairman, I want to congratulate June on taking the chair, and I give her my full support. I feel it was healthy to have a change, and I'm quite sure she will make an excellent chairperson.

Last year we instigated the process of giving individual councillors and committees responsibilities for different areas, and my responsibility, as you might well have seen, is GRASS CUTTING and FOOTPATHS.

Now don't have a go at me yet !

GRASS CUTTING has been a shambles over the last few months ! Tony Cornes did a great job when he was on the Council in talking to both the County and District to get them to define their commitments but there has now been a gap during which, for whatever reason, the commitments clearly have not been honoured.

Within the 30MPH limits the responsible authority is the SBDC. I was being told recently by them that cuts had been made in Tebworth, when I knew they hadn't, and then when it was cut it was done very badly . The only thing they did seem to manage was to cut off the Daffodils in Wingfield so they will not flower next year. There is at present a dispute between exactly what is contracted, and I am following developments. Outside the 30mph it is County that is responsible, and I am also talking with them to get a schedule and commitments.

FOOTPATHS, and excuses again, but what with the F&M and other commitments we have not had a footpaths meeting recently. One is due shortly and I will put minutes, or at least a summary, in the next news.

You will see that, as usual, some farmers and land owners have been excellent in fulfilling their commitments. Roger Fenwick must take the prize with John Errington not far behind, but others have not been so scrupulous. [No names this time].

In particular we have a grant to install Chalgrave signs on all footpaths coming into the Parish, and "Signs of the Times" are making these for us, so we will have our work cut out this year to get these installed.

If you have any comments on either matter, and in particular if you'd like to help on footpaths, please give me a ring on 874107

Ken Green

CHALGRAVE CHURCH.

Continuing our report of the talk given last summer by Peter Freeman to local WI members.....

In 1886, Peter told us, the Archdeacon described the church as “unsound everywhere”, warning that the tower was in a dangerous condition. Two years later, the upper part collapsed and fell through the roof onto the nave where it lay for many years.

In 1901, a parish appeal raised enough money to restore the tower , but not to its full height and the bells had to be rehung for chiming at a lower level.. There are three bells, the oldest – a treble- cast around 1420, the second, bearing the date 1623, is inscribed “God Save Our King”, while the third and most modern , weighs over 13cwt., and was cast in 1775!

Our church is best known for its mediaeval wall paintings proclaimed by The Royal College of Art to be among the finest in the country.

They were discovered in the 1930s when, allegedly, a woman cleaning the church banged her broom against the wall making flakes of whitewash fall to the floor and reveal traces of bright colour. Experts were called in , the lime wash removed, and figures of a number of saints emerged as were many coats of arms!

These paintings date from the 13th century and some say the people of Chalgrave concealed them under lime wash to save them from destruction at the hands of Cromwell and his men. These wall paintings in particular account for All Saints’ inclusion in a book by Simon Jenkins entitled “England’s Thousand Best Churches”.

Over the centuries, there have been many changes to the church, some of which have not been recorded.

A pre-Victorian sketch of the interior shows the old position of the churchwarden’s chest dated 1690 which now stands opposite a bier used for carrying corpses. Dated 1730, it carries the names of the two churchwardens of that time – George Atterbury and Roger Weedon.

In the church accounts for 1718, someone has entered
“who coming drunk from visitation caus’d there neighbours much vexation
by carrying of their gaits away for which they were so kind to pay”
It would seem that these two enjoyed their day out to excess and on return to

the parish indulged in a spree of vandalism. The worthy wardens evidently lifted the gates from their hinges and hurled them into nearby fields, ditches and ponds!

The current churchwarden, Larry Ryan, has a clean record by comparison and assures me that our gates are safe – for the moment!

Our church today has never been better cared for with donations paying towards new furnishings, a public address system and a new car park.

So pay it a visit and remember....your church is for life and not just for Christmas!

Next issue.....Are there really a labyrinth of tunnels that join All Saints to Dunstable Priory?!!!!!!

Frances Masters



DEMISE OF THE YOUTH CLUB

Sadly the Friday Evening Youth Club started when the new Memorial Hall opened has been closed for several months now due to lack of helpers - I have lots of information and contacts if anyone is feeling brave enough to take it on - it was certainly worthwhile and is missed by the teenagers of the village - contact me if you feel you would like to - I will happily train you!

Wendy McGinty 3 Home Farm Tebworth Tel 874043

Review
**TIME OF OUR LIVES PROFESSIONAL MUSIC
THEATRE**

(formally called - The Gilt & Gaslight Theatre)

**Presented by
Chalgrave Memorial Hall Committee**

Saturday evening, 16th February 2002.

Once again a crowded, but surprisingly not full, hall saw the return of this very popular theatre troupe.

The format of song, dance and comic sketches, bringing back memories of life over the past 50 years, was as good as ever.

The performers are all professional actors, and chosen for their musical and acting abilities, as was quite obvious as the performance progressed.

It is almost unbelievable that the cost of a ticket for the 2 hour show, including free interval refreshments, was only £6.50. What would it cost to see a similar show at Milton Keynes or other nearby theatres? The transport cost alone would be more than one of these tickets!

Details of the cast :-

Robbie Bonar - Trained at London Collage of Music & London School of Music Theatre. Principle roles in Crazy for You, My Fair Lady, Werns Last Gift, plus several pantomimes such as Cinderella, Jack & the Beanstalk etc.

Chrissie Kiff - Drama degree Loughborough University. Trained at the Courtyard Theatre London. Stage appearances Threepenny Opera & Marat Sade. Co-founder Blurrer Clarity Theatre Co. Received 4 star review as Jessica in The Home.

Theresa Lawrence - Trained Mountview Theatre School. Has had many varied roles, in pantomimes, musicals and stage. TV. appearances include Science in Focus & Coming Home.

