

CHALGRAVE NEWS

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



Publication No.36 September 2012

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
Wednesdays	Darts	Queens Head	
Thursdays	Dominoes	Queens Head	
Weekdays	Book Club	Noeleen Thompson	
Thursdays	Zumba Fitness	Memorial Hall	7.00pm
2nd Tuesday of each month	W.I.	Memorial Hall	8-10pm
27th October	ONYX - OxJam	Memorial Hall	8.00pm
November	Fireworks Display	Queens Head	
7th November	Senior Citizens Lunch	Memorial Hall	12.45pm
11th November	Service of Remembrance	Memorial Hall	3.00pm
17th November	Race Night	Memorial Hall	6.30pm
6th, 7th & 8th December	Old Time Music Hall	Memorial Hall	TBC

Front Cover: Sunflower by Su Parker

Deadline for next edition: 16th November

Please submit entries by email to:

thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

Or by phone to: Emma: 877327/ Su: 873963 / Debbie: 877149

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

Well, that's it, Autumn is now in full swing and brings even more rain with it. Our front cover for this edition gives us a little reminder of the short lived summer we did have.

Oh well, at least now we can put the fire on and cosy up and look forward to all that autumn brings - Halloween, Bonfire Night and preparations for (whisper it), Christmas!

Events to look forward to will be the annual fireworks display at the Queens Head and the extravaganza that will be the Old Time Music Hall performances in December.

We are sad to say that the Butcher in Toddington closed permanently on Saturday 29th September due to the lease expiring. It's unfortunate that the village has lost another key business from the high street, following on from the hardware store, a couple of pubs and several other business that have come and gone recently.

As a community we really need to support our local stores and businesses before the landscape of our local High Street changes for good, and not for the better! As the saying goes - 'use it or lose it'.



Remember:

Clocks go back on 28th October,
giving us an extra hour of sleep -
hooray!



Chairman of the Parish Council

We have had a relatively quiet time over the summer months. But now holidays are over we are back in business.



Dog Fouling.

Thank you to all the responsible dog owners for clearing up after their dogs and using the bins provided. However, there are a couple of dog owners that are not doing the right thing and allowing their dogs to foul grass verges, pathways and even the play area at the Memorial Hall. If you are one of these dog owners please can you clear up after your dog. There is a substantial fine if you are caught.

Planning.

We are keeping a close eye on all planning developments that will impact our Parish. Particularly, development North of Houghton Regis up to the A5/M1 link.

Potholes.

We are continuing to try to get CBC to do repairs to the many potholes in our Parish which includes Hill Close and The Lane

Parking.

We are aware of the issues with parking in our Parish. Please do not park on pavements so as to block it completely. It does create problems for pedestrians, those with buggies or wheelchairs. Thank you.

Awards.

There were no nominations for the Millennium Youth award. Hopefully we have some suggestions this year. We normally present the Community Award at the Village Games – as you know they were cancelled. Details of this years deserved winner are detailed on page 18.

As always, you are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting.

Phil Parry

Message from Michael & Barbara Kingham

In early July we had a burglary. A small crime by today's standards, however, with quick thinking and observant neighbours, Dot and Curly Brinklow, three police cars arrived at the scene within ten minutes. One immediately went off in search of the thieves.

After the police interview, we were asked if we needed somebody to reassure us. A few days later we had a visit from the Community Support Officers (yes, they knew where we were) and they were most helpful. Finally, we were contacted by Roger on the 'Bobby Van' who checked the safety locks on our doors. All branches of the service **could not have done more for us.**

We would like to thank friends and neighbours for being so caring for it isn't what the burglars take, but what it does to you personally.

PS: Then of course at the end of July we had the Fire Service going round the village installing smoke alarms for people, so we reckon our village is being well looked after.

Thank you all once again

Michael & Barbara Kingham.

View from the House: Andrew Selous MP

Lessons in good governance to conquer hunger

What an amazing few weeks we have had with the Olympics. It has shown off Britain at its best, open, welcoming, friendly, generous hearted, humorous and confident in who we are as a nation. We welcomed the world and the world has seen the best of Britain, in our athletes, our construction engineers, our musical and acting stars, the friendly volunteers and our ever reliable armed forces.

I will not forget the fantastic atmosphere and large crowds in Dunstable High Street as the Olympic Torch came through the town at 7.30 am on a Monday morning, nor the excitement of Leighton Buzzard schoolchildren at seeing an Olympic Torch and one of the recent torchbearers. I think these events definitely helped light the sparks of Olympic fervour in our area.

We continue to face tough problems as a country in trying to live within our means, but I believe that the can do spirit of the Olympics will see us through. However tough things are in Britain, and I recognize they are tough for many, we do not face problems on the level of the 170 million children around the world who are severely malnourished. I am pleased that the Prime Minister hosted the global hunger summit with world leaders on the last Sunday of the Olympic Games. It is excellent that leading UK companies like Unilever, Syngenta and GSK will work to find ways to make nutritious food available to poor families at prices they can afford.

I normally write these articles about how national policies are affecting local issues, but as it is August I want to range further afield, and reflect on the global hunger summit and some factors which cost nothing but are absolutely vital in helping countries

in Africa and elsewhere avoid poverty. If we look at two African countries and the different paths they have taken we can see some very clear lessons.

Botswana was one of the poorest countries in Africa at its independence in 1966. Botswana determined to uphold the rule of law, property rights and sound fiscal policy. The nationalization of private property is prohibited by the constitution. Corruption is rare. From being the third poorest country in mainland Africa, Botswana is now the second richest with a per capita income of US\$ 14,800.

By contrast in neighbouring Zimbabwe, a country with very close ties to the UK, property rights are not respected, corruption is rife, and its finances got so out of control that even a hundred trillion dollar note soon became worthless and farm workers got paid in sacks full of notes !

Tragically property rights have been usurped across Africa with calamitous consequences. Legal ownership of the land is a non-negotiable absolute for any country wanting to see its agriculture flourish, its people fed and its resources developed. Genocide Watch's 2010 statistics show that more than 12 million people have died in Africa from genocide and politicide since 1945, more than twice those killed in the holocaust. It is the lessons of good governance from Botswana and elsewhere that need to learnt and put into practice to achieve the global hunger summit's aims.



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

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.

