

**PUBLISHED BY
CHARNEY BASSETT
PARISH COUNCIL**

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Geoff Rumble, Buckland Road 868738
John Stiles, Barnfield 868191
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Meetings are held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the second Wednesdays of odd-numbered months.

The next meeting is on 10th January 2007.

ADVERTS AND EVENTS

Personalised Home-made Cards

If you can't find the right card for that special occasion, Eunice will make one for you. Ring her on 868646. Proceeds to charity.

Village Diner

The Village Diner provides home-made food from local sources in Buckland Village Hall, every third Wednesday in the month. For £4 you get a splendid meal, tea or coffee and a chat. Next date 17th January.

Piano Teacher

Experienced Piano Teacher qualified to CT ABRSM, recently moved back to the area, available for local lessons. Preparation for exams if desired. Tel: 868318.

Building and Furniture Repairs.

Local experienced craftsman available for maintenance and renovation of buildings and furniture. Small jobs welcome. Security alarms fitted. Steve Ridley, Gilbert's Cottage, East Hanney, Tel: 07999 841520.

Harwell - the Enigma revealed

A new 350-page hardback by Nick Hance lavishly illustrated with over 300 pictures, marking the 60th anniversary of the opening of Britain's nuclear research centre is now published. Copies priced £20 plus £5 P&P are available from Nick at The Vicarage, Buckland SN7 8QN.

Table Tennis in the Village Hall

Interested in playing? All standards welcome. Ring David Sibbert for details. 868734.

CLET

Charney and Lyford Education Trust, CLET, supports a range of activities, with grants awarded both to individuals and to the community in Charney Bassett and Lyford. Applications will be considered by the

Trustees who meet in January, May and September. For further details please contact the Clerk: Mrs Frances Rothwell, "Oldwalls", Buckland Road, Tel: 868704 E-mail: fc.rothwell@tiscali.co.uk.

CHARNEY ARMY

Rex Paske of Chapel Lane has kindly donated a winch to The Army. Although he admitted it hadn't been used for ages and was cluttering up the place, nevertheless it's a

very useful piece of kit. So it occurred to us that if you have any equipment lying around which you think might be useful to us, please get in touch and we'll come and look at it.

Deadline for copy for the next edition in March 2007: 20 February 2007

Contributions are welcome, in fact desperately needed! Adverts are free!

Charney Chatter can be e-mailed free to anyone giving their e-mail address to the Editor

Charney Chatter

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2007

THANK YOU TO PHYLLIS MILLS

The Coffee Hour on December 12th welcomed Phyllis Mills as a special guest. The occasion was the "retirement" of Phyllis from Village Hall bookings. A change of the arrangements for making bookings has meant that a computer is needed to record the Hall usage and to generate invoices. Phyllis freely admitted that she "doesn't do computers" and therefore felt it was a good opportunity to hand over the job to someone else. She and her late husband George managed the Hall very efficiently for many years and her efforts were recognised by the presentation of an indoor plant arrangement by the Chairman of CHAFT, Elisabeth Dahele. A very good turnout of the Coffee Hour regulars were there to thank her and an excellent spread was laid to add to the celebrations.

Phyllis, who also for many years delivered Cherbury News and collected on RAFA flag days, now finds it less easy to get around. However, she will not be relinquishing all her community duties and will continue to keep the Notice Board tidy, another task she performs to a high standard, as past reports of Best Kept Village inspections often revealed.

She also carried out the pulling out of the bag of the winning numbers for the 100 Club Big Christmas prizes of £100 and £50 whose winners are reported at the bottom of this page.

The village has good reason to thank Phyllis for her contributions to the community over the years and it is hoped she will enjoy her "retirement" for a long time to come.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

With effect from January 1st, Contact her on 868646 for a Village Hall bookings will be booking form and conditions of managed by Eunice Davies. hire.

CHAFT 100 CLUB

The December draw was the big one! Winners were:- David Douglas (135) £100 and Tony and Karen Rapley (132) £50. Did you miss out? Contact Geoff and Julie Rumble (868738) to join. After deducting prizes, the Club has so far raised over £1,000.

HEADLINES

- *Village Hall fund raising has started.*
- *Oxfordshire is 1000!*
- *Get your walking boots on!*
- *Open CHAFT meeting - Jan 15th.*

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Coffee Hour resumes in the Village Hall on Tuesdays (10.30-11.30) from 16th January.

Do call in and chat. 50p buys you as much tea or coffee as you can drink - and there are biscuits too!

Visit www.charneybassettpc.org.uk for the very latest village news

CHAFT NEWS - THE VILLAGE HALL PROJECT

Hall Bookings:

As most of you will know, for many years Phyllis Mills has been helping with the village hall, especially bookings, and CHAFT appreciates very much the enthusiasm and energy she has put into all that she has done for us. Thank you Phyllis.

