

CHALGRAVE NEWS

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



Publication No. 48 September 2015

Dates for Your Diary

Day/Date	Event	Location/Contact	Time
3 rd Tuesday of each month	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Every other Sunday	Quiz Night	Plough Inn	8.00 pm
Mondays	Dominoes	Plough Inn	
Mondays and Fridays	Live entertainment	Queen's Head	7.30 pm
Wednesdays	Darts	Queen's Head	
Thursdays	Dominoes	Queen's Head	
Weekdays	Book Club	Noeleen Thompson	
Every 2 nd Tuesday	WI	Memorial Hall	8–10 pm
Saturday, 26 th September	Sports Club Race Night – <i>see p 41</i>	Memorial Hall	6.30 pm
Wednesday, 30 th September	Andrew Selous, MP – surgery for constituents – <i>see p 4</i>	Plough Inn (Conservatory)	4.15–4.45 pm

Don't forget to check the Chalgrave Parish website (www.chalgrave.org) and Facebook page (search Facebook for Chalgrave Parish) where the latest news is to be found, as well as information on forthcoming events.



Front Cover: Hemlock Morris Dancers captured in mid flight at the Chalgrave Medieval Games (photo by Lyndie Lothian)

**Deadline for next edition:
Monday, 23rd November 2015**

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

Dear Readers, Welcome to a bumper edition of the *News*! This time it's been an even bigger challenge than usual to fit everything into the available space.

Two major events have been held in Chalgrave since we last went to press. First there was the Chalgrave Medieval Games in June. Regrettably, I missed the occasion as I was on holiday in France, but everyone has told me what an amazing afternoon was had by everyone, with ideal weather to boot. Fortunately, one of the organisers, Roger Masters (who wishes to be known henceforth as "The Mad Monk"), has written a report for the *News* which has been illustrated with photos taken by several people who were lucky enough to be there.

Barely had the excitement from the Games died down than we were witnessing another Classic & Prestige Car Day in Wingfield, now in its third year and linked, as has become customary, to a wonderful beer festival at the Plough. This spectacular car show has grown in size each year and attracts vehicles and visitors from far and wide. Two charities benefited handsomely by more than a total of £1,000 from the car show and beer festival —read more in the pages that follow.

Outside Chalgrave, but still intimately connected to it, we carry a report on a lively JoeFest 2015, organised by Frankie Inzani in memory of her late dad, Joe. This raised the astonishing sum of £3,903 for London's Air Ambulance.

Also in this copy you'll find another instalment in Gillian Morrison's poignant account of her search to discover more about the father she never met. Gillian writes in tribute to the countless thousands of young men caught up in the turmoil of war who were, as she puts it, "*ordinary men ... forced into doing extraordinary things*".

More mundanely, but still of importance, we have an article on the defibrillator training that took place in June. You can also read about websites and social media resources that are of local interest, and of two Tebworth ladies who have taken part in Bedfordshire's first Colour Dash. And, naturally, we also feature the usual pieces by our regular stalwarts whom we depend on to keep you informed and entertained. Last but not least, over the past eighteen months, readers have been captivated by stories of our local porcine celebrity, Chops, as told by his adoptive mum, Julia Marsh. Well, his fame has now spread beyond Chalgrave and reported nationwide. Both the Daily Mail and Daily Star have carried articles on Chops, and Julia has even given a live interview on Three Counties Radio. But, remember, it was the *News* that scooped the story!

RP

Don't forget, we welcome your own news, stories, photos and (clean!) jokes, 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 be read online at www.chalgrave.org. Also visit this website for information on the Parish Council, parish history, the Memorial Hall, local organisations, and much, much more.

Chairman of the Parish Council

From the Parish Council ...

Tebworth Pond. Hopefully, by the time you read this, work will have been started on the pond. We received a grant from Biffa Waste Management. The work is being coordinated by Cllrs Debbie Hampson and Dan Osborn along with volunteers. We will be dredging the pond and cutting back the surrounding vegetation.

Community Award. At the Village Games the Parish Council presented this award to Lyndie Lothian. Lyndie has lived in the Parish for many years and has always helped out in some capacity with community events. She was the editor of the *Chalgrave News*, a member of the Memorial Hall Committee and, until recently, a Trustee of the West Charity.

Dog bin. At the request of a parishioner, we are looking into getting a new bin further down The Lane. Many people take their dogs for a walk down The Lane but the only bin is at the top of the road.

Boundary gates. You may have noticed that we are having the boundary gates and notice boards repainted and re-varnished.

Defibrillator. As you will have read in the *News*, we now have a defibrillator in the parish located at the Memorial Hall. We are considering putting together a Parish Response Team. This will be a group of parishioners who are likely to be in the Parish at any time of day and available to get the defibrillator in an emergency. If you are with someone who is having a heart attack you can stay with the person and call one of the Team.

Buses. Cllr Paul Whitton is in discussion with residents who use the bus service and with Central Beds Council to try and resolve the issue of getting a better service.

Speedwatch. The Speedwatch team has been out every month either in Tebworth or Wingfield. The aim is to raise awareness of the speed limit rather than catch speeding motorists although we did record a number of 'offenders' and their car registration numbers have been forwarded to the police.

Our next meeting is the third Tuesday in September – you are welcome to attend.

Cllr Phil Parry, Chairman



Andrew Selous, MP—Village Surgery

Our local MP, Andrew Selous, is holding a surgery for constituents in the **Conservatory at the Plough Inn on Wednesday, 30th September, between 4.15 and 4.45 pm.** If you wish to talk to Andrew about any matter that may be of concern to you, please drop in – no appointment is necessary.

View from the House: Andrew Selous MP

Andrew Selous can be contacted on andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk, or by post to Andrew Selous MP, The House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, or by telephone at his House of Commons Office on 0207 218 1834 or at his constituency office on 01582 662821.

THE GOVERNMENT IS SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN SOUTH WEST BEDFORDSHIRE TO CREATE JOBS AND GROWTH

South West Bedfordshire MP Andrew Selous has welcomed new figures showing the Government's Start-Up Loans and New Enterprise Allowance schemes are supporting people in South West Bedfordshire to set up their own business – helping to provide growth and jobs for hardworking families in our area.

The figures show that Start-Up Loans have helped 42 people in South West Bedfordshire to set up a business with £149,449 worth of loans since the scheme launched in 2012. The New Enterprise Allowance has also helped another 120 people to launch their own business.

Small businesses are an essential part of our community, bringing jobs and economic security. Encouraging business creators is a vital part of our long-term economic plan to secure a better future for Britain.

Across Britain 30,000 people have now benefitted from Start-Up loans scheme – with £155 million lent to help new businesses get going. This is progress towards the Government's commitment to increase the number of loans to 75,000.

The New Enterprise Allowance scheme, which launched in 2011, has seen another 70,000 new businesses set up. The scheme – which is available to jobseekers, and those claiming Income Support or Employment and Support Allowance – gives those with a feasible business idea support from a business mentor to help them develop their plan, and then seed funding if the plan is approved.

Andrew Selous MP commented:

"The Government backs the small businesses which bring jobs to our local community, and our long-term economic plan is aiming to make Britain the best place in the world to start and grow a business.

