

CHALGRAVE NEWS

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



Publication No. 52 September 2016

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	The Plough	8.00 pm
Mondays	Dominoes	The Plough	
Fridays and 4 th Wednesday of each month	Live entertainment	Queen's Head	7.30 pm
Wednesdays	Darts	Queen's Head	
Thursdays	Dominoes	Queen's Head	
Weekdays	Book Club	Noeleen Thompson	
2 nd Tuesday of each month	WI	Memorial Hall	8–10 pm
Sunday, 4 th September	10–10 Cricket Festival	Cricket Ground	10.30 am
Monday, 19 th September	Meeting to discuss the sale of the Queen's Head	Memorial Hall	7.30 pm
Tuesday, 15 th November	Surgery held by Cllr Mark Versallion	The Plough	6–7 pm

Remember, 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.

Front Cover: Chalgrave Games, 25th June – the ancient tractor that pulls the train waits forlornly for a heavy shower to pass over

**Deadline for next edition:
Wednesday, 16th November 2016**

Please submit entries by email to thechalgravenews@live.co.uk
or by phone to Roger Parker on 01525 874910

The Chalgrave News team produces the Chalgrave News in good faith and we 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.

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

The Chalgrave Games have taken place for a countless number of years and have become a regular source of merrymaking over the summer period. In recent times, they've been joined by two other, very different, experiences that are becoming firmly established as favourites in the summertime calendar. One is JoeFest, held in memory of Joe Inzani, and which raises money for London's Air Ambulance, and the other is the Classic & Prestige Car Show (accompanied, as always, by a Beer Festival) which helps Keech Hospice Care. The popularity of these three disparate events, each of which, in its own way, provides ample opportunities for plenty of photographs, means that the September issue of the *News* is usually chock-a-block and this year is no exception. Long may all three functions continue to entertain and enthrall us.

In this issue, we also have a fascinating account from our Parish Clerk, Lesley Smith, of a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace to which she and Cllr Phil Parry were invited. You can relive the afternoon in Lesley's lovely article.

Those hoping to read about the 10-10 Cricket Festival, advertised in the June edition, will be disappointed to learn that it had to be cancelled because an insufficient number of teams volunteered to take part. The festival has now been rescheduled for 4th September so may have taken place by the time you receive your copy of the *News*.

Naturally, in this edition, we also bring you a selection of articles from our brilliant body of regular contributors. And, as usual, we also have a good selection of jokes, most of them corny, but then this is the *News*, after all.

We are also bearers of the bad tidings that Charles Wells, the brewery that owns the Queen's Head, has placed the pub up for sale. Unless, by some miracle, funds are found to buy it for the community, it seems unlikely that the future of the building lies in selling beer. An open meeting is taking place on 19th September to explore options – you will receive a flyer with more details in due course.

Let me end on an appeal! I've now been the editor of this occasionally revered publication for twelve issues, my first copy being that of December 2013. It has been an enjoyable but intensive and demanding three years and I feel that the time is approaching for someone else ... someone endowed with fresh ideas and brimming with enthusiasm ... to take the helm. I propose editing the December 2016 and March 2017 issues before hopefully handing over control to a new person. If you fancy the idea of doing this job then please get in touch, using the contact details opposite. Please form an orderly queue and take care not to get hurt in the rush.

I will be more than happy to work alongside the new editor while he or she learns the ropes and stamps their own mark on the publication.

RP

Chairman of the Parish Council



The Queen's Head ... Unfortunately, we have been informed that the Brewery, Charles Wells, has decided to sell the pub. The Parish Council made the pub a Community Asset some years ago. This means that if there is a bid from the community to buy the pub then it cannot be sold for six months. The Council will support any bid that will keep the Queen's Head open.

Sites for housing development ... We have informed you about the sites in our Parish that have been put forward to Central Beds Council. CBC are now considering the criteria for choosing sites. Once the criteria have been decided they will choose sites for consultation later in the year.

The Queen's 90th Birthday ... We have commemorative medals for every young person (18 and under) in the Parish. Please contact the Clerk or any member of the Council if your son or daughter has not yet received one.

Rev Anne Crawford ... You are probably aware that Anne will be leaving us for a new appointment in London. We are very sad to see her go but wish her well. Her last service is on 2nd October.

All Saints Church ... The church has received planning permission to replace the (stolen) lead roofing with terne-coated stainless steel. We hope the work will start shortly to prevent further damage to the interior of the church.

Tebworth Pond ... By the time you read this we hope to have completed the work on the pond and its surrounds. Many people from within the Parish – and outside of our Parish – have commented on how good it looks. It's good to see it return to being The Great Pond of Tebworth.

Speed Activated Signs ... We are aware that neither signs in Tebworth are working. We are responsible for the signs and are looking into the cost of repairs.

Grass cutting ... We have contacted CBC Highways many times over the last months to ask them to cut back the grass on the junction of Chalgrave Road and the A5120. A number of residents have also contacted Highways. To date they have still not done the work even though we have pointed out the danger to motorists.

As always, you are invited to attend our meetings. They are usually on the third Tuesday of the month.

Cllr Phil Parry, Chairman



Callum Angel receives the Community Youth Award from Cllr Phil Parry at the Council Meeting on 19th July (see also page 16)

Councillor Mark Versallion

Mark Versallion is our 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.

Mark has announced that he is to hold a surgery for constituents in The Plough on Tuesday, 15th November, between 6 and 7 pm.



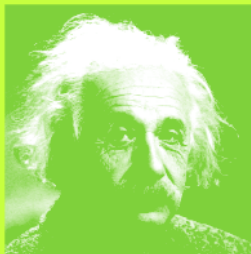
Cllr Kevin Ludgate

We have a new Parish Councillor to replace Dan Osborn who stepped down earlier this year after 14 years' service. Dan's successor is Kevin Ludgate, a livestock farmer who lives in Tebworth.

In his role as a councillor, Kevin will assume responsibility for police liaison.

His phone number and email address have been added to the list of "Useful Contacts" which you can find at the end of the advertising section in the middle of the *News*.

The *News* team wishes Cllr Ludgate all the best in his new position.



Albert Einstein often went to dinners where he was invited to give a speech. One day, on his way to one of those occasions, he told his chauffeur, who was the spitting image of him, that he was really fed up of giving the same speech, dinner after dinner. "Well," said the chauffeur, "I've got an idea. Why don't I give the speech because I've heard it so many times before?" So Einstein's chauffeur gave a perfect rendition of the speech and even answered a few questions from lay members of the audience.

