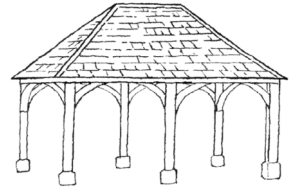


Charlbury Chronicle



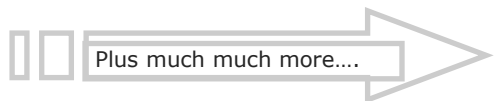
Volume 28 Number 3

Autumn 2024

The Charlbury Chronicle is a free quarterly local community publication run by volunteers covering news and events for Charlbury and the surrounding area

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From the Editor

You would have thought that after the busy festival season with Riverside and Wilderness Charlbury would go back to being quiet. But oh no.

We start off with the Garden Society's Annual Flower and Produce Sale on 31 August; then the Community Centre's 7th BBQ on 8th September and the Farmers Market will be held on 14th September.

The following week we have the legendary Egg Throwing Competition on 20 September getting us in the mood for Street Fair the following day on 21 September.

Do all come along and enjoy the fair and spend lots of money! Can I please encourage you all to support this worthwhile cause, which apart from having a great time, all monies raised will go to help with the maintenance

of the Corner House and Memorial Hall.

Its Oktoberfest on 5 October on the Cricket Pitch see p40. And Bring or Take on November 16th.

If you are interested in helping to manage the adverts for the Chronicle, please contact me at editor.chronicle@outlook.com or Graham at adverts.chronicle@outlook.com. Thanks for this.

If you have any ideas on what else you would like to see in the Chronicle, please do contact me at:-

editor.chronicle@outlook.com

I hope you all had a great summer holiday and for those who are not retired its back to the grind!

Susanna Finch

**Please note the deadline for articles for the Winter issue is 1st November 2024
Please send all articles to editor.chronicle@outlook.com**



Charlbury STREET FAIR

Charlbury Street Fair
21 September

I hope that by now you have got 21st September in large letters in your diary! The committee have moved into top gear and we are getting very excited about this year's Street Fair as there are some new and exciting things happening, as well as the usual old favourites.

Street Fair has been running since the 1950's and all money raised goes towards the upkeep of the Corner House and Memorial Hall, our two community buildings.

The fun starts on Friday night with the Egg Throwing, an un-missable event which gets things off to a good start.

As you know, the Fair itself begins at 2pm but we need people to come and help set up the stalls from 8am in Church Street. The new Vicar Fergus Butler-Gallie will judge the fancy dress at 1.30pm and open the fair at 2pm.

We are very grateful to St Mary's Church for offering to organise the stocks, china smashing and a coconut shy in the churchyard this year. Another new venture is the 'Artisan Hub' in the Memorial Hall for small local handmade craft producers to sell their wares. Don't

worry, there will still be space in the main hall and the Green Room to have your tea and cakes.

The next thing you will notice is us selling Raffle tickets; so watch out for that on the Saturdays in September when we will also be collecting bottles for the Bottle Tombola.

The two evening bands will be the Vodka Shots and the Britpop band (the name is a clue to the genre).

There will also be the Fenn Family band at 4pm and the two peripheral stages in the garden of the Corner House and at the Bull.

Will residents of Church Street and Park Street, please note that a temporary road closure permit had been applied for the 21 September and Street Fair would be grateful for those who live in the streets to find alternative parking for the day. Many thanks.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact me on csfsecretary@charlburystreetfair.org or 07800744787.

*Liz Partington
Secretary.*

CORNER HOUSE AND MEMORIAL HALL

Office: 07826 056496
Office hours: Mon 9.30am - 11.30am; Wed & Sat: 9am to 12 noon
Emergency Contact:
Roy Scott (01608 810562)



Corner House: the People's Garden

Charlbury loves its gardens. There are lots of wonderful gardens hidden behind houses and many of them are open to public on special days each summer. Charlbury Open Gardens are always popular and offer all of us treats not to be missed.

It is often surprising what joys lurk behind our houses, and many Charlbury residents devote time and love to the nourishment of their gardens. In return, when the soil and other conditions are just right, we are absolutely blessed by the generosity of blooms and foliage.

But do you know that some of Charlbury gardens are always open and welcoming? There are free gardens outside some of the churches but the largest open garden is right in the middle of the town behind the Corner House and next to the Memorial Hall.

Like those buildings themselves, the garden also effectively belongs to the whole town and is there for your enjoyment and delight.

The Corner House garden is maintained by members of the Garden Society who continue to invest effort and care in making the garden a quiet place waiting to welcome you. They have named this "the People's Garden" because it is there for everyone.

Some tables and chairs are provided, and you really are very welcome just to walk in and be refreshed for a while in this central haven.

The garden includes some fine old trees on the lawn beside the colourful shrubs and flower border immediately behind the Browns Lane wall. But there is more still, if you go to the left of the Memorial

Hall by the paved terrace along the side of the hall. Right at the very back is a more wild area especially to encourage wild life.

Please therefore do not miss this garden which is there for you to enjoy. There are huge benefits to be had from resting for a while surrounded by nature's blessings.

Readers of this magazine who have been in Charlbury for a while will remember Jane and Ian Parsons who for many years took care of Corner House and Memorial Hall bookings plus caretaking and small maintenance. Jane had her effective ways of supervision organizing the bookings diary but it was Ian who did so much of the physical work as caretaker and mender. After retiring from Charlbury duties, the couple moved to Shipton under Wychwood but the sad news is that Ian died, unexpectedly, from a heart attack whilst cutting his lawn on July 26.

We remember and salute his service to our buildings and the garden before it was taken into the care of the Garden Society.

*Roy Scott, chairman of the trustees
Corner House & Memorial Hall*

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Charlbury Beer and Wine Circle

Our 2023/24 series of tastings ended in May, with Chris and Deborah's selection of wines they have enjoyed while living and holidaying around the world. June saw twenty of us take a walk around Oxford and visit the Oxford University Press Museum. After lunching in the Hall at Balliol College we visited the Weston Library to hear a short presentation about the Sheldon Tapestries; a series of four 400 year old maps woven in wool and silk.

Three of the tapestries are in the ownership of the Bodleian Library and the Oxfordshire example is on display in the Weston.

Sadly, bad weather caused the cancellation of our summer BBQ and, for the same reason, our garden party was held indoors – although still with good company, good conversation and good wine.

We now look forward to our new programme which will again be a good mix of tastings presented by members, as well as return visits by some of the professionals who have entertained and enlightened us in the past two or three years, with their choices of wines. That programme will be preceded by our AGM on Monday 9 September – the second Monday of the month.

Our tastings are held in the Memorial Hall, usually on the third Monday of the month. Guests and new members are always welcome but we do ask that you tell us of your wish to attend.

Brian Murray, Secretary
sec.charlburybeerandwine@yahoo.com
Ant Horn, Chair:
charlburybeerandwinecircle@gmail.com

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Former Soho Farmhouse Executive Chef to Lead FarmED Cafe

Gareth Rhodes, former Executive Chef at Soho Farmhouse and Head Chef at COYA in London has taken charge of the kitchen at the FarmED Cafe, a farm to fork eatery based at the regenerative demonstration farm and conference barns near Chipping Norton in the Cotswolds.

Gareth, hails from Norfolk, and his love and passion for food and cooking started when he watched his Nan cook in her kitchen. London was always going to be the place to go and develop his passion and that is exactly what he did. His CV includes well known London Restaurants such as the iconic Rib Room & Oyster Bar, Mju by Tetsuya Wakuda at the Millenium Hotel, Zuma London, MICHELIN-starred Italian restaurant Zafferano's, Tom's Kitchen with Tom Aikens (Chelsea), La Petite Maison and more recently, Head Chef at COYA, London.

Gareth's next move was to Soho Farmhouse as Executive Chef, where he had overall responsibility for all food outlets, including all day dining restaurant, the Main Barn, serving up to 1000 covers per day, the Pen Yen Japanese Restaurant and overseeing Feasts, functions and events.

A stint in Consultancy followed, involving menu design and research for high end restaurant operators, plus assisting clients with bespoke supplier research and advising on kitchen design, layout and equipment specifications.

The FarmED centre was opened by HM King Charles, then HRH Prince of Wales, in June 2021 and has since won numerous awards for its eco-architectural design and work in promoting regenerative agriculture and sustainable, seasonal food to mitigate climate change. The FarmED Cafe is open to the public for breakfast, lunch, tea, coffee and cakes and also caters for visitors attending a range of courses and events as well as delegates from organisations hiring the

venue for their bespoke team away days.

'I am excited by many aspects of working in the FarmED kitchen' says Gareth.

'You have to be inventive with seasonal vegetables,

managing gluts and gaps and with my background in Japanese restaurants I'm really looking forward to introducing Asian-inspired dishes, which pack a lot of punch in terms of vegetables. I'm particularly looking forward to tomato season but it's wonderful working with veg which comes straight from the ground in the kitchen garden here. You can literally smell the freshness of the carrots through the soil.