"These figures show that our Start-Up Loans and New Enterprise Allowance are helping us to do just that, with 162 people here in South West Bedfordshire supported, so that new companies can be launched and new jobs for hardworking people are created.

"This support is giving people in all parts of the country the chance to fulfil their ambition to set up their own business, and as a One Nation government we will take this further over the next five years, with a commitment to increase the number of Start-Up Loans to 75,000, as we work to create jobs and opportunities for families across Britain."



Councillor Mark Versallion

Mark Versallion is our Central Bedfordshire Councillor, representing the Ward of Heath and Reach which includes 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 234 000 or at mark.versallion@centralbedfordsire.gov.uk.

More Engineering Tales ...

A priest, a doctor and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with those guys? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!"

The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!"

The priest said, "Here comes the greenkeeper. Let's have a word with him."

He said, "Hello George, what's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?"

The greenkeeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime."

The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything he can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

—ooOoo—

To the optimist, the glass is half-full. To the pessimist, the glass is half-empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

—ooOoo—

The graduate with a science degree asks, "Why does it work?" The graduate with an engineering degree asks, "How does it work?" The graduate with an accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?" The graduate with an arts degree asks, "Do you want fries with that?"

Jokes supplied by Mick McDonagh

Old News

Luton Times and Advertiser, 28th July 1905 –

TEBWORTH

LOST AT HOME. — Two gentlemen who have lived at Tebworth all their lives and seldom ventured from home, went out for a drive last week, intending to see Milton Bryan Church. Not knowing the way they drove through Hockliffe and Woburn, to Eversholt. Here they got so bewildered by the number of “Ends” that village contains (about a dozen) that they quite lost themselves, although so near their native place. Finally a friend in need came to their rescue and directed them to “Home, sweet home”.

A Touch of Yorkshire ...

A Yorkshireman's wife sadly passed away and he decided to have the words 'She Were Thine' engraved on her headstone. So he called the stonemason and explained what he wanted. A few days later he visited the mason and saw the stone—he was shocked to see the mason had engraved 'She Were Thin'.

He yelled, “The blummin’ ‘e’ is missing! Where’s the ‘e’? Tha’s left the blummin’ ‘e’ out lad!” The mason couldn’t apologise enough and assured the widower the wording would be corrected before the funeral.

Well, the day came and the mourners left the church after the service and walked to the graveyard. There, for all to see, was the headstone and inscribed upon it were the words, “Eeh, She Were Thin.”



—ooOOoo—

Wrigleys have launched a new website where you can order chewing gum online. It's called ebuvgum.com.

—ooOOoo—

Mama Mia – is this classic Abba song or a Yorkshire kid telling his mum he's arrived?



The *News* asked our regular reader from north of the border, Mr Greig, what he would be doing in five years' time. He replied, how was he meant to know—he didn't have 2020 vision.

Did you know?

You can never lose a homing pigeon— if your homing pigeon doesn't come back, what you've lost is a pigeon.



Unintended Consequences

John Maynard Keynes, perhaps England's best-known economist – remember that Adam Smith was a Scot – has a reputation as an armchair interventionist. Keynes is widely regarded as someone who had little faith in markets to heal themselves. Indeed, he was an advocate of pump-priming by the public sector during the Great Depression. However, there was much more to Keynes than his caricatures. In “The Great Slump of 1930” he wrote: “Today we have involved ourselves in a colossal muddle, have blundered in the control of a delicate machine, the working of which we do not understand.” And so to the tale of Dunstable's “Green Wave” traffic experiment, which opened to great fanfare and immediate chaos in January 2003.

The Green Wave, or to give it its full name, the Dunstable A5 Queue Relocation Scheme, “was conceived as a short-term solution to provide a co-ordinated traffic management control system of all existing and newly installed traffic signals along the A5 in the Dunstable area.” This included a proposal to replace the Dunstable town centre mini-roundabouts with traffic signals. The chief aims of the scheme were to improve the flow of traffic through Dunstable by linking all the traffic signals to a common traffic management system, to minimise the number of times vehicles were stopped in the town centre, to reduce traffic queues and accidents and lessen the associated problems of noise and pollution in the town centre. The Highways Agency ramped up local expectations, talking of a “Green Wave” effect in Dunstable, with pulses of traffic passing through the town centre and queuing, polluting traffic held on the outskirts of the town.

Local residents immediately identified the likelihood of ‘rat running’ – where drivers transfer to less busy smaller roads to complete their journeys. The Agency knew of local stakeholders' concerns, but it did not build an area-wide traffic model and so was not able to assess the full effect of rat-running. The post-mortem on the Green Wave confessed that “the Agency placed too much dependence on theoretical models that had not been rigorously validated or tested.” Local residents put it more colourfully as local traders suffered a wipe-out. The scheme initially opened in January 2003 and it took a further 14 months to sort out



the mess. It was originally budgeted at £1.4m and was delivered for around £2m. Average journey times in the morning peak rose by 14% northbound and 21% southbound. True, there were fewer accidents but then stationary cars have this tendency. There was no reduction in congestion or improvement in air quality, due in part to an increase in road traffic. Lessons learned? “For future schemes, the Agency should consider making local stakeholders aware as soon as possible of constraints on delivering service improvements, *so as to help manage expectations.*” (Italics added.) Dunstable remains twinned with Jam Tomorrow.

Peter Warburton

A Significant Birthday

The *News* always strives to mark the passing of what we call “significant birthdays”. We’re therefore delighted to report that Roger Burden, who only earlier this year officially retired as the landlord of the Plough Inn, reached the biblical age of three score and ten on 17th July. As is obvious from this photo, he’s in fine fettle, and still benefits from a full head of hair. Retirement is keeping him busy—so much so, that he’s not yet found the time he needs to improve his jokes!

RP, with photo by Mike Wells



A woman rushes to her doctor, looking very worried, and says: “Doctor, I need help! When I woke up this morning, I looked in the mirror and saw my hair was all wiry and frazzled, my skin was all wrinkled and pasty, my eyes were bloodshot and I had this corpse-like expression on my face. What’s wrong with me?”

Her doctor looks her over and says: “Well, I can rule out any problem with your eyesight.”

Everybody’s Entitled to my Opinion....

Some lazy good for nothing has fly tipped some old fencing in a gateway down the Tebworth Road (by Roger’s field gate), these people come under the same heading as those that abandon dog’s mess. However, if the local council had the good sense to let you dump rubbish, at the dump, without having someone “who has more authority than his pay-grade should allow” to question you and tell you ‘you can’t dump that here’ it wouldn’t happen now would it????!!!!