Dympna le Rasle - Middlesex Polytechnic & The Academy Drama School. Founded The Times of our Lives in 1991. Actor/singer in all of her musical reviews to date. Amongst her many other roles were Importance of Being Ernest, Bless the Bride, Tess of the D'Urbervilles and many more.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance, often singing along to some of the old favourite tunes - however I thought Good Golly Miss Molly was sung slightly too slow by a few in the audience!

Look out for the next show on Sunday 5th January 2003.

CHALGRAVE SOCIAL DIARY

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS - VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
1ST TUESDAY MONTHLY

GILT & GASLIGHT THEATRE COMPANY - VILLAGE HALL,
SATURDAY 5TH JANUARY 2003

PLOUGH INN QUIZ NIGHTS

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY 9.00PM

QUEENS HEAD LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

EVERY FRIDAY 7.30PM

LINE DANCING - VILLAGE HALL EVERY WEDNESDAY &
THURSDAY EVENING AND MONDAY 10.00 AM

CHALGRAVE SPORTS CLUB QUIZ NIGHT - DATE TO BE
AGREED

CHALGRAVE MURDER MYSTERY EVENING - 12TH OCTOBER

SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCH - DECEMBER

OTHER ACTIVITIES - ORGANISERS REQUIRED

CARPET BOWLS

BADMINTON

FLOWER ARRANGING

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY EVENTS IN THE PARISH PLEASE LET
US KNOW FOR NEXT ISSUE OF SOCIAL DIARY

HIT AND RUN DRIVER

Chris Catling reports that her cat was run over and killed recently near the entrance to The Meadows. The driver of the car did not stop. Chris points out that the law states that the driver must stop if a dog is struck by their car but not for a cat. Seems strange?



UP YOUR FURROW

A local farmer's view

By way of introduction I would like to thank the editorial team for the dubious honour of agricultural correspondent. Fortunately there were no other applicants for the post as I know there are others far better qualified for the task. However in the coming editions I will endeavour to cover some of the activities on the farming calendar, and also topical issues relating to food production and the countryside.

My own farm is given over to arable cropping, which is typical of Bedfordshire and the Eastern Counties, and therefore my ramblings will tend to be related to this area of agriculture. I started growing wheat in 1973 which as many of you know was the year the UK joined the Common Market and agriculture then became subject to the Common Agriculture Policy. British agriculture generally benefited from the CAP with all sectors expanding and arable farming in particular enjoyed boom times. In 1973 I sold my first crop of wheat for £60 per ton with yield of around 2 tons per acre (5 tons per hectare). By the mid 1980's prices had risen to £120 per ton and yield averaged over 3 tons per acre (7.5 tons per hectare). At this time the government funded many research and development projects and farmers were given plenty of advice on how to increase production. Much of this increase was due to the plant breeders producing better varieties of wheat and their potential was exploited even further by the tailored use of fungicides and fertilizer. In 1983 the Plant Breeding Institute developed the first variety of bread-making wheat suitable for the UK climate. Previously all bread-making wheat had to be imported from countries like Canada, but we are now self-sufficient.

Farmers were quick to embrace new technology and profits were reinvested to modernize machinery, upgrade storage facilities and expand acreages. The incentive for this expansion was provided by the CAP which guaranteed the price of agricultural commodities in order to ensure the EU would be self-sufficient in food.

Unfortunately the agricultural industry was too successful, producing more

food than was needed, which resulted in grain mountains, butter mountains and wine lakes etc. As a result the EU reduced the level of guaranteed cereal prices in order to subsidize the disposal of the surplus onto the world markets and hopefully discourage increased production.

The EU introduced quotas to control products such as milk but this was considered unworkable for cereals as it could not be policed. Obviously cereal production did not fall as farmers needed to maintain output to offset increased costs and falling prices. As a result in 1994 the EU radically reformed its support system for arable crops. Instead of a guaranteed price per ton, producers would be paid a flat rate of approximately £90 per acre and wheat would then be traded at world prices assumed to be approximately £85 per ton.

In order to receive these acreage payments farmers were required to take 15% of their cropping land out of production and this is known as set-aside. This system is still in place although set-aside has been reduced to 10% because grain stocks were starting to fall too far. Whilst most farmers did not like set-aside they were happy with this system as they were able to maintain profitability. However over recent years the price of wheat has fallen dramatically. Lower world prices, cheap imports and the strong value of the pound has driven down the price of wheat to less than £55 per ton. At these levels many farmers are making losses and most are struggling to break even. The strong pound also means farmers have had their subsidy payments reduced as these are calculated in euros. I have highlighted the problems of arable farming but all sectors of agriculture have suffered a similar downturn.

Obviously all industries suffer highs and lows but this recession has already caused many people to leave the industry and this trend looks set to continue. Unfortunately the current government seems content for the country to depend on service industries and is happy to see agriculture go the same way as other great manufacturing industries such as coal, steel, shipbuilding etc.

I would therefore like to dedicate the title of this article to Tony Blair for his complete apathy towards the countryside.

ROGER FENWICK

READERS LETTERS PAGE

Let our experts solve your queries

Question -

I wonder if anyone in the parish can help me? For many years I have been trying to grow coconut trees in my garden but have not been too successful. A friend of mine has just returned from a holiday in Malaya where of course these trees are a common sight. She tells me that someone out there told her that the secret of growing coconut trees is down to the local monkeys who help providing fertiliser to the soil. Do you think that any other animals droppings could be used in this country?

Answer -

You must be nuts to even try this!

Question -

Does anyone know what to do about a broken oven?

Answer -

Yes. Buy a new one and dispose of the old one in a ditch around the parish.

