



# CHALGRAVE NEWS



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



**Publication No. 45 December 2014**

# Dates for Your Diary

Day/Date	Event	Location/Contact	Time
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Every other Sunday	Quiz Night	Plough Inn	8.00pm
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	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month	WI	Memorial Hall	8–10pm
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch	Parkfields School	
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Concert	Toddington Village Hall	3pm
Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Santa Run	Starting from Wingfield	From about 5.30–6pm

*Front Cover: Fireworks at the Queen's Head*

**Deadline for next edition:  
Monday, 16 February 2015**

Please submit entries by email to:

**[thechalgravenews@live.co.uk](mailto: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 again! Back in September, JP, one of our regular contributors, tactfully suggested that it was time that the *Chalgrave News* entered the twenty-first century and got itself a Facebook page. In response, it was politely pointed out to JP that Facebook only started in 2004 and it's generally considered wise to give these innovations time to settle down and for the bugs to be ironed out. After all, who wants to be a guinea pig? But we were reminded that the WI, the Sports Club and the Queen's Head already have Facebook pages and none has (yet!) suffered disastrous consequences. Thus we have seized the bull by its horns and are pleased to announce that you may now keep up to date with the *Chalgrave News* on Facebook. All you need to do is log into **Facebook** (you do have an account, don't you?) and search for ***Chalgrave News***. There you will find not only electronically-generated daguerreotypes, but moving images *with sound* (we kid you not!). When we decide to move with the times we do so with lightning speed and remarkable efficiency. So much so, that we now also have a **Twitter** account—@ChalgraveNews. Please feel free to tweet!



Christmas will soon be upon us, so, as you might expect during December, we have the usual Christmas Lights Competition and Children's Picture Competition (see page 27)—there are prizes to be won! Look out also for Santa, who is passing through Wingfield and Tebworth on 21<sup>st</sup> December on his way to Lapland, starting at 5.30–6.00ish in Wingfield.

Finally, adopting a serious tone, while there is undoubtedly a Christmas Fairy, we must inform one or two local dog walkers that the Dog Poo Fairy doesn't exist. We're sorry to have to disillusion them because it means that these owners need to clear up after their pets themselves. The one or two who don't are in danger of giving all dog owners a bad name. Furthermore, as Phil Parry reports, fines can result from failure to remove your dog's poo.

*On that cheery note, we wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



Remember, we welcome your own stories, (clean!) jokes and photos, so please get in touch if you have anything you would like to include in the *News*. Contact details are given opposite.

This edition of the *Chalgrave News*, as well as past editions, can also be read online at [www.chalgrave.org](http://www.chalgrave.org). Also visit this website for information on the Parish Council, parish history, the Memorial Hall, local organisations, and much more.

# 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](mailto:andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk) or 01582 662 821**

It's nearly 4 months now since I was appointed as Minister for prisons, probation and rehabilitation. It is a huge privilege to have been asked to serve in this role. It has meant that I have had to reorder my priorities in a very major way. I am now only able to work on my constituency responsibilities and my ministerial role.

For now, I have had to put the very many other issues (like strengthening families, combating modern slavery, standing up for Christians and others persecuted around the world, in the Middle East and in countries like North Korea, and the reorganisation of orthopaedics and improvement of care for veterans) which I care passionately about and have campaigned on for so long, on the back burner. It also means that I can only speak in the House of Commons on matters relating to prisons, probation and rehabilitation. I can, of course, write to ministers in all departments about all these issues though. All those constituents who watch Prime Minister's Questions regularly will no longer see me rising in my place to catch the Speaker's eye in the way I did in the past. I will continue to attend Prime Minister's Questions though as it is such a key event in the Parliamentary week.

I want to say how much I value the incredible work which prison and probation staff do up and down our country. I think that prison officers and probation staff are often not the first people who come to mind when we think of public servants. The work they do, however, is absolutely vital to keep the public safe and secure and it gives me enormous pleasure to be able to pay tribute to the incredible work that they do.

I have been incredibly well supported by the civil servants I have the privilege to work alongside in the Ministry of Justice. They are extremely dedicated, very professional, highly intelligent and very committed to keeping the public safe through a well-functioning criminal justice system.

I am very conscious however that I am only able to serve as a minister because I am first and foremost a constituency Member of Parliament. I am still working in South West Bedfordshire most Fridays and have been able to spend some additional days working locally over the summer when I have not been needed in the Ministry of Justice. This means that I have been able to continue to visit local schools, local NHS staff, local businesses and many other local groups. This week for example, I have had the privilege of spending time with ambulance crews in Leighton Buzzard and I also went out with an ambulance crew on one of their shifts last week. I have nothing but the highest admiration for the work they do and the care, professionalism and good humour with which they do it. I was also very honoured to speak at the awards evening for the pupils of All Saints Academy. It was wonderful to see the progress which All Saints has made and to see what a popular local school it is becoming.

# Councillor Mark Versallion

**Mark Versallion is our elected Central Bedfordshire Councillor, representing the Ward of Heath & Reach which includes the seven villages of Hockliffe, Eggington, Stanbridge, Tilsworth, Tebworth, Wingfield and Heath and Reach.**

Besides speaking on our behalf at planning committees and other meetings, he continues to work on issues brought to him at his regular ward surgeries or when contacted through his office. If you have any questions or concerns Mark can be contacted on 01525 234000 or at [mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).



## West Charity Deadline

Please remember to complete and submit your applications by **31<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.chalgrave.org).

Please send to completed forms to the Clerk, **Mr N B Costin, Pond Farm, Wingfield, LU7 9QJ** (07896 290530), from whom copies of the form are also available.

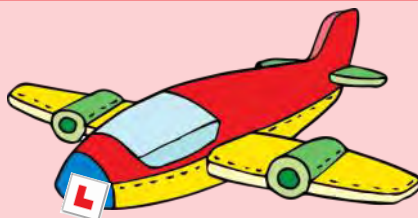
*(Please take note of the new address given above for Mr Costin.*

*Pond Farm is on the corner of Tebworth Road and Hill Close in Wingfield, opposite the post box and telephone box.)*

## FROM THE FLIGHT DECK

I read the other day that, if you are not very good at it, it can take 53 hours to pass your driving test! 53 hours!?! To obtain a private pilot's licence you need a minimum of 44 hours and can go solo after 10! That means technically you can fly an aeroplane, on your own, in less time than it takes to learn to drive! Now

I can assure you that flying an aeroplane is considerably more difficult than driving a car, and as you are aware, the standard of driving is appalling, which brings me to another point..... are the driving requirements in other parts of Europe the same as here? I suspect not, judging by the amount of drivers with strange number plates that 'undertake' me on the motorway doing far in excess of the speed limit? Perhaps when you 'purchase' a licence over there they forget to mention that there are some rules to be obeyed!



JP

# Chairman of the Parish Council

**Dog Control Orders.** Central Beds Council **has** introduced wider Orders **so** that now 'It is an offence for a person in charge of a dog to fail to remove dog foul. This will apply across the whole of Central Bedfordshire on any land that is open to the air and to which the public are entitled to have access'. This includes footpaths, byways, bridleways, agricultural land and access land.

We have many footpaths in our Parish. If you are walking your dog please take 'poo bags' and pick up after your dog – as I hope you do if you are walking your dog on the pavements.

And please don't let your dog foul agricultural land.

There is a fine if you are caught.

Let's clean up our Parish.

**Solar Farm.** No decision has been made on the application for a Solar Farm at Chalgrave Manor. We will know by the end of December. Applications for solar farms at Tilsworth and Eggington have been submitted.

**Pond.** We have applied for a grant to work on the pond in Tebworth.

**Speeding.** We will be carrying out speed checks in both Wingfield and Tebworth.

**Crime.** We are in a low crime area but there have been some break-ins. Please make sure outbuildings and sheds are locked as well as cars and your house. Please report anything suspicious.

