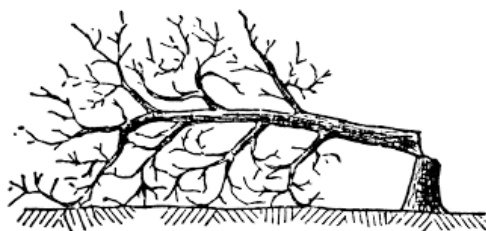




## Timber<sub>rr</sub>



Before



After







And in  
between





# Charney History Group

## Trouble at t' Mill

Newspaper research sheds light on why The Mill seems to have been out of use either side of 1800:

### Monday 12 April 1773

*Last Thursday Morning, about Eight o'Clock, a terrible Fire happened at the Village of Charney, near Wantage, Berkshire, occasioned by the Carelessness of not putting out Fire that had sin?ed [singed?] a Hog: While the Hog was carrying within Doors, 'tis supposed the Wind, which at that Time was very high, blew some of the lighted Straw about the Farm-Yard, which instantly caught Fire, and the Flames spreading With the greatest Rapidity, the Barns, Stables, and Outhouses belonging to Mr. Dew, were immediately **consumed**, and all his Stock Corn, &c. with the Dwelling House, Barns, &c. of Mr. John Bunce, a Farmer, together with **a Mill upon River Ock**. The Fire raged so very furiously, that the unhappy Sufferers could hardly save any Thing. The loss altogether is supposed to amount to 3000l.[£3000]*

And later :

### Saturday 20 April 1782

#### WATER MILL

*TO be LETT, upon reasonable Terms, for the Term of Twenty-one Years, – A Water Course, at Charney, Berks, **to build a Corn Mill** upon; with a few Acres of Land, if required. – Enquire of Mr Thomas Woodbridge, of Charney; or of the Printer hereof. – The Charney Fishery may be rented by the Miller, if desired.*

Resulting in:

### Oxford Journal - Saturday 15 August 1807

*A substantial **new erected WATER CORN MILL**, on the River Ock, situate at Charney,*

You can read more about this and lots of other things, old and new, on our [history website](#).

## What's new on the website since October's Charney Chatter?

- [Fire at The Chequers 1923](#)
- [Football and Sports Meeting 1919](#)
- Rev. James Williams, to hold the rectory of Longworth, with the chapel of Charney annexed: Kentish Gazette – [Saturday 09 September 1769](#)
- [The Doors of the Stables were maliciously broke open](#) and the Hair cut off the Manes and Tails of their Horses
- Last Monday night [sixty-one fat sheep were stolen](#) from the turnip fold Mr. Dewe, of Charney – and other stories
- [Fire burning property of Mr. Dew, Mr. John Bunce, 'a Mill upon River Ock' in 1773.](#)
- [Bowling](#) on The Green with trophy!
- Charney Bassett WI meetings including [7th Birthday party and Annual Garden party](#)

# Update From Charney Hall & Field Trust

## The Woodland Project

The aspens are down!

Thanks go, in particular, to our health and safety team (Lucy, Neil and Dave Jones) for monitoring the process from start to finish.

The children's play area is open and the hazard tape has been relocated to discourage entry to the woodland work area from the playing field side, whilst allowing free entry to and exit from the play area itself.

If you see 'smoke' coming off the piles of chippings there is no need for concern as this indicates composting has started. It is hoped stump grinding will be actioned by mid-November and certainly before Christmas. The wood stored on Buckland Road will be removed to the processing plant in November.



### **Next Steps**

The Management Committee is now turning its attention to the formation of a small project team charged with bringing forward and implementing detailed proposals for the development and maintenance of the woodland, which will satisfy the replanting requirements of the Felling Licence and secure the long term future of the area as a woodland.

It is envisaged the team will

- seek specialist advice,
- develop a working map, prepare and implement a replanting plan which conforms with the felling licence,
- identify short and longer term financial implications and research potential sources of grant aid,
- consider how the village in general and children in particular can be involved in the project,
- ensure compliance with legal, health and safety and insurance requirements.