Then a physics professor stood up and asked him for his current views on a unified field theory. The chauffeur was clueless, but undaunted, so replied, "Sir, the answer to your question is so surprisingly simple that I'm going to allow my chauffeur to respond!"

View from the House: Andrew Selous MP



Andrew Selous is the MP for South West Bedfordshire and can be contacted at andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk or at www.andrewselous.org.uk or on 0207 2198132.

Andrew writes: I have now stood down as Minister for Prisons, Probation and Rehabilitation. It has been an enormous honour to serve in this role for the last two years and a privilege to champion the work of our inspirational prison officers, probation staff and wonderful voluntary sector partners. They are amazing people who do their work often unseen and unappreciated.

I have served continuously as a Parliamentary Private Secretary, Whip and Minister both in Opposition and in Government for the last 13 years and it has been a huge honour to serve my country in this way. I look forward to having the time to take up many issues which I care about deeply and to continue serving my constituents.

A recent issue of concern to local constituents has been the closure of NatWest, the only bank in Houghton Regis. I have written to Professor Russel Griggs, who has been appointed by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills, HM Treasury, the British Bankers Association and the Financial Conduct Authority, to lead an independent review one year on from the introduction of the access to banking protocol, in relation to the Royal Bank of Scotland's closure of the NatWest Bank in Houghton Regis. I have pointed out to Professor Griggs that the Royal Bank of Scotland's timing to close the Branch is appalling given the major expansion of both homes and businesses currently taking place in Houghton Regis. Houghton Regis is the boom town of South Bedfordshire and NatWest removing itself as the only bank in town will mean that it fails to cash in on the huge development taking place in Houghton Regis. I have strongly urged the Royal Bank of Scotland to reconsider their ill-advised decision and re-open the NatWest bank in Houghton Regis.

There have also been serious difficulties for Leighton Buzzard train commuters following the cancellation of Southern rail services. It is not just commuters who travel to west London with Southern, it is also the London Midland trains to Euston which are now getting considerably more crowded because of the cancellation of Southern services. I have asked the Leader of the Commons to have an early debate about the troubles of Southern rail, which are causing significant problems not only for commuters south of London, but for my constituents coming in from Leighton Buzzard. I understand that the Secretary of State for Transport has now met the operators responsible for Southern train services and Network Rail. He has emphasised the need for the operators to work with the trade unions to try to find a rapid and full solution to the current dispute which is causing misery to many thousands of passengers every day. The Secretary of State is making the issue his personal priority and I hope very much that there will be a satisfactory resolution soon.

Everyone is Entitled to my Opinion ...

I was talking to a chap the other day who, not too long ago, bought a house quite near to Luton, he was sounding off alarmingly about noise from aircraft ... who would have thought it, "aircraft noise" near an airport, extraordinary! I mentioned that when he bought the house did he not notice the planes? He made mutterings about not expecting that much noise, blah blah and wandered off, probably to speak to the Council about it! Sadly the World does contain many people who are either extremely stupid or who want to try and change things for their own selfish interests when quite clearly this is not possible. Then, on my way home through our villages (Tebworth and Wingfield) I was just remarking to my wife how lucky we are to live in these villages which are "quintessentially English" ... We have a pub (two in fact, but possibly not two for much longer), a church, a cricket green, a village hall, and we had at least two chapels and two schools ... so I thought I would take a look at The Great Pond of Tebworth.

Many people have spent a lot of time improving things, it has recently been dredged, a bench (decorated by the village children) was put in place, some years ago, for a rest, the roadside fencing has recently been re-furbished, and a new fence has been erected ... Yes, a fence!! On which someone – in an amateurish style – has written "private"!

Now, as I understand it, this pond is not actually owned by any individual person, it is there for the benefit of everyone. So, who would take it upon themselves to "claim" a part of the pond as their own? Well, I am not sure, but I shall find out and watch as they take the fence down! In the meantime, as it's the summer holidays I shall invite some local children to come and play on the banks (safety equipment will be provided). And, in the winter, perhaps we can encourage the children to take up ice-skating again, because I'm told this was done on the pond in years gone by!

While we have some decent weather, go and have a look for yourself, go in small groups and perhaps have a picnic on the bank. I am suggesting that the annual firework display is based there in future – it may need to be relocated there in view of the Queen's Head news!

In the meantime, I have spotted a piece of land up the road, so I'm off to fence it off and claim it as my own!

JP



Unintended Consequences ...

Leave means what, exactly?

In the EU referendum on June 23rd, those who voted Remain knew exactly what that meant: business as usual. Those who voted Leave – and won – cannot say the same. Continuing my theme of unintended consequences, this article explores the unintended consequences of Brexit.

Presuming that the PM does get around to pressing the button that begins the process of UK separation from the EU, it will probably take at least another 2 years to draft the treaty that defines the new relationship. This treaty will govern the extent of UK access, if any, to the European single market, the status of EU nationals resident in the UK, the status of UK nationals resident in the EU, the freedoms, if any, of EU nationals to migrate to the UK in future, and so on. The EU, for its part, will wish to be seen to be tough on the UK in the negotiations in order to discourage other departures.

All UK treaties must be approved by Parliament, so the composition of the House of Commons is critical to the shape of the treaty that will be crafted. The Government currently has an overall majority of just 17 MPs. Given that more Conservative MPs supported Remain than Leave, this suggests that strenuous efforts will be made to preserve continuous UK access to European markets, with necessary compromises elsewhere. The tension between MPs' moral obligations to respect the result of the referendum and to act in what they understand to be the best interests of the UK will be acute, in some cases. Abstentions are to be expected.

Supposing that the treaty has been drafted, signed and sealed, the question remains: how many would have voted for it, had the terms been fully known in advance? For many Leavers, it may barely scratch the surface of their complaints against the EU. But, at least there is the annual refund of the £9bn net contribution to look forward to? Probably not. The Government has pledged to ring-fence funding for EU projects in the UK until 2020, at a cost of £4bn a year. Even more will be pumped into the devolved regions – Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – to secure their co-operation with the Brexit process.

There is another important unintended consequence of Brexit, which is the adverse impact on the City of London. London has a dominant market share in the European money markets, but a large chunk of that is set to leave these shores as a result of Brexit.



The fact that London voted 60–40 to Remain may reflect at least a modicum of awareness that London's business interests were best served by remaining in the EU. The damage to the reputation and prosperity of London as a leading global financial centre carries rather less weight in the rest of England, where the voting was 55–45 to Leave.

