



## Did you make any New Year's Resolutions in January?

If not or even if you did why not consider doing something for your community of Charney Bassett, such as:

- Help plant a tree on the field in February (further details to follow via email)
- Spend an hour once every 10 weeks or so cleaning our beautiful Grade I listed church (contact Steph on 867418)
- Join the Parish Council and take part in very local government (contact Trevor on [parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk))
- Come along and support or help with various activities in the Village, e.g. May Day, summer fête, Christmas bazaar, all which help raise vital funds to ensure that Charney keeps its facilities (look out for further information in the run up to these events)
- Help clean the Village Hall, one month a year, once a week (contact Lynne on 868471)
- Join the Speedwatch team (contact David on 868734)
- Consider joining the Charney Hall and Field Trust management team and support the running of the Village Hall and Playing Field (contact Neil at [CharneyChaff@gmail.com](mailto:CharneyChaff@gmail.com) to find out more)
- Join the Charney Army, which undertakes small jobs around the Village for the Parish Council, meeting once or twice a month (contact Ian at [charneyarmy@gmail.com](mailto:charneyarmy@gmail.com) to be put on the mailing list)
- Get involved with the Charney website or publication of Chatter (contact Steph on 867418)

### Church flowers

Flowers are regularly placed in our historic Church by a dedicated team of volunteers, making sure St Peter's looks its best for its many visitors.

Would you like to become part of that team now or in the future?

For an informal chat ring Ruth 869083

Our community can only thrive with the support of willing volunteers. Make this the year you get involved.



Congratulations to Mike Sheil who was sleeping rough for charity in the Benefice in December and spent the night of the 14<sup>th</sup> in Charney churchyard.

Message from Mike who wanted to thank all who supported him: "You have all been totally brilliant and have helped us raise a sum which is just over £27,000 and still rising so our grateful thanks to you all.

And an especial thanks to the fantastic Jane Cranston, who at the age of 70 decided to go camping for the first time and stayed right to the end. Respect ma'am!"



Mike and Jane on their last night, outside St Mary's Church, Buckland

## Charney History

### 1921 Census of England and Wales has been published.

The 1921 census of England and Wales has been published this January and is available via the National Archives [and Find My Past](#). The census are made available after 100 years have elapsed and the 1921 census is one of the most complete.

Over 30,000 bound volumes of records, on more than a mile of shelves, had to be scanned, digitised and transcribed. Extra information has been added to the records. If you want a particular record or its transcript you have to pay to download it but the process is very straightforward. Any errors found can be reported. If anyone downloads any records for Charney and would like to share them with the History Group then we would be delighted to have the information.

The census was due to have been taken on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1921 but was postponed due to industrial unrest and so it took place on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1921 but the forms were not reprinted so have the 'wrong' date on them. This meant that more people were away on holiday than usual so seaside towns have higher occupancy than they would have had and some houses are empty that you might expect to have people in.

The forms were collected from each house by hand and a punch card was generated for every person by 200 young women (they took over Lambeth Workhouse to do this) so it is the first machine enumerated census. The England and Wales data shows a population of 37.8M. There were over 1.7 million more women than men in England and Wales, 730,000 children had no father compared with 261,000 with no mother – a lasting legacy of the Great War and the Spanish flu pandemic.

### House Occupancy in Charney

As mentioned in the December Charney Chatter we have created a spreadsheet of House Occupancy from c1881-c1950 and this is as complete as we can make it and now includes what information is freely available from the 1921 census. We will start to add it house by house to the website see the first examples [here](#).



# What may have been missed in December and January

We all missed the Christmas bazaar in early December, as it was deemed best to cancel it due to Covid concerns. It's hoped, however, to run a replacement fund raiser later in the year.

A massive thank you to Ian and Jacqui at the Chequers for once more providing the Christmas tree on the Green; and to the Charney Army for erecting and lighting it up. We are very lucky.

St Peter's Church was once again beautifully decorated for the festive season by the flower arranging ladies (men are of course welcome to participate).

Despite the inclement weather, everyone was in good voice for the carols on the Green on the Wednesday before Christmas. Thanks go to members of the Wantage Silver Band who accompanied the singing and to Lucy and family for refreshments. A collection was made in support of Emmaus in Oxford.

