



Chalgrave News

Publication No.20 2008-1

Chalgrave Social Diary

- The Parish Council meet at The Memorial Hall 7.30pm, last Tuesday of the month
- Plough Inn - Quiz nights every other Tuesday 9.00pm, Dominoes every Monday and Bingo every Sunday evenings
- Queens Head - Live entertainment every Friday 7.30pm
- Book Club meets weekdays - contact Linda Hadden
- Murder Mystery at the Memorial Hall
Friday 25th and Saturday 26th April
- Family Quiz night 12th April
- District and Parish Elections possibly to be held 3rd May at the Memorial Hall
- Chalgrave Games - date to be announced (June)
- Craft Fare at Memorial Hall 29th March

Many thanks to
Chris Osborne for a very generous donation to the
Chalgrave News

Thanks also to Kate Smith and her very generous
donation and contribution to this edition which is
on page 29.

The Chalgrave News team produce The Chalgrave News in good faith and do all we can to ensure that no offence is caused to any individual or organisation. We also reserve the right not to publish articles and contributions submitted to us if these do not comply with our policy.

Editorial

Lots to read about in this edition of your favourite magazine. We are very grateful to our local MP Andrew Selous who consistently supplies us with an interesting article. Our Chairman of the Parish Council, Phil Parry and Linda Haddon from the Book Club also regularly contribute to each edition but we do have a struggle elsewhere. All the various organisations have the opportunity to publish their news, celebrate their wins and air their grievances but despite several reminders they are not submitting anything. We did decide at the start that we would not be a church dominated magazine but we would like to have at least one article that tells you all what is going on the All Saints Church. So come on all you people - you must have something you would like everyone in the Parish to hear about!

Were you woken early on Monday 10th March by the howling gales that swept over the country and again on Wednesday? It is good news that we have had no reports of damage but the rain and cold that accompanied them must have had a disastrous effect on the young lambs just at their most vulnerable. Then the rain kicked in again on Saturday night - it was reported that some of the village old timers had never seen the streams so high.

And before that did you sit bolt upright in bed when an earthquake struck at a few minutes before one o'clock on Wednesday 27th February? Many people in the Parish reported that they clearly felt it and also heard it like a heavy truck rumbling towards them. We are told by the authorities that it was quite a large earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale and the largest the UK has experienced for 25 years.

So that's enough of the weird weather for this year. It is time to start thinking about the garden again and we at the news hope that you have a happy Easter break and wonderful weather to go with it.

What's happened in Chalgrave since the last Chalgrave News

- **S**adly Bill Seaford has died - read our obituary for him - page 26.
- **I**t is sad to see so much rubbish strewn about the Parish lately. Despite a promise to send someone out weekly to clean up, MacDonalds cartons seems to be a large proportion of the problem especially along the Hockliffe Road.
- **W**ork has been carried out to improve the space around the pond in Tebworth to make it more accessible and pleasant for people and wildlife. More information below.
- **T**he road was closed after a car crash on Valentines Day outside All Saints Church. Traffic diverted through the villages for several hours.
- **B**edfordshire County Council is proposing to hold the council tax increase for 2008/9 to 3.8% - the lowest for a decade.
- **I**t is quite disgraceful that nothing has been done to resolve Bill's pond in the entrance to Park View Lane. The water seems to stay there longer than ever and all around is muddy. The council have left their cones and guards lying about - will they ever return to sort this out?
- **C**halgrave News held a very successful Big Band evening – read the report on page 16.
- **H**igh winds buffeted the parish on 10th March but we have had no reports of serious damage.

Subject: shiny silver walls

An Amish boy and his father were in a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again. The boy asked, "What is this Father?" The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is."

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a wheel chair moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button.

The walls opened, and the lady rolled between them into a small room.

The walls closed, and the boy and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number, and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order.

Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blond stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly

"Son, go get your mother."

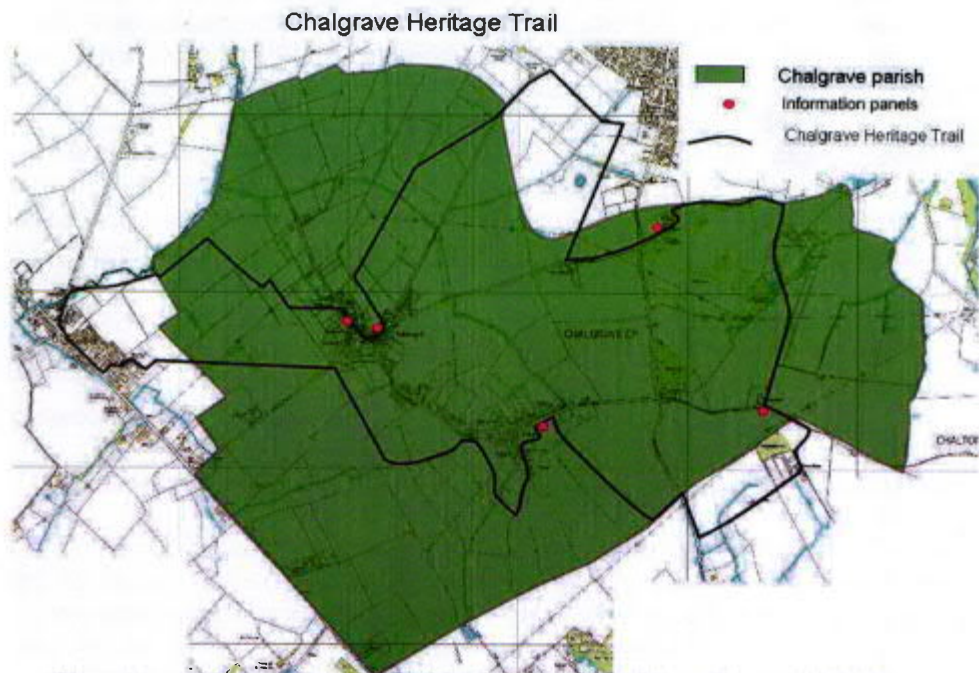
Chalgrave Heritage Trail

Last year the Parish Council applied for and won a grant from the Chalk Arc Community Fund to set up a Heritage Trail and make improvements to the pond in Tebworth. You may recall this was mentioned in the last Chalgrave News.

