



CHALGRAVE NEWS

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



Publication No. 41 December 2013

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	Queen's Head	7.30pm
Wednesdays	Darts	Queen's Head	
Thursdays	Dominoes	Queen's Head	
Weekdays	Book Club	Noeleen Thompson	
Thursdays	Zumba Fitness	Memorial Hall	7.00pm
2nd Tuesday of each month	W.I.	Memorial Hall	8-10pm
Sunday 15th December	Santa Float	Villages	
Wednesday 18th December	All Saints Choir	The Plough Inn	7.30pm
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Carols	Grand Chapel	6-9pm
Saturday 21st December	Nativity Procession	Fire Station	3.30pm
31st December	West Charity deadline		
31st December	Disco and Buffet	Plough Inn	8.00pm

Front Cover: The Christmas Tree in St Mary's Close

Deadline for next edition: Monday, 17

February 2014

Please submit entries by email to:

thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

Or by phone to: Roger Parker on 01525 874910

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



Hello, I'm Roger and this is my first attempt at compiling the Chalgrave News—please make allowances! I've taken over from the wonderful Emma Gray who has done a magnificent job as editor for the past few years. Many thanks go to Emma for all she's done. But Emma, along with Su, will still be handling the advertising side of things, and Debbie, Paul and Barbara will continue to provide support in other ways.

If you would like to send me any items for inclusion in the magazine my contact details are given on the opposite page.

It's been a busy time since the last News was published, what with Harvest Festival, Halloween, Bonfire Night, a Gourmet Evening at The Plough, and a Beer Festival organised by the Friends of the Queen's Head—illustrated reports of all these events can be found in the pages that follow.

The clocks have gone back, the nights are drawing in, the central heating is turned on, the first frosts have arrived (perhaps even the first snow by the time you get this!) —but Christmas is on its way with all the joviality and enjoyment that it brings. Look out for our next edition which will carry reports on the season's festivities, including **the visit by Santa to Tebworth and Wingfield on Sunday, 15th December.**

Remember also that there is the usual Christmas Lights competition so make sure you have them turned on. As last year, there is also a colouring competition for children, just in case they get bored with their presents and want to get creative.



Halloween



Halloween saw some scary creatures menacing the residents of Tebworth and Wingfield



Trust Me, I'm a Car Dealer!!!

I could not believe my luck today, had a call from Porsche giving me the great news that the Macan (their new small 4x4) that I expressed an interest in 2 years ago was at last launched; and, because I had ordered so early I was number 23 on the waiting list!! They would be sending me a letter with a 'provisional order' for one and all I had to do to secure my position was to fill it out with my choice of engine and send them £3,000 deposit.

Now these cars will be quite sought after in the early days, so I considered it..... for about 10 seconds! You see, there will be no cars until production starts in March 2014. Let's assume that not all of the people take up their options, let's say some of them chicken out... that means I will be around 18th on the list. The dealer will get about 4 cars per month, 3 of them will be diesels, I would have a diesel. I would want a petrol but that would be like giving my wife a credit card and pointing her in the direction of John Lewis or Doyles...very expensive! So diesel it is. Some simple maths says that it would be approximately 6 months before I get it, say... around September/October. That means they would have my £3,000 for nearly ten months! Interest free! Multiply that by all the other people on the list and it all adds up to a few quid...in their bank account!

So, I shall wait until all the excitement dies down, and consider it again. In the meantime I shall have to make do with the Range Rover Sport and relax in the knowledge that it was made in Britain, just up the road, by a company that is now so successful that last year it made more money than Ford got when they sold it to Tata, an Indian company, in 2008! Bet Mr Ford wonders where that all went wrong!



Grumpy old man...

I am often concerned, no irritated by the abundance of retired people in the shops at weekends! Clearly, they have all week to go shopping, so why hold me up on a Saturday morning? On a Thursday, they can have the place to themselves! I was discussing this the other day with my cousin who has just retired and all became clear....they go on the weekend because, and I swear this is what he said, 'when you are retired, you forget what day it is'!

So, next time I am stuck behind a little old lady in Waitrose I shall ask her if she knows it's a Saturday and if she does...ask her to leave the premises immediately and let us poor sods who work all week get to the check-out!



St George's Church presents

NATIVITY PROCESSION **THROUGH TODDINGTON**

*Come and join us as we walk and sing our way
through Toddington telling the Nativity story*

Saturday 21st December

Meet 3.30pm outside the Fire Station

Estimated finish time is 5.30pm in the Church

Hot food & drinks available in the Wilkinson Hall after

**We'd love you to take part! If you can, please
come dressed as an Angel, Shepherd or King**





Rector: The Rev'd Anne Crawford, 01525 872298

9.30am Parish Eucharist every Sunday

Baptisms We've recently celebrated the christenings of Joshua Gregory, Scarlett Wadsworth and Toby Stone. Welcome to our Church family!

Welcome too to the newest members of our church congregation: new arrivals Ava and Holly! Congratulations to their proud parents Natalie & Pete and Lindsay & Doug.

Weddings Congratulations to Sammy Bain and Nick Smith who were married at All Saints on 19th October. We wish them every blessing as they begin married life.

Funerals Very sadly we said farewell recently to Sandra Horne and Tony Smith. We give thanks for their lives and their love, and our hearts go out to Brian and to Lesley and their families.

Messy Church for all the family. Everyone welcome! We join with St George's Toddington and meet in the Wilkinson Hall on the last Friday of every month (usually!) from 3.30pm – 5.30pm. We enjoy exploring the bible and Christian spirituality through crafts and worship and finish the afternoon off with tea (usually pizza, or sausages or chicken nuggets). Dates for the new year are Friday 31st January and Friday 7th March. We'd love to see you.