The views of the Parish Council are being sought.

**The Management Committee is keen to hear from any villager who might be interested in assisting with some or all of this important development.**

If interested and you want to know more please contact

David Sibbert [david.sibbert@btinternet.com](mailto:david.sibbert@btinternet.com)

or

Lucy Gildersleeves [gildersleeveslucy@gmail.com](mailto:gildersleeveslucy@gmail.com)

The Management Committee will give further consideration to the formation of the project team and agree terms of reference at its meeting in December.

# Harvest Thoughts



The beginning and end of the year's cycle in growing wheat for our bread. The Plate of Plenty as the centre piece of the display. Also this side symbolises the Western World.

The opposite side of the display is intended to show The Third World being exploited; trees cut down and not replanted, thus reducing rain forest and all the implications for our environment. Local peoples with dirty water supply and little food.



The following was written in 1977, how apt it is for today.

I think of those who will be unhappy today:  
For mothers who have no food to cook for their children;  
For fathers who cannot earn enough money for their families;  
For children who are sick or frightened;  
And for those who are alone and without people to love them.  
Marian

Abingdon Food Bank is very grateful for the four large boxes of provisions donated by Charney via St Peter's Church.

**Don't forget that there is still time to enter the decorated pumpkin competition.** All are welcome to participate. For full details see [last month's Chatter](#).

What's more, you can enjoy the fruits of your labours. Oxfordshire County Council is encouraging us all to minimise waste by conjuring up a gourmet treat from our pumpkins, as so much of what is scooped out can be eaten. Their message is simple: Carve it, Cook it, Eat it. You can make delicious soups, curries, cakes and even pumpkin brownies. You can visit the [Pumpkin Festival Good Food Oxford](#) website or [Love Food Hate Waste](#) for recipes.



## A Tribute to David Douglas

One of Charney Bassett's oldest sons passed away last month after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease and just a year after Barbara died. He was 85. The youngest of 6 children, he met Barbara in his 20's and they moved to Longmead, on the Gainfield Road, in autumn 1962 when it was a small two-bedroom bungalow. It was here that their three children, Elizabeth, Tony and Andrew were raised. David worked as a radio repairman before moving into TV repairs firstly for Russell Acott of Headington Road, Oxford, then at Norton's TV in Stanford-in-the-Vale and later at Grove TV and Electrical, Millbrook Square. He then started his own business of 'D. Douglas and Sons' with shops at various times in Sunningwell, Lukers Garage (near the church in Charney) and finally operating from his workshop at home. When asked why the 'and Sons' in his business title, he thought 'it looked more professional'.

David's hard work and dedication were also found in his roles outside of work. He was a member of St Peter's Church since 1962, serving as church warden for over three decades. He was an enthusiastic member of the church choir, never shying away from attempting harmonies! He was also a keen cornet player with the Wantage Silver Band; for many years playing Christmas carols with the band on the streets of the Wantage area. When I took him to a band rehearsal a few months back, he was greeted with great affection by many band members there. At considerable emotional cost he used that occasion to donate his cornet to the band. He also got involved in amateur dramatics, mainly to encourage Barbara's acting passion though finding a stage presence of his own. I'm told they appeared in episodes of Midsomer Murders though apparently survived to tell the tale!

Having known him for a mere 25 years, I valued friendship with this lovely man who quietly contributed so much to the life of our village. After his death, a lovely card was received from one of his carers who wrote 'I will miss David because he was a real gentleman' - something many of us will echo.

Tony Wales



***Lest we forget***

**Act of Remembrance**

**10.45 am**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

**at the War Memorial  
on Charney Bassett village green  
followed by a Service of Remembrance.**

**You are most welcome to join in with the Act of Remembrance and  
this outdoor Service.**

**There will be an opportunity for you to leave after the Act if you do  
not wish to stay for the Service.**

**There will be a collection for the British Legion Poppy Appeal**

Covid19 rules of restriction will apply.

Please wear a mask during the Act and the Service.

Please stand within your household bubble and maintain at least 2  
metres distance from other bubbles.

