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CHALGRAVE NEWS

The free community magazine delivered to homes and businesses in the Chalgrave Parish



Publication No.30– November 2010

Dates for Your Diary

Day/Date	Event	Location/Contact	Time
3rd Tuesday of each month	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Every other Sunday	Quiz Night	Plough Inn	9.00pm
Mondays	Dominoes	Plough Inn	
Mondays & Fridays	Live entertainment	Queens Head	7.30pm
Tuesdays	Darts	Queens Head	
Thursdays	Dominoes	Queens Head	
Weekdays	Book Club	Linda Hadden	
Thursdays	Zumba Fitness	Memorial Hall	7.00pm
2nd Tuesday of each month	W.I.	Memorial Hall	8-10pm
Wed 15th December	Carols	Plough Inn	
Sun 19th December	Santa's Float	Chalgrave Villages	PM
Thur 23rd December	Kids Xmas film	Memorial Hall	2.00pm
30th January	Gourmet Evening	Plough Inn	PM

Front Cover: Chalgrave Variety Show

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 they do not comply with our policy.

Editorial

We have seen a very festive bout of early winter snow. Please remember that although very pretty (*remember these scenes from last winter?*), snowy and icy conditions can lead to all sorts of problems. So wrap up warm, keep an eye on any elderly or vulnerable neighbours and drive safely!

Hopefully we'll all be a bit more prepared this year, mind the icicles!!!



To take your mind off thoughts of bad weather—as we went to print there are

24 sleeps 'till Christmas! Yes, it seems to come round quicker each year. No sooner have we said goodbye to Summer than we're scooping out pumpkins (*see the fabulous Halloween Party pics on pg 13*), then we're oooing and aaahhing at fireworks (*once again Colin put on a fantastic display at the Queens Head, see pg 14*).

Why not take a break from your head scratching, trying to decide just what you will spend a small fortune on this year, and enjoy reading about how representatives of the local clubs and organisations showed themselves up, sorry, excelled themselves with their outstanding performances at the Variety Show (*pg's 16&17*).

Remember also that Santa will be visiting the villages as usual in December, details on page 31.



Here at the Chalgrave News we'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and New Year—see you in 2011.

Remember to post your Christmas cards on time, final dates for UK post are:

1st Class: Tuesday 21st December
2nd Class: Saturday 18th December

Next Edition: Deadline for all entries - Monday 14th February
Please submit to:

thechalgravenews@live.co.uk
Or

Emma: 01525 877327 / Su: 01525 873963 / Debbie: 01525 877149

Chairman of the Parish Council

Lorries through Tebworth.

We are concerned about the size of lorries and the speed as they manoeuvre through the bends of Tebworth and the damage they cause to the pavements. We have written to Fred Sherwood Transport to complain about their lorries coming through our village. There was a near accident with a school bus. We are waiting for a reply. If you are aware of lorries speeding through our Parish try to get the name of the company as well as the licence number. We will inform the police and write to the company concerned.

A5/M1 Link or the Northern Dunstable Bypass.

The latest on this is that the road has been given the go-ahead. But much can happen between now and when work starts in 2014. If the road is built it may stop lorries travelling through our Parish. We may also be able to get a 20 mph speed limit through the Parish as well as other traffic calming measures.

Parking in The Lane.

We are aware that parking spaces in The Lane are limited. However, please leave room for emergency vehicles to get access. And remember that farm vehicles will need access on a daily basis.

Biogas Plant.

We have had an application for a Biogas Plant at Trinity Hall Farm. The farm is situated between Tebworth/Wingfield and the A5. We had an extra meeting to discuss the application and members of the Parish Council have visited a Biogas Plant. We have raised concerns about smell, visual impact, release of toxins and movement of trucks entering the plant.

Dog fouling.

The situation in our Parish has improved. However, dog(s) are fouling the grass verge down The Lane. We recently put up signs in this area to remind dog owners to pick after their dog – these signs were deliberately knocked over and destroyed almost as soon as they were put up. We again ask all dog owners to be responsible and great neighbours by cleaning up after your dogs. Remember, there is a £1000 fine.

Skate Park.

Some young people have come up with the idea of a Skate Park. They attended a Parish Council meeting and put forward their ideas. There are a number of issues to address not least of which is funding and space. We welcomed their attendance at our meeting and their enthusiasm for the idea. We are looking into the feasibility of their proposal.

Parkview Lane.

We are considering the resurfacing of Parkview Lane. We have got a quote for the work which will leave a dent in our finances but will hopefully begin to solve the problem of the flooding as well as improving the look of the lane.

Finally, as we lead up to Christmas we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Phil Parry, Chairman



Ronald (Tom) Horne 12th January 1935 - 5th September 2010



Tom was born in Tebworth and then when he married he moved to Wingfield. He was one of the few elderly residents of the Parish who were born and lived here all their lives.

He went to Chalgrave School and Toddington Secondary Modern School. In his youth he played football for Hockliffe and cricket for Chalgrave and Milton Bryan.

He started work for Ron Osborn and then worked for Roses on the milk round. He was called up for national service and this he spent in Oswestry in an Officer Training Unit of the Royal Artillery.

When he finished his term of national service he applied to Blue Circle for employment as a lorry driver, and although he had a very good reference for driving he was not old enough at the time to drive a lorry outside of the army, but they employed him until he was of the right age. This employment was to last for over 30 years, all of which were accident free.

After leaving the army he still played cricket, but football was more support of Luton Town and he attended Wembley with other members of his family at the Cup Final, although as you know Luton did not win. He attended Wembley again later when Luton were in (I think it was called the Littlewoods Cup), this time they won.

He joined Toddington Old Boys Association and did a turn as Chairman. He gave a talk about life and people in Toddington and was asked after the meeting if the notes could be handed over for inclusion in a book about Toddington memories. Tom did not need notes all he had was names on a piece of paper and the rest was in his head. People who knew Tom well will tell you he had a fantastic memory for events and people, and always seemed to have an answer if you asked him a question.

Tom did not like change and was very much a keep things as they are man, which did not go down well with everyone, but Tom was someone who, what you saw was what you got. He had a sense of humour that not everyone appreciated and he also loved children and children always seemed to be attracted to him.

He will leave a vacant spot in lots of hearts, non more so than his family.

June Horne.

P.S. The collection at his funeral reached £670 which was shared between Macmillan Nurses and Keech Hospice. Special thanks to all who gave to these charities.

View from the House: Andrew Selous MP

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



There was wonderful news for South Bedfordshire and beyond this week with the news that the start of works on the long awaited Dunstable bypass is now estimated to take place in 2014. The Public Inquiry will start "as soon as possible" according to a letter to South West Bedfordshire MP Andrew Selous from Roads Minister Mike Penning dated 28th October 2010.

The letter explains that the A11 dualling project has a higher net present value per £ than the A5-M1 link, even on the basis of the £50 million private developer contribution to the A5-M1 link which lowers the cost to the public purse to £100 million.

