



Charney Chatter

E69 October 2019

Honouring 40 Years of Dedication to Charney Mill

Village residents, together with the County and District Councillors, gathered in the Mill on Saturday 7th September to pay tribute to Bruce Hedge who has led a group of enthusiasts from the Vale of White Horse Industrial Archaeology Group in restoring the Mill over a period of 40 years. Two of Bruce's key colleagues – Ted Smith and Mike Simmonds – were also present at the ceremony.

The Chairman of the Parish Council, David Roberts, thanked Bruce and his colleagues for all the hard work they have undertaken in restoring the building and invited him to unveil a plaque that will be permanently on display just inside the entrance to the Mill. Bruce gave a brief speech in which he emphasised the team effort involved in such a major project.

The current Mill was built in 1806 and is a grade 2 listed building, though there has been a mill in Charney Bassett since the 12th Century. The building, owned by Oxfordshire County Council, is leased to Charney Bassett Parish Council which is responsible for its repair and maintenance. More information is available on the [history website](#).

And why not come along to the evening with the History Group, on Saturday, 16th November, when Bruce Hedge will be giving a brief talk about the Mill.



Bus Shelter Gallery Opens!



Regular readers will know that last month the Charney Army started to give the rather shabby bus shelter a new coat of paint, ready for the children of Charney to demonstrate their artistic talent. At the start of September, Ruth Gerring and Rosemary McClintock set up the Art School, and guided our budding artists through the process of putting paint to wall. Each picture is different and the work of one child. The paintings are framed and 'signed'. If you haven't done so already do visit the gallery.

The materials for decoration and repair of the building were generously supplied free of charge by Brewers of Abingdon. The paints used by the children, and the new notice board, were kindly paid for by the Charney Theatre Group.



Use it or Lose it!

Why not take the opportunity to support a worthwhile charity and also raise money for the Charney Parish Council by having a good clear out of your wardrobes and drawers ready for all those lovely new winter fashions you'll be purchasing.

Good quality clothing and accessories, shoes and trainers can be bagged and put in the Salvation Army clothing bank in the Chequers car park.

Remember that funds raised for the Parish Council go to supporting Charney.



CHAFT News

A big welcome to Kate Belcher who has agreed to provide secretarial support for the Charney Hall & Field Trust.

History Group News

Archaeological Dig – Wick Cottage

This is a brief update following the August 2019 Charney Chatter report. The finds have now been washed and had a preliminary sort. Once dried, they will be quantified and evaluated.

As previously reported, we found demolition rubble, wall plaster and nails and a variety of artefacts such as Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery, window glass, clay tobacco pipes (one identified as made by S. Huggins of Banbury c 1852), metal buttons, a spoon and other pieces of metal. At the bottom of one test pit, we found a drainage ditch, cut into the natural limestone surface, which appears to be Neolithic in date and contained butchered animal bones and flint including a still razor-sharp flint blade - this is the oldest evidence of occupation within the village so far discovered.

In these two pits we have found more medieval pottery than all the other pits we have dug in Charney put together and shows probable continuous occupation in that area since Neolithic times. Flint does not occur naturally in Charney, although some may have been washed in by streams. The sheer quantity of Neolithic and Mesolithic flint tools and flakes which we found in Test Pit 8, throughout its depth, shows that flint was brought to the site which was specifically used for making tools over a long period. There are similar sites elsewhere along rivers where people seem to have chosen to set up their tool manufacturing.



From the Parish Council Meeting

Damage to the Village green

Consideration is being given to the possibility of placing large stones on the kerb line to protect the green from vehicles and more clearly define the edge of the carriageway.

Emergency plan

The plan is in the process of being updated. Further discussion is required prior to the plan being available for comment by the relevant District and County teams and local residents.

Information exchange

Amongst others, the following issues were raised by Villagers:

- damage caused by the increasing number of rabbits on Charney Field;
- local initiatives to discourage speeding;
- replacement of the Village sign on Buckland Road.

Aspens on the playing field

In view of the sensitive nature of some of the commercial information concerned, following the announcement that Wessex Woodland Management Ltd (WWML) had advised it was no longer able to undertake the felling of the aspens for the price originally quoted, the matter was considered further in a confidential session at the end of the Parish Council (PC) meeting. The Chairman and Clerk hoped to discuss the matter again with WWML and agree a date for a joint meeting between CHAFT and the PC as soon as possible thereafter.

The Parish Council advises that the white gates at the entrances to the Village should soon be installed – agreement having been reached with the County Council on costings.

Other items on the agenda included: planning matters, the County Councillor's report and the Clerk's financial report.

The full draft minutes of the meeting held on 11th September are available on the [Charney website](#).