The Heritage Trail is to be a circular route with information panels at five locations to describe the wildlife and landscape features along the route. The walk will be some eight miles long and runs mainly through countryside with a few small sections along the highway. The route takes in the 11th Century Church, the Theedway, some of the Ridgeway, examples of ridge and furrow, the pond in Tebworth, and passes through Hockliffe, Tebworth (The Queens Head) and Wingfield (The Plough).

The map below shows the route the trail will follow with the points indicated where the information panels are to be sited - the pond, Wingfield and Tebworth centres, the church and on the Theedway. The artwork for the panels is being prepared as we go to print.

So hopefully you will all get out there, learn more about the area you live in and get fit to boot!



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Andrew Selous MP

"A better deal for separated families"

The United Kingdom urgently needs to secure a better deal for the three million or so of our country's children, who have had to endure the separation of their mother and father. We need a more integrated agenda for supporting separated families. The government's recent Child Maintenance and Other Payments Bill is an important part of this agenda, but only a part and we could usefully learn from Australia where practical support for distance parenting and the establishment of civilized ongoing contact arrangements are provided in a more integrated way than we manage to achieve in this country.



At present only one in three lone parent families receive any support from the non resident parent. Even where the Child Support Agency is involved, only 62% of non resident parents with a positive maintenance liability are currently making payments.

CMEC will have much tougher enforcement powers to enforce maintenance liabilities. They will only be of any use if they are used, as the CSA has powers which it has failed to use in the past. However, the measures in the Bill to use Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Income tax data as the basis of assessment are very welcome and should ensure less aggravation for non-resident parents with care.

To achieve improvements for separated children, we are going to need a significant change of culture in our society. The payment of child maintenance must be seen as an important positive responsibility, the first call on a separated parent's income. The Bill must ensure a fair and efficient system to achieve this, but it will also be necessary to promote the message of positive responsibility more widely, so that those who determinedly refuse to pay feel the shame of public disapproval and do not boast about their behaviour.

The CSA has never dealt with the human side of separation, but its successor CMEC (the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission) has an important opportunity to do so with the provision of the new information and guidance service.

I had hoped that the importance of establishing ongoing civilised contact arrangements and support for distance parenting would be recognised on the face of the Bill. This is not, in anyway to make maintenance a condition of contact, merely a recognition of the fact that parenthood is about both money and time – financial support and emotional support. Indeed, the ongoing

Involvement of non-resident parents in their children's lives is likely to increase their willingness to pay maintenance.

Part of what the information and guidance service will have to do, is to help separated parents cope with the reality that while marriage and cohabitation are dissoluble, parenthood is not. Divorce and separation used to be regarded a bit like dividing up an estate after someone dies. The marriage or relationship were dead, the fruits of the relationship were divided and that was the end subject to ongoing visiting rights and child support obligations, both of which were poorly enforced.

Today, around the world, there is a recognition that children need, and usually want, both their mother and their father to be actively involved in their lives, so long as each parent is a positive influence and there are no concerns about child abuse or violence.

Internationally, there appears to be an irreversible trend towards the encouragement of shared parenting, not necessarily equal time, but what is termed in Australia 'substantial and significant time' which would include, if possible, time during the school week, not just time at the weekends and in school holidays.

The information and guidance service established in the Bill will be able to learn much from the network of Family Relationship Centres in Australia, which provide a similar service. These Family Relationship Centres have found themselves "swamped" by the demand for separation services, a fact that I hope will be taken on board by Ministers as they plan the capacity of the information and guidance service.

It is obvious that a reduction in the number of parents separating would similarly reduce the workload of CMEC, which Ministers are very focused on. I hope that the government will do more to encourage the voluntary sector to support healthy adult relationships as it already does in a small way with its Marriage and Relationship Support funding. Again, the opportunities to do more here are enormous, and do not require significant funding, merely political will. Labour should take note that it was a Democratic President who brought in a welfare reform act in 1996, one of whose objectives was "to encourage the formation and maintenance of two parent families". Some of the results on the ground are startling with local initiatives in some countries and cities in America seeing 30% to 50% drops in divorce rates. On the basis that prevention is better than cure, and in order to give CMEC the best possible chance of producing a well working system, greater focus should be put on early interventions to reduce family breakdown.

NOTE: Andrew Selous is also Shadow Minister for
Family Welfare and Child Support

***Andres Selous is MP for South West Bedfordshire and can be
contacted on 01582 662 821 or selous@parliament.uk***

Queens Head Update



Hello everyone Colin here! Just thought I would drop you a little note to say thank you for your continued custom and to let you know how much I appreciate it. Things got a little fraught just after the smoking ban came into force and so I decided to close the Pub on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, things seem to have leveled off a bit now and are getting back to normal, particularly since the Smokers Corner Gazebo has been erected (many thanks to John and Ray) Darts and Dominos teams are continuing to thrive and so is the Friday night live music, I am really amazed at some of the talent that "does the pub circuit" they are so good!!

Some of the acts booked for the next few months are as follows:-

March 7 th	Jim Turner	March 14 th	Lenny
March 21 st	Pete Spence	March 28 th	Bob Watt
April 4 th	Steve Burton	April 11 th	Steve Jones
April 18 th	Keith West	April 25 th	Chris Jones
May 2 nd	Lenny	May 9 th	Merv
May 16 th	Jim Turner	May 23 rd	TBC
May 30 th	Pete Spence		

I look forward to seeing you on at least one or two of these dates.

Keep Happy, love Colin

Two Mexicans have been lost in the desert for weeks. At death's door, they see a tree in the distance. As they get nearer, they see that it's draped with rasher upon rasher of bacon: smoked bacon, crispy bacon, life-giving nearly-raw juicy bacon, all sorts of bacon.

"Hey, Quando" says the first Mexican, "ees a bacon tree! We're saved!!"

So Quando goes on ahead and runs up to the tree. As he gets to within five feet, he's gunned down in a hail of bullets. His friend drops down on the sand and calls across to the dying Quando.

"Quando! Quando!! Que pasa hombre?"

Amigo, run, ees not a bacon tree, ees a ham bush"

In the Blue Corner....

Well, the battle continues.

Despite our appalling refuse collection service, abysmal local police service, dreadful housing policies and hopeless traffic congestion, Bedfordshire County Council and the unholy alliance of South and Mid Beds District Councils are still slugging it out to convince anyone who will listen that they should run our local Government services in the future.