It's unbeatable in terms of nutrients too. I'm also keen to do more with the amazing pizza oven here. I love cooking with charcoal and wood; it's how you should cook, how we used to cook and I will be introducing a sourdough programme for breads, pizza and focaccia.'

'We're thrilled to be working with Gareth,' says FarmED Operations Manager and restaurateur, Sally Pullen. 'The FarmED Cafe has a variety of functions, catering to locals who just want to enjoy a nutritious and sustainable breakfast or lunch, as well as larger groups looking for bespoke catering for their team away days. Gareth's credentials and experience will bring a whole new flavour to our menus.'

The FarmED Cafe is open from 9am-4pm, with breakfast served from 9-11am and lunch from 12-2pm.

www.farm-ed.co.uk





Cotswold Line Promotion Group

The good news for users of Charlbury Station is that the booking office has re-opened after the closure brought about by the burst water pipe and the subsequent discovery of asbestos in the ceiling. On 22nd July at 05.50 hrs, the office was opened for business and staffed by Carl, who will be there to help with ticket issuing, information and advice each Monday to Friday until 12.20. I feel sure everyone will offer Carl their best wishes for his role in our much-valued station. Saturday morning opening will be re-commenced in due course.

Hopes for future investment in the line – are they now dashed? Many in CLPG – and many users of the North Cotswold Line also – will have been encouraged to hear Rachel Reeves speak of the need for *New Towns* and mention Worcester Parkway (sic) as a possible site suitable for development, (likely bringing about investment in the line) only to find their hopes soon dashed when, on speaking about the poor state of the Nation's finances, she suggested that major investment in our railways in the near future is unlikely. We surely all know that many of the issues of reliability of the services through Charlbury will not be put right until the line is returned to double track all the way between Oxford and Worcester and that will not happen without a substantial sum of money committed to the project. Let's hope that with further thought, the new Chancellor will accept the case for investment sooner rather than later.

Investment of another kind – and on this occasion it is time – has really paid off in the station gardens and thanks are due to Georgie Slack and her gardening team

for making them look so colourful. Charlbury Station surely has the most attractive garden to be found along the Cotswold line. Well done Georgie. I wonder if we might have a 'best garden' competition – maybe the best along the line or in the county. Any thoughts or ideas you may wish to share, please let me know.

With Great Western having ceased publication of the pocket timetables, CLPG has again printed a supply of the June to December 2024 timetables. These are available at Charlbury Station during the above-mentioned opening hours and while stocks last.

After many years of absence, CLPG will again have a stand at Street Fair. Come along and find out what the group is doing to help bring about improvements to the rail service between Oxford, Worcester and Hereford. We have an attractive range of prizes to be won and we'll have membership forms available, should you wish to join us.

Brian Murray

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Charlbury Museum & Heritage Centre

Secrets of the Museum

The fascinating BBC series 'Secrets of the Museum' about the Victoria & Albert museum collections, which gave viewers a peek behind the scenes, inspires this article. Charlbury Museum is of course miniscule by comparison, its own collections focus on the history of this small Cotswold town.

We may not practice state-of-the-art conservation but Charlbury museum does follow the disciplined and time-consuming work of cataloguing its collection, just as any museum does, be it grandiose or small. Like so many tasks our cataloguing is undertaken by volunteers, the unseen heroes who beaver away behind the scenes!

Charlbury Museum's cataloguing team is led by Diana Bennett who has been involved with the museum since she moved to Charlbury with her husband Peter, in 2013.

Diana's passion for social history began 45 years ago while tracing her family history, and it was on a visit to the London Metropolitan Archives that she first met Peter.

After studying part-time for a history degree with the Open University, she then did a master's degree, her dissertation: 'Poverty and Poor Relief in Charlbury and Spelsbury 1799 -1815' received a distinction. She has just completed a book for the Oxfordshire Record Society, to be published in 2025.

Working with Diana are two volunteers Selina and Jean. Selina Thomas met Diana through the Historical Research Group, her special interest is in transcribing Charlbury's probate documents and the Manorial Court Rolls. Selina contributed research on the British School for the exhibition in 2015, and for the historical map exhibition for Charlbury Festival 2024. The museum is always pleased to welcome new

volunteers and Jean joined the team in the spring, following a request for extra help, she is also a steward too. Jean says: 'I have no previous experience or knowledge of history and cataloguing, I just enjoy it.... it is so worthwhile'. This group of three meet regularly to meticulously record and label each piece in the collection.

There are now 3,500 catalogued items in the museum collection, recorded on the computerised cataloguing system called Modes. This was started in 2013 when the late Celia Faulkner (curator) and Janet Jeffs began the laborious task of transferring the old paper records to Modes. Diana also undertook cataloguing from 2017 -2020, this year she has added over 650 items and updated a further 1060 entries.

Images of each piece, from tiny coin to penny farthing bicycle, sit next to a catalogue number, location and provenance details, along with much other information. I

n order to meet the conservation requirements specialist labels and marking methods are now being used, though some pieces from decades past still dangle aged tags! As the museum works towards Accreditation status in 2026, this valuable cataloguing team is making a significant contribution to this process.

In the next edition of The Chronicle '**Secrets of the Museum**' reveals the work of the 'Photograph Archive' team, another small group devoting their time to a major project.

Finally, as the museum open season draws to a close, the Trustees of Charlbury Museum & Heritage Centre would like to thank all the stewards and those 'unseen heroes' who keep our museum alive for visitors to enjoy.

Sue Rangeley, Trustee



Charlbury Museum & Heritage Centre

Photos: Some badges from the Mini-Museum: Charlbury Town Football Club; Spendlove School; Charlbury Youth Hostel. A recent donation: Farm Workers Union Badge (1930s-40s) belonged to Jim Abbott of Fulwell. Jim was the brother of Montague 'Mont' Abbott whose memoir is recorded in 'Lifting the Latch' by Sheila Stewart. Donated by Sylvia Benfield 2024 (on display in Wagon Room)

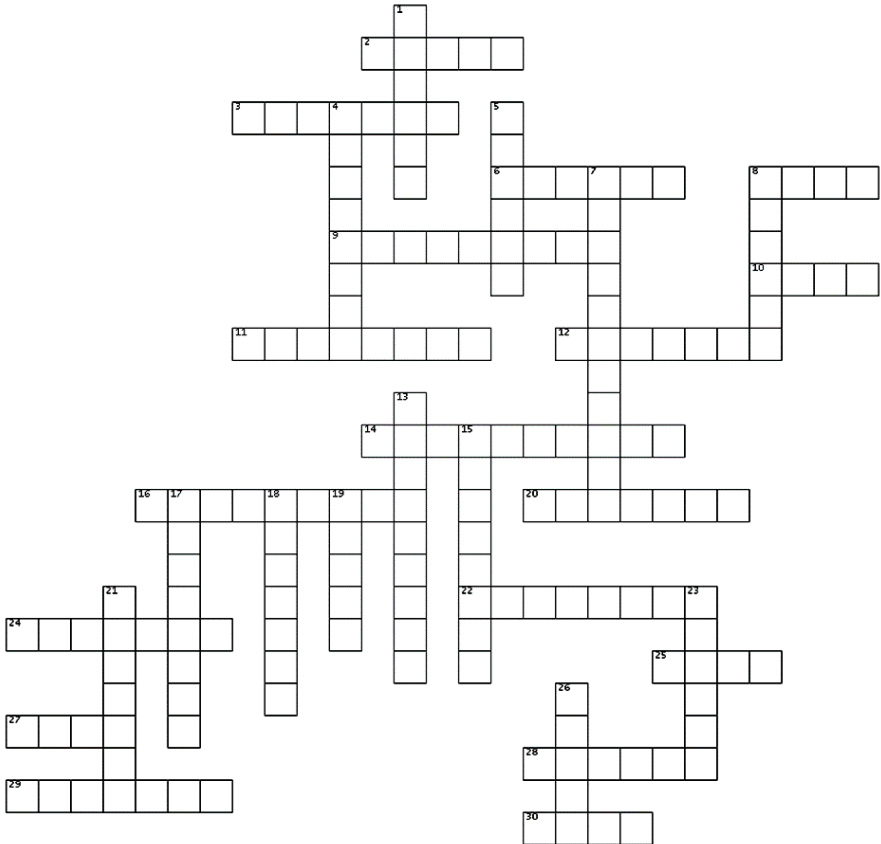




Coffee break page

Compiled by Michele Marietta

The Charlbury Set



Answer on page 43



Coffee break page

Compiled by Michele Marietta

ACROSS

2. Found both in and above The Bell (Taylor) (5)
3. Stand Up for this Charlbury funny local (7)
6. Giving birth to new representation (6)
8. Charlbury's four ways to heaven (4)
9. Snoop Dogg's favourite local Magazine (9)
10. Not true / Pub name (4)
11. Noddy Holder's favourite through route (3,5)
12. Elton John's Tiny hill (7)
14. Where Jesus went to be tested, but with more sparkly trousers (10)
16. In French. Cafe at the Chadlington post office (2,2,5)
20. To cover in minerals, nearby village (7)
22. Yearly excuse to snoop around other people's houses (3,5)
24. Show me the way to ' this eatery (sic) (7)
25. True - Charlbury is a Town not a (4)
27. The first part of my name - welcome to do this in Charlbury (4)
28. Charlbury has tennis and basketball ones, but not this MP (6)
29. Iron Age Route for Brine (4,3)
30. Kanye. Our part of Oxfordshire District Council (4)

