

JUNE 2017

CHALGRAVE NEWS

Celebrating Chalgrave

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 |
| Saturday, 1 st July | Chalgrave Games | Memorial Hall | 1pm |
| Sunday, 16 th July | Classic & Prestige Car Show | The Plough | Noon |
| Saturday 22nd July | Chalgrave Open Gardens | Start at The Vicarage 1 Chalgrave Rd | 1pm |
| Saturday 9 September | Raising the Roof Celebration | Chalgrave Church | 12-4pm |

Deadline for next edition: Wednesday, 15 August 2017

Please send all entries to thechalgravenews@gmail.com

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.

WELCOME from the editorial team

Welcome to the new-look Chalgrave News.

Thanks go out to editorial team member Tracy Malster for the redesign. We hope you like it.

A huge thank you to the old team for their sterling work over the last 6 years. We are very grateful for all the help and information given to make the changeover as easy as possible for us and for the transfer of funds .

Hopefully, by now, you will have received our introductory flyers. We thought it might be a good idea to introduce the new team properly as there are quite a few of us and no editor as such, although Lyndie and Tracy together have taken on the major task of collating the stories and pictures.

In this issue, you will find many familiar articles and some new features too, like 'The Chalgrave Rambler.' Curiously, no one actually knows who 'The Rambler' is, but he loves to get out in the parish and take photos from unusual angles and there's a reward of £5 for the first person to identify where the photo was taken.

We're bringing back the Best Kept Front Garden competition and introducing a brand new, Chalgrave News sponsored event 'Chalgrave Open Gardens' on Saturday 22 July. We've already got 8 gardens lined up for you to have a look around. The start and end point will be the Vicarage and there are rumours of cream teas on the lawn so save the date and let us know if you want to enter your garden too.

We do hope you enjoy this issue of the Chalgrave News. It's your magazine and we want it to really work for you, tell us if we're getting it right or if you have ideas for changes or improvements.

Remember, if you have an event or a story you want people to know about, send in the details with a picture or two and we'll try and make sure it goes in to the next edition.

Now, settle down with a nice cup of tea and a biscuit and take a trip around the parish from the comfort of your armchair. Enjoy.



CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Phil Parry

The Parish Council consists of myself as the Chairman and I am also one of the Council representatives on the West Trust; Ken Green who is the Vice Chairman and heads up the Footpaths Committee and has responsibility for the Website; Debbie Levy leads the Planning Committee; Mike Wells who runs our Speedwatch activities and also works on our website, Paul Whitton who monitors Fly Tipping, Barbara Jackson who leads the pond restoration project and our Defibrillator team, and Lesley Smith who is our Parish Clerk.



We also have a new Councillor, Kevin Ludgate, who having lived in the Parish all his life brings a wealth of knowledge to the Council. Kevin's responsibility is Police liaison.

As always the past year has been a very active one for the Parish Council. In case you are not aware we do a lot of work behind the scenes. We work on a voluntary basis trying to do as much as we can for our local community. As well as our monthly meetings and individual responsibilities we attend local and area meetings where decisions are made that may affect our Parish. We lobby MP's and local councillors, we defend the rural nature of our community, we encourage and support local activities, we look for ways of improving facilities and the infrastructure, we strive to keep our community spirit and, as your representatives, we listen to you.

We continue to pressure Highways to repair our roads, get our street lights working, cut back overgrown bushes and trees and clear pathways. It is a constant battle with CBC to get work done – we have street lights that have been not working for years, potholes in Church Lane not filled, other potholes in the Parish, etc. As a Council, we do all we can to get the work done.

Our Precept this year is £7,020. About a quarter of our precept we receive from you goes straight back into our community in the form of grants and awards. We keep a third for contingencies and the rest is used in the running of the Council activities. The accounts can be viewed on our website or via the Clerk.

Mike is leading our Speedwatch Campaign. We are out on Toddington Road, Wingfield Road and Tebworth Road. We are limited to where we can use the speed sign because of Health and Safety. Please speak to Mike if you want to know more or to volunteer.

We are aware that the Vehicle Activated Sign on Toddington Road is not working. We are looking at the cost of repair or replacement but we will wait until we know if there will be a 20 MPH speed limit through Tebworth when the Link Road is open.

By the time you read this the A5/M1 link will be opened. There will be a 7.5 tonne weight limit through our Parish and surrounding area. It will not happen immediately as Highways have to put up 5000 signs in South Beds.

You may be aware of the controversy with Tebworth Great Pond. The Parish Council strongly feel that the pond and pond area belong to our community. We have lots of evidence going back to 1950 of community groups working on the Pond. Our Clerk has done extensive research on the ownership of The Pond and have discovered that no one owns the Pond. The Parish Council has put in an application with Land Registry to own the Pond on behalf of the community. Once that happens we can then complete our planned work. We have a small team working on this – if you would like to help please speak to Barbara.

We are fortunate to live in a low crime area. However, there are break-ins and burglaries so please make sure that doors and windows are locked and outbuildings are secure. Please report anything that you think is suspicious and report any crimes.

Central Beds Council have a number of on-line consultations over the year on a variety of subjects. We respond to them on your behalf but we are concerned that one or two of them should also be responded to by individuals.

Finally the Millennium Youth and the Community Awards for the past year: we need nominations. Both awards are to recognise a significant achievement or community service. The Millennium Youth Award is for 18 years and under and is a 'well done' for academic or sporting achievement, contribution to the community, overcoming difficulties, or other significant achievement. The Community Award is for over 18s and is a 'thank you' for service to the community. If you have a nomination please contact the Clerk, Lesley Smith, or any of the councillors.

You are invited to any of our meetings. They are usually on the third Tuesday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 7:30. Minutes of our meetings are posted on the Chalgrave Parish Council website and on the notice boards.

Phil Parry

VIEW FROM THE HOUSE: Andrew Selous MP

Dear Chalgrave Residents

I am very sorry not to have been with you at the Parish Assembly. Parliament sits until 7.00pm and sometimes later. I have been working in many areas including the following that affect your Parish.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE:

I have spent time with frontline staff at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital, with local social care providers and with local GPs. While we are fortunate that the Luton and Dunstable Hospital is highly efficient, I am acutely aware of the pressures that both social care and GP practices are under. The Government has committed to get another 5000 doctors working in general practice by 2020 and I will remain very engaged, as a member of the Health Select Committee to try to make sure this happens. I am acutely aware that in some GP practices the waiting times to get in to see a doctor are far too long.

One health issue which I have worked on for the last nine years is the “Getting it right first time” initiative led by the new National Director for Clinical Quality Efficiency of NHS England, my constituent Professor Tim Briggs who lives in Totternhoe. This initiative is looking at improving the quality of care across the whole of the NHS to make sure there are better outcomes for patients and enormous sums of money can also be saved. The litigation bill just for obstetrics alone for example over the last five years runs into many billions. Better quality care first time around would save that and that money could be invested in improving GP waiting times for example.

SCHOOLS:

The consultation on the National Funding Formula for schools closed on the 22 March. I am not happy with it as far as South West Bedfordshire is concerned as while 33 of our 47 schools see a budget increase, 13 see a decrease and 1 has no change. Of the 13 that see a decrease 9 are secondary or upper schools where children take their GCSEs and A Levels. I have made my views very, very clear with Education Ministers on this subject. The current proposals are only a consultation and we shall have to wait to see what happens.