Harvest Show Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to ensure that our Harvest Show was a terrific success. Roger Fenwick with his plough and very informative display of locally farmed and harvested produce, the bee team from All Saints Leighton Buzzard, the Greensands Trust with their ideas for bird, bat and owl boxes, Rebecca's sausages and burgers, and the ladies and gents from All Saints Chalgrave who served delicious cakes and teas, decorated the church so beautifully for harvest, and Ian Smith and the All Saints brass ensemble all deserve a special mention. Thank you! We are planning next year's event for Saturday 4th October.

Giving in Grace ~ Thank you to everyone who responded to our recent 'Giving in Grace' stewardship campaign. We are working hard to ensure that All Saints has a bright and healthy financial future and appreciate your generosity and support. Pledge forms and leaflets are still available in church, and we need to continually review our giving so that we offer only our best to God.



Christmas Worship

Nativity Procession ~ Sat 21st December. Meet 3.30pm Toddington Fire Station. Come dressed as angel, shepherd, donkey, cow, sheep, etc. Finish at St George's with carols 5pm approx

Carols by Candlelight ~ Sat 21st December 7.30pm

Crib Service ~ Christmas Eve 5pm

Midnight Mass ~ Christmas Eve 11.15pm

Christmas Day ~ 10am joint worship at St George's, Toddington

View from the House: Andrew Selous MP



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

WHY WE MUST REDUCE IMMIGRATION FURTHER

A few years ago it was sometimes thought that you were racist if you talked about reducing immigration. That is certainly not the case now and it is right that the Government takes action to bring down immigration further. We should not leave people on benefits and continue to allow high levels of immigration.

I strongly welcome the Immigration Bill which was published recently as it will benefit British people in a number of important ways. Illegal immigrants will be deterred from coming to the UK in the first place and will be more effectively identified and removed from the UK. The costs of the immigration system will be reduced through fewer appeals and more cost recovery through fees. All of this will reduce pressure on services to free up capacity for the lawfully resident population.

While there is clearly more to do, our immigration reforms are working. Immigration is down by almost a fifth since its peak in 2010 and net immigration is down by a third. The rules have already been reformed to cut out abuse while maintaining the UK's position as an attractive place to live and work for the brightest and best from overseas who we need to help power our economy forward.

The Bill will make it easier to identify illegal immigrants by extending powers to collect and check fingerprints. There will also be additional powers to search for passports and to examine the status and credibility of immigrants seeking to marry or enter into a civil partnership.

We will make it more difficult for illegal immigrants to live in the UK by requiring private landlords to check the immigration status of their tenants to prevent those with no right to live in the UK from moving in to private rented housing. We will also bring in a new requirement for temporary immigrants to make a contribution to the NHS.

Illegal immigrants will also be prevented from opening bank accounts by requiring the banks to check against a database of known immigration offenders before opening accounts. Illegal immigrants will also be kept off the road as the immigration status of driving licence applicants will be checked before licences are issued and licences will be revoked where immigrants are found to have overstayed in the UK.

The Welfare Reform Act has already prevented illegal immigrants from receiving contributory benefits. The Government are also taking further steps to tighten immigrant access to benefits and the strengthened test will be introduced by the end of this year.

If mainstream parties do not take these actions which have strong public backing then extremist parties will gain ground. Illegal immigrants have been found working in my constituency in 2011 and I also made sure that the requirement to speak Polish for a minimum wage job was withdrawn, as soon as I was alerted to it.

I want my constituents to have full and fair access to all the jobs being created locally and this Immigration Bill will help achieve that.

Andrew Selous MP sends his best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year to all the readers of the Chalgrave News.

COUNCILLOR MARK VERSALLION

Link Road, Traffic and Development

I continue to meet with Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) officers on the implications for the parish of the 2,500 new homes east of Leighton Buzzard and the 7,000 homes north of Houghton Regis. Although the A5-M1 link road is a welcome development and will no doubt improve the current traffic situation, the concern is that the proposed thousands of new homes do not still overwhelm the area. I will continue to represent the views and concerns of Chalgrave parish as these two strategic planning applications progress through the planning system. Construction of the A5-M1 link road is expected to begin next year.



No Council Tax Increase

Since 2009 when CBC was created central government funding reductions as a result of the national debt crisis, has meant £45 million has been taken out of Central Bedfordshire's budgets. However, the Council has been determined not to pass on this difficult funding problem by raising tax on residents. Instead CBC has made efficiencies and savings throughout its more than 100 services. I have been representing our concerns as rural communities do have some unique differences to Bedfordshire's towns, and I am grateful for the supportive correspondence from residents which has helped me to argue for our villages.

Buses, Planning and the Queen's Head

I have been supporting the parish on many issues, such as buses, planning applications and recently, giving my support at CBC to ensure the parish council's application to have the Queen's Head made a community asset is approved, which it was. This means that if the pub is ever put up for sale, the community have the right to bid on it before it potentially becomes something else. This is the first asset to have made use of this new legislation and I am proud Chalgrave is leading the way within Central Bedfordshire.

I hold a ward surgery every month, which is advertised on village notice boards and CBC's web site, and I attend the monthly parish council meetings of each of the six parishes I represent. I can also be contacted on 01525 234000 or mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

CLLR MARK VERSALLION

Chairman of the Parish Council

Parking at the bottom of Wingfield Road. We are concerned, along with some residents, about cars parking too close to the junction with Toddington Road. If cars are too close to the junction it makes sight lines very difficult if you are turning into Wingfield Road from Toddington Road. Please do not park here. (Highway Code – ‘do not stop or park ...within ten metres of a junction.’)

Crime increase in rural areas. There has been a general increase of break-ins and theft in rural areas – garages, sheds and houses, also vehicle crime. Hockcliffe and Heath and Reach have seen a doubling of the number of incidents from the previous years. We have had a spate of burglaries in our Parish – please make your property secure and if you see anything or anybody suspicious please report it. Our PCSO is PCSO Dodkins, 07949 044666 or 01582 473418.