The Government proposes to meet Central Bedfordshire Council and the private developer as a matter of urgency to agree heads of terms between the Highways Agency and the developer. Unfortunately the new junction 11a can not be built as the M1 junctions 10 to 13 hard shoulder running contract let by the last Government did not include junction 11a and so the junction can not be built concurrently with the hard shoulder running. This will end up costing the taxpayer more.

The Secretary of State for Transport, Philip Hammond, will come to visit the proposed A5-M1 link shortly to see for himself how badly it is needed and all the wider benefits to the whole community that will occur when it is built.

Andrew Selous said "This letter is fantastic news for Dunstable, Houghton Regis, Leighton Buzzard, Linslade and our surrounding villages. This bypass is the key to 6,800 new jobs, the regeneration of Dunstable and Houghton Regis as well as making Leighton Buzzard and Linslade a more attractive location for business. It will help us build some of the homes we need for local people as well. I look forward to welcoming the Secretary of State here shortly to see all this for himself."

Welcome from All Saints Church



All Sunday Services at 9.30am are Sung Holy Communion.

On the first Sunday in each month we have a shorter service, sometimes accompanied by a band, and as the service is child friendly as we do not have a Sunday School.

I'm writing this letter on the 1st day of November, All Saints Day, the day when the Christian Church remembers and gives thanks for all those people whose example of holy, faithful and sacrificial living has been an inspiration and encouragement to us. Last night we held our annual Remembrance and Thanksgiving service in church, when people came along to remember loved ones who have died, and to give thanks for their lives and their love. One of the most moving and beautiful parts of the service happens as people come forward to light a candle and offer their own silent prayers of thanksgiving and remembrance. And as our service in church came to a close, children gathered for a 'Bright Party', a celebration of the goodness and light of the Holy Spirit, an alternative to the potential menacing darkness which seems to mark our present day Halloween.

The emphasis on light as part of our season of remembrance gives us a timely reminder that if it wasn't for the birth of Jesus Christ we would not have the comfort that the light of his love offers at the difficult and frightening times of our lives. One of the most important passages in the Bible speaks of the Light coming in to the world as Christ is born. They are beautiful, poetic and poignant words, and come at the beginning of the Gospel of St John: *'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'* This is what Christmas is all about ~ the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World, a light which nothing can extinguish, not even death.

God came into the world, in the flesh of a human baby, so that the whole of creation could know what it is to live in the light of perfect love. Jesus showed us what God is like; his life, death and resurrection illuminated the life of God for us and in us. We were given, through his birth, the ability to shine with the light of God, to bring love to the dark places of the world, and to be beacons of hope. The star shone over the stable and led people to see the new born King. May the brightness of the Light of the World shine in our hearts this Christmas and lead others into the warmth and light of God's eternal love.

With my prayers for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2011.

***From the Rector of All Saints Church, Chalgrave
The Rev Anne Crawford***

Service Times:

*1st 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month 9.30am Parish Communion
5th Sunday - Joint service with St George's Toddington. Please see notice board for time and place.*

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from All Saints Church



Well it's that time of year again; good will to all men, mistletoe, wine, presents and of course, Flowers for Christmas

The Church will be open for Decorating on **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th December from 9.30am to 3.30pm** and the again **18th December**, morning only. Donations of greenery and flowers would be most gratefully accepted, as will any offers of help.

What's happened in the last few months?

Afternoon tea at the church—fondly called 'Tea at the Ritz'

Afternoon tea is old world charm at its best. Cakes and scones, doilies and tea with good conversation and beautiful surroundings, (picture below). This is an annual event and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

Harvest Supper

Harvest Supper, held jointly between St Georges and All Saints. This year it was the turn of Chalgrave to prepare the food and I wish to thank all the ladies and gentlemen who cooked, cleaned and made the evening so special (picture below).



New Heating

Tuesday 9th November saw the electrician pulling up to the Church for the start of the installation of the new heating. After months of discussions it was agreed to install new pew heaters, which should keep us warm and snug for the colder months.

When they have been installed, the bottle gas heating will be removed, so reducing the moisture in the air.

It seems nothing today is cheap so if you would like to make a donation towards the conservation of our beautiful ancient church then please speak to our treasurer Julie Mucklestone (874419), churchwarden Margaret (01582 605561), or to our rector Anne (872298). Any contribution great or small would be VERY welcome. Thank you.

Website for All Saints, Chalgrave

We have a new website address for the Church, www.chalgravechurch.org.uk, at the present time the site is under construction, but the beginning of the year will hopefully see us up and running.

Should you have any fund raising suggestions or are part of a group that you would like mentioned then please do not hesitate to call **Beverley Crowe on 01525 210161** or email on diarcrw@aol.com.

Church Calendar

December

- Sunday 5th** Second Sunday in Advent , 9.30am. Parish Communion and a visit by Judge John Adams to discuss the mediation process.
- Sunday 5th** Christingle Service, Chalgrave Memorial Hall 4pm
- Wednesday 8th** Bishop Alan visiting St Marys, Eaton Bray. To discuss Mission in a Rural Community – 7.45pm
- Sunday 12th** Third Sunday in Advent – Parish Communion 9.30am
- Saturday 18th** Carols by Candlelight, All Saints Church - 7.30pm
- Sunday 19th** Fourth Sunday in Advent – Parish Communion 9.30am
- Friday 24th** Crib Service , All Saints Church 4pm
- Friday 24th** Midnight Mass and blessing of crib at All Saints Chalgrave (St George's, Toddington will join us for this service)
- Saturday 25th** Christmas Day Eucharist and blessing of crib and carols at St George's Toddington. (Joint service with All Saints, Chalgrave) 10am
- Sunday 26th** Joint Eucharist, St Georges, Toddington – 9am
- January 2011**
- Saturday 8th** Festival of Light
- Sunday 9th** The Feast of the Epiphany
- Sunday 9th** Festival of Light (please look on the parish notice boards in the new year for further information)

Chalgrave War Memorial



We think of the men from our Parish who served in both World Wars and gave their lives and we give thanks.

They will be remembered.

Chalgrave W.I. – Reborn!

Forget Jam and Jerusalem – we are resurrecting the Chalgrave Women's Institute and aim to create something modern and fun – with room for quilt and jam making if demand exists, as long as it's not taken too seriously!

We currently have around 20 women on board and will meet on the **second Tuesday of every month from 8-10pm at Chalgrave Memorial Hall, Tebworth.** We plan to offer a blend of educational and fun activities plus trips and outings, with a chance to build skills, make new friends, contribute to the community and have some laughs along the way.

WI – Key Points

- ◆ The annual subscription is £30
- ◆ The membership year runs from January to December – but if you join now your subscription will cover you until 31 December 2011
- ◆ We can liaise with other local branches to share ideas about events and speakers – perhaps even join forces if we want a high profile speaker or to organise a bigger event

Future Events

- ◆ Christmas craft night – Tuesday 14 December (*see right*)
- ◆ Pamper Evening in the New Year
- ◆ Towcester race trip to an evening meet in April or May 2011
- ◆ Theatre trip to Dirty Dancing in Milton Keynes – May 2012 (yes 2012 it's not a typo!)
- ◆ Film evening – possibly Dirty Dancing to get us in the mood!
- ◆ Ghostbusting at the Vicarage
- ◆ Séance evening/Ghost stories
- ◆ Talk on Crystals
- ◆ Image consultant
- ◆ Working sheepdog demonstration
- ◆ Dream interpretation
- ◆ Fashion show

Interested?