All letters to the editor by next deadline date please.

AUNTIE AGNUS PROBLEM PAGE

Personal problems resolved with a smile

My Dear Readers

It is with regret that once more I must offer my sincerest apologies to Mrs 'Worried' of Wingfield for a most unfortunate type setting error in my last column.

Although I have not personally experienced the problem you told me about - your husbands increasing conjugal demands during the summer months - I can well understand your concerns.

My advise to resolving your problem should have read 'send him abroad to keep him occupied', and not as printed 'send him a broad to keep him occupied'.

Although this action has in fact solved your problem I understand that having another person living in your home has brought you new problems.

We of the Chalgrave News will let you know as soon as a local property is available for rental into which you can transfer this lady.

Until next issue readers

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Call Principal Wendy Ashman for a Prospectus on 01525 220299.

www.stagecoach.co.uk

OUT & ABOUT AROUND THE PARISH



Bill (Scoop) Archer returns home after another gruelling Parish Council Meeting. All our reporter asked was 'how did it go Bill?' Answers on a postcard to The Chalgrave News!!!

And who pinched Roger Masters England flag (and flag post!) during the World Cup and replaced it with this Scotland flag? If anyone sees a 7 foot tall individual, probably wearing a kilt, carrying an England flag on a 12 foot flag pole, tell him not to bother returning it!! Roger's now supporting Scotland!!!



CHURCH DIARY

September

Sunday 1st	14th Sunday after Trinity 9.30 am Parish Communion Celebrant the Rector.
Tuesday 3 rd	8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington
Sunday 8th	5th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Worship Together Service. Worship leader: Mr Malcolm Curtis.
Saturday 14 th	10-00 am Cake Stalls on Toddington Green.
Sunday 15th	Holy Cross 9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Rector.
Monday 16 th	8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer (1) <i>The dynamic of Prayer, venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.</i>
Tuesday 17 th	8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington. 8.00 pm C.T.T.C meeting in the Methodist Church, Toddington.
Sunday 22nd	17th Sunday after Trinity 9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Revd Dennis King.
Wednesday 25 th	8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer, 2) Why and how of intercession, <i>venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.</i>
Thursday 26 th	8.00 pm PCC meeting in the upper room.
Sunday 29th	Harvest Festival 9.30 am Benefice Parish Communion. Celebrant the Rector 6.00 pm Harvest songs of praise.
<u>October</u>	
Tuesday 1 st	8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington
Wednesday 2 nd	8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer, 3) Leading Intercessions at the Eucharist <i>venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.</i>
Saturday 5 th	7.45 pm Benefice Harvest Supper in the Wilkinson Hall Toddington
Sunday 6th	19th Sunday after Trinity 9.30 am Parish Communion Celebrant the Rector.
Tuesday 8 rd	8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington
Wednesday 9 th	8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer, 4) Meditation and Contemplation Planning a prayer time, <i>venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.</i>

(Continued on page 28)

(Continued from page 27)

- Sunday 13th** **20th Sunday after Trinity**
11.00 am Worship Together Service.
Worship leader: The Rectors.
- Monday 14th** 8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer, 5) Praying the Bible, *venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.*
- Tuesday 15th** 8.00 pm CTTC. Quiz Evening, in the Wilkinson Hall.
- Thursday 17th** 2.00 – 4.00 pm Grace and Albert Bird at Home coffee afternoon and giving of the market stall income to the Church. 6, Periwinkle Lane, Dunstable.
- Saturday 19th** Toddington Town Band Anniversary Concert in Church.
- Sunday 20th** **Holy Cross**
9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Rector.
- Wednesday 23rd** 8.00 pm Autumn study on Prayer (6) The way forward., *venue the Wilkinson hall, Toddington.*
- Sunday 27th** **The Last Sunday of Trinity**
9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Revd Dennis King.
- Thursday 31** 8.00 pm–9.30 pm Autumn study on Prayer St Andrews day of Intercession prayer for the mission of the church. Venue all saint's church.

November

- Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd** **Parish gift Day is support of the Ministry and pastoral care of the church.**
- Sunday 3rd** **All Saint's Day Patronal Festival**
9.30 am Parish Communion
Celebrant the Rector.
- Monday 4th** 8.00 pm Deanery Synod
- Tuesday 5th** 8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington
- Sunday 10th** **3rd Sunday Before Advent (Remembrance Sunday)**
9.30 am Worship Together Service.
Worship leader: Mr Malcolm Curtis.
10.45am Service of Remembrance at Toddington Green War Memorial.
3.00 pm *Service of Remembrance, at the Chalgrave Memorial Hall.*

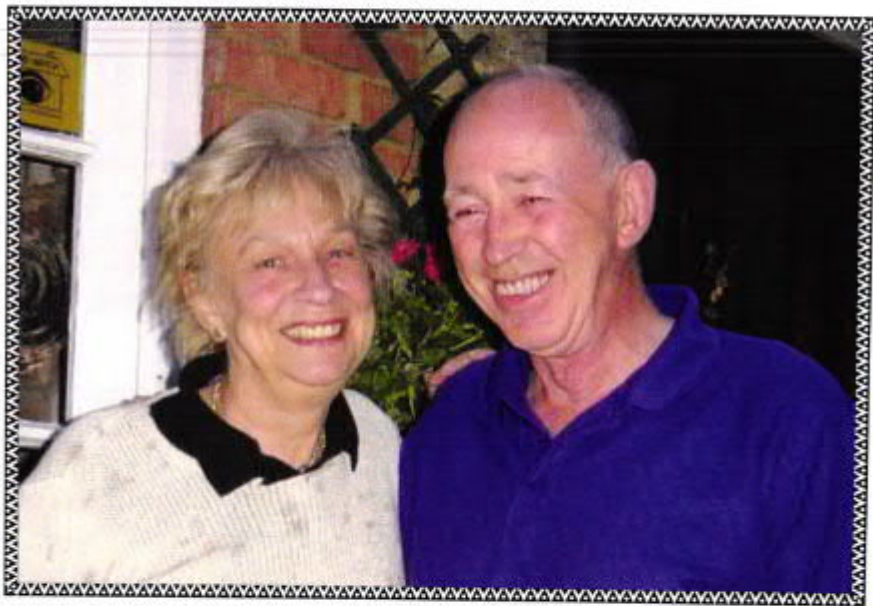
(Continued on page 29)