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE:

Bedfordshire Police continues to be unfairly badly funded compared with other similar Police forces. We have unfortunately had an inadequate rating from Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary and I met with the Chief Inspector along with three other Bedfordshire MPs a couple of weeks ago. I think our new Chief Constable, Jon Boutcher, is doing his very best along with our new Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway but I do remain concerned about the level of anti-social behaviour in Leighton Buzzard and the extensive availability of heroin in both Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard. If re-elected I will meet again with the Chief Constable to look at the operational effectiveness of the Police in respect of local priorities.

A5:M1 LINK (DUNSTABLE NORTHERN BYPASS):

The new Link road is now open. I have spent 15 years in Parliament trying to get this road built to relieve congestion and also to improve the very poor air quality locally.

TRAVELLERS:

I am extremely unhappy about current legislation surrounding travellers. I held a second debate in Parliament on this issue last October and arranged a meeting with a number of MPs with the Minister a few weeks ago. I am expecting progress to be made on this matter.

I salute your community spirit and very much want to see Chalgrave succeed in turning the wonderful Queen's Head into a community pub.

With very best wishes,

Andrew Selous

To contact Andrew Selous MP:

Write to Andrew Selous MP, The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Tel: 0207 2198134 – email : andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk

Or to see him – tel: 01582 662821 or email – tracey.farrugia@parliament.uk

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS - UPDATE

Book Club

It was some time ago now that we read a book about one of the Mitford Sisters. **Wait for Me** is an autobiography by the youngest sister, Deborah Devonshire. An interesting insight into the lives of the Mitford Sisters, their early years, their parents and endless parties and balls in Chatsworth and elsewhere. The lives of the sisters are well documented, but this one brought us right up to date, as the Duchess only passed away in 2014. There are some interesting facts in the book from meeting Hitler to attending a Presidential Inauguration, a fascinating life indeed, but there were hints that perhaps the other sisters had even more extraordinary lives! However it is an easy and informative read.



The other book we read was Roddy Doyle's **A Star Called Henry**. Roddy Doyle paints a very 'warts and all' picture of Dublin and its people in the early 1900's. The central character is Henry Smart, born into poverty he has to grow up quickly. By the time he can walk he is begging and robbing and at 14 he's a soldier in the Irish Army fighting for freedom and ready to kill for it. This book gives a very clear picture of the troubles in Ireland with some interesting historical references, but Doyle's language spoiled it for most. Not many of the book club actually finished it, therefore it was a bit disappointing. **Noeleen Thomson**

Senior Citizens committee

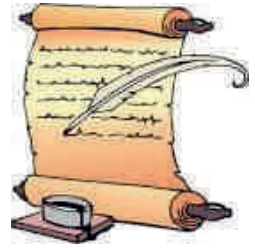
We now have 76 names on our register. The only requirement is that the youthful age of 65 has been reached for both ladies and gents. All Senior Citizens receive a card on their birthday and a card and bottle of wine for Christmas. This year they also received a £20 grocery voucher to spend in Morrisons.

Our funds are pretty buoyant as each year we are able to raise money from door to door collections for Father Christmas who travels through the village just before Christmas. Our thanks go to Flitwick Vale Rotary club for providing the lovely float. A big thank you also to that merry band of elves who gave up their time last year to raise a record £300. We would also like to thank the Chalgrave News for its surprise donation to the funds of £100.

If anyone wishes to register please give their name to Roger Fenwick (873768), Lyne Green (874107), or Roger Masters (873039) **Roger Masters**

West Educational Charity

West's Educational Charity is a local charity which gives grants to young people under the age of 25 residing in the Parishes of Hockliffe or Chalgrave. The grants must be for an educational purpose. There are usually three Trustee meetings a year: The meetings in January and July are for allocating grants and there is usually one other meeting to discuss financial matters. The value of the Charity's assets varies considerably from year to year in line with fluctuations in the financial markets, at the moment the fund value is in the region of £650,000. Annual income is around £20,000.



The number of applications for grants has risen considerably over the past 10 years and we reached the position where there was insufficient income to preserve the capital base for future generations and to pay out all applications in full. We therefore had to adopt guidelines in an attempt to be as fair as possible to everyone. These rules have to be flexible and sometimes they need to be tweaked, particularly in times when interest rates are so low and our income has fallen.

If you want to know more and want an application form please go to the Chalgrave Parish website www.chalgrave.org.uk and click on the drop box of Local Organisations, or contact me, **Dan Osborn, Vicky Greenwood or Lesley Smith**. Applications for a grant for this half year need to be delivered to Lesley Smith by June 30th. **Phil Parry Trustee** Tel: 07831 605600

Chalgrave Sports Club Chairman's report

It has been a good year for the Club not necessarily for the cricket but we now have a new clubhouse. More work is needed on the plumbing, electricity and fitting out, but it can be used. This would not have happened had it not been for the hard work and time given by committee members particularly Nev, Mike and David. Also, very special thanks must go to Steve Winter for his time, work and professional advice. We must also thank Mark Greenwood for his help with the roofing. We will be putting up a plaque in the clubhouse to recognise all those who helped. We still hope to have a formal opening of the Clubhouse.



We have two new Committee members. Ed Morton has joined and will be looking to develop golfing in the Club. We also have a new Treasurer – Paul Levy. Paul has already made some great changes in the way we handle finances. PTO



Sports Club report Continued

Sadly, our Groundsman Nev Andrews is stepping down from the Committee. Nev has made an outstanding contribution to the Club over the many years he has been part of the Chalgrave Sports Club Committee.

Our thanks go to Nev for all his hard work, and although no longer on the Committee we hope that he will continue with his involvement in the Club.

Fixtures have been an issue for us in 2016 because of the weather and the lack of opposition. Some teams have joined leagues and are now unable to play on Sundays. We managed three games in the season – two of these were on our ground. We had to cancel the 10/10. We need to find more teams.

Through Roger Burdon we may have a game with Pavenham and Felmersham Cricket Club and through Steve Calder we have matches with Milton Bryan. We have several fixtures planned for this season as well as our 10/10 festival of Cricket.

Ed Morton organised a successful Golf Day last December at Bedford Golf Club followed by dinner at The Plough. Ed will be organising Golf Days during the coming year as well as organising introduction to golf sessions for young people on Sundays. Two Golf Days already agreed . 2nd June and the 8th September.

We had a successful Race Night raising much needed funds for the Club. Thanks go to all the Committee Members for their help in making it a success – and to Nicola and Tori Wells, Lesley Smith, Fiona Parker, Tom Petzing, Su Parker, John Parker, Debbie Levy and many others. We are also grateful for the generous donations made on the night and to sponsors – K and K Petfoods, D and I Butchers, Wright Vehicle Solutions, The Plough Inn, EM Golf, Harding and Ng Vets, Paul Levy and Chalgrave IT Solutions.

The ground looks great - thanks to Nev and Mike. The pitch will be repaired for this season but it will need replacing for next season. We are considering the options and the how to fund the replacement. We are looking forward to another positive year.