Please register your presence at the Act and/or the Service either by  
using the Track & Trace app or by signing a register. Your contact  
details will be held only for 21 days and solely for Track & Trace  
requirements.

We will not be singing.



# Neighbourhood Watch Advice on Scams

## Be aware of spoof websites

Criminals are sophisticated; creating spoof websites that imitate those of trusted organisations in order to persuade you to enter your personal and financial information.



They'll include the organisation's branding with small changes to the website's URL to convince you it's genuine.

Don't automatically click on links in emails and texts. Instead login to your account directly using a secure webpage or app and if you're visiting a website for the first time, always type the address into the browser.

If you receive a scam email forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) and scam texts to 7726.

## Friends against scams: new scam protection website

Anyone can be the victim of a scam, however some people are more vulnerable to scams and criminals will use this to their advantage.



A guide has been prepared by the National Trading Standards Scams Team and the National Centre for Post Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice at Bournemouth University, working in partnership with Lloyds Bank, Halifax and Bank of Scotland.

So why not take a look at [this new guide](#) and help prevent your loved ones being targeted by scams? The aim is to help to manage finances and avoid scams for people at risk and those who support them.

Again it's Pete to the rescue. He has moved on from bench plinths to tiling and replaced a broken tile on the bus shelter, and also thank you to [BuildBase \(Wantage\)](#) who very kindly donated the replacement tile.





# Fireworks safety in Oxfordshire on 5th November

As Bonfire Night approaches, Oxfordshire County Council is reminding residents that the safest way to celebrate is to attend a professionally organised public event that is confirmed as COVID-19 safety compliant, following local and national guidance.

However, as it will not be practical for everyone to attend organised public events, particularly this year, Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service is providing guidance for anyone having their own fireworks display:

Top safety tips for Bonfire Night:

- Only buy CE marked fireworks from reputable and licensed shops;
- Keep fireworks in a closed, metal box;
- Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back;
- Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks;
- Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them;
- Never return to a firework that has not gone off, and never throw used or unused fireworks onto a bonfire;
- Never drink alcohol while lighting a bonfire or setting off fireworks;
- Always supervise children and don't give sparklers to a child under five;
- Keep your bonfire at least 18 metres away from houses, trees and hedges. There should be a barrier around the bonfire to keep spectators five metres away. Before lighting a bonfire, check it is stable and that there are no children or animals inside;
- Only burn dry wood, never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire and think about the direction of smoke travel;
- Keep some buckets of water nearby;
- Have consideration for those around you, including notifying neighbours who may have pets or farm animals;
- Consider where fireworks and debris might fall, ensuring safety distances are provided for people to keep safe. Safety distances are provided on each firework label or package.

Pete Mackay, Community Safety Manager from Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service, said:

“Organised fireworks displays are more fun, cheaper and far safer than hosting your own fireworks or bonfire party, but we know there aren't as many to attend safely this year. If you are planning on using fireworks for a private event, please keep the Fireworks Safety Code in mind: [www.saferfireworks.com/](http://www.saferfireworks.com/) as well as following the local and national COVID-19 guidance. Remember, only buy fireworks from a reputable retailer. Before purchasing, seek advice on the suitability of fireworks for the space available, and check that they meet current safety standards.”

To reinforce this safety-first approach, the County Council's Trading Standards team (tel: 01865 895999) will be inspecting all firework premises to give businesses advice on the responsible sale and storage of fireworks; checking they meet the necessary safety standards.

Anyone with concerns that retailers are not storing fireworks appropriately, selling fireworks that do not display a CE mark, or selling to anyone under 18; contact Trading Standards. They can also provide safety advice on disposing of unused or damaged fireworks. Do not put fireworks into your bin.



## Did You Know That You Can Report Rural Crimes Online?

Rural crime is an issue for large areas of the Thames Valley and we know that it can have a huge impact on our rural communities.

However, these crimes tend to go unreported.

We're reaching out to our rural communities and encouraging you to report anything you've seen, however big or small, which can help us tackle agricultural, equine, wildlife and heritage crime.

Did you know that you can report a crime in your area, or pass on any information that you may have, on our website?