The likelihood is that London will

lose tens of thousands, maybe a hundred thousand, of highly-paid jobs to Paris, Frankfurt and Dublin as a consequence of the referendum vote. Financial firms will not wait to see the shape of the treaty; they will take a business decision based on the balance of risks rather than live with endless political indecision. As London loses momentum, the Government will receive less taxes and the UK will earn less income from abroad.

Is Brexit a disaster? Surely not, in the wider scheme of things. Can the UK make its way in the world as an independent nation? Absolutely. However, there are some unintended, and mostly unwelcome, consequences to endure as the details emerge of what Leave actually means.

Peter Warburton

A Double Sunset? ... No, it's a Sun Dog!

This photograph, taken in Wingfield on the evening of 16th August, shows a sun dog (or parhelion) to the right of the sun. At this time of the year, these atmospheric phenomena are caused by the refraction of sunlight through plate-shaped hexagonal ice crystals in high and cold cirrus or cirrostratus clouds. For the most part, these large crystals float down horizontally, resulting in horizontal refraction of the light, which is why the sun dog is concentrated at a point at the same elevation as the sun. But refraction of light through those ice crystals that are not oriented horizontally probably accounts for the faint halo, which can just be made out in this photograph, arcing up from the sun dog. Sometimes a second sun dog can be seen to the other side of the sun, but not on this occasion.

"Dazzle mine eyes, or do I see three suns?" – Edward in Shakespeare's Henry VI, Part 3.

RP



Queen's Garden Party, 19th May 2016

Each year, the Bedfordshire Association of Town and Parish Councils is permitted to nominate a couple of members of its councils to attend a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. This year, the Chairman of our Parish Council, Phil Parry, was lucky to have his name drawn from the hat, along with the Mayor of Sandy. Each was allowed to take a guest and Phil chose our hardworking Parish Clerk, Lesley Smith, to accompany him. Here is Lesley's report on a wonderful afternoon ...

When Phil was invited to the Queen's Garden Party he didn't think 7,000 other people would be there too. When my invitation from the Lord Chamberlain arrived I was just thrilled at the prospect of going.

We joined a happy and resplendent queue of people at the Hyde Park Corner Gate into the Palace. Security was tight but good natured at the entrance to the Palace grounds. Buckingham Palace really





suited Phil – he looked very much at home as we strolled around its back garden, albeit a rather large one. The spectacular rear of the Palace came into view after about ten minutes, along with the majority of the 7,000 and the enormous



catering marquee. In their striking red attire, the Yeomen of the Guard and the Military Bands added to the colourful and amazing array of outfits, hats and uniforms.

The invitation stipulated a strict dress code for both ladies and gentlemen. It omitted to emphasise that it would be a mistake to wear stiletto heels. The ground was “soft going” and I was in real danger of falling over backwards as a momentary lapse of concentration would have resulted in the heels rapidly sinking into the ground, the result being I spent most of the afternoon on tiptoe. Phil and the majority of gentlemen were much more sensibly dressed.

Eventually we joined the poshest queue I’ve ever been in for Afternoon Tea. We were delighted that cucumber sandwiches were on offer and they did not disappoint. The other delicacies were equally delightful and served up on a dainty white platter. Cutlery was non-existent and the beverages were non-alcoholic, both with good reason I suspect.

4.00 pm and the National Anthem announced the arrival of the Queen and Members of the Royal



Family on the steps of the Palace terrace. We formed lanes, with the help and guidance of the friendly but firm Gentleman Ushers, so that the Queen and other Members could make a number of individual presentations. We were very fortunate to see the Queen, Prince Philip, Charles and Camilla at close quarters, good humouredly moving down the lanes talking to their guests.

The Royals made their way to the Royal Tea Tent for their refreshments. Phil and I did wonder why we hadn't been invited to join them but consoled ourselves with wandering around the gardens and talking to members of the Boys Brigade who were on duty as ushers.

The afternoon was over far too quickly and, after a few minutes standing on the terrace and looking back at the scene below, we exited the Palace through the Grand Entrance and into Horse Guards' Parade. One couldn't help feeling rather important walking across the Parade ground watched by several tourists standing at the gates taking photographs.

A taxi ride to Farringdon and a short walk enabled us to have a post Garden Party glass or two of wine in a noisy but friendly bar before heading home after a wonderful and somewhat surreal day.

Lesley Smith



The teacher asked her class if they could create a sentence with the word "fascinate" in it. After a few minutes a boy replied "My grandfather has a waistcoat with nine buttons on it. He has put on weight and now he can only fasten eight".

Traffic Calming ...

The closure of Lords Hill over two weekends in June, and the Thorn Road for a week in July, led to a lot of traffic passing through Wingfield and Tebworth on its way to the A5. Many drivers, now faced with a lengthy diversion, ignored the 30 mph limit, and chose to put their foot down to regain lost time.

Fearing that someone might get hit by a speeding car, a number of Wingfield residents parked their vehicles along the sides of the road to create a mobile chicane. This proved remarkably effective in slowing drivers down to a safe and sensible speed. What's more, none of the parked vehicles got hit!

RP



Old News

Luton Times and Advertiser, 22nd April 1871 –

ACCIDENT.—A serious accident happened at Toddington, on Tuesday, the 10th inst. Superintendent Shepherd of the Woburn Division, was driving a young and spirited horse in the police cart from Toddington towards Chalgrave Church, having with him Sergeant Olden, of Toddington, when suddenly while going at the rate of about 10 miles an hour down a slight descent in the road the horse slightly swerved and fell, slipping and struggling along the road on his knees and head for the space of ten yards. Both the Superintendent and Sergeant were pitched out on to the road and got a good shaking and a few bruises, but sustained no further injury, and after picking themselves up and pulling themselves a bit together, proceeded to release the horse from the harness, but no sooner was he on his legs again than he dashed off tearing the cart along by one trace, which had unfortunately been left still fast. The poor beast with the loose harness and cart with one shaft broken still hanging about his heels and lashing his sides, galloped furiously up the road. Presently the cart was seen to fly over, the horse being turned raced towards Wingfield still drawing behind him the wreck. He was stopped there, when it was found that not only were his knees dreadfully cut, but that he had sustained serious injuries about the head, shoulders, legs, and body. The cart was a complete wreck, both shafts broken, and otherwise seriously damaged. The horse, as already stated, was a young and valuable one, and it really is a great mercy that no greater injuries were sustained.