Phil Parry



Memorial Hall

First of all, on behalf of the Trustees of the Memorial Hall, good luck to the new News team. I am sure it will continue to go from strength to strength.

The Memorial Hall has had a good year and my thanks are due to all trustees who voluntarily put in a lot of effort to ensure we have a Hall the parish can be proud of.

The Memorial Hall is now 18 years old and over the last 12 months, the male, female and disabled toilets have been completely redecorated together with the committee room and foyer.

Emergency lighting in the Hall has been totally overhauled and, where required, replaced. Next to be done is the completion of the improvements to the kitchen and its redecoration. I have no doubt other work will be necessary as we go through the year as there is always something that needs attention. In terms of the Hall financials, there is also good news in that, despite the cost of work we needed to do, the Hall just about broke even in terms of income and expenditure, with income from lettings up a fabulous 14%. Our thanks also go to the Parish Council for their generous grant.

Finally, in this edition of the News you will see the first advert for the now world famous Chalgrave Games to be held on 1st July at the Memorial Hall. The theme this year is **SUPERHEROES** so get going on your costumes. Also there will be live music, plenty of games for the kids and games for the adults (not forgetting the water games), the dog show, beer tent, cocktail lounge, BBQ. and a variety of sideshows.

Prizes for the draw this year are as spectacular as ever with first prize an I-pad, second prize £100 and 3rd prize £50, with many other fabulous prizes donated by our generous sponsors.

Draw tickets are now available at the Plough, Punch Opticians or **Roger Masters** 2 The Lane, Tebworth



Chalgrave W I

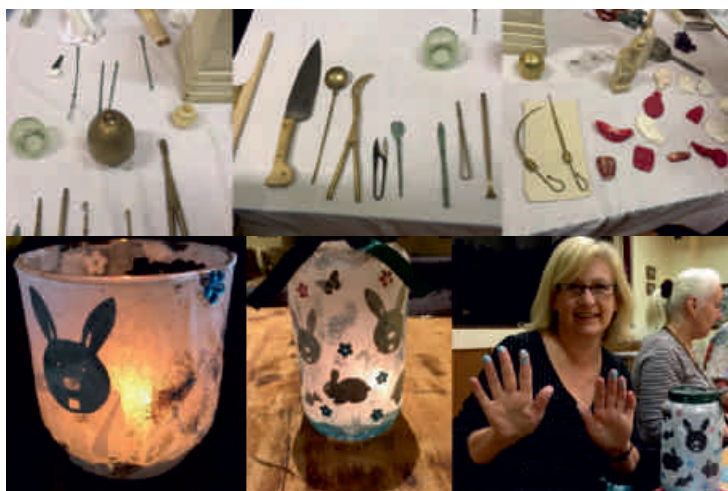
Our WI continues to go from strength to strength – we now have nearly 50 members including a number who have chosen to join us rather than their more local branch since they like our informal and less traditional style. Word of mouth is spreading!

We had some wonderful events in **December** – six of us had a delicious lunch at the Five Arrows Hotel and then four of us went on to enjoy the **Waddesdon Manor** decorated rooms, Christmas market and light installations in the gardens. A big thank you to Sue Bollins for organising the festive **candle decorating session** for our December meeting. Later that week a great night was had by all at our **Christmas party at the Fancott Arms**. Twenty-four of us attended and we took over the dance floor after our lovely meal – displacing a gang of blokes from Vauxhall Motors who took refuge in the bar.

In **January** we had a lively and fun **dance session with AJ Fenn**. We learned a routine to “Play that Funky Music” by Wild Cherry , a very current number from 1976!

In **February** our meeting was a talk by **Ventriloquist**, Chris Bylett., a very old school entertainer – perhaps not quite suited to our more modern and politically correct tastes! In **March** we had a great talk about **Roman/early medieval ideas on medicine and surgery**. This included some interesting stories about how people in the past thought the world and our bodies worked and some of the strange, and not so strange things they did to try to keep themselves healthy and well. Sounds like a dry topic on but was fascinating and entertaining!

In **April** one of our committee members, Julie Wilson, ran a lovely craft session where we made Easter Lanterns. Great to get gluing and glittering and use lots of pretty stickers.



One initiative I am particularly proud of is one started by two of our members, **Evaline Bull** and **Maureen Gilmour**.

The **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre** in Milton Ernest, 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.

Yarl's Wood has a reputation for being the UK's worst immigration removal centre. In 2014 a Telegraph reporter went inside and found women struggling to gain access to medicine, counselling and basic privacy.

Chalgrave WI, together with the befrienders of Yarl's Wood are allowed by Serco, who run the detention centre, to arrange an event twice a year. Our first event was in December 2015 with a summer and Christmas event in 2016.

We support the detainees by helping to make the women's lives more bearable. We collect small 'luxury' items such as toiletries, underwear and accessories for the women. The feedback from the women has been incredible and humbling.

Let me share some of their recent feedback: -

- *"It was the best thing that could have happened. It changed the whole atmosphere in the place. Everybody got the present that they needed and that amazed me!"*
- *"I got a handbag! It was as if it was coming straight from God as it was just what I needed and what I wanted. It felt so wonderful that people care so deeply about us to give us a present like that. Thank you so so much"*
- *"I was so blessed that day! I got a beautiful scarf that I am so proud of and can't wait to wear it when the weather is right. All of the other women in here loved their presents too... especially the handbags!"*
- *"The party and the gifts make such a difference to the whole place. The deodorant is such a little thing but it honestly means so much. I didn't think that something like deodorant would feel so special but it does. Thank you"*

Chalgrave WI Continued

Please support our next Appeal – donations by the end of June – NB no aerosols or anything sharp - there is apparently a lot of self-harming there.

- **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!
- **Socks and knickers** (new of course!)
- **Jewellery** – the sort of things you would take to a charity shop
- **Gift bags** – this year we need to collect 400 of them. We've found that bottle bags are best
- There are a few couples there, so **gifts for men** would be welcome too. Aftershave, shaving soap etc

Signs of the Times in Tebworth are kindly supporting our campaign by acting as a collection point for donations. They are open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 4.30pm. 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.

More details of our activities can be found on our Chalgrave WI Facebook page.

Please feel free to join us as a guest for one of our future meetings or contact me for a chat.

Debbie Parry – Chalgrave WI President

07770 543797, email Debbie.parry@accenture.com

Police arrested two kids yesterday: one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other off.

- Tommy Cooper

“Money can’t buy you friends, but you get a better class of enemy.”

- Spike Milligan

Recent research has shown that 6 out of 7 dwarves aren’t happy.

- Unknown

Chalgrave — Centre of the universe



As well as all the exciting things happening in Chalgrave over the next few months there are lots of events happening a bit further afield.

The universe is always full of events but unfortunately most of them are not visible from Chalgrave.

Summer months are often not the best times for sky watching as short nights mean there are fewer hours of really dark skies for good views.

One of the nearest objects visible to the naked eye is the International Space Station. It appears as a very bright star moving across the sky faster than a plane. You can find when it will be visible over Chalgrave by going to

spotthestation.nasa.gov and entering your location. The times are always a few hours after sunset or before sunrise as its brightness is due to light reflected from the sun.