JP

Local Websites and Social Media



There is a surprisingly large number of online resources to keep you informed and entertained about our locality—

- The **Chalgrave Parish** website – www.chalgrave.org – should be your first port of call for anything about the parish. This contains everything—parish council business, news of upcoming events, local history, photos and videos of past events, information on the Memorial Hall, old copies of the *News*, useful links, and much, much more.
- **Facebook**, loved by some and hated by others, nonetheless is used by many local organisations and establishments to keep the public abreast of their latest goings-on. For Chalgrave, search Facebook for these pages – **Chalgrave Parish**, **The Plough Inn Wingfield**, **The Queens Head - Tebworth**, **Chalgrave WI**, **Chalgrave Sports Club**, and **Chalgrave Manor Golf Club**. (The *Chalgrave News* had a Facebook page but three months ago joined forces with Chalgrave Parish and our updates are now published there.) A little further afield than Chalgrave, take a peak also at the Facebook pages for **Toddington Village** and **Houghton Regis News Desk**, both of which carry much that may be of interest to us here.
- Another social network site to look at for local news is **Streetlife** at www.streetlife.com. This is aimed at connecting people in a neighbourhood so that they can share local information, seek advice, ask for recommendations on tradesmen, etc. In a recent post someone from Wingfield was giving away a large parrot cage (but sans parrot).
- Besides its Facebook page, the **Plough Inn** has its own website that's worth exploring – www.theploughinn.com.
- Needless to say, **All Saints Church** also has an online presence – www.allsaintschalgrave.org.uk. Regrettably, it's not up to date but it does still contain useful material.
- **Toddington Medical Centre** – toddingtondoctors.co.uk – is a good resource where you can find loads of reputable medical advice and also book appointments online.
- The enormous housing development (known as **HRN1**) that'll be situated between the new A5–M1 link road and Houghton Regis has a website although its not been updated for a while – www.hrn1.co.uk. Meanwhile, the **Houghton Regis Town Council** website – www.houghtonregis.org.uk – also has information on HRN1, as well as on the A5–M1 link road, the Woodside link road, and HRN2 – click on the **Town Updates** tab to see more.
- If you're interested in **history and geography** you can combine both at www.old-maps.co.uk where you can view old OS maps from around the country, including Chalgrave. However, you need to pay to zoom in close.
- **Bedfordshire Libraries** have an excellent virtual library where you can download over fifty magazine titles to read on your PC, laptop, tablet or phone, at any time and at any place. All of the titles are well known and popular, some

examples being BBC Good Food, BBC History, Country Living, Countryfile, Cosmopolitan, Digital Camera World, Gardeners' World, Hello!, National Geographic, Newsweek, PC Advisor and Who Do You Think You Are?. Hence there is money to be saved but you do need to have library membership to participate. Check out the list of magazines and how to obtain them at goo.gl/6pHvyV.

- Finally, on a different topic, a shortened internet address, such as that used above for the virtual library, can be invaluable when the address would otherwise be exceedingly long to type out. But how do you know it will take you to a safe site and not on a phishing expedition or to a website that'll infect you with a virus? The solution is to use a URL checker such as this one – longurl.org. Paste in the short address and it'll give you the information you need to check the legitimacy of the website.



Undoubtedly, our readers will know of other websites that are of local interest so why not drop an email to the *News* so that we can share the details in future editions.

RP

Grumpy Old Man ...

I see that the 'Road Closed' Pixies have been out again! Between Toddington and Milton Bryan the other day many signs were telling me 'Access Only - Road Closed' In other words....Go away! Obviously, I ignored them and guess what.... Nothing going on at all!! No people in nice yellow jackets standing around, no machinery, nothing! It was the same a few weeks ago, perhaps they just do it for fun? For a laugh ha ha ha! Well, Stop It! It is fashionable now to close roads for anything, accident investigation...that takes hours, or perhaps a slow moving hedgehog, the wind in the wrong direction! Consider the inconvenience to regular users, people just trying to get to work?



If it needs fixing, do it at night!!!! They do in Japan, Suzan reliably informs me!

JP

Horsey Jokes ...

A racehorse owner took his horse to the vet. "Will I be able to race this horse again?" he asked.

The vet replied, "Of course you will, and you'll probably beat it!"

—ooOoo—

A talking white horse walked into a pub and asked for a whisky.

The landlord said, "Hey, we've got a whisky named after you."

The horse replied, "What, George?"



AED Training

Mr Graham Harris, a qualified first aid instructor and an official first responder, gave an interesting presentation to villagers on 18th June on the use of the **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** which has been installed outside the Memorial Hall. It's not the intention of this article to repeat what Graham said (it wouldn't do justice to his talk!) but rather to highlight some of the salient points he made.

As was stressed in the June edition of the *News*, administering **cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)** takes precedent over using the AED so, not surprisingly, Graham spent a good part of his time using a dummy, named Annie, to illustrate

how to check whether someone is breathing and then explaining how to give chest compressions and the kiss of life to keep someone alive who's not breathing.

He explained that once it's been established that someone's not breathing, then CPR should be started immediately because every second counts. Hopefully, two or more people will be in the vicinity when the victim is found—one can then commence CPR while another dials 999. In the unfortunate event of there being only one person then difficult decisions have to be taken but, as Graham emphasised, someone not breathing will die if nothing is attempted so doing something is better than doing nothing—you can't make the situation worse but you could save a life.



Graham Harris with Annie and an AED (not the same model as ours)

The Ambulance Service will provide the five digit PIN to open the AED cabinet but CPR shouldn't be interrupted to fetch the AED—someone else should be sent. Remember that the victim may not be at the Hall but could be hundreds of yards away so stopping CPR could be fatal.

The operation of the AED device is straightforward and once the device has been opened up it immediately starts to give clear, spoken instructions. Nevertheless, Graham stressed some elements that were perhaps not



Roger Mence showing what's inside the cabinet

obvious from these instructions. First, all of the upper clothing of the victim must be removed, and any metal chains around the neck pushed out of the way. Secondly, as the victim is likely to be sweating they should be wiped down. Thirdly, if they have a hairy chest, then this should be shaved. Fourthly, when attaching the pads, avoid any metal piercings.

Observing these points will ensure that the pads of the AED make good, safe contact with the skin and therefore that the shocking current proves effective in defibrillating the heart. A bag inside the AED cabinet contains shears to cut off clothing, a cloth to wipe off sweat and a razor to shave the areas where the pads are to be placed. Once the pads have been applied, the AED analyses the heart's rhythm and will only administer a shock if this is necessary.

All in all, this was a very informative evening but the importance of knowing how to perform CPR cannot be overstated. Those who don't have this knowledge are advised to attend a course.

RP

Old News

Luton Times and Advertiser, 16th September 1898 –

TEBWORTH

A Dangerous Pond.—Last Thursday evening, about half-past six, while a mare attached to a field cart belonging to Mr. Day was endeavouring to take a long drink, the wheels (owing to the declivity) got over the planked up margin, thus violently thrusting the mare's head downwards into the mud and its dead weight causing the suffocating creature to scramble for dear life. Fortunately Mr. Geo. Creamer (whose fearlessness is proverbial in these parts) arrived as matters seemed in extremis, to render "first aid". Seeing the leading horse standing by, he went in with it to the submerged shafts, and by dint of much dirty exertion he duly hooked on its chain harness, by which means both mare and cart were eventually extricated—a successful and plucky performance done with celerity, as was forthwith testified to by the owner's liberality, tendering Mr. Creamer the price of "a pint" for his wetting!