Chalgrave Games

Despite some heavy showers interrupting long intervals of warm sunshine, there was a large turn-out at the Chalgrave Games on 25th June. The theme this year was pantomime and many stall holders, as well as children, entered into the spirit of the occasion by dressing in magnificent costumes, ranging from Ali Baba to Red Riding Hood. There was even an impressive Bumble Bee although it was not entirely clear in which pantomime that particular character appears!

As usual, the afternoon started with the dog agility contest, which is guaranteed to provide much amusement as owners attempt to coax, and sometimes even bribe, their pets, with varying degrees of success, to negotiate a series of obstacles. Performances this year were true to form and some dogs showed greater aptitude than others, although it might be argued that the more intelligent ones simply refused to demean themselves and considered the exercise to be beneath their dignity. Interestingly, some of those dogs that didn't do so well on the obstacle course excelled in the sausage eating contest that followed. In first, second and third places in the agility test were Bobby (owned and trained by Ed Morton), Ruby (Julia Marsh) and Roxy (Gary Burgess), respectively. Fudge (Ruth Edwynn) won both the sausage eating and the paw shaking contests.

In the centre of the field, throughout the afternoon there were the usual games that attracted a good number of eager participants and excited spectators. These included races for children, welly-wanging for all ages, and egg and water-filled balloon throwing, again targeted (but not literally) at everyone. The softness of the ground, following so much rain in June, prevented many of the eggs breaking on impact yet

rumours that they were hard-boiled can be discounted after seeing those who had the misfortune to badly time a catch get covered in egg.

Around the periphery of the field, and inside the hall, were numerous stalls, some selling delicious food and delectable drinks, others providing great entertainment, including spookily -accurate tarot card reading, superb face painting, a teddy bear orphanage, and games requiring considerable skill, such as archery, coconut shying, golf, a



Bobby, with owner Ed Morton – first prize for agility





Fudge, owned by Ruth Edwynn – first prize for sausage eating and paw shaking

brilliantly-engineered panto game for children, jam jar ping-pong, and pinning the tail on the donkey. As always, the train rides also proved popular and no one was run over and no one fell off. Live music was splendidly provided by Jamie Donaldson.

Following in the tradition set on

previous occasions, the afternoon finished with water games where contestants fight to dislodge one another from a narrow plank positioned over a pool of cold water. This provided some exciting gamesmanship and many a soaking.

This year, the Millennium Youth award was given to Callum Angel who has thrown himself into helping out, doing whatever he can, whenever there is a need. The Community Award was

presented to Christine and Mick McDonagh who, over many years, have been deeply involved in community events, including the Games. Congratulations to all three.

The Games raised the sum of £1,250 and



Roxy, with owner Gary Burgess – third prize for agility



Callum Angel, who received the Millennium Youth Award



Mick and Chris McDonagh, who received the Community Award



Mick Bulford, winner of Local Agent's balloon competition

organiser Roger Masters, Chair of the Chalgrave Memorial Hall, thanks everyone who helped in the run-up and on



Winner (right) of the 1st prize in the raffle, an iPad, with office colleague Colin McCausland

the day itself. Also, of course, Roger and his team are extremely grateful for the generosity of those who provided sponsorship—EM Golf,

Poplars Garden Centre, The Plough, WK360, K&K Petfoods, Nisa, Signs of the Times, Par-snips, Delicious Shakes, AJ Autos, Local Agent, Punch Opticians, Kat Masters Beauty, Childs Bakery, Michael de Meo Hair, Toddington Mowers, Tesco, Panache,

John Parker, Morrisons, and The

Queen's Head.

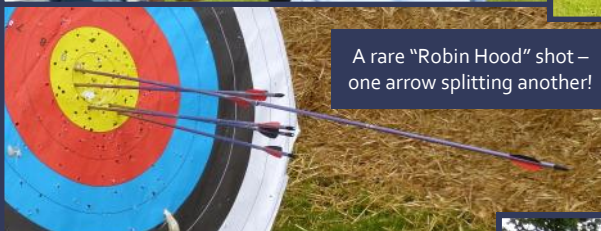
RP



Fancy dress prize winners – Rosie Williams, Daniel and Adam Larson, and (regrettably) "unknown" (if you know who this little girl is please email the News)



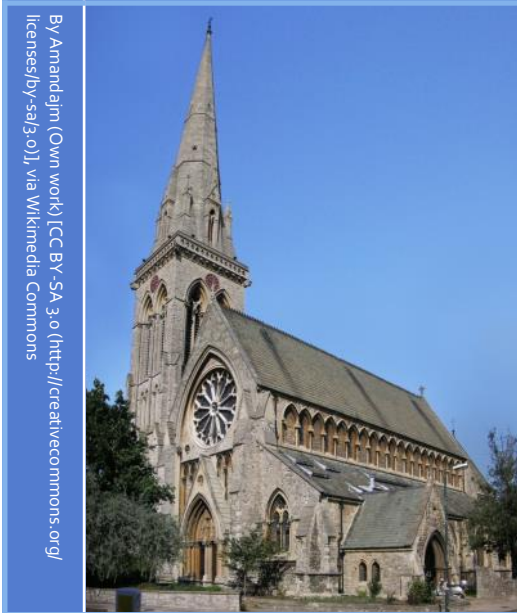
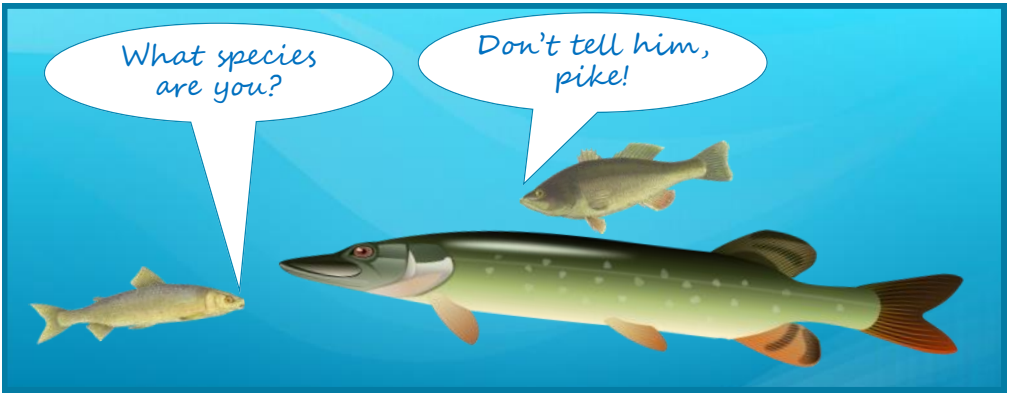




A rare "Robin Hood" shot – one arrow splitting another!