**Highways.** We have some work done on our roads. There is still more to do and we continue to press Central Beds Council to find funding. We are also looking for a more permanent solution to the flooding at Parkview Lane. We will be consulting with Amey (they carry out repairs on behalf of Central Beds Council) at the beginning of December and will point out where repairs are needed.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

*Phil Parry, Chairman*



**Opposite, compiled by Barbara Jackson at the request of the Parish Council, are details of local organisations that may be of interest to readers.**

## Organisations in Chalgrave

**Chalgrave News**—FREE magazine to all homes in the Parish. Delivered quarterly it provides local news, adverts and reports on events in the area. We have a small team who work to secure sponsorship from advertisers, write articles and deliver the News. For the last 5 years we have organised a very popular Quiz Night. We're always keen to receive contributions of local interest for inclusion in the magazine, such as information on births, marriages, events, etc, and we're also looking for new advertisers. The team can be contacted at [thechalgravenews@live.co.uk](mailto:thechalgravenews@live.co.uk).

### Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Roger Masters, 01525 873039

### Chalgrave Sports Club

Roger Burden,  
[chairman@chalgravesportsclub](mailto:chairman@chalgravesportsclub).

**The Chalgrave Book Club**—The Book Club has been running for over 13 years now and has 11 members. We meet every 4–6 weeks and each member takes a turn to host the meeting. Over coffee and biscuits we discuss the book we've read as well as catch up with what other members have been doing. We have occasional outings and an annual lunch. We have read a great number of books already, classic novels, thrillers, old and new books and even a book from the Bible! After each meeting we choose the next book to read and arrange to meet again. It's a great opportunity to meet other villagers. Contact Noeleen Thomson 01525 872168.

### Senior Citizens

Roger Masters, 01525 873039

**WI**—Chalgrave WI was reformed in 2011. We meet every second Tuesday at 8pm – usually in the Memorial Hall. We've had speakers come to visit us from Bletchley Park, a Pamper Evening and a talk by our local vet. We also have a number of outings including the V&A to see the David Bowie Exhibition, Newmarket races and seen Meatloaf and been to the Dogs at Henlow. We've had an Indian Cookery demonstration, been clay pigeon shooting and twenty of us dressed up as Pink Ladies recently and attended the Sing a long a Grease event at the Milton Keynes theatre. So quite light on jam and Jerusalem .....We don't take things too seriously – the emphasis is on making friends, having fun and drinking wine!  
Contact Debbie Parry – 07770 543797 for more details.

**ROW – Rights of Way**—A small group of local volunteers who assist in keeping the paths in good order. There are 38 paths and 1 bridleway in Chalgrave, totalling around 24 miles. We try to ensure stiles, gate and waymarkers, etc, are maintained as the paths become quickly overgrown if they are not walked. The local farmers and landowners have a responsibility to clear the way through crops and mark the way through ploughed fields. Each year we organise a "beat the bounds" walk on Rogation Day which consists of walking the Parish boundary. More details can be found at [www.chalgrave.org](http://www.chalgrave.org). Contact Ken Green 01525 874107.

# Book Club



We have read three books since the last review, the first being **And The Mountain Echoed** by Khaled Hosseini. From the best selling author of *The Kite Runner*, this book begins in Afghanistan and is about the relationship between ten year old Abdullah and his three year old sister, Pari, and their father's decision to sell her to a childless couple in Kabul, who are very wealthy and would ensure she would not have the impoverished life her brother would have. The book is more like nine separate stories instead of chapters and branches off to include other characters and storylines before coming back to Abdullah and Pari. We are taken on a journey across several countries and many years before the two siblings are reunited. Most of the book club thoroughly enjoyed this book, although a few of us felt the separate chapters disjointed the book a little. On the whole a very good read and well recommended.

The second book we read was **Gone Girl** by Gillian Flynn, a number one best seller and now a major film on current release. The novel's suspense comes from the uncertainty about the main character, Nick Dunne, and whether he is involved in the disappearance of his wife, Amy. The first half of the book is told in the first person, by Nick in the present and Amy from the past by way of her journals. The second half tells us that Amy and Nick are, in fact, not quite telling us the whole truth, and that Amy is actually framing Nick for her murder. This thriller is extremely well written, very clever and quite gripping, apart from the ending. We were all in agreement that the ending spoilt it a little, and apparently in the film it does too.

The third book, **Never Coming Back**, by Tim Weaver is a thriller set in both Las Vegas and a small fishing village in Devon. In Devon, Emily Kane arrives at her sister's house only to find the front door open, her sister and family missing but everything else in place – TV on, dinner cooking in the kitchen, laptops buzzing. She turns to an old flame, David Raker, an investigator specialising in finding missing persons, to help her find out what has happened to her sister. As Raker begins to unravel the case, he uncovers an extraordinary and sinister mystery spanning decades. Most of us thought this was a terrific thriller, the only criticism was that as this was the fourth book in the David Raker series, there were moments in the book that seemed a bit disjointed and probably would have made more sense if the previous three books were read beforehand.

*Noeleen Thomson*

# Computer Corner



Hello and welcome to the latest Computer Corner column, written by **Mike Wells of Chalgrave IT Solutions**.

The theme for this edition is online or cloud storage. I've mentioned it before but recently there have been some major changes announced by Microsoft which make it more relevant than ever. In October they announced that all subscribers to their Office 365 products will receive UNLIMITED online storage at no additional cost via their OneDrive service. Now there's a couple of new terms there that you may be unfamiliar with that warrant some explanation. Wikipedia to the rescue...

Office 365 – this is Microsoft's software plus services offering that provides office applications (e.g., Word, Excel etc.) and related services to subscribers. There are two flavours – one for consumers and one for businesses with different pricing and facilities. Gone are the days of buying a box with a CD (or more commonly acquire one!), now you can buy a subscription online (monthly or annual) and then download the software. Microsoft are keen to encourage everyone to run their software and have made the pricing and licensing much more appealing. For example a subscription to Office 365 Home is £7.99 per month (or £79.99 annually) and allows the software to be installed on up to 5 PCs or Macs.

OneDrive – This is the cloud storage that comes with the Office 365 subscription and used to be 1 Tb but is now being increased to UNLIMITED over the next few months. Again comes in two flavours, one for consumers (OneDrive) and one for business (imaginatively named OneDrive for Business!).

You can store anything you like on OneDrive – it's a great place to backup all those important documents and files, but how about being able to store all of your photos and music as well! So if your PC goes pop, at least your data is still safe. By removing the limit Microsoft have truly changed the game – storage used to be given away in limited quantities and then charged at an amount per gigabyte but no more. Expect the other major cloud services to follow suit soon. Of course it'll take a while to copy all of your data onto the cloud – but once there it's accessible from anywhere you want – using a PC, phone, or tablet.

As an example here's how I use it with my phone – when I take a picture on my phone it's stored on the phone itself, but once it finds a Wi-Fi internet connection it automatically uploads the new pictures or videos to my OneDrive account. When I sit down to use my Windows 8 PC it has already synced up my OneDrive account – so the pictures are ready to be viewed or shared. This is all automated, but I have control over when/if this happens.

So if you want all the family to be running the latest version of Microsoft Office software, along with enough online storage to backup ALL of your data – for £80 a year then Office 365 might be just what you're looking for!

If you require any advice or assistance with the matters raised in this article, please feel free to contact us at [pchelp@chalgrave.it](mailto:pchelp@chalgrave.it). And of course if you need our help on any other IT related matter please call us on 01525 213126 or 07780 002551. We look forward to hearing from you.

Until the next edition.

