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Charney Chatter
October 2025

Saturday 4th October
1 to 4pm

On the Village Green

Charney Community Bonfire Afternoon

FUN FOOD FRIENDLY CHAT FIREWORKS

Made by Farlington & District Stroumsero from 2.00pm

Scarecrow Competition and Trail

Put your scarecrow in your garden, where it can be seen from the street,
by Sunday 28th September

Homemade Pies and Curly Coated

Bake a pie or a tart (sweet or savoury) and bring it along to the Village Green
between 12 noon and 1.30pm on the day

Judging of pies and tarts will begin at 2.30pm, winners announced 2.45pm
Pies and tarts will then be put on sale at the Produce Stall.

Please let us know what you are bringing, so we can avoid bringing a pie or
like for relative spoilers and ingredients such as accompanying sauces.

Fancy Dress

Join in the fun by dressing up for the afternoon! Perhaps you could take your costume into the harvest theme? A small prize for everyone is fancy dress.

Hot Food — Teas, Coffees and Cake
Harvest Bacon and Other Games and Activities
Grand Draw — Produce Stall — and more!

For more information contact Eve (5647151) or Lucy (5647152)

Charney Bassett Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 10th September: five members of the public were present.

Amongst the items discussed were:

- Arrangements for water supply to the allotment site
- Fire Risk arrangements for Charney Mill
- Possible upgrade to the Village website
- Future responsibilities for Crib Green and Jubilee Orchard
- Application to the County Council to re-open the closed path between Chertsey Lane and Church Cottages (Fosse).

County Councillor Lee Evans was also in attendance and is working with us on a number of issues including the installation of white gates at the village entrance on Buckland Road, damage to Crib Bridge and Lyford Bridge, and improvements to the bridleway to Stanford-in-the-Vale.

Agendas and minutes of meetings can be found online at www.charneybassett.org.uk including the full minutes of the 10th September meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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

Parish Councillor details can be found at www.charneybassett.org.uk/council-parish/parish-council

What your village needs you!

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the following roles. If you can spare a bit of time, please get in touch!

- **Fixitytimet Super Users' needed**

Tired of seeing damaged roads/footpaths/pavements and want to see improvements? Fixitytimet is a new app, developed by Oxfordshire County Councillor, Lee Evans, is keen to see more residents volunteer to become **Fixitytimet Super Users** to help identify, log and raise orders for these kinds of defects to be prioritised by council contractors. Training and equipment used in identifying defects would be provided. You can find more information on what's involved here. The Parish Council would be very supportive of anyone wishing to volunteer. If interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

- **Neighbourhood Watch**

Sometime ago the village was part of Neighbourhood Watch but has not had a local representative for several years. We could again be part of this network if there is a local resident who would be prepared to take on this role. We're fortunate to live in a village where people do look out for each other but it is not crime free. If anyone is interested in taking on this role, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk.

VACANCY
Charney Bassett Parish Council

Could you be a parish councillor? Of course you could!

Evelyn Campbell has recently resigned from the Parish Council and she will be sorely missed. This leaves a vacancy that can be filled through a process called 'co-option' i.e. there is no need for us to hold a by-election (Tracey Rouse was appointed to the Parish Council through this process earlier in the year).

What's involved?

There's lots of information about the Parish Council and what it does on the Village Website. We took after several pieces of land and try our best to represent the views of the village in anything that affects residents, for example liaising with the County Council on highway matters and connected by the District Council on planning applications.

Councillors need to attend Parish Council meetings whenever they can (there are six a year) and, depending on personal interests, may represent the Parish Council on other bodies.

If you would like to make a contribution to your community, share your skills and ideas and help shape the future of our village, please reply to any of the current Councillors to find out more, or email Trevor Brown at parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk to receive more information about what's involved.

The Parish need meets on 12th November, and if possible, we would like to confirm an appointment at that meeting.

There's always something interesting going on in Charney! Come and join us!

Charney History - Archaeology Dig: 6th & 7th September 2025

We had a splendid turn out for the Dig and everyone had a most enjoyable, educational and sociable time! About 25 people joined in as well as several dogs, and we dug four test pits (1 m2) across three sites. We have now completed 11 test pits, all adding to the knowledge of our village.

Thanks go to everyone involved and especially to the house owners and to Dr David Ashby who supervised and guided us and provided insights into what we found.

In all, we collected around 20 bags of finds including lots of pottery (modern, medieval and at least one piece of Roman), an 1880 Victoria penny, pieces of clay pipe stems, building materials, buttons, lots of bits of metal such as brooch pieces and rings, an rifle pellets, handmade nails and sand some prehistoric flints. In addition, several people brought along finds from their own gardens for identification, including one particularly interesting piece, and several have offered their gardens for future digs so we may have another one next year!

In October or November, we plan to spend a couple of hours cleaning, identifying and recording all the finds. If you didn't get along to the dig but would like to help with this work, please, just let me know via charneyhistory@gmail.com and I'll keep you informed.

And, as ever, if you have any information or pictures to add for inclusion on the Charney History website, please do get in touch at charney-history@bitternest.com.

A big thank you!

To everyone who joined in with our Apple Day in September – whether bringing your own fruit to be juiced and bottled, or buying juice from us.

You helped us raise £550 for St Peter's Church.

Some of you have asked if we will be doing it again – and the answer is yes! So put Saturday 10th September 2026 in your diaries now!

Abingdon RDA Charity Quiz!