A Time to Wait

Fri 23–Sun 25 November

A retreat-style weekend in preparation for Advent



In place of the planned residential parish retreat, a weekend 'staycation' is being offered instead, hopefully making it easier for people to attend. We will be led by Susanna Gunner, priest and retreat guide, over the course of this weekend, with plenty of time for prayer and reflection. Susanna offers the following words of encouragement:

'With the December rush just around the corner, here is a wonderful opportunity to tune in to all that the season of Advent offers and to ground ourselves in God as the journey to Christmas begins. This weekend will be a very gentle, inclusive experience where we will have peace and space in which to prepare for the weeks of waiting for God's advent as a vulnerable baby. We will use music and poetry and art to help us explore Advent's rich and powerful imagery, leading into periods of silence for reflection and prayer. I will provide each person with a booklet containing the readings, poems, prayers etc which I will be using, and this will serve as a useful focus for personal prayer and reflection at home as you prepare for the following day's gathering.' All will be warmly welcome.

A Brief outline of the Weekend

Fri 23rd Nov 6.30pm – 9pm All Saints, Chalgrave

After enjoying supper at home, we will meet in church for desserts and coffee before beginning our weekend 'retreat' at 7pm.

Sat 24th Nov 10am – 12 noon All Saints, Chalgrave

Two hours of reflection and guided Christian meditation using art, music and poetry.

Sun 25th Nov 11am St Georges, Toddington

We come together as a benefice this morning, with Susanna leading our worship.

Church Calendar

Fri: 28th Sept - Messy Church

Sun: 30th Sept – Back to Church Sunday and Harvest Festival

Sat: 20th Oct – Beetle Drive, Memorial Hall, fund raising for All Saints, supper included in price

Sat: 17th Nov – Gala Concert, between Dunstable Ladies Choir and the Toddington Band (read below for more details)



Candle-lit service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for loved ones departed. 2pm, Saturday 3rd Nov, at St George's Church, Toddington. All welcome.

After a successful night of fund raising with the Dunstable Ladies Choir earlier in the year, a second evening has been put together with the choir being joined by the Toddington Band. This event will be held at the Toddington Village Hall, please look out for posters giving more details.

Beetle Drive Sat 20th October 7.00pm- Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Fish and Chips or Chicken and Chips supper, a few games of Beetle, please bring own drinks, and join us for some fun – this is a fund raising events for All Saints Church
Tickets £7.00 to be purchased before the event.- Tickets 01525 210161 Bev and Derm

Autumn Weddings

5th Oct Darren Brown and Nicola Greenidge



Messy Church Crafts, games, worship and food. Everyone welcome!

Friday 28th September – Messy Harvest , Wilkinson Hall 3.30pm -5.30pm

Friday 26th October – Messy Saints , Wilkinson Hall 3.30pm -5.30pm

Friday 30th November – Messy Advent with Bishop Richard 3.30pm-5.30pm



Saturday 25th August Harp Concert 7.30pm All Saints Church, Chalgrave

What a heavenly night produced by Harpist Robin Ward; the cost was £10.00 for adults and £8.00 for concession, which included light refreshments at the interval, and of course the customary raffle.

Robin played romantic and baroque music with a smattering of how harps are made and the history behind the music.

Most local people are aware that All Saints Chalgrave has wonderful acoustics and it was a joy to sit and listen to Robin play. A big thank you to everyone that attended.

PCC meetings

Should you want to raise any points with the PCC then please let me know on 01525 210161 or diarcw@aol.com and I will add it to the agenda.

Bev

Opening the door to a closer relationship with God

A new course exploring
our journey with God
~ what might it
mean for us
to follow Jesus?

Begins 8pm Wed Oct 31st

for more information see weekly pew sheet, or contact

Rev'd Anne Crawford tel: 01525 872298

annie.anselm@btinternet.com

2012 Chalgrave Games

For the first time ever, we had to cancel the Chalgrave Games due to the weather. Rain rain rain seemed to be the order of the day in July when the Games was originally scheduled, so the committee decided to defer to September.

Once again the gods were against us in that the weather forecast was not good, local farmers were unable to erect the pool because of work commitments (and this is always one of our main attractions) and many of our main helpers were away or unable to help out. So, after a lot of soul searching we decided to cancel for this year.

However, don't throw away your pirate costumes, cutlasses and eye patches because the Chalgrave Games will be back next July bigger and better than ever. We have set the date already and, all being well, they will be held on **July 6th 2013**.

The draw for the cash prize, which was to have been at the Games, was finally made at the Queens Head barbeque on 1st of September and **first prize was won by Sarah Gadsden**. Our thanks go to Barbara Jackson and Phil Parry for ensuring the draw went off without a hitch.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our ever generous sponsors (listed on the next page). We would also like to thank all of you who were involved in the preparation for the Games and also for your continued support.

Finally, thank you to all who donated items to be used at the Games on the stalls, these will be used at next years event.

*Millie Parker & Libby Gatward
delivering the leaflets announcing
the cancellation.*



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Au'some



Interview with Gary Bilbrough - Olympic Torch Bearer

Gary Bilbrough of the Nisa in Toddington had the great honour of being selected to run with the Olympic Torch. Intrepid Chalgrave News reporter Su Parker asked him how it all came about.

Who nominated you for the Olympic Torch Relay?

I was nominated by my employer through the Coca Cola Future Flame Scheme.

Why were you chosen?

For the work that I have done in the Toddington area, sponsoring local projects; delivering shopping to the elderly; donating time, money and produce to various local organisations and events, including the Chalgrave Games.



Where did you run?

In Corby, Northants. I have no particular association with the area but it was just the slot that was given.

How long did it take?

It seemed like seconds but was actually around 3 minutes. I only got to run a stretch of approx 400 metres.

Can you give us a description of the day?

From waking up I was made to feel like a 'celeb'. I received a call from Three Counties Radio whilst having my breakfast and was live on air on their breakfast show. I also opened many good luck cards from friends and family. I had to be in Kettering at my meeting place for a briefing at 11am. I drove there on my own as the coach we had organised for my family and customers from the shop wasn't leaving until 12 noon.

Upon arriving in Kettering there was no parking at the hall where I was due to meet so I had to park at the station, a ten minute walk away. As I was wearing the official white tracksuit I now had the task of walking through a crowded Kettering Town Centre packed with crowds waiting for the Torch Relay. The people were great, cheering and clapping, just because I had the suit on. Although there were a few cries of 'You've forgotten the torch'!

