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Charney Chatter
July 2024

All change at Chatter: This July issue sees an overlap of the old and new editorial team, with, it is hoped, August and September issues fully transitioning to the new editors (introductions next month). With a change of roles comes a different Chatter format – one that may may be familiar with, if already receiving online newsletters.

Please support them by sending Charney related material to be considered for publication. Without your input there will be little to publish each month. And let us know what you think by replying to this email with any feedback on the new design.

Charney Hall and Field Trust

Save the date!
SUMMER SOCIAL
Sunday 4th August - CHAFT Summer Social - 3 to 5pm
On the Village Green
Games, Bouncy Castle, Refreshments and more...
Follow the Charney Hall and Field Trust facebook page for updates
Please note this is a cash only event

The Yarn Fest Cometh!

Enjoy fun for all the family on
Saturday and Sunday, 20th & 21st July,
10 am - 4 pm
St Peter's Church, Charney Bassett, OX12 0EJ
with all manner of crafted items to amuse and delight.
The church will be
open to visitors all day
with
Refreshments and Cake served between 2 - 4 pm.
Entry free, with donations welcome

The new allotments at the north end of the Charney playing field are now taking shape. It's early days and there is still much to do.
In total, there are 13 plots (8 full ones and 4 halves). One full plot is still available if anyone is interested and can be split into two half plots if preferred.
Please contact Mike on 07968 728667 or mikepoyntdjh@icloud.com for more information.
The long-term plan is to apply for grants to develop the site further. Subject to securing funding, it is hoped to add an allotment shed, a mains water supply, compost area and some raised beds in which children can grow some fruit and veg.

Jubilee Orchard

Now we have finally had some sunshine it's lovely to remind villagers that the Jubilee Orchard, opposite St Peter's Church, should soon be producing fruit and that it is available to be harvested by any resident. Don't let the plums, apples or pears or the trees or languish as windfalls. There are also one or two bushes, including a gooseberry.

The Jubilee Orchard is actually part of Charney Manor and is looked after by the Parish Council (encore thanks go to Brian Trotman who does this virtually single-handedly) under a licence from Manor Trustees that, in return for a peppercorn rent of £1 (never collected), allows villagers access and for it to be used as an amenity space. The trees and bushes were planted in 2013 by Charney Army following local fund raising and celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee. The sign at the entrance was carved by John Dagliish of Barnfield.

The trees and bushes can always do with some care and attention. Anyone with a little bit of expertise would be very welcome to give advice please.

parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk

Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the June draw are:
£50 No 12 Jos Bath
£25 No 101 Jo Garner

Charney Hall and Field Trust Management Committee

Monday, 29th July at 8.30 pm in the Village Hall
The agenda will be posted on the Village website by 22nd July.
To ask a question please contact secretary@chaft.org

Cakes for the CHAFT Summer Social

Are you able to bake/contribute cakes for this event on 4th August? If so you available for half an hour between 2 and 3pm on the day to help with serving teas? If you can help, or for more information, please contact Mary Clarke on 868571 or email marycaldwell1@gmail.com.

There is still time to include your crafted item in the Yarn Fest on 20th and 21st July. Use your imagination and have some sweets but or why not start a member of the scarecrow congregation. If you wish to be involved contact chaftentertainment@charneyhall.com

Theft of Motor Vehicles

CHARNEY CRIME WATCH
Crime Prevention Officer

Recently there has been an increase in vehicles being stolen. These are generally high value and high power cars. Remember to make sure vehicles are secured, keys locked away preferably if keyless in a signal blocking box or pouch. Remain vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour.

Public Switched Telephone Network Withdrawal

Between now and 2025, most telephone providers such as Virgin Media, O2 or BT will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines over to new upgraded landline services using digital technology.

This means services that rely on the old landline system such as home phones and healthcare devices will no longer work and will need to be changed.
For most residents, this change will be straightforward and communications providers will explain directly to their customers that the change may be as simple as plugging their phone into a broadband router rather than the socket on the wall.
For other, more vulnerable residents who are not already online, it will be more involved. We're sharing information on this with those who use our services so if you are able to, please do use the supplied information in your own communities.

Public Houses in Charney – A Brief History

There were two inns in Charney, right next to one another!

The Hark Inn, now 'Hillside' is a Grade II listed building. It dates from the mid to late 18th Century and is made from coursed limestone rubble with a late C19 tile roof. The name and sign presumably derived from the legend of The Pyatts Hoin.