Jupiter will be visible in the summer skies and on 4th June and 1st July (Chalgrave Games day) it will appear to be very close to the moon, although it's really almost 400 million miles away. Look to the South at about 9.30pm (4th) or Southwest at 10.00pm (1st).

On the 3rd of July the Earth will be at aphelion, the furthest point in its orbit from the sun. Although the Earth receives least solar radiation at this point, the tilt in its orbit has a much greater effect on our weather and seasons.

The main meteor shower of the summer, the Perseids will reach their peak around midnight on the 12th of August, although some will be visible for several nights before and after. The radiant (central point of the shower) will be in the northeast, and all the meteors appear to be travelling outward from this point. Looking to the side of the radiant will often give you the best views of the meteor trails. Of course if it's cloudy – please disregard all of the above.

SAVING THE QUEENS HEAD CAMPAIGN

You would have had to be on another planet not to notice the 'Save the Queen's Head for Tebworth' campaign over the last few months and people are now asking whether our increased community offer to Charles Wells to buy the pub for the village has been accepted?

The simple answer at the point of going to print is.... we don't know. But we are wondering whether the sell off of their brewing arm to Marston's will affect our position?

Our increased offer was towards the upper end of the valuation we had from a Commercial Valuer. It allows for the cost of stabilisation of the building and structural repairs, installation of a catering kitchen, re-instatement of the central heating, resurfacing of the car park and the creation of a community garden.

We've been campaigning hard and it's been a real community effort with music events, a 'beer and bikes' day, gardening and work parties to improve the pub facilities and car park.

We've made films and had local press coverage. We got the backing of our MP, the support of our Parish Council, CAMRA, the Plunkett Foundation. Even Prince Charles' office wrote to us wishing us every success.

Most people do not want to see pubs closing down. Yet up to 27 a week are going.

British pubs are the envy of the world, a bit like our Royal Family, our churches and our historical buildings. We let them go at our peril, because, once lost, they will not come back.

But we are doing our best and we've been so grateful to Andrew Selous for his support. Recently, he wrote direct to Tom Wells. Let's hope his strongly worded letter helps.

You can find out the latest by visiting our face book page

<https://www.facebook.com/savethequeenshead/>

26 May 2017

Dear Mr Wells

I hope you will forgive me for writing a second time on behalf of the Queen's Head in Tebworth. Of course I understand that ordinarily businesses always look to maximise value for their shareholders but as a long standing and well regarded Bedfordshire business I do please ask you to also consider the community impact of your decision. I understand an increased bid has been put to you and I do very much hope you will accept it. I look forward to hearing back from you.

With very best wishes

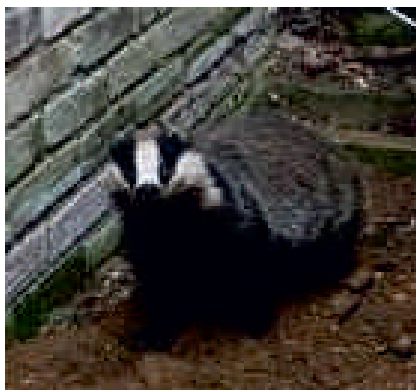
Yours sincerely,

ANDREW SELOUS

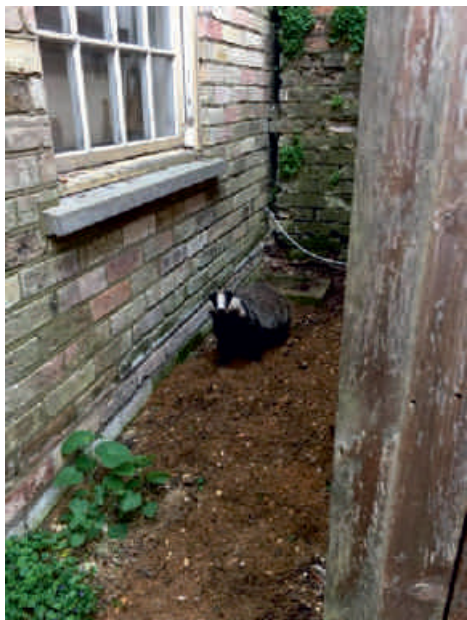


A BADGER STORY

This story begins on Saturday 1st April. Paul my husband was walking Ruby our dog in the garden when they came nose to nose with a fully grown badger! They were both shocked, firstly because it is rare to see a badger in daylight as they are shy, nocturnal creatures, but secondly because it did not run, it just stood there looking at Ruby. Very unusual, indeed!



We all came out to observe our new friend, he did not seem in any hurry to leave, but out of concern, I rang the RSPCA. They agreed that there must be something wrong and arranged to come and give their opinion. Boris as we had named him, had begun to look rather unwell and lay down next to our shed. I was becoming increasingly concerned as he seemed to deteriorate in front of me!



Grace the RSPCA officer, arrived in her van and agreed the poor badger needed medical attention and with some help from our son Jack, she managed to lasso him around his tummy and one of his front legs, he struggled and growled a bit, but Grace managed very skilfully to get Boris into a crate, causing him the least stress possible.

He was taken to 'Tiggy Winkles' who are a wonderful charity devoted to caring for injured British wildlife. We were told he had been fitting and was covered in ticks, probably suffering from an overload of toxins from the environment, but thanks to antibiotics and TLC he was beginning to improve.



Three weeks later we had the pleasure of welcoming not Boris, but Beryl, (yes Boris was a lady badger!) back home, and shared in her joy of being returned back into the fields at the back of our neighbours Ron and Karen's garden. A very happy ending to our badger story.

<http://www.sttiggywinkles.org.uk/>



JoeFest at the Chalgrave Memorial Hall

What a day was had by all on Saturday 17 June! The last JoeFest was held to commemorate Joe's 60th birthday. The weather couldn't have been better with blue skies, lovely and warm at around 30 degrees. The music was amazing. Here are a few photos — a full report follows in the next issue of The Chalgrave News. If you have any photos you think we might use please send them to thechalgravenews@gmail.com



Celebrating Chalgrave

www.thechalgravenews@gmail.com

SPOTTED IN WINGFIELD

1931 GILFORD BUS OWNED BY MALCOLM SKEVINGTON.

The Chassis was built in High Wycombe and the body was fitted in Cringleford, near Norwich. The bus was originally owned and operated by Blue Safety Coaches which was later bought out by Mulley's Motorways. During this period it appeared in an episode of Dad's Army called "Everyone has gone Trucking". Later the vehicle was sold and whilst under the ownership of another bus company it suffered major engine failure. It was then left outside where the condition of the bus gradually deteriorated. It was later discovered by the British Bus Preservation Group who stored it for fourteen years whilst trying to obtain ownership. Eventually it was acquired by Malcolm Skevington who together with a



band of enthusiastic volunteers lovingly restored it over a period of five years. The bus now resides in the Dad's Army Steam and Gardens Museum in Bressingham along with several other vehicles which also appeared in the series.

Images and information provided by Malcolm Skevington, a member of the group "The Wingfield Wheels"

Chalgrave Open Gardens

Saturday 22 July 1 to 5pm
entry £5 per adult – under 16s free

Chalgrave News are sponsoring our first Open Gardens.
We currently have 8 gardens on board – all in Tebworth
We would love to have some representation from Wingfield.