Charney Fête 2019

Thank you to all who were involved in another successful fête: the organising team; the putter-uppers and the taker downers; the stall holders; those manning games; the cake bakers; the plant growers; the preserve makers; the contributors of all manner of items for stalls and raffle prizes; and all the wonderful people who came along and supported the event, helping to make it a great afternoon.



Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the September draw are as follows:-

£25 No 73 Suzanne Mills
£10 No 48 Angela Hodges

If anyone would like a number or extra numbers please contact:

Charney 100 club organisers, Sally or Evelyn at charney100club@gmail.com

Dates For Your Diary

COFFEE HOUR

Tuesdays, 10.30 am, Village Hall

THEATRE TRIP BOOKING DEADLINE

Thursday 26th September

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

Sunday 20th October, 10am, St. Peter's

EVENING WITH THE HISTORY GROUP

Saturday, 16th November, 7.30 pm, Village Hall

THEATRE TRIP

Thursday 28th November

An Evening with the History Group

Saturday, 16th November
7.30pm
in the Village Hall

Join us for a relaxing evening, with short informative talks and light-hearted banter.

More information next month. Book the date in your diary now !

What's New On Charney Website

- [Faringdon Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter September 2019](#)
- [Parish Council Draft Minutes](#)

Still just about time to ensure that Charney Bassett gets a White Christmas!



The Charney Theatre Club has reserved 40 seats for this festive treat on Thursday 28th November at 2:30pm. A comfortable Barnes coach will leave Charney at 10:00am, and arrive at the Dominion Theatre at about 12:30pm. Seats are in the stalls. The face value of the seats is £85.00. The Charney Theatre Club price is £65.00 including transport.

Peter Busby needs to have your booking and payment by Thursday 26th September at the absolute latest.

Contact peterbusby10@gmail.com.

Coach only tickets are £12.50 each and can be booked later – subject to availability.

This is the ultimate festive musical and was one of the best-loved Xmas movies... ever. You'll recognise the show tunes - all classics. The music and lyrics are by Irving Berlin.

The Service of
Charbury with Galefield

Harvest Festival family service

St Peter's Church

Sunday 20th October, 10.00 am



**We will be sending our
harvest gifts to the
Abingdon food bank.**

Packets and tins of food (in-date please) are especially welcome as these are of greatest use to the food bank.

If you do not wish to attend the service but are willing to donate food items, we will have a collection basket in the church on Friday 18th to Sunday 20th October.

Thank you

Abingdon and District Aunt Sally League

Chequers Inn finishes in second place

C Section	Games Won	Draw	Lost	Dolls	Points	
The Grapes Abingdon B	18	14	2	2	804	75
Chequers Charney Bassett	18	11	1	6	786	65
The Plough Long Wittenham	18	9	4	5	722	64
Plum Pudding Milton B	18	9	3	6	767	57
Waggon & Horses Southmoor A	18	8	4	6	679	56
Eight Bells Eaton	18	6	4	8	672	48
Fleur de Lys Hagbourne	18	6	4	8	686	47
The Wheatsheaf Didcot	18	5	1	12	673	45
Spread Eagle Abingdon D	18	3	4	11	630	42
Harwellian A	18	5	1	12	601	4



It's rewarding,
interesting
and fits in
with my life"
— Mary, Shared Lives Carer

Sharing a life can change a life

The [Shared Lives scheme](#) matches people who need additional support to be independent, with carers and their families. Sharing a family's life means that people who need support can choose to become part of an ordinary household, instead of staying in residential care or being looked after by a team of support workers.

Could you give someone the chance to learn and grow, develop new skills and gain the confidence to become as independent as possible in a family environment? Become a [Shared Lives Carer](#) in a home based, paid role.

Village Hall Spruce Up



Thank you to CHAFT's gardening and DIY 'elves' who have been busy sprucing up outside the Village Hall: weeding, sanding and re-vernishing the hand rail, painting window and door frames, and re-staining the benches.



Priority: 5 4 3 2 1



CRIME PREVENTION

Protect Your World

Over the next few weeks, Thames Valley Police will be publishing top cyber security tips as part of their Protect Your World campaign.

The campaign is aimed at helping residents stay one step ahead of cyber criminals. It not only explains the risks of cyber crime, but also what steps you should be taking to stay safe.

For more information visit the [Protect Your World page](#).

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 20th October

Entries to: chatterinbox@btopenworld.com

Charney Chatter e-news is published monthly on behalf of the Parish Council and co-edited by Steph Wright 867418 and Amanda Graham 868974 in liaison with the editors of the village websites, John Wright and Ian Graham. Occasional news updates may be sent to subscribers at the discretion of the editors. Contributions should be e-mailed to chatterinbox@btopenworld.com by the 20th of each month in WORD format. You can unsubscribe by e-mailing echatter@btopenworld.com. Residents without e-mail facilities can ask for a hard copy to be delivered.

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