

# Charney Chatter

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## PUBLISHED BY CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

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### Your councillors:-

Geoff Beer (Chairman), Buckland Rd. 868709  
Jim Harper (Vice-chairman), Barnfield 868288  
Geoff Rumble, Buckland Road 868738  
John Stiles, Barnfield 868191  
Jos Bath, Buckland Road 868260

Meetings are held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the second Wednesdays of odd-numbered months.

**The next meeting is on 12th July 2006.**

## CLERK'S CORNER

### Village Diner

The Village Diner continues to serve excellent home-made food from local sources served by attractive waitresses in a happy community environment in Buckland Village Hall every third Wednesday in the month. For £4 you get a splendid meal, tea or coffee and a chat - it's to be recommended.  
Next dates 19th July and 20th September.

### Sport Relief

Have you thought of taking part in Sport Relief on July 15th? The idea is that everybody in the country should walk, jog or run a mile each. If you are thinking of taking part, Charney Field has now been marked out for jogging with white painted posts every 50 metres around the periphery. Each circuit is just under 500 metres, so four laps will do!

## ADVERTS AND VILLAGE EVENTS

### Personalised Home-made Cards

If you have difficulty finding just the right card for that special occasion, Eunice will make one for you. Give her a ring on 868646. Proceeds to a number of charities.

### WANTED! For Charney Fete 16 Sept.

Jam or jelly. If you have any fruit and are making jam or jelly, please make an extra jar for the Church Fete in September. We would also be glad to have some plants for the plant stall, so please could you pot up any surplus seedlings now so as to be ready for the fete. Any offers to Mary on 868557. Thank you.

### CHAFT Garden Party

You are invited to a garden party to be held in the grounds of Charney Manor on Thursday 10th August from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m., to raise funds by donation for the Village Hall development project. Light afternoon refreshments will be available and all ages are welcome. Croquet and other garden games will be available, weather and lawn conditions permitting. Numbers must, unfortunately, be limited so please let Elisabeth Dachele (868673) or Julie Rumble (868738) know as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The police warn that they have seen a marked increase during the warm weather in the number of burglaries where offenders have gained entry through insecure doors, or windows. Ensure that you secure all your

doors and windows every time you leave your property. Particularly at night, do not leave windows open in downstairs unattended rooms. If you work in the garden, secure the door and take your key with you.

## EDITORIAL

The Council was delighted at the interest shown in its affairs when 19 villagers attended the Annual Parish Meeting back in May. It was also encouraged by the fact that the annual review of its activities didn't seem to provoke any adverse comments!

There's an emphasis on community activities in this issue with the most significant matter the proposal to develop the Village Hall. The proposals are not cast in tablets of stone and if you haven't yet commented on what is proposed there's still plenty of time, even if you're not a user. CHAFT wants to hear your views on

what is, in effect, the hub of village activities.

It's all happening socially in Charney! By the time this issue has gone out the Meal on the Green will have been held and still to come are a Garden Party and the Village Fete (see adverts on page 4).

There are changes of personnel to report with The Chequers changing hands again and Martyn Holder, our beat bobby retiring at the end of September. He has been an excellent servant to the village and the vote of thanks to him at the Annual Meeting was carried with acclamation.

## CLET

Charney and Lyford Education Trust, CLET, supports a range of activities, with grants awarded both to individuals and to the community in Charney Bassett and Lyford.

Applications will be considered

by the Trustees who meet in January, May and September. For further details please contact the Clerk: Mrs Sally Alexander, Rectory Farmhouse, Charney Bassett, Tel: 868 958 e mail: [sally.ewins@zen.co.uk](mailto:sally.ewins@zen.co.uk)

## CHARNEY VILLAGE COLLEGE UPDATE

Please contact Jackie Cross if you would be interested in attending any of the following courses:-

Yoga; Basket Making; Working With Willow - Christmas Decorations and a Scarecrow for

Your Garden; Card Making; Gardening - Hints and Tips; Fun With A Football - coaching for children; Painting/Drawing.

We welcome your suggestions: Tel: 01235 868575 Email: [villagecollege@hotmail.com](mailto:villagecollege@hotmail.com)

## HEADLINES

- *Village Hall Re-vamp.*
- *Farewell to PC 2749.*
- *All change at The Chequers.*
- *Look out for fine weather criminals!*
- *Sport Relief on Charney Field*
- *Come to the Garden Party!*

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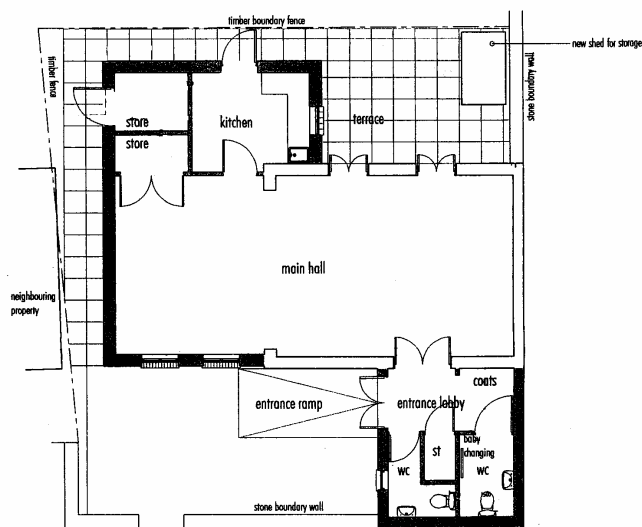
The **Village Coffee Hour** is "on holiday" until September 12th.