Please contact Debbie Parry if you would like to get involved
(debbie.parry@accenture.com)

There will be refreshments and cream teas available at the Vicarage,
a plant sale, plus Beth McCausland will be giving a talk about
“Herbs for the Home”

Funds raised will be used to support
the publication of the Chalgrave News.

Event passports can be purchased on the day

from The Vicarage, 1 Chalgrave Road,

Tebworth, LU7 9QE.



PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Alterations to the Bus Service

There will be some changes to the bus service through Wingfield and Tebworth as from May 2nd. I will be placing notices at specific stops. For further information please refer to the Cenral Beds website. **Dave Streeeton**
dave.streeton@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Chalgrave Games 2017.

The annual Chalgrave Games take place this year on Saturday 1st July 2017 from 1pm at the Memorial Hall. As always, fun and games for all the family. Best superhero fancy dress competition, dog show (registration between 11:30 - 12:00) and dog fancy dress competition, kids games and races, teddy bear orphanage, BBQ, beer tent, stalls and exhibits, Grand Prize Draw, and lots more.... This years theme is **SUPERHEROS**, so if you feel inclined, join the fun and dress to impress! **Simon Gatwood**

Chalgrave News Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/ChalgraveNews/>

Read the Chalgrave News online at the Chalgrave website

<http://www.chalgravepc.org.uk/category/chalgrave-news/>

COMING IN THE NEXT EDITION

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Perhaps a 'Wanted' section for goods or jobs.
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RIDGMONT STATION

Heritage Centre and tea room



I have been saying for a while I would like to go and try out this station tea room. I went a few weeks ago with my friend Maureen on impulse. We opted for 2 cream teas. We had dainty sandwiches and fruit scones with jam and cream and tea. Having tea in the ladies waiting room served on beautiful crockery, excellent service and fabulous food felt quaint, combined with a lovely nostalgic atmosphere. We both thought it was a wonderful experience and great value for money. We will definitely return for this experience.

There is a small museum that is very interesting with the history of the station

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THE CHALGRAVE RAMBLER

The Rambler has been out and about around the parish and took a very unusual photograph. It's something you probably won't see again.

But what is it and where was it taken?

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ALL SAINTS CHURCH CHALGRAVE

It was wonderful to see again the marvellous turnout for Chalgrave PCC Annual General Meeting.

Lots of interesting reports to hear from a highly active community.

You may recall my own report in which I told you of the imminent arrival of our new rector, the progress of the roof repair, the celebration service to Bless it and cheese and wine day on the 17th of September, when we would love to see you all and share the good news.

Lastly, I told you that we had a congregation of 40 for Easter Sunday, double our normal numbers.

I know that our Church plays an important part in our village life for christenings, weddings, baptisms and funerals as well as our special times at Christmas and Easter. To keep our almost 800-year-old church alive and active church for generations to come we need you, all of you, to think about our village without our church, and what you can do to help keep it going.

We rely on the generosity of our regular attendees to help pay for the upkeep of the church and the volunteers who maintain the church, keep the church yard tidy and our team who do a wonderful job keeping the inside clean and tidy and decorated with seasonal flowers.

How can you help? You are most welcome to come to church, we have services every Sunday from 9.30 till 10.45. We would love to see you. If because of work or family it is not practical to get to church or if you would rather not come to church but would like to help save this historic building, you can set up a standing order with us to make a monthly or annual payment that you are comfortable with. If you are a tax payer your donation can be gift aided which will increase the value of your donation by 25%.

Bank account name is Chalgrave Church Parochial Council,
sort code 20-03-18, ACC no. 90227706

If you would like a chat about it I'm on 07734 977153 and steve@usd.uk.com
Thank you for reading this item. God bless you.

Steve Calder, Treasurer

BREAKING NEWS.....

From Richard Bedford.

'I am delighted to announce we are now in a position to confirm that the Revd Linda Washington is to be the new Priest in Charge on a half time basis and that the Revd Nigel Washington is to be Associate Minister.

They are excited at this new, combined opportunity to minister and pastor in the churches of Toddington and Chalgrave.

They look forward to taking up the post and thank you for your prayers and support. I will be licensing Linda and Nigel as Associate Minister in the summer, the date of this will be confirmed in due course.'



ANNUAL CHALGRAVE PARISH ROGATION WALK

The day dawned bright and sunny for the annual Chalgrave Rogation Walk which fell on 21st May this year.

Ably led by Ken Green, our cheerful band of 13 and one dog set out from the Queens Head at 10 sharp and such is the fame of this local institution several walkers were from outside the parish.

Rogation day is the one day in the year when we can walk the entire parish

boundary including the parts that are not public rights of way. Ken had informed local landowners before the walk so no one appeared brandishing a shotgun as we passed signs saying 'Strictly Private'.

In spite of the torrential rain in the preceding days the streams, dykes and ditches were negotiated with mud but without mishap and no one got a drenching.

Likewise we all made it over the barbed wire fence on the Rogation Ladder. Were we a lucky 13 or does the devil look after his own?

We made the traditional lunch and refreshment stop at the Fancott at which point a few fell by the wayside. The remaining band of 10 set off again getting some 'good' views of the new road layout on the way. The sun shone, the birds sang and the rolling fields of Chalgrave were at their best.

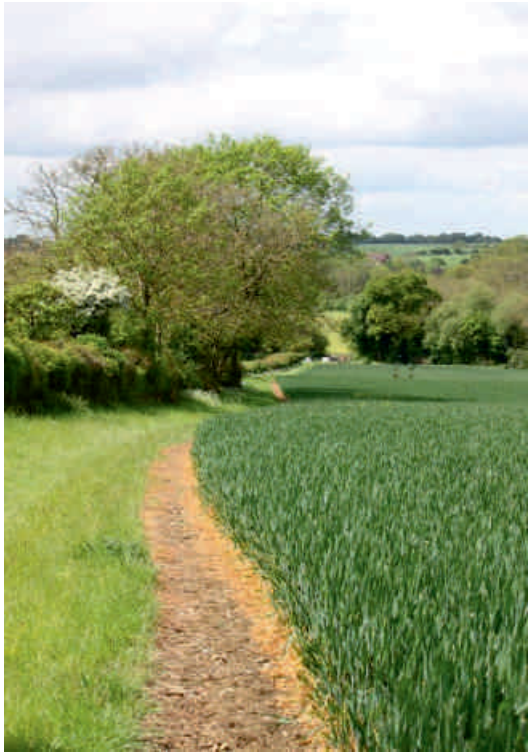
It was almost too hot on the last uphill stretch into Tebworth so the Queens Head was a welcome sight.

All made it back suffering nothing more than nettle stings – LOTS of nettle stings. OK, and we did miss out the nasty bit near the end along the A5.

Enormous thanks go to Ken Green for organising the walk, leading it, informing landowners, supplying the ladder (and making sure it was in place) and for his wealth of local knowledge present and historic – cheers Ken.



P.S. I noted that this year's walkers were all of mature years. A challenge next year to the young people of Chalgrave – show us your stamina!