*Mike*

## Music and Beer Festival

A huge number of people, of all ages, gathered in the garden of the Plough Inn on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, to enjoy a Music and Beer Festival. The musical entertainment was organised by Frankie Inzani in memory of her late Dad, Joe Inzani, and somehow Frankie managed to keep it all a complete secret from her Mum, Bernadette Inzani—no mean feat! It was also Frankie's intention to raise money for the London Air Ambulance, which had airlifted Joe to hospital following his tragic car accident last Christmas, and her objective was attained, with more than £880 being collected—a tremendous achievement!

Naturally the beer side of the festival was run by Roger Burden who, true to form, selected six delightful real ales to quench the thirst of the attendees. And, as well as a BBQ, a raffle and a cake stall, there was also a coconut shy and, to keep the children (and one or two adults) amused, there was also face-painting.

*RP*



*See more  
photos on  
our  
Facebook  
page!*



## Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, a beautifully sunny and unseasonably warm day, Janine Harding, ably assisted by daughter Lucy and husband Peter, held a Coffee Morning at Foxley in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This was very well attended and everybody thoroughly enjoyed all the delicious cakes that Janine and Lucy had been busy baking. The astounding sum of £481 was raised for the charity. *RP*



JustGiving has recently revealed the top ten most generous towns in the UK... We weren't surprised to hear that top of the list are Bedford and Cambridge, donating over £2.5million between them!

Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire make up half of the area covered by East Anglian Air Ambulance; we also carry out our lifesaving emergency medical work in Norfolk and Suffolk.



EAAA receives no direct government funding, so the £7.6million needed to run our service every year comes directly from charitable donations and the local people who generously support us.

There are lots of ways you can donate to EAAA, the simplest of those is by using our text to donate numbers. If you would like to make a text donation, Text EAAA to 70300 to donate £3 or Text HELI to 70500 to donate £5.

However, it isn't just financially that you can support us, many people choose to donate their time instead. We greatly appreciate all the time that our volunteers give up for EAAA, without them our work would not be possible.

Bill Bonar, a former patient and volunteer from Ampthill, in Bedfordshire, said: 'It's so rewarding to volunteer for East Anglian Air Ambulance and to give something back following my ordeal. The fast work of the medical team meant that I was able to get to hospital in the quickest time possible.'

'The local people of Bedfordshire have always been extremely generous to EAAA with their time and money. I really enjoy attending the talks on EAAA and seeing people's reactions when they find out we are a charity! It makes it all worthwhile.'

If volunteering is not for you and you would like a quick way to help the charity, why not follow us on Facebook and Twitter?

Together, we save lives.

## Chalgrave Senior Citizens Committee

This year the Senior Citizens Committee are joining with the Rotary Club of Flitwick and inviting all the parish's senior citizens to a Christmas lunch and entertainment at Parkfields School, Toddington, on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Everyone will have received their invitation by now and hopefully those who wish to come have replied to confirm this. We will also be organising an event in the spring for any residents of Chalgrave over 65 years old. If anyone who is not already receiving invitations would like to be included in our list please let us know.

As always we will be delivering Christmas presents in the parish.

Also a reminder of the contact number of the **Toddington Area Helping Hands: 07882 988270**. Helping Hands are volunteers in the area who will give lifts and help with small odd jobs.

Finally, if anyone would like to join the Senior Citizens Committee and help us with some fresh ideas, etc, they would be most welcome.

For any of the above, please contact Lyn Green on 874107 or Roger Fenwick on 873768, or by email at [rogerfenwick@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerfenwick@btinternet.com).

## Ice Bucket Challenges



While most of us enjoy a couple of ice cubes in a G & T (or, in a few isolated cases, perhaps in a soft drink), the parish does have a number of individuals who prefer to have their ice poured over their heads in vast quantities—and without the benefit of either the gin or the tonic. Obviously the sanity of these people is for a psychiatrist to decide but from a layman's perspective it must be admitted that between them they've raised considerable sums of money for charity—donated in the main by those of us sane enough not to volunteer. Some of those who have partaken in this lunacy are shown here but visit our Facebook page (*Chalgrave News*) to see some startling videos, complete with screams.

RP



Fiona Parker



Phil Parry



Roger Burden

Fiona Parker, Debbie Hampson & Debbie Whitton





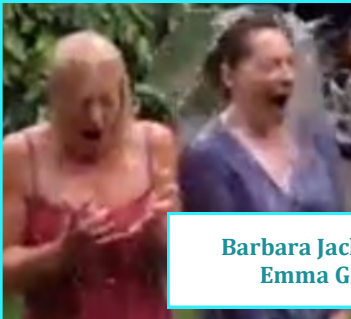
**Mike Wells**



**Libby Gatward & Millie Parker**



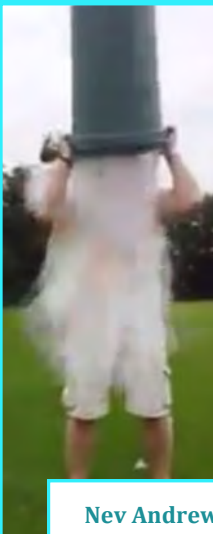
**Paul Whitton & chums**



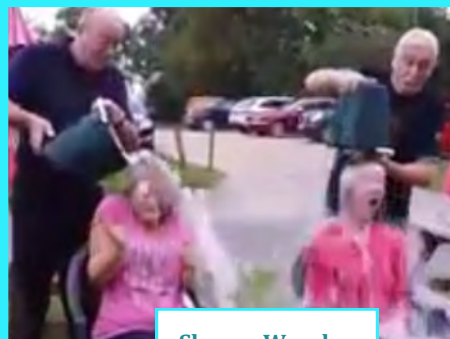
**Barbara Jackson & Emma Gray**



**Sparrows**



**Nev Andrews**



**Sharon Worsley & Lesley Smith**



**Millie Parker**

## The end of an era

In November, after nine very successful years running The Plough, Roger and Theresa Burden called it a day and handed over control of the pub to a younger generation in the form of Chris and Caroline Ross. To prepare for this momentous occasion, Roger and T held a party on 8<sup>th</sup> November and the pub heaved under the large number of guests present that evening, most of them friends and regulars from far and wide, and including some past employees. Even arch rival Colin Edwynn, from the Queen's Head, was there! With the usual range of beers and wines on offer, and food aplenty, a great evening was had by all and the Burdens were given a rapturous send-off, tinged with a little sadness that an era was over. But whilst they may no longer be in charge, we can still expect to see the Burdens visiting The Plough



on a regular basis to

have a drink and take part in the crib and domino teams.

The *Chalgrave News* wishes Roger and T (and Buster) a long and happy retirement, and welcomes Chris and

Caroline as they take over the reins.

RP

There are more photos on our Facebook page!





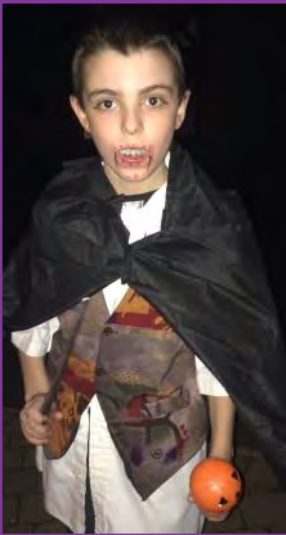
# Halloween

Halloween was a very mild evening this year with no need for us hardened Witches to even need to wear a coat!!

Debbie Kingham, as usual, provided some yucky sticky bowls of GOO for the youngsters to put their hands into...if they dared, in exchange for treats!!

There seemed to be more children than normal out and about enjoying Trick or Treating. Thank you to all who made it an enjoyable evening for the youngsters.

*Su Parker*





# WI

Chalgrave WI has been up and running for four years now. We meet every second Tuesday at 8pm – usually in the Memorial Hall. We also have a number of outings throughout the year.