It's quick and easy to do and it can be done whenever is most convenient for you.

After all, you know your community best and you're most likely to know when something doesn't feel right.

Whether it's something suspicious you've spotted in your local area or something you've overheard which may point to organised crime, we want to hear about it.

It can sometimes be difficult to know whether something that you've seen is a crime and whether you should get in touch. But we'd encourage you to contact us, as we can use this information to build a better picture and to target our resources effectively.

By working together, we can prevent opportunistic and organised crimes taking place in our communities.

If you see something, report it on our website:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime>

# Oxfordshire COVID-19 alert levels at [The Vale Website](#)

VERY HIGH







HIGH

MEDIUM


 HM Government




**LOCAL COVID ALERT LEVEL**  
**MEDIUM**

<b>Social Contact</b>  Rule of six indoors and outdoors, in all settings.	<b>Weddings and Funerals</b>  Up to 15 guests for weddings and up to 30 guests for funerals. 15 for receptions, wakes and related ceremonies.	<b>Overnight Stays</b>  Overnight stays permitted subject to social contact rules.	<b>Working from home guidance</b>  Work from home where possible.
<b>Shopping and Retail</b>  Open.	<b>Leisure and gyms</b>  Open.	<b>Hospitality</b>  Open with some restrictions including 10pm closing time and table-service only.	<b>Entertainment and tourist attractions</b>  Open, except nightclubs and adult entertainment.
<b>Education</b>  Schools, FE colleges open. Universities must reflect wider restrictions.	<b>Healthcare Services</b>  Open.	<b>Residential Care</b>  Open to external visitors with additional precautions, subject to individual care provider guidance.	<b>Travel and Transport</b>  No travel restrictions within area. Avoid travel into Local COVID Alert Level Very High areas where possible.
<b>Sporting Activity</b>  Organised sport / licensed physical activity allowed in outdoor settings. Indoor organised sport must follow social contact rules (other than youth or disabled sport).	<b>Worship</b>  Open, subject to social contact rules.	<b>Childcare</b>  Registered and wraparound childcare open. Supervised activities permitted in private homes. Children's groups permitted.	<b>Youth Clubs and Activities</b>  Permitted.

**There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other:**

**Wash hands**  
keep washing your hands regularly

**Cover face**  
wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

**Make space**  
stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

For more information and detailed guidance visit:  
**[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)**



## Charney 100 Club Draw

### The results of the October draw are:

£25 No 55 Gordon Rothwell

£10 No 120 Helen and Bruce Royan

Kindly drawn by Anne Moffat and Sylvia Gibbons.

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

Charney 100 club organisers, Sally or Evelyn at [charney100club@gmail.com](mailto:charney100club@gmail.com)

## Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held as a virtual meeting (by Skype) on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020** and will start at 7.30 pm. Residents wishing to attend should contact the Clerk in advance. [parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk)

The agenda and papers for the meeting will be available on the [website](#) closer to the date.

Remember brown bin customers can put out twice as much garden waste (in a bag or box) on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> November.



## CHAFT

Do you shop at Amazon? Would you like to donate to a local charity?

You can now do both at the same time by using [amazon](#) smile for your purchases and nominating Charney Hall and Field Trust as your chosen charity. CHAFT will then receive a small donation of 0.5% on eligible purchases. Once logged into your account click on account & lists and select Your AmazonSmile to search for **Charney Hall and Field Trust** and make it your preferred charity.

Remember you must start your shopping session at the URL [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk),

A big thank you in advance.



## Last minute celebration card needed?

And don't want to use the car?

Something a little different. Unique and bespoke.

Delivered to your door!

Contact: Kay 868599



**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:** 20<sup>th</sup> November

Entries to: [chatterinbox@btopenworld.com](mailto: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](mailto:chatterinbox@btopenworld.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month in WORD format. You can unsubscribe by e-mailing [echatter@btopenworld.com](mailto:echatter@btopenworld.com). Residents without e-mail facilities can ask for a hard copy to be delivered.

[The Parish Council's policy on privacy and data protection](#)