Saturday 18th October
Southmoor Village Hall, OX13 5BY

Doors open at 7pm – No booking required

CASH AND CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED
£3 PER ADULT
£2 PER CHILD
(MAX OF 6 PER TEAM)

Quarter Finals Winners — Quarter Finals Winners — Quarter Finals Winners — Quarter Finals Winners

Semi Finals Winners — Semi Finals Winners

Additional Interval Snacks round £1 per team

Additional Late Snacks £1 per team

Final Winners

- Raffle - Refreshments available -
CONTACT MAX FOR MORE INFO - 07705583483

Remembering South and Vale's New Waste Services Number is as easy as 123

From 8th September, residents in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse should use a new number for district council waste and recycling enquiries:

01235 422 123

01235 422 123 is now number 1 for all household waste, recycling, food, garden waste (collections only*), bulky waste collections, clinical waste collections and assisted collections. It also the number to call to report fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles.

*For queries about garden waste permits, residents should continue to call 01235 422 422.

For enquiries relating to Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRC's), please continue to contact the county council on 0345 310 1111

southoxon.gov.uk
whitehorsevale.gov.uk

CHARNEY HALL AND FIELD TRUST (CHAFT) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 8th October at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall

The Agenda will be posted on the Village Website and CHAFT Facebook Page by 1st October

If you wish to ask a question, please email secretary@chaft.org

Charney 100 Club Draw

The results of the September draw are:

£25 No 52 – Jane Dale

£10 No 87 – Kay Adamson

Congratulations to our winners!

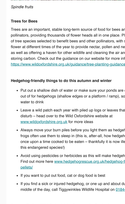
You are warmly invited to the

Harvest Family Service

11.00 am in St Peter's Church
Sunday 12th October

followed by a bring-and-share lunch in Charney Village Hall

If you cannot come to the service, please still feel welcome to join us for the harvest lunch at around 12.30pm



From Friday 10th - Sunday 26th October, there will be a basket in the church porch where we will gratefully receive donations of toiletries, bottled or canning oil, tinned foods, packets and jars of food *(with at least six-months to expiry date please)*. These will be given to the Abingdon Food Bank.

Wild Oxfordshire

Seasonal Spotlight – Autumn

It's that time of year when the trees will be changing colour, the air is getting cooler, the days are shorter, we can't help thinking of warm drinks, cosy clothes and playing in the crunchy leaves.

As we enter autumn, it can be tempting to cut back all the dead and dying vegetation in our gardens and green spaces. It's worth considering that many of these woody stems will become perfect winter homes for insects as they enter hibernation and can create areas of beauty in our homes and communities.

In Oxfordshire, the hedgerow species we generally recommend *planting for* their capacity to provide for both people and wildlife year-round and you're most likely to see in your local area include Blackthorn, Spindle, Common Hawthorn, Dogwood, Wild Privet, Wild Rose, Hazel, Wild Cherry and Elder. Fruiting season for many of these species starts from late summer to early autumn. As such, by the time of year, most of the species listed above will be fruiting. Hawthorn berries have traditional use in heart-strengthening natural medicines but also act as a vital source of food for caterpillars, moths, and migratory birds. Keep your eyes peeled for spindle, which has vibrant autumnal colours with vibrant pinks, and the leaves turning from a deep green to a beautiful red.

Spindle fruit

Trees for Bees

Trees are an important, stable long-term source of food for bees and other pollinators, providing thousands of flower heads all in one place. Plant a variety of tree species selected to benefit bees and other pollinators, with species that flower at different times of the year to provide nectar, pollen and nesting sites as well as offering a haven for other wildlife and cleaning the air and water and storing carbon. Check out the guidance on our website for more information: https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/tree-planting-guidance

Hedgehog-friendly things to do this autumn and winter

- Put out a shallow dish of water or make sure your ponds are easy to get out of for hedgehogs (shallow edges or a platform / ramp), as they have water to drink.
- Leave a wild patch near your garden with piled up logs or leaves that you don't disturb – head over to the Wild Oxfordshire website at www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk for more ideas
- Always move your bare piles before you light them as hedgehogs and frogs often use them to sleep in (this is, after all, how hedgehogs were discovered and named to be eaten – thankfully it is now illegal to set alight with hedgehogs inside!)
- Avoid using slug pellets or herbicides as this will make hedgehogs very ill. Find out more here: www.hedgehogcare.org.uk/hedgehog-friendly-slug-pellets
- If you want to put out food, opt for dog food or bird food
- If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, or one up and about during the middle of the day, call Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital on 01844 292292

Imogen Parker, Wild Oxfordshire Community Ecologist

Services in St Peter's Church

BCP HOLY COMMUNION –
Sunday 5th October – 9 am

HAYNES'ST FAMILY SERVICE –
Sunday 12th October – 11 am
followed by a bring-and-share lunch
in Charney Village Hall around
12.30pm

AFTERNOON SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –
Friday 17th October – 2 pm
Please note the earlier start time for autumn

More details can be found on the
Benefice website at
Whats On - Services and Events - The Benefice of Chertsey with Gerrards

Dates for the Diary

CHARNEY COMMUNITY SOCIAL AFTERNOON – Saturday 4th October, 1-4pm, Village Green

SEW & SOCIAL SESSIONS (all welcome) – Thursdays, 10 am – Noon, Village Hall

FIRST FRIDAYS COFFEE CARS & CHAT – Friday 3rd October, 3 – 4.30 pm, Village Hall

CHARNEY HALL & FIELD TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Wednesday 8th October, 6.30 pm, Village Hall

Charney Chatter is now a published monthly on behalf of the Parish Council. Occasional news updates may be sent to subscribers at the discretion of the editors. Contributions should be emailed to charneychatter@gmail.com by the 25th of each month. You can unsubscribe by e-mailing charneychatter+unsubscribe@gmail.com. Please let us know if your e-mail address changes so we can update our mailing list. Charney Chatter is proudly produced using Mailchimp.

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