Once at the hall I met the other torchbearers who were running with me, including an Italian gentleman who lives in Corby's twin town and when he was four he had survived under his house for four days following an earthquake!

After a briefing on what was to happen, it was on to the bus, twenty of us in total. Driving through the crowds, dropping torchbearers at their allotted start places, the crowds were waving and cheering all the time. The lady next to me remarked how tiring it must be for the Queen as she was tired of waving back. I was running second to last and the nerves were mounting.

Now it was my turn.

Called to the front of the bus and out I step. I was mobbed immediately, people just trying to touch me and the torch. After the 'torch kiss' and my flame was ignited, off I went. The only person in the world with the Olympic Flame. I spotted a few faces along the way and stopped at one point to blow a kiss to the heavens for my Grandma who died on Christmas Day when I was 10 years old. I still miss her now. Then a blonde lady in a cowboy hat loomed in front and I beckoned her over and gave her a kiss! The police asked who she was and I replied 'haven't got a clue' and we laughed (It was of course my wife!).



All too soon I saw the next torchbearer on the horizon and my turn was over. Back on the bus to a round of applause from the previous torchbearers and then back to Kettering where I received back the torch I actually ran with.

Back in Toddington I met up with the coach of well wishers and the first person to meet me was my 7 year old grandson Rylee, who duly hugged me and took the torch off me and never let it go the rest of the day! Truly a day to remember and one never forgotten.

What did it feel like running in front of all of those people?

Once I set off it was all a bit of a blur. I had to watch it back on the internet 'Torchcam' to remember most of it. The noise of the crowd though will never be forgotten.

Did you keep your torch?

Yes. My torch is now officially mine. Luckily, as I went through the Coca Cola Future Flames, it was bought for me by them. I would have bought it anyway.

What are you going to do with the torch?

I will definitely not be selling it. I think it is wrong that some people are. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity, a once in a lifetime memento. Plus, my grandson has designs on it already!

What has been the response from the schools you have visited?

Absolutely brilliant! The kids really did seem to be excited to see the torch close up and actually hold it. The smiles on their faces was brilliant. I have visited five local schools with the torch and have loved going to everyone of them. I spent a whole day at Parkfields school in Toddington, where every child was photographed with the torch. I think Mr Fisher enjoyed himself too!



Was it worth it?

Yes, Yes, Yes. It was a great honour to be a part of such a fantastic event. It was truly a fantastic experience and through visiting schools and organisations, it is still continuing. My first words when finishing and my dry mouth came back to normal was 'Can I do it again tomorrow?'

London 2012



After all the furore about G4S not having enough personnel, the police and army being drafted in, the expected chaos at the airports and trains and roads around London and the long delays expected to get through security, it was with some misgivings that Roger and I set off for the Olympic Park on the first full day of the games.

However, we couldn't have been more wrong. We had seats on the underground all the way out to Stratford and, after a short walk, arrived at the entrance to the Park. The security gates were all manned by friendly and efficient staff who checked us through without any delay – or would have done if I hadn't decided to pack two metal forks for our picnic. Having unpacked these (which were picked up on x-ray) and assured the staff that we had no intention of using them for some terrorist attack, the offending items were confiscated and we were allowed to enter the Park.

My first impression of the Park was how spacious it was and how well laid out. Although there were tens of thousands of people there, we never felt overcrowded. The volunteers were in evidence everywhere and all had smiles and a friendly word or two. A river ran through the Park and wetland plants and wildflowers were sown so that they would continue to flower throughout the games. We had arrived early in the afternoon and our tickets were for the Aquatics Centre at 7.30pm, so we had plenty of time to explore. At one place Park Live was broadcasting from the middle of the river, there was also a double sided big screen showing some of the events taking place. When we went passed, the grassy banks surrounding it were crowded with people watching Andy Murray at Wimbledon.

At last it was time for us to enter the Aquatics Centre. We queued for a short time – but only because we, along with a couple of hundred other people, had got there so early that it wasn't open yet! It was a long way up to our seats – if you saw the inside of the centre on TV, we were only seven rows from the top! – but we had an excellent view and, with big screens strategically placed, could see all the closest finishes. So much was made of empty seats at the pool during the first few days; whilst I know there were a large number close to the pool in the morning, we didn't see any that evening.

The atmosphere built up as it got closer to the start of the evening's races and all the swimmers were enthusiastically applauded as they came poolside, but nothing could match the roar that went up whenever a British competitor was introduced. Although there were no Mexican waves, the excitement of the crowd was such that, as each final reached its climax, the people at the front stood up followed, in succession, by all the rows behind thus creating a spontaneous wave. We witnessed one new world record plus a further two

Olympic records and, although none of these went to British competitors, all were greeted with thunderous applause. As the evening drew to an end and after the final medal ceremony, seventeen and a half thousand people all wanted to leave the centre. There was no pushing or shoving, the place was still buzzing with the excitement of the evening and within a very short time we were all out and making our way towards the exits and our walk back to the tube station. Again volunteers were on hand to make sure we knew which way to go and to ask if we had had a good day. As we reached the station, again expecting some delay because of the number of people leaving at the same time, we were surprised to get on a train within two minutes – and even more surprised to get seats.

What an amazing day! We were so lucky to get tickets and to go so early in the games. Well done to all the competitors, the organisers, volunteers and the army for making it such a fantastic two weeks.

Fiona Parker

Congratulations



Congratulations to
Fiona & Roger
Parker on the
marriage of their
daughter Lucy to
Philip Little on
Saturday 29th
September

Ken And Lyn Green are happy to announce the wedding of their eldest Daughter Linda to Ben Lowry. They got married officially in Philadelphia a few weeks ago and they had a blessing at Chalgrave church on Monday 13th with a reception at the Plough afterwards. Linda has three Children from her previous marriage and Ben has two.



Chalgrave Sports Club 10-10 Competition



The annual 10-10 competition (subtitled Festival of Cricket), originally scheduled for June, eventually took place on August Bank Holiday Monday at the ground in Wingfield. After a quite dreadful summer (you may remember) with no cricket having been played for nearly two months in the middle of the season, it was a pleasure to see the players out in their whites (albeit under grey skies!).

A brief guide to the rules:

10 overs per side. All players bar the wicket keeper must bowl one over each. Batsmen retire after scoring 10 (or more) runs. 6 runs permitted to be scored on the non-road boundaries. Four matches played in a mini-league with the top two teams playing in the final. Full rules on the website!

