



Charney Chatter

E105 February 2023

New Year, New Things to Do!

CHAFT Planting



If anyone would like to be involved in helping with hedge planting along the bridle path/playing field in March (dates to be confirmed subject to delivery of plants from Woodland Trust), please contact Steph at chatterinbox@btopenworld.com.

Playing and Singing Is there any interest?



Do you play an instrument (triangle to trombone) or enjoy singing? If so would you be interested in getting involved in a Charney music group that would be open to any ability? It might be once or twice a month, to play a broad range of music. Nothing too complicated, but hopefully, a lot of fun.

If this might appeal to you then please email chatterinbox@btopenworld.com – heading 'Charney Music Group' and state what instrument you play or whether you prefer to sing. Or even both!

Parish Council Finance

We are fortunate in having our own volunteer Internal Auditor and this makes the process of External Audit much easier (and cheaper!). A big thank you to Brian Trotman who has done this for us for several years now at no cost. But we always review the arrangement every two years, so if anyone else is keen to help please get in touch with the [Parish Clerk](#)



More New Things to Do!

Time to get walking again!

With Spring on its way, we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again: but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Oxfordshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Oxfordshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Or more locally here are the [Charney walks](#) on your doorstep.



Harmony Inspires

Do you enjoy singing? Would you like to try something new? Award winning female a cappella chorus *Harmony InSpires* invites you to visit a rehearsal.

Starting on 1st February 2023, the first Wednesday of each month will be a "**Welcome Wednesday**", when we invite anyone interested in joining us to come along and watch us rehearse. You will be able to join in our warm-up session and our chorus members will be more than happy to tell you about their experience of singing with *Harmony InSpires*.

We meet on Wednesday evenings, 7:15–10:00pm at the Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, Marcham OX13 6TY. If you're hooked by the end of the evening we can talk you through the joining process. Please drop us a note first so we know to expect you.

Email membership@harmonyinspires.org

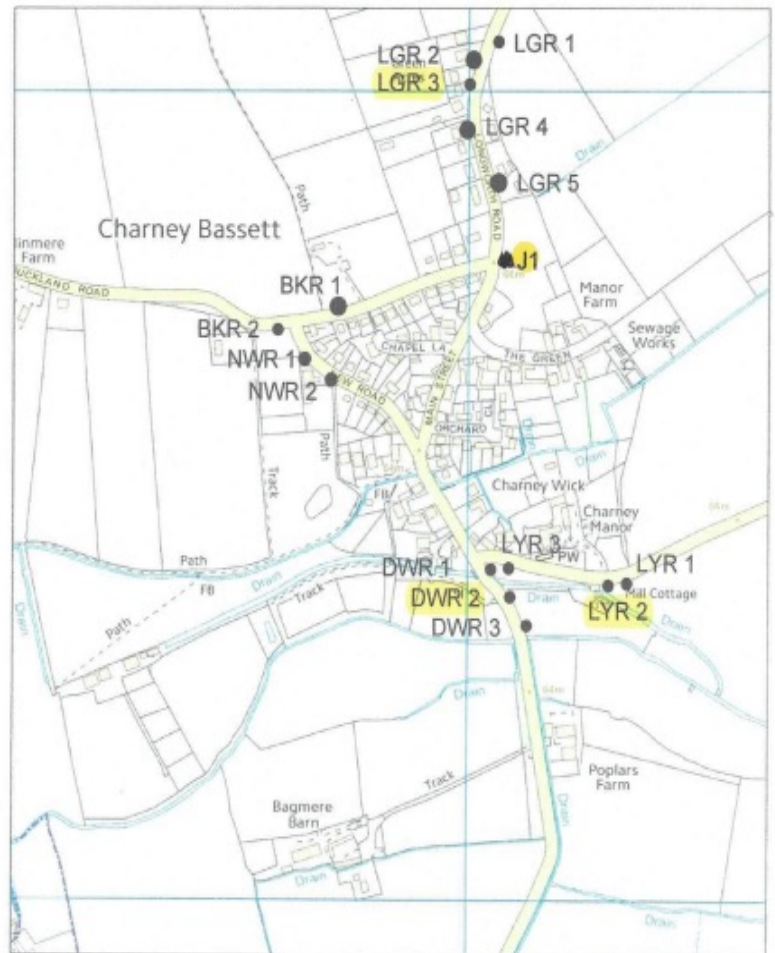


Update - Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS)

Two MVAS units have now been purchased and support posts are to be installed shortly. Various locations have been considered (see plan) and the four finally selected are shown highlighted in yellow. The MVAS units will be moved monthly from post to post.