One day, an Englishman and his wife were driving through Wales and stopped for lunch in Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwyllyllantysiliogogoch. Before ordering, the husband said to the waitress: "I wonder if you would do us a favour. Can you pronounce where we are—very, very slowly—so we can impress our friends when we get back home?"

The girl leaned over and carefully enunciated the words, "Burr... gurr...King."

Chalgrave Medieval Games 2015

Wow... sun, fun, goodwill and community...

Summing up the 2015 Chalgrave Games, these are the words that came to mind.

Something special

The preparation for this year's medieval-themed games began soon after last year's event. It's fair to say the games team have had a lot of fun and laughter along the way in planning something we hoped would be really special for 2015.

Old favourites made a welcome re-appearance – the dog show, children's games, the infamous egg game, whack-a-rat, the stocks, the little train, face





painting, lucky dip, coconut shy, Pimms tent, tea, cakes, and the fabulous beer and wine tent (hurrah).

And new features added colour and interest, encouraging many to stay on to the annual climax.... the famous water games! Thanks to Dan Osborne, Roger Fenwick and Sam Edmonds for ensuring this essential part of the day survived.

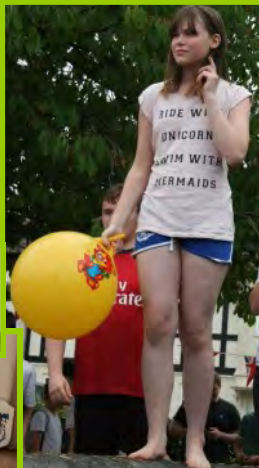
Hemlock Morris, Immies Shimmies belly dancers, Onyx and the folk singers and players helped entertain whilst Mrs McDoodah's pies, pasties and ribs kept the crowd well fed throughout the day.

The WI cake stall, teddy bear orphanage, find the wine, children's jousting, archery, tarot and Reiki were all manned by local people happy to give their time and energy to support the cause.

Any surplus made on the day will help to support and maintain the Memorial Hall which, people tell us, is looking better than ever, and continues to be very well used by our local community.









Generosity

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our sponsors—Fusion Therapeutic Coaching, John Parker, Signs of the Times, McDonalds, Local Agent Estate Agency, Debbie Kingham, Poplars Garden Centre, Panache Hair, The Plough, Par-snips Hair, The Beauty Room, A J Autos, Red Chilli, K & K Pet foods, Hardware Café, Capello Hair Design, Kat Masters, Childs Bakery, Michael di Meo Hair and Beauty, Toddington Mowers, Chalgrave Golf Club, Delicious Shakes, Toddy Wines, Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway, Wright Vehicle Solutions, Hazel Zimmer and Nisa.

The grand raffle proved really popular with wonderful prizes and actual queues for tickets on the day. Thanks go to John Parker for supplying the second and third prizes of £100 and a flying lesson and to Fusion Therapeutic Coaching, aka Frances Masters, for donating the first prize, an iPad 2, which was won by Barbara Jackson's brother, David Heeney.

And next year's theme...? Well, that's a secret for the moment but, there's no doubt, it will certainly be something special.

Join us

If you would like to be part of the Chalgrave Memorial Hall team, have fun and do something really positive for your local community, why don't you join us?

You will be made very welcome.

Meanwhile, my personal thanks go out to all our hard working members, supporters, sponsors and helpers for producing such a special day for the Parish.

You are all stars!

*Roger Masters, Chair, Chalgrave Memorial Hall Trustees
'Working for the parish of Chalgrave'*

*Photos by Lyndie Lothian, Stuart Brown, Frances Masters, Wendy Dowling, Emma Gray
and others*

The Community Award was won this year by Lyndie Lothian who, over the years, has done a lot of voluntary work that has considerably benefitted the Parish. She is a former editor of the *Chalgrave News*, a former member of the Memorial Hall Committee and, until recently, was a Trustee of the West Charity.

In the dog agility show, the First Prize was scooped by Ruby, owned and handled by Julia Marsh. The Second Prize was awarded to Chris and Mick McDonagh's dog, Millie, handled on the day by Imogen Parry, while the Third Prize went to Zebbie, owned and handled by Anneliese Shaw.

Anneliese's dogs also won First and Second in the fancy dress competition.

The best children's shield prize went to Robert and Florence Hall.

Congratulations to all the winners!

For a video of the Hemlock Morris Dancers' stunning performance at the Games, visit YouTube (www.youtube.com) and search for *Hemlock Morris Chalgrave*. Or else see the Chalgrave Parish website or Facebook page which also have the video.

Chalgrave News

Advertising and Useful Contacts

To advertise in the *Chalgrave News*, please email
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or phone 01525 873963 / 877327

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For Advice, Enquiries and Reliable Service Call Us Now On
01525 877234 or 07855 321781

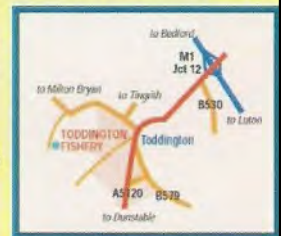
Email: lydonj6@aol.com www.diggermanhire.co.uk

When contacting an advertiser, please remember to mention you saw them in the Chalgrave News

Toddington Fishery



Toddington Fishery is set in a quiet corner of rural Bedfordshire. Originally dug out some 15 years ago and stocked with a variety of coarse fish including roach, perch, tench, bream, with carp to 22lb and catfish to 37lb.



Toddington Fishery, Herne Farm Cottag
Toddington, Bedfordshire LU5 6HH
Tel: 07855 321 781

Helping Hands

The Home Care Specialists

Est. 1989



Do you need a Helping Hand?

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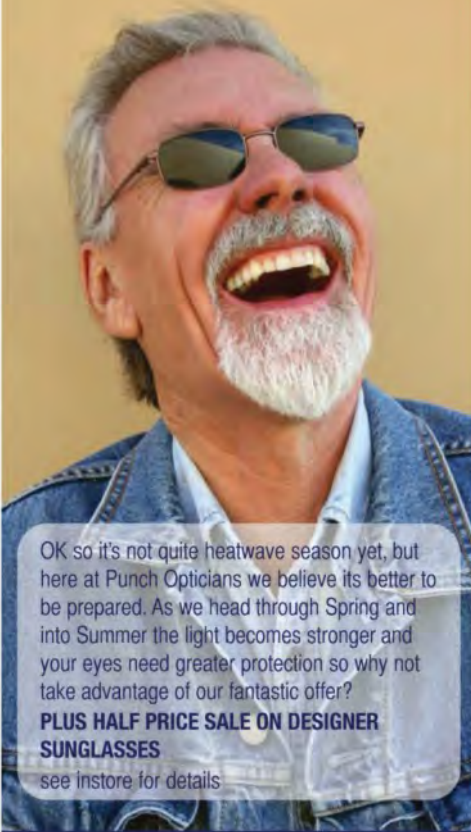
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6pm – 12 midnight*	£100	£235	£285
12.30pm – 12 midnight*	£125	£285	£335
SUNDAY			
10am – 10pm*	£7 per hour	£18 per hour	£23 per hour
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JoeFest 2015

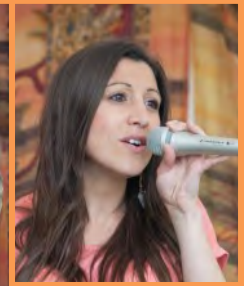
Organised by Frankie Inzani in memory of her late father, Joe Inzani, JoeFest 2015 took place at the Old Farm Inn in nearby



Totternhoe on Saturday, 20th June. Incredibly, the event raised an amazing £3,903 for London's Air Ambulance.