We've had a varied agenda including a Pamper Evening, Image Consultant, talks on Dream Interpretation, Crystals, Angels, Modern Art, Bletchley Park and Antiques, a Ghostbusting evening at the vicarage, talks from our local Vet, a local magistrate and a belly dancing demonstration.

We have had a go at Flower arranging, Indian cookery, experienced Sound Healing and leaned about Mindfulness and women's self-defence! We have enjoyed two cheese and wine evenings. We have been to the V&A to see the David Bowie Exhibition, to Newmarket races, the Dogs at Henlow and clay pigeon shooting. Twenty of us dressed up as Pink Ladies recently and attended the Sing a long a Grease event at the Milton Keynes theatre.

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

Please visit our Facebook Page for more information (**Chalgrave WI**) or give me a call for a chat.

*Debbie Parry, President – Chalgrave WI*

*Email – [debbie.parry@accenture.com](mailto:debbie.parry@accenture.com)*

*Mobile – 07770 543797*



**Cheese & Wine**



**Indian Cookery**



**Woburn Walk**



**Sing a-long- Grease**

## Chalgrave WI 2015 Calendar

Day and Date	Details	Location
<b>Tue 13 Jan</b>	Singing workshop/sing along	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Wed 21 Jan</b>	Full Monty musical – MK theatre	<b>MK Theatre</b>
<b>Tue 10 Feb</b>	Searching for Prince Charles' dog.....	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 10 Mar</b>	Sound therapy/Gonging	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 14 Apr</b>	Survival skills workshop	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 14 Jul</b>	Cookery talk and demo	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 9 Jun</b>	Walk – Dave Bollins	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Thu 18 Jun</b>	Ladies Day at Ascot	<b>Ascot Races</b>
<b>Sat 4 Jul</b>	Bollywood Evening	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 14 Jul</b>	Looking Younger Longer	<b>CMH</b>
	Holidays	
<b>Tue 8 Sep</b>	Poet	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Sept TBC</b>	Swishing 2015	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Tue 13 Oct</b>	Image Consultant – body shapes, wardrobe personality	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 10 Nov</b>	AGM	<b>CMH</b>
<b>Tue 8 Dec</b>	Christmas event	<b>TBC</b>
<i>CMH = Chalgrave Memorial Hall, Wingfield Road, Tebworth, LU7 9QQ</i>		

## Old News

*Luton Times and Advertiser, 14<sup>th</sup> January 1910 –*

### TEBWORTH

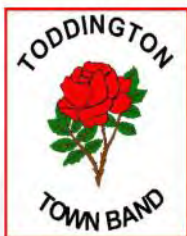
A SHOCKING COTTAGE. — In explanation of the closing of a house in Tebworth, the Surveyor told the Eaton Bray District Council that the rain was pouring in through the roof, rats were running about, and there was no sanitary accommodation. The children in the house looked as though they had been up the chimney.— Mr. Batchelor asked where the family had gone, and what sort of cottage they were now occupying.—The Surveyor replied that the cottage they had taken was a satisfactory one if they would only keep it in that condition.

## Remembering Olly Poulton

We're sad to report the death on 18<sup>th</sup> October of Olly Poulton, the brilliant and talented percussionist with Onyx. Olly, a keen motorcyclist, tragically died when his bike was in collision with a car as he rode home from work.

Many readers will have witnessed Olly's prowess on the drums as he performed with Onyx at the many community events where the band freely provide wonderful entertainment for us all to enjoy.

Olly is sadly missed and our thoughts are with his family and friends.



# Christmas Concert

## Toddington Village Hall

### 3pm, Sunday 7th December 2014



[www.toddingtontownband.org.uk](http://www.toddingtontownband.org.uk)

e: [secretaryttb@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryttb@gmail.com)

Mrs Vera Hampson and Mr John Douglas Hampson are (separately) pleased to (finally) announce the betrothal of their only daughter, Deborah Anne, to Mr Paul Ashley Levy, both of this parish. The date of the marriage is yet to be announced and no dowry has currently been pledged.



# Chalgrave News

## Advertising and Useful Contacts

To advertise in the Chalgrave News, please email  
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*When contacting an advertiser, please  
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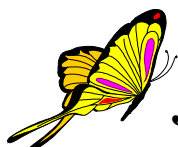
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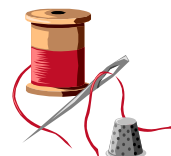
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t: 01525 406132

e: [amphill@nevillefuneralservice.com](mailto:amphill@nevillefuneralservice.com)



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[www.chalgravegolf.co.uk](http://www.chalgravegolf.co.uk)

[steve@chalgravegolf.co.uk](mailto:steve@chalgravegolf.co.uk)

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For membership details contact Geoff Betts on 01525 634240 or email [tennis\\_club@hotmail.com](mailto:tennis_club@hotmail.com)

You can also visit our website at [www.toddingtontennisclub.co.uk](http://www.toddingtontennisclub.co.uk)

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**Email:** [pchelp@chalgrave.it](mailto:pchelp@chalgrave.it) / **Website:** [www.chalgrave.it](http://www.chalgrave.it)



[www.tomclinic.com](http://www.tomclinic.com)

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## **Toddington Fishery**



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**Toddington Fishery, Herne Farm Cottage**  
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**Tel: 07855 321 781**

# Chalgrave Memorial Hall

## Fees and Charges effective from 1st February 2014

Period	Parish Resident Individual and Parish Voluntary Community Groups	**Non-Parish Resident or Parish Commercial	**Non-Parish Organisation/ Commercial
<b>MONDAY TO FRIDAY</b>			
9am – 6pm	£6 per hour	£12 per hour	£15 per hour
6pm – 11pm*	£6 per hour	£15 per hour	£20 per hour
<b>FRIDAY</b>			
6pm – 12 midnight*	£100	£200	£225
<b>SATURDAY</b>			
9am – 6pm	£7 per hour	£17 per hour	£20 per hour
6pm – 12 midnight*	£100	£225	£275
12.30pm – 12 midnight*	£125	£275	£325
<b>SUNDAY</b>			
10am – 10pm*	£7 per hour	£17 per hour	£22 per hour
<b>'WEEKEND RATE'</b>			
(Friday 6pm to Sun- day 12 noon) NB Hall must be vacated at 11pm Friday and 12 mid- night Saturday	£225	£450	£550

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

- Bank Holidays/New Year's 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:  
07775 851275**