By Amardajin (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)] via Wikimedia Commons

Rev Anne Crawford

As readers who are regular churchgoers will already know, the Rector is leaving Chalgrave to take up a position as Team Vicar at the Church of St Matthias in West London. Her new church (*pictured left*), a Grade II listed building, is located on the top of Richmond Hill, close to Richmond Park. Designed by the famous architect, George Gilbert Scott, it was built in the Victorian Gothic style in 1857, and it has been described in the past as “the grandest church in Richmond”.

It is expected that Anne’s last service here will take place at the Harvest on 2nd October. Her Licensing Service at St Matthias is scheduled for the evening of Monday, 14th November, at 7.30 pm.

The *Chalgrave News* team extends its thanks to Anne for the devoted service that she has provided to the parish and wishes her every success in her future position. RP



As a piece of general advice, please think twice before signing petitions, wherever they may be. It’s important to appreciate that there are two sides to every story so be certain that you understand both sides of the issue before signing. Don’t feel pressurised into signing something just to get rid of the person on your doorstep, or because you feel coerced. First, acquaint yourselves with all the facts!

SP

Chalgrave News

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

Toddington Fishery



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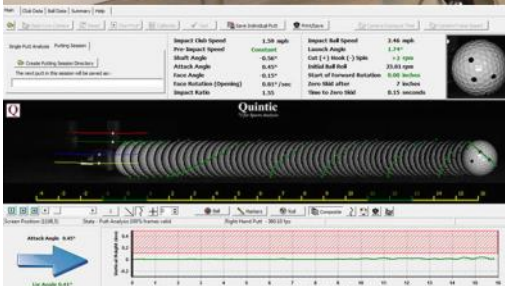
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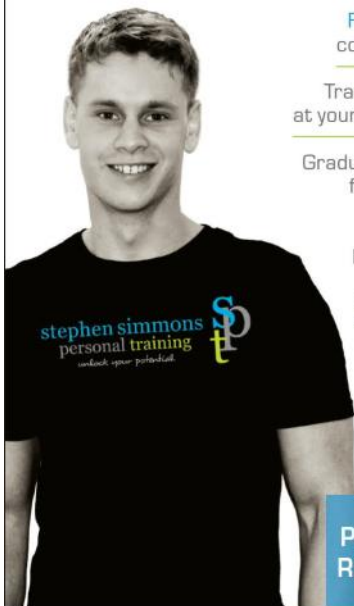
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MONDAY TO FRIDAY			
9am – 6pm	£6.50 per hour	£14 per hour	£17 per hour
6pm – 11pm*	£6.50 per hour	£17 per hour	£23 per hour
FRIDAY			
6pm – 12 midnight*	£105	£220	£250
SATURDAY			
9am – 6pm	£7.50 per hour	£19 per hour	£21 per hour
6pm – 12 midnight*	£105	£245	£300
12.30pm – 12 midnight*	£130	£300	£350
SUNDAY			
10am – 10pm*	£7.50 per hour	£19 per hour	£24 per hour
'WEEKEND RATE'			
(Friday 6pm to Sun- day 12 noon) NB Hall must be vacated at 11pm Friday and 12 mid- night Saturday	£235	£500	£600

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

- Bank Holidays/New Year's Eve – Rates on application
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Useful Contacts

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Police Community Support Officer	PCSO Hannah Retallack	LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk	01582 473411
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Secretary to Andrew Selous	Sue Howats	howats@parliament.uk	01582 662821
Ward Councillor	Mark Versallion	mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	01525 234000
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Parish Council Clerk	Lesley Smith	chalgravepc@btinternet.com	01525 874716
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Councillor	Debbie Levy		01525 877149
Councillor	Kevin Ludgate	kevin.ludgate@oliverlandpower.co.uk	07768 606968
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Chairman, Chalgrave Memorial Hall	Roger Masters		01525 873039
Hall Booking Secretary	Velda Cooke		07831 482556
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Our regular reader Mr Greig tells us that he bumped into lots of people he knew on his way to the opticians recently. He said he had been prompted to get his eyes tested after inadvertently signing up for a Pilates class in the expectation of getting a slice of pie and a latte.



Mr Greig also informs us that he recently went on a tour of a hospital in Edinburgh. In one ward, a patient said to him, "My lurve is leek a rade rade rose..". The next patient proclaimed, "Wee, sleeokit, cow'rin, tim'rous beastie, O, what a panic's in thy breastie!". Mr Greig turned to his guide and enquired, "Psychiatric ward?". "No," the guide replied, "It's the serious Burns unit."



My Thanks go to "whoever" it was who decided that it would be a good idea to divert ALL the main road traffic ... that normally drives from Toddington down Lord's Hill towards Thorn (which was closed for a week) ... through Tebworth and Wingfield ... HGVs included. Well done, a stroke of genius!



However, to do it at the same time as traffic lights were erected in Toddington for other road works took the prize that month!! Obviously a lot of thought went into that!

JP



Children's Corner ...

Where did the sheep go on vacation?
The baaaahamas

What do you call a fish without an eye?

A fsh

What do you call a deer with no eyes?
No eye deer

What time is it when an elephant sits on your bed?

Time to get a new bed

There were two cows in a field. One of the cows says, "moo" and the other one replies, "That's what I was



going to say!"

Where do sheep get their hair cut?
At the baa-baa shop

What is the easiest way to count a herd of cattle?
With a cowculator

How do you stop a dog barking in the back seat of a car?

Put him in the front seat

What musical instrument is found in the bathroom?

A tuba toothpaste



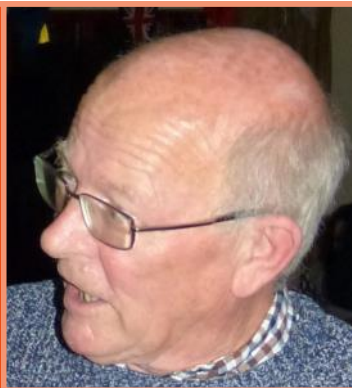
Big Birthdays ...

There's only been one Big Birthday in the past quarter that we've been told about — Roger Masters from Tebworth reached the majestic age of 70 on 21st July. Roger has always played a major role in the life of Chalgrave, freely giving his time to serve for many years, right until the present day, on the committees for both the Memorial Hall and the Senior Citizens. Naturally, with his role on the Memorial Hall Committee, he is also closely associated with the organisation and running of the Chalgrave Games which provide so much fun for everyone each year.