DOWN

1. What drivers should be doing in Town (6)
4. Charlbury's five ways to Heaven (8)
5. Obligatory snap outside The Bull (6)
7. Yearly excuse to snoop around other people's yards (4, 7)
8. Not, in fact, a club for alien abductees, but for business (6)
13. Free, fun, and next to the water (9)
15. In French. Cafe at the Charlbury station (2,2,4)
17. Well balanced investment fund and river (8)
18. Yoga without the hippy element, and great exercise (7)
19. What you can get for a pound at Diddly (5)
21. 10 CC didn't like this club, they loved it! (7)
23. Useful when rambling in one, or more, direction (Harry almost) (6)
26. Spinal Tap said to smell this historical Charlbury product (5)



Charlbury Pre-School News

A roundup of the exciting activities and events that happened at Charlbury preschool during the summer term:

We took part in the Charlbury Open Gardens it was a great success and it was wonderful seeing so many of you. The children are making sure the garden stays as beautiful as ever and are enjoying looking after the plants by watering them every day

All of the preschool children and staff had a very exciting day out for our summer Fairytale Farm Trip - petting and feeding the Rabbits and Guinea Pigs, Walking the Alpacas and feeding the pigs as well as playing in the park.

As some of our wonderful children move on to their next adventure of primary school we enjoyed a Graduation Picnic and leavers song. It was a lovely afternoon and we look forward to hearing how the children are getting on at their next settings.

Fundraising update! Our volunteers managed to raise the funds for a much needed Interactive White Board- the children are particularly enjoying doing Yoga and participating in interactive Monster Phonics activities.

As part of our playground revamp new musical instruments were installed in the sensory garden - wind chimes, bamboo chimes, a cable reel drum.

We took part at the Charlbury Beer Festival - providing the play equipment, stories and puzzles, and selling ice lollies. It was a great success and

wonderful to see so many of you there! As of September 2024, we are happy to announce that we will be further extending our daily opening hours from 8:30am-5pm, due to popular demand from parents. Also a reminder that our preschool is for children age 2-5 so if you're looking for a nurturing child- led setting please pop along for a visit.

How to get in touch

To find out more about our Pre-school or to talk to a member of the team, you can reach us through the following channels:

- www.charlburypreschool.org.uk
- admin@charlburypreschool.org.uk
- 01608 811200

We look forward to seeing many of you in the setting and at our next community events.

CHARLBURY FARMERS' MARKET **on the Playing Close between** **9am and 1pm on** **Saturday, 14th September**

Charlbury Farmers' Market is administered by Thames Valley Farmers' Market Co-operative Ltd. and organised by Geoff & Janet Burroughs.

Any queries, please contact Geoff or Janet on the contact details below.

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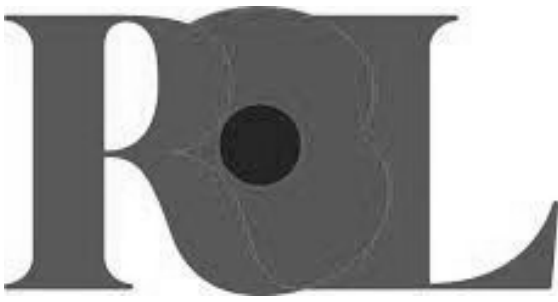
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ROYAL
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Trip to REME museum on 28 September 2024.

To book, subject to availability, contact Major Potter on 01608 810388 or Jane Parsons on 01993 357468.

The Branch AGM will be held in the Anne Downer Room at Charlbury Corner House at 8.00pm on Thursday 17 October 2024. All members are encouraged to attend. Anyone who would like to join the Branch is most welcome. Other than the AGM our monthly committee meetings will be held at 3.00pm in the Anne Downer Room.

The Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Saturday 2 November 2024 with raffle, cakes and poppies for sale. For further information please contact Kim Harrison on 07826 898496.

The Annual Band Concert will be held in the War Memorial Hall on Friday 8 November 2024 with " Jubilee Brass". There will be a raffle, light refreshments and a licensed bar. Details may be obtained from the Poppy Appeal Organiser or from posters in the usual places nearer the time. Tickets, at £10 per person, may be purchased in advance from the Cotswold Frames or on the door. All the proceeds will go to Poppy Appeal and everyone is welcome, members and non-members alike.

Remembrance Day Parade and Service – Sunday 10 November 2024. The Charlbury Parade forms up at the Spendlove Car Park at 2.30pm and the Service is at 3.00pm in St. Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome to join the parade and/or the service.

The parade will be led by Pipers and Drummers of the Scots Guards Association [Berks, Bucks and Oxon Branch] under the direction of Pipe Major Steve Duffy [details correct at time of going to press] and commanded by the Charlbury Branch President, Major Nicholas Potter [late Scots Guards]

A decision on the salute taker is pending. Wreaths will be laid by the Legion, Charlbury Town Council, Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and Charlbury WI.

After the Service and Parade tea and biscuits will be available for all marchers, Legion members, serving and ex-serving service personnel, in the War Memorial Hall.

The rehearsal for all standard and flag bearers, wreath layers and readers etc will be at St Mary's Church at 6.30pm on Thursday 7 November 2024.

The National Two Minutes Silence will be at 11.00am on Monday 11 November 2024. Please support this small yet significant event.

For more information about the work of the Royal British Legion, becoming a member or for assistance, please contact Nick Potter [Branch President] on 01608 810388, or Gary Harrison [Branch Chair] on 07726 898499. Any queries about subscriptions should be made to the Membership Secretary, Barry Canham on 01608 811176.

The telephone number for the Royal British Legion Contact Centre is 0808 8028080.



Charlbury Bowls Club

Coming up in this issue from the Bowls Club: our Ladies reach the County Triples and Pairs Finals, Summer Short Mat update and our Men's, Ladies and Mixed Leagues updates as well as the date for our Autumn Bingo.

It has been a good Summer for our Ladies in the league as they have improved their final league position for the third successive year. Only having started three seasons ago, after a long hiatus, they have consistently improved year on year. Congratulations to them for their effort and success.

Staying with the Ladies, Charlbury were represented in the Pairs and Triples County Finals recently at Chipping Norton on the 27th and 28th July. Unfortunately, despite a great determined performance in both finals they were beaten on the day. All is not lost as they are on their way to Leamington for the Aviva National Finals as the finalists for Oxfordshire. A great achievement!

The Men's team are in with a great chance of bouncing back to Division Two following relegation last season. Currently sitting in third place by half a point and with the last game of the season to come and a win needed. A final report in the next issue.

The Mixed League has us with a good chance of remaining in Division One. There are five games left and wins are needed to avoid the split of the Division for next season. A final report will be in the next issue.

Our Summer Short Mat teams are not having the best of seasons this year. The evening league sees us rooted at the bottom of the league table without a win. It has been a difficult season for us in a

very strong league. However, winning isn't everything and we have enjoyed some very good games, if not the result! The Afternoon team has fared a little better and again has enjoyed the games. Next season, with more experience the teams will realise their full potential.

Our Autumn Bingo will be held on Monday 23rd September. See the poster in this issue for more details and also the posters around Charlbury nearer the date.

One for the diary: the Christmas Bingo will be held on Monday 9th December. Full details in the next issue.

The club hall remains available for hire and enquiries should be addressed to:

enquiries@charlburybowls.co.uk

If anybody would like to try their arm at either Lawn Bowls or Short Mat Bowls, please contact us at the above email address or drop by on a Friday afternoon at 2.00pm when both formats are being played.

Chris Webb, Secretary



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Ticknell·Piece·Rd

Autumn·Bingo



8·games·&·2·Specials.
6·books—£8
6·flyers—£1·per·game
→
6

Monday·23·September

Doors·open·6.00pm,·start·7.00pm,·Bar



Charlbury's own Community Workshop

A place for everyone — what will you come and do?

We're open !