With a none too certain weather forecast the committee had pressed on regardless with the preparations and by the end of a long (and hot!) Saturday everything was ready – grass cut, the Heras fencing in place, the gazebo and players' tents erected and the bar suitably stocked.

Monday morning came and people started arriving to help with the setting up – and what's this I spy? It's several members of The Vic cricket team, having clearly got lost as they're never early! Finally, we have representatives from three of the teams so the draw is done for the first match – which is to be Road Runners vs The Plough.

In their innings Road Runners made 64 for 6 which proved to be too low a target as The Plough eased past scoring 65 for 4 in 8.4 overs with 4 batsmen retiring.

At this point we realised that the fourth team were not going to show up, so Chalgrave All Stars was born – the idea being that an extra team be 'created' from the spare (and willing) players from the remaining sides. After a little shuffling of pieces of paper in a hat the next match was on – All Stars vs The Vic.

The All Stars batted strongly, posting 75 without loss. In reply The Vic could only manage 56 for 3 in their allotted overs, never really recovering from Alan C's six and out off the third ball of the innings which clearly unbalanced them (some may say they started that way...)

Onto match 3 after a brief break for lunch – The Plough now faced The Vic. Charles won the toss and decided to bat, a decision he came to regret as the opening pair found it very difficult to score against a determined Vic bowling line up. After 6 overs the score was only 25, and despite rallying towards the end the final total was 53 for 1. The Plough's bowling and fielding display was spirited, but The Vic easily reached their target in the 9th over, finishing on 54 for 5.

And so the to final match of the round robin part of the day – All Stars vs Road Runners. The match started in explosive fashion and, in one of the most aggressive batting displays seen in a 10-10 competition, the All Stars fairly romped away, scoring 70 from the first 6 overs. They could not maintain that rate, however, and finished on 81 for 4 – a nonetheless daunting target for their opponents. Road Runners set about their task in determined style, taking 13 off their first over. But after 5 overs the score was 37 – surely they had left themselves too much to do? At the start of the final over they stood at 67 for 3, requiring 15 to win. Through a combination of loose bowling and remarkable batting, the penultimate ball was hit for four giving them a fantastic victory – truly well-deserved and a great performance.

With all of the league matches played, all three teams had won one game and lost one game. The organisers decided to use the number of retiring batsmen to choose which two teams should meet in the final – these being The Plough and Road Runners.

The scene was set for an epic final. The Plough batted first, started well and kept their momentum going throughout, posting a creditable 79 for 2. But having seen the Road Runners form earlier on would that be enough? Half way through the Road Runners innings they were 34 for 1, and with one over remaining they were 70 for 2 – leaving them needing 10 from the final over to take the trophy. The first ball was despatched to the boundary – 6 from 5 balls. But from that point on every ball was on the spot, making it impossible for the batsmen to score more than a single. So The Plough were 10-10 Champions once more. It was an excellent way to finish the day with a tight, tense finish and played in wonderful spirits.



Many thanks to all those people who took part or assisted in any way – players, spectators, scorers and helpers. Special thanks must go to Costain for supplying the Heras fencing, Ann & Barbara for supplying and serving the food, John Kirwin for scoring (until being dragged away on a small, but urgent, errand!), to Theresa, Nicola and Andrea and everyone else who helped to make the day a success. We look forward to seeing you all again next season.

Mike Wells.



Community Award 2012

The Parish Council are delighted to announce that the winner of the award is Su Parker of Tebworth.

Since moving to the Parish, Su has got actively involved in many Parish events - as well as being on the Hall Committee, she has regularly been part of the Santa Float team, organised children's events, helped with the Film Club, helped with quiz nights and performances at the Hall, been the lead on the Chalgrave Games organising team, always ready to volunteer with any community activity and much more. Her award is well deserved and is a token of our

appreciation of her community spirit. The Parish Council normally presents the award at the Village Games but, as you will have read, they were cancelled and we had to find another occasion. Therefore, we went to a Memorial Hall Committee meeting to present Su with the shield and cheque.

Congratulations.



A BIG Thank you to The Parish Council

A couple of Wednesdays ago Roger asked us to attend an "urgent " meeting up at The Plough, that could only mean 1 thing for me.....more typing up of Minutes to wade through!! How wrong I was!!

I did get a little concerned when, unexpectedly, John turned up 1/2 an hour later with Phil.....Who was looking after Millie??

To receive the Community Award is just such an honour and I was speechless when Phil announced that I had won it.

When we moved to Tebworth 6 years ago, we immediately felt at home in the Village. There is a real feeling of Community Spirit in both Wingfield & Tebworth and I have loved helping and organising the various events throughout the years. But, they are only successful because of all the people in the Parish who get involved and willingly give up their time.

So it is not only the Parish Council to whom I would like to say a BIG thank you for this award, but also to everyone who I have managed to cajole into helping in any way, because without them and the support of their long suffering families these events would not be possible.

Thank you so much.

Very pleased to see my wife getting the “Community Award” the other day. She spends many hours at many meetings, typing up Minutes, emailing, texting etc.

The next thing you know she will be ‘Tweeting’, ‘Blogging’ and going on ‘Bookface’IF she can manage to work out how to do them!!!

Her efforts have now been rewarded.

John Parker

Everyone's entitled to my opinion!

My son went to Australia for a year last November, that has now turned in to 2 years, working, drinking, and generally having a good time. Wish I'd done that when I was his age but still, I didn't.. Nothing for the younger ones here now, so he has a chance to get a life, and good luck to him. Problem is, I always wanted to visit Australia and this seems like a good opportunity, until I looked up the air-fare!

Now, I am sure there are deals to be done but paying more than the price of a decent car for the dubious privilege of travelling 'Goat Class', with BA or whoever, is not my idea of fun. Plus, because modern aircraft are still so slow, it takes some weeks to get there, or so it seems. I could upgrade if I robbed a bank, but then I would be with all the 'Business People' who have collected air miles all year and have taken their family with them, that's a bit noisy for me so I suppose there is always First Class? Now If my wife would travel in economy with my daughter (they are quite small so there would be plenty of room) I could turn left when I get on the plane and they could come and visit? Perhaps I will mention it.....do you think if I bought the tickets and didn't tell her until we got to the airport she would mind?