He's also been involved in the beer festivals that have been run periodically by the Friends of the Queen's Head and he has regularly featured in the theatrical productions put on in the Memorial Hall. If this wasn't enough, in the past Roger has also been part of the *Chalgrave News* team. Our community would be a poorer place without his unstinting devotion to parish life.

The big event was celebrated by Roger enjoying a family holiday in Italy.

If someone you know has had a Big Birthday, please let us know so we can embarrass them in the News. Just email a photo with a few details and we'll do the rest.



Dear Luton Airport Management,

Would you go and visit another airport please ... ANY other airport will do ... and see how to do it properly! I am not sure if you are aware but your airport is an utter shambles!

No doubt you won't bother though, as you will be too busy increasing the drop off/parking charges ... again, or working out how to make the queues even longer! Both of which are the only things you seem to be any good at!

JP



JoeFest 2016

Joe Inzani, who tragically died after a car accident in December 2013, was a massive fundraiser throughout his life, raising tens of thousands of pounds for charities including Cancer Research UK, Macmillan Nurses, the Epilepsy Society and Oxfam. He would therefore have been immensely proud of his daughters, Frankie and Jess, and his widow, Bernadette, who have recently raised the astonishing sum of



£4,470.60 for London's Air Ambulance by holding another music festival in his memory. JoeFest 2016 took place on 18th June, generously hosted, as usual, by Tom and Julie Petzing in the garden of their pub, the Old Farm Inn, Totternhoe.

Naturally, as well as music, a BBQ, beer and Pimms, there was plenty else to enjoy, including a cake stall, a silent auction, a raffle, gingerbread decorating, and, amazingly, a Beauty Pageant, where half a dozen or so brave men and women volunteered to allow children to give them make-overs.

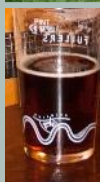
Live music throughout the day was provided by — Edmund Flach and Sally Mounter – Julian Mann and Chelsea Constable – Daniel Inzani – Sally Barnes and Sandra Cross – The Buzztables – Maria Duffy and John Miele – Uked 66 – Beats Working – Last Resort – Sally Mounter and John Stevens – and Richard Leveller.

Frankie, Jess and Bern extend their thanks to everyone who helped in the lead up and on the day, all the musicians that performed, everyone who helped on the stalls and, of course, all the people who attended. In the last two and a half years more than £36,000 has been raised for London's Air Ambulance in the memory of Joe – an astounding achievement.

RP, with info from Frankie Inzani and photos by Andy Marlow and Geraldine Marais







It's Reassuring ...

... to know that if you're out when your parcel arrives, there are some courier drivers delivering to Chalgrave who are able to show initiative and will leave your valuable purchase in a safe place. Of course, if they do this, then it's essential they push a note through your letterbox to tell you where they've hidden your box. Otherwise, you may never find it.

RP



Children were queuing up for lunch in the cafeteria of a Catholic school and on the counter was a big pile of apples.

A nun had written a note which she had placed next to the apples. It read, "Take only one. God is watching."

At the other end of the counter was a plate with a large number of chocolate chip cookies. One child whispered to another, "We can take all we want because God is watching the apples."



An old woman was lonely so she decided to get a pet and, as she didn't have much money, she went to the second hand pet shop. There she saw many animals – a three legged cat, a dog without a tail, fish that could only swim backwards and a beautiful parrot that could just say one thing, "Who is it?". She decided to buy the bird. She bought a cage for her new pet and when she got home she put the bird, in its cage, by the front door and then went out to do some shopping.

While she was gone, a man knocked on the door.

"Who is it?" said the parrot.

"It's the butcher," he replied.

"Who is it?" repeated the bird.

"It's the butcher!" said the man, in a louder voice.

"Who is it?" asked the parrot.

"It's the butcher!!" shouted the man, angrily.

"Who is it?" "It's the butcher!!!!", he screamed.

"Who is it?" "It's the butcher!!!!, IT'S THE BUTCHER!!!!, IT'S THE BUTCH...!!!!"

Suddenly he fell to the floor – he'd had a heart attack.

A little later the old lady came home and found the man in a heap on her doorstep. She opened her door and asked the parrot, "Who is it?"

The parrot replied, "It's the butcher".



Chalgrave WI Appeal

As reported in the June issue of the *News*, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre in Bedfordshire is a detention centre for foreign nationals prior to their deportation from the United Kingdom. The centre holds around 400 detainees, most of them single women, who are waiting for their immigration status to be resolved. Chalgrave WI has become involved with supporting the detainees by getting associated with a biannual event to help to make the women's lives more bearable. We collect small "luxury" items, such as toiletries, underwear and accessories, for the women.

Following our appeal in the last issue, many thanks for your wonderful donations – we had enough to fill 440 gift bags including 40 bags for men since there are some couples at Yarl's Wood too.

Chalgrave WI, together with the Befrienders of Yarl's Wood, are allowed by Serco, the company who run the detention centre, to arrange an event twice a year – one in the winter and one in the summer.

This summer event was held on the sports field and Serco enthusiastically decided to run it like an English village fete with various side shows such as "Splat the Rat". Unfortunately the "field" is a hardstanding, painted green, and there are no trees, shrubs or flowers anywhere to be seen!

Our stall of gift bags was in a corner some way away from the "field", so we were not able to see much of what was going on but it sounded as if the women were enjoying a rare day of freedom from their mundane lives.

It was clear that the gift bags are a crucial part of the event because the queue to collect them was a constant 60 metres long for the whole three hours of the event, despite the heat of a hot summer's day with no shade!

Many of the women came back later to thank us profusely for their gifts – they were overwhelmed by the kindness of the gifts. The Befrienders tell us that these "goody bags" make the day and that the people there feel so grateful that people outside the detention centre are thinking of them and that giving them little luxuries they cannot get in Yarl's Wood makes them feel a tiny bit more human. So, once again, thank you to the residents of Chalgrave.

**Please support our next Appeal
– donations by 15 November**

And now we have to start collecting for the December event! Please help us by donating any unwanted items:



Maureen having a trial run – with Evaline's home-made bunting!

- Toiletries (aerosols are not allowed). This could include the small bottles supplied in hotel bathrooms.
- Cosmetics – such as lipsticks, nail varnish and eye shadow.
- Scarves – these can be used but clean – perhaps those that are at the bottom of the drawer!
- Pretty socks and knickers (new of course!).
- Jewellery – the sort of things you would take to a charity shop.
- Gift bags – this time we need to collect at least 400 of them. We've found that bottle bags are best but frankly with that amount to collect, anything would be welcome.