In the Blue corner we have the lumbering elephant of the County Council with a history of poor management and dismal services trying to convince us that the District Councils' bid is rubbish, unsustainable and will cost us more in the future. However, the County Councils proposals (IN THEIR VIEW) are dynamic, economical and promise us a rosy future.

In the red corner please welcome the District Councils of South and Mid Beds. Individually featherweights but currently joined at the hip to take on the elephant. They would have us believe that together hand in hand they are able to deliver the utopian future at a far reduced cost.

And what is this all based on?

Both sides have got their number crunchers working flat out on the abacas trying to decipher the transitional cost, ongoing cost, redundancy cost, and potential savings, to deliver us a fabulous service in the future and to get one or two blows in below the belt to rubbish the other side.

Well, I for one am fed up with this nonsense. What's the cost of this boxing sideshow? As for their claims of savings and cost, what are they based on?

The answer is estimates. And what are estimates..... GUESSES.

And who is going to pay if they get it wrong.... Yes you've guessed it WE ARE.

For goodness sake, stop the fight, get together and decide jointly what is best for the County – you cannot both be right. In the meantime, deliver the hard pressed taxpayer what they want in terms of weekly refuse collection, local policing, less building, better transport facilities etc etc etc

You couldn't make it up!!

Don't pass this by just because it looks weird.

Believe it or not, you can read it.

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.

Amzanig huh?

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War Memorial Chalgrave Church

Many of you will have noticed that the First World War memorial in All Saints church Chalgrave has been fully re-furbished.

It was way back when Michael Leary was on the council that he first raised this issue and we owe our thanks to his work and to June Horn who carried on with the search for a suitable contractor and funding that we have at last managed to get it done.

Our grateful thanks for funding go to a benefactor who wishes to remain anonymous and we must not forget a smaller but very welcome grant from the Beds County Council.

It sometimes takes a while but we usually get there in the end!



❖ ❖❖❖ *Who killed Sir Rupert?* ❖❖❖❖

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Free insulation for over 70s

100% grant funded loft and cavity wall insulation is now available to all residents aged 70 years and above. This offer, which became available earlier this year, is made irrespective of your income and savings and whether or not you are in receipt of benefits. In fact, the only requirement is proof of age and name and address.

For most households, insulating has never made better financial sense. Following autumn's record oil prices and surging wholesale gas and electricity prices, insulation could be our last best defence against rising energy bills in 2008.

All homeowners and private tenants qualify for discounted loft and cavity wall insulation. Fully insulating your home could easily reduce your fuel bills by £100 a year. The payback time is typically short and the long term financial and environmental benefits are high.

For more information, contact Energy Efficiency Advice Centre **0800 512 012.**

NEW PLAYGOUNP

Come to

Childs Play

22 March

10.00-12.00am

Chalgrave Memorial Hall

£3.50 per child.

Come along with your children, have a chat and a drink.

Play equipment is suitable for children up to 8 yrs old.

If we get a good crowd we will do this on a regular basis.

Craft Fair

Chalgrave Memorial Hall

—Sellers—

Book a table to sell

07846 886918 or 07800 834167

Hand crafted goods only

—Punters—

Come along 10.00 am—3.00pm

Refereshments available.

See you there!

Other craft fairs held throughout the year. Ask for one of our event calendars.

Have you just received this years council tax bill? Well you need cheering up then!

A man walks into a doctor's office. He has a cucumber up his nose, a carrotin his left ear and a banana in his right ear. "What's the matter with me?" he asks the doctor. The doctor replies, "You're not eating properly."

What is the longest word in the English language? "Smiles".

Because there is a mile between its first and last letters!

An English teacher wrote these words on the whiteboard: "woman without her man is nothing". The teacher then asked the students to punctuate the words correctly.

The men wrote: "Woman, without her man, is nothing."

The women wrote: "Woman! Without her, man is nothing."

1st Eskimo: Where did your mother come from? 2nd Eskimo: Alaska

1st Eskimo: Don't bother, I'll ask her myself!

At an auction in Manchester a wealthy American announced that he had lost his wallet containing £10,000 and would give a reward of £100 to the person who found it.

From the back of the hall a Scottish voice shouted, "I'll give £150!"

Samaritans of Luton, South Beds & Harpenden.

Charity No: 254432

Samaritans is available 24 hours a day to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

We speak to people by telephone, email & face to face, and it has been shown that this confidential contact, when we listen attentively to allow callers to speak freely of their worries, is of great benefit to them.

Our support aims to give callers the strength to cope with their distress, make sense of their feelings and the decision to carry on with their lives remains ultimately theirs.

Samaritans can be contacted on 08457 909090 & by email to jo@samaritans.org

Volunteers : Some 100 Volunteers make a commitment averaging 5 hours a week. Many Volunteers also undertake additional duties & responsibilities to ensure the smooth running of the Branch.

All Volunteers are fully trained & part of our commitment is to undergo ongoing training every year, so that we remain at the forefront of modern thinking and best practice in our work.

We provide speakers on request, attend Festivals, Carnivals & other outside events, and welcome suggestions to any events that we could be of help.

The age of our Volunteers ranges from 18 to 85, and we always want new Volunteers to man our local branch or help with fundraising.

Fundraising : Since we are an unaided charity, we depend entirely on voluntary contributions, legacies, street collections and any other ideas our Volunteers and Friends can think of to raise funds. Fundraising is an ongoing necessity, which requires much work to ensure we remain solvent and maintain our service to the public in Luton, South Beds & Harpenden and surrounding areas.

Could you help with our house to house collection in Harpenden?

Friends : We are greatly indebted to a group known as the Friends of Samaritans who provide valuable assistance by organising and helping with fundraising and publicity. Nevertheless the raising of funds to enable us to maintain our service is important to every volunteer.

If you would like to join our group of Friends to help fundraise for us, you would be very welcome.

If you are interested in becoming a listening Volunteer or Friend, please contact the local Branch at 33 Cardiff Road, Luton, LU1 1PP. Tel: **01582 720666**.

Or Email us luton.publicity@samaritanseast.org.uk

Our next Introduction Day will be held on **Sunday 27th April 2008 at 10.00am**.

Chalgrave Church



Welcome from All Saints Parish Church

Services and special events at All Saints.