Highways. Lesley, Dan and I met up with Alan Trille. Alan is our area steward for local highways maintenance. We toured the Parish pointing out where we felt work was needed. Inevitably there is a shortage of money available for repairs. However, he has agreed to find funds to fill in some of the bigger potholes down The Lane; crowning The Lane further down beyond the bridge; repairs to the surface at the top of The Lane and Toddington Road; make safe the footpath outside Forge Cottage and Number 2, Hockcliffe Road; repairs to the setts by the boundary gateway on Hockcliffe Road; clearing the gully at Parkview Lane; various repairs along Wingfield and Tebworth Roads; repairs to Featherbed Lane near New Barns; pothole repairs along Chalgrave Road.

Pond. We are sending off for grants to get work done on the pond.

Fly tipping. We have seen an increase in fly tipping in our Parish. Again, if you see anything suspicious please report it. Cllr Brown will contact CBC to remove any items.

Gritting. We are expecting delivery of a ton of salt from CBC as part of their Salt Bag Scheme.

Beer festival. Many congratulations to the team behind the very successful Beer Festival. A great community event. We should feel proud of our community.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.



Prepare for bad winter weather and win a Home Emergency Kit

What would you do if faced with natural disasters like a severe snowstorm or heavy rain? Or unnatural emergencies like a power cut or industrial accident? Helping you deal with major disasters locally is BLLRF (the Bedfordshire and Luton Local Resilience Forum) made up of the emergency services, local councils, hospitals and health agencies and a whole host of local voluntary groups working together.

BLLRF co-ordinates everyone who tackle emergencies, planning for the unthinkable to ensure they are ready to react swiftly and effectively to protect you, your family and home.

Local community organisations like the Royal Voluntary Service, Midshires Search and Rescue, the 4X4 owners club and Raynet, amateur radio enthusiasts, also get involved through the Bedfordshire and Luton Emergency Volunteers Executive Committee (BLEVEC). You could also volunteer. The Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce and the local branch of the Federation of Small Businesses also help plan for emergencies and encourage local businesses to prepare for their own crisis like fire, theft or supply chain problems. See our website for further information.

BLLRF's website – www.bllrf.org.uk – is packed with help and advice so you can prepare for being cut off in your home by bad weather, separated from your family by a major incident or left without power for an extended period. Visit now to find out what you can do to protect yourself before winter sets in.

WIN a Home Emergency Kit!

BLLRF is now giving you the chance to win a free Home Emergency Kit that contains some essential things you'll need if there's an emergency like a power cut or severe snowfall. To enter our FREE prize draw just follow @what_would on Twitter, like us on [facebook.com/whatwouldyoudoif](https://www.facebook.com/whatwouldyoudoif) or enter using our website's contact page. Entry closes at midnight, 2 February 2014.



Christmas Lights Competition

As usual, we will be out in force to check out your Christmas lights displays.

The winner will be announced in our next edition in the New Year.

Please feel free to submit your own photos to:
thechalgravenews@live.co.uk



West Charity Deadline

Remember to complete and submit your applications by 31st December.

Receipts are required to support all applications - no receipt usually means no grant!

Full details and application forms can be found at www.chalgrave.org. Please send to the usual address from where forms will be forwarded on.

Christmas Posting Dates — UK

By the time you receive this edition of the Chalgrave News it may be too late to post overseas to arrive by Christmas—but not too late for mail to UK destinations!

Wednesday, 18 December	2nd Class and Royal Mail Signed For™
Friday, 20 December	1st Class and Royal Mail Signed For™
Monday, 23 December	Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed™

Christmas Colouring Competition

Colour in the picture below, cut out your entry and return it to Spinney View, Wingfield. The winner will get a special prize.

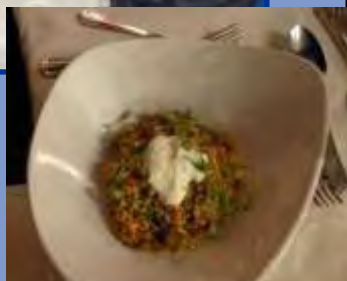


Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Gourmet Evening

On 2nd November, twenty-two lucky diners sat down to a sumptuous Gourmet Evening at the Plough Inn where they tucked into a five course meal expertly cooked by chefs Ben and David, and served by the delightful Vicky. The food was excellent and the service second to none—a great evening was had by all. One or two drinks were also consumed.





Fireworks



The bonfire and fireworks night at the Queen's Head was a great success. The weather was kind to us, although we were grateful to Terry and Neil for keeping the bonfire going and keeping us warm. More than a hundred people were there to watch one of the best displays for a number of years. The display ended with a 4,000 shot – yes, four thousand shot – firework. Thanks to Steve and Ashley for risking life and limb setting off the fireworks. The fireworks were funded by Queen's Head regulars, Colin and Phil. The collection at the end doesn't cover the cost. Final thanks to Andy and Angela for doing a superb job at the BBQ keeping us fed.



Remembrance Sunday



Lest we forget

A service of remembrance was held at Chalgrave Memorial Hall on Sunday, 10 November at 3pm. The Vicar of All Saints Church, Rev Anne Crawford, held a short service which was followed by hymns and a wreath laying ceremony attended by about 30 parishioners.

Musical accompaniment was provided by Mr Peter Freeman.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of The Royal British Legion, Chalgrave Parish Council, Chalgrave Sports Club and Chalgrave Memorial Hall Committee.

Mr George Day, the Standard Bearer for the local British Legion, and Mr David Yirrell, Standard Bearer for the local scouts, also attended to show their respect for those of the Parish who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in two wars, and buglers from Toddington Town Band were in attendance to play The Last Post and Reveille.

Thank you to everyone who attended.





Burns Night Supper



Flower Arranging



**David 'Flog It!' Fletcher
and an antique!**



Scout Ball



Image Consultant



Country Walk with Allan Portas



The resurrected Chalgrave WI has had a busy three years with a wide variety of meetings and events. Over the last year we have enjoyed talks on Crystals, Modern Art and Antiques with David Fletcher from BBC's 'Flog It!' We have had a go at Flower arranging, seen a canine partner help someone undress and load a washing machine. We have been to the V&A to see the David Bowie Exhibition, to Newmarket races where Meatloaf was playing and been to the Dogs at Henlow. A group of us attended the Toddington Scout ball and a Burns night supper.