There are a few couples there, so gifts for men would be welcome too. After-shave, shaving soap, moisturiser, are a few examples.

"Signs of the Times" on Wingfield Road in Tebworth (LU7 9QQ) have again kindly agreed to support our campaign by acting as a collection point for donations. They are open Monday to Friday from 8.00 am to 4.30 pm. There will be a marked cardboard box just inside the sliding entrance doors where you can drop off your donations.

Donations can also be dropped off with Evaline Bull at 4 Conger Lane, Toddington, LU5 6BP. Mobile 07984 572101.

Maureen Gilmour, Evaline Bull, Bev Smith, Hazel Zimmer – Chalgrave WI

Chalgrave Sports Club



We had a very soggy start to our cricket season. The pitch was unplayable due to the exceptional amount of rain and so we had to cancel a number of matches. We hope to get three matches in before the end of August and we are planning to have the postponed 10–10 Cricket Festival on the 4th September.

Because of holidays and other events we are a little behind with our development of the clubhouse. The clubhouse is built, but we now have to work on the interior – kitchen, changing rooms, toilet, etc as well as the plumbing and electrics. We will be making progress on this over the next few weeks as we plan to have finished much of the work by the 10–10.

We now have Ed Morton from EM Golf in Wingfield on board, not only as a player in our cricket team, but also to help develop the golfing side of the Club. Ed will be helping us source a driving range net and matting. This will be placed in one corner of our pitch. He is also going to run a Get into Golf scheme next summer for children, again using the pitch. These sessions will be monthly or every two weeks depending on popularity.

Ed is also offering Chalgrave Parish residents a 50% discount on the online booking price for simulation play and practice in his Golf Studio in Wingfield. Finally, if you want to play cricket contact either me or Mike Wells.



Phil Parry, Chairman

Lightning seen from Wingfield during the Great Deluge of 7th June

Photos by Anne Warburton



Jim Midgley, 1933–2016 ... RIP

James David Midgley, of 37 The Lane, Tebworth, sadly died on 23rd July at the age of 83. Known as Jim, he had lived in Tebworth for almost 40 years and was the devoted husband of Rosemarie and the father of David and Clifford. For more than 18 years, Jim had suffered from prostate cancer but, in his final years, he had a series of mini strokes and was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, which led to dementia.

Jim will be sorely missed by those who knew and loved him.



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.



The Great Pond of Tebworth

After its extensive make-over last year, The Great Pond of Tebworth is looking better than ever. With the reeds and silt that were filling the pond now gone, and with the surrounding foliage cut back, the more desirable fauna and flora have returned and the area has been transformed into a haven of tranquillity. The bench is still there for anyone who cares to sit down and have a few moments to themselves.

RP



Old News

Luton Times and Advertiser, 18th October 1907 –

TEBWORTH.

OVERCOME.—A Leighton labourer, named Walter Harris, was fined 5s. and 5s. 6d. costs at Woburn Sessions for being drunk while in charge of a furniture van and three horses on the highway at Tebworth. P.c. Rolls said that on Sept. 25th a crowd of women and children were round a furniture van with three horses attached at Tebworth. Defendant ran into a horse and cart by the side of the road. Witness could see that Harris was reeling and stopped him. Defendant said he had not had a drop for two years and had never been summoned before.



The Beast of Wingfield ... an Update

Well, the moulting season has arrived as it does around this time every year, and currently the Beast of Wingfield resembles not so much a pig as an elephant that has lost its trunk ... complete with tusks that any elephant would be proud of, now fully regrown following his detuskification a couple of years ago! The first time he moulted I

was shocked to behold this depilation upon returning from my holiday, and pointed the finger of blame squarely at my son John who had been threatening to shave him. He vehemently protested his innocence and sure enough, the moult is an annual event, much to the delight of local magpies who have been spotted sitting on Chops's back picking out the loose hairs!

Two RSPCA rescue lurchers joined our family last year, one of whom in particular becomes extremely vocal whenever Chops puts in an appearance and the other joins in for good measure; the mere opening of the cupboard where Chops's food is kept elicits a Pavlov's dog reaction! Visitors to The Plough's back garden will have been treated to this cacophony more often than most, thanks to regular altercations at the paddock gate, for which I sincerely apologise. On the few occasions that the animals have directly met, the scene has been reminiscent of a bull fight, with the two dogs circling Chops like matadors and making little rushes at him, and Chops charging at them like a bull.

It would be beneficial for the condition of the house if, like Samson, shedding his hair caused Chops to lose his strength but alas he is as robustly destructive as ever,



evidenced by the photo of the annihilated kitchen door with the guilty party sat right next to it! Whenever Chops wanted to come in he would chew away at the beading on the kitchen door panes until eventually one side of the double-glazed pane shattered and enabled him to knock out the other, resulting in the surreal yet hilarious scenario of a long pig snout poking through the hole where the pane had been and two dogs on the other side of the door in a complete frenzy! I tapped his snout with a stick in an attempt to persuade him to back off, but this merely encouraged him to poke it through still further, and the only way to put an end to the mayhem was to let him into the porch to settle down for bed. Luckily as William happened to be home from uni he was able to replace the pane, one side of



which was miraculously still intact despite all the commotion, and cobble together a Chops-proof barrier to go over the top which has so far withstood further onslaught!

Back in June, following a period of heavy rainfall Chops thoughtfully created a most attractive water feature in the middle of my lawn, which he considered the perfect wallowing hole – it reminded me of those Tom and Jerry cartoons where Tom would crash through the wall, leaving a cat shaped hole in his wake! The previous morning, on his way out of the kitchen there occurred an unscheduled altercation with the dogs, during the course of which he thundered into the radiator with such force that he knocked it sideways, necessitating an emergency call to the plumber to sort out the water that was pouring out of the bent pipes. Recounting the circumstances to the plumber it occurred to me that such an explanation could emanate from nowhere else but this madhouse ... fortunately the plumber had known Chops since he was a piglet and did not seem in the least surprised, and Chops emerged from the experience none the worse for wear!

It is unquestionably true to say that there is never a dull moment here with Chops around and he certainly keeps everybody entertained!

Julia Marsh



The News offers its congratulations to Paul and Debbie Levy who celebrated their marriage in Wingfield at the beginning of June.