Please contact one of the committee members below.

Name	Role
Debbie Parry	President
Tina Cocking	Vice President
Carol Ewing	Treasurer
Bev Markham	Vice Treasurer
Carol Gibson	Secretary
Jan Barnard	Vice Secretary
Frances Masters	Committee
Zoe McCoy	Committee
Lesley Mead	Committee
Sandy Ryan	Committee

Alternatively, pop along to our next meeting on **Tuesday 14 December, 8-10pm at the Chalgrave Memorial Hall, Tebworth.**
All (women) welcome!

The theme of our next meeting is Christmas crafts and we would like you to bring examples of Christmas crafts along – a sort of WI "show and tell"! – this could be a decoration, handmade card or wrapping design, Christmas wreath or a homemade Christmas gift.

Alternatively bring something that you have bought but which could inspire us to make something similar. We can then display these for all to see – and it will be a good opportunity to mingle and chat informally to others about what they have brought along.

In addition, please bring a homemade savoury or sweet dish along together with the recipe. If you can also email me the recipe so we can share with everyone afterwards. We could also compile the recipes into a pamphlet with a view to selling them at one of our fund raising events.

Debbie Parry, President – Chalgrave WI
email debbie.parry@accenture.com
Mobile - 07770 54397



Birthday Wishes..

Our esteemed Chairman of the Parish Council, Phil Parry, celebrated a significant birthday recently (although he's keeping tight lipped as to how significant!).



Have the years been kind?
We'll let you decide!
Happy Birthday Phil.

Grumpy Old.....

Went to Milan recently, overnight to the Motorcycle Show. Cheap on Sleazy-Jet and so much better than a day trip to Birmingham, where the 'British' Show is in November!

Had a 'decent' dinner in a 'decent' hotel chatting to a 'decent' chap from Honda UK. But the problem is this, if the airport securitats are going to assume that every decent member of the travelling public is a terrorist until proven otherwise, could they not at least introduce some uniformity about the arrangements that are there for 'our own safety'?

Why do I have to take my belt off at Luton and not in Milan, or last year Alicante? Do they achieve some grisly satisfaction seeing me go through the arch setting off the alarm, which I always do, with my trousers around my knees? I am waiting with uncontrollable anticipation for someone who invents an explosive device that is hidden in their bottom, then we will see what they do about that!

John Parker

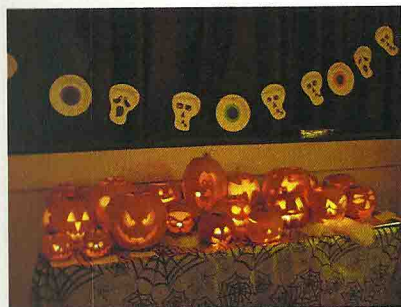


Halloween Party

The children's Halloween party that took place on Sunday 31st October was 'fantastic'. What else is there to say? Plenty of fun and excitement was had by all, including my 5 year old daughter Sadie. From toddlers to teens, it showed how a child's imagination is something to be appreciated. This came to light through fantastic costumes and ghoulish games.

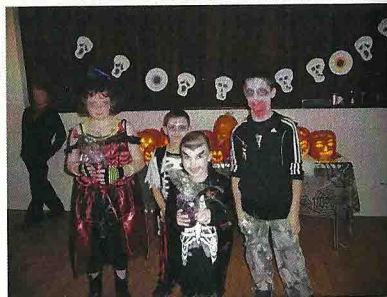
Children got messy guessing what lay beneath a cloth concealing ghastly 'surprises'. There was also cake decorating to take part in, with all sorts of eerie ingredients, including jelly worms! Then there was the Halloween party staple, apple bobbing. How can you not enjoy the fun and frustration of the apples getting away from you, plenty of giggles there.

Other games included donuts hung on a wire, hands behind your back, and try as you might that donut just can't be caught quick enough. There was pin the spider on the web, body part 'unlucky' dip and team games, one of which saw my childminder being wrapped in toilet tissue to turn her into a mummy!



Pumpkin competition.
Well done to all the winners.

Prizes were awarded for the best costume and the best carved 'Jack O Lantern', which made an excellent and atmospheric display.



Fancy dress winners (l-r):
Hannah, Ben, Sadie & Liam

Grown ups were well catered for also, seasonally warm mulled wine to wash down hot dogs.

All in all it really was the best hour and a half I've had in a while. Thank you to everyone involved.

Jo and Sadie Fox, Eversholt.



Queen's Head Fireworks

Once again Colin did us proud with a splendid display of Fireworks. As normal it was free entrance and there was a barbeque and of course drinks from the bar. This is always an old fashioned venue where all can gather by the warmth of the bonfire. There were many of us sitting by the warm embers chatting until we finally migrated to the bar for a few more bevvies.

It was a really good display and fireworks are expensive! The locals had collected over the previous weeks and some individuals dug deep into their pockets to supplement the collection, there was also a bucket collection on the night but overall I suspect that Colin spent more than he made on the evening!

We are so lucky to have a traditional pub in the village. Colin, because of his performing background, continues to put on great live music every Friday with an "open mic" policy for volunteers to join in. Please come and join us!

Pubs are going through a very difficult time at present. It really is a matter of "use it or lose it" We need to give our landlord all the support we can.



Ken Green

Here's a question for you.

I drive my old car with dodgy tyres and failing brakes past a camera van after I've had 2 or 3 pints at lunchtime, I am doing 30 mph.

My friend drives past in his new car with excellent brakes and new tyres, he has had a lemonade at lunch and is doing 36 mph, he gets a ticket and I don't, who is the most dangerous?

If you can't catch the criminals, why make criminals out of those you can?

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A few interesting facts...

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June ... however, since they were starting to smell brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London, which used to have gallows adjacent. Prisoners were taken to the gallows (after a fair trial – of course) to be hung. The horse drawn dray, carting the prisoner was accompanied by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like one LAST DRINK.

If he said YES it was referred to as "ONE FOR THE ROAD"

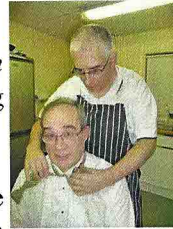
If he declined, that prisoner was – "ON THE WAGON"

So – there you go!

Variety Show

When the 'Chalgravians' said that they were putting on a show to entertain the locals, we thought mmm.... How do you entertain a bunch of country yokels?? The only way to discover this was to sneak in, sit quietly and observe the antics of our fellow countrymen. It was entertaining to say the least.

The Show was introduced by a smart bow-tied (*with a little help from Paul*) compere, as usual he did a good job and kept the show going with the artistes ably assisting his efforts.



The sketches and variety of different acts were brilliant, ranging from a sad story about a horse, a Fairy Tale, musical treats and a 'historical' drama, all of which kept the audience in various states of sadness and laughter.