From 1st January 2007, however, Eunice Davies will take over managing hall bookings, so please contact her on 868646 if you want to book the hall or borrow or hire any of the items available to villagers, i.e. crockery, tables, chairs, gazebos etc. Our thanks to Eunice for taking on this task; she will introduce new procedures so that bookings will be confirmed and invoiced, and hall availability can be checked on the website.

Village Hall Development Project - Fundraising:

The Curry Supper in November was enjoyed by all who attended and we raised some £418 towards the hall development project - thanks to all helpers and supporters, and to the Manor for the use of the dining room; it is always a

pleasure to meet there. It is hoped to repeat the event, but perhaps at a time when families can join the party.

Grant applications:

The Trust for Oxfordshire Environment have said they would like to support our efforts, but asked us to get back to them when the funding gap has been reduced; the Doris Field Trust have contributed £500; our application has been lodged with The Big Lottery Fund, a response from which is expected at the latest in April 2007.

Next CHAFT Meeting:

This will be on Monday 15th January, 8.00 pm in the Village Hall, and the main item on the agenda will be future fundraising. We hope as many of you as possible will come along to contribute your ideas, and perhaps offer to be involved with particular events. There will be light refreshments to keep up the energy levels and encourage participation in the discussions.

Elisabeth Dahele

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE - 2007

This is a sponsored walk to raise money for Breakthrough Breast Cancer & CHAFT Village Hall Project.

This year (2006) my small group of friends raised over £2000. We are hoping to get more people involved in 2007 and raise a significant amount for both Breakthrough and The Village Hall Project. I hope the people of Charney Bassett will support us in this venture.

As with the 2006 walk, which was on the day of the Fete, this will be a 16-mile circular walk from Charney Bassett to Wantage. The 2007

route has yet to be finalised but it's likely to be through the beautiful local countryside: Lyford, Hanney, Grove, Wantage and back via Challow and Denchworth. We had a number of pit stops along the way and Waitrose provided us with lunch at our Wantage pit stop.

Numbers are limited. To register, take part and get a sponsor form, contact Deb Little 01235 867539. Not only do we need walkers, we also need support people to help out on the day.

Debbie Little

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FROM YOUR MP - ED VAIZEY

As some of you may know I was appointed Shadow Culture spokesman for the Conservatives towards the end of last year. This means that, in addition to my constituency duties, I speak for the Conservatives on a huge range of issues. These include the BBC, broadcasting in general, digital switchover, museums and galleries, libraries, music, theatre and film.

One of the reasons I love representing Wantage & Didcot is that so much that happens locally is relevant to the national debate, be it science or business or many other issues. The arts are no different. We have a thriving arts scene, and this year, 2007, when we celebrate Oxfordshire's millennium, the arts will be to the fore. Faringdon and Wantage both have hugely successful art festivals; Wantage and Wallingford have great museums; Wallingford has two great music

festivals; Didcot will be getting its very own arts centre and cinema shortly. We have many local artists and highly successful brass bands and choirs. I have only scratched the surface here, which just goes to show how much is going on.

It is not all rosy of course – the closure of the Wantage cinema is a reminder that cultural resources are always under threat. I would be very happy to hear from anyone who has something to say about the arts or broadcasting, and how they think Government policy can develop.

January local surgeries are 19th in Wantage Civic Hall and 26th in Faringdon Corn Exchange. Both are 5.30 – 7.00 p.m.

I can be contacted at any time at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, 0207 219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Up to date news can be found at www.vaizey.com.

ANOTHER MILLENNIUM - OXFORDSHIRE IS 1000!

Join in the county's millennium celebrations! Blackbirds in pies, a giant pendulum, a mile for the Millennium and a Dance-a-thon - just some of the ingredients in **Oxfordshire 2007** - and the whole county is invited.

Look out for notices for the huge range of activities, many of which are free or subsidised, or visit the web site: www.oxfordshire2007.com.

POLLY'S APPEAL

Two events in Southmoor Village Hall aim to raise money for the local Polly's Appeal - to build a permanent home for pre-schoolers in Southmoor and the surrounding villages.

puppetry, suitable for age 4+. Performances at 1.30 and 3.30. Tickets £5 pp: available from Julia on 01865 821077.

Sunday February 4th Children's Theatre: Knight Time. Jack finds that being a Knight is not all it's cracked up to be. A professional story-teller from ScratchBuilt Productions theatre company plays all the characters in this great new children's show, leaping about, shooting arrows and singing songs before he sets off to meet the dragon. Great action and

Saturday February 24th "Dinosaurs on the Dancefloor", a one-woman comedy is written for and performed by Charney Bassett's own Kate Belcher. Written by Paul Jenkins, about a singleton trying to find Mr Right amidst family turmoil, work chaos and personal angst, it'll be a hilarious night out! One performance only: 8.00 p.m.. Tickets from Esther on 01865 821200.

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