So quite light on jam and Jerusalem so far.....

We are currently finalising our calendar but see opposite for the events we are planning for next year.

We currently have 32 members. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month from 8-10pm at Chalgrave Memorial Hall, Tebworth. The annual subscription is £34.70 – cheques made payable to Chalgrave WI.

If you are interested please feel free to pop along to one of our meetings or phone me for a chat. More information can be found on our Facebook page (Chalgrave WI).

Debbie Parry

President – Chalgrave WI

email debbie.parry@accenture.com

Mobile - 07770 543797.

WI—Planned events for 2014

Indian cookery demo and talk

Bletchley Park Talk

Victorian Pharmacy - poisons as Medicine - Victorian Pharmacists and quack doctors.

Behind the ropes tour of Turvey House with David Fletcher (Flog it!)

Looking younger talk – beauty and nutrition

Cheese and Wine Evening

Make up update – Body Shop

Swishing

Country walk

Hair styling

Self-defence for women

Three main areas of self-defence, defending from being hit, striking back and escaping from being held or grabbed

Adventures of a ghost hunter/ghost walk

Clay pigeon shooting

Clairvoyant

Christmas Cake decorating

Furniture Painting – Annie Sloane paints

Congratulations to Dan and Jewels Osborn on the birth of their daughter, Lois Bessie Osborn, on 9th November, weighing in at 8 lbs. She is shown here with her proud big brother.



Are you in the Oil Syndicate?

Running short of oil? Paying too much per litre? Mike Scott, of Eversholt, does a sterling job running an oil syndicate which includes deliveries to Chalgrave Parish. There are no fees and no obligations—every month Mike contacts members asking who wants oil. The more people who want it, the better the price that Mike can negotiate.

If you're interested, please contact
Mike for more information:

01908 673658

07791 363162

village.oil@btinternet.com



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Signs of the Times Ltd

A very warm welcome to Peter and Ann Warburton who recently moved into Heath Farm in Wingfield.

Everybody's entitled to my opinion...

If you are unfortunate enough to be an employer these days there are certain laws, most of which are in place for the benefit of the employee, that must be adhered to. They range from the absurd to the totally stupid, and if you abided by all of them you would employ nobody!

However, it would appear that the Church of England does not have to bother about such nonsense. If I, for example, as a law abiding, fair minded employer refused to employ someone because they are a woman, I would be frogmarched in front of the local Industrial Tribunal a bit sharpish. That does not concern the Church of course, if you are a woman, you can't be a Bishop, or 'Bishopess' or whatever they would be. How do they get away with that then???



Chalgrave Sports Club

Nothing much to report at the

moment. The ground is constantly being prepared and we are still coming to terms with the mindless vandalism we suffered a few weeks ago.

On the brighter side we will be looking for players over 16 so anyone who wishes to play please contact Roger at The Plough.

www.chalgravesportsclub.co.uk

Appeal to all dog owners

Why is it that some disgusting dog owners think it is perfectly acceptable to leave their dog's poo all over public footpaths and rights of way?

These footpaths are owned by farmers and local residents.



Please respect this & clear up after your dogs.



Feeling lucky?

Would you like the opportunity to win £25,000 and at the same time, help to save lives?

For just £1 per week, you can enter the East Anglian Air Ambulance Lottery and have the chance of winning one of 18 cash prizes available in each weekly draw, from £50 to £1,000. In addition, you will automatically be entered for our Accumulator prize which increases by £500 until it's won, up to a whopping £25,000!

Playing could not be simpler. You can buy membership online or download a form on our website: www.eaaa.org.uk or just give us a call on 01603 489400. (Players must be aged 16 or over).

Supporting the East Anglian Air Ambulance Lottery is one of the easiest and most sustainable ways to keep us flying and saving lives.

Liz Rouse from Norfolk joined after she experienced the Charity's work first-hand. In 2011 she suffered a serious head injury after being kicked by a horse and was airlifted to Addenbrooke's Hospital where she spent three days recovering. Now she supports the EAAA by playing the lottery and this year became our first airlifted patient to win £1,000. She expressed her gratitude in a letter: *"I would just like to say a massive thank you for the £1,000 I won. It came in so useful...it's going to be a long healing process."*

Jody Fiveash, Lottery Manager: "Your lottery support helps us to save the lives of people in your area. The lottery contributes 38% of the Charity's income and, as we receive no government funding, this is a vital part of keeping the East Anglian Air Ambulance flying."

So, if you fancy a flutter, or you are looking for a present for someone who does, why not join a lottery which supports a service you may need someday – we need you today, you may need us tomorrow...

Chalgrave News

Advertising And Useful Contacts

To advertise in the Chalgrave News, please contact:
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*When contacting an advertiser, please
remember to mention you saw them in the
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Advertising - December 2013

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care in the evenings/
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I live in Tebworth, and so will
be able to easily get to homes
in Tebworth and Wingfield.

