

**PUBLISHED BY CHARNEY
BASSETT PARISH
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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 14th. Sept.

FREE ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

Oxfordshire Trading Standards Service, in partnership with the Fire and Rescue Service, Age UK and some of the district councils in the County, are organising two weeks of electric blanket testing. We have sponsorship from Npower and Towergate Risk Solutions both in Didcot. We aim to test 800 blankets over the two weeks. The testing is offered free of charge on an appointment basis.

If you or someone you know, would like to have your electric blanket tested please contact **Julie Brain Tel:- 01865 815607**

Date	Location
Monday 3 October	Oxford
Thursday 6 October	Didcot
Friday 7 October	Abingdon
Monday 17 October	Oxford
Friday 21 October	Wantage

ADVERTS AND EVENTS

TABLE TENNIS Will recommence in September. Sessions will be held twice monthly on Monday evenings. Dates will be circulated to existing members by e mail. For further information contact David Sibbert on 868734

Personalised Hand-made Cards occasion? Eunice will make one for you.
Can't find the right card for that special Ring her on 868646.

Charney Chatter

NUMBER 47

SEPTEMBER 2011

QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE

Next year the Queen's diamond jubilee will be on Saturday June 2nd and to mark the occasion the Government are moving the late May bank holiday to Monday 4th and creating a special one-off bank holiday on Tuesday 5th. There will be various national activities to commemorate the event over the four-day weekend and 2012 beacons are being sited round the country. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport are in charge of the national shindig and our local MP Ed Vaizey is one of three MPs who support the Minister of State for this department. While most activity is currently centred on London and the larger centres of commerce, it is noticeable that Charney Bassett is currently quiet on the subject. Assuming we don't want to enter the competition to gain city status or to take this one-off opportunity

to apply for a Lord Mayoralty, it is possible that some of the community may want to be involved in a local activity to commemorate the event. For those interested, there is more national information on the culture, media and sport website, which can be found by googling 'diamond jubilee'. The village did not formally celebrate Will & Kate's wedding this year as people seemed to prefer to be glued to the telly and it clashed with our annual Maypole dancing. The diamond jubilee will be different and community activities will be more widespread. It is a month later than May Day, a month earlier than the Olympics so you may want to propose something such as a street party, or an activity on the village field. Remember, it takes time to organise and June 2012 will come round faster than you think!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Three years ago we had a very successful MacMillan Coffee Morning and raised £650 plus £92 gift aid pledges for MacMillan Cancer Support. Now that the hall development project is completed and we have a smart, modernised building, it is hopefully the time to have

another one! The date for your diary is Friday September 30th. Please try and keep this free and see if we can beat the 2008 total. More details will be circulated round the village once the "organisational pack" has arrived.

Julie Rumble

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Coffee Hour

A big thank you to our holiday coffee hour hosts (hostesses) - Jane and Mike, Joyce, and Mahala and David.

Thank you - Eunice, Julie and Mary.

Regular coffee hour starts again in the Village Hall on Tuesday **September 13th**. 50p. buys you as much tea or coffee as you can drink

Deadline for copy for the November 2011 edition: 20th. October
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 for the very latest village news

ORCC BULK OIL SCHEME

Now is the time of year when people will be thinking of filling their oil tanks for the winter. The Bulk Oil Buying scheme is now up and running and your local co-ordinator is Jan Ganesh email: ranjani.ganesh@gmail.com. To register, go to oxonrcc.org.uk

This is how the scheme works:-

- Once a month, your local co-ordinator will contact you to ask you if you want to order any fuel and will tell you the date by which you need to order it. Our deadline for receipt of all oil orders is **by noon on the last Friday of each month**. If your area does not have a local co-ordinator, ORCC Trading Ltd will contact you. **Please note: Next deadlines are Friday 26 August and 30 September.**

- If you wish to place an order, please fill in the form (attached to your welcome E-mail) and send it back by e-mail to your local co-ordinator (NOT to ORCC Trading Ltd unless there is **no** co-ordinator in your area).

- Your co-ordinator will let ORCC Trading Ltd know who, from your village, wants to order oil and how much you all want.

- After we have negotiated the very best possible price, your co-ordinator will e-mail you to tell you approximately when the delivery will be made (for example, 'in the week beginning 3rd') and how much the oil will cost.

Then it's over to you. Only if you have indicated on your membership form that you need to be present for delivery, will the oil supplier get in touch with you directly to confirm the delivery date and time. Otherwise oil will be delivered to you in the usual way. In the unlikely event that there is a problem with your delivery, please make sure the co-ordinator knows as soon as possible.

You pay the oil supplier in the normal way. **Note:** oil suppliers generally have credit limits of £750, so this means that larger orders may require at least part payment before or on delivery. The supplier would contact you if this is the case.

Please note:-

Ø the price will not change from the date of placing the order to the date of delivery, so you should *never* pay the supplier more than your co-ordinator has told you!

Ø you have the opportunity to buy with the bulk oil order which is placed at the end of each month during the year, so that you can take advantage of the group buying power, and there will be no additional membership fee.

100 CLUB DRAW

July	No.	Name	Prize	August	No.	Name	Prize
1st prize	21	Eunice Davies (Stephanie)	£25	1st. prize	110	Sally Wildman	£25
2nd prize	119	Liz Hughes	£10	2nd. Prize	54	Jill Hook	£10

Project CHAFFINCH

At its July meeting the Parish Council promised to consult residents on proposals for flood alleviation work. We plan to hold a public meeting in this connection, and expect it to be some time in the autumn.