Perhaps I'd better think that out again

Pancho At The Plough!



The Plough Inn at Wingfield hosted a Mexican Gourmet Experience on Sunday 23rd September; those of us lucky enough to secure a table were treated to a starter of three different types of Nachos followed by Quesadillas, Taco's with both beef and chicken fillings and lots of side fillings and I'm not quite sure what the dessert was but I do know it was yummy.



The whole thing was the brainchild of Ben Burden the resident Chef at The Plough and he was assisted in the kitchen by the lovely Theresa (his Mum) and a cheerful serving 'hombre' named Che, (Lemar). Front of house and keeping the customers cheerful was Mr Pauncho Village himself (Roger).



This was a departure from the usual Gourmet Evenings that we have become used to at The Plough where a more formal menu is normally presented; but I think everyone enjoyed it equally and all agreed it was a triumphant success.



So thanks Ben for a delicious fun filled evening, now what I would like to know is, what's next? Italian, Spanish, French, Burns Night suppers? I'm looking forward to whatever you dream up for us.



Mick McDonagh

CHALGRAVE NEWS

Advertising And Useful Contacts

To advertise in the Chalgrave News, please contact
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thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

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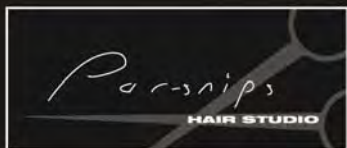
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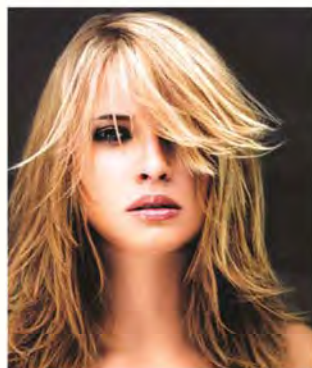
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The shop closed on Saturday 18th August and we can now be contacted on:

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Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Fees and Charges effective from 1st October 2012

Period	Parish Resident Individual and Parish Voluntary Community Groups	**Non-Parish Resident or Parish Commercial	**Non-Parish Organisation/ Commercial
MONDAY TO FRIDAY			
9am – 6pm	£5 per hour	£9.00 per hour	£11.00 per hour
6pm – 11pm*	£5 per hour	£12.00 per hour	£15.00 per hour
FRIDAY			
6pm – 12 midnight*	£80	£150	£170
SATURDAY			
9am – 6pm	£6 per hour	£13.00 per hour	£15.00 per hour
6pm – 12 midnight*	£85	£175	£225
12.30 pm – 12 midnight*	£110	£225	£290
SUNDAY			
10am – 10pm*	£6 per hour	£13.00 per hour	£15.00 per hour
‘WEEKEND RATE’			
(Friday 6pm to Sunday 12 noon) NB Hall must be vacat- ed at 11pm Friday and 12 midnight Saturday	£200	£350	£450

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

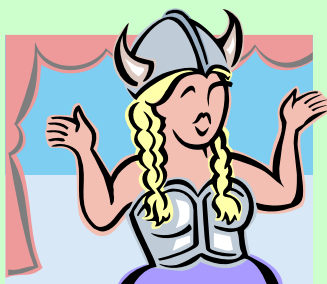
- Bank Holidays/New Years Eve - Rates on application
- Committee Room available for hire separately when Hall not hired - Rates on application
- **Block/Regular booking discount of up to 15% available
- Bookings outside above hours subject to individual rates on application.
- Non-refundable deposit of 50% of the booking fee payable to confirm booking.
- £200 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 482556**

Useful Contacts

Chalgrave News Editorial Team	Emma Gray/Su Parker/ Barbara Jackson	thechalgravenews@live.co.uk	01525 877327 01525 873963
Police Community Support Officer	PCSO Scott Burgess	scott.burgess@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk	01582 473409 07956 427670
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Secretary to Andrew Selous	Sue Howats	howats@parliament.uk	01582 662821
Chairman Parish Council	Phil Parry		01525 875169
Vice Chairman Parish Council	Ken Green		01525 874107
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Lesley Smith	chalgravepc@btinternet.com	01525 874716
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Councillor	Derek Smith		01525 874105
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Councillor	Mark Versallion	mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	0300 3008555
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Rector Chalgrave Church	Rev Anne Crawford	www.chalgravechurch.org.uk	01525 872298
Church Secretary	Bev		01525 210161
Chairman Chalgrave Memorial Hall	Roger Masters		01525 873039
Memorial Hall Booking Secretary	Debbie Hampson		07831 482556
Senior Citizens Committee	Roger Masters		01525 873039
West Charity—Clerk to Trustees	Norman Costin		01525 874232
Chalgrave Sports/Cricket Club	Roger Burden		01525 873077
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Head: Parkfields Middle School	Mr Brandon Bravo		01525 872555
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Old Time Music Hall



**Performances on
6th, 7th & 8th
December**

We still need more performers - it's good fun and you will enjoy the experience.
Give it a go!

If you would like to be onstage or help backstage, please contact:

Brent Wilkes: 07859 041793

or

Phil Parry: 07831 605600



Garden Competition

Despite some very challenging gardening conditions this year, there were once again some very fine floral displays throughout the Parish.

As such, this year we have decided to award six equal prizes of Poplars Garden Centre vouchers. The six winners shown here have, we're sure you'll agree, done a fabulous job.



A fantastic display of pretty petunia baskets



The Willows have a lovely display of neat containers.





*Mandy & Simon
Gatward's
bountiful basket!*

Pretty lavender



*The Osborn's at
Park Farm*

*Abundant
baskets and an
interesting
display*



Roger & Theresa at the Plough - Consistently good baskets, very inviting!



We have an Centenarian In Tebworth ...

... not a person, but a cactus!

Mr & Mrs Kingham are the proud owners of the 100 year old cactus.

The cactus flowers infrequently and as the flowers only last for 1 day, it's an exciting event. This is the first year that four blooms have opened at the same time.



Mr Kingham inherited the plant from Mrs Kingham senior, who lived in Wingfield, and as he is nearing his 80th birthday, it has been a feature throughout all of his life. It's still going strong so should prove to be an unusual future heirloom for the Kinghams own children.

Although still flourishing, the plant is looking a little fragile in its current container. **Are you an expert in cactus care?** If so the Kinghams would welcome any advice on taking care of the plant to ensure it will hopefully flower again in the future.