Usual Sunday Services

First and third Sundays of the month – 9.30am Parish Communion

Second Sunday – Family Service 11am

(For people of all ages, lasting about 35mins)

Fourth Sunday – Family Communion 11am

Everyone is sure to receive a warm welcome

Who has pinched our streetlight???

One day it was there, the next day it was gone!! In between the electricity company dismantled and renewed the overhead mains cable. Who gave them instructions to remove one of the street lights near to the Plough creating an even more dangerous environment for residents who want to walk through Wingfield and who have to use the road, as there are no footpaths in the village?

Please can we have our light back mister!!!?

IT'S ALL OVER NOW—THE NICE MAN FROM THE COUNCIL GAVE US A NEW LIGHT LAST WEEK.

Crack Willows are pollarded in Boggy Meadow. Probably done to prevent the branches breaking off in high winds as they are prone to do. We hope the branches are cleared up soon and not left to block the stream for too long.



McDonald's - I'm lovin' it - not

In the beginning was the creation – of the McDonald's fast food outlet in Hockliffe.

Thereafter came many McPeople bearing gifts for the residents of Chalgrave. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were just some of the gifts not given to Chalgrave but in their place came huge quantities of wrappers, serviettes and burger boxes which were scattered across the land so that all residents could equally benefit from these highly prized McGifts.

Occasionally food would also be left in the parish in the form of chips and often this would multiply overnight in an attempt to feed the 5000 – birds and rats of the parish.

Oh how grateful are the residents of Chalgrave Parish for these generous gifts from McDonald's – as one resident was heard to say I'm lovin' it!

Unfortunately with the passing of time the residents of Chalgrave became tired and ungrateful with receiving the same gifts day after day but McDonald's were determined to carry on with their charitable work and continued providing their followers with boxes, wrappers and other items to scatter across the highways and byways of Chalgrave.

And yea the fateful day did arrive when the ungrateful residents of Chalgrave took up their gifts and deposited them in the nether regions of McDonald's mortal being and from that day on the sun did not shine any more and the people of Chalgrave went away in peace and happiness to spread the word – I'm lovin' it.

The moral of the story is:-

If thou chooseth the path to profit from your actions
pick up thine rubbish and not expect others to do this for you!!!!

Suggestion for a new McDonald's motto –
Environment? What environment!

I'm lovin' it!



WHAT YOUR FUTURE HOLDS...???



By Madam Zola...

**Astrologer and Dream Analyst to the Stars
.....and the parish!**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 22)

You have new goals now and it feels, instinctively, like the right time to move them forward. Take the opportunity before it vanishes.

CAPRICORN (Dec23-Jan20)

You have had some worries around finance but it appears that the strategy you have may be the right one. Check the figures and, if they work out, go for it!!

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19)

Confused? You will be, if you continue to look at things from everyone else's point of view. Listen to your own thoughts and know that you can find your own way forward. Having a strategy about money will protect you in the future.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)

The full moon and its position suggest that things have not been great on the home front. But change is waiting round the corner. Keep going.

ARIES (March21- April 20)

You have noticed some improvements lately and are a bit miffed that no one else has been aware of the changes you are making. Ask for some recognition. Sometimes, people just don't think.

TAURUS (April 21-May21)

Remember, the best things in life aren't things. You are aware that a friendship needs attention. Someone close needs support and you are the good listener they need at the moment.

GEMINI (May 22- June 21)

Make a list of the things you have in your life that you would not want to change. The grass may seem greener on the other side but you have more than you think.

CANCER (June 22- July 23)

There is some change on the horizon. A decision may have to include the thoughts of others who may be affected. There is no hurry so take your time to make the right choice.

LEO (July 24 – August 23)

Travel or a house move or a business trip abroad will mean there are challenges, but you have the resources to deal with whatever lies ahead.

VIRGO (Aug 24 – Sept 23)

The planets are aligned in your favour. There is a window of opportunity to move

your life forward. Recent health issues are resolved and you have more energy now.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

Romance is in the air for Librans. An unexpected invitation could lead to something exciting. Do not hold back and the world will be your oyster!

SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 22)

You have a project in mind which needs careful planning. Look at the many opportunities that are now open to you. Time to get back into the driver's seat.

Madam Zola interprets your Dreams...

*Dear Madam Zola,
I have been having the same dream recently, where I am brushing my teeth and looking in the mirror and, as I do so, I notice one of my teeth is loose. I wiggle it and it falls out, followed by many more of my teeth which end up in the sink. What can this mean?'*

Madam Zola replies:

'Do not worry. This dream is not predicting your future. You are not about to lose any or all of your teeth! However, your dreams are your friends. They send you messages from your subconscious mind and it could be that a trip to the dentist is called for. Perhaps you have not been having those regular check ups or taking good care about brushing and this is a gentle reminder to do so. But remember also that we very often dream in metaphor and losing teeth can be an indicator of a change in life circumstances. It can be about loss or change or moving on. Sometimes we are concerned about the ageing process, getting older, perhaps losing our looks, and dreams about losing teeth can follow the death of a loved one.'

*Dear Madam Zola,
I don't think I dream at all. I cannot ever remember having even one dream. Is this normal?'*

Madam Zola replies:

'Absolutely everybody dreams! This is a scientifically proven fact. The average person has 3 to 5 dreams per night and some have up to 7. These tend to get longer and more detailed as the night progresses and, if you do remember dreams, they are likely to be the ones just before you wake up. However, we are programmed largely to forget our dreams as they mainly serve the purpose of unravelling the worries and concerns of the previous day. If you are worried and therefore are dreaming too much, you can wake up feeling shattered as dreaming is quite tiring. The brain pattern in dreaming is almost identical to the waking pattern. Why some people never remember their dreams is still unclear, but you certainly do dream every night!



Around the Organisations

Book Club

At last! Signs of Spring. Although the winter hasn't been particularly hard it does seem to have dragged on. However the book club has continued to flourish and our repertoire of books we have read growing longer.

Jodi Picoult's 'Mercy' is now long finished and I remember that despite being on the best seller list at the time we found it rather difficult and unbelievable. The main plot was of an Amish man awaiting trial for killing his wife who was dying of cancer. He wined and dined her the night before and they danced and made love... Would they?? He insisted he had killed her at her request and that she was the love of his life. However it wasn't long before he was having an affair with a woman he had only just met. I won't tell you the outcome in case you decide to read it yourself.