Tuesdays 9.00-12.30 (both craft and woodwork rooms)

Wednesdays 10.00-12.00 (craft)

Thursdays 2.00-4.00 (woodwork)

Come along and join in

www.charlburycommunityworkshop.org.uk

Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxon OX29 8ET

15th September `In Steam` `Crafts & Skills`

Invited crafters from the local area including *Oxford Guild of Weavers Spinners & Dyers;*

20th October `In Steam` Wood craft + autumn market

We have invited Wood Turners Clubs along with vintage demonstrations

1st December `Christmas Fayre`

Market Stalls for your Christmas gifts. Santa will be in his Grotto, BBQ, Chestnuts & Mulled Wine, Tea Room, Gift Shop, Tombola and Grand Raffle.

Dogs on Leads most welcome. Free Parking

Adults £9.00, seniors £7.00, accompanied children FREE open 10.30am to 5.00pm.



1st Charlbury Scouts

The Group recently held its AGM and review of the year. Highlights included the Cubs posting the fastest section time in the North Leigh hike, Beavers going climbing, caving and gaining their Cyclist badge and Scouts tackling some of those important skills such as cooking over gas stoves and open fires and learning how to look after equipment for the Quartermaster badge.

All sections had an amazing time at Youlbury at our Group Family Camp over a glorious weekend in June – from Aerial Trekking to Tomahawk Throwing, with the best campfire singing I have heard in a long time! It was so good that we're already booking for next year.

We took the opportunity of the AGM to thank all our leaders, helpers and families who support the Group in so many ways. We also welcomed two new

members to our Trustee Board ('Executive Committee' for those of you with longer Scouting memories). So we are well placed to meet the challenges ahead and ensure the Group continues to thrive.

Electrical, heating and plumbing works continue during the summer break, ready for our return in September. If you would like to hire the Scout Hut, please send an enquiry to our booking team at csh_bookings@yahoo.com so we can let you know availability and costs.

Our next event will be the return of the Climbing Wall to Charlbury Street Fair – please come and see us in the Spendlove car park on Saturday 21 September!

Cheryl Horsey, Group Scout Leader



News from the Charlbury Patient Participation Group.

Full details of changes of staffing at CMC (Charlbury Medical Centre) are available on the CMC website. One receptionist has left and recently been replaced. Following feedback from patients we continue to request that frontline staff wear visible name badges.

At the time of going to press we have learnt that Dr. Hurney has left the Practice. Her patients will continue to be seen by a locum GP until another GP has been recruited.

Although all patients have a named GP it may not always be possible to see her/him if there are no available appointments. If you see another GP it is good practice to remain with the same doctor for that episode of care, as it will save time at follow-up visits and give continuity of care.

Beth Lucas who is a 'well-being' worker has started work at CMC. Beth will help people with issues that negatively impact their well-being and is able to refer to other agencies, for example: for help with becoming more active socially, benefits and housing. She works closely with Sacha King (Mental Health Practitioner). Patients can self-refer by ringing reception. She has phone consultations on Wednesday afternoons and face to face consultations on Fridays.

Dispensary: The dispensary continues to be open for collection and dropping off of prescriptions. However, dispensary staff are no longer available to answer the calls after 2:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is due to an increase in the number of dossett boxes that are being prepared in dispensary. This task has to be done without interruption as it involves concentration and accuracy.

Survey: We have been told that CMC will shortly distribute a survey to patients. As yet we do not know how patients will be selected or what questions have been included.

Alan Jenkins is part of the Steering Committee and he is working towards establishing a men's group whereby men's health concerns can be raised. To contact Alan, e-mail: patientgroup.charlbury@nhs.net for further information and more up to date information about the group.

The Charlbury Patient Group (CPPG) will share a stand with ATIC (All Together in Charlbury) at the Street Fair on the 21st September, giving Charlbury residents the opportunity to tell us about their experience of using CMC services.

If you wish to have regular information about the CMC please join the CPPG by sending an e-mail to: charlburypatientgroup@gmail.com. There is **no** commitment on your part. You don't have to do anything except read the e-mails!

Averose Pharmacy

Your local community Pharmacy for you & your family

- ✓ NHS and private prescriptions
- ✓ Free delivery service to your door
- ✓ Text message service
- ✓ Travel vaccination service
- ✓ Blood pressure checks
- ✓ Flu vaccination service
- ✓ Weight loss service

PRIVATE WALK IN SERVICE FOR Back Pain, Acne, Skin Care, Cystitis and others

Visit our website www.averosepharmacy.co.uk

☎ Call 01608 810315

📍 Address: Averose Pharmacy, Market Street, Charlbury, OX7 3PL

🕒 OPENING HOURS:
Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm
Sat: 9am-1pm
Sun: Closed



CHARLBURY FESTIVAL AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Friday 23rd August to Monday



Summer is here and Festival excitement is in the air!

After the success of Charlbury Beer Festival and Riverside, we next have the treats of Charlbury Arts Festival!

By now you will have a Festival programme to study and tickets where needed are available from Charlbury Deli.

The excitement starts with the Charlbury Arts Secret Exhibition. Many local artists have anonymously donated their work, now framed and exhibited in Charlbury Deli. Pop in to see the exhibition and you may fall in love with an artwork that could grace your walls when the sale begins on the 16th August.

All work will be £30.00 and you will discover the details of the artist after purchase. The sale will end on the 21st August and the proceeds will help to fund the Arts Festival.

The Charlbury Arts Exhibition is themed 'A Sense of Place, a Sense of Space' and will be central to the Arts Festival. See your Festival programme for times that the free exhibition is open in the Memorial Hall and Gardens.

There will be a feast of pictures and sculpture and you may love an artwork so much that you take it home when the Exhibition finishes!

If you are inspired, join a Festival Workshop to find your inner artist and produce your own artwork to take home or make a mosaic swift to fly with the

others at Charlbury Community Centre!

You will be able to feed your Sense of Place, Sense of Space with activities around Charlbury during the Festival! Join a Heritage Walk on Sunday to learn more about the hidden histories of Charlbury.

A Look and Listen Walk on Monday will explore some of our lovely surroundings on paths that may be new to you! Charlbury maps and historic documents exhibited in the Corner House will add to our Sense of Place in history as will the Exhibition in Charlbury Museum: Tradition and Tragedy - Commemorating the Centenary of Beating the Bounds.

See your programme for details of these activities, many of them free or with a small entry fee.

Every day of the Festival will have fantastic events with music, dancing, cabaret, and poetry, some accompanied by supper and refreshments and some with 'bring your own'.

Programmes are available all around Charlbury and there is information on posters around the town, in 'What's On - events' on charlbury.info website and see our Instagram page at 'charlburyarts'.

If you would like to help during the Summer Festival, you will be very welcome, please contact us at charlburyarts@gmail.com.

*Joanna Shakir
for Charlbury Arts.*

Charlbury Society

Our exciting series of talks this season, on the first Thursday of the month at **7.30pm**, starts with Scandal in Oxfordshire High Society with historian and writer Julie Ann Godson.

On October 3rd in the Memorial Hall, we will hear tales of the Oxfordshire upper classes, from the Tudor period to the modern age, how they have contrived in a variety of ways over the centuries to behave badly — secret love affairs, blackmail, poisoning, extortion and even murder.

Ditchley and Churchill, with Mike Montagu, Host and Historian at the house.

In November this talk focuses mainly on Churchill's use of Ditchley as an alternate retreat to Chequers between late 1940 and autumn 1942; the historical high point of a house with a colourful past and some notable owners and visitors

Roman Settlements in Oxfordshire with Paul Booth

Starting our winter talks in December on Zoom, we shall hear of recent findings near Chipping Norton of a Romano-British rural settlement, dating from the 1st to the 4th century AD, which has attracted much excitement and was scheduled as an ancient monument by English Heritage in early 2024.

The full programme for this season is available now on our website and on display in our notice board outside the Pharmacy. You will also notice our new banner on the Playing Close railings a few days before each talk..

We hope you will join us and if you would like to become a member for an annual subscription of £10 for all 8 talks, please contact mem.charlsoc@gmail.com

Nikki Rycroft
www.charlburysociety.org.uk

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

**CHARLBURY
WOMEN'S
INSTITUTE**

We are now meeting in the Primary School again at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

We're not just Jam & Jerusalem; come & see what we get up to!

- Lifelong Friendship & Support
- All Ages & Abilities
- Education, Hands-on-Activities
- Talks on Fascinating Subjects
- Community Involvement
- Interest Groups
- Outings, Walks & Meals Out
- Share Experiences & Have Fun

Come as a visitor to see what it's like. We look forward to welcoming you!

For more information, contact: Heather Hill on charlburywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



OXFORDSHIRE



Charlbury Garden Society

As gardeners we have to be a resilient bunch. I'm looking at my beautiful lavender flattened by weeks of rain – the bees still manage to enjoy it but it's looking a sorry sight. Gardening is an act of faith in many ways. We plant a small seed in the hope that it will grow and if you're anything like me will feel a rush of joy and optimism when it germinates – even if it's eaten by slugs a few weeks later!