(Continued from page 28)

Sunday 17th	2nd Sunday before Advent 9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Rector.
Tuesday 19 th	8.00 pm All Saints Bible study at 61 Lincoln Way, Harlington. 8.00 pm C.T.T.C meeting in the Wilkinson Hall, Toddington.
Thursday 21 st	8.00 pm PCC meeting in upper room..
Sunday 24th	Christ the King 9.30 am Parish Communion. Celebrant the Revd Dennis King.

For late additions and changes please see the Church weekly notices

New to the Parish



Linda and Peter Hadden recently moved to The Lane. They are both retired, Peter from the military and Linda was an NHS manager. Both have interests in village life, drama (could this be the upgrade the concert has been waiting for?), music and sport. They would like to thank the Tebworth folk for making them feel so welcome.

THE GHOSTS OF CHALGRAVE

*Tales of spooks, ghosts, ghouls and spirits of old Chalgrave parish
(with the emphasis on spirits!)*

This is a true tale—those of a nervous disposition please read no further.

A few weeks ago an old gentleman visited the Plough Inn, Wingfield. In conversation with landlord Jim, he mentioned that he and his family had once lived in the pub which belonged to his father. The family had moved out in 1942.

His father had bred geese and used the old coaching barn at the side of the pub to slaughter the geese for sale.

Father would smoke his pipe in the barn while slaughtering the geese. Then one day a great family tragedy occurred. A goose struck out with its wing and tragically father was killed by the blow.

Jim and Sue say they have often smelt pipe tobacco around the barn!!!

SPOOKY STORY!

We know that there are many other ghostly stories around the parish - if you have one please let us know and we will include it in our future issues....



Congratulations
Jim & Sue
The Plough has
Won the following
Fuller's Pub 2002
Garden Awards.

2nd Front Garden
2nd Family Garden
3rd Beer Garden
Over 250 pubs
across UK entered!

The Illegal Eagles on Tour

Those of you that remember 'The Eagles' will be interested to know that the 'Illegal Eagles' were recently on tour in this country. Even more interesting is that one of our residents is a key member of the band.

And so, early one evening, a small but noisy bus-load of fans from the village set off to St. Albans to support Keith Atack from The Lane in Tebworth on stage at the Arena.

Listening to songs like 'Hotel California', 'Lying Eyes' and 'New Kid in Town' took us all back to a time when our knees were still functional and had us dancing in the aisles and, surprisingly, even on our seats (names withheld to protect the innocent!)

What a fabulous show! Solos by Keith and other members of the band demonstrated real mastery of their instruments and several calls of 'encore' meant that the show ended later than planned.

It was after midnight when we all piled back onto the bus and entertained ourselves with old Celtic ditties and even an attempt at Riverdance by a female solicitor of this Parish on the way home. Quite an achievement in a moving vehicle!

Altogether a brill night out and a suggestion that you catch a performance of the 'Illegal Eagles' on their next tour

Did you Know?

- ***The respected ancient Roman physician Pliny taught that the souls of the dead resided in beans.***
- ***George Bush was the first President to be seen throwing up on live TV.***
- ***The typical greeting of Masai tribesmen is to spit at each other.***
- ***Impotence is legal grounds for divorce in 24 American states.***

THE CHALGRAVE NEWS

Advertising Rates:-	Single Insertion		Annual	
	B & W	Colour	B & W	Colour
Quarter Page	£ 5.00	£ 7.50	£17.50	£23.00
Half Page	£12.00	£15.50	£35.00	£45.00
Full Page	£20.00	£26.00	£70.00	£90.00

We are also including a 'small business ads' section at a cost of £10.00 / ~~£15.00~~ per annual advertisement. If you are interested in promoting your business and helping to support this local magazine please send text required or copy of your advertisement with remittance payable to 'Chalgrave News' to Mrs L Lothian, 30 The Lane, Tebworth, Beds , LU7 9QB.

THE NATIONAL TRUST South Beds Association

- ♦ Wednesday 4th September, 2002

Gardens and Parks of the National Trust *Michael and Shirley Shephard*

- ♦ Wednesday 2nd October 2002

Something to Declare *Geoff Travis*

- ♦ Wednesday 6th November, 2002

Victorian Houses *Ron Newberry*

All meetings at Salvation Army Hall Bull Pond Lane Dunstable, beginning at 7:30pm. Guests welcome at £1.00

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

- ♦ Monday 2nd September 2002

The History of the Globe Theatre as it was in Shakespeare's time and Wanamaker's reconstruction in the 20th century. *Ann Ward*

- ♦ Monday 7th October 2002

Offley Place, history of this beautiful 17th century house near Hitchin just off the main Hitchin-Luton Road *Angela Hillyard*

- ♦ Monday 4th November 2002

Dunstable Downs. Development, their natural history and present day management described by *Jeremy Sutton* from the National Trust.

- ♦ Monday 2nd November 2002

Christmas Social Evening Entertainment and buffet supper.