Classic & Prestige Car Show ... With Beer Festival

For the fourth year running, the Classic & Prestige Car Show & Beer Festival took place in



Organisers, Steve Junke and Ken Wright

Wingfield, the date this year being Sunday, 17th July. In accordance with the tradition that's taking shape, it was organised by Ken Wright and Steve Junke in aid of Keech Hospice Care and was paired with a Beer Festival at The Plough. And, once again, Rob and Lisa Scanes had generously allowed their huge field near

The Plough to be used for the occasion which provided plenty of space for





the
large
number
of
vehicles

that were expected to participate.
The day was blessed with superb
weather and the temperature had
been forecasted to peak in the mid-





twenties during the afternoon. With the prospects looking so good, the turn-out was high and the first show vehicles were arriving on site at 8.30 am, despite the event not opening to the public until noon. Come

twelve, the spectators soon flocked in. As always, besides a multitude of different vehicles for the mechanically-inclined to inspect and savour, there was something for everyone, from tasty burgers and delicious cupcakes, to stalls selling second-hand goods and a sideshow for those wishing to test their skills at breaking crockery. Many old favourites had returned from previous years,

but there were two new additions which enthralled the crowds.

One was a fairground-



Winning car – a Vauxhall Viva, dating from 1974–5, owned by Robert Stack



type organ, built from scratch by John Smith of Flitwick, which played a countless number of tunes throughout the afternoon. The other was a remote-controlled jeep, with a remote-controlled teddy at the wheel, and large enough to carry a small child in the passenger seat.

The heat of the afternoon resulted in large numbers of people swarming to

the pub, where fortunately Chris and

Caroline had laid on extra staff to cope with the influx of thirsty visitors. Five excellent real ales were on offer –



Moongazing and Brock from Tring Brewery – and Restoration Ale and Dixie from Leighton Buzzard Brewery. Lest there be accusations of localism, the fifth beer, Doom Bar, came from further afield – Cornwall to be exact.

Naturally, cider drinkers weren't forgotten and were offered





Rosie's Pig, which made an interesting change from the usual Old Rosie.



Overall, the car show raised the impressive sum of £981.39 for Keech Hospice Care.

RP



All Our Yesterdays – No. 25



Guess who!



Lyn, "Mrs Green"



A young Colin and his lovely Liz

Halloween
Dressing-
up party
time at the
Queen's
Head, circa
1980



David, Carol "Mrs Higs",
and Frank



But who are these Shysters!?



Marilyn, behind mask? Ken, & Daf



Lyn, Carol, Colin, ??,
Evelyn, Jen, & Martin

We have been regulars at the Queen's Head for 45 years and we would feel very sad to see it close!

Questions or comment to Ken Green, 01525874107 or kenandlyn@tinyworld.co.uk

The Plough



Hello and happy summer to all!

Now the sun has appeared and makes us all smile I can finally say that The Plough's garden is looking very inviting to sit and relax in, whilst sipping your drink of choice and watching the wonderful sunsets we have had of late.

Finally, after a long search, we are welcoming a new addition to the team. Costas comes to us from Ivinghoe to join Chris, Marc and Jo in the kitchen (no, you can't have too many cooks). We look forward to introducing him to you all.

Sadly, we had to say farewell to Maz who leaves us to become a "Liver Bird" at university in September – fear not, she will return. Good luck and best wishes to her.

Quiz nights are still strongly supported on alternate Sundays, always a lot of fun. On the other alternate Sunday evenings from 6.00 pm we have "bring your pet to the pub night". I must say we have some very well behaved canine and feline customers at the moment. We have had a few closures of late due to repair works being carried out by the brewery (long overdue and necessary) so, many thanks for your patience if you haven't been able to get in.

Chris and I are happy to say that as of Monday, 5th September, the kitchen will be open again on Monday evenings. Hooray!

Wishing you all a lovely summer.

Caroline (and Chris), 01525 873077, www.theploughinn.com



Chris and Caroline are too modest to mention it, but in June The Plough won a Commended Award in the Bedfordshire Food and Drink Awards 2016. Well done to them and to all the staff at The Plough who work so hard to make the pub such an inviting place to eat and drink.



Queen's Head



Hello everyone,

This is your favourite landlord reporting! A sad time is on the horizon now that the brewery has decided to put the pub up for sale. Unless some guardian angels intervene, it looks as if the end is nigh for the Queen's Head as a drinking establishment. I suppose it might be turned into a trendy wine bar, or a fish and chip parlour, but more likely this time next year it will be destined to become somebody's home – but do feel free to drop in for a drink at any time.

An era will have come to an end but there will be good times to look back on. Elsewhere in this delightful magazine Mr Green tells us that he has been drinking here for 45 years. But how on earth did he manage to get served all those years ago when he must have been at primary school and in short trousers?

Mind you, Prof Kenton Bluminstall has also been visiting here man and boy, not that he was a professor when he started, of course, despite being a precocious swot. The only blessing from the pub closing is that I won't need to be bored rigid for much longer by his erudite twaddle. Only last week he was in here telling anyone who would listen all about the Olympics.

Did you know, for instance, in the 1928 Amsterdam Games, Australia's Bobby Pearce stopped rowing in the quarterfinals to allow a family of ducks to pass in front of his boat. What a gentleman! He still managed to win the race and went on to get Gold in the final.

In 1968, a Swede, Hans-Gunner Liljenwall, was the first competitor to be disqualified from the Games for drug use. It was alleged that he had had two beers to steady his nerves before the pistol shooting – I'd have thought it more appropriate if they'd banned him on public safety grounds.

We also heard that the oldest Olympian was another Swede, Oscar Swahn, who competed in 1912 Games at the age of 64 and won a Gold Medal for shooting. Oscar competed again in the 1920 Games, when he was a Silver Medallist! I must say, this has given me ideas for what to do after I retire.

But then the professor told us that if he'd not been dead for 22 years, the oldest competitor of all time would have been the American artist, Winslow Homer, whose painting "Casting" was exhibited at the 1932 Games when he would have been 96. But painting's not a sport, I exclaimed, pointing out the blatantly obvious! The professor rolled his eyes and patiently explained that competitions for architecture, music, literature, sculpture and painting were held at each Olympiad, up to, and including, the 1948 Games. What's more, he said, entries in these categories had to be inspired by the concept of sport ... and casting is part of angling which is vaguely a sport.

Unfortunately, the late Mr Homer didn't win – which is regrettable because it would have made for an interesting medal ceremony.

All the best, *Colin*



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