In between all of this we had interval music provided by Joe Inzani and Roger Spalding, and a very fine spread of food provided, well done to Head Chef Paul!



Variety Show

The final sketch with a 'Nelson Touch' was a highlight and going quite well until the Cabin Boy spotted the enemy on the 'port bow', this sighting was a little confusing for in 1805 there was no such direction as the 'port bow'...in those far off days it was Larboard and Starboard & the Navy did not alter it until 1844 to become Port & Starboard. With a mistake like this it was inevitable that the motley crew would get a pounding from the enemy ordinance. But the sketch was great anyway!



And so we came to the Finale.



Good to have Britannia getting in the way and brilliant to have the closing refrain of Rule Britannia....we don't get enough of it!

Just a last word about the 'behind the scenes activity'. Thanks must go to Roger Masters for instigating the whole evening; John Parker for his role as compere; Memorial Hall committee members and Chalgrave News Team for catering and waitressing; to the busy people who kept the victuals coming (sorry no picture of our fantastic barmaid Debbie, she was too fast for the camera!) and everyone else who contributed in whatever way to making the evening such a success.

Well Done!!

Ancient Mariner



All Our Yesterdays - No3

Two Pictures of the old "Chalgrave games" at the old Hall.
Do you recognise yourself or others or know the years ?

For those "newish" to the Parish, the old Hall was built in 1949 and replaced with help of a lottery grant in 1999. It was a single brick building with an asbestos roof but it served the villages admirably for many years.

Contact Ken on 01525 874107



By the way, the three "Soldier Lads" in the last news were Brian Gridley and Sonnie Wing who lived in cottages down The Lane and Colin Bryson who lived in Pump Cottage, we think 1951. No one has volunteered names for the children in The Lane or the racers outside the "Sunday School"

CHALGRAVE NEWS

Advertising And Useful Contacts

To advertise in the Chalgrave News, please contact
the Editorial team via our email
thechalgravenews@live.co.uk
Or
01525 877327 / 01525 873963 / 01525 877149

*When contacting an advertiser, please
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Advertising - November 2010

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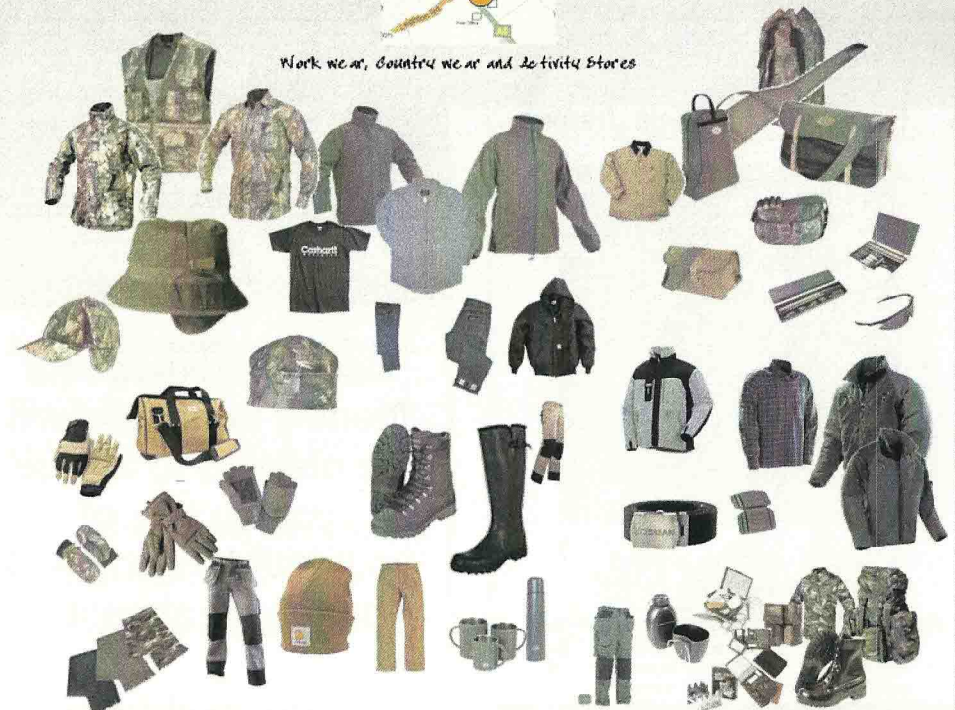
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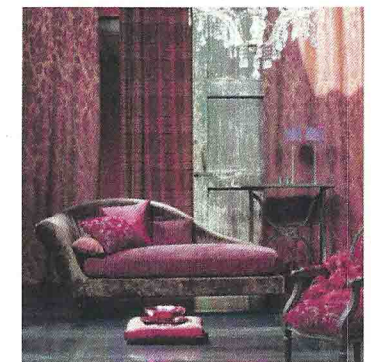
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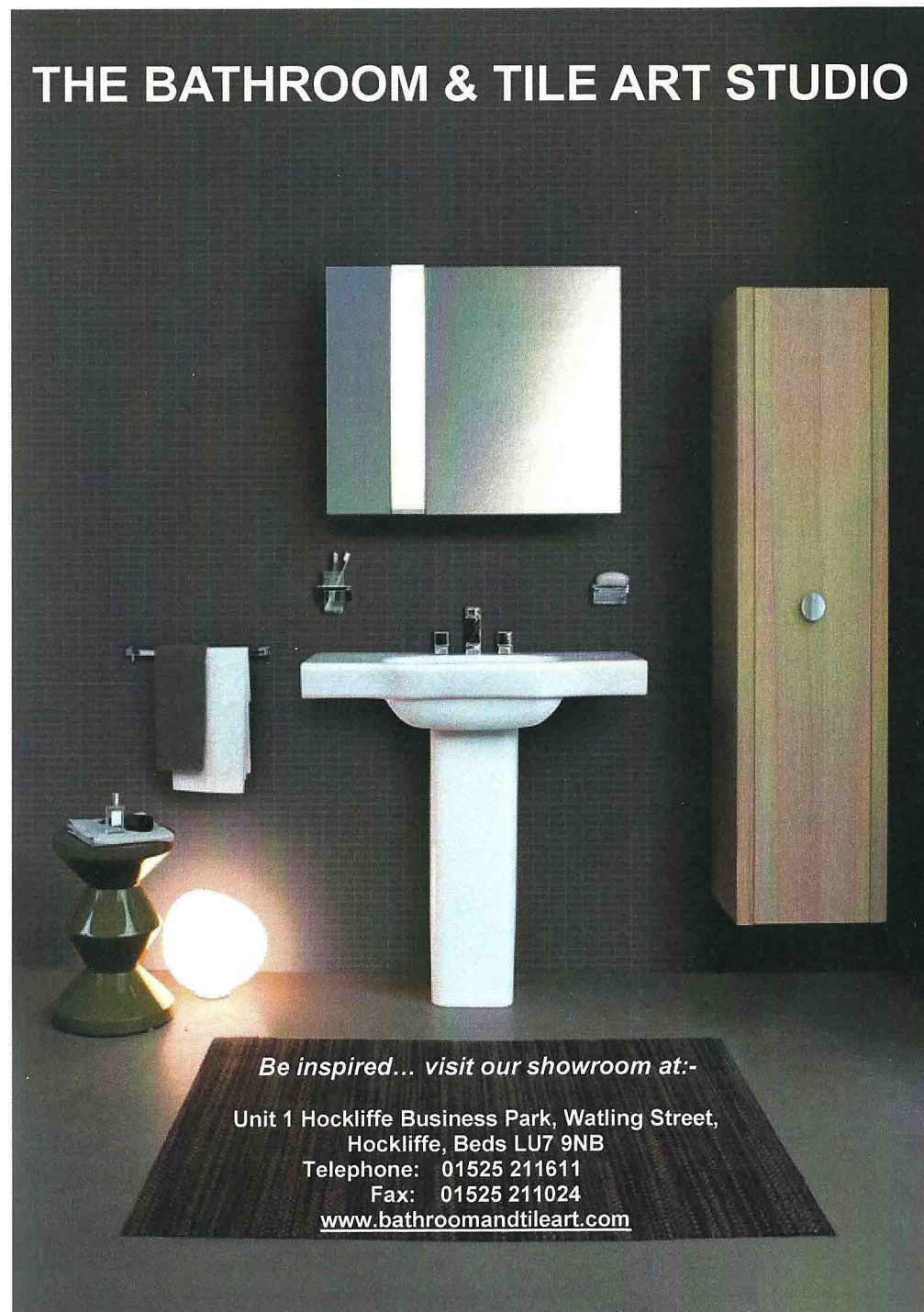
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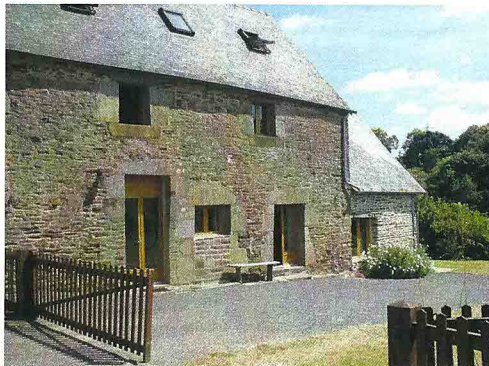
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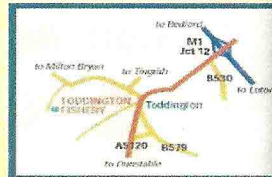