Tickets only, to be bought in advance. Held at the Methodist Hall

All meetings at Salvation Army Hall Bull Pond Lane Dunstable

ODE TO A SLUG
(AND HIS COUSIN THE SNAIL)

Hope comes to us with the arrival of spring
Knowing what summer is sure to bring.
And so I went and bought my seed,
Tended carefully perennials in the ground
Lessons of the past I'd also heed
Prevention is best as advice is sound.

So my dear slug (and your cousin the snail)
I was ready for you
Nematodes eat young slugs is what they do
And Colin's beer filled the traps in the vegetable patch
Into them you'd fall and make a great catch.

But alas my dear slug (and your cousin the snail)
We had so much rain and also some hail
Your numbers so increased that we had no chance
To let seeds grow into beautiful plants.

In fact you ate the lot!
No French beans have I got,
Gentiana, cosmos and dahlia are only a name
To a slug and his cousin who have no shame.

But now I see I must give in
This is a battle you are sure to win.

I love my hostas with leaves like lace
The radishes pre-chewed across the face,
Bare ground where a new lily poked through
And the spot where once my lettuces grew.

Frogs abound wherever you are
And the thrush thinks your cousin is really a star.
Organic we'll stay so your future is bright
But please could you start to eat nettles instead.
If you like celandine, well that is all right
And thistles please eat until they are dead.

So, my dear slug (and your cousin the snail)
Please know I respect you and shout warmly, Hail, Hail!

Lyn Green, July, 2002

NEW STAGE SCHOOL TO OPEN **IN LEIGHTON BUZZARD**

School age children in the Leighton Buzzard area will soon have the chance to train in the performing arts when a local branch of the nationwide network of Stagecoach schools opens its doors in September.

Stagecoach, established in 1988, is the largest part time Stage School in the country. Students train for three hours a week in dance, drama and singing, all with specialist professional teachers. In addition to preparing for a future career, the training is particularly beneficial in fostering confidence, self-esteem, poise and will take place on Saturday mornings from 10am-1pm and run concurrently with the school terms. Boys and girls aged 6-16 years work together with others of their own age group.

The Leighton Buzzard Stagecoach is owned and headed by Wendy Ashman who explains “ It’s wonderful to see a child develop in confidence, enthusiasm and concentration. To learn while having fun in a disciplined environment, is what Stageschools provide.”

Parents are kept in touch with their child’s progress through written reports and are invited to attend twice-yearly performances.

Whilst Stagecoach’s foremost aims are to educate and prepare students for their future careers, there are opportunities for some talented youngsters to work professionally while at the school, and local Stagecoach students may join the national Agency in their second year.

For further information call Wendy Ashman on 01525 222715 or see the Stageschool advert in this issue of the Chalgrave News.



Grafters in the Church grounds 3rd August 2002

Archie Smith, Cyril Neal and Peter Freeman clear the weeds from an area surrounding the grave of the father of Arnold Bennett

Chalgrave Sports Club Report

A late start to the 2002 cricket season was again forced upon us by the wet spring but it finally got going with a very enjoyable curtain raiser when representative teams from The Plough and The Queen's Head played each other on June 16. You will find a full report of this match elsewhere in this magazine.

We have a full program of fixtures this summer and if you would like to join us please get in touch: We will be delighted to hear from you; new members are always welcome. Cricketing skill is not a requirement – we have all standards of player including youngsters and the matches, although hard fought, are not taken too seriously. We run a small league consisting of The Carpenter's Arms, Dunstable Road Runners, The Victoria and our own representative Plough XI. Last summer we won the league by a whisker, after a severely reduced fixture list imposed on us by the appalling weather.

The committee of the club are working very hard to keep the club going despite severe financial constraints. Major expenses include insurance and equipment maintenance. We will be holding another quiz at the Memorial Hall later in the year to top up the club funds – keep your eyes open for the publicity – these events are always popular and support from the village is always welcome. We also have an ambitious plan to build an all weather pitch and hope the Lottery will look upon our application with favour.

We are currently in the process of preparing a permanent nets area in one corner of the ground to enable us to practise. This is not a word that many of our members would readily recognise; most of the current practise sessions take place with one elbow on the bar of one of our local pubs, but we are keen to improve both our game and the facilities we provide for our members. We also need to raise some more cash to complete the fund for the provision of an all weather pitch – an expensive but valuable facility which will allow us to play more matches.

If you would like more information please contact :-

John Kirwin	phone 876349	email john@kirwin.demon.co.uk
Tony Cornes	phone 874605	email tonycornes@tinyworld.co.uk
Mike Wells	phone 877098	email mawells@btinternet.com

The Plough XI vs. The Queen's Head XI

16 June 2002

Cricket correspondent : John Kirwin

The afternoon of June 16 saw the annual clash of the titans, when teams from The Plough in Wingfield and The Queen's Head in Tebworth locked in cricket combat. This was the first match to be played on the Wingfield ground in the 2002 season – an excellent curtain raiser.

Preparation by the expert ground staff (Tony Cornes, Mike Wells and Sam Fenwick and Neville Andrews) resulted in an immaculate pitch, clearly the envy of the groundsman at Lord's, who popped up to get some advice!! The outfield was a picture of a smooth and lush sward marred only by the occasional dandelion and molehill.

With a warm sun shining, twenty two finely tuned athletes took to the field, only one or two muttering that they hadn't finished their beer when they had been dragged from the pub.

The Plough won the toss and captain David Cestaro opted to bat first. Simon Noake and Roger Masters (the latter hotly denying divided loyalty) opening the batting in this thirty over match.

The Plough managed to accrue 128 runs for 7 wickets in their allotted 30 overs, with notable contributions from Roger Masters (23), Gary Brown (21) and Captain Cestaro (22 not out). Star bowlers for the QH were Mike Finch (4 wickets for 18) and Richard Masters (2 for 15). A chap called Extras actually managed 41 runs, all wides except for one no ball which very nearly removed Gary's head.