Frankie thanks everyone who made the day, including all the wonderful musicians, the people who helped on stalls, those that lent the PA equipment, the bakers who made cakes, everyone who donated raffle and auction prizes, Tom and Julie Petzing for allowing the event to be held at their pub, and (last but not least) the four brave men who volunteered to have their legs waxed. As is clear from the photos, a lot of





people came along to enjoy the afternoon and a heavy shower did nothing to dampen spirits.



RP
Photos by Andy Marlow



Summer Garden Competition

Once more, the *News* team has been impressed by the quality, variety and colour of the flowers displayed in front gardens, containers and baskets in Tebworth and Wingfield and we've been out with our cameras taking shots of as much as possible.

As always, space limitations prevent us from showing more than a small selection of your displays here, but be assured that everyone's efforts are much appreciated and they do much to brighten up our villages.

Choosing a winner has been no easier this year than in previous years but the eventual decision has been to award the prize in the garden category to the Costins at Pond Farm, Wingfield (**red rosette**), for their wonderful display of roses, and the



prize in the container category to the Osborns at Park Farm, Tebworth (**blue rosette**), for their imaginative reuse of old farming equipment.

RP





Fusilier George Mawson Holmes

As my father, George, wasn't a native of Tebworth or the area I seem to have spent the last two instalments of his story explaining how he came to live in the area and ended up with his name on the War Memorial on the wall of the village hall – fitting him into the picture, so to speak.

We hear and read so much, and quite rightly so, of the soldiers who have distinguished themselves in war with remarkable acts of bravery and have been singled out for special recognition for those brave acts. Indeed, I am honoured to have become friendly with one such gentleman who was awarded the DSO for his bravery in the Sicilian campaign – an old soldier from my father's regiment.

It is my hope that my father's story represents all the thousands of ordinary young men who were suddenly taken from their ordinary, 'hum drum', quiet, happy lives to face the horrors of war without special recognition. Most of them ordinary men but forced into doing extraordinary things.

From the first visit with my son and daughter to my father's grave in the Sangro River War Cemetery on the Adriatic Coast of Italy in September 2003, I was like a dog with a bone that wouldn't let go. I just had to find out more. It wasn't enough to just stand in front of the grave – I needed to find out exactly what was happening in the area at that time in the war and hopefully the circumstances of his death.

In September 2005, I went back with a friend and stayed in a lovely B&B about 3 miles from the cemetery where we were able to visit twice a day for a whole week. I had found the B&B on the internet and finding the fact that the price included 'an abundant breakfast with a bicycle' so amusing I promptly booked it. Little did I know at the time that that decision would be the start of a lifelong friendship with the owner, Eleonora, and her family, which in turn led to contact with people who could remember the war and significantly getting to know a wonderful old gentleman who more than likely witnessed the death of my father when he was only 12 years old.

By March 2007 I had received my father's service records and from these I could see his movements from the time of joining up in May 1940 to his death in San Vito[†] on the Adriatic on the 2nd December 1943.

[†] See page 28 for a sketch map showing some of the places referred to in Gillian's account.



George's headstone

On 1st February 2007, I had applied for his service medals which had never been claimed either by my mother or my grandfather and received them on the 26th of April.

On obtaining the service records I went on to obtain copies of the regimental diaries of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the regiment George eventually ended up in.

According to his records he joined up in May 1940

being placed with the Territorial Army and spending time in Hertford, Cardington and Ampthill. In August 1942 he was transferred to the Royal Ulster Rifles and spent time on a Special Hardening Course in Skegness.

On 12th August 1943, just six months after he and my mother had married, George left England never to return. My mother would have been three months pregnant with me at the time. I found out only a few years ago that his parting gift to his young 21 year old wife was a wire hair terrier called Dinky with whom I played as a child.

According to his records, along with all the other reinforcement troops he disembarked in Sicily on 6th September 1943. It was here that he was transferred to the 1st Battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. Sicily had been taken but with heavy losses for the Irish Brigade which comprised the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Rifles and the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

A passage from a despatch sent to their Colonel by Brigadier Nelson Russell reads “... *but casualties in the Sicilian Campaign had been made up by a very good draft of 400 young soldiers of the Royal Ulster Rifles. They were rather like a breath of fresh air and were shortly to prove how fresh they were and how good they were at Termoli*”.

I see that the diary for the 6th September simply records ‘some reinforcements’ – this, of course, included my father. I note also that the commanding officer at the time was Lt Col B H Butler, DSO, who was to be killed just over a month later during the battle for the river Trigno on mainland Italy. Two years ago I had the great pleasure, quite by chance, of meeting his son Patrick in the cemetery. We have been in touch ever since.

Those first few days my father spent in Sicily before crossing over to the mainland must have been quite pleasant. The battle had been won with Sicily in the hands of the Allied Forces, although my father hadn’t taken part in that campaign. On numerous days the diary records, ‘quiet day’ or ‘nothing to report’. I see that there had been one or two concert parties, a swimming gala and a cinema show. Having



Sangro River War Cemetery, Italy

said that, there does seem to have been continuous training in preparation for the forthcoming battles to be fought in mainland Italy which included an assault boat exercise.

It all sounds so wonderful and all in the warmth of the Sicilian September sun. The lull before the storm – and storm there was to come in the form of battle after battle and river after river to cross in dreadful weather, the worst Italy had seen in years.

On 23rd September a sudden order to move was received and on the 24th the battalion embarked on HMS Prince Leopold arriving in Taranto on the mainland on the 25th after a smooth crossing. It does say in an article sent to the regimental magazine, Faugh-a-Ballagh, *"We were thankful for fine weather and the sea trip was very pleasant for us ... we feel sure that on no other occasion have such patriotic and party tunes been heard as a ship passed through the Straits of Messina"*.

On disembarking the battalion was marched to a concentration area 3 miles outside Taranto where they were granted a day or two of idleness. They were allowed into the town where the main occupation seemed to be the purchase of silk stockings and wrist watches. So far no battle action for George but he wouldn't have to wait much longer.

On 5th October sudden orders were received to move by sea and they started off on what was to be their first opposed landing. The elements were once again kind and it all seemed very unreal sailing up the Adriatic Coast in broad daylight unescorted. The convoy drew into Termoli harbour after dark.

They had been expecting a comfortable disembarkation and a few more days of idleness, but were all brought swiftly to their senses by the hostile greeting they received as they lay off the mole. It was an unpleasant situation with an estimated 25 German tanks in close proximity – it meant that the Irish Brigade was disembarking in what could literally be the front line. But Nelson Russell drew some consolation from the fact that his brigade was coming ashore at a rate of three hundred men every ninety minutes – the jetty could take only one vessel at a time – and, should the Germans enter the town, the Irish battalion were battle-hardened with street fighting experience from Centuripe (Sicily). Of course for George this was not the case and would be his first battle experience – I try very hard to imagine what he must have felt.