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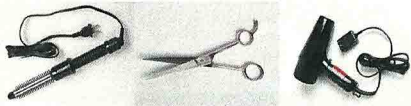
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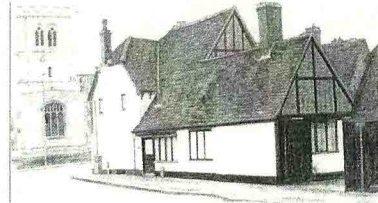
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Secretary to Andrew Selous	Sue Howats	howats@parliament.uk	01582 662821
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Vice Chairman Parish Council	Ken Green		01525 874107
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Legal Destruction of Badger Sett on [Green Lane] Footpath 36.

Exclusion of Badgers using one-way gates, followed by sett destruction.

I list details of my email correspondence with Natural England. I won't comment further. Make of it what you will! *Questions by Ken Green Answers by Cressida Mansfield, Wildlife Management Adviser, Natural England*

I am very concerned about you granting permission to destroy this badger sett. Could you please explain the reasons and answer the questions below.

Q - Did you visit the site?

A - A site visit was carried out in August to discuss the application and visit the badger sett. The problem and possible solutions were discussed.

Q - Did you realise that the location of the sett is not at SP984-286 as quoted but a long way away at SP992-273? This seems to me to be a serious discrepancy would you not agree?

A - The grid reference given on the licence is, as you have identified, incorrect. I apologise for this, it is an error. A revised licence will be issued to correct the error in the grid reference. The site visit established the location and nature of the sett at the correct location.

Q - Did you realise that the sett is in a hedgerow beside a farm track / footpath and that it has been there for many years, at least 50. It has not changed in appearance much over this time and has never seemed to cause any problem before so why now?

A - I realise the sett has been in place for many years and has not caused problems until now. The licence application was made as an entrance hole to the sett has been dug within the green lane. Sheep are regularly driven along this track between fields, and recently a sheep has stumbled in the badger sett entrance hole and broken its leg. There is also concern that the badger sett is causing visible subsidence of the ground of the track, which may result in the collapse of the ground when vehicles are driven along it during the course of normal farming operations.

Q - The reason given is to prevent "serious damage to property". What property would that be? There are no barns or houses in the close vicinity. The closest barn is around 500 metres away and

the closest house around 1000 metres away. A - 'Damage to property' in this case includes the sheep which use the green lane regularly and are at risk of injury, and also the potential damage to vehicles should the track collapse under their weight as a result of the badger tunnels beneath the track.

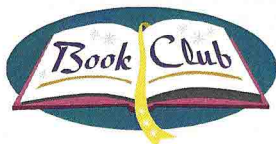
Q - I understand that badgers are very territorial and setts stay in existence sometimes for many hundreds of years. What is the likely outcome of this event. would the badgers not attempt to dig another sett close to the same location?
A - You are correct to say badgers are territorial, and when a sett is excluded there is always the potential for a new sett to be dug close to that which is being excluded. All applicants are made aware of this at the time of the site visit. Following exclusion, badgers may potentially relocate to another sett within their territory and/or expand an existing sett, or create a new one. The licence will not prevent this, it is only to try and help resolve the current problem.

Q - My understanding from a wildlife officer in Central Bedfordshire says that "Natural England do not generally issue these licences lightly and a very strong case has to be made" Could you please explain what this strong case was and how the process works. Is there no consultation process? Would it not be a courtesy at least to contact the Parish Council.

A - Natural England is the statutory authority for issuing licences. We do not routinely consult with local authorities or parish councils prior to the issue of a licence. Where a licence may impact on a designated site (e.g. a Site of Special Scientific Interest), we do consult with the local Natural England team for their views on the impacts of any licence on the nature conservation interest of the site.

Q - We all understand the dilemma surrounding TB in badgers but this is quite different. I'm sure you can understand that people get very upset when an act there to protect wildlife is used in this way.
A - Licences are only issued where they satisfy the criteria set out in legislation and Natural England Policy. Badger Licences can only be issued if the works are for one of the purposes set out in the legislation, in this case, for the 'prevention of serious damage to property'. The works licensed need to have an expectation that they will help resolve the problem, and there should be no satisfactory alternative to the licensed action. The licence was issued as it was deemed to meet these criteria.

Clubs & Committees



Hello Everyone,

I am so sorry to start my report this quarter with the sad news that one of our founder members – Dr. Jill Jones – died in July after a short illness. She was very brave and I feel a lesson to us all. Jill will be greatly missed - she rarely missed a meeting and her participation was always full of enthusiasm. Her intelligence, humour and insight contributed so much to our discussions. I count myself very lucky to have known her and been numbered among her friends.