At the interval, all the players and a not inconsiderable number of spectators enjoyed a splendid tea laid on by Frances Masters. Sincere thanks to her; she will be welcome at any of our matches this summer.

Despite their rigorous and lengthy period of training in the public bar, the Queen's Head XI failed to overcome the target set by the Plough, being bowled out for 71 after 23 overs. Young Matt Chinery demonstrated some excellent batting, coming in at 4 and finishing 26 not out, having run out of batting partners. Captain Peter Hadden (10) and David Ralley (11) were the only other batsmen to reach double figures. Plough bowling honours were spread around but Sam Fenwick and Neville Andrews took two wickets each.

So this year's result – a win for The Plough by 57 runs.

The victorious Plough Cricket team



And the beaten Queens Head team



Fancy That!

The only English cricketer convicted of manslaughter on the field of play was William Waterfall, at Derby Assizes in 1775

SASHA and ANDRE 'The Boys'

Many of you will remember our two recent visitors who spent a month in the village as part of the charity organisation 'Chernobyl Life Line'.

The charity was originally set up to help families of the rescue services who attended the worlds worst nuclear accident in 1986 when the reactor at the Chernobyl Plant exploded forcing hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes. The aftermath has caused serious medical problems to many more too horrific to detail.

The boys, both from an orphanage, were fortunate not to have been born at the time of the disaster but the long term effects on families has meant the charity continues to support these together with children in orphanages.

They arrived at Gatwick with nowt but a carrier bag, a tatty rucksack and one set of clothes each. They left however with enough clothes, presents and toys to satisfy any child's needs! Both were extremely thankful to everyone who showed kindness to them and were overwhelmed with the attention and friendships they built up. Unfortunately they were too emotional to speak to everyone before they left but they did ask us to thank all of you (and sorry to those they may have upset in any way).



There is so much more to say but space limits us. We can confirm however that the boys will be visiting again this Xmas, so look out for them on Sunday 15th December.

If anyone is interested in any further information, please let us know.

Once again thanks for all your kindness.

David and Sarah Ralley 876730

You've been warned!

Jim Fixx, the American who started the jogging craze, died of a heart attack —you guessed it—whilst out jogging!!!!,

WEST TRUST

The West Trust was set up in the 17th century by the Reverend West for the sole purpose of giving educational assistance to the children of Chalgrave and Hockliffe. The Clerk administers it together with a board of Trustees which meets around four or five times per year. The last meeting was in July.

The current Trustees are as follows : -

FRANK GRIFFIN	Chalgrave
ROGER MASTERS	Chalgrave
LYNDIE LOTHIAN	Chalgrave
PAUL DICKINS	Hockliffe
NICOLA BENDER	Hockliffe
ALAN SHADBOLT	Hockliffe
RHYS GOODWIN	County Councillor

Currently the Trust has assets valued at over £250,000, which is invested on the Trust's behalf by professional fund managers to produce income of around £20,000 per year. After reinvesting sufficient income to cover inflation, the Trustees are then able to dispose of the balance to meet the Trust's objective. At the July meeting, approximately 65 children received assistance towards educational activities ranging from horse riding to purchase of special educational equipment. In addition, the Trustees were able to assist Hockliffe Lower School to provide swimming lessons for the children. The Trustees have absolute discretion on how they distribute the funds so long as it meets the Trust's objectives. The current criteria for assistance are as follows : -

- Must have resided in the Parish for a minimum of two years.
- Aged between 4 and 25 and receiving full time education.
(children over 16 and in fulltime education can receive a student grant up to £200)
(Appropriate claim form to be received by the Clerk with all receipts for expenses attached.)
- No claim (other than uniform or student grant) to be entertained without the appropriate receipts.
- The Board meets twice per year to consider grant distribution and these are normally held around June and December, so claim forms should reach the Clerk to the Trustees before these dates, to be considered.

For an appropriate claim form or for further information, please contact in the first instance -

Norman Costin, Clerk to the Trustees.
Heath Farm,
Tebworth Road, Wingfield , Tel. 874232.

Ramblings on the Parish Council

Bill (Scoop) Archer

My, how time flies. When this happens, the notes of some eight months ago have been negated or rendered irrelevant – to whit

The behemoth has stirred and rumour has it that action may take place to provide some sort of postal service....but don't hold your breath! Well, it's lucky you didn't, as we now seem to have reached a plateau of negativity.

The bus shelter repair comments I noted back in October have been discussed, gone out to tender and now resolved in that to save money, Ken Green and Frank Griffin will repair the shelters. Now, they are not paid for doing this and it is hardly up to our Councillors to do repairs to keep the Parish ticking over. The work has arisen through mindless vandalism, which is so annoying. To the individuals responsible I would merely say that if you must kick at something then go and kick a football on the playing field!

At last, the constant nagging over the years has paid off and traffic-calming measures are coming into Tebworth and Wingfield.

Six months has produced a dramatic turn round by Anglia Water from dropping plans to renew piping to actually carrying out the work. As I sit here on July 4th, at 7.45 p.m., the water pressure has just come on again after a 6 inch main had burst. Coincidence or mechanical digger?

The St Mary's Close bollard is to be repositioned in spite of there being no funds earlier.

Perhaps 2002 will be a lucky year for the Parish Council in achieving their planned objectives?

Changes have occurred since last year. Firstly our Parish Clerk Briget Heley has moved from the area and as a result has resigned. I am sorry to see her go, her attendance record being better than some Councillors! However, welcome Lesley, you're doing a great job.

The recent elections caused changes in the composition of the Council. Tony Cornes and Roger Masters decided to step down and Dot Brinklow, that doyen of the PC decided to call it a day as well. She is now taking a well-deserved rest but knowing Dot I expect she will always be willing to lend a helping hand.