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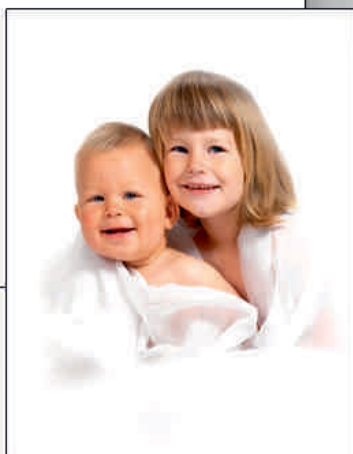


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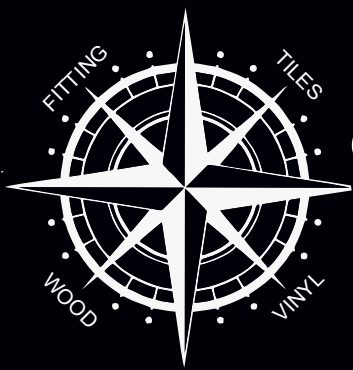
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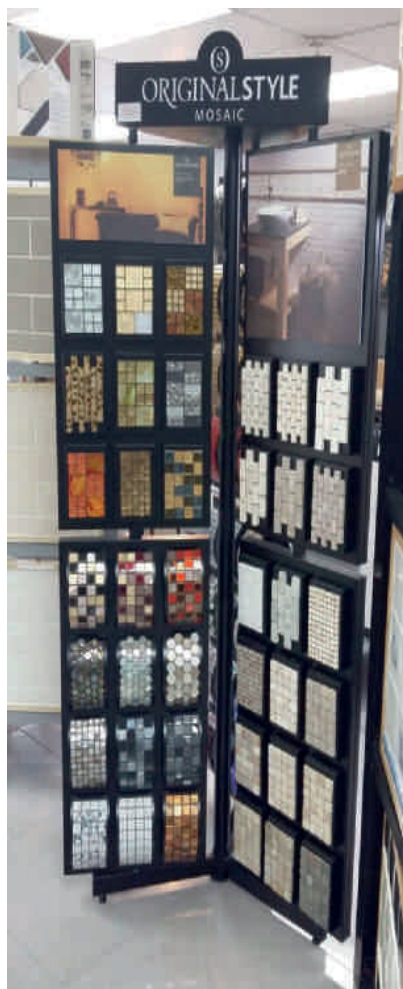


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Thatching: a dying art

Some of the more intrepid of you may have spotted Tebworth's very own thatcher, **Mark White**, working up among the pigeons on the roof of a cottage in the Lane.

Our trusty reporter caught him on terra firma long enough to ask him a few questions and give us all a glimpse into a world many of us know little about.

Q: Mark, how long have you lived in Tebworth?

A: I moved here in 2008.

Q: Have you always been a thatcher?

A: No, when I left school I went into the navy for 8 years. When I left, they were running a scheme to train up new thatchers and I joined that. I've always loved history and old buildings and I love being outdoors too, so it felt a natural choice for me.

Q: How long does it take to thatch a whole roof?

A: If someone is working alone and does a really good job, it can take 3-4 months for a whole roof.

Q: How long does it last?

A: It should last 25 years, although the top ridge will need re-doing after about 15 years.

Q: All the thatch comes from Norfolk, right?

A: Wrong. A lot comes from Devon, like the Winter Wheat I'm using here. But it's getting harder to source from the UK as the weather is a problem for farmers and we can't always guarantee the crops, so some can come from abroad. The mesh I use to keep the Thatch in place is actually all from China now. They don't make it in the UK anymore.

Q: What's the strangest thing you've ever found in a roof?

A: I found an old World War I gas mask once. Worryingly you come across old cigarette packets from previous thatchers having a smoke while they worked. You always get furry animals of various kinds, mainly mice who don't need water, so never have to come down from the roof. There's always a wasps nest or two up there.



Q: What happens to the thatch you remove?

A: **It often goes to local farmers who use it for bedding for the animals.**

Q: Does it get lonely up there?

A: **Not really, time flies when you're focused on what you're doing and it can be lovely in good weather to have the views across the countryside to look at.**

Q: Is it a good way to make a living?

A: **Let's just say, I'll never be rich!**

Q: Is thatching a dying art?

A: **It won't die out completely as there are plenty of listed buildings that will always need work, but younger people don't necessarily want a job where they work their way up from the bottom as they learn their trade.**

Mark worked on the house for nearly three months, mainly alone. In the end he felt a bit like part of the family and the day the scaffolding went down and he said he was finished, it felt like a loss. While he was here, it struck me how in tune he was with nature and with the environment. He was dependent on the weather and sometimes had to dodge the rain, stopping and starting several times in just one day. But he never complained, never seemed to get frustrated and had a gentle acceptance of what was outside his control. And it seemed to me that the art and skill of the thatcher is something that connects us to our history, to the land, to nature and to a part of our past that can never change. How wonderful.

My Sweetie Memories of the 1950's and 60's



'I remember in the 1950's when I went out to buy sweeties. I got tuppence a week to spend on sweeties. All the sweeties in the sweetie shops were in jars, and you could get an awful lot of combinations for your money. You could get four blackjacks or four fruit salads or a Barratt's sherbet fountain with a stick of liquorice in it, or Pontefract cakes, liquorice allsorts, raspberry drops, dolly mixtures, gobstoppers, sherbet lemons, toffee, space ships. All for a penny!

'Then as I went into the 60's, I'd get sixpence a week pocket money, and I'd go up to the local shop on my trike and get a penny sherbet, some fruit drops, then for tuppence I'd get Barratt's sweet cigarettes, so I could pretend to be smoking on my way home. They were made of sickly white stuff with red ends. Then I'd get 5 oz. of pear drops, fizzy cola bottles or liquorice comforts for 2 pence. Wonderful!

'I remember how a Mars Bar, which cost four pence, was a fantastic treat, and we had to share it between the four of us. The knife used to slice through the bar with such precision, in four equal parts. You got about an inch of Mars Bar each.'

'When the advertisement for Rowntree's fruit gums came out, with the little boy shouting "Don't forget the fruit gums, Mum!" after his departing mother, I was shocked and amazed that any child would be pushy enough to demand sweets every time his mother went shopping.'



How times have changed. I think I got more for my money in those days, with more choice of sweets (that were really not good for ones teeth) but things move on. I really did love the old sweets out of a jar and on the counter to choose from. I loved the buzz of having to get the most sweets for my pocket money... I know you didn't think my memory went back that far!!!'

DO YOU REMEMBER THOSE SWEETIES?

Let the Chalgrave News team know your memories!

Chris McDonnagh

Chalgrave Sports Club Race night

A fantastic night was had at the Annual Chalgrave Sports Club Race Night on the 25th March 2017.

It was so great to see so many friends and family turn out for this occasion.

Thank you for your support! www.chalgravesportsclub.co.uk





Please contact the website for further information about the Sports Club or if you are interested in playing cricket





How does your garden grow?

By this time of year, if you are a keen gardener like me, you probably have had your share of successes and, well, things that haven't performed as well as they should. The dry start to the Spring, left a lot of plants looking parched, even in April. The lack of rainfall didn't seem to deter the weeds! But on the positive side, the magnolias bloomed well without any frost damage and Chalgrave looked lovely in the Spring sunshine. My plans this year have exceeded my time, energy, inclination and ability, *plus ça change*; but it is better to think big and be optimistic.