Now to get down to business: since the last report we have read two books - the first one being 'THE FORTY RULES OF LOVE by ELI SHAFAK. This was reviewed favourably by all our group members; we found it very enjoyable and quite different to any book we have read before. We agreed with the quote from The Observer - 'Shocking, exuberant and ambitious'!

The story plunges us back into the thirteenth century when Ella, an everyday housewife, proof reads a book about the fabled poet Rumi whose world view is transformed by the whirling dervish ~Shams of Tabriz and his forty rules of love and life. Ella becomes so fascinated that she tracks down the author and begins to correspond with him via e-mail. This leads to her world being turned upside down and she eventually leaves her husband and family to be with him. However most of the book takes place in the thirteenth century and some of our members thought that Ella and the present day relationship an unnecessary diversion.

Others thought it fundamental to the story. All in all it was enjoyed by us all.

Our second book FEAR THE WORST is the third LYNWOOD BARCLAY book we have read. His books are not so much 'who dun its?' as 'what the hell has happened its!' We enjoy them as easy reads difficult to put down during the summer months but less demanding than some of our other literature. This one revolves around a single man whose daughter, staying with him for the summer, fails to come home from work one evening. When he visits her place of employment he discovers she does not work there and no-one has ever heard of her... He then does everything possible to track her down including following a couple of very good red herrings! This is a cleverly written book that everyone enjoyed immensely.

At our last meeting we decided to read THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO by STEIG LARSSON, a novel every book club in England seems to have read with widely differing opinions. I am about a quarter of the way through it and am very much looking forward to discussing it at our next meeting..

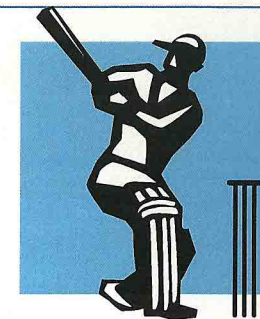
Anyone wishing to join us please contact me on 01494 782634. We are an informal group meeting in members' homes roughly once a month. Coffee and cakes are involved!!

We sometimes have outings together and are currently looking forward to a trip to the ballet to see Romeo and Juliet.

All for now, best wishes,

LINDA HADDEN

Chalgrave Sports Club



The cricket season has now finished and it was a close run thing with The Plough and The Road Runners sharing the league title.

The 10/10 competition was again a great success with a number of people turning up to watch. The weather held off until the final was due to be played and such was the downpour the competition had to be abandoned with the Road Runners and Toddington agreeing to share the trophy for 6 months each.

The presentation night was also a great success which combined a race night which was great fun and raised much needed funds for the club. The committee decided to present the race night itself and was most enjoyable and informative. We will carry out the same format next year as we all know what we are doing now.

Many thanks go to The cricket committee who organised this event which was a ground breaking event in as much as everything was organised by us.

It is now the close season but as always work goes on at the ground and we are trying to improve the facilities all the time.

New players whatever your age are always welcome.

Roger Burden



WORDSEARCH

R	J	F	C	H	E	R	Y	L	C	O	L	E	U
A	O	M	J	P	M	O	H	T	Y	F	R	O	G
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Matt One Direction Paije Cheryl Cole Mary
 Rebecca Wagner Cher Simon Cowell Storm Lee

JOKES!!!

What is a teddy bears favourite pasta?
Tagliatddy

What's the chilliest football stadium in the premiership?
Cold Trafford

Doctor, Doctor I feel like a pack of cards.
I will deal with you later



Queens Head Update

Hello to all you fellow parishioners out there, I am reliably informed that this issue of our parish magazine is the last one before Christmas, I cannot believe how quickly this year has gone I know they say that as you get older time passes more quickly but at this rate I must be about 105.



As usual the live music extravaganzas are still happening every Friday and every other Monday The line up is slightly different now with Pete Spence being able to appear more often, which is great because for those of you who has seen him before know, what a very entertaining act he is.

As I say, the acts are going to be a bit different this coming year so I haven't booked any one yet except for Christmas Eve there will be Pete West, a local guy who is always a good, fun, evenings entertainment, and for New Years Eve Pete Spence will be appearing again so that will definitely be a good, if rather noisy evening, so come along on one or both of these nights 'cos if you don't you will never know just what you are missing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those of you who spent your hard earned money buying tickets for the Variety Show that was held at the Memorial Hall in mid November, the Queens Head entered into the spirit of the evening by having a couple of old troupers messing about on stage trying to sing some old time songs and generally making a hash of it, thank heavens for Brent on his piano, the star of the whole night (in my opinion), he played beautifully. At the time of writing this I don't yet know exactly how much money was made but as the whole evening was arranged for charity we shall be giving our share to the charity Headway which looks after brain damaged patients, such as accident and stroke victims.

All the best *Colin*

The Plough

The crib season is now finished and we have had a successful season with the B team winning the league and the A team winning the knockout cup.

We are always on the lookout for crib players and anyone who is interested should contact us at The Plough.

The new domino season has started and the team is second in the league and has reached the final of the knockout cup so things are looking good.

The PIGS golf society goes from strength to strength and we had a great day out at Woburn on 27th August. **The next golf day is 30th December at Abbey Hill.**

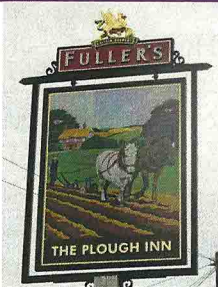
The quiz nights which are held on alternate Sundays at 8pm are well attended and anyone wishing to take part will be welcome. We like to limit teams to 4 people where possible. **A special quiz will be held on 19th December** and anyone wishing to come along should book in advance as we are getting quite full on this night.

On **Wednesday 15th December** we are having a carol night with the choir of All Saints Church Houghton Regis. This is always a popular and enjoyable evening and all are welcome.

In January 2011 we will be hosting a gourmet evening which hopefully will be a lot of fun. Details will be available in the next two weeks and anyone interested should contact us at The Plough for more information.

The Whist and Tipple card school on Thursday nights go from strength to strength and is an enjoyable evening.

Please note that the 20% discount on meals for 'locals nights' on Monday and Tuesday evenings is still applicable on production of their voucher. Anyone living in Chalgrave who has lost their voucher should contact The Plough where it will be renewed. *This does not apply to the Christmas menu.*



Dogs Fouling Footpaths

There have been several references to dogs fouling footpaths in previous editions of The Chalgrave News. The following article was in a number of local and national papers and it demonstrates that the issue is rather more serious than a few people having to clean their shoes when they return home from a walk!

Dog mess fall girl 'could lose eye'

A toddler who fell in dog mess in a playground could lose the sight in one of her eyes, it has been reported.

Amiee Langdon, who will be two next week, put her hand down as she tumbled over, then wiped her left eye.

She was taken to hospital by her mother Suzanne, 29, from Fallowfield, Manchester, where tests confirmed she had picked up the infection toxocariasis, which is spread by dog dirt.

It resulted in optical lobe cellulosis, which can lead to blindness and even death if not treated within 72 hours.

Amiee, whose eye has been almost closed by the swelling, is being treated with three antibiotics at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital. If medication does not work, surgeons may have to remove Amiee's eye to stop the infection spreading.