The latest flavour of the week is a Code of Conduct for Parish Councils with 15 points to be adhered to and a declaration to sign. Now, I can understand all this Caesars wife stuff for the District and County Councils, but for the life of me I cannot see that it applies to Parish Councils with a precept of a

mere £3,000. So we lose two good councillors who like me cannot see the need and so refuse to sign, consequently barring themselves from future participation. So we move one step nearer to making things so awkward that volunteers will no longer come forward to serve, thus giving Central Government the excuse to impose commissioners upon us (no doubt with fat fees) – what price democracy?

The Parish Council election results were: - Ken Green 121, Frank Griffin 110, Daniel Osborn 108, June Horne 107, Phil Parry 100, Derek Smith 83, David Ralley 75, Mike Leary 70. 171 ballot papers were returned representing a 41.7% turnout. Chalgrave was the only South Beds Parish to require an election, reinforcing my comments in the previous paragraph.

Another initiative from the Parish Council is ‘message in a bottle’ for those with special needs or regular medication. These are written out and put in a plastic container in a prominent place. If the medicos cart you off, they will have a clue as to your condition and can continue your treatment.

The Parish Council has settled on presenting mugs to the Parish children to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee. They should all be presented by the time you read this.

McDonalds have proposed that they provide a litterbin for The Lane as they cannot travel to clear their customers rubbish. They also state that they are supporting an initiative to educate children about the environment. They must be having a laugh since its not only children who are dumping undesirable cast offs in The Lane!

The Parish is also to get a Jubilee Tree when a site is agreed.

The other also ran is the blocked Wingfield drain, which has been passed back to the farmer to clear his ditch.

Bureaucratic bumbledon has ducked the issue of the A5/Hockliffe Road junction as it only has 1.2 accidents per year. So could you all trot off and have one to bring the average up please? I’ve been doing some lateral thinking on this one which caused some merriment at the July meeting.

Close the top of the road off. This would at a stroke

- wipe out accidents
- stop the A5/MI traffic and lorries
- stop the right turners going left and U turning in the Little Chef
- reduce rubbish in The Lane

Can anyone else produce some off beat ideas which may lead to an eventual solution?

Happy puzzling.

WHAT A DAY TO REMEMBER

(The Woodlands celebrate)

We awoke on 3rd June with great anticipation of the day ahead although the weather was a trifle questionable. However, we were determined to have one hell of a **JUBILEE PARTY.**

The Woodlands celebrations

had been carefully planned to guarantee enjoyment for everyone. Firstly, our Close became free of the dreaded car, to be replaced by Bernie's high class catering vehicle (the burger van) which gave us a

superb cooking facility and we ate the best burgers I have tasted in a long time. Two burgers in a bap washed down with a very pleasant cocktail (we went on to the

proper banquet later and there was as you would expect, a few cans of beer to help the day along.)

The children also had great fun. They were entertained by Ruth, ably assisted by Kathy who had lots of good ideas up their



(Continued on page 43)

(Continued from page 42)



sleeves including parachute games, face painting, a sack race, treasure hunt, egg and spoon race, wheelbarrow race and finally a game suggested by Erica which involved throwing real eggs at partners (the best bit!).

We also managed to

demolish about 50 coconuts at the coconut shy.

Just in case the weather turned bad, we erected a large marquee (thanks to the guides) which was large enough to house our party of over thirty. Everyone contributed to the banquet with all sorts of barbecue goodies including good wine. Everyone seemed to

enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and played silly games till well after midnight.

Our celebration finished 12 hours after it started, a lot longer than any of us imagined.

It was great to have a day out of the

ordinary to dedicate time to enjoy being with neighbours and friends and of course to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

Sue Keech



CHALGRAVE DANGEROUS SPORTS CLUB

On Thursday 25th July, Malcolm Skevington hosted the latest outing of the CDSC in his 1966 Leyland PD2 double decker bus.

On a lovely summers evening, a number of brave souls were treated to a journey from Chalgrave to The White Hart in Quanton which was

also host to a number of other buses that evening

Thankfully the journey went off without a hitch and all

occupants of the bus were returned safely to Chalgrave

Malcolm, a member of the Three Counties Transport

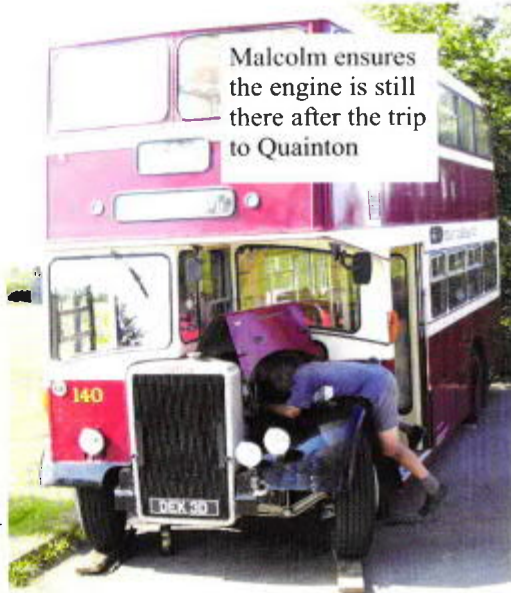
Museum admits spending countless hours on his

hobby of bus renovation and is currently renovating a

1939 Leyland single decker

(which is one of only two left in the country.)

We would love to hear from anyone else with an unusual hobby.



Well, well, well!

- *In Ireland, sheep droppings boiled in milk was once highly valued as a cure for whooping cough.*
- *Associating with gypsies was a hanging offence in 19th century Britain (Wendy, you have been warned!)*

THE TODDINGTON AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION

by Pat & Nobby Cooke

Once again, the local youth are being invited to Chalgrave Golf Club to try out the delights of the local golf course.

