

**PUBLISHED BY CHARNEY  
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Meetings are normally held at 7.30 p.m. in the  
Village Hall on the second Wednesday of odd-  
numbered months.

**The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th. Jan**

# Charney Chatter

**NUMBER 48**

**JANUARY 2012**

**EDITORIAL**

As many readers will know, and also your current editor. Charney Chatter was started by Peter Davies and sponsored by the Parish Council under the Chairmanship of Geoff Beer in 2003. What probably didn't realise was that the village was being run by a military junta as several members of the Parish council were also members of the Charney Army, which Peter and I started some ten years ago. This situation remains to this day. Even the editor, being the Parish Clerk, at the start was a member of this junta,

But this situation is about to change as from the New year (March edition) the editor of Charney Chatter will be Roger Watson. Please send your contributions for future issues of the Chatter to him. His E-mail address is **roger.watson@tiscali.co.uk** *phone 868345* and we wish him all the best in this venture. He is also more than welcome to join the ranks of the Charney Army

JD

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**ADVERTS & EVENTS**

**TABLE TENNIS** Sessions are held twice monthly on Monday evenings in the Village Hall. Dates will be circulated to existing members by e mail. For further information contact David Sibbert on 868734

**Personalised Hand-made Cards**  
Can't find the right card for that special

occasion? Eunice will make one for you.  
Ring her on 868646.

## CHARNEY BASSETT

### PANCAKE PARTY

&

### Raffle

**Saturday 18th. Feb. 2012**

from 10.00 a.m.- 12 noon

**At 1 Barnfield, Charney Bassett**

Donations to St. Peters Church, Charney Bassett.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING**

Reports were received of a male acting in a suspicious manner on the 24th November in Charney Bassett. The male was seen to be door knocking asking people if they wanted help over the Christmas period. If the male should re-attend the village, residents should not accept help from the male and should make police aware so appropriate checks can be conducted.

On Wednesday 23rd November, between 15:30hrs and 16:45hrs, a property in Stone House Close, Kingston Bagpuize, was burgled. The offender(s) slipped a latch on a door to gain entry and stole a mobile phone and jewellery. This is not the first offence in the area where this method of entry has been used.

Please make sure any doors that are fitted with latch locks (especially older locks) are locked and properly secured. If possible use secondary locks or bolts on the inside of your doors for added security. If you require information on recommended door locks or other home security products, please contact your Crime Reduction Advisor, Alison Smith on 01235 776007

**Coffee Hour**

The Tuesday Coffee Hour will start again in the Village Hall on **Tuesday Jan 10th. 2012** at 10:30 am

50p. Buys you as much tea or coffee as you can drink — with biscuits too

Deadline for copy for the March 2012 edition: **20th. Feb.2012**

Contributions are welcome, preferably by e-mail. Adverts are free!

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

Visit [www.charneybassettpc.org.uk](http://www.charneybassettpc.org.uk) for the very latest village news

**COMMUNITY OIL BUYING SCHEME 2012**

<b>Ordering dates - all orders to be received before 12 noon.</b>	24 May 2012
	28 June 2012
	26 July 2012
For delivery during the month following :	30 August 2012
26 January 2012	27 September 2012
23 February 2012	25 October 2012
29 March 2012	29 November 2012
26 April 2012	

**VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS**

*Ring out the old, ring in the new.* After offering in September to take over as Booking Secretary for the Village Hall while Julie and I remain in the Village, it now looks as if we may be moving sooner than expected. As a result, John Wright has kindly offered to take this job on and we will let you know precisely when the handover takes place once I have shown John what he has agreed to! We plan for it to be during January.

Geoff Rumble

**VILLAGE PHOTOGRAPHS**

Many people will have seen the photos of various aspects of village life on view in the Village Hall. These photos are available for people to take away and keep if they wish. A small donation would be appreciated. So far a sum in excess of £90 has been donated to Cancer Research. If anyone has any spare prints of the Village or village life you can donate them with those already there in the Hall.

**CHAFT 100 CLUB DRAW**

November			December		
Number	Name	Prize	Number	Name	Prize
70	Joyce Ferguson	£25	5	Stephanie Wright	£100
100	Paul Johnson	£10	117	Mike Welham	£50

**CHARNEY ARMY**

The start of a new year is always a good time to look back on what was achieved in the last twelve months before planning for the future, so here is a quick review of Charney Army activities.

- We started the year by removing the Christmas Tree from the Village Green in January 2011 and finished by erecting a new tree in December. Many thanks to Ruth and Peter Gerring for donating the tree and to Derek McClintock for lighting it up.

- A number of the large grey poplar trees along the Bridle Path were felled by a contractor as they threatened Bridle Cottage and the Army helped with logging and removal. We also produced a large volume of wood chip-pings, which have been used on paths, in the willow arbour and to mulch the plantation on the playing field.

- The Willow Arbour was given its annual haircut and is still going strong after more than five years. The tree stump seats that were donated by Coleshill National Trust were showing their age and have been supplemented by grey poplar stumps from the tree felling work.

- Reed clearing was carried out in the mill stream at Ock Bridge Green and in Charney Wick Ditch by the Bridle Path. We didn't need to use the chest waders purchased for the flood group Chaffinch because of the drought!