If you can offer any help or advice, please contact the Chalgrave News and we will forward on your details.



If that wasn't enough cause for celebration the 100yr cactus has a baby!

This offspring of the main cactus is 12 years old and flowered for the first time on the opening day of the Olympics! How very patriotic!

All Our Yesterdays - No. 9

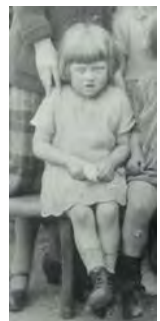


Jessie Cooper with Daughter Judy outside Hilda Currington's Greengrocer's at 21 Hockliffe Rd

This is a note from Judy Webster [nee Cooper] about AOY No. 7

I am Judy Webster, Jessie Cooper's daughter. The little girl on left of front row of school children is mum's sister Joan Harris as she was then. She was born in 1922.

They lived at Ivy Farm in those days as my grandad Walter ran it for the Dolemore's. My grandmother and Audrey's (mother coincidentally is also in photo on same page), were sisters. I have missed reading the publication. Mum always saved hers for me. I was thrilled to find it online and spent an enjoyable few hours perusing it.



Everyone involved should be very proud of themselves. I have been involved in our village newsletter and know the work involved.

Queen's Head BBQ's

Several were planned to raise money for the free fireworks on bonfire night but August 25th was the first chance to hold one because of the bad weather.



In fact, due to the uncertain forecasts, it wasn't possible to use the garden and the music provided by Harry was inside, with the BBQ tent just outside in the yard.

We had a big crowd despite the weather. Kevin and Jacqui did a grand job at the BBQ and 20 racks of the famous ribs were sold together with a multitude of burgers.



A second BBQ was held on September 29th, the weather was good and therefore was able to be held in the garden, this ensured a good turn out.

Now, we're just looking forward to the fireworks!




If you're stuck for Halloween costume ideas, why not have a go at making your own zombie hands!

Glue rice crispies to a rubber glove with PVA glue, allow to dry then paint the whole lot green!

Spooky!

Firework Safety

To ensure you have an enjoyable and safe bonfire night, please use the following guide for buying and using fireworks:

- 
- * Only buy fireworks from a reputable dealer and ensure they are marked BS 7114
 - * Do not drink alcohol if handling or setting off fireworks
 - * Keep fireworks in a closed box
 - * Follow the instructions on each firework
 - * Light at arm's length using a taper
 - * Stand well back from a lit firework
 - * Never go near a firework that has been lit and failed to go off. It could still explode
 - * Never put fireworks into your pocket or throw them
 - * Always supervise children/under 18's around fireworks
 - * Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
 - * Never give sparklers to under 5's
 - * Keep pets indoors
 - * If you build a bonfire, check for hedgehogs and other small animals before lighting

Everybody's Entitled To My Opinion...

Great News!!! We are half-way through this Government's term which means...in two and a half years we get rid of this useless bunch of idiots to be replaced by..... another useless bunch of idiots! That's politics I suppose'!

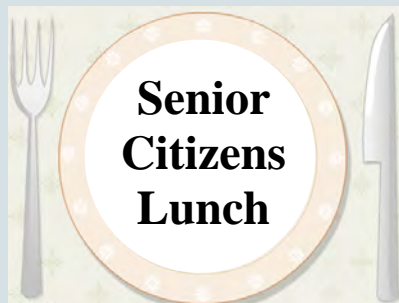
Is the Green Deal the right deal for you?

The Government's Green Deal scheme aims to help more homeowners refurbish their homes by spreading the costs over future energy bills. But is it the right deal for you?

Under the 'Golden Rule' any technologies installed must be so energy efficient that loan repayments should be less or equal to the money saved. So, for example, a 30% more efficient boiler could be installed. It delivers the same heat with 30% less fuel. You are then saving money on heating your house. Under the scheme this saving is used to repay the loan for the boiler. You get a new boiler, the house heats up faster, it's more comfortable and you aren't out of pocket.

So, what's the catch? Firstly, the sums aren't simple. For example, as energy suppliers charge more for the first block of units, a 30% reduction in gas use does not equal a 30% reduction in bills. Secondly, basic loft and cavity wall insulation are unlikely to remain cheap or free under the scheme. Thirdly, interest payable on the loan might be 6 - 7%. If you have money and expect to stay put, you may get a better return paying for the work yourself.

If you are unsure, talk to someone who has already greened their home. SuperHomers host free Open Days in spring and September. They can explain both the benefits and challenges of eco renovation. See the website to book a visit or, for the latest on the Green Deal, see www.superhomes.org.uk/greendeal



The Senior Citizens Lunch will take place on **7th November at 12.45 for 1.00pm at the Memorial Hall** and is open to anyone from Chalgrave who is over 65, and their partners.

The event is a great get together that will comprise drinks and a sit down lunch followed by entertainment by the keyboard playing, joke telling, all singing Billy Keys.

Invitations were delivered during early October but, if you are 65+ and did not receive one but would like to attend, please contact:

**Roger Fenwick 873768, Lyn Green 874017,
or Roger Masters 873039**

TRUST ME, I'M A CAR DEALER!!!

Next time I am going to pay a bit more..... Yes more! This is because I am fed up with having a rubbish Spanish hire car.

Most, decent hire car companies change their cars after 6 months or perhaps 10,000 miles. The Spanish however, seem to have a selection of hire cars operated by.... shall we say, second-rate rental companies that quite frankly are a disgrace.



When I returned my 91,000 km Focus recently, I asked the chap behind the desk whether he had the number of the train that had hit it, he looked at me a bit blank as there were also several other people apparently commenting on the state of their vehicles. His response to them was that he could change it for another, no doubt equally disgusting, car.

I was returning mine so it was too late for me, and frankly when you are dealing with cars all year (like myself) the last thing you want is a problem on holiday. So I have decided, as with all things in life you get what you pay for so I shall treat myself next year and go to the airport desk that has no queues, they are a bit more money but their cars are a similar shape to the ones that left the factory and I won't feel like I am driving something that 'I have taken in part-exchange'!

The Plough

We hosted a Mexican Night on Sunday September 23rd which was great fun and our Christmas menu is now available and can be seen on line or available at The Plough. The menu runs from 1st to 24th December and runs along with the normal menu.