Next came Enigma by Robert Harris - a book we all enjoyed evoking memories of wartime England (for the older members!). The atmosphere of the decoding station in Bletchley and university life was very real. A very enjoyable read. Our latest book is by Kate Mosse (with an E)! This weaves a story between 19th century France and the present day, involving tarot cards, murder etc. I am looking forward to our next meeting and

discussing this interesting novel.
Linda Hadden

Senior Citizens Committee

May I begin by thanking most sincerely all those who generously supported us by donating to the Father Christmas float. We raised over £200 towards the Senior Citizen's meal and presents.

Many thanks also to those members of our small community who gave up their time to shake a can and collect the much needed cash. All returned safely to Tebworth afterwards, even Father Christmas who suffered no more than a little frostbite to the fingers.

Please remember that we need the names of all you residents reaching the magic age of retirement so you can be included on the invitation list for the Senior Citizens meal and entertainment party which will take place next year. If you are now eligible, please give me a ring on 873039 and we can add you to the list.

Roger Masters

The District Councillor

Apologies received from Rhys Goodwin for not contributing this time.

Contributions to the Magazine.
(or in this case – lack of it!)

We like to print contributions from all relevant organisations around the Parish , clubs and people, but despite reminders it is becoming a bit of a struggle to get them to contribute, which is why we sadly have not included contributions in this edition from

The County Councillor
Parkfields Middle School
Harlington Upper School

All Saints Church I am sure there is important stuff going on out there which would be of great interest to parishioners - so please be forthcoming.

Theresa, Roger and Ben Burden

Welcome you to

THE PLOUGH INN
WINGFIELD

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Success from Shambles...in support of the Chalgrave News

Big Band in Chalgrave

Wakey Wake !..... Billy Cotton used to shout as they started his shows. Well, when Shambles “came to town” there was no such call but when they started off with Strike up The Band there was no slumbering in the village hall.

A 17 piece band, young (10) and mature (70), on the stage in the parish hall. How did they fit I hear you ask? Well it was a bit of a squeeze even with the stage extension but this exciting fund raising event in aide of this newspaper was a great success by any measurement.

Did the assembled throng enjoy themselves?..... Did they ? Well they were still dancing in the street on their way home as they left the village hall.

Was the food OK?..... OK it was tremendous .
Thank you Lorraine (please call Hepworth Catering phone 01525 874105)
(By appointment to the parish council, provisioners for to the needy and available for all types of events.)

Well did you make a profit..... We expected over 80, only 72 arrived. So whilst accounts are yet to be finalised at time of going to print an insider advises it'll be around £150 (and a bit hopefully)..... so, yes, a great contribution towards the cost of an issue of the Chalgrave News.

But what was it like? Well it was the first time we had held such an event. The band enjoyed themselves and we are already discussing a return sometime next year, if we can't get them earlier. So our lucky audience came, they drank, they listened, they drank, they ate, they drank and they danced (well maybe not all but a lot) we'd like to think that this was the spontaneity of the music but perhaps it was that they did drink as well. **BUT THEY ENJOYED IT !!!!**

This was Big, Big Band swing in the traditional manner. Oh! they played music from 20's to the 70's old standards from Gershwin, some Count Basie and Bacharrac, a whole crop of Glen Miller, (Little Brown Jug, In The mood and

(Continued on page 21)

Moonlight Serenade) and even some Mancini ,(Pink Panther).

Some they played twice, well not all but with great humour we got a quick reprise for some late comers who were spotted by the band leader (Paul Burrett 1st Alto Sax) as they tried to take their seats unobtrusively so with gusto they played a few bars of each of the preceding six or so numbers well I thought it was funny but it took a little time for some to catch on especially the late comers who were still trying to remain unseen. (Note to hall committee to sort out microphone system.....)

Anyway everyone had a great night and we learnt some things about some greats and even heard things none of us seemed to have heard or remembered hearing such as “Peter Gunn” the theme tune from that great US private eye TV series (thanks Google) and heard many pieces we knew we knew even if we just couldn't quite name that tune.

And did you know that April In Paris (with Count Basie) and Somewhere Over the Rainbow (with Harold Arlen) are both EY Harburg's work? Or that the tune you lived with every Sunday afternoon through the sixties and seventies with Alan (Fluff) Freeman giving you a run down of that week's charts was called “Swinging Cumbal”? (Who says you learn nothing from this newspaper?)

2nd Alto Sax
1st Tenor Sax
2nd Tenor Sax
Baritone Sax

Jo Monk
Rebecca Day
Jonathon Burrett
Bob Groome

1st Trumpet
2nd Trumpet
3rd Trumpet
4th Trumpet

Tim Ward & Graham Bagulay
Helen Beattie
Michelle Fanen
Bruce Robinson

2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone
Bass Trombone

Paul Doust
Kirsty Minnis
Bryan James

Piano
Bass Guitar
Drums

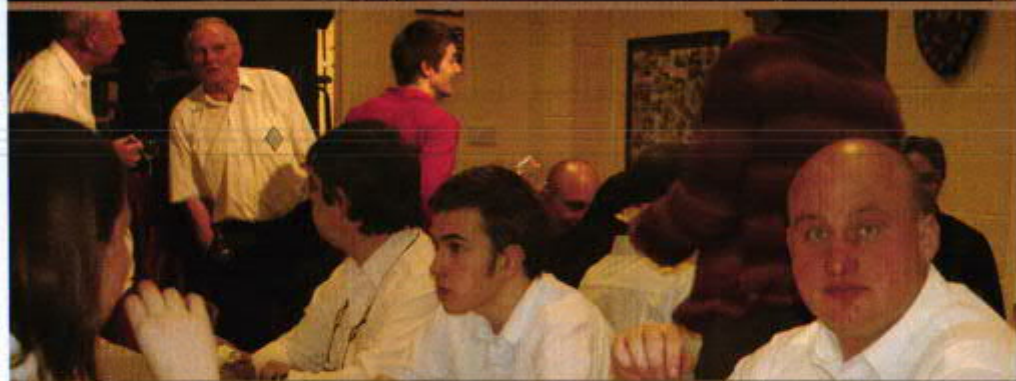
Jon-Luke Kirton
Jon kirton
Ollie Poulton

Well a Big, Big, Big Band thank you has to go to Carolyn Haynes (1ST Trombone) for organising and co-ordinating, and to the rest of the band.