# Useful Contacts

<b>Chalgrave News Editorial</b>	Roger Parker	thechalgravenews@live.co.uk	01525 874910
<b>Chalgrave News Advertising</b>	Su Parker / Emma Gray	thechalgravenews@live.co.uk	01525 873963 01525 877327
<b>Police Community Support Officer</b>	PCSO Dougie Peklinvanas	LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk	01582 473411
<b>Member of Parliament</b>	Andrew Selous	selousa@parliament.uk	01582 662821
<b>Secretary to Andrew Selous</b>	Sue Howats	howats@parliament.uk	01582 662821
<b>Ward Councillor</b>	Mark Versallion	mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	0300 3008555
<b>Chairman of Parish Council</b>	Phil Parry		07831 605600
<b>Vice Chairman of Parish Council</b>	Ken Green		01525 874107
<b>Parish Council Clerk</b>	Mrs Lesley Smith	chalgravepc@btinternet.com	01525 874716
<b>Councillor</b>	Daniel Osborn		01525 873920
<b>Councillor</b>	Roger Mence		01525 874516
<b>Councillor</b>	Debbie Hampson		01525 877149
<b>Councillor and Traffic Calming</b>	Mike Wells	mikewells@clara.co.uk	01525 877098
<b>Central Beds Unitary Council</b>			0300 300 8000
<b>Rector Chalgrave Church</b>	Rev Anne Crawford	www.chalgravechurch.org.uk	01525 872298
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Bev		01525 210161
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Lesley Colella		07905 241076
<b>Chairman, Chalgrave Memorial Hall</b>	Roger Masters		01525 873039
<b>Hall Booking Secretary</b>	Velda Cooke		07831 482556
<b>Senior Citizens Committee</b>	Roger Masters		01525 873039
<b>West Charity</b>		www.chalgrave.org	
<b>Chalgrave Sports/Cricket Club</b>	Roger Burden		01525 873077
<b>Book Club</b>	Noeleen Thomson		01525 872168
<b>Beavers/Cubs/Scouts</b>	David Yirrell		01525 875410
<b>Rainbows/Brownies/Guides</b>	Janet Hornsby		01525 875203
<b>Toddington Medical Centre</b>		www.toddingtondoctors.co.uk	01525 872222
<b>Toddington Library</b>			01525 873626
<b>Electricity Board (Emergency)</b>			0800 7838838
<b>Water Board (Emergency)</b>			0845 7145145
<b>Head: St Georges Lower School</b>	Mrs Jane Spencer		01525 872360
<b>Head: Parkfields Middle School</b>	Mr Brandon Bravo		01525 872555
<b>Head: Harlington Upper School</b>	Mr Shawn Fell		01525 755100
<b>Toddington Childcare</b>		Playgroup/am & pm school clubs	01525 875400
<b>Toddington Area Helping Hands</b>			07882 988270

# Old News

*Luton Times and Advertiser*, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1900 –

## CHALGRAVE

PARISH CHURCH RESTORED.—Chalgrave people were on Wednesday able again to worship in the interesting old Church which for 600 years has dignified this agricultural parish. Sir Nigel Loring, who from his altar tomb has placidly surveyed the passing centuries, found himself surrounded by an eager, but reverend, crowd. For Chalgrave can stand erect in its own Church again. Since the portion of the tower fell some twelve years ago people have crept about with an apprehensive eye, directed to the tottering mass of masonry. But now the choir, robed in surplices, marched up the Church to the strains of “Onward Christian Soldiers” —possibly (as the preacher told as) the first surpliced choir that has sung in Chalgrave Church since the days of the Martyr Cranmer, the late Prior of Dunstable. The afternoon began with social tea at the Vicarage; school children receiving oranges and sweets. At six o’clock a start was made for the Church, the excellent Hockliffe band beguiling the tedium of the way with martial strains. At 6.30 the Church was crowded to the door, numbers being unable to gain admittance. The service was reverently and heartily rendered by the capable organist, Mrs. Norman Evans, and the choir. The lessons were read by the Rev. W. Wedge, Vicar of Houghton Regis. Great thankfulness pervaded the assembly at feeling they were able to gather again in their venerable old Church, endeared to them by the memories of many friends, there laid to rest. Subscriptions are still needed to finish the tower and hang the three bells.



Here is a photograph of the church, with its collapsed tower. The photograph was previously published in the *Chalgrave News* in 2005 and had been kindly provided by Barbara and Michael Kingham.

RP

## The Tale of The Three Pigs (The second slice of bacon!)

The Small Faces song Lazy Sunday Afternoon was gently drifting through my head. It was indeed Sunday afternoon and I felt lazy as a result of a busy night on call and one of my wife's blowout lunches. My snooze was broken by the insistent phone.

"This is ... crackle ... police station, we have a pig ... crackle ... running amok on the bypass. Can you attend?"

My hoax call alert went off in my head! "Oh yes, amok you say?"

"Yes, amok," came the reply.

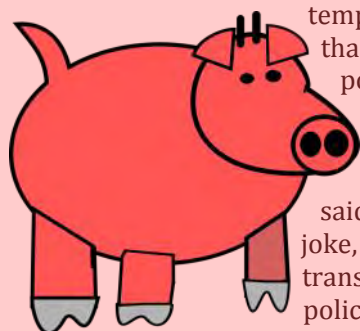
Let's smoke out the joker. I asked for the exact location, the attending officers name and number along with an incident number. Without a pause all the information was forthcoming. It sounded genuine! I scrambled like a Spitfire pilot, well, with a tad of cynicism and, of course, no goggles!

I spotted the Land Rover and horse trailer first followed by the partly obscured police car on the verge. I parked up and sauntered towards a well dressed gent and a juvenile PC who were feeding a large black pig alongside the trailer. Not a farmer then, I mused to myself as I approached.

"Are you the vet?" asked the prepubescent copper.

I would have loved to reply, "Hercule Poirot, I presume" but wimped out. Perhaps it was the stethoscope in my hand that gave me away! I muttered, "That's me. What is the situation here?"

Well dressed gent informed me that Henry pig doesn't like the biw'ders, we are doing work at home so I was taking him for a howiday at a fwends. The hoax alert came on again! Dear reader my spell check won't allow me to carry on, so I will leave you to do the accent. Apparently the pig didn't like the trailer and had investigated the small groom's door at the front corner of the trailer, this had flown open! Henry had then bailed out onto the road at 40mph! He had bounced along the Tarmac and now, unsurprisingly, refused to re-enter the trailer, even if



tempted with food. I examined Henry carefully, other than a few grazes on his shoulder the parachuting porcine was uninjured. A more than healthy layer of blubber had protected his wellbeing. "He is in grave danger of surviving," I announced gravely. Well dressed gent blanched, he had failed to grasp what I said. "He will be fine, I was joking," I said. "Well don't joke, he is like a child to me." Apologies all round, lost in translation, etc, etc. "I love a domestic," interjected the policeman, even the pig gave him "the look"!

I gently injected a light sedative to Henry pig, a few minutes later he was slumbering on the verge next to the trailer. Now to get him into the trailer, the owner and I pulled and pushed but the hefty hog was just too big. Columbo was stood with arms folded watching us. "Give us a hand mate?" "Nah, the police federation don't allow it, elf and safety." "If we don't get him into the trailer he will wake up and then we will be here all night. You will miss your tea break, just help us." The lack of tea seemed to galvanise the young PC. Within a couple of minutes we were able to close the tailgate. We checked the groom's door and sent well dressed gent on his way wishing him a safe and successful journey.

My wife was putting the tea on as I returned, she asked about the call. "Was the pig amok? What was it all about?"

"Bizarre," was the best reply I could muster!

*Peter Harding*

## A True Story?

The Royal Navy intercepted a boatload of people off the coast of Sussex

today. This placed the RN in an awkward position, as the boat was not heading to shore, but towards France.

Another surprise finding was the people were British seniors of pensionable age. Their claim was that they were trying to get to France because they wanted to return to Britain as illegal immigrants. Then they would be entitled to far more benefits than they were receiving as legitimate British pensioners.

It is believed the Navy gave them food, water and fuel and assisted them on their journey.

We are booking on the next boat out. Let me know if you want to join us.



## Invaluable tips from our readers—No. 792

Mr Andre Greig from Fife has some worldly advice, based on his personal experience—If your name is Andre, never put a kiss after it.

## Sgt Abraham Ball, Royal Army Service Corps

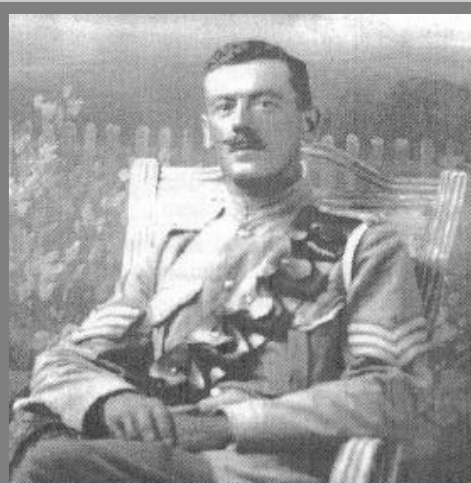
In the September copy of the News, we carried the first segment of a transcription of notes written by Sgt Abraham Ball (pictured below). In 1918, while serving with the Royal Army Service Corps, probably in Palestine, Sgt Ball had been fortunate to have been given three days' leave to visit Biblical sites in the Holy Land. In the last issue, we read of what he encountered in the first two days of his trip and we can now read of what he saw and experienced in the final day. These notes are presented here with the kind permission of his son, local parishioner, Tony Ball.