We have now started a takeaway menu of fish and chips, scampi, burgers etc.. Hopefully everyone should have received a menu but if not there are some available at The Plough.

The Quiz Night is very popular and is held every other Sunday with the dates in October being 14th, 28th and 11th and 25th November and every other week thereafter. The quiz starts at 8pm.

The Thursday Whist and Tipple Society is still popular and anyone who fancies a game of cards is welcome. Starting time is 9pm.

The Crib season is nearly over and The Plough B team are in touching distance of winning the league for the second time in three years.

The Domino season started on October 1st.

The 10/10 cricket competition was won by The Plough beating The Road Runners by one run. A resounding victory!

Anyone wishing to find out what is happening at The Plough can visit our website.

www.theploughinn.com

Queens Head Update



Hello friends, I seem to remember that I started my last message to the parishioners by slating the rotten summer we have

been having, well nothings changed on that front (pardon the pun) some of the regulars organised a barbeque for the August bank holiday weekend where, predictably it rained, but not too much to put off a good number of you who braved the weather and made it a memorable day. One of the individuals I must thank is Harry who, although it was too damp and dangerous to set up all his equipment outside, continued to play his guitar and entertain the punters inside the pub so thanks a lot Harry.

It was a real shame that the Chalgrave Games had to be cancelled I know that the organising committee held some of their meetings in the pub and everyone was really fed up by having to make the decision to cancel, especially when they had to cancel the revised date as well, I myself was disappointed as well because I had been training really hard for the mini marathon.

To continue the sporting theme, the darts and domino teams are still doing well in their respective leagues but as I keep saying they are always on the lookout for new members to fill in when there are holidays etc. to consider. I have been approached by one of the

Parish organisations to try to put forward a music hall act for the forthcoming Olde Time Music Hall extravaganza at the Memorial Hall later in the year, now I am old enough to remember the original acts (indeed I performed with some of them) so I hope to dazzle you all with some fancy footwork and display my considerable talent in creating an atmosphere of total apathy, and as all proceeds will be shared by local organisations who have had some sort of input into either the organisation or the show itself, then I hope to see you all there.

The musical evenings on Fridays and Mondays are still drawing the crowds so why not join them one night and maybe make some new friends.

Until then, I wish you well,

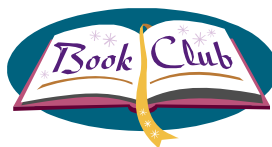
Colin



Monday Night is [also] Music Night at the Queen's Head. You should all know about Friday nights, but Monday is different. It's more like a club night. Aide hosts it one Monday and Jacqui the next and there are volunteer singers, including of course, Colin. Free food is served at around 10 PM.

Please do try to come.

Clubs & Committees



The book club didn't meet over the

summer, however, more book reviews will follow in the next edition.

Noeleen Thomson



Chalgrave Memorial Hall

The **AGM** of the Memorial Hall is to be held on **October 23rd, 8.00pm** at the Memorial Hall when all are welcome to attend.

If you would like to become involved, new members are always welcome to join the Memorial Hall Committee.



Chalgrave Sports Club

The cricket season has been blighted by the weather. So much so that the league has not been completed and at this rate may not be.

The only bright spot is that we managed to get the 10/10 competition completed. This has been excellently covered on pgs 16-17 by Mike Wells, so I will not duplicate it.

On **17th November** we are holding a **Race Night** at the Memorial Hall.

This is our annual fundraiser and we would welcome everybody looking for a good night out. Doors open 6.30pm.

The entrance fee of £7.50 for adults and £4.00 for children under 16 will include food e.g. fish and chips, chicken and chips, sausage or pie and chips whichever you decide. Tickets will be on sale at The Plough and at The Queens Head.

We hope to see many of you there.

www.chalgravesportsclub.co.uk

Roger Burden

Oxjam comes to the Memorial Hall

A new band called **ONYX** are having a party on **27th October** at Chalgrave Memorial Hall as part of the National Oxjam celebrations.

Oxjam is Oxfam's month-long music festival. It runs all through October with hundreds of events around the UK, all organised by volunteers who know and love their local music scene, all raising money to save lives around the world.



ONYX Party

Saturday 27th October - 8pm

Licenced Bar

Entry- Donation to Oxjam (e-mail for tickets.)

The full details and contact information can be found on our website at: **[www.onyxband .com](http://www.onyxband.com)**

Remember, The law is 'for the obedience of fools and the guidance of wise men'

I shall therefore continue to deal with it appropriately!

Women V Cancer is a series of women-only cycle challenges in aid of three British charities supporting and raising money for Ovarian, Cervical and Breast Cancer's.



To support these charities, Deborah Bruce of Toddington will (at about the time you read this) be cycling approx 350km over five days, both on and off road in rural India.

Please support Deborah by visiting her 'just giving' page, it has links to the charities, allows you to donate and provides information on the trip.

www.justgiving.com/Deborah-Bruce1

Everybody's Entitled To My Opinion

I made an enormous mistake recently, volunteered to accompany the boss to the Supermarket one Sunday morning, can't begin to explain to you how unpleasant it was. Big mistake!! The place is bigger than the factory in Seattle that makes Boeing 747's!! How do they find all the different things to put in it? Too much choice, I don't need 27 different kinds of banana. One will do as long as it's yellow. I can even buy a television or a sofa bed while I am there, who buys these things from Supermarkets? And how do you get them in the trolley?

Great discussions were had, the outcome? Get shopping delivered. But, it would need to be by Waitrose or Ocado otherwise all the neighbours would think we were poor, which by the way we are, but don't tell anybody!



Why is everything that's fun banned or made so expensive or unpleasant that it's not fun anymore?

Flying has been ruined by the low-cost airlines meaning I have to weigh my bags with some pin point accuracy prior to departure, or I am charged some ridiculous amount of money should I be an ounce over weight; and why is it the chap who weighs at least 25 stone has the same baggage allowance as me? Surely he uses more fuel than my wife who only weighs 6 ounces? Shouldn't he pay more?

I can't go over the speed limit anymore or I am made out to be some sort of pariah

Should I be lucky enough to be successful I shall have to pay punitive amounts of tax for the privilege.

Aah, but I hear you say, sex is still fun. You are right, it isn't unpleasant, (mind you there was a girl back in 1978 that....no, leave that) it can be expensive, back to that girl in 1978 again. At least they haven't found a way of taxing it yet, although the Liberal Democrats at their conference this year have mentioned that.....better get in quick then!