As they made their way to an assembly area near the port it was a very confused situation for the soldiers. By 3 am, though, all three battalions had been sited to defend Termoli against a possible attack at first light, supported by fifteen tanks of the Canadian Trois Rivières Regiment. The Inniskillings and the Faughs (the nickname for the Royal Irish Fusiliers) were to cover the approaches from Pescara with the Rifles forming an inner perimeter. While the Rifles were to continue holding the inner perimeter as a firm base, the Faughs would advance by the station and the brickworks to take the right half of the San Giacomo ridge.

German shelling of the Brigade's positions began at 6 am but the expected attack did not materialise although the shelling did increase in volume at about 8.30 am. This, it was discovered, was due to the presence of German artillery observers in a church

tower which was soon to receive discouraging attention.

A hitch in the battle plan was revealed when the Divisional Commander arrived at Nelson Russell's command post at 10 o'clock to tell him that the tanks on the left flank had been held up by an anti-tank obstacle which it could take hours to get round, if that even proved possible. Could the Irish Brigade with its support of the 15 Canadian tanks take the ridge themselves? Russell reckoned that they could.



The brickworks near Termoli

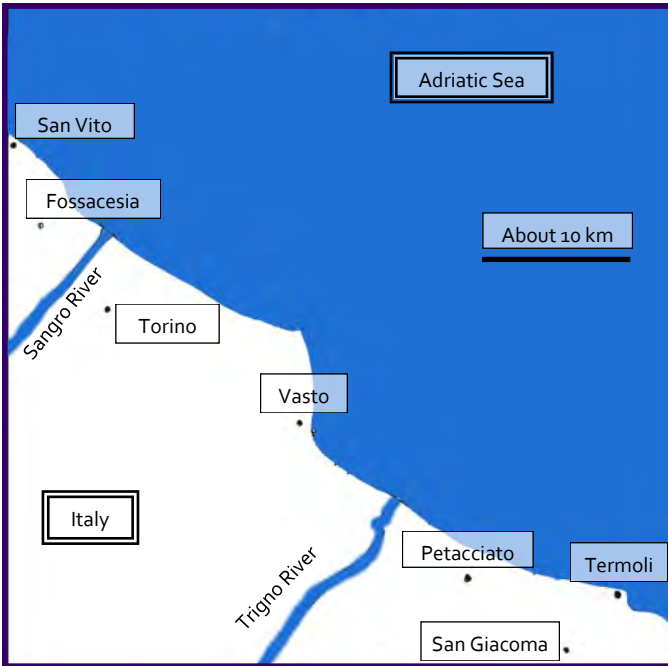
Half an hour before midday 'C' and 'D' Companies moved off supported by the Canadian tanks. At the approach to the first objective, a derelict brickworks, 'A' Company (the Company my father was in) pushed through and seized the objective with great dash and determination. The speed of the attack was incredible and after some brisk encounters the height which dominated the town was captured and Termoli was thereby secured. I have visited Termoli twice in recent years, each time imagining what it must have been like disembarking that ship in the dark in a strange place knowing that it was surrounded by the enemy. The first time I visited was a few years ago with Eleonora when we sat in the port wondering where the old brickworks could be. Having spotted two policemen in a patrol car we asked them for directions and with no more ado they just said, 'Follow us'. I was quite surprised how far out of the town it was and realised just how far the soldiers had had to march before they went into battle.

The Canadian Sherman Squadron contained a grand lot of chaps who were as pleased with the co-operation of the Faughs as the Faughs were with theirs. Their Commander said that never before had he worked with better Infantry, and that it had to be said in praise of 'A' Company in particular that no sooner did the tanks neutralise a strong point, than the chaps were on their feet again, advancing at incredible speed.

George was overseas for only three months but apart from the first two weeks he was fighting all the way to his death on the 2nd December — the Petacciato ridge to take, the battle of the Trigno River to endure and survive, followed by the battle for the Sangro River and finally to his death in San Vito.

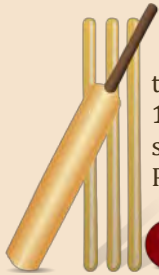
And here I leave my father's war until the next issue, but never forgetting that this is just one of the millions of stories from the Second World War alone.

Until next time – George's daughter, Gillian



Sketch map showing some of the places and landmarks referred to in Gillian's article

Chalgrave Sports Club



By the time you read this our cricket season will be coming to a close. It got off to a faltering start with a number of matches cancelled due to the weather or the opposition not turning up. However, our **annual 10-10 day** was a success with the Plough Inn being victorious!

Some photos from the occasion are shown here. **A big thank you to all who helped.**

We have added quite a few new members to the cricket team, but are always looking for more. If you are interested in playing please contact me or Mike Wells or any of the team.

Because of the work of Nev Andrews and the team, the sports ground is looking great. It will be



The victorious Plough team —

Back row L-R: Jaco Jacobs, Darren Fletcher, Steve Prew, Andy Perry, Richard Harris, Carter Bright, Nev Andrews and Paul Evans

Front row L-R: Paul Jeffs, Mike Wells and Andy Lawrence



further enhanced in the autumn by a new sports hut. We will be demolishing what is left of the old hut and erecting a brand new log cabin which we have in storage at the moment. As soon as the final ball is bowled at the end of our season we shall be starting the process, so if you have any practical skills and/or experience please get in touch – we'll need all the help we can get!

We soon hope to be adding golf to our list of activities as we have taken over arrangements for the PIGS (**Plough Inn Golf Society**).

We have our **Race Night** coming up on Saturday 26th September at Chalgrave Memorial Hall. Door open at 6.30 pm with the first race starting at 7.30. Tickets are £8 for adults and £4 for children and are available at the Plough Inn or from myself or any of the committee members – Mike Wells, Dave Britton, Nev Andrews, Matt Kirwin, Andy Lawrence or Paul Evans.

*Phil Parry, Chairman
Photos by Mike Wells*



Classic & Prestige Car Day and Beer Festival

A full year in the planning, the third annual Classic & Prestige Car Day was held in Wingfield on Sunday, 19th July.

Enthusiastically organised by Ken Wright and Steve Junke (assisted, of course, by a willing army of families, friends, helpers and generous sponsors, to whom Ken and Steve give their thanks), the event raised an astounding £749.76 for that worthy cause, Kech Hospice Care.

Luckily, possible rain showers didn't



Ken Wright and Steve Junke





materialise and instead excellent weather

was enjoyed which boosted both the number of vehicles on show, as well as the stream of visitors from near and far, the occasion having been advertised on enthusiasts' websites, as well as in the News. Indeed, there were more vehicles and people than

ever seen before, with around 170 of the former and too many to count of the latter. How fortunate it was that Rob and Lisa Scanes had once again kindly allowed their



The winning entry—an Austin 30 with its dinky caravan



large field to be used to accommodate this event.