The Parish Council is keen to hear from residents about their concerns relating to flooding, and any ideas, suggestions and proposals that you may have for flood avoidance. Your councillors and the clerk would be pleased to hear from you, either by telephone or email, or if you meet them in the street.

Apart from routine maintenance, such as clearing weeds and removing debris, any work that may be considered has to be approved by the appropriate body, notably the Environment Agency, but also in some instances Oxfordshire County Council (regarding roads and bridges) and Vale of White Horse District Council (regarding town & country planning). It is important to obtain their professional advice and permission to prevent anything ill-considered being done that has an adverse

effect on residents, not just in Charney Bassett, but further afield upstream and downstream on the River Ock and other watercourses. Here are three examples of ideas considered. Reinstating weirs along Charney Wick Ditch. This is a good idea, as it helps water to flow as intended.

Building up a low bank along Charney Wick Ditch. This is a bad idea, as it would prevent the flood plain from functioning as it should.

Increasing the size of the culvert in Main Street for Charney Wick Ditch. We need to take professional advice on this. It might reduce flood risk to properties upstream of the culvert, but we do not know whether it would increase flood risk to properties on the downstream side.

If you have views on these or other ideas, we should be pleased to hear from you.

Stephen Cowlam,
Clerk to the Parish Council.

VILLAGE TIDINESS

A few residents have commented lately that it has become noticeable since we no longer have a street cleaner, that some of the gutters and road edges are becoming untidy with weed growth. The Parish Council respectfully requests, where possible, could residents endeavour to maintain their own frontages clear of weeds and overhanging tree branches, and so enhance the tidiness of our village. Where

residents employ gardeners, could their duties be extended to include this. I am sure that we would all wish our village to look as neat and tidy as possible.

Stephen Cowlam,
on behalf of the Parish Council.

CHANGES TO VWHDC GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

We have recently revised the terms and conditions of our garden waste service to make it clear to customers that the fee is a contribution to our running costs and that we will suspend collections for two weeks over Christmas. The suspension is to enable us to collect the extra household waste produced at this time of the year, when very little garden waste is created. In the past when we've tried to manage the two it has resulted in lengthy delays to collections of rubbish and recycling.

The new terms and conditions also include our decision to collect extra garden waste during a week in spring which we will publicise nearer the time through our waste calendar, Easter bin hanger and website.

We are making sure all new customers are aware of these terms and conditions before joining the service and will be writing to existing customers that have already re-

newed their service for the year. Customers due to renew their service between August and November should receive a copy with their invoice.

The other change to the service is that for new customers we will only accept direct debit payments, this is to make our financial processes more efficient and effective. We are planning to include a letter with future invoices to advise existing customers that we will be moving to direct debit payments only for our garden waste service before their service is next renewed. We hope this will encourage some customers to switch now but gives all customers up to 12 months notice of this change.

For more information on the terms and conditions please visit the council's website at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

CLET: CHARNEY AND LYFORD EDUCATION TRUST

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,

T e l : 8 6 8 3 5 8 , E - m a i l : sally.wildman_47@btinternet.com

The next meeting of the CLET Trustees will be on Wednesday 7th September 2011. Forms for applications to be considered at this meeting may be obtained from the Clerk and should be returned to her as soon as possible.

AUNT SALLY.

'You know it's good when you hear the wood!' The Chequers has won 8 and drawn 2 of the 13 matches played so far. With five games left the team has an outside chance of finishing runners up in Division D of the Abingdon & District Aunt

Sally League. Remaining home games (commencing at 8.15pm) :-

Wed. 24th August v Volunteer Grove

Wed. 7th September v White Horse Abingdon

DOES THE THOUGHT OF YOUR NEXT HEATING BILL LEAVE YOU COLD?

With the recent announcements from the main energy providers of large increases in the price of energy, the cost of keep warm is rising. It is becoming harder for residents to keep their homes heated to the recommended temperatures of 21°C (70°F) in the living room and 18°C (65°F) in other occupied rooms. To help combat this, a free phone helpline has been set up to advise residents in Oxfordshire how to cut their energy bills.

The service is offered by the United Sustainable Energy Agency in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council, the five Oxfordshire District Councils and Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust.

If you are finding your energy bills unmanageable, you are not alone. Currently over 5 million people in the UK cannot afford to pay for the heat they need. Any resident in

Oxfordshire who is struggling with their energy bills can call **0800 107 00 44** for free, impartial advice on:

Cavity wall and loft insulation including the grants available

Grants and loans to help with heating system replacements

Government and energy company payments

How to switch energy suppliers to get the best deal

Advice on fuel debt

How to be more energy efficient in the home

Some of these improvements can take a few months to install; don't wait until it gets cold to phone.

The helpline is available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

THANK YOU AND GOODBYE

We are sorry that we didn't have chance to say goodbye to everyone and we would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all for your support, custom and warm welcome into the community and also thank you all for the beautiful cards and flowers. We also thank all our suppliers for their excellent service and quality supplies over the last 4 years which has helped us to develop such a successful

business. We enjoyed every moment of being in Charney Bassett and being part of the community. We wish the new owner Mrs Herisson every success and hope they enjoy the same custom and support that we did.

Lots of love and best regards to all Roberta, Husnu & Girls

CHARNEY FEAST

Just to say a big Thank you to everyone who helped support Charney Feast.

We raised a massive £1,728.40.

Whether you came and helped, or came and spent, it all helped make the day a success. Charney Hall and Field Trust

Many thanks Diane