The Annual Show each year proves what a resilient lot we are. At the time of writing we are anticipating a glorious show, full of wonderful entries.

The Open Gardens event in June attracted a huge number of visitors and there was a really interesting and diverse variety of gardens this year. As well as raising much needed funds for our Corner House, it is a wonderful Charlbury community event.

We had two self-drives this summer. We were privileged to be invited to Blenheim Palace to see the changes that the new Head Gardener, Andy Mills has put in place. One of his biggest challenges is maintaining the ancient trees on the Estate while, at the same time, making the grounds accessible to huge corporate events to ensure revenue.

It was incredible to walk around the Palace gardens on a clear, if chilly evening, listening to his plans for the rose garden amongst other initiatives. We are hoping to persuade Andy to do a repeat visit as numbers had to be limited on this occasion.

Catherine Goyder organised a wonderful trip to Claridges Barn in July and writes: Fourteen members had a lovely self-drive evening visit to Claridges Barn near Dean on July 3rd. Retired doctors David and Jill Edwards gave a talk about the history of their home, bought as derelict farm buildings in a 3 acre site on the top of

the Cotswolds. Over the last 35 years they have built a family home, planted trees to shelter the land and developed a large pond for wildlife. They have made a beautiful garden amid the Cotswold brash with different 'rooms' for shrubs, roses and perennials and a thriving vegetable and fruit garden. Their greenhouses and lots of planters were 'upcycled' and were filled abundantly. The sweet peas were particularly splendid. Some of us took advantage of the plants for sale and we all enjoyed delicious canapés and drinks. After a windy start the evening weather became clear and sunny and the views from the garden were simply wonderful. The Garden is regularly open under the National Garden Scheme and I thoroughly recommend a visit.

As we look ahead to the remainder of the gardening year, we have much to look forward to. We plan to repeat the **Harvest Supper on October 10th** after our **AGM**. Please keep an eye open for details as tickets were really popular last year and sold out very quickly. More details soon.

Tim Mitchell from **Asthall Manor Kitchen Gardens** will be giving a talk on organic gardening on **21st November** and we hope to repeat our popular wreath making evening in early December. Once again – look out for details coming your way.

If you are not a member and would like to be then please visit our page: <https://www.charlburygardensociety.org.uk/membership/>

Once again, we would love to hear from you if you have any schemes you would like help with or whether you would like to help us in any capacity; willing friends are just as important as full committee members, please don't feel shy!

Alison Derham (Chair)



Scan to find out more

Charlbury's Local Property Letting and Management Specialists

16 Oxford Street, Woodstock
01993 848090 | woodstock@finderskeepers.co.uk

Working alongside





CHARLBURY Community Centre

This issue we thought we'd showcase all that's going on at the Centre on a regular basis. For those of you who haven't been down for a while, to those who attend a class weekly but want to know what else is happening and to those who have never been in before, please do have a look - you might be surprised to see what a range of activities we offer, and you might just find something you didn't know you were looking for! And please - if there's a sport, class or activity that you would like to see at the Centre, just let us know. We are always keen to expand the variety of things on offer, and our ultimate aim is to have something for everyone in our community. Just email Daniela Jenkins on info@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk. Hope to see you soon.

Exercise Classes

⇒ **Barre fit:** A workout class set to high-energy music that takes inspiration from ballet, with elements of dance, yoga, Pilates and strength training. **Tuesdays 7-8 pm, sometimes Thursdays 7-8 pm.** Contact Michele: 07817 890787, email charlbury.pilates@gmail.com

⇒ **Body Tone / Tone Zone:** Focused toning classes aimed at working arms, shoulders, bums, legs and abs. **Body Tone Mondays 9-10 am, Tone Zone Fridays 9-10 am.** Contact Jason: Jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk

⇒ **Fitness 4 Seniors:** This class is aimed at increasing strength, balance, stability and flexibility, to engage in your everyday activities, safely and independently. **Tuesdays 3-4 pm.** Contact Louise: louisebarnespt@gmail.com or call on 07879 685579

⇒ **Gentle Pilates:** An exercise class for those who want to work at a gentle pace or those who suffer from pain or health conditions. **Wednesdays 9-10 am and 12.15-1.15 pm.** Contact Sarah: bodyfitpilatesuk@gmail.com

⇒ **Lean gym:** A circuit-based class that offers a challenge but that you can take at your own pace. **Wednesdays 9-10 am.** Contact Jason: Jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk

⇒ **Line Dancing:** A gentle class set to classic country music, lots of fun and great for co-ordination and memory. **Tuesdays 12-1.45 pm and Fridays 11.30-1 pm. Brand new**

Beginners class starting Friday 27th September -

Come on down! Contact Jason: Jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk

⇒ **Pilates:** An exercise class concentrating on improving body strength, particularly the core, as well as improving posture, flexibility and balance. **Mondays 6-7 pm and 7-8 pm, Thursdays 1.30-2.30 pm**



and 6-7 pm.

⇒ Contact Michele: 07817 890787 or email charlbury.pilates@gmail.com

- ⇒ **Family Circuits:** A fun and dynamic family-orientated circuit session featuring cardio and strength for adults and older children and teens (11 years and above). **Sundays 9.45-10.45 am.** Contact Jason: jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk
- ⇒ **Super Circuits:** A high-intensity workout, featuring both cardio and strength exercise. Bring a towel! **Thursdays 7-8 pm.** Contact Jason: Jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk
- ⇒ **Yoga:** A Vinyasa class set to music, where fluid movement is linked with the breath, combining strength work with flexibility training and a focus on alignment. **Tuesdays 9.30-10.30.** Contact Loren on 07570 023868

Sports

- ⇒ **Badminton** – An informal session, all welcome **Mondays 8-10pm**, Contact Mark: micarpenter@outlook.com
- ⇒ **Basketball** – A fast-paced, fun and informal session for adults 16+ **Fridays 5-6 pm.** Contact Andy Benka: benkaandy@gmail.com
- ⇒ **Pickleball** – Now **every weekday!** Mon 9-11am & 11am-1pm, Tues 2-4pm, Wed 10am-12pm, Thurs 10am-12pm, Fri 9.30-11.30am. Contact Vijay: vijaysmobile@gmail.com or 01993 891043
- ⇒ **Table Tennis** – **Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-10am, Wednesdays 5-7 pm** Contact: william_robinson@live.co.uk
- ⇒ **Walking Football** – **Wednesdays 3-4.30, Thursdays 8-9pm** Contact: ctwf@shilsons.co.uk or 07388 010496



Social and Well being for Adults

TG's Café Coffee Club – A friendly get-together in our café for retired people to meet and catch up with friends. **Fridays 10.30 am -12 pm**, free to attend, coffee or tea only £1.50. Just come along, you'll receive a warm welcome.

For Babies and Toddlers

- ⇒ **Songbirds** - Singing and live music for babies and toddlers – **Wednesdays 10.15-11am (term time only)** Contact Jenny: jennymahlermusic@gmail.com
- ⇒ **Toddler Gym** – A friendly and relaxed session with soft play activities **Wednesdays 11.15-12am all year round!** – Contact Jason: jason@charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk
- ⇒ **Health Visitor** – **Tuesdays 11-3 by appointment**, Contact healthvisitors.chippingnortonandcharlbury@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

For Children & Teenages

- ⇒ **Youth Club** – A relaxed place for young people of secondary school age to get together with friends, play sports of their choice in our Sports Hall, or just hang out with snacks and chat. **Fridays 7-9pm (term-time only).**
- ⇒ **Youth Basketball Club** – A really popular 'pick-up', informal session that welcomes new starters (ages 10-16) – **Thursdays 5-6 pm.** Contact Andy Benka: benkaandy@gmail.com
- ⇒ **Kids' Runarounds** – Popular during the cooler months, held often on Fridays after school or during holidays, these are sessions where we open the Sports Hall for children aged 1-10 to ... run around! Sports equipment, toys and soft play equipment is put out, and children make their own fun. Only £1 per child. Check in at the centre or on our website for dates of upcoming sessions.



For Everyone

Dates or times don't work for you? Just come and play! Hire a court in our Sports Hall to play table tennis, badminton, pickleball, futsal or 5-a-side football, even wheelchair basketball! Courts are often free weekday afternoons and school holidays, and we have all the nets, racquets and equipment you need, all for a very reasonable price.

TG's Café

The café is open whenever the Community Centre is, and serves a variety of coffees and teas, as well as cold drinks, wine and beer and offers a selection of freshly baked savouries and cakes, fruit, and other snacks.

We're proud to serve locally prepared baked goods - Mizue's, Emily's, Mark's and Mimi's cakes, scones and sausage rolls have become legendary – if you've never tried them, why not come down?