Request To Dog Owners - Again!

Following the message in the Parish Council roundup on page 4 and without wanting to sound like a broken record, **PLEASE** remember to pick up after your dog.

We have received a message from a resident of the Lane who has counted **31 piles of dog poo** on one stretch of the road - not pleasant!

If you walk your dog anywhere in the Parish, there are a number of red dog poo bins dotted around, please use them!





Computer Corner

Hello and welcome to the first of a new regular series of articles about computers and technology. This series comes to you from a new(ish) local computer company, **Chalgrave IT Solutions**, who offer computer sales and support to consumers and business alike.

Many of you will be familiar with **Scott Abraham**, who has been providing these services in Chalgrave for the past couple of years. Scott has now joined **Mike Wells** at Chalgrave IT Solutions to further his career in IT and will continue to provide local support through the new company.

We are putting together a package with discounts for people living in the parish, as well as a regular fixed-price maintenance deal which will keep your PCs running well, and safely, for a very reasonable price.

As we all know, the world of technology changes rapidly and today's big news is soon forgotten. By the time this article is printed, the announcement of the launch of the iPhone 5 will be old news and we'll be rushing up to the launch of Windows 8. But some things don't change – for example everybody likes something for nothing and this applies to the internet as much as anywhere else.

Online piracy, especially of music but also including TV shows and films, has

been popular for many years now using services such as Napster, LimeWire, Kazaa and Morpheus – with the music industry attempting in various ways to stop them (and collect their royalties!). Technically, the way the files are shared may vary but the outcome is the same.

In a revealing article, the BBC News Technology website has given us an insight into online piracy in the UK. By entering your postcode it allows you to see who 'the most illegally shared artist near you is' along with the number of times it was shared. I won't spoil the fun by revealing the answer (and it may have changed by the time you read this), but what I find most interesting is that a company (in this case Musicmetric) has been set up specifically to make money from tracking this information. Most of us know that our internet usage is being tracked most of the time, but just how much and by whom is a much more interesting question. See for yourself on the BBC website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-19599527>

If you have any concerns or points you would like to discuss regarding this article please email us on pchelp@chalgraveitsolutions.com. And of course if you need our help, call us on **07780 002551**. We look forward to your call.

Until the next magazine.
Mike



Deadline for next edition: 16th November

Please submit entries by email to:
thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

Or by phone to:
Emma: 877327/ Su: 873963 / Debbie: 877149

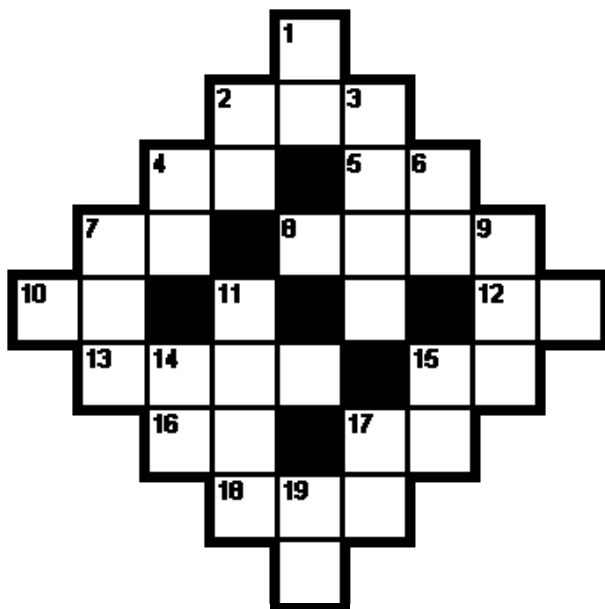
*Note: Where possible please submit written articles as a **Microsoft Word** document, ready for publication, and photos as a **jpeg**.*

Remember, we welcome your own stories and photos, so please get in touch if you have anything you would like to include in the News.

Kids Number Puzzle



Look at the clues below and fill all the numbers you can into the grid. Then start again and use your answers to help solve the other clues.

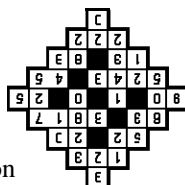


Across

2. 7 down minus 482
4. Number of weeks in a year
5. Number of days in four weeks
7. Seven times nine
8. 8617 re-arranged
10. 15 down plus forty-two
12. Quarter of 100
13. Half of 10486
15. Half of 10 across
16. Quarter of 4 across
17. Four times twenty-two
18. $82+62+78$

Down

1. Four times eight
2. 2 across minus 16 across
3. 1640 doubled
4. 6 down minus 5 across
6. Nine times nine
7. Five times 121
9. Half of 1450
11. 716 doubled
14. A third of sixty-three
15. Number of hours in two days
17. Half of 164
19. 100 divided by five



Solution



One day in the future, George Bush has a heart-attack and dies.
He immediately goes to hell, where the devil is waiting for him.

"I don't know what to do here," says the devil.

"You are on my list, but I have no room for you.

You definitely have to stay here, so I'll tell you what I'm going to do.

I've got a couple of folks here who weren't quite as bad as you.

I'll let one of them go, but you have to take their place.

I'll even let YOU decide who leaves."

George thought that sounded pretty good, so the devil opened the door to the first room.

In it was Ted Kennedy and a large pool of water.

Ted kept diving in, and surfacing, empty handed.

Over, and over, and over he dived in and surfaced with nothing.

Such was his fate in hell.

"No," George said. "I don't think so.

I'm not a good swimmer, and I don't think I could do that all day long."

The devil led him to the door of the next room.

In it was Al Gore with a sledge-hammer and a room full of rocks.

All he did was swing that hammer, time after time after time.

"No, this is no good; I've got this problem with my shoulder.

I would be in constant agony if all I could do was break rocks all day," commented George.

The devil opened a third door.

Through it, George saw Bill Clinton, lying on the bed, his arms tied over his head, and his legs restrained in a spread-eagle pose.

Bent over him was Monica Lewinsky, doing what she does best.

George looked at this in shocked disbelief, and finally said, "Yeah man, I can handle this."

The devil smiled and said

"OK, Monica, you're free to go."



WVS has moved to new undercover premises - still in Bletchley (see address below).

*** Don't forget our special offers on servicing and repairs for local residents. Call John Parker on the number below. ***

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