She was playing in a gated children's area of Platt Fields Park, Fallowfield, when the incident happened last week. Her mother has appealed to "thoughtless" dog owners to clear up after their pets.

Paul Andrews, executive member for neighbourhood services at Manchester City Council, said: "I hope this extremely upsetting incident makes irresponsible dog owners understand the very real consequences of failing to pick up after their dogs. We are thinking about this little girl and her family and we hope she makes a speedy recovery."

⊗ **Please do not** leave your dogs mess on grass verges outside private residences, especially down The Lane, as the occupier has to clear up this unsightly mess!

West's Education Charity — Update

The number of applications for grants has risen considerably over the past 10 years and we have reached the position where there is insufficient income to preserve the capital base for future generations and to pay out all applications in full. We therefore have to adopt guidelines in an attempt to be as fair as possible to everyone. These rules have to be flexible and sometimes they need to be tweaked, particularly in times such as the present, when interest rates are so low and our income has fallen.

We recently held a meeting to discuss how we could better distribute the charity's income. We decided to radically overhaul our guidelines. One major change is the **abolition of uniform grants**. This was very much a relic from the old days when parents from poor families needed help to buy uniforms to send their children to grammar schools.

At the same time, we realise that the financial pressures on those in higher education have increased considerably and we have therefore **increased our student grant to £250 per half year**, a full £500 per year.

Below is a list of the changes and new guidelines, but please, please remember that they are not cast in stone and if you or your child receives a cheque for less, it is probably because we had to reduce everyone's grant to fit the income available at that particular time.

Main changes:

- the abolition of the £40 uniform grants
- the abolition of the £100 16 – 18 yrs grant
- the abolition of grants for routine travel expenses
- all applications on behalf of young people under the age of 18 are now made by parents/carers.

New guidelines:

- Applicants must reside in the villages of Hockliffe or Chalgrave and be under the age of 25.
- All applications on behalf of children/young people under the age of 18 at the time of the application **MUST BE MADE** by a parent/carer on behalf of that child/young person.
- All applications on behalf of young people aged 18 to 24 at the time of the application should be made by that young person him/herself.

- We would usually expect to pay:-
 - a. a student grant of £250 per half year for those in full time **higher** education (*those still at school do not qualify*)
 - b. 50% of the cost of lessons in the performing arts (*music, dance, drama etc*)
 - c. 40% of the cost of sporting activities (*football, rugby, cricket, netball, riding etc*)
 - d. 75% of the cost of swimming lessons (*except for children attending Hockliffe Lower School, who get swimming lessons free of charge through the school, financed by West's Charity*)
- We will continue to make contributions to school trips of an educational nature (*this does not include trips which are wholly for leisure, such as Alton Towers, Legoland etc*)
- We will only pay routine travel expenses in exceptional circumstances
- There will be a **maximum grant of £200 per child/young person per application**, except for:-
 - a. those receiving the £250 student grant
 - b. out of the ordinary, one-off events
 - c. exceptional circumstances

It is very important that you remember that these are only examples. ANYONE under 25 residing in Hockliffe or Chalgrave is encouraged to apply for a grant towards ANY educational activity. NOTHING WHATSOEVER is ruled out, so long as the activity is educational.

Receipts are required to support all applications, except the £250 student grant. It is very rare that this rule is waived and there must be an extremely good reason. No receipt usually means no grant.

These new guidelines will apply from 2011 but the Trustees can and may vary them, especially if there is insufficient income from the fund to meet all applications. In those circumstances the Trustees may well either lower the £200 cap or reduce all applications by the same percentage or both.

Deadline for 2010 applications is 30th December.
Contact Norman Costin on 01525 874232 for an application form.

Preparing for Transition?

Imagine discovering an energy source so versatile that it could power 90% of modern transportation, help in the production of 95% of industrial goods, provide a three fold increase in agricultural crop yields and supply our government (alongside gas) with 30% of its corporation tax receipts.

You just struck oil! But here's the rub. 100 years ago you only had to puncture Texan ground to make oil burst forth. Today we're burning natural gas to extract it from tar sands. The return on energy invested was once 100:1 - for tar sands it is closer to 2:1. As more and more energy is required to extract oil, less will be available to feed economic growth. The low price oil we've enjoyed for decades appears to be history.

The Transition Town Network has highlighted some of the challenges this poses. It is working to build local resilience and it is not alone. Interest in allotment plots, car sharing and renewable energy is growing. Sustrans is encouraging us to walk, cycle and use public transport. People are getting their homes better insulated - a sensible first step faced with the prospect of rising heating costs.

For further information visit www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk/saving



Insulation cushions the impact of higher heating costs

Photo courtesy of cocoonyourhome.co.uk

The Most Famous Aircraft in the World

About 7 years ago tickets were being sold for the final flights on Concorde, they were over £5000 each and it included a one way 'supersonic' trip to New York, an overnight stop, and a subsonic flight back on a 'boring old' 747. I didn't go as I didn't have a spare 5 grand at the time. I shall regret this always, it was the greatest thing that I never did.

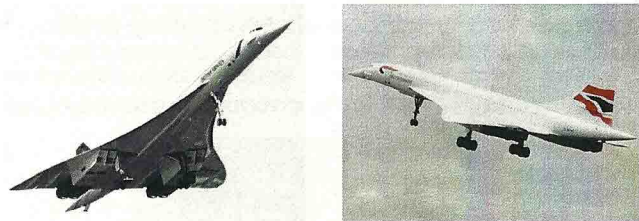
However.....I read recently that the Concorde currently on display at Filton near Bristol is to be removed by Airbus for 'maintenance'.

Another Air France Concorde has been inspected by engineers in France, are they exploring the possibility of getting her back in the air for the 2012 Olympic opening ceremony?

I am not bothered about the 2012 Olympics, or I wasn't until now, (although I am thinking about going into the 'Reflective Jacket' business, there will be plenty of them around)! It would be a fantastic achievement to get 'the Most Famous Aircraft in the World' airborne over London for this event.

There are still pilots who can fly her and there are engineers that can look after her, she could fly again! But, what about a joint appearance with 'The Most Famous Car in the World' now that would be something worth being there for, wouldn't it? Put me down for a place at that Ceremony if you don't mind!

John Parker



Grumpy Old.....

Now you all know by now that the country is skint, just like Europe and large parts of the rest of the world. This was caused, in a nutshell, by bankers losing it all. Not to be confused with the people who work for average wages in branches, but the City ones, BIG difference.

Well, the thing is, I was wondering, and not being an economic genius, perhaps someone would explain it to me, where is it all? We haven't got it, the Europeans haven't got it, someone must have it?

We must find who it is and get it back!



JP

The Most Famous Car In The World

When I was 8, a friend's dad managed to get me a Corgi model of the Aston Martin DB5 from Goldfinger, complete with gadgets, I still have it, (but sadly, not the box)! The film, as well as the model car, was a sell-out and anybody of my age will remember the excitement at the time.