Gym

While plans are under way for our new purpose-built gym (watch this space!), why not come down and use our pop-up gym? Equipment includes treadmills, rowing machines, exercise bikes, hand weights and exercise balls. Membership means you can come whenever you like, as often as you like – at only £22 a month, it's fantastic value for money – and a great way to keep fit.

Centre opening hours:

Monday: 9am-5pm
 Tuesday: 9am-5pm
 Wednesday: 9am-7pm
 Thursday: 9am-7pm
 Friday: 9am-5pm
 Saturday: 9am-4pm
 Sunday: 9am-4pm
 Bank holidays: 10am-4pm

Gym hours:

8am-3pm
 9am-2pm
 8am-1pm
 9am-1pm
 8am-5pm
 9am-4pm
 8am-4pm

Charlbury Library hours**(when the library is staffed):**

Mondays: 10am-12.30pm
 Wednesdays: 2pm-7pm
 Fridays: 2pm-5pm
 Saturdays: 10am-12.30pm

At other times you can return and borrow books using the self-service machine whenever the Community Centre is open.

Please see our website for more information

www.charlburycommunitycentre.org.uk

or call us on 01608 811878



CHARLBURY
 Community Centre

STUDENT GRANTS

Are you under 25, living in Charlbury, with a place at university or college or an apprenticeship? If so, you may be eligible for a grant from the Charlbury Exhibition Foundation:

Even if you have received a grant in a previous year, you may qualify for another, so do apply again.

Apply by **30 September 2024** to:
charlburygrants@hotmail.com

Please include the following details:

Name and date of birth;
 Home address in Charlbury;
 Schools you have attended;

For students:

The name of the university or college,
 The title and level of your course
 (for example: BA Hons in European History),
 The year of study
 (for example: first year, second year, ...);

For apprentices:

The name of your employer,
 The type of apprenticeship and level;

Outline information on the costs involved in the course or apprenticeship.

Charlbury Church Services



Charlbury Baptist Church, Dyer's Hill

Contact: Secretary (01608 810107)

Sundays 10.30am. Weekly worship with Communion usually on the first Sunday of each month

Tuesdays at 7.30pm Join us in person or on zoom for midweek study/discussion

Our garden. A place to sit quietly and enjoy at any time.

Friday 6th December: Carols and Cake 2.30pm

charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/dyershill/



St Mary's C of E Church, Church Street

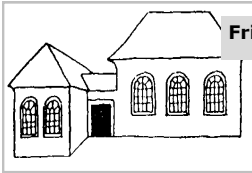
St Mary's Church, Charlbury and All Saints Shorthampton

Full details of all church services are available in the

Leaflet or in the Church porch

Parish Office (01608 810230)

www.stmaryscharlbury.co.uk



Friends' Meeting House, Market Street

Meeting for Worship at the Friends Meeting House

Sunday mornings 10.30am

For further details contact Sue Terry (01608 811033)

email: sueeterry@btinternet.com)

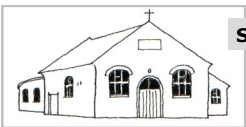
You are very welcome to join us



Methodist Chapel, Fishers Lane

Sunday services at 10.30am

Further information from Gill Grason (01608 810154)



St Teresa's R.C. Church, Fishers Lane

Wednesday Mass: 9.15 am (followed by Adoration/ Benediction) except in Lent when Stations of the Cross)

Friday Mass: 9.15 am

Sunday: 9.15 am Parish Mass.

Priest. Fr Clive Dytor, The Old Drapery, Church Street, Charlbury. Tel: 07484 158642.

Churches Together in Charlbury

Our summer started with the Christian Aid Week collection in May. This involves a network of people delivering envelopes house to house with a request for donations to be brought to Cornerstone in the Corner House or to local churches,

This year the total collected was £2292.20, of which £1885 was Gift Aided, giving a total from the house-to-house envelopes of £2763.45. In addition we sent £334.87 from the United Service at the beginning of Christian Aid Week giving a grand total of £3098.32.

We are very grateful to the many people who donated and helped.

Christian Aid was started 75 years ago by British and Irish churches working together to help refugees following the Second World War. Then links with churches outside Europe led to a wider vision and a pattern of working in partnership with organisations helping to tackle poverty in many parts of the world. Christian Aid was also instrumental in encouraging cooperation between relief agencies through the Disasters Emergency Fund, ensuring that efforts are coordinated and resources are not wasted.

Involvement in our local community is also a priority for Churches Together. When the summer holidays arrived, the Holiday Club brought the Charlbury Olympic games to excited 4 to 11 year olds. St Mary's Parish Church was the arena for a wide range of sport related activities. The Holiday Club is an eagerly anticipated community event with many families taking part every year and support from all the local churches.

On Saturday 19th September, we will again be working together to run the

Home Made and Home Grown stall at the Street Fair. Donations of cakes, pies, jam, fruit and flowers will all find satisfied customers.

Contact your church representative for more information or to offer help. We look forward to running the stall and making a contribution towards the upkeep of the Corner House and Memorial Hall.

On Sunday 17 November, in the afternoon, we will be holding a united service in St Teresa's. This will be followed by our AGM and then we will adjourn to the Methodist Church upper room for tea and cake.

It is hard to believe that only a few generations ago Christians of different denominations avoided each other or were even openly hostile. It is a great blessing that we can now work together for the benefit of our neighbours in Charlbury and further afield.

Rosalind Scott

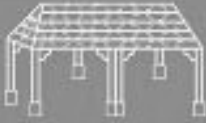
*Secretary to Churches Together in
Charlbury*

Come to relax, unwind, read the papers, catch up with friends and colleagues and enjoy some delicious home-made cake along with a steaming cup of Fair Trade tea or coffee

Font Cafe

**St. Mary's Church, Charlbury
10am to 12 noon every Thursday**

For smaller children we provide a play area with toys. Free Wi-Fi available



Charlbury

Primary School

2024-2025 Some school highlights:

In Reception this year we have had lots of wonderful adventures. In the Autumn term we learnt about our families and our traditions. In Spring we enjoyed learning about bears including Goldilocks' friends. We also had a lot of visitors telling us all about how we can help others including a Police Officer, a nurse and a veterinary nurse.

We enjoyed a trip to Charlbury Fire Station. The Summer term was very exciting. We learnt all about Australia and then we learnt about life cycles including watching caterpillars turn into butterflies. The most exciting part has been watching our new ducks hatch from eggs - take their first swim and now move into their outdoor run right outside our classroom! It has been an amazing year! (picture attached)

We held a fundraising Antiques Roadshow earlier in the year where parents and locals brought in their family heirlooms for identification and valuation. A lovely, entertaining and informative afternoon which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, raising just over £200 for our school.

Year 3's held a pop up cafe just before Easter, which they ran to raise money for the WWF (animals not wrestling!), £140 in total. Also Ridge Clean Energy ran the climate care club, which resulted in the children who attended receiving individual climate care awards, for bringing about change.

As always, it has been a really busy musical year for Charlbury School. Highlights have included our Carol

Concert in St. Mary's Church, a whole school Chinese New Year Assembly, The Bee Musical by Years 3 & 4, The Lion King by Year 6, a Battle of the Bands concert, guitar, drum, clarinet, flute and ukulele assemblies and of course many choir performances at various community events such as The Beer Festival and Open Gardens.

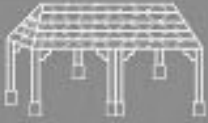
This year sport and PE has continued to thrive at Charlbury. We have attended over 20 sporting events ranging from swimming to dance. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 have attended partnership events and our Reception children have enjoyed being part of school events such as Summer dance and Sports day.

The U11 girls football team became the Oxfordshire schools County champions - an amazing achievement!

A huge thank you to the Charlbury Community Workshop who voluntarily built the children's outdoor stage for performance and learning. A team of talented, highly qualified craftsmen undertook this enormous task using wood donated by Blenheim Palace Wood Store. We look forward to enjoying the children's outdoor plays and productions in the future.

Many thanks also to the Blenheim Palace craftsmen who made and donated a beautiful wooden Buddy Bench for our playground, embossed with bees! I know the children will have it well used.

We were delighted to receive a £1,000 donation from a very generous, local benefactor who wanted to support reading at the school. Children who have made an extra special effort with reading



Charlbury

Primary School

are nominated by their class teacher and recognised for their achievements in assembly. The children are so excited to then choose a lovely new book from the new beautiful glass cabinet, all funded by our benefactor, to whom we are truly grateful.

*Rachel Claridge
EYFS Teacher*

Phonics Lead, PE Lead & Staff Governor

We are delighted to celebrate the result of the recent Ofsted Report carried out in March 2024, judging us as GOOD in every category. Huge praise and enormous thanks to our Head Teacher, Charlie Barwell, and her wonderful staff (teaching and non teaching) who ensured this result was attained through their tireless dedication and fabulous team work.