£5 an hour




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on either:

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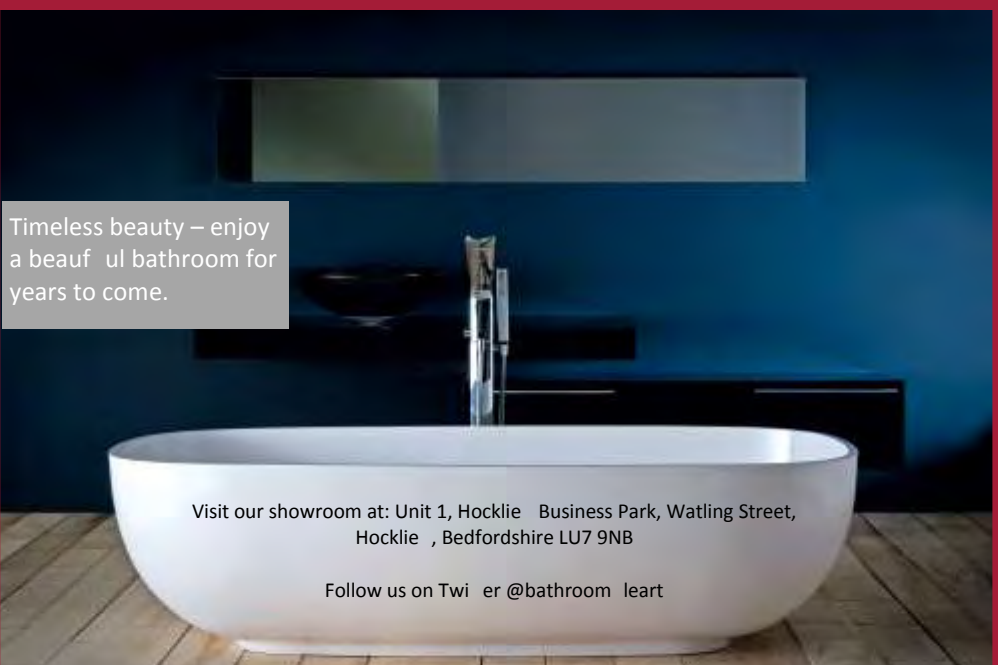


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Chalgrave Memorial Hall

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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
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- 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:
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Useful Contacts

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Secretary to Andrew Selous	Sue Howats	howats@parliament.uk	01582 662821
Ward Councillor	Mark Versallion	mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	0300 3008555
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Vice Chairman Parish Council	Ken Green		01525 874107
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Lesley Smith	chalgravepc@btinternet.com	01525 874716
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Church Secretary	Bev		01525 210161
Church Flowers	Lesley Colella		07905 241076
Chairman Chalgrave Memorial Hall	Roger Masters		01525 873039
Memorial Hall Booking Secretary	Debbie Hampson		07831 482556
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Everybody's entitled to my opinion...

I'm very concerned, about these cyclists, 6 of them killed in London in the last few weeks. Well, frankly I am not surprised. It seems that the point is being missed.

Anybody, absolutely anybody can buy a bicycle and ride it wherever they please, whenever they please. There is no other form of transport that can be used on the roads where this is the case. Why are they exempt?

A 16 year old can buy a moped, which is limited to 30 mph and he (or she) has to pass a basic competence test before riding it and then a proper test later on. A cyclist who can ride faster than that, has no test at all! Not only that, but they need no registration so we can't find them when they scratch the side of your car, no road tax, and no insurance! Road traffic laws do not seem to apply to them and, some wear head-sets so they can't hear you sounding your horn! And yet, nobody ever mentions it, all that happens is another one is squashed because they have gone up the inside of a truck which turned left, and then... they blame the truck!

I think the term is 'The elephant in the room'!

Introduce compulsory basic training for cyclists. Just because you drive a car does not mean you understand anything about riding a two wheeled vehicle in London or anywhere else. You're small, they (lorries) are big,...you will be squashed and they won't even feel the bump. Cyclists must be registered and have some basic insurance cover....just like everybody else on the road! A little bit of road tax wouldn't hurt either!

I can hear them now, complaining that cycling is a 'green' form of transport, and should be encouraged. Really, if that is your belief - well fine, but get your act together and stop blaming everybody else but yourselves. If you try and 'fit in' rather than trying to be 'Lycra Louts' we might, and only might all survive a little longer!

Subscriptions and past copies

If you know someone who has left the parish or has connections or interest in the parish and would like to get the Chalgrave news posted to them for a small annual fee please ask them to contact Ken Green on 874107 or at kenandlyn@tinyworld.co.uk.

Also there are a few past editions still available that can be requested.

Please note as an alternative that the Chalgrave news is always posted on the Chalgrave Parish website

Points to Ponder

No English dictionary has been able to adequately define the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED. However at a recent linguistics conference the delegates were challenged to explain the difference between the two words in a way that was easy to understand.

The winner was a Mr Samsundar Balgobin who answered: -

"When you marry the right woman you are complete, but when you marry the wrong woman you are finished, and when the right woman catches you with the wrong woman you are completely finished."

Queen's Head Beer Festival

A few months ago a group of parishioners thought that as The Queen's Head has now been named as a parish asset perhaps they should do something for the good and benefit of the Parish in general and The Queen's Head in particular, and so the Friends of the Queen's Head was formed.

The first priority was to raise funds so as to have something to fall back on in any eventuality, so after much discussion it was decided that perhaps a beer festival was the answer.

I don't want to get into naming all the people who got involved in this enterprise, suffice to say that without Keith Thomson nothing would have got off the ground as no one else had the slightest idea of how to organise a beer festival let alone know how to go about buying barrels of beer (they don't do them at Tesco's). The date was set for 30th November and it is amazing how much logistics there is involved in organising such an event, but luckily they had a logistics expert to hand so things went quite smoothly.

As news of the event got around the parish some people came forward and volunteered to pay the price for one barrel and so a case of cider, some wine and some soft drinks were added to the list; so thank you very much to those kind, community minded people.

There were six different barrels to choose from – I think the favourite was Timothy Taylors Landlord Bitter as this ran out first but all the barrels were empty by the end of the day. It was great to see so many local people turn up to support this venture some even came up in early afternoon then went home had a rest and returned later on in the evening – such stamina!



There was some delicious food on offer from Bedfordshire Clangers and Buckingham Badgers to various types of sausages and chips; and the ladies in the kitchen who worked tirelessly all day cooking and serving deserve a medal.

