



The pot of gold is just behind the mill or at least it was ...



Then the Winter Olympics...



Early in February members of the Winter Olympic Committee assessed the suitability of Charney Field for the downhill Luge, while intrepid Charney residents set off on their own Pole to Pole.

What to look for in spring



In the church porch, remember these Ladybird books?



Thanks to two members of the Charney Army, Peter and Tim, for picking up rubbish along the verges between the Goosey turn and Charney. Over two sessions, they filled 14 sacks with wine bottles, beer tins, plastic bottles and a selection of very odd items. Thanks also to those who put the bags in their own wheelie bins, as Vale of White Horse DC no longer supports community litter picks because of Covid.

Did you know that approximately 550 sacks of rubbish are cleared from UK roadsides each day at a cost of £40 a sack to the taxpayer? So a special thanks to the gents then for saving us £560. Around £6 million a year is spent clearing litter thrown from vehicles along the motorways and £5 million for A roads. These figures do not include fly tipping clearances, the cost of which to local authorities in England in 2018/19 was £12.9 million. Government figures also show that local authorities across the country spent a combined total of £694 million on street cleaning in 2019/20, which is nearly as much as they spent on bin collections. [figures from various sources – not all up to date]



The History Group

The History Group Zooms Back Into Action

With a meeting at our usual venue (The Chequers) out of the question eleven members could wait no longer to have a 'catch up' and held a virtual meeting on 12th February 2021.

Here is a short update.

Footpaths

A study of old maps has identified three historic local footpaths which are missing from the definitive map. If they are not added by January 2026 access will be lost forever.

Advice will be sought from the Ramblers Association and the Parish Council on what, if any, action should be taken.

Archaeology Group

Another dig is planned for later in the year, subject to any Covid-19 restrictions applying at the time.

David Ashby, our Archaeological Advisor has completed his book on the archaeology of Stanford in the Vale and hopes to undertake a similar exercise for Charney Bassett.

Provisional arrangements are being made to arrange an open meeting later in the year when it is hoped David will outline his initial findings from digs undertaken in the Village during the last two years.

Cherbury Camp

A suggestion for an information plaque to be displayed at Cherbury Camp is to be followed up, initially via an approach to the Archaeological Association and/or Heritage England.

Website updates

Look out for the updates which appear in the Chatter.

Want to know more about the history of the village

Visit <https://history.charneybassett.org.uk/>

David Sibbert

What's new since 2021 February's Charney Chatter?

- [School Mistresses](#)
- [Queen's Diamond Wedding Anniversary and Charney Olympics 2012](#)
card signed by all the Villagers and more photos

On behalf of CHAFT, thanks go to New Road neighbours Anna and Sylvia who managed to dodge the rain to cut back some of the shrubs on the playing field and undertake a professional renovation of the willow arbour.

Speedwatch Update

Villagers and motorists will have observed that SpeedWatch activities have been yet another Covid-19 casualty.

However, a recent update from Thames Valley Police (TVP) indicates plans are being developed to give the scheme a boost once present restrictions have been relaxed. PC Lee Turnham has been appointed Community SpeedWatch Coordinator in a force wide initiative to be driven from the Police Crime Commissioner's office.

Two changes to the scheme have been agreed by TVP as work goes on to establish a pathway for the reinstatement of SpeedWatch activities.

- Use of selected hand held devices which are cheaper to purchase than non- hand held devices and provide a more viable option for smaller communities.
- Free increased public liability insurance cover for approved schemes (at a higher level than that normally provided by a Parish Council).



Dog Fouling/ Dog Waste Litter

Following comments made at the last meeting of Charney Hall & Field Trust, relating to dog fouling in the middle of the recreation ground, the safety officer undertook a more rigorous inspection which included the perimeter of Charney Field.

He reports

'Someone or multiple someones are leaving dog waste in either purple or black plastic sacks and throwing them into corners or behind hedges where they are not immediately obvious. In the end I probably picked up about a dozen or so bags.'

To the dog owner(s) in question 'PLEASE DESIST'

To anyone witnessing an incident of dog fouling or waste littering 'PLEASE REPORT IT' at [Dog fouling - Vale of White Horse District Council \(whitehorsedc.gov.uk\)](https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk). The VWHDC is running a dog fouling campaign to raise awareness. Remember bagging and taking home your dog's mess costs next to nothing but you may be fined between £50-£1,000 and end up in court if you don't.

WITH APOLOGIES TO ALL DOG OWNERS WHO DO THEIR DUTY!



Be a responsible dog owner, otherwise why not just get a goldfish, they're less demanding.

Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the February draw are:

£25 No 34 Tim Moody

£10 No 10 Frances Rothwell

Kindly drawn by Annie Busby.

Message from Charney 100 club organisers, Sally and Evelyn, to all 100 club members

It's that time of year again when we would normally be knocking on your door for this year's subscription. However, due to Covid, we need to be more careful.

If you already pay by standing order that's great. If you pay by bank transfer now is the time to make the payment please to

CHAFT

sort code 40-45-36

A/C no 51127659

Ref 100 CLUB __ (your lowest number)

Reminder that the price per ticket/number is £12 per year.

If you want to pay by cash could you please put the correct money in an envelope with your name and numbers and phone Sally on 868334 to arrange a socially distanced collection. Please be patient if it takes a few days to get back to you for collection.

If you are able to pay by bank transfer it would be appreciated but if you could let us know we would be grateful.

If you want any more numbers please contact Sally by phone or at charney100club@gmail.com

Many thanks

Sally & Evelyn

Enjoy art on your doorstep. Visit 25 New Road.

Feeling creative? Then get involved by visiting [The Great Big Art Exhibition Gallery - Firstsite](#). Open to all ages and abilities.



Charney Bassett Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 10th March starting at 7.30 pm. The meeting will be held virtually on Skype. Anyone wishing to attend should notify the [Clerk](#) beforehand.

The meeting agenda and any reports will be available on the [website](#) a few days before the meeting.

What's New On

The Charney Bassett Website

- [Parish Council draft minutes, January 2021](#)
- [Charney Hall & Field Trust \(CHAFT\) draft minutes, February 2021](#)
- [News from your MP – David Johnston](#)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 20th March

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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