Thank you also to our Governors on the Charlbury Primary School Governing Board for all their expertise and help during the school year, and invaluable input during the interview for Governors during the Ofsted inspection. And of course, our incredible children who also were interviewed and asked for their opinions by the Ofsted Inspectors - we are very proud of them all. Link to report: <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50247880>

We are sadly saying goodbye to Charlie as she now moves on to her new schools in Somerset, which will thrive under her consummate, professional leadership. We will miss her and are extremely sad to see her go, but equally wish her every happiness and success with her new senior position, and moving closer to be with family.

We look forward to welcoming our new Head Teacher, Kate Robertson, who will be joining us in September.

*Kim Harrison
Chair of Governors*

I feel very privileged to be joining the team at Charlbury Primary School in September. The school is lovely and the children, families and staff have already been incredibly welcoming. Over the last few months I have spent time getting to know the school and have worked closely with Charlie Barwell to ensure there is a smooth handover. I am very grateful for her time and care.

The new reception children starting in September have already had exciting visits to the school, setting the stage for their educational journey. Charlbury Primary School certainly upholds its core values of **community, integrity and compassion**. It will be a wonderful adventure and I am very much looking forward to starting.

*Kate Robertson Head Teacher,
September 2024*





Charlbury Town Council News

Contact: Lisa Wilkinson, Town Clerk at
charlburytownclerk@gmail.com or 07311 259412.
c/o Corner House, Market Street, Charlbury, OX7 3PN.
www.charlbury-tc.gov.uk

New Councillors at the Town Council

Following on from the new town councillors announced in the last issue of the Chronicle, we are very pleased that we were able to co-opt the required amount of five new councillors onto the town council over the spring. Co-opting is when an eligible member of the public is voted onto the council by serving members. These five new members are –

- Ed Bradbury
- Katie Ewer
- Paul Honey
- Roy Scott
- Arthur Sinclair

They join the other town councillors on your new look town council who are –

- Gary Harrison (Chair)
- Liz Reason (Vice-chair)
- Frances Mortimer
- Peter Kenrick
- Tom Greenwood
- Carl Perkins
- Tony Veters

Grants for the Financial Year 2025/26

Each year the town council can make grants to local organisations for the benefit of the local community. Any organisation that thinks it may need a grant from the town council for the financial year 2025/26 must obtain an application form from the town council website, or from the Town Clerk, and return it together with supporting documents by midday on 31st October 2024. The online form is available here –

<https://charlbury-tc.gov.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>.

Please note that late applications cannot be considered. The Town Clerk can advise on what can, and cannot, be grant aided under the Local Government Act and can be contacted at the details above to answer any questions you may have.

Parking

Parking is clearly an ongoing and priority issue in Charlbury. We have started working with Oxfordshire County Council to look at parking in town. We have distributed a parking survey to town centre residents, to gain a baseline understanding of what the issues are. We are currently meeting with businesses to find out how parking affects them and have been surveying car parkers at the Spendlove Centre car park to establish patterns and busy times.

Next steps include working with the County Council to consult on residents' parking zones, working with WODC to reconfigure Spendlove car park and continuing to talk to GWR about the station car park to see if anything can be done there. Two days of survey work on parking in the centre of the town has also been carried out to further assess the situation. More information on parking in the town will follow with any potential scheme being brought to the town council for discussion before going out to residents for a public consultation.

Millfield

The Council has been made aware of a large amount of Hemlock growing in Millfield. This is a poisonous and potentially very dangerous plant. We have therefore made arrangements for this to be professionally cut and then



Charlbury Town Council News

moved and placed out of the route of the main walkways and well used areas of the fields. It has been stored behind protective fencing amidst nettles and a sign has been placed in front of the area to warn passers-by. It is well covered and signposted, but we would strongly advise people **NOT** to approach or touch it.

Walkers are Welcome in Charlbury

As a designated Walkers are Welcome town and Cotswold Gateway, Charlbury is delighted to welcome local and visiting walkers to enjoy our historic town, beautiful landscape, great walks and wide-ranging hospitality. We are especially keen to encourage walkers to use our good bus and train services including the new Sunday X9 service.

This year's improvements for walkers include:

- A new map outside the Co-op including the popular Gateway Walks and QR Codes linking to detailed walk descriptions
- A new free Town Trail leaflet available in the Community Centre and other town centre locations
- QR Code links to the Oxfordshire Way and Wychwood Way trails
- Information on point-to-point walks using bus or train

Improvements to difficult "muddy" surfaces on some popular routes. We also hope to introduce regular local guided walks with the support of the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, starting with a walk during Street Fair weekend on Sunday 22nd September, so please do look out for details on that.

This is just a start, and we hope to introduce more improvements in future years.

Roadside verges

Our Charlbury Community Works! group recently undertook a walkabout, including along the Slade, to look at how best to deal with the verges and weeds growing through the kerbs, which have been of concern to a number of residents. The group will be asking residents to help take care of the area near their houses. Meanwhile, three areas have been designated to plant locally collected wildflower seeds mixed in with annuals. In the first instances, it was resolved to allow strimming and weed collection alongside main thoroughfares in the town as a short-term solution whilst longer-term solutions are investigated by the town council.

Restoring Nature is Urgent!

Britain now ranks as one of the most nature depleted countries in the world! Even here in the Cotswolds, our natural environment is in serious decline and urgent action is required to restore the complex and vital ecosystems on which we all depend. The government has an ambitious target of making 30 per cent of land across Britain good for wildlife by 2030 but delivering this depends heavily on local action.

With this in mind, the town council's Land & Nature Group, working with neighbouring parishes, has put together a Nature Recovery Framework to focus future actions in our area. The goal is to expand, improve and connect wildlife-rich and diverse habitats. A lot of things are already happening locally, often by



Charlbury Town Council News

enthusiastic and knowledgeable volunteers and citizen scientists. But a lot more is needed, and we can all play our part, whether it is working on nature reserves or wildlife-friendly gardening on your doorstep.

Now we need YOU to **get involved and tell us what you think!**

Take a quick look at the framework on the town council website (www.charlbury-tc.gov.uk) and fill in the simple questionnaire to tell us what you think. If you have any other questions, comments or suggestions, just drop an email to Lisa at clerk@charlbury-tc.gov.uk. We particularly want to hear about actions you are already taking or would like to happen locally as a priority.



Also come and talk to us at Street Fair on Saturday 21st September or at some Saturday Markets during the summer.

Later in the year there will be a chance to get together with us to plan active interventions reflecting your priorities. See you then!

Street Fair

As mentioned above, this year's Street Fair will be held on Saturday 21st September. The council will have stalls at this year's Street Fair. Please come and say hello, meet some of your councillors and tell us what you'd like to see us do for, or with, you. There'll also be information about our Building Working group work, Charlbury Community Works! and the Nature Recovery consultation.

Work with us

....and on that note, members of the public are already working with the council in a number of areas of interest and we have a number of teams working across the council's projects. So, if YOU fancy getting involved with the Journeys team, the Buildings team, the Land and Nature team, or helping out with Charlbury Market, please just contact the clerk, Lisa Wilkinson, for more information at the details above.

Cllr Paul Honey

CHARLBURY MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels prepares and delivers meals at lunchtime on Tuesdays to elderly and disabled people in Charlbury and Stonesfield. Meals now cost £4 delivered.

We are now accepting new recipients. Please ring Susan Merry on 07979 840438 or email susanmerry2@gmail.com.

We also urgently need an additional cook to join the team on a monthly rota. If you are able to help please contact Susan in the first place.

From County & District Councillor Liz Leffman

01608 810153, 07741 073088 liz.leffman@oxfordshire.gov.uk

I was listening to the first speech made by the new Chancellor of the Exchequer when my ears pricked up. She mentioned that she was designating

Worcestershire Parkway as a site for significant housing development. As a regular commuter on the Cotswold Line, I know how crowded the trains are when they arrive in Charlbury, so my first thought was to contact the Chair of the North Cotswold Line Task Force, Lord Faulkner, to ensure that we are quick off the mark in making a strong case for improvements to the line ahead of any new homes being constructed.

Lord Faulkner has organised a meeting on September 4th to which all of the MPs along the line have been invited.

There will also be a drop-in event on the same day which is being hosted by Network Rail.

I am really pleased that we have been able to mobilise so quickly and I hope that all of our new MPs will come along and learn why improvements to this line are so badly needed, and why they are needed now.

Good news too about the X9 bus service, which will now run on Sundays. The Pulhams routes have been taken over by the Oxford Bus Company and the £2 fare cap has been extended to the X9 which

means that this is a very economical way of travelling.

On another transport-related topic, the proposed introduction of traffic filters in Oxford has had to be postponed.