Thanks go to the Parish Council's Road Safety Group for their work in getting us to this point. More information can be found in [the recent report to the Parish Council](#).

It is hoped that the equipment will be up and running by early March.



Vale of White Horse
District Council

May 2015



1:5,000

**CHARNEY
BASSETT - MVAS
LOCATIONS**

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Christmas past



St Peter's Church thanks everyone who came to the Christmas **Festivitea** in the Village Hall. A total of £183.10 was raised for the church plus £75.00 donation to Acorns Children's Hospice. This was made possible by the inspiration and organisation of Julie Ingram-Johnson and her team, and your generosity. Thank you!



Thanks go to the **team of flower arrangers** who decorated the church so beautifully for Christmas.

Carols on the Green

Carols on the Green raised £146.71 for Oxfordshire Youth, a local charity providing training, skills and mental health support to local youngsters. A huge thank you to all who came and especially to Lucy and family for hosting.



The tradition of **Wassailing** was kept alive thanks to Diney, the Vale Islanders and a handful of villagers who attended the event on the evening of 5th January.

Christmas Cheers

A big thank you to The Chequers, once again, for generously providing Charney's Village Green Christmas tree, and also to the Charney Army for their efforts in erecting, lighting and taking down the tree.

Charney Bassett Parish Council

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall on 11th January.

Matters discussed included:

- Update on allotment site search (awaiting lease from County Council)
- County/District Councillor news
- Clerk's financial report including consideration of precept for 2022/23
- Local planning matter updates
- Update on village road safety initiatives
- Arrangements for celebrating King Charles III Coronation

The next full meeting will be on Wednesday 8th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Ownership of Village Hall and Charney Field

For some time CHAFT and the Parish Council have been discussing various issues to do with the Village Hall and Charney Field. This has included the need to resolve uncertainty that has arisen over their ownership.

Both properties were first acquired by the Parish Council but it is now clear that CHAFT became owner of the Village Hall when its charity scheme was first drawn up, and owner of Charney Field when the scheme was later amended.

As a charity, CHAFT holds the properties in trust for the benefit of the village. The Parish Council is Custodian Trustee to the charity and is responsible for looking after the title deeds. The Land Registry records are being amended to make this position clear. The Parish Council still has representatives on CHAFT's governing body, and both organisations continue to meet regularly through a Joint Liaison Group.

One of the implications of this change concerns Charney Field. The Charney Field land parcel includes the entire length of Bridle Path (defined width) from its junction with Main Street to the field itself.

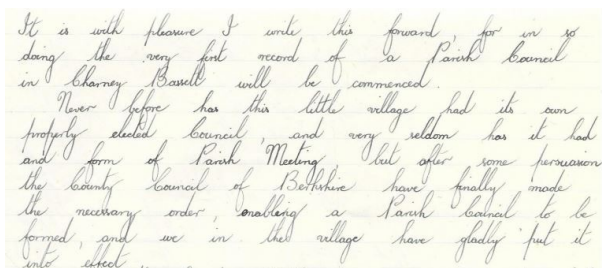
This means CHAFT has a responsibility, along with other riparian owners, for the maintenance of much of the Charney Wick Ditch (which borders Bridle Path and the bridleway) and will shortly be taking advice on how best to go about this.

CHAFT can be contacted at charneychaft@gmail.com.

The Parish Council can be contacted at parishclerk@charneybassett.org.

What's New on the History Website since December's 2022 Charney Chatter?

- [October 2022 Archaeology digs and survey reports](#)
- [Forward to the First Charney Bassett Parish Council Meeting 5th May 1952](#)



It is with pleasure I write this forward, for in so doing the very first record of a Parish Council in Charney Bassett will be commenced.