We are all looking forward to seeing your entries for the biggest sunflower competition, also the team will be out looking for the best front garden.

Do not forget, there will be a **Chalgrave Open Garden Day** on Saturday 22 July.

I hope some of you will share your gardening stories, tips, photos etc. with us please e-mail thechalgravenews@gmail.com and we can include some in future publications. Please contact us if you have any gardening queries or subjects that you would like covered in future issues.

Enjoy your gardening, if the sun is shining or even if it is raining, get out there anyway!

JW

John's Rhubarb Gin Recipe

300 gm Rhubarb cut up into 1 inch chunks

300 ml Gin

50 gm Sugar

Put all the ingredients into a suitable sealed container (eg Kilner Jar).
Mix well and leave somewhere cool for at least 2 weeks (longer is better),
but no more than 4 weeks.
Mix regularly (every few days).
Decant through a sieve.

Drink and enjoy!



SUPERHERO CHALGRAVE GAMES 2017



**Memorial
Hall,
Tebworth
Saturday
1st July
at 1pm**



✱ **Best superhero fancy
dress competition** ✱

✱ **Dog show & doggy fancy
dress competition** ✱

✱ **Teddy bear orphanage** ✱

✱ **Kids games and races** ✱

✱ **BBQ** ✱

✱ **Beer tent** ✱

✱ **Stalls and other exhibits** ✱

DOG SHOW
Registration between
11:30-12:00



**GRAND
PRIZE
DRAW**



SPLASH

BOOM!

Raffle tickets

are now on sale from :-

Roger Masters on 01525 873039,

The Plough Inn on 01525 873077,

Punch Opticians Toddington on 01525 875099,

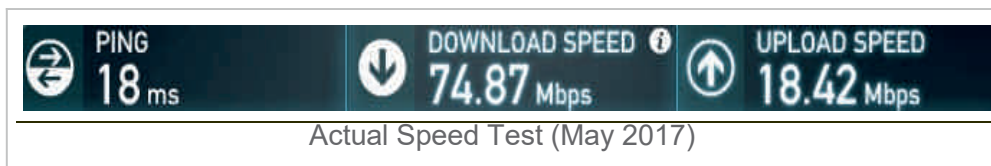
or any member of the Hall Committee.

We would appreciate and kind offers of sponsorship!



Superfast broadband arrives

Last month BT Openreach completed work to bring superfast fibre broadband to the village. From mid March it has been possible to order superfast broadband, and upgrade existing connections from the old ADSL technology to the new Fibre VDSL



With the old type of service (ADSL) the speed (or lack of) was determined by the length of the line from the local telephone exchange (Toddington) to your house. The new FTTC (fibre to the cabinet) is much better suited to a small village as the speed is determined by how close you are located to the green BT box at the side of the road - in our case, cabinet No. 8 on the grass verge opposite the Queen's Head. This distance is obviously much shorter than to the exchange, so most people should get very good speeds. Those of us close to the cabinet are seeing download speeds of 70+ MB, which is a huge improvement on the previous 4MB we were getting. The speed will gradually decrease for those houses located further away in the village.

Wingfield is also apparently now enabled on the same cabinet, but the speeds will be much reduced due the distance. This might be as low as 15-20MB, but still an improvement on what was previously possible.

Simon Gatwood

EATING IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented.

Curry was a surname.

A takeaway was a mathematical problem.

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.

A Chinese chippy was a foreign carpenter.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Coffee was Camp, and came in a bottle.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Only Heinz made beans.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

None of us had ever heard of yoghurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy.

Indian restaurants were only found in India.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognised food.

"Kebab" was not even a word never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap, if someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on our table in the fifties ..

.....was elbows!



HURRAY !

I thought, at last after 2 years something is being done about the street light outside No 21/23 Toddington Road. There was an electricity van and two blokes working at the base of it. Imagine my disappointment when I walked by later that same evening and discovered that all they had done was to wrap a bit of yellow 'beware' tape around the base. Another case of what is becoming a favourite phrase – 'ongoing work'.

THE FLY TIPPING EPIDEMIC

You may have seen items in the news recently that fly-tipping and other “waste” crimes have multiplied to record levels, close to one million annually in England alone, costing the country £600 million a year. The growth of the problem is partly attributable to a loophole that allows criminals to pose as licensed rubbish collectors. Some researchers into the epidemic decided to make a fake registration as a waste carrier – in the name of a dead dog – and the Environment Agency issued a licence immediately without making any identity checks.

Closer to home, the entrances to the fields in Tebworth Road have frequently been littered with random building and household refuse and discarded car tyres have been dumped on a weekly basis for much of this year – leaving the long-suffering Calum the unenviable task of collecting and disposing of them properly. We live in the house closest to the A5120 but have never heard or seen any of these fly-tippers, who presumably do their ugly deeds in the early hours of the morning.

How did we get into this mess? The UK Landfill Tax, introduced in 1996 by Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer, was the UK's first environmental tax. It was seen as a way of enabling the UK to meet its targets for reducing the landfilling of biodegradable waste. By increasing the cost of landfill, the plan was to make other advanced waste treatment technologies with higher “gate fees” more financially attractive.

Landfill Tax is charged on waste disposal at a landfill site. As such, it encourages efforts to minimise the amount of waste produced and the use of non-landfill waste management options, which may include recycling, composting and recovery. Since 2000, the amount of waste sent to landfill has dropped by 70% and the average household recycling rates have risen from 18% to 44%. The Landfill Tax currently raises over £1bn a year.

All well and good, you might think. However, as waste disposal taxes increase, the incentive for fly-tipping and illegal disposal increases. The maximum fine for fly-tipping of £20,000 is very seldom imposed, not that fly-tippers are often brought to book in any case. Since councils were given the power to impose on-the-spot fines a year ago, fines totalling only around £1m have been imposed. Local councils blame a lack of resources. Here we have yet another instance of unintended consequences. Central government imposes a landfill tax and pats itself on the back for “improving the environment”. Local government is landed with a duty to prosecute fly-tippers at huge expense to the taxpayer. The amounts collected as fines are abysmal, but the estimated annual cost of taking all these cases through the legal system was over £17m! Clearing up the illegally dumped rubbish costs local authorities another £50m a year. Councils realise that this is a lose-lose proposition and restrict the resources allocated to waste collection and to the

prosecution of fly-tipping and litter cases.

Indeed, their own charges for commercial waste disposal make the problem worse, making it far more difficult for items to be thrown away – with less regular refuse collections and strict rules about the use of council tips. They also charge through the nose for bulk uplifts and often restrict the number of bulk uplifts they will do each year. It means that more people are being forced to rely on private contractors. Unscrupulous businesses and individuals see an opportunity to make some dirty money on the understanding that their chances of being both caught and fined are trivial. Worse, a householder paying a dodgy waste carrier is liable to be fined if the waste is dumped illegally.