For those who don't know, Goldfinger was the third Bond film starring Sean Connery. The Car however was the real star, a Silver Birch DB5, one of two originally supplied by Aston Martin for the film. One, known as the 'effects car' had the machine guns, oil slicks, ejector seat etc fitted by the Special Effects Department, whilst the other was standard and known as the 'road car'. This one was used for most of the action sequences, as the effects car was laden with heavy kit and handled badly, it was also unreliable. If you know what you are looking for you can spot the two different cars in the film.

The effects car, registered BMT 216A which was originally the development prototype 'disappeared' in 1997 and is presumed destroyed, an insurance payout followed. This left the road car, which after appearing in the opening sequence of the next film 'Thunderball' complete with retro-fitted special effects, was bought by Mr Gerry Lee, an American, in 1969 for \$12000. It has remained since then at his home in a room called the 'Bond Room', only now has he decided to sell it to fund the considerable charity work he undertakes.

Now, I have been to far too many car auctions in my time, but none like the one in Battersea Park recently, not only was 'The Aston' up for sale but over 100 other cars as well as 'the helicopter' (which also appeared in Goldfinger and was flown by Honor Blackman's character 'Pussy Galore'). Sure enough, the Aston was on display on it's own stage, did I queue up to sit in it?? Yes I did, I will probably never get the chance again, did I get a picture?? You bet! But the one thing

that stood out this time, was the average age of the people 'swarming' around this car, they were not children, the car sadly means little to today's young ones, but they were my age, people who remember the film, the car, the whole thing. People who were there and went to see the car in London when it was on display in the Sixties, people like me. The only 'children' excited by this car was us!

During the sale, (the Aston was obviously near the end) cars were sold for hundreds of thousands of pounds each, one or two made over a million including my second favourite car of the show, a gorgeous 1938 Talbot - Lago T23 teardrop Coupe. But it was the Aston that people had come to see, and in the end the actual sale was a bit disappointing, there were only 2 bids, the second one for 2.6 million pounds bought the car, purchased by an American collector who is going to display the it in his museum in Ohio.

They say you should 'never meet your heroes' but I have met mine and I was not disappointed, films are a fantasy, they take you to another place just for a while, I have been to that place, I have seen 'The Most Famous Car In The World'!



John Parker



Father Christmas is on his way..



Look out for him on Sunday 19th December as he pays a visit to Chalgrave!!



Money raised supports Flitwick Round Table and the Senior Citizens in our Parish. Thank you for your help.

COMPETITION!!!!

Colour in this picture and then cut it out and send it back to Laura Jackson, 3 Woodlands, Tebworth, together with your name, address and age.

On the 19th December, when the Santa float comes round, Father Christmas will give the winner a special present!!

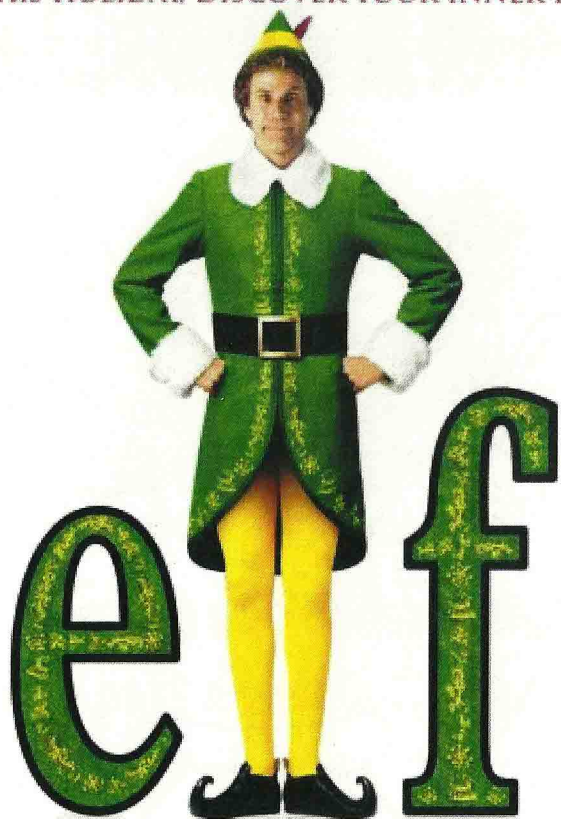


Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

CHALGRAVE CINEMA PRESENTS...

THIS HOLIDAY, DISCOVER YOUR INNER ELF.



Join us in watching this hilarious comedy starring
Will Ferrell

Thursday 23 December 2010

Chalgrave Memorial Hall, Tebworth

Doors open at 2.00pm

Call Su on 873963 | Emma on 877327 for more details

Refreshments on sale

£1 per child

£2 per adult

Family Quiz Night & Supper

Following this years hugely successful event, make a note in your diary for **April 2nd 2011** for **Quiz Night No. 3.**

So, start planning now and train your little grey cells by devouring as much general knowledge, showbiz gossip and any other useless trivia you can cram in.

See you there!

Everybody's entitled to my opinion!

Been an enormous amount of press recently about electric cars. So I thought I would give you my opinion.....complete waste of time, just done so the manufacturers can get their 'average' CO2 output down and keep the unelected idiots in Belgium happy! I went to Belgium recently, nice chocolates, nice beer...not much else. Oh, and by the way, how long do you think the batteries last and how much do you think it costs to replace them?? Your second-hand electric car will be worthless in 5 years time!

The problem is this, a good one does 100 miles between charges, great if your journey is 110 miles! OK, so they are good in town? So when I get to my meeting (or posh restaurant) the first thing I say is "does anybody have a socket and a long lead?" Ridiculous.

The future, and you heard it here first, is not electricity or the equally stupid 'hybrids' (which are no more economical than a good diesel), that Toyota and others are wasting enormous amounts of money on to achieve the above. It is 'hydrogen'. Honda already have one. Now Honda are an enormous company that has exactly the right idea, build a car that does not consume any fossil fuels, has the same range as a current petrol car and emits only water from the exhaust; the only problem is getting the infrastructure in place to fuel the things.

In 15/20 years time, when the 'oil wars' have starved the market of crude oil, we will all be driving one. Oil Wars? With emerging nations like India and China demanding more and more cars, and therefore more and more of the dwindling supplies of oil, how much do you think will be left for us? And how much will we have to pay for it?

Hydrogen is the only current answer. The greedy oil/petrol companies will cash in because they have the infrastructure (garage forecourts) in place to distribute it, so they will still make squillions of pounds as usual! And the treasury will no doubt mug us for the tax....as usual, there, everybody is happy!

John Parker

Submitting Entries To The Chalgrave News

If you have anything you would like to be considered for inclusion in our next edition, or would like to advertise in the Chalgrave News, please feel free to contact:

Emma on 01525 877327

Su on 01525 873963

Debbie on 01525 877149

Or


email us at: thechalgravenews@live.co.uk.

We would be happy to hear from you.

Note: Where possible please submit written articles in a Microsoft Word format, ready for publication.

Next Edition:

Deadline for all entries, by phone or email: **Monday 14th February**

 You blokes remember this date—valentines Day!!!!

And if your valentines Day turns out to be an extra special occasion—let us know, we'd love to share your story.