Never before has this little village had its own properly elected Council, and very seldom has it had and [any] form of Parish Meeting, but after some persuasion the County Council of Berkshire have finally made the necessary order, enabling a Parish Council to be formed, and we in the village have gladly put it into effect....

Defibrillator



May it never be needed but just a reminder, in case of emergency that Charney has a Public Access Defibrillator in the telephone box on the corner of New Road and Main Street.

[Details on how to access and use the defibrillator](#) are on the Village website.



In an emergency, it might be necessary to take your mobile phone with you to gain access to the machine. Dial 999 and the operator will provide an access code. However, do bear in mind that mobile signals in the Village are unreliable, so it may be prudent to get the code from the operator when you dial 999 from home.



Safety for Our Birds

With disease particularly prevalent in the bird population recently, please don't forget to clean your bird feeders at least weekly to help keep our feathered friends healthy. Use a 5% diluted disinfectant solution to clean or just boiling water. Bird tables need a good scrub, too, plus water bowls and also any surfaces where food falls and there are bird droppings.

Wildlife Rescue Centres

For advice on what to do if you find a wild animal injured or in distress, see some useful links below. [RSPCA Oak & Furrows Wildlife Rescue Centre](#), Cricklade. Open 7 days a week 7.00am to 9.00pm (summer). For any wildlife concerns or wildlife emergencies, please call 01793 640136 (press option 2).

Out of hours emergency calls only between 5.00pm – 9.00am

To contact an RSPCA Inspector for domestic animal related emergencies please call 0300 123 4999.

[Tiggywinkles](#), Haddenham, Bucks. 24-hour emergency helpline: 01844 292292.

[Oxfordshire Bat Group – bat rescue](#), contact 01235 764832.

[Chrissie's Owls](#) – owl rescue, Witney, 01993 891 618, or mobile 07815 130 578.

Bought some new outfits for yourself in the sales?

If you have also taken the opportunity to sort your wardrobe then 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 also your Village (every pound of clothing provides ££ for our Parish Council coffers) at the same time.



Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the December draw are:

£100 No 57 Melissa Moody

£50 No 131 Carol and Roland Morgan

Drawn by Steve Palmer.

The results of the January draw are:

£25 No 32 Tony and Karen Rapley

£10 No 47 Gordon Campbell

Drawn by Sheila Terry and Jackie Harris.

Charney Hall & Field Trust Management Committee

Wednesday, 3rd February, 2023

at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall

The agenda will be posted on the Village website by 25th January.

To ask a question please contact charneychaft@gmail.com

Thames Water Resources Management Plan 2024



Thames Water published its draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 in December 2022 for public consultation. The consultation is open for 14 weeks until 21 March 2023 and the link to the consultation website is <https://thames-wrmp.co.uk/>.

Thames Water will be holding a number of community information events to give people the opportunity to talk to the team about the draft Plan. Amongst others, there will be an event in Steventon Village Hall on 18 February 2023. Everyone is welcome, please do come along if you have comments or questions on the draft plan and would like to talk to the team.

The full list of dates and timings of the events are online at <https://thames-wrmp.co.uk/hearing-your-views/our-events/>.



[Tips on how to stay safe](#) or on [home crime prevention](#) can be found on the police website.



OCC also offer 'Safe and Well' visits. For more information or to book a visit see [the OCC website](#).

Dates For Your Diary

SEW & SOCIAL SESSIONS

Thursdays, 10.00 am – Noon, Village Hall

CHARNEY HALL AND FIELD TRUST

Wednesday, 1st February, 6.30pm, Village Hall

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 8th March, 7.30 pm, Village Hall

CELEBRATION OF KING CHARLES III CORONATION

6th or 7th or 8th May, 2023



Poppy Appeal 2022

£549.15 was collected in Charney.

Many thanks to you all.

Joe Ody

What's New On The Charney Bassett Website

- [News from your MP – David Johnston](#)
- [CHAFT draft minutes of meeting of 12th December](#)
- [Parish Council draft minutes of meeting of 11th January](#)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 20th February.

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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