Shambles great fun, swing evening with big band



Shambles great fun ,swing evening with big band



From the Parish Council

Wheely Bins

Once the bins are emptied, please could you take them off the pavements as soon as possible. Some pavements in the Parish are quite narrow and the bins can block access.

Dogs

A reminder again about clearing up after your dog. There have been sightings of 'dog poo' again.

Parkview Lane

We are going to tackle this problem known also as the 'Bill Archer Pond'.. There will be a site meeting with Highways and the residents of Parkview Lane to agree the cause of the flooding and then more importantly agree the solution. We will be looking for an inexpensive solution as it may be that the Parish Council is partially liable as it appears that the PC has partial responsibility for the Lane. We will of course look for funding from any sources.

Tebworth Pond and the Heritage Trail

The Council received a grant for both these projects. It is part of our strategy to protect the Parish. We want to emphasise how special this Parish is, and that it is worth keeping the rural nature of the area – and not be developed.

You may have noticed that the Tebworth Pond has been tidied up. This was done by a group of volunteer children and adults, 18 in total. Everyone worked hard and nobody fell in!

Thanks to all those involved - and to Nilesch and Amanda for their help and for supplying the tea. The posts and railings have been repainted.

Additionally, there is an Information Panel and bench sited near the Pond. The back of the bench has been designed by local children to reflect the habitat of the Pond.

Amanda has agreed to lead a volunteer group to maintain the pond perhaps meeting and working twice a year.

If you would like to help, please let Amanda or myself know.

The Heritage Trail is a designated walk around our Parish with five



information panels sited at key points with details of the history and habitat. Ken Green is leading the work on this Trail and further information will be in this edition of the Chalgrave News.

The Lane

The banks of the brook at the bottom of The Lane should be tidied up this Spring.

Streetlights

Let there be light - we are trying to get all the streetlights working in both Wingfield and Tebworth. Hopefully, by the time you read this they should all be working. I wonder....

Phil Parry, Chairman

**GINGER IS INOCENT
INOCIN NOT GUILTY!!**

The Great Pond

Well done the Parish Council! After years of neglect the pond in Tebworth has been given a new lease of life. A few weeks ago the Chairman along with the Parish Clerk and assorted family members and some community minded volunteers cleared a huge amount of brushwood, brambles and all sorts of rubbish from around the periphery of the pond, this was followed some days later by the erection of a bench so that when the weather permits people can sit and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of a summer evening. The bench itself is a bit of a work of art as it is carved with all sorts of creatures that one would expect to find in a rural pond and was designed by the children of Chalgrave.

All that remains now is to clear some of the silt that has accumulated over the years, but the timing of this work is critical because there must be a minimum of disruption to the wildlife living in and around the pond.

So don't think that the P.C. has lost interest because they haven't!



the charity for
your community



**Are you seeking
a challenge?**

Mid Beds Citizens Advice Bureau is looking for volunteers who would like the opportunity to learn new skills and develop existing ones.

Located at offices in Biggleswade, Ampthill and Chicksands, CAB advisers interview clients face to face and on the telephone. They advise on a wide range of issues including debt, benefits, housing, employment and family matters.

Advisers receive free formal accredited training with all expenses paid. As well as advice-giving, the service has volunteering roles in support of fundraising, publicity and recruitment.

All sorts of people volunteer for the CAB, but one thing that unites them all is that they find it challenging, rewarding and varied – and you never stop learning.

If you would like to join a friendly team, please contact
Jenny Hedges, Bureau Manager on 01462 819570.

Parish Council Assembly

**Chalgrave Memorial Hall
Tuesday 22 April, 7.30pm**

**INTERESTED IN YOUR PARISH?
WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING?
WHO IS DOING WHAT?**

Then come along and meet the gang!!

All the village organisations including the Parish Council will detail their activities over the past year and plans for the future.

It is very informal. Drinks and nibbles supplied.

See you there!

Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Fees and Charges from 1 November 2007

PERIOD	Parish Resident Individual Parish Voluntary Community Groups	** Non-Parish Resident or Parish Comercial	** Non-Parish Organisation or Commercial
Monday-Thursday			
9am - 6pm	£4.00 per hour	£6.50 per hour	£8.00 per hour
6am - 11pm	£5.00 per hour	£10.00 per hour	£11.50 per hour
Friday			
9am - 6pm	£4.00 per hour	£6.50 per hour	£8.00 per hour
6pm - midnight*	£70.00	£105.00	£115.00
Saturday			
9am - 6pm	£6.50 per hour	£10.00 per hour	£11.50 per hour
6pm - midnight*	£70.00	£130.00	£170.00
Noon - midnight*	£105.00	£175.00	£230.00
Sunday			
10am - 6pm	£6.00 per hour	£10.00 per hour	£11.50 per hour

***NB Hall must be vacated and locked up by this time.**

Bank Holidays/New Years eve - Rates on application

Committee Room available for hire separately when Hall not hired—Rates on application.

** Block/Regular booking discount of up to 15% available.

Bookings outside above hours subject to individual rates on application.

Non-refundable deposit of 50% of the booking fee payable to confirm booking.

£100 damage deposit required on all bookings - refundable in full subject to no damage caused to Hall, contents, equipment or grounds and the Hall and grounds being left in a clean and tidy state.

NB. Should the cost of reparation to the Hall contents or equipment exceed the deposit then the committee reserve the right to pursue the balance.

FOR BOOKINGS - PLEASE TELEPHONE 07831 148 2556

How do you want to look this summer??

Christmas is over and the last bit of chrissey pud has finally been eaten ,along with all the chocs and nuts we can consume. It's time to get those holiday brochures out once again and dream of lazy summer holidays and maybe some sunshine.

BUT what about those extra pounds you have put on over the winter?

Try this simple five a day plan and you *could* loose a couple of pounds a week and soon be back in that swimsuit, looking good again.

FIVE A DAY PLAN

FIVE DO'S

Do set a target date before you start (4/5/6 weeks).

Do eat as normal as possible but smaller meals.

Do drink plenty of water daily.

Do exercise at least 3 times a week - swim, walk, dance, make love.