The exhibited vehicles included classic cars of all ages (from basic run-arounds to luxury models, including Rolls-Royces, Bentleys, Jaguars and a Ferrari), tractors, a caravan, a fire engine, hot rods and motorbikes. What they all had in common was the tender loving care, not to mention extraordinary amounts of time and money, that their owners had expended on their upkeep. There were also plenty of side stalls, with the BBQ in particular doing a thriving trade throughout the afternoon and a queue always being in evidence.

No Wingfield car show can be complete without an accompanying beer festival and Caroline and Chris from the Plough did themselves proud with a splendid





collection of six real ales carefully selected from breweries the length and breadth of England (as well as one from Wales!). For non-beer drinkers, naturally there was also that perennial but potent favourite, Old Rosie Cider. It was a real treat being able to sample beers not typically found in our region. This was a point not lost on the stream of thirsty visitors who kept the pub staff on their feet all afternoon, the fine weather encouraging most drinkers to sit outside enjoying the sunshine. The beer and cider



had been kind-heartedly donated by an anonymous local benefactor in support of Pancreatic Cancer UK, a charity dear to the heart of our parish clerk, Lesley Smith. The amazing sum of £325 was raised from its sale and a cheque was presented to Lesley in the Plough on 30th July.

The planning for next year's car show and beer festival has already started! *RP*



A Thank You from Lesley ...

As you'll have read above, Caroline and Chris, the proprietors of the Plough Inn, hosted a superb beer festival to accompany the very successful Classic & Prestige Car day held on July 19th in aid of Keech Hospice Care. The beer was kindly donated by a local benefactor and Caroline and Chris donated the profits from the sale of this beer to my chosen charity, Pancreatic Cancer UK. They presented me with a cheque for £325 which was added to by a further £25 from a Tebworth couple who happened to be in the pub at the time of the presentation.

I am deeply grateful, therefore, to Caroline and Chris and the Tebworth couple for their extremely generous donations and, last but not least, the local benefactor who wishes to remain anonymous but whose role was central.

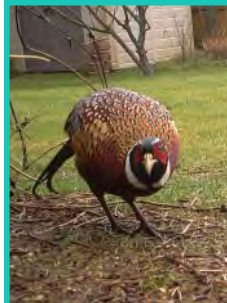
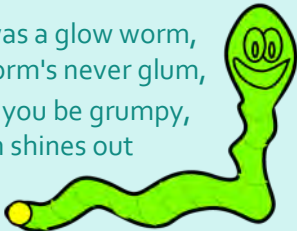
Lesley Smith

Don't you just hate Russian dolls?
They're so full of themselves.



Children's Corner ...

Oh, I wish I was a glow worm,
for a glow worm's never glum,
'cos how can you be grumpy,
when the sun shines out
your BUM!



"Oi, who you
lookin' at?"

The Great Pond of Tebworth—an update ...

Cllr Debbie Hampson reported in the June edition of the *News* that after considerable effort our Parish Council had been successful in obtaining a grant to help cover the restoration of the pond in Tebworth. Biffa Award, who have donated the grant, has now issued a Press Release which reads as follows:



Community and wildlife to benefit as Chalgrave Heritage trail pond gets restoration grant

Chalgrave Parish Council, in Bedfordshire, has secured a £4,416 grant from Biffa Award; a multi-million pound fund that helps to build communities and transform lives through awarding grants to community and environmental projects across the UK, as part of the Landfill Communities Fund.

The project, which was awarded funding under Biffa Award's Recreation theme, will aim to restore the much loved local pond in Tebworth, which is part of Chalgrave Parish. By dredging the pond's silt and removing invasive weeds and reeds, the project will improve the recreational space for the local community and restore a haven for wildlife.

At the moment the pond is completely silted up and there is little surface area of water, so it cannot be used by wildlife and is an eyesore rather than a feature of the village. The community would like to see it restored and the return of water birds and amphibians. In addition to the clearance works, the project will also cut back the overgrown areas surrounding the pond, and paint the bench and railings at the site. Volunteers have worked hard in the past to maintain the area, but the work currently required will need heavy duty vehicles and equipment.

Debbie Hampson, Parish Councillor and Project Leader said:

This grant will enable us to restore the pond to its former glory so that it can be enjoyed by the local community and wildlife will return.

Lesley Smith, Volunteer said:

It will be wonderful to be able to sit by the pond and walk my dog around the area. I'm looking forward to the ducks and coots returning, as well as the frogs and newts.

Gillian French, Biffa Award Programme Manager, said:

"This pond regeneration project is an excellent example of how the Landfill Communities Fund can help improve local spaces for wildlife and the community."

Well done, the Parish Council, especially Cllr Hampson who is leading this project! And thanks, Biffa Award, for a substantial grant!

RP

Chalgrave WI

In **June** we had a lovely walk in Wingfield followed by a few drinks at the Plough. There were a variety of events to celebrate the **WI's Centenary**.



Royal Garden Party

One of our members, Bernadette Inzani, was lucky enough to attend the WI Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, 2nd June. She met lots of lovely ladies and thoroughly enjoyed the event.



Centenary Annual WI Meeting

You may have read about the Queen opening the centenary annual meeting of the WI at the Royal Albert Hall in London on 4th June.



The monarch, who became a member of Sandringham WI in 1943, congratulated members on the "significant occasion". In a speech to more than 5,000 attending WI members,

the Queen said, "There has been significant economic and social change since 1915. Women have been granted the vote, British women have climbed Everest for the first time and the country has elected its first female prime minister."



Ascot Ladies Day – Thursday, 18th June

We were blessed with great weather for our trip to Ascot. Twenty nine WI members and friends travelled by coach to Ascot and enjoyed a buffet and champagne before watching the racing from the grand enclosure.

At our **July** meeting we had an interesting talk from Sue Blain on how to stay young longer through positive diet, exercise and a glass of wine!

Feel free to join us at a meeting if you want to decide if the Chalgrave WI is for you – just pay a £3 guest fee. Or contact me for a chat. More information can be found on our Facebook page (Chalgrave WI), or follow us on twitter @chalgrave_wi.

Debbie Parry, President – Chalgrave WI

Email – debbie.parry@accenture.com

Mobile – 07770 543797

Forthcoming Events —

Day and Date	Details	Location
Tue, 8 th September	Poet	To be confirmed
September – TBC	Swishing 2015	To be confirmed
Tue, 13 th October	Image Consultant – body shapes, wardrobe personality	Chalgrave Memorial Hall
Tue, 10 th November	AGM	Chalgrave Memorial Hall
Tue, 8 th December	Christmas event	To be confirmed

5k Colour Dash in Aid of Keech Hospice Care

Two member of the *Chalgrave News* team, Barbara Jackson and former editor Emma Gray, were amongst 500 runners in Wigmore Valley Park, Luton, on 19th July taking part in a 5k Colour Dash in aid of Keech Hospice Care. As well as the runners, 100 “colour bandits” were strategically located



around the course to cover passing participants from head to toe with powders of all colours of the rainbow. It was somewhat of a messy affair and runners were sensibly advised to take a change of clothing for the journey home!

This was Bedfordshire’s first ever Colour Dash and is expected to have raised a staggering £25,000 for Keech.

Well done, Barbara and Emma!

