



### A CHARNEY LAD



The Bill Clarke Story of His Life



## NOW AVAILABLE

Bill lived in Charney Bassett for 80 years before he moved to Thame some 15 years ago.

This book gives a fascinating insight into his life in Charney and is available from:

Sheila Terry, Green Acres, Longworth Road

Email: [terry\\_s1@sky.com](mailto:terry_s1@sky.com)

Tel: 868777

Voluntary donation of £2 per book (Proceeds to Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust)

### FROM THE VILLAGE RECORDS

#### Thirty five years ago

Nominations for the Parish Council exceeded the number of Councillors permitted and Charney Bassett held its first (and only) election at a cost £2 per household.

#### Twenty five years ago

The Parish Clerk was asked to convey the Parish Council's outrage at a proposal to build an international airport on a green field site near the village.

#### Ten Years ago

A villager had reported that there were strange holes in the vicinity of the play equipment which could be evidence of rats. The Vale Pest Control Officer had visited the site and advised that the culprits were short-tailed field voles which do not present the health hazard associated with rats and there is nothing he can do to remove them. They like water and they eat grass and bark, which may account for them venturing into the play area to eat the protective surface.

### THE 2014 POPPY APPEAL

The total collected in Charney Bassett was £380.91. A very big THANK YOU to you all.

Joe Ody



### PANCAKE MORNING FOR ST. PETER'S CHURCH 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

Many thanks to Tracey and Lucy for cooking the pancakes, to Jackie and Stephanie for running the raffle and drinks and all who donated the raffle prizes. The total raised was £186.50 which will be over £219 when Gift Aid is added. Mary Daghish

## YOUR VIEWS ON COMMUNICATIONS IN CHARNEY

Last month households who receive the Charney Chatter by e-mail were surveyed on their current use of Chatter and the Charney Bassett Website. The results show a very positive response to the move to electronic delivery and a high level of satisfaction with Charney Chatter and the Website.

In the great majority of Charney households at least two people are reading Chatter on their computers or tablets with very few finding it necessary to print it out. Overall reach of the electronic version was 97%.

All the comments made about Chatter in the survey were positive. About a quarter of the comments were suggestions about additional content or additional ways that Chatter could be used.

E-mail updates between issues of Chatter were almost universally popular with 95% saying that they were useful and had appropriate content. The comments made supported the current type of e-mail update and the topics covered.

Overall usage of the Charney Bassett website has significantly increased over the last year. The survey showed that much of this increase has been driven by the presence of "links" in Charney Chatter, and that these increased both the number of website users and the number of times users went to the website.

**Thanks to all those who took the time to fill in and return the Questionnaire**

**Roger Watson**

### OUR RESPONSE

The Communications Group thank Roger for undertaking this task and will take account of the comments in the survey as we:-

- encourage village organisations to make greater use of the Chatter and regularly update their material on the website
- consider whether a 'What's on in neighbouring villages' section should be included as a regular feature in the Chatter
- provide links to neighbouring villages websites where appropriate
- investigate if and how the communication channels might be developed to provide relevant historical information on the village and its activities
- re-categorise website entries under 'Our Village' to remove anomalies and give greater clarity

**Communications Team**

**PS Readers are reminded to regularly check their spam box for emails sent via the email management system.**

## **STANFORD IN THE VALE COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE**

Did you know that Charney Bassett has the Community Bus Service available on Wednesday and Saturday? This is a free service to all with a bus pass and a very reasonable charge, £1.90 each way, for all those that don't.

If you need to shop you can leave the car at home and enjoy a pleasant journey through the countryside with someone else taking the strain! The times for this service are as follows:-

### **WEDNESDAY**

#### **Depart**

Charney Bassett 10.05  
Market Square Wantage 11.40

#### **Arrive**

Market Square Wantage 10.30  
Charney Bassett 12.10

### **SATURDAY**

#### **Depart**

Charney Bassett 10.00  
Market Square Wantage 11.40

#### **Arrive**

Market Square Wantage 10.20  
Charney Bassett 12.05

Sue Dobson



## FROM YOUR MP – Ed Vaizey



Themes of the February report are:

- Community Pubs
- Community Cinemas
- 3-parent babies

Click [here](#) for full report



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**COFFEE HOUR** – Tuesdays in the Village Hall from 10.30-11.30am. £1 pp, including as much tea, coffee and biscuits as you like.

**Parish Council Meeting** – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, Village Hall.

**Charney Goes West** – 4<sup>th</sup> July, Playing Field, afternoon and evening.

**REMINDER Community Oil Buying Scheme. The next order date is 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

### VILLAGE DINER

Held in Buckland Memorial Hall

12.15 pm

Two course lunch with tea and coffee

£5 per person

Wednesday 18 March

For more information please call  
Deborah Lewis 868536

### ST PETER'S CHURCH - RECTOR

Bishop Colin has reported that he has not received any suitable applications for this vacant post. I am meeting him with the other Parish reps and selection panel on 25<sup>th</sup> February. We shall determine the way forward given this rather protracted Interregnum.

Doug Hughes

### CHARNEY 100 CLUB FEBRUARY DRAW

The results of the draw are as follows:-



1<sup>st</sup> Prize (£25) - No 83 – Richard Podd

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (£10) - No 40 – Sally Alexander

**NEARLY £1000 RAISED LAST YEAR!** This money helps to pay for maintenance costs especially for the Field which does not generate any income for the Trust. We are now collecting £12 subscriptions for the year starting in April.

We hope that you will remain members for another year.

Mahala and David  
Charney 100 Club Organisers

### ODDS AND ENDS

Volunteer opportunities on the river Thames to assist lock keepers with their day to day activities. Contact the volunteer team on 01491 828360

The Spinal Injuries Association are looking for volunteers to organise a fund raising fish and chip event on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. For more details telephone: Spinal Injuries Association 0845 678 6633 Extn 229

### POTHOLES STILL A PROBLEM?

#### HOW TO REPORT A ROAD OR STREET PROBLEM TO OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Go to <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

1. Enter an Oxfordshire postcode, or street name and area
2. Locate the problem on a map of the area
3. Enter details of the problem
4. Confirm the report and Oxfordshire County Council will investigate
5. Track progress

For urgent/emergency matters telephone: 0845 310 111

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:** 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Entries to: [chatterinbox@btopenworld.com](mailto:chatterinbox@btopenworld.com)

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