As was explained last time, Sgt Ball moved to Tebworth in the mid-1920s and worked at Upper Tithe Farm. His first wife, Mary Adelaide (Polly) Ball, née Bland, became a Sunday school teacher in Tebworth.

### **Sgt Ball wrote ... 3rd Day.**

*We rise at 5.30a.m. have breakfast and walk up the Jericho road, en route for the Garden of Gethsemane and mount of Olives. The first place of interest we pass is King Solomon's Statue, built in the old city wall. Passing on, we come to St. Stephen's Gate, where he was stoned to death by the people. Next we come to the Beautiful Golden Gate. It was by this gate that Christ entered the Holy City for the first time (Palm Sunday) and he also drove the Money changers out of the same gate, after turning them out of the Holy Temple. This gate-way was built up some years ago by the Turks, as it was said an English Prince would enter the city through the Golden Gate; so they built it up to prevent this. The British troops entered the city by the Kaiser or Jaffa Gate on December 17th 1917.*

*Entering the Garden of Gethsemane, we pass the Tomb of St. Stephen, also saw the Tomb of Absalom, the son of David. In the Garden is a beautiful temple, built by the Russian Government. It is a most magnificent building with Golden Domes. The doors are at present locked and fastened by heavy padlocks and bars and the Seams Sealed with Sealing wax by the Monks before they fled from the Turks. The Sealing wax was still unbroken, which Speaks well for the Turkish troops. Before starting our strenuous climb up the Mount of Olives,*



*we visited the Tomb of the Virgin Mary which is at the foot of the Mount, but did not go inside, as a Service was being held and we were a little pushed for time. We then started our walk up the Mount of Olives, passing various churches, also some ruins where it is said our Lord sat down and wept over the City of Jerusalem.*

*We come to the Turkish Church of Ascension, inside is a stone from which it is said Christ ascended to Heaven. There is a footprint on this stone, said to be the footprint of Our Lord when he ascended. The stone is very much worn away by the people rubbing their hands against the stone while praying. Reaching the highest point, we had a splendid view of the Dead Sea and could see the mouths of the river Jordan flowing into the sea. We could also see the Turkish lines from this point through glasses. We then passed through the village of Bethany and saw several places of interest and as time was very pressing, we had to hurry back to our billet in time to get kit and start on return journey, catching the Motor Lorries, we start our return journey and after a ride of about 4 hours, we arrive back at camp. This ended three of the most interesting and impressive days I have spent on Active Service.*

*Sgt Abraham Ball, 1918.*

## Christmas Competitions

For the grown-ups, we are running our usual Christmas lights competition during December so get those displays set up and turned on for all to see. Make it a Christmas to remember!

And for the children, prizes will be given for the best Christmas drawings or paintings. Please deliver your pictures to the Editor at Spinney View, Wingfield, or to Su Parker at 6 Woodlands, Tebworth. Don't forget to write your name, address and age on your entry.



## “Garden Parties” at the Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee organised a couple of garden parties during October. There was plenty of tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits in supply to fuel the energy levels for everyone who came along.

Thanks are due to 15 hard working members of the parish, committee members and non-committee members alike, but the biggest thanks of all go to our recently appointed ‘Head of Gardening’ John Wojdyla, affectionately known to us as ‘John the Pole’ because no one on the committee can actually pronounce his surname!



Aware of political correctness, I thought I would check out whether John was okay with that title in print. “Absolutely fine by me,” he said. “In fact, if you want to be really accurate, I represent one of the smallest ethnic minority groups in the world. My father was Polish, my mother Irish and I was born within the sound of Bow Bells. That really makes me a Cockney-Irish-Pole!”

But John knows what he’s doing when it comes to gardening. He is the proud owner of a one acre gardening plot of his own and has become a bit of an expert in managing nature.

The blur of activity had become rather confusing for someone like me, very much an amateur on the gardening expertise spectrum, so I checked out with John what we had achieved and what the long term plan looked like? Here it is:

- We are currently restoring the front hedge by the bus shelter to a more reasonable height. It had simply become overgrown with dead trees and ivy and needed ‘opening up’.
- It is a nice mixed hedgerow of hawthorn, blackthorn and hazel. The work we have done should make yearly maintenance much easier.
- Two elaeagnus shrubs were unearthed during the clearing process and some large ash branches removed to let in more light. Daffodil bulbs are now planted ready for Spring,





and space has been freed up for some herbaceous perennials to add colour with summer flowering.

- The beech hedges have also been trimmed, the old wood burned,

wording on the war memorial plaque repainted and the stone troughs planted with violas.



All in all, a great success!

*Frances Masters*



## Everybody's entitled to my opinion ...

### Pond Life

Now then, the Village Pond, it's a disgrace! The ducks can't even find room to swim and have moved out. Something clearly has to be done. I naturally have the answer!! We must 'discover' some unheard of breed of newt! Immediately, somebody in a reflective jacket will be dispatched from the Council to investigate. Roads for miles around will be closed for some weeks while the mysterious amphibians are tracked down. They will not find any, but that does not matter; to be 'compliant' (which is a popular word these days) the habitat must be protected, the pond will be totally re-modelled, it will be dredged, re-planted, signs erected, there will be school visits and articles on 'Look East'. The Parish Council will get a grant to maintain it! Everybody will be happy, except my friend Barbara, because the puddle in the road that forms every time it rains will still be there and her boots will still get filled with water when some van drives by at the wrong moment!!!



*JP*

**I do not understand ....** If it is possible to contact a space craft that is 300 million miles away and has taken 10 years to reach a comet in space, why doesn't my mobile phone work on the A5???



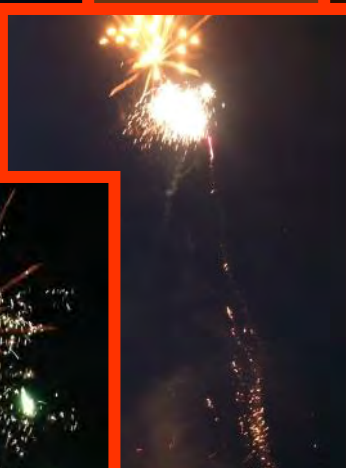
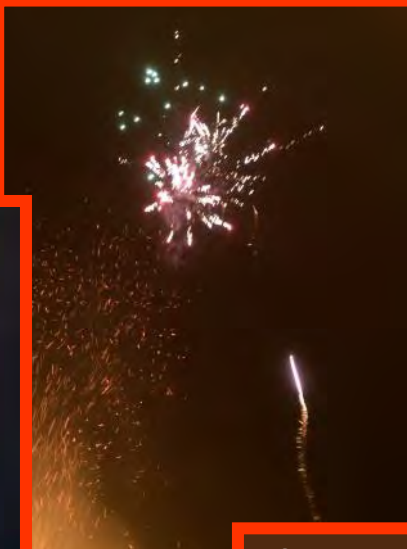
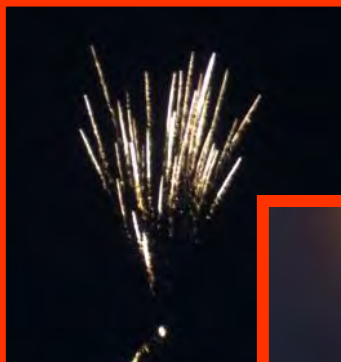
*JP*

## Fireworks at the Queen's Head

Colin put on another spectacular display. The weather was just right for a firework night. Probably 100 people were there. We were warmed by the large bonfire and entertained by glorious fireworks. A lot of work goes into the success of the night, with the Queen's Head regulars collecting money during the year to buy the fireworks, led by Clive and Jenny. On the night, the 'Dangerous Brothers' letting off the fireworks were Steve and Paul. Terry and Ray kept the fire going. Andy and Angela kept us fed with burgers and hot dogs.