RP

All Our Yesterdays – No. 21

CHALGRAVE ANCESTRY AND CHALGRAVE MANOR COURTS

Chalgrave has been in existence since the ninth century. In 926 the Saxon King Athelstan gave to thegn Ealdred five hides [120 acres] of land “*terram quae nuncupatur Cealhgraefan et Teobbanwyrthe*” [land called Chalgrave and Tebworth]” for ten pounds of gold and silver. In 1086 the Domesday book refers to the land of Albert of Lorraine and is assessed at 8 hides and two parts of 1 virgate [30 acres] and its worth was put at £7.

I came across this book about Chalgrave by Manton L Botsford. It's mainly about tracing the Botsford Family history but it gives an interesting insight into how the Parish was governed in the 1500s.

I bought it from Amazon.com but it is no longer available. It says it is available directly from—
www.myauthorwebsite.net/manton-botsford/buy-the-book/.

Manor courts were a basic and localized means of enforcing law and order as well as a means to enable the manor lord to maintain control over his tenants.

Courts with 12 jurors were held every few weeks and it was mandatory for every male over 12 years of age to attend. The place of the court was often St Martin's Chapel which was a “Chapel of Ease” on the North West edge of Tebworth Green.

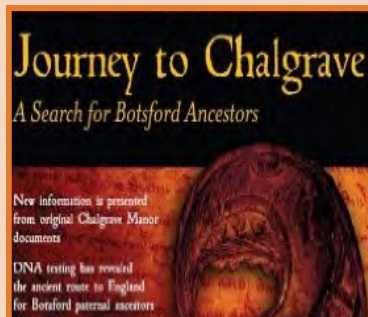
In 1570 it is recorded that Thomas Brinklow[e] was fined for having “carried 8 Burdons of the lorde wood out of Chalgrave Warryn contrary to an order made in the courts”.

John, Elias, Robert and William Osborn[e] were often mentioned as jurors but that does not mean they were not also guilty of some misdemeanors themselves. In 1551–

- William Osborn[e] is common trespasse in ffield with his shepe and cattell amerced 20d.
- John Osborn[e] hath erred to furro with his plough upon the lorde grounde amerced 7d.
- John Osbourn[e] aryeth to farre upon the lorde landes in dynes place in the felde where he hath hedlande wherefore he is amerced 7d and it is commanded hym to amende the said default when he ayred this landes next uppon payne to forfait to the lorde 6s 5d.

In 1758 Daniel Osborn exchanged small amounts of land with four other individuals so that he might— “bring together his land in Brook [Leck] Field and Gravelly Field, Tebworth”.

Using ancestry.com my son-in-law in the US has traced the Osborn family we think



with fair accuracy from Charley, Dan, Chris, and Ron through another 13 generations to Robert Osborn 1505–1551.

Although the prominent existing village family names of Harris, Ludgate and Horn do not appear in the text of this book it would be interesting if anyone has the time or inclination to research their origins.

You can read more about ancient Chalgrave on our website, www.chalgrave.org. Click on Local history/Chalgrave Survey.

For further info or comment contact Ken Green, 874107 or kenandlyn@tinyworld.co.uk.

The Plough



Hi everyone! We've officially been here now for 6 months (feels longer!). Many of you (well, perhaps one or two of you) have asked how we ended up running a pub. Well, I grew up in Houghton Regis so am pretty local. I qualified as an NNEB (National Nursery Examination Board) and worked in education and health before joining Her Majesty's Prison Service in 2003 where I met Chris. He, on the other hand, grew up in Durham, joined the Royal Navy, then moved around the country cheffing in the most beautiful of places from the Lakes to Lands End before meeting me in

prison (no, he wasn't a guest – he worked there too!). We got married and decided we wanted to run a pub together and we were fortunate enough to get the Plough.

The Plough is growing day by day and we look forward to Fullers completing a much needed refurb later in the year. A lot has happened since we took over the reins from R & T. Our cats have settled in nicely and often make an appearance for our guests, as do our dogs, Molly and Beau.

The garden is looking pretty and spacious with a fab view towards Toddington.

Unfortunately one of our window boxes fell off the wall and made a mess which was most annoying as it was my creation and not Chris's.

The classic car show was a great success and raised nearly £750 for Keech and £325 for Pancreatic Cancer Research UK. Thank you to all who supported us.

We are now saying hello to Marc, our new head chef, who is working closely with Chris to develop our menu but sadly we say goodbye to Rachel and Hannah who leave us to study at Sheffield Hallam and Falmouth University, respectively – thank you and good luck girls, see you back at Christmas.

Talking of which, the Christmas menus will be available in September. Where has the year gone???????????

Regards Caroline (and Chris), 01525 873077

Everybody's Entitled to my Opinion....

Very pleased to see the Plough doing fantastically well under new management, always difficult to run a small business these days but the new landlord and lady are doing a grand job!



JP

Queen's Head

Hello everyone,

I hope that you are enjoying this lovely summer weather we are having at the moment and long may it continue. I would like to inform you of the garden BBQ dates for this year but I'm damned if I can find the piece of paper I wrote them down on – never mind the dates will be advertised on the boards outside the pub as usual along with all the exciting acts that will be performing on our Friday live music nights.

I can't tell you who is going to be performing at the folksy nights every fourth Wednesday because it all depends who turns up as most of the evening is an open mic night so everyone gets a go, all I can say is that there is a wealth of musical talent in the parish and surprisingly some are closer to home than one realises.

Our darts team are still throwing their arrows with some degree of success but are always on the lookout for new players, especially at this time of year when some of the team is on holiday. The same goes for the domino team who are to be found in the bar on a Saturday night honing their skills.

I've heard a rumour that there may be another street party later this year. I'm not sure of the reason but does there need to be one? Anyway if there is a party I hope you will all attend even if only for a short while as it gives me an opportunity to meet you all and especially those who can't get to the pub that often.

Until then keep safe and healthy.

All the best, *Colin*



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

Drove past the 'new' Thorn turning, or whatever it is now called, the other day. In fact it was a Sunday evening, and do you know what...nobody working! Well it will never get done if they get weekends off, get on with it and let's see if it works. By the way, do you realise how close it is to Wingfield???? We will all be joining the M1 from the new junction 11A ... if it ever gets finished, which brings me to another point... Why is there a 50 mph limit on the M1... again for nearly 2 miles? Nothing much is going on... oh!

yes sorry, average speed cameras, need to raise a few bob! In fact, if you drive north from here up the M1 it's nearly all 50 mph to Birmingham! Reduced speed limits by stealth it looks like to me!



JP



Chalgrave Sports Club

Race Night

Saturday 26th September 2015

Doors Open at 6.30pm—First Race at 7.30 pm

Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Wingfield Rd, Tebworth

All Welcome

Tickets £8.00 for adults, £4.00 children (under 16)

Includes fish & chip supper

Licensed Bar

Raffle

Horse Racing

Own a horse for the evening!

Contact The Plough Inn, Wingfield (01525 873077)
for tickets and to place your food order

Don't forget to check the website at www.chalgravesportsclub.co.uk for the latest information and results. And if you are interested in playing cricket let us know. All welcome!

Don't forget our special offers on servicing and repairs for local residents.



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