There was a hatch (The pop hole) in the wall where children or adults not wanting to go into the pub could buy beer to take home as a kind of off-licence, also selling cigarettes, sweets and crisps. The inn was an entrance facing The Green and also access from Buckland Road and Chapel Lane.

The first record of ownership we have is from about 200 years ago in c1806: James Creedy owned the Manor House, a great deal of the village including the two inns!

Around 1844 Mortands decided that it was not feasible to run two pubs in the village and The Hark was sold and became a residential property, 'Hillside'.

The Chequers Inn

The first record we have of a 'lease for a year' in 19 Oct. 1803 to William Creedy, Highworth, Wilts, gentleman, trustee for Thomas Price Belcher. Dated 1804, James Creedy and William Proctor, Francis Gibbs, Henry Gill, Great Faringdon, common brewer – The Chequers, the adjoining dwelling house and the adjoining land called Esquires Close all in Charney. Consideration £1,000.

It has been owned by: Wantage Brewery Mortands, Brakspears

- Berkshire County Council used to hire a room at The Chequers every six months for collecting rent from the small holders and cottagers in the Parish.
- The Chequers Inn also had land at the rear and access from Buckland Road.
- It was home to a dance school.
- There is a wonderful model of The Chequers, completed in 2017 made by Jane Britton for the Pendon Museum.

There are various newspaper reports about events and occurrences concerning both pubs including, inquests, licences, fires, prosecutions etc. given in the newspaper clippings section.

More:

There is much more that you can read about both inns using the links above and most importantly if you have any more information and old photos of either of these two buildings that you can share then please do get in touch via charney.history@hotmail.com

Nature Spot

Building David Attenborough: the three-year-old grandson of Charney's Parish Clerk discovered this little creature in the heart of the willow arbour on the field. He knew it wasn't a frog and with a little help from grandma and Google discovered it was a smooth newt. Learn more about the three varieties of British newt online.

The above night was also seen in a garden in Charney last week. What sounded like a dog's squeaky toy was heard in the garden at about 10.30 pm. It was a fox with its head stuck and stamped around to rear and. It seemed to be way too big to be eaten even with expandable jaws. The snake's nose can just be seen above the frog's back right leg with its body behind.

And let's not forget the amazing Aurora seen over the Village last month.

Charney Bassett Parish Council

Agenda and minutes of meetings can be found online at charneybassett.org.uk
including the full draft minutes of the 8th May Annual Parish Assembly and the Parish Council meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting is due to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 10th July at 7.30pm.

Trevor Brown (Parish Clerk) can be contacted at
parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk.

Poplars Farm

Poplars Farm here in Charney Bassett has been in touch about some of the great nature and landscape recovery work happening on their land.

Over the past few years we have been working closely with "Freshwater Habitats Trust", particularly the River Ock catchment cluster. This is made up of Farmers and land owners along the river Ock catchment, who have got land and time together to improve the water quality, and reinstate/improve habits.

Last year we entered stage one of re-establishing a wetland habit here at Poplars Farm. This is a combination of reinstating a meandering river channel, with shallow and swallow ponds or scrapes as they are known. The primary focus of the scrapes is to create a habit that will encourage red list waders like Curlew, Snipe and other water fowl, along with many other species of flora and fauna.

The exciting news we received this year was that Natural England had approved plans and funding to increase the amount of scrapes, and re-establish a wildflower meadow using green hay from a local SSSI site, which we will be starting this summer 2024.

Since we started last year we have already noticed an increase in wildlife around the new habit, including Curlew which has been extremely vocal over the past few weeks, hopefully using the site for both feeding and nesting.

We'll keep you updated on the progress over the next few months, and how the changes in our farming practices have allowed nature to thrive once again here in Charney Bassett.

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Temporary Road Closure and 'No Waiting' Restriction at Lyford, Unnamed Road (Junction with The Green to junction with Main Street/Hyde Road)

In the interests of public safety it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to close the length of Junction with The Green to junction with Main Street/Hyde Road to facilitate carriageway recycling works / repairs.

A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) is being made to implement the temporary closure and 'No Waiting' restriction and will operate from 10 July 2024 up to and including 25 July 2024. This is a 24 hour road closure.

Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for those frontages within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works and liaison with the works supervisor.

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