*Phil Parry*





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# Remembrance Sunday

In the year that marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of WWI, it was no surprise that a good number of parishioners, ranging from the young to the old, gathered at the Chalgrave Memorial Hall on Remembrance Sunday. They were there to pay their respects to the very many men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for this country, including twelve men from



this parish who had given their lives in the two world wars.

The Rector of All Saints, the Rev Anne Crawford, held a short service and then wreaths were laid on behalf of The Royal British Legion, Chalgrave Parish Council, Chalgrave Sports Club and Chalgrave Memorial Hall Committee.

Mr George Day (pictured), the Standard Bearer for The Royal British Legion, was performing this duty for the last time, having done it for the past 35 years.

Thanks go to all those who attended this service of remembrance.

RP

## Fusilier George Mawson Holmes

Fusilier George Mawson Holmes was one of five parishioners from Chalgrave who lost their lives fighting for the freedom of this country in WWII. Along with the others, George is remembered on the tablet outside the Memorial Hall. We've been fortunate to have been given a photograph of George, which is reproduced here, and the *News* has uncovered an interview with his daughter, Gillian Morrison, published in the *Sunderland Echo* on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2006. From this we learn that George had been born in County Durham, the son of coal miner William Winston Holmes. William, having already lost his wife and a daughter, wanted his son to have the best life possible and urged him to find a job away from the dangerous work in the pits. As a result, George moved south and found employment at Waterlows Printing Factory in Dunstable where he met his future wife, Joan, whom he married in July 1943.

To serve his country, George enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and saw action in Italy in late 1943. This was a time when the Italians had signed an armistice, and had re-entered the war on the Allied side, but opposition from the Germans remained strong. Battles raged along the Gustav Line which stretched the width of the country. In late November 1943, George's battalion successfully liberated areas near the Sangro river but, sadly, aged just 29,

George was killed by a sniper's bullet on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. This was about four months before his daughter, Gillian, was born. Brought up by her mother and a stepfather, she never knew of her real father's existence until she was fourteen and saw her birth certificate for the first time. Deeply moved by what she discovered, Gillian has since visited her father's grave in the Sangro River War Cemetery, where he lies with more than 2,600 other Commonwealth casualties from WWII. The headstone marking his carefully-tended grave is shown here.

The *News* has not been able to establish where George lived in Chalgrave so if you have any information please email us at [thechalgravenews@live.co.uk](mailto:thechalgravenews@live.co.uk). Likewise, please get in touch if you have knowledge or photos of any of the other men commemorated on our memorial plaque. We wish to pay tribute to these brave men.

RP



## The Detuskification of the Werepig

Peter Harding's article in the September issue about the difficulties he encountered in treating a pig resonated with me as I had often pondered the practicalities of quite how, when the day came that Chops required any veterinary treatment, this might realistically be achieved. Little did I know that I would be forced to confront this issue sooner rather than later, until an uncharacteristic assault upon No. 2 son left me in no doubt that Chops would need to be divested of his prize tusks as a matter of urgency.

Chops's reaction to a gentle examination of his trotter on the sole occasion that a vet attended had been considerably less than friendly – suffice to say that it was just as well the vet was wearing heavy duty outdoor trousers. In view of this frosty reception the vet, Sam, was understandably unwilling to carry out the procedure in the absence of appropriate safety measures, however it quickly became apparent that arranging these would not be easy. A suitable receptacle would be required to confine Chops and prevent him from turning round. As Chops was clearly not going to behave in a docile manner it would be necessary to anaesthetise him, and I was advised that to be effective this had to be injected in a very specific place just behind his ear, which would necessitate his head being held still. How on earth was all this going to be achieved?!

Having asked around local farmers, the vet eventually found one who owned a calf crush that he was willing to lend. Two strong men and a pickup truck would be required to collect it, which fortunately I managed to organise fairly easily. The crush turned out to be solid metal, like a mini skip and had to be loaded onto the truck using a fork lift! With 'detusk' day scheduled for a couple of weeks later I had plenty of time to train the Beast to go in there for food, and having placed a couple of layers of bricks inside to make the hole in the end the correct height for a pig's head rather than a calf's I was able to entice him to put his head through by waving tasty morsels at him from the other side....on the end of a skewer to protect my fingers! In theory on D day a bar would be pushed across to trap his head and immobilise him so that he could be injected but I was not at all convinced that this would work. Day after day Werepig trotted in trustingly, and I felt more and more like Judas Iscariot knowing that what he thought was a lovely



place might shortly become his nemesis! I was also aware that anaesthesia can be very risky for pigs, and, although circumstances left me no choice but to agree to the procedure, I was genuinely anxious for my boy. The prospect of him never waking up brought home to me how dearly I love that pig, however undeserving he may be!

Very aptly the day before Hallowe'en, D day finally arrived following several sleepless nights for me, but Sam was very reassuring and calmed me down. Having found a method online claiming that by measuring a pig and applying a calculation its weight could be estimated to within 3% accuracy, a tape measure and some quick number crunching informed me that we would be wrestling with a beastie weighing in excess of 23 stone. Werepig trotted happily into the enclosure, blissfully unaware that the door had been closed behind him as he concentrated on eating the food placed within. We soon realised however that the head immobilisation technique was not going to work as Chops's cheeks were so fat that only his snout could fit through the hole. Luckily Sam had borrowed a pump action syringe that could be operated from a distance and was able to lean over and inject him in the rump whilst he was preoccupied. One startled squeal from Chops who then resumed eating whilst we waited for the anaesthetic to take effect. Eventually he passed out with his head buried in the corner of the enclosure, rendering his mouth completely inaccessible. Heaving the head of a 23 stone unconscious pig through the hole proved beyond our capabilities, but with considerable effort we manoeuvred his snout through a gap in the side of the crush and tied it up with a rope; the tusks were then swiftly dealt with using a device resembling a heavy duty cheese wire and a pair of pliers from the garage. The largest, sharp as a shark's tooth, was reserved by request as a hard earned trophy for No. 2 son, and Hallowe'en Pig, released from his confinement, slept peacefully for several hours. Following an early night he awoke the next day right as rain as if nothing had ever happened! To my relief the event went off a lot more smoothly than I expected and Chops did not appear to suffer any stress or adverse effects, but I hope it will be a few years before his tusks need trimming again as it proved quite a rigmarole!

It only remains for the detuskificated Chops to wish all his friends in Wingfield and Tebworth a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! His surrogate Mum is hoping that unlike last year she will not be spending the whole of Christmas morning chasing around the fields in search of a porcine Houdini! Best not to tempt fate....

*Julia Marsh*



# The Plough

On the night of 19<sup>th</sup> November, after 9 years and 3 days in charge (not that anyone had been counting), Roger and Theresa Burden called time for what was to be the last time, as they readied

themselves to enter retirement.



To mark this auspicious occasion, Roger and T were presented with a canvas print depicting a night time photo of The Plough. Whilst the photo on the left doesn't do justice to the print, readers with a vivid imagination may be able to convince themselves that in the night sky above the pub can be seen the constellation of the Plough. How amazing is that!? Even Buster struggled to contain his inherent exuberance—although he calmed down once he realised that the print wasn't edible.