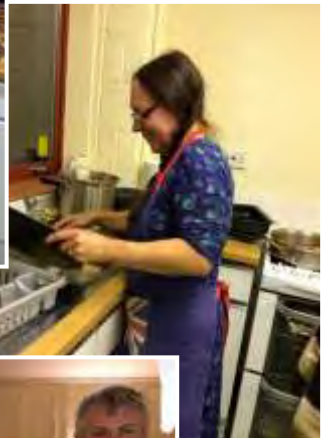


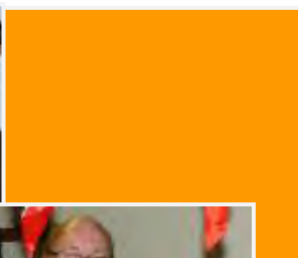
Joe Inzani and his band 'Beats Working' provided the music free of charge and were as usual superb. The only slight blip in the performance was when a couple of old gits got up on stage to do their impression of Prince William and sang the chorus to one of the songs (badly) and some really old lush who insisted on going on stage and started banging some cutlery about with no rhythm at all. Joe was followed by a local band called 'Onyx' who played until the end of the evening when everyone was feeling a bit tired and some were even slightly tipsy but a big thanks goes to all the musicians – they were all excellent.

Finally a huge thank you to all those who volunteered, and those who didn't volunteer, for all their hard work whether it was in the kitchen, behind the bar or clearing and washing glasses you all did the day proud and if you didn't make it to the Beerfest then you missed a fantastic day.









The Plough

A note for your diary. On **Wednesday, 18th December** the **All Saints Church choir** will be at The Plough for the annual carol singing event. This will start at 7.30pm. This is always a well attended and enjoyable evening and we are all looking forward to it as usual.

Another date is **New Year's Eve** when we will be hosting a **disco, with a small buffet** and something sparkling at midnight. Entry is free and starts at 8pm til late.

Our gourmet night went very well and everyone who came enjoyed it. Special thanks go to our chefs Ben and David and also to our excellent waitress Vicky.

As this was such a success we are planning to hold **another gourmet night** in **February 2014**. We will let you know nearer the time.

Our **Christmas menu is now operating** at £20.00 per head. Menus are available at The Plough or on our website. Bookings are already hectic and reservations are recommended.

Our take away menu is still operating and our menu includes 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 December being 8th and 22nd and every other week thereafter. The quiz starts at 8pm.

The Thursday whist and tiddle society is still popular and anyone who fancies a game of cards is welcome. Starting time is 9pm.

Dominoes has started with our 3 teams enjoying various degrees of success or otherwise.

Anyone wishing to find out what is happening at The Plough can visit our website: **www.theploughinn.com**



Queen's Head



Hello again, Colin here, they tell me it's time for me to write another article for this fabulous little magazine of ours. Well it has been quite an exciting period for me as I have just signed a new contract with Charlie Wells for another year of unmitigated misery (for the customers that is) and a lot of my time has been helping to organise the Chalgrave Beer Festival which I believe has an article all of its own somewhere in the magazine.

Otherwise things have trundled along much as normal with the darts and dommies teams doing well and our now very successful 'folky music' evening on the last Wednesday of the month where anyone who can play an instrument and/or hum a song is welcome to come along and join in.

Those nice young people at the old Methodist Chapel held a Halloween party at the Chapel on the 26th October and although I was invited I couldn't go as I had to stay at the pub so they decided to visit me! – scared the life out of me, just as I was thinking of having another swift half a group of monsters, ghosties and a couple of goolies appeared along with – a cow? Never mind, we had a very good night and I know that all the villagers who did go to the party really enjoyed themselves so thanks to Annelise, Sassy and Mike, a great evening.

Don't forget they are having a **carol concert at the Chapel on Thursday 19th Dec** starting at 6pm – it should be a smashing evening.

I am constantly amazed by the generosity of you all, the things you do for me, and the community in general and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

I hope to see you at some stage over the Christmas period and in the meantime I wish you well.

All the best, Colin



SANDRA HORNE

Brian and family would like to thank everyone for the kindness shown on their sad loss of a dearly loved wife, mum and grandmother.

Sandra was born in Toddington and moved to Tebworth in 1971 when she married Brian and very soon took an interest in the village. Sandra became a member of the Chalgrave Women's Institute and when the Chalgrave branch closed, joined the Milton Bryan and Battlesden branch where she served as President and Treasurer over many years.

Sandra's other interests involved the Chalgrave Cricket Club where she helped provide teas for the players. For several years Sandra thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the annual concerts held in the Memorial Hall.

Another of Sandra's interests was the countryside and she was a member of the Bedfordshire Bird Club. Her indoor hobbies were knitting and sewing and many charities benefitted from this as she donated numerous toys and garments for them to sell.

A big thank you too for the donations to Toddington Medical Centre in memory of Sandra, which amounted to £847. This money will be put towards the purchase of a special piece of equipment to benefit terminally ill patients. A fitting memorial indeed to Sandra whose family and many friends both in Toddington and Tebworth will always remember her.

Bin collection changes over Christmas and the New Year

Please put your usual bins out as normal by 7am on the revised collection days shown. The last garden waste collection will take place on Friday, 20

December, and will resume as normal from week commencing Monday, 6 January 2014.



More information is available at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/bins.

Scheduled collection day	Revised collection day
Monday, 23 December	Saturday, 21 December
Tuesday, 24 December	Monday, 23 December
Wednesday, 25 December	Tuesday, 24 December
Thursday, 26 December	Friday, 27 December
Friday, 27 December	Saturday, 28 December
Monday, 30 December	No change
Tuesday, 31 December	No change
Wednesday, 1 January	Thursday, 2 January
Thursday, 2 January	Friday, 3 January
Friday, 3 January	Saturday, 4 January



The Plough Inn, Wingfield. **Christmas 2013 Menu.**

Starters

Butternut Squash and Sweet Potato Soup.

Rosette of Smoked Salmon and Prawns.

Duck and Orange Parfait.