Do have breakfast each day even if it is a small bowl of cereal with fruit.

This will stop you getting hungry mid morning and wanting to snack.

FIVE DON'TS

Don't drink too much alcohol and **NO** beer.

Don't eat anything with wheat in it- no white bread, cakes, bickies or sauces.

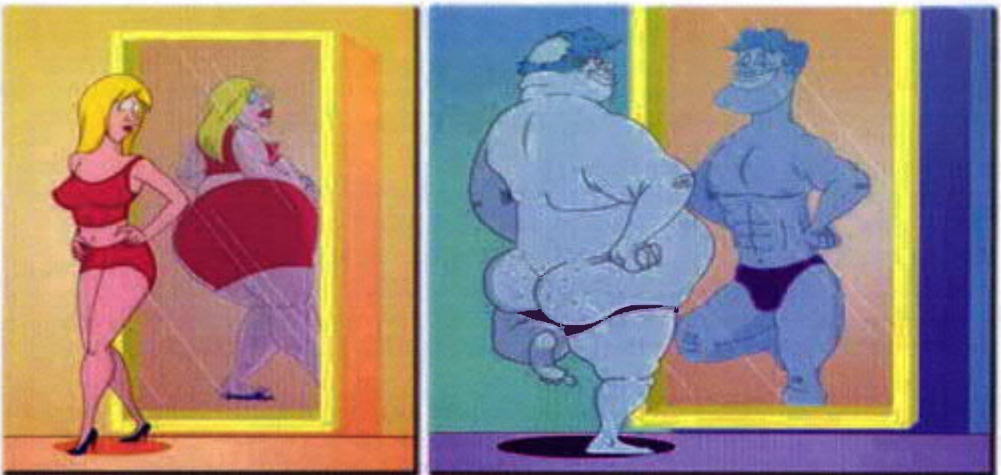
Don't stop eating potatoes, but not fried or roast. New potatoes are great about now!

Don't weigh yourself every day- once a week is enough!

Don't each chocolate, fruit is better and more filling.

Relax, be happy and good luck!

Shona Mercy



The Difference Between Women & Men

Letters to the Editors

I just wanted to write and say a big thank you to the Chalgrave News Team, and to say why I believe that we must try and hold onto our publications.

I moved to Wingfield/Tebworth with my mother in 2000. Before that we had lived for eight years on a new housing estate on the edge of Hertford. It was convenient for me getting to work. Everything in the homes was new, but something was missing. The community lacked a heart. Nobody seemed to talk to each other. Mum and I tried really hard to mix, especially with Mum being retired, but people seemed wrapped up in their own little worlds. SAD, because to flourish we all need to be part of the wider community – to care about each other.

And then we moved to Wingfield. What a wonderful change. Yes, our homes are much more spread out. There are fields and animals and mud and winds, but there is also life. We had moved to a LIVING community. I never forget getting home from work and Mum telling me how she had been asked for her date of birth at the little post office. We were a little surprised at the time, but then she was invited to the senior citizens Christmas Party. Then she received her first beautiful birthday card from the village – a little act of kindness which took effort but meant so much. I knew when I went off to work that Mum would be fine. If something went wrong, somebody would probably, actually notice. Yes, Mum was in fact

very independent, but it felt so good to at last be living in a community that cared. Our next surprise was the Village Games. What fun. Everyone seems to get involved, either manning stalls, organising games or participating. Keep it up.

We just must hold onto our village identity. We have already lost our post office, but lets not lose any more. A flourishing community spirit just cannot be re-bought once lost. It is something for us to be really PROUD of. I know that I have done very little to help, but I do believe that we must fight to hold onto this. (There are less and less pockets in our country that have one). With a little effort from us all, we CAN maintain and even strengthen it. As part of our identity we also need our CHALGRAVE NEWS.

Thank you again.

*Kate Smith G.P.
Wingfield*

To be Ken Green or not Ken Green?

From the last letter, just to say that the culprit has apologised and promised never to do such a silly thing again! So.....the matter is closed. I am not going to say any more except that it was not a near neighbour. In fact it was not even someone now living in the village!

Ken Green



I phoned the local ramblers club today, but the bloke who answered just went on and on.

Restaurant Review

Loch Fyne, Woburn

Have you been there ? If so tell us what you thought we want to know. I think it's good .. others don't.

So firstly I'll tell you why I like it and why I go again and again. But I'll also tell you why others don't like it, but I mean it I want to know what you think. So if you haven't been please go and then tell us... because I'll tell them.

Now the food – well its fish – so if you don't like fish that's not too good. Still with me OK – lots of shellfish and its always good.

They smoke their own – not just salmon, they marinade their own gravadlax its all very good. Oh and even the meat – not much but its very good. The wine is good. The shellfish platter is good. The service is good too ... so what isn't?.....Well the chips (I think they use the wrong potatoes and sometimes (how many times have you been there you ask ?) erm.. quite a few. I did say I liked it.... the puddings. Well actually the same one more than occasion – sticky toffee pudding! Cooked too long and so hard. Now on both occasions I have mentioned it, no not created a scene, not shouted, just politely mentioned it. With no fuss at all its been taken off the bill. So yes they got it wrong but they tried to put it right. I think that's good!

Now I understand that that you might not think so but this is, to my mind what makes it OK to go back. There is more right than wrong and they will try to put it right when you talk to them. Also if I want a crab, salad and chips – not on the menu (and this is a chain) they let me have it.

So there you are...with starters from £5 (Mackerel Pate) to £16 (a doz Oysters) main courses from £10 to £44 (if you shared a Loch Fyne platter with Lobster), side dishes at £2.50light dishes for those with smaller appetites plus a willingness to provide dishes not specified on the menu and good wines at reasonable prices this is good value dinning.

If you haven't been try it if you go or have already let me know what you thought.



This cowboy walks in to a German car showroom and says "Audi!"



Rogation Sunday 27 April 2008

We plan to "Beat the Bounds" again this year. We walk most of the boundary and it is the only day of the year that we are legally entitled to walk those parts of the boundary that are not a public right of way .