Talking tyres, in the UK, we generate about half a million worn-out tyres a year. Because tyres are not classified as household waste, councils refuse to accept them at their tips and are at liberty to charge for their disposal – typically £5 for a car tyre and about £50 for a lorry tyre. Avoiding these charges has become big business.

What should be done? The crime of fly-tipping has some similarities to that of smuggling contraband. Summary confiscation of vehicles found to have been used in fly-tipping is a possible way forward. However, much more should be done to minimise the cost of commercial waste disposal to give businesses affordable options within the law. Councils should not be allowed to impose arbitrary charges on the disposal of bulky items.

Peter Warburton



THE PLOUGH



Wingfield Car Show 2017

(near Toddington) LU7 9QH

Classic & Prestige Car Day

(Bikes also welcome)

Sunday 16th July 12pm

Admission Free

Please come along and support our event for its 5th year. It's for a brilliant cause.

Ample parking for show cars and visitors.

The "Plough" will be open and you can be sure of a warm welcome from Chris & Caroline. As well as the usual drinks, there will also be real ales, guest ales and ciders on sale.

Trophy for the winner

Selection of side stalls

Hot dogs and burgers available on site (reasonable prices)

Tea and Coffee

Lilly's Cup Cakes

Raffle

Pitches available to sell goods £7 (No food or drink)

If you wish to show your car, bike or book a pitch please contact:

Ken on: 07813 758401 --- 07940 095982



Follow us on Facebook search for Plough Inn Wingfield.

Contact: Caroline 01525 873077 www.theploughinn.com

THE QUEENS HEAD

Hello everyone, here I am once again to entertain and thrill you with my wit and repartee.

The pub has seen a resurgence of life particularly on our Folk evenings. It is proving more popular as word gets around and so people are coming from far and wide (well Westoning and Hockliffe at least) but don't forget we are still enjoying our normal Friday night live music where you might find a new friend or even meet up with an old one, so I hope to see you here one Friday or Wednesday or any other night if it takes your fancy.



Did I mention that my old friend Professor Kenton Bluminstall, popped in for a quick pint the other day, as you know he is full of useless facts such as:- In the middle ages bread was divided according to status, workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle and guests got the top or the upper crust.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June ... however, since they were starting to smell brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. Fascinating eh?

So the sun is out as I write so it must be the beginning of summer, time to dust off the BBQ and think of all things summery, keep your eyes on the blackboards outside the pub for any information regarding events in the garden – music soirees or such like.

I look forward to seeing you in the pub soon so until then keep safe. All the best.

Colin

If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.

If you had to specify, in one word, why the human race has not, and will never achieve its full potential, perhaps that word would be 'meetings'.

My girlfriend and I often laugh about how competitive we are. But I laugh more.

Chalgrave Memorial Hall

Fees and Charges effective from 1st December 2016

| Period | Parish Resident Individual and Parish Voluntary Community Groups | **Non-Parish Resident or Parish Commercial | **Non-Parish Organisation/ Commercial |
|--|---|--|---|
| MONDAY TO FRIDAY | | | |
| 9am – 6pm | £7.00 per hour | £15.00 per hour | £18.00 per hour |
| 6pm – 11pm* | £7.00 per hour | £18.00 per hour | £24.00 per hour |
| FRIDAY | | | |
| 6pm – 12 midnight* | £110 | £225 | £260 |
| SATURDAY | | | |
| 9am – 6pm | £8.00 per hour | £20.00 per hour | £22.00 per hour |
| 6pm – 12 midnight* | £110 | £255 | £315 |
| 12.30pm – 12 midnight* | £135 | £315 | £365 |
| SUNDAY | | | |
| 10am – 10pm* | £8.00 per hour | £20.00 per hour | £25.00 per hour |
| 'WEEKEND RATE' | | | |
| (Friday 6pm to Sunday 12 noon) NB Hall must be vacated at 11pm Friday and 12 midnight Saturday | £245 | £525 | £625 |

- Bank Holidays/New Year's Eve – Rates on application
- Committee Room available for hire separately when Hall not hired – Rates on application
- **Block/Regular booking discount of up to 15% available
- Bookings outside above hours subject to individual rates on application.
- Non-refundable deposit of 50% of the booking fee payable to confirm booking.
- £250 damage deposit required on all bookings – refundable in full subject to no damage caused to Hall, contents, equipment or grounds and the Hall and grounds being left in a clean and tidy state. NB: should the cost of reparation to the Hall contents or equipment the Committee reserve the right to pursue the balance.

FOR BOOKINGS PLEASE TELEPHONE: 07831 482556

Useful Contacts

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|---------------|
| Chalgrave News Editorial | The Editorial Team | thechalgravenews@gmail.co.uk | 0755 444 1522 |
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| Member of Parliament | Andrew Selous | andrew.selous.mp@parliament.uk | 0207 2198132 |
| Secretary to Andrew Selous | Sue Howats | howats@parliament.uk | 01582 662821 |
| Ward Councillor | Mark Versallion | mark.versallion@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk | 01525 234000 |
| Chairman of Parish Council | Phil Parry | | 07831 605600 |
| Vice Chairman of Parish Council | Ken Green | | 01525 874107 |
| Parish Council Clerk | Lesley Smith | chalgravepc@btinternet.com | 01525 874716 |
| Councillor | Barbara Jackson | | 01525 877617 |
| Councillor | Debbie Levy | | 01525 877149 |
| Councillor | Kevin Ludgate | kevin.ludgate@oliverlandpower.co.uk | 07768 606968 |
| Councillor and Traffic Calming | Mike Wells | mikewells@clara.co.uk | 01525 877098 |
| Councillor | Paul Whitton | | 01525 877181 |
| Central Beds Unitary Council | | | 0300 300 8000 |
| Rector of Chalgrave Church | Position vacant | http://www.allsaintschalgrave.org.uk | |
| Church Secretary | Christine Smith | | 01525 876839 |
| Church Flowers | Lesley Colella | | 07905 241076 |
| Chairman, Chalgrave Memorial Hall | Roger Masters | | 01525 873039 |
| Hall Booking Secretary | Velda Cooke | | 07831 482556 |
| Senior Citizens Committee | Roger Masters | | 01525 873039 |
| West Charity | Lesley Smith | www.chalgrave.org | 01525 874716 |
| Chalgrave Sports/Cricket Club | Mike Wells | | 01525 877098 |
| Book Club | Noeleen Thomson | | 01525 872168 |
| Beavers/Cubs/Scouts | David Yirrell | | 01525 875410 |
| Rainbows/Brownies/Guides | Janet Hornsby | | 01525 875203 |
| Toddington Medical Centre | | www.toddingtondoctors.co.uk | 01525 872222 |
| Toddington Library | | | 01525 873626 |
| Electricity Board (Emergency) | | | 0800 7838838 |
| Water Board (Emergency) | | | 0845 7145145 |
| Head: St George's Lower School | Jane Spencer | | 01525 872360 |
| Head: Parkfields Middle School | David Brandon-Bravo | | 01525 872555 |
| Head: Harlington Upper School | Shawn Fell | | 01525 755100 |
| Toddington Childcare | | Playgroup/am & pm school clubs | 01525 875400 |
| Toddington Area Helping Hands | | www.voluntaryworks.org/organisation/toddington-area-helping-hands | 07882 988270 |

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