Fig and Goats Cheese Parcels

Main Courses

Traditional Roast Breast of Turkey with trimmings

*Beef in a Cream and Brandy Peppercorn Sauce
Served with creamy mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables of the day.*

*Salmon Fillet in a White Wine, Leek and Dill Sauce
Served with new potatoes and fresh vegetables of the day.*

*Mushroom and Cream Stroganoff
Served with rice.*

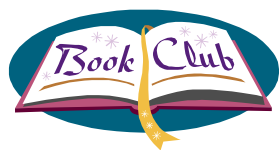
Desserts

*Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce.
Chocolate and Brandy Truffle Torte served with Ice Cream.
Spiced Plum Cheesecake served with Cream.
Apple Walnut Crumble Tart served with Custard.
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Price per head £20.00

Book Club



Trust Your Eyes

We have read a couple of Linwood Barclay books already and thoroughly enjoyed them, so we had no hesitation in opting for another one and this one didn't disappoint, so much so that we read yet another one straight after called *The Accident*.

Trust Your Eyes is about a map-obsessed schizophrenic called Thomas who spends his days and nights on a virtual tour of the world through his computer screens on a sophisticated version of Google Earth. Then one day he sees something on his computer that shouldn't be there – a woman being murdered behind a window on a New York street. His father has just been killed in an accident and his brother, Ray, has come to stay to help out. Ray gets involved and goes to New York, mainly to appease his brother and put an end to the mystery, however, things escalate and they soon find themselves wrapped up in not only one murder but several. Linwood Barclay writes cracking thrillers that you can't put down and this one and *The Accident* are no exceptions. His characters are always believable and the stories original and fast moving with twists and turns right up until the end.

In *The Accident* Glen Garber's wife is killed in a car accident, one she seems to have caused through drink driving resulting in the deaths of two other people. Her husband struggles to come to terms with this but gradually things happen that suggest her accident might not have been her fault and that someone may have killed her. Grieving and in denial, Glen decides to investigate the accident himself and begins to uncover corruption and secret illegal activity involving selling counterfeit goods. Another book which you can't put down and the Book Club were split in deciding which one was better.

We at the Book Club have just had our annual "not quite Christmas" lunch. We like to get together for lunch in November instead of December before it gets busy with Christmas parties and we can avoid yet another Christmas dinner. This year we went to The Birch in Woburn. It was excellent, food very good, service very good and of course the company next to none.

Noeleen Thomson

The Great Christmas Switch On



There was a great event in St Mary's Close at 7 pm on Sunday, 1st December. Sue and Ray Willis had spent weeks balancing precariously on steps to decorate the large fir tree outside their home. Everyone who drives or walks past St Mary's Close at this time of year has noticed the beautiful tree that is lit up every year by Sue and Ray, but recently they have had a bit of a do just before the switch on and this year was no exception. Everyone in the villages is invited to attend and consequently Sue had provided

enough food for about 1,000 people (maybe a slight exaggeration) along with plenty of mulled wine and little nips of something to keep the cold out. It is a lovely thought so thank you Sue and Ray for cheering us up and getting the Christmas period off to a great start.

See the front cover for a photograph of the illuminated tree in all its glory!

*To advertise in
this magazine please
contact us:*

Email:

thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

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Do you have a child under 5 years old?

**Come along to the following FREE Sessions run
by your local Children's Centre**

Monday

PlayStop Gym – 10:00am – 10:45am at the Methodist Church Hall in Toddington. A soft play session for children who are mobile – 5 years old and their parents/carers.

Baby Massage/Baby Yoga 4 week course at the Toddington Medical Centre. For babies who have had their health check – mobile. Please ring 01525 384368 to book onto these courses

Baby Signing 3 week course at the Toddington Medical Centre. For babies aged 6 – 12 months old. Please ring 01525 384368 to book onto this course.

Tuesday

Baby Brasserie – 11:15am – 12:30pm at the Toddington Village Hall. An informal support group for pregnant mums and breastfeeding mothers and babies.

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Come and Play – 1:30pm – 3:00pm at the Helter Skelter Children's Centre (next to Toddington Childcare). For children aged 0 -5 years old and their parents and carers.

Thursday

Creative Play – 10:00am – 11:30am at the Toddington Methodist Church hall. A fun art, craft and play session for children aged 0 – 5 years old and their parents/carers.

If you require any more information, please ring 01525 384368 or visit

All Our Yesterdays – No. 14

COACH TRIPS TO CLACTON, CIRCA 1950



From outside The Sunday School. From left to right. Some hidden but these are the names put forward by local people.

Mrs Buckingham	hidden	Mrs Tearl	hidden	Pris Day	"Aunt Ginny"	Mrs Ludgate?	Mrs Short	hidden
Mrs Marlow	Gladys Brinklow	Mrs Mooring?	Cecil Brinklow	hidden	Mrs Yirrel?	Mrs Emerton?	Mrs Cooper	



Outside Lane Farm? From left to right, these are the names put forward by local people.

Mrs Day	"Aunt Ginny"	?????	?????	Mille Ludgate	?????
Sid Emerton [Thatch the lane]	Mrs Emerton [Thatch the lane]	Mrs Babister [8 The Lane]	Cliff Day[6 The Lane]	Pris Day [6 The Lane]	

Please let me know other names or details if you have them. Ken Green, 874107 or kenandlyn@tinyworld.co.uk.



Computer Corner

Hello and welcome to this edition of Computer Corner, **written by Scott Abraham of Chalgrave IT Solutions.**

As you may have seen or heard on the news over the past few weeks, there is a particularly nasty new virus called 'Cryptolocker'. This virus is of a type known as a 'ransomware', as the virus writers demand money from you for it to be removed, or to undo the damage it has caused to your computer. Unfortunately in most cases, this never actually happens – even if you pay the ransom.

Once installed, Cryptolocker will start encrypting the files and documents stored on your computer's hard drive making them unreadable. It will encrypt all types of files ranging from photos, videos, word documents, spreadsheets, pdf files and more. The encryption used is unbreakable unless you have the key, which is generated during the encryption process – this is where they hold you to ransom! While they are still on your machine – you will NEVER be able to open them again!