Deadline for copy for the next edition in September 2006: 20 August 2006

Contributions are welcome, in fact desperately needed! Adverts are free!

Charney Chatter can be e-mailed free to anyone giving their e-mail address to the Editor

## THE VILLAGE HALL PROJECT



The last issue of Charney Chatter told of CHAFT's proposal to improve Village Hall facilities and invited villagers to view plans on display in the Hall. As a result of feedback from that viewing and consultation with users, the architect has produced the revised plan above incorporating suggestions received and which will be the basis on which planning permission will be sought.

The village referendum years ago revealed that the Hall, despite its shortcomings, is seen as a feature of the village and a new hall elsewhere is not favoured. However, leaving the Hall as it is no longer an option as new legislation demands changes. The existing kitchen no longer meets modern hygiene standards and the Disability Discrimination Act requires us to provide easy wheelchair access and a disabled loo.

All user groups asked for "a bit more room", Vale Islanders for their dance routines, table tennis players for doubles matches, the Village College for Yoga and Pilates students to spread out without kicking their neighbours and for flower arrangers to be more ambitious, Coffee Hour (who welcome the terrace for use on sunny days), the church for lunches and fund raising activities and those who have held kid's parties who found the existing space cramped. The existing kitchen came in for criticism by a number of groups and anyway that has to go!

CHAFT is anxious to ensure it has consulted as widely as it can, so here's a second opportunity for you to comment on the plans (which are still on display in the Hall). Send your comments to Geoff Rumble, CHAFT Secretary, Northmead, Buckland Road, Tel: 868738, e-mail [geoff.rumble@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.rumble@btinternet.com)

## FAREWELL FROM MARTYN HOLDER PC2749 (EX)

Well all good things come to an end and, from a personal point of view, my 21-odd years as your village policeman is no exception. There have been some lows, a few tragedies and at times I have had to make decisions that I didn't particularly like, but in the main it has been more of a vocation than a job.

I come from an era when the "Village Bobby" was a figure of awe, along with the Vicar and of course the School Teacher. As a child if you met any of them on your route through the village then you would find an excuse to walk the other way or at least avert your eyes. If anecdotes are to be believed, half the population of our country was into "apple scrumping" and received a thick ear when caught by the "long arm of the law". One thing I do remember is, one day, after getting a "thick ear" from my Dad, summoning up all my courage, going to report him to "Mr Brown the policeman". I laid it on as thick as I could only to be told that, if I didn't get out of his garden, what Dad did to me would pale into insignificance!! Old fashioned by today's standards, I know, but it did work - at least as far as I was concerned? Nowadays my Dad would probably have been arrested!

A lot has been said about my new workload

(19 villages?) but to be honest I have had my time and it is best that I "quit whilst I am ahead". The new byword is "Neighbourhood Policing" which will be coming to this area within the next 6 months, possibly sooner. I can't knock it "coz I haven't tried it" and though I have my reservations, it is not a police initiative. It has been put upon us by a government under pressure from anti-social behaviour issues in larger communities than ours. I have to say, in my opinion, if the government got to grips with dysfunctional parents many of our anti-social problems would vanish overnight.

A positive step is that my successor has already been named, he is PC Kevin Salway. Kevin lives locally in Aston and is an experienced Police Officer. He is looking forward to taking over and has much the same attitude to local issues as myself. He intends to be approachable and available and I will, hopefully, have time to introduce him to many of you before I leave.

Goodbye, it's been a pleasure.

*[Editor's Note: This is an edited version of Martyn's swansong. The full text is on the Parish Council web site at [www.charneybassettpc.org.uk](http://www.charneybassettpc.org.uk).]*

## THE CHEQUERS

It's all change again at The Chequers. Bill and Ceilo Collings have departed and a young couple Tom and Tabi from Oxford have taken over, albeit temporarily. Permanent tenants are actively being sought and negotiations with a couple from Devon are believed to be well advanced.

In a farewell e-mail message, Ceilo wrote:- "Four months ago we arrived in the pub that is clearly Charney Bassett's. We've said hello

and now it's time to say goodbye but not before we thank you for taking us under your wings, looking after us and making us part of your community. We will move on but the memories we will take with us wherever we go. We will see you again and look forward to that day fondly. Thank you kindly and see you anon!

Godspeed.

The Collings Family"