Currently, we are attempting to raise money to fund a skateboard and BMX circuit at The Glebe in Toddington. On 13th July, a group of youngsters supported by Chiltern Radio formed a procession through Toddington High Street collecting and handing out leaflets.

Our meetings are held at Toddington Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (evenings) and all are welcome.

Why don't you give this association a try if you have any real local issues you want to raise.

For further information please contact :-

Pat or Nobby on 874800

***MURDER* AT TEBFIELD GOLF CLUB**

Yes, another dastardly murder is to be committed at the Golf Clubs annual awards dinner to be held at

CHALGRAVE MEMORIAL HALL

On

SATURDAY 12th OCTOBER

At 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Superb prizes

3 course meal

Brilliant evening

Tickets £ 12 - from Roger Masters 873039

The Gospel and Faith

Thank you to the Editorial team of our 'new' Chalgrave News, for giving me the opportunity to write in the magazine.

At present Sunday by Sunday we are reading through St Paul's letter to the Romans, as our epistle reading or 2nd reading at the Parish Communion. The letter to the Romans is sometimes called the Good News (Gospel) according to Paul. St Paul talks a lot about faith and freedom. One of the earliest expressions of Christian faith proclaimed that "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor: 15 :3; see Rom 3:25; 4:25). Paul greatly deepened this theological interpretation of Jesus' death. He took the word "sin" to refer not simply to personal sins but rather to the power that held humankind in its deathly grip. In Romans chapters 5-7 he reflects on how God through Christ's death and resurrection freed humankind from the dominion of sin, death, and the Law. His main biblical source is Genesis 2-3, and he makes much out of the similarities and differences between Adam and Christ. Though the three powers cannot be separated, Paul focuses on sin in chapter 5, death in chapter 6, and the Law in chapter 7. In chapter 3 and 4, he talks about being justified by faith. Justification by Faith is a powerful statement and to illustrate what he meant Paul used the example of Abraham the proo-patriarch of Israel. He reminds us that Abraham is the father of all who have faith!

Freedom and Faith

Apart from driving up and down Lordship hill, I have not a lot to do with lunatics! However I do have a lot to do with individuals whose lives have been transformed and changed in the knowledge and belief that "Christ died for our sins". The transformation of a life lived differently from the moment of belief can be seen as the realization of the spiritual freedom given by Christ. This can occur in the most unlikely of places and circumstances. I remember when I was on the staff of the Honiara Team Ministry (Honiara the capital of the Solomon Islands) I used to visit the central prison at Rove. This prison had a secure unit for persons defined as "criminally insane". I used to celebrate the Eucharist once a month in one of the cells in the unit.

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My server was a large, well-tattooed murderer. He had been incarcerated for fifteen years. He told me that he had to stay there because he had taken a bush knife and killed five members of his own village! His understanding of the power of Paul's statement "Christ died for our sins" is captured below.

It kills the devil in you.

After celebrating the Eucharist in the small cell chapel for those who were trusted, it was my task to take Holy Communion to those prisoners still in their cells.

The procession included Davidson (the mass murderer) who walked in front of me ringing the sanctuary bells, and two guards who followed. As he walked towards the cells he cried out to the prisoners "numba wan Ki, hemi killim die devol bulong iu." which in translation reads, "The body and blood of Christ alone 'kills' or takes away the 'devil' or sin in you" and sets you free.

Davidson did not know why fifteen years earlier he had acted with such brutality but he did know in his own mind and heart that Christ's power and love in which he believed so strongly, continued to fill his life. The Law rightly judged that he should remain in prison for his lifetime, but when Johnson living out his days in prison spoke of an inner freedom, that moved me greatly.



FOR SALE/ WANTED

Sell all those unwanted gifts, second-hand items etc here

Your advert is free

Just place it in the village hall letter box by 15th October 2002 for our next issue in December 2002

BENCHES - Solid hardwood benches for sale. £75 each. Contact Wendy McGinty, Secretary, Chalgrave Memorial Hall Committee - 874043.

BRIDGE - Wanted , extra player for the occasional game. 874166

HORSE RUGS - second-hand, NZ 6ft 3" vgc £20. Jute rug 6ft 3" very warm £5. Set travel boots vgc £5. Summer sheet £5. 874605

SADDLE - 16 1/2" Coleman Croft Sovereign vgc £100 complete with stirrups, leathers and balding girth 874605

DREAMCAST & GAMES - price on application 873039

MULTI-GYM Marcy Vertex II Very good condition. See and try it before you buy. £250.00 874166

MATHS PHYSICS - 'A' level & GCSE revision books 874166

DIGITAL CAMERA Kodak DC280, F3.0-3.8, 30-60 zoom, auto focus. Built in flash. Many function choices. £210.00 ono 873160

CANON EOS 620 35mm camera. Canon EF 35-70mm & C28 70-210mm zoom lenses. Culman C28 flash. Excellent condition £300.00 873160

INDOOR BOWLS SET - size O. Together with carrier. £75 ono. 873039

HOOVER JUNIOR UPRIGHT CLEANER - £25. 873039

BRA FOR SALE.— size double f. Will double as hammock if needed.

And finally

***Did you know it s 25 years since
Elvis (The King) Presley died?***

Before discovering Elvis, Colonel Tom Parker's most notable success was "Colonel Parker's Dancing Chickens", an act which involved persuading chickens to perform by sticking them on an electric hotplate!

If Elvis had lived it is believed he would almost certainly have been made bankrupt within six months.



COUNTRY PROPERTIES

2 Station Square, Flitwick, Beds MK45 1DP

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