After encrypting your files, Cryptolocker shows a screen warning that you have 72 hours to pay \$300 (£200) in order to purchase the decryption key and get your files unlocked. We strongly recommend that you DO NOT pay the ransom – EVER! There is no guarantee that doing so will even result in the restoration of your files and will most likely just leave you out of pocket and your financial details compromised.

The virus spreads in many ways, but mainly in emails that contain malicious attachments

or links. Cryptolocker often arrives in an attachment such as a .pdf file and tricks the user into opening it to view some 'important' details. The email that arrives could look like it is from a financial institution or your bank. It may also appear to be from a delivery company such as TNT, UPS and other similar courier companies. Therefore, if you are suspicious – DO NOT open any attachments included within the email message.

So what can be done to help protect your precious files?

Firstly, ensure that your computer is fully up to date with all latest antivirus and Windows Updates – although the bad news is that the antivirus vendors are currently unable to prevent infection by Cryptolocker – but at least when they do you'll have protection in place.

Secondly, ensure you have a backup of all your files, photos, videos and documents – stored on an external location (i.e., not on your computer's hard drive) such as an external hard drive, USB pen drive or an online file storage service. This will ensure that you can restore your files should your computer ever become infected. These are both very good habits to get into anyway.

So please be vigilant and help keep your files safe!

If you have any concerns or points you would like to discuss regarding this article, or are interested in discussing possible backup options and perhaps subscribing to our Chalgrave Total Care software update service, please email us on pchelp@chalgrave.it. And of course if you need our help call us on **01525 213126** or **07780 002551**. We look forward to hearing



Did you know there's a very special gift shop in Toddington that donates ALL its profits to Charity?



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36 Market Square Toddington**

All Saints Church — Harvest Festival Flowers

A big thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen that helped to decorate the church for the Harvest Festival and to Lesley Colella for taking over the role as florist for All Saints Church.







Emergency food parcels for local people

Most of us are feeling the pinch financially but for some Central Bedfordshire residents, they're now at the point where they can't afford to buy food – and this is where the Bedfordshire Food Aid Network (BFAN) can help.

BFAN works with many of the local organisations that provide food parcels to get food more quickly to more local people who need it. The Network collects donated food 'en masse' and has storage facilities across the county for local food parcel providers to use as 'larders'. The Network was the idea of Preen, the Bedfordshire based furniture reuse Community Interest Company that supports it, and also works with Central Bedfordshire Council. All food collected is used in Central Bedfordshire.

If you know someone who needs a food parcel

Please contact Local Welfare Provision at Central Bedfordshire Council (tel. 0300 300 8070), JobCentre+ or BFAN direct (foodaid@preencic.org or tel. 0844 99 343 99). We will arrange an emergency food parcel and contact the recipient to let them know when the food is on its way.

To donate food to the Network

Drop off at a Preen Reuse Centre or a local BFAN Collection Point (see our page on facebook) for current locations, or contact BFAN to pick up large quantities.

To collect food for the Network

Please contact the Network Co-ordinator, Caroline, (foodaid@preencic.org or tel. 0844 99 343 99) and we'll help you with advice and publicity.

Thank You!



Christmas Carols at The Chapel!



Thursday 19th December

6pm-9pm.

The Grand Chapel,
Tebworth.

Everyone welcome, especially hearty singers with loud voices!
Plenty of mince pies, mulled wine and piano accompaniment.

An all round jolly thing to do! Come and join us.



Please come dressed as Christmassy as possible.
Carol sheets will be provided. Just bring yourselves!

THE TRADITION OF THE LITTLE ANGEL ON TOP OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

When four of Santa's elves got sick, the trainee elves did not produce toys as fast as the regular ones, and Santa began to feel the Pre-Christmas pressure.

Then Mrs Claus told Santa her Mother was coming to visit, which stressed Santa even more.

When he went to harness the reindeer, he found that three of them were about to give birth and two others had jumped the fence and were out, Heaven knows where.

Then when he began to load the sleigh, one of the floorboards cracked, the toy bag fell to the ground and all the toys were scattered.

Frustrated, Santa went in the house for a cup of apple cider and a shot of rum. When he went to the cupboard, he discovered the elves had drank all the cider and hidden the rest. In his frustration, he accidentally dropped the cider jug, and it broke into hundreds of little glass pieces all over the kitchen floor. He went to get the broom and found the mice had eaten all the straw off the end of the broom.

Just then the doorbell rang, and irritated Santa marched to the door, yanked it open, and there stood a little angel with a great big Christmas tree.

The angel said very cheerfully, 'Merry Christmas, Santa. Isn't this a lovely day? I have a beautiful tree for you. Where would you like me to stick it?'

And so began the tradition of the little angel on top of the Christmas tree.



ONE GOOD DEED

A man and his wife were awakened at 3:00 am by a loud banging on the door; the man gets up and goes to the door where a drunken stranger is standing in the pouring rain asking for a push.

"Not a chance," says the husband, "it's three o'clock in the morning!" and slams the door and returns to bed.

"Who was that?" says his wife.

"Just some drunken bloke asking for a push."

"Did you help him?"

"No I did not, it's three o'clock in the morning and it's pouring with rain out there."

"Well you've got a short memory," says his wife, "Don't you remember about three months ago when we broke down and those two young guys helped us? I think you should be ashamed of yourself, go back down and help him."

The man does as he is told, gets dressed and goes out into the pouring rain. He calls out into the dark,

"Hello, are you still there?"

"Yes" comes back the answer.

"Do you still need a push?"

"Yes please," comes the reply from the darkness.

"Where are you?" calls the husband.

"Over here on the swing."

For all information about the Parish of Chalgrave visit www.chalgrave.org



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Deadline for next edition: Monday, 17 February 2014

Please submit entries by email to:

thechalgravenews@live.co.uk

Or by phone to:

Roger Parker : 874910

*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.*

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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