With the snowdrops emerging in January there were signs of us slowly moving towards spring, despite the hard frosts – but don't pack your winter woollies away just yet.



## The state of Longworth Road

Are you bothered by the condition of this road, especially leading up to the RDA premises?

A complaint was lodged on the County Council's 'Fix My Street' system in October and has recently been added to by the Parish Council. As yet nothing has happened. You could help increase the chance of us getting something done by going to [this link](#) and simply adding your own comment. It will literally take you no more than a minute or two.



Eagerly awaiting the start in February of the tree planting on the Charney field.

# Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council met on 12<sup>th</sup> January and was joined by 4 members of the public and County Councillor Juliette Ash.

Items of business included:

- Maintaining next year's precept at £6,900.
- Magistrates' hearing of Charney Manor Premises Licence set for 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- Application for Premises Licence at Poplars Farm now withdrawn.
- Concern to be raised at Vale's weak Planning Enforcement Policy.
- Budget established for further road safety improvements.
- Progress on search for new allotment site.
- Leasing arrangements for Ock Green and Jubilee Orchard.
- Flood risk, including from Charney Wick ditch.
- Information boards for Cherbury Camp.
- Closure of the Village College.

Agendas and minutes of meetings can be found online at [www.charneybassett.org.uk](http://www.charneybassett.org.uk) including the full draft minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> January meeting. The next Parish Council meeting is due to be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm. Trevor Brown (Parish Clerk) can be contacted at [parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk).

## Big thank you

CHAFT would like to thank all the volunteers and helpers who have given their time over the past year. We are very grateful for the maintenance work in the Village Hall, field, copse and woodland area, also all the work done with the chippings on the bridle path and movement of chippings and soil in the play Area. Many thanks for all the support given to make the fête a success. We are also very thankful for the regular grass cutting of the field by Tim Fitzgerald O'Connor.

The next opportunity to help will be the replanting of the woodland area, 300 whips. This will take place in February, more details to follow. Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2022 to all.

## Return of the Road Safety Group

The Parish Council has an accumulating road safety fund and is looking to re-establish a Road Safety Group [see Parish Council Minutes](#) to help evaluate the initiatives developed at the public meeting held in 2018. Several people have stepped forward but it would be good to add one or two more, especially from anyone recently moved into the village. Do please get in touch with the [Parish Clerk](#) to find out more.

## Don't forget the Salvation Army clothing bank

Please remember the Salvation Army clothing bank (in the Chequers car park) when deciding where to donate your unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories. It's a really convenient way to support a worthy cause and support your Village (every pound of clothing provides ££ for the Parish Council coffers) at the same time.



## Charney 100 Club Draw

### The results of the Christmas draw are:

£100 No 154 Deb Little

£50 No 79 Kelly Lea

Kindly drawn by Lynn and Hugh Brookes.

### And the results of the January draw are:

£25 No 115 Rachel Davis

£10 No 116 Nicola Martin

## Poppy Appeal 2021

£562.35 was collected in Charney.

A big thank you to you all.

Joe Ody

## What's New On The Charney Bassett Website

[News from your MP – David Johnston](#)  
[Parish Council Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022](#)

## Police Liaison

Rural crime was again identified as a priority when representatives from nearby villages met with the neighbourhood policing team.

Discussion took place on the increasing use of drones and whether these are being used by potential offenders to gather intelligence on outbuildings, sheds and commercial properties. This could involve looking for in and exit routes, security systems (e.g. cameras and PIR lighting) and when the property is empty.

They are usually quite noisy and easily noticed so if they are flown low over local properties, especially rear gardens and commercial premises and you are suspicious, please contact the police either online  
<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/soh/seen-or-heard/> or by phone 101.

## Charney Hall and Field Trust Management Committee

Virtual Meeting via Zoom, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 6.30pm. Agenda will be posted on website by 1<sup>st</sup> February. For an invitation to the meeting or to ask a question please contact [charneychaft@gmail.com](mailto:charneychaft@gmail.com)



A [safe and well visit](#) is a free service offered by Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service. A firefighter or adviser will visit and offer practical advice on where risks in the home could lead to falls, fires, or other emergencies. They'll also check smoke alarms (or fit them) and talk to you or the person you care for about keeping safe in the event of a fire. They can provide advice on health and crime prevention too.

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

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.

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