Roger and T, who have been extremely busy of late with packing and handing over the reins, have asked the *News* to thank everyone in the community who has supported the Plough during the years of their stewardship. They have made many good friends during that time and will miss the day-to-day banter and comradeship that goes with running a pub—just as we will all miss them, and, of course, Roger's "jokes" (for want of a better word). However, whilst they may no longer be in command, they will be returning on a regular basis to play dominos and crib, and perhaps, if Roger can be persuaded, to have pint or two. We wish Roger, T and Buster a long, happy and fruitful retirement.

With no interregnum, the following day saw Chris and Caroline Ross (pictured left and right) assume the roles of landlord and landlady.

They will already be familiar to many of you who have visited The Plough in the past few months. We wish them every success in their venture and we look forward to supporting them with our patronage.

RP

Anyone wishing to find out what is happening at  
The Plough can visit the website:  
**[www.theploughinn.com](http://www.theploughinn.com)**



# Queen's Head

Hello everyone, Colin here, I hope you all had a lovely summer and enjoyed the sunshine; at least we had some sunshine this year.

We at the Queen's Head had a good time over the last few months and there were quite a few of our well attended BBQs in the garden, some of which were with live music courtesy of 'Magnificent Morgan' and his friends, so a big thanks to them for all their efforts, and of course to Clive and Jenny who slaved valiantly behind the BBQ.



As usual the Friday night live music is well attended as are the 'four-weekly' folk/country music sessions that are held on every fourth Wednesday.

I was sitting in the bar a couple of nights ago, as I tend to do, when in walked a stranger. He introduced himself as Professor Kenton Blumininstall and proceeded to regale me with some astounding facts; for instance did you know that it is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs.

In ten minutes a hurricane releases more energy than all the worlds' nuclear weapons combined.

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our ears and nose never stop growing.

A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.... Fascinating facts aren't they??

One little thing happened to me the other day that I feel I should tell you about. I was in Leighton Buzzard when I got caught short and had to use the public loos. Whilst I was sitting there minding my own business I heard someone occupy the stall next to mine, and after a few minutes a voice said "Hello, how are you?"

I answered, "I'm OK thanks."

The voice said "So what are you doing."

I answered "Uhh, I'm just sitting here like you." (I was getting a bit worried by this time.)

The voice then said "Can I come over?" (Now I was really worried.)

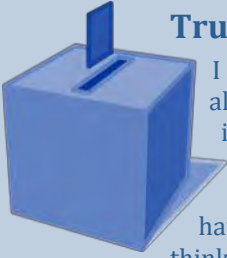
I said, "No, you bloody well can't, I'm a bit busy at the moment."

The voice then said, "Listen, I'll have to call you back, there's an idiot in the next stall who keeps answering all my questions."

I crept out as quietly as I could!

That's all for this issue of our terrific little magazine. I hope to see you in the pub sometime soon, maybe over the Christmas??

All the best, *Colin*



## Trust me .... there's an election coming

I notice we are going through the usual pre-election period when all the parties come up with something which they have no intention of doing to appease the electorate. The latest from the Tories is 15 billion quid's worth of road building. The problem with building new roads, of course, is that it all takes so long, they have been rebuilding Junction 10a near the airport for, well let me think.... it must be since the Romans were here and quite clearly it won't be finished until Haley's Comet comes back..... If we are lucky!! However, I am not too concerned about it all because by the time "whoever it is", gets into power, plans would have changed or been impossible to achieve in the first place! I even heard today about net immigration and that the Tory plans to get the numbers down to the tens of thousands – before the next election, was only a comment! NO, it wasn't! It was cast in stone then! Funny how things change depending on which side of an election we are on!

## It's complete rubbish!

Heard today that Newcastle residents have 9. Yes, that's 9 bins that they have to fill correctly with the right kind of rubbish! The council will then turn up when they can be bothered to empty them. I also heard that a great many jobs that are here today will be gone tomorrow as technology replaces workers. Does that mean then that the 'waste enforcement officer'.... yes, that is what they are called, won't be calling to fine you for the wrong kind of rubbish anymore? A robot will be doing it for them? Prisons will soon be overflowing with usually law abiding decent people who have made an enormous error and put their cabbage in the wrong bin!



## Job titles

The EU have decreed, that to ensure they all have a job with enormous expenses next year, many jobs will have to be 're-titled'.

Here are a few of my suggestions:

Ground reorganising officer	Farmer
Tarmac relaying consultant	Road worker
Vehicle deployment director	Traffic warden
Personal transportation relocation consultant	Car salesman
In-active body disposal consultant	Undertaker

You are welcome to put your own ideas on the Chalgrave News Facebook Page, I shall grovel to the Editor ... again ... and suggest a small prize for the best suggestion! [*The Editor, or to use his full title, the "Specialist in ensuring that facts should not get in the way of a good story", reluctantly agrees to this preposterous demand. Please send your suggestions to [thechalgravenews@live.co.uk](mailto:thechalgravenews@live.co.uk).*]

JP

# All Our Yesterdays – No. 18

Lyn Green went to the Royal Albert Hall WI AGM in 1986 to present a resolution asking for a moratorium on development of nuclear power and was later interviewed on Anglia TV News.

## Anglia News Introduction



A million women Throughout England has thrown its weight behind calls for a halt to the expansion of nuclear power. Their rare move into political controversy was prompted by the WI branch in the tiny Bedfordshire village of Chalgrave.



## Interviewer [Peter Lugg]

The WI represents the views of nearly half a million women nationally, 25 of its members live in the Bedfordshire Parish of Chalgrave and one of them is postmistress Carolyn Green. Yesterday's vote is



just about the biggest thing that's ever happened to their local branch where feelings about nuclear

power have been running high since last month's Chernobyl disaster.

**"Mrs Green"** It was at our local general meeting that we all said, "What can we do to show that we want people to... We want the authorities to stop for a minute and think. Think what they're doing" and we came up with the idea of an urgency resolution. This is quite unusual for the WI but I presented it at the Annual General Meeting, there was some opposition from experts feeling that it wasn't .... It was too technical for us to discuss but what we were discussing was just that the fact that we wanted the experts to stop and think before they carried on expanding the nuclear program. Just stop expanding and think what they are doing. It was obvious they didn't know how to deal with the meltdown. They didn't know what effect radiation was going to have on our children's children.

**Interviewer** A lot of political groups and CND have the same opinion as you, what weight do you think the Women's Institute will carry?

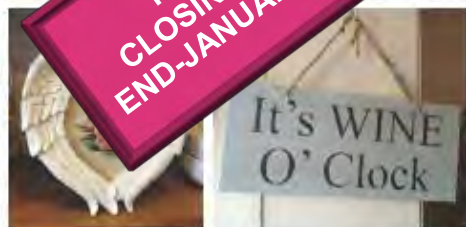
**"Mrs Green"** It's no longer a CND issue for example. It's a national issue and I think the fact that the Women's Institute is not one minded, it's made up of members from all walks of life. I think for this reason it's going to carry a lot of weight because the authorities will have to sit up and take notice of a group that represents all of society in our country.

The full interview is on YouTube at <http://youtu.be/EqSJQatW1MU> or if you go to YouTube and key "mrs green wi nuclear" you should find it. It will find its way onto [www.chalgrave.org](http://www.chalgrave.org) eventually but we are re-constructing the website at present.

*Ken Green*



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## Deadline for next edition: Monday, 16 February 2015

Please submit entries by email to:

[\*\*thechalgravenews@live.co.uk\*\*](mailto:thechalgravenews@live.co.uk)

Or by phone to:

Roger Parker on 01525 874910

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

*Remember, we welcome your own stories, (clean!) jokes and  
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