In the charter of AD 926 King Aethelstan granted the estate to a certain Ealdred:-
"Where the dyke shoots on to Watling Street, then along Watling Street till you come to the ford, then along the brook to the second ford. Then from the ford up to the spring and thence to the dell [small valley], and then fran the dell to the dyke, and from the dyke to the second dyke to the brook and from the brook to Cynburg well. Then along the dyke to East Coten, thence to the Old Brook, and thence along the rithe [riddy or stream]. Then straight to the Highway and along the Highway to the dyke, and along the dyke to Watling Street"

All are welcome. We will meet at the Queens Head at 10 am, stop for lunch at the Fancott Arms around 1pm and get back into Tebworth around 5.30 PM

Ken Green

THE COMMUNITY AWARD

This prestigious award is presented each year by the Parish Council to an adult or group of adults who are deemed to have given their time and/or effort to the good and benefit of the Parish over and above that which would be expected of them.

This is the first year that the award has been given and has been won jointly by Ray Willis and Sue Leuty of St Mary's Close for their work for the Parish. Sue in particular has been instrumental in the cleaning of the bus shelter, sweeping away the accumulated rubbish and removing graffiti from the walls, all using her own cleaning materials and never asking for any thanks or recognition.

Ray has volunteered his services in helping to organise the Bonfire night at the Queens Head for years and clearing the weeds and rubbish from the playing field, car park and children's play area at the Memorial Hall, again all without asking for any thanks. Well done Sue and Ray you are a credit to the Community.

There is also an award given each year to the young people of the Parish, this is called The Millennium Youth Award, this is given for much the same reason as the adult one, but unfortunately there was no one proposed for this award this year.

So if you know someone who you think deserves some form of recognition for any reason then please speak to a Parish Councillor or write to the Parish Council giving the details and set the investigative wheels in motion.



I went to the doctor. I said to him "I'm frightened of lapels.
He said, "You've got cholera."



Are you interested in a part-time website venture?

Do you work in IT?

Can you use php?

www.thehobbyfiles.com

is based in Chalgrave and is Seeking someone with IT skills and a knowledge of building websites to join us in developing this interesting business venture.

If you are interested and would like to learn more about this opportunity please either email

tony@thehobbyfiles.com

or telephone

Tony Cornes on 01525 874605

THE CHALGRAVE NEWS PRESENTS

A MURDER MYSTERY FROM THE PEN OF THE MOST FAMOUS PLAYWRITE THIS PARISH HAS EVER PRODUCED

THE MAN WHO IS A LEGEND IN HIS OWN MIND AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH MAGICAL AND UNFORGETTABLE MASTERPIECES AS

"THE HUNT FOR PINK SEPTEMBER"

"SOME LIKE IT WARM"

"CAPTAIN CORRELLI'S WHISTLE"

AND THE UTTERLY UNREMARKABLE

BREAKFAST AT RATNERS

ROGER FOTHERINGAY MASTERS

NEVILLE Funeral Service

Independent and Family Owned

Private Chapels of Rest

Flower and Memorial Services

Pre-arrangement and Pre-payment advice

24 hour emergency service

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MARSH ROAD
LEAGRAVE, LUTON
01582 490005*

*THE OLD CHURCH
FLITWICK ROAD
AMPTHILL
01525 406132*



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION 2007



Well it's finally happened, the stranglehold that existed over the coveted New Year hamper that is the prize for best Christmas Lights has been won by someone new! Although all the usual suspects tried their best they were just edged out by a canny entry who just kept quiet and decorated their house with taste and refinement. So despite the fact that there were some truly intense lighting displays in and around the Parish the one judged to be the best for 2007 was in St Mary's Close hiding away in the corner.

Congratulations go to Ray and Vicky of No 11 St Mary's Close who finally broke the monopoly created over the last few years. The hamper was presented by Ray Willis and Sue Leuty mainly because no-one was in when the Chalgrave News representative called and also to "rub it in a bit".

Well done Ray and Vicky!!



Who killed Sir Rupert?

Useful Contacts

Member of Parliament	Andrew Selous	01582 662821
Parish Council & Clerk	Mrs Lesley Smith	874716
Chairman	Philip Parry	875169
Vice Chairman	Ken Green (Grass cutting, Footpaths)	874107
Councillors	Frank Griffin (Planning, Street lights, Road signs)	874126
	Daniel Osborn	873920
	June Horne	873965
	Roger Mence	874516
	Derek Smith (Traffic calming)	874105
District Council	South Beds District Council	01582 472222
	Councillor Norman Costin	874232
County Council	Bedfordshire County Council	01234 363222
	Councillor Rhys Goodwin	210629
Chalgrave Church	Vicar Rev. Ann Crawford	
	Secretary Mrs M Hibbert	872828
	Warden Larry Ryan	
Schools	Lower St Georges	872360
	Middle Parkfields	872555
	Upper Harlington	873836
Home Watch Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Tree Warden	Tony Smith	874716
Doctors	Drs A Long/J Perkins	872222
Toddington Library		873626
Electricity Board - emergency		0800 7838838
Water Board - emergency		0845 7145145
Police Beat Officer	P.C. Rick Goss	01582 471212
Chalgrave Memorial Hall	Chairman Roger Masters	873039
	Booking Sec. Debbie Hampson	877149
Senior Citizens Committee	Chairman Roger Masters	873039
	Secretary Velda Cooke	875363
West Charity	Clerk to the Trustees Norman Costin	874232
Mums and Tots and Youth Club	Vacant	
Cricket Club	Chairman Mike Wells	877098
Toddington Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	David Yirrell	875410
Toddington Rainbows	Gill Hiscox	875239
Brownies and Guides	Gill Hiscox	875239
Toddington Tennis Club	Ray Smith	874148
Chalgrave Parish News	Tony Comes	874605
	Lyndie Lothian	874166
	Frances & Roger Masters	873039
	Mick McDonagh	873012

THE CHALGRAVE NEWS



PRESENTS

MURDER AT THE CHALGRAVE VINEYARD

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
25th/26th APRIL AT THE
MEMORIAL HALL**

PERFORMANCE STARTS AT 7:45PM

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
PUNCH OPTICIANS
01525 875099**

or

TONY CORNES 01525 874605

**SEATING LIMITED SO BOOK
YOUR SEAT IN ADVANCE
BLOCK BOOKINGS AVAILABLE**

**So..... Who killed
Sir Rupert?**

Sit
Down
Supper
Included

Bar
facilities
available
as
usual!!!

Tickets
only
£10:00

Lottery

Raffle!

More

ways

to win!!!