- In the absence of a street cleaner, the Army had two sessions clearing grass and weeds that creep into pavements and kerbstones. Thames Water contractors seem to have made sure we will need to tackle this problem again in the year ahead!

- A casualty of the drought was the replanting of four silver birch trees to replace the ones that had died by the "stones" on the playing field. Despite daily watering, the trees never stood a chance as the ground became drier and drier.

- A big thank you to John Wright and his magic weed-cutter. Both the paddock by the Church and the plantation on the field were cut and cleared using this impressive machine. Then in the Autumn the mature plantation on the field and the hawthorn/blackthorn hedge behind it were tidied up with strimmers and trimmers ready for next Spring.

- The penultimate meeting of the year, before putting up the Christmas tree was held in the Chequers Pub where we planned work required and put the World to rights. One major job in 2012 will be the construction of the beacon for the Diamond Jubilee in June.

Don't forget, we meet the second and last Thursday of each month and for more details and/or to be put on the email distribution list, contact John Daghish.

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### CLET: CHARNEY AND LYFORD EDUCATION TRUST

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CLET supports a range of educational projects, with grants awarded both to individuals under the age of 25 and to community groups 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 Wildman, Russets, Buckland Road,*

*Charney Bassett, Tel: 867358, E-mail: [sally.wildman\\_47@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.wildman_47@btinternet.com)*

The next meeting of the CLET Trustees will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012. Please contact the Clerk for a Grant Application Form, which should be returned to her, for consideration at this meeting.

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### FROM VWHDC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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I wrote to you some time ago to advise that a new tourism book would shortly be launched using contributions from members of the public and promoting the Vale and its hidden beauty spots and beautiful villages.

I am very pleased to say that the book has now been published and is for sale and is the perfect present to treat yourself or someone else.

The idea behind the book “**52 things to do... far from the madding beaches**”, was to come up with, and promote, a vast array of things that people could do, visit, look at or explore in the Vale of White Horse which would encourage them to come back to the area time and time again or explore their local community a bit more. By coming up with 52 suggestions the book is designed to give readers one idea for each week of the year.

In total 50 individuals submitted more than 500 pieces of work for possible inclusion in the book, including stunning photography capturing the unique atmosphere of Wayland Smithy, descriptive writing about the history of the ancient towns of Abingdon, Faringdon and Wantage, drawings of the Ridgeway, as well as of many of the hidden gems in the Vale's villages. These were then whittled down to the select few that made the print run to represent the 52 individual things.

The book costs £9.99 each and is available to buy from the following locations –

Abingdon – Mostly Books, Tourist Information and Abingdon Museum,

Faringdon – Town Council offices and Portwell Angel,

Wantage – Blackwells, Vale and Downland Museum and Opal.

Online - [Amazon.co.uk](http://Amazon.co.uk),

Email – [economicdevelopment@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:economicdevelopment@southandvale.gov.uk)

Trudy Godfrey

Team Leader

Visit [www.charneybassettpc.org.uk](http://www.charneybassettpc.org.uk) for the very latest village news

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### FROM YOUR MP - ED VAIZEY

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I'd like to let you know about an initiative that the Heritage Lottery Fund is launching across the UK. With Remembrance Sunday just passed and the centenary of World War One fast approaching (2014), the HLF have set up a fund to support new memorials commemorating the sacrifices of men and women during the Great War. I can think of many people who would jump at the chance to commemorate the service of men and women in our towns and villages– so please visit the HLF website at [www.hlf.org.uk/FirstWorldWar](http://www.hlf.org.uk/FirstWorldWar) to see if there is an opportunity for a World War One scheme in your community.

I'm also proud to say that the Olympic torch will be passing through. The Torch relay route has been painstakingly worked out so that 90% of the UK's population will be within ten miles of the route. It starts at Land's End in Cornwall and will even visit Jersey and Guernsey; and on day 52 of the relay, which will be July 10th, the torch will come out of Abingdon, pass close to Didcot and make a stop in it!" Please visit [www.allthebells.com](http://www.allthebells.com) Wallingford! And for those of you

who will not be able to make it on that date there will also be a stop in Swindon on May 23rd and also an 'Evening Celebration' in Oxford on the July 9th.

I recently launched Festival 2012, the arts festival that will accompany the Olympics. There are loads of great events, but one in particular I think you should be aware of and participate in – 'All the Bells'. As the website says "We need you to make musical history. Help us ring all the bells in the UK on 27 July 2012 to welcome the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. At 8.00am people all across the UK will ring bells to perform Martin Creed's Work No. 1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes, a piece specially commissioned as part of the London 2012 Festival – the culmination of the four-year Cultural Olympiad. "Hand bells, door bells, bicycle bells, church bells, town hall bells, sleigh bells, cow bells, school bells, last orders bells, dinner bells... where there is a bell, we need someone to ring it!" Please visit [www.allthebells.com](http://www.allthebells.com) to take part.

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### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

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Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - The village raises funds for the Poppy Appeal each year with both the door-to-door poppy collection and a Sunday remembrance service in the Church and on the Village Green. 2011 proved a truly record year for donations with the combined total, including gift aid exceeding £500. Many thanks to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause.

Geoff Rumble

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