This is because the work at Oxford rail station, which is being undertaken by Network Rail, will not be finishing as planned in October and the Botley Road will have to remain closed for a further period. We are trying to get a definite date for the reopening of the road from Network Rail but so far without success.



This is extremely frustrating. The County Council will be introducing the filters as soon as we can, in order to improve traffic congestion in the city and beyond, and we will let residents know what the timing is going to be as soon as Network Rail are able to confirm a date for completion.

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CHARLBURY SPEAKEASY

"The Charlbury Speakeasy is returning with a wonderful evening of music and spoken word on Friday October 18th with special guests Greg Brice and a spoken word performer, hosted by Alasdair Ross at our new venue in The Morris Room, Corner House

Start time 8pm, BYO, entrance £10.

Look forward to seeing you there."



Charlbury Lunch Club

Charlbury Lunch Club has had a busy time so far this year. Here is a snapshot of a few of the things that have happened:

- **January:** We had a food hygiene inspection, and we were delighted that they gave us top marks (5-star rating).
- **April:** We had a visit from Jaime Hewett from the Connected Communities Fund, from whom we got a grant this year. She wrote a lovely report about the Lunch Club, including some photos. Their piece was called "**Nourishing Community Connections: A Heartwarming Visit to Charlbury Lunch Club**" the report can be viewed here: <https://ocva.org.uk/2024/04/18/connected-communities-fund-stories-nourishing-community-connections-a-heartwarming-visit-to-charlbury-lunch-club/>
- **July:** The members enjoyed a trip in the sunshine to Millets Farm Park. We visited the farm shop, the garden centre and some went to look at the animals as well as enjoying a lunch in their café.

Lunch club is held on Wednesdays 11.30am-2pm in the Garden Room of the Memorial Hall – we provide a delicious home cooked meal and some games or entertainment. It is ably led by Kath Lucas supported by a large team of volunteers (though we could always use more, so please get in touch if you could offer a couple of hours a month – there's a free lunch as an incentive!). We have recently lost a cook, so if you think you could cook a simple two course meal for about a dozen people once every five or six weeks, we'd be hugely grateful to hear from you.

*Tanya Stevenson, Chair of Committee
(email: tanyams64@outlook.com)*

Nourishing Community Connections: A Heartwarming Visit to Charlbury Lunch Club

Report from *Jaime Hewett, Development Officer at OCVA*

On April 17, 2024, I had the privilege of visiting Charlbury Lunch Club, a vibrant community hub that brings people together through nourishing meals,



Tanya and Kath

engaging activities, and genuine human connection.

Tanya, the chair of trustees, warmly welcomed me as she whirled through the kitchen, preparing a delicious meal for the attendees.

Tanya shared that the lunch club operates on Wednesday's from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm, offering a perfect blend of social interaction, nutritious meals, and



stimulating activities. Attendees have an opportunity to connect with one another,



play games, and enjoy entertainment such as local musicians. When asked about the Connected Communities Fund, Tanya expressed, "The funding has made such a difference, it has made us feel secure and we know we can carry on."

This sense of security from the fund has allowed the club to flourish, transcending the traditional notion of a "day centre." Coordinator Kath, the heart of Charlbury Lunch Club, creates an environment that radiates warmth and acceptance.

Her inclusive approach ensures that every voice is heard and valued, fostering a profound sense of belonging that breaks down barriers.

As I joined the attendees, Kath led us in an engaging word search activity, sparking shared laughter and a spirit of togetherness.

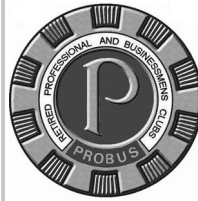
For many attendees, the Charlbury Lunch Club is more than just a social outing – it's a lifeline that provides regularity and something to look forward to, as one attendee poignantly shared, "This is the highlight of my week!"

Led by dedicated individuals like Tanya and Kath, the Charlbury Lunch Club is more than just a lunch club – it's a haven of inclusivity and comfort.

Charlbury lunch club has an open invitation to new members and a call for volunteers, the club eagerly seeks to expand its circle of warmth and friendship.

Find out more information from

Tanya Stevenson (07871 795748)



Charlbury Probus

Charlbury Probus Club is a largely social club that meets once a month to chat and eat a one or two course lunch. Following the lunch we have a short presentation on a variety of topics which have included historical interests such as the English Civil War, local charitable organisations, agriculture and well known figures.

Currently we meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Sturdy's Castle near Kidlington, which is about a 20 minute drive, and for those who either don't have the means to get there or no longer drive, we operate a car share scheme amongst the members. The cost of these lunches are presently set of £27.50 for two courses, or £20 for one course.

In addition to the monthly lunch meetings we try to offer outings and visits. This year we are offering a Murder Mystery Fish and Chip train on the Gloucester and Warwickshire Railway. In December instead of the usual lunch we will be offering a festive meal at lunchtime.

We are a relatively small, intimate and friendly club and we welcome anyone who might have an interest in our activities. The annual membership fee currently stands at £25, but this may obviously be increased in the future.

If you would like any further information about the club or its activities, or/ and are considering joining us, contact the club secretary, Simon Handley at simon.handley8@icloud.com, or the Club Chair, Mike White at mike.ewhite7@gmail.com

Mike White



Charlbury Refugee Action Group

We'd like to say a huge 'thank you' to all our helpers and supporters in the community who enable us to continue to support the plight of refugees and asylum seekers. Whether you attended a fundraiser, made a donation, or contributed items for our collections for Calais, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you to the Beer Festival for having us back to run the wine and gin tent this year, and to Chloe Horner, for so generously letting us use Chloe's for our CRAG Feast.

Thank you to all the local businesses and individuals who sponsored the truly magical Mullova Family Gala Concert in May. It was a wonderful evening all round, and everyone was absolutely delighted with the result. The concert raised over £6,000, a stunning amount! This meant we were able to send £1,000 to each of our current partner charities: Safe Passage, Refugee Community Kitchen, Care4Calais, Asylum Welcome, Collective Aid, and The Hope Project. These organisations are all doing amazing work supporting asylum seekers across various parts of the world.

We have more events coming up.

Street Fair stall on Saturday 21st September: Please do visit our stall for a chat and take a look at our cool new 'In Step with Refugee' t-shirts, which debuted at the Beer Festival.

Speaker event: On Saturday 28th September at 6pm we'll be welcoming Dr Lizzie Alarcon-Clark who will be talking about her recent experiences as a medical volunteer in Calais. This is a public meeting open to all from 6-8pm at the Friends Meeting House.

Sunday Tea Concerts: Our 24/25 Sunday Tea Concert season kicks off on

Sunday 13th October at 3pm in The Memorial Hall with music by Bach, Handel, and Purcell followed by tea and cake. This will be the first of five concerts in another wonderful programme of world-class musicians who will be so generously performing on our doorstep to raise funds for CRAG over the winter months. Please visit our website at charlburyrefugee.org.uk for the full programme (you might also notice we have a new logo!). Concert tickets, including season tickets for all 5 tea concerts, will be available to buy online from September 1st.

Special Gala Concert: We're delighted to announce that The King's Singers will be performing for CRAG on **Saturday 25th January 2025**. So make sure to save the date now for what promises to be another very memorable community event.

Lastly, another way to support CRAG is to set up a regular donation. This ensures that we can always send money to the charities working in areas of greatest need, which will vary from month to month. You can either transfer money directly to our bank account: Charlbury Refugee Action Group, Sort code: 089299, Account no: 65789036, or set up monthly payments via our JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/charlburyrefugee> - just click on the 'Donate' button in the top right. Please email info@charlburyrefugee.org.uk to let us know.

Please note that if you still add items to donate to our Calais collection, items can be received up to September 5th. Please see our website <https://www.charlburyrefugee.org.uk/collections/> for details of what's currently needed,

Vicky Buser



Sustainable Charlbury

Reducing carbon,
restoring nature

Sustainable Charlbury provide grants for projects that reduce carbon emissions and help restore nature. These are funded from revenues generated by the Southill Community Energy solar farm, bringing real benefits to Charlbury and the local community in West Oxfordshire.

A new Sustainable Charlbury website, developed in collaboration by local company Me3, has just been launched. The new site provides an easy-to-use portal for applying to the Sustainable Charlbury grants programme.
www.sustainablecharlbury.org/

Sustainable Charlbury was established in 2007 and in its infancy held public meetings, screenings of environmental films, managed a lightbulb library for LED lighting and facilitated the loan of a thermal camera for assessing building heat losses. In 2012 came the idea to develop the Southill Community Energy Solar farm.

Developing the 4.5MW community solar farm was an exceptional project that bought so much of the town together to help tackle climate change. Packed public meetings, at-risk financial support from residents to help cover some of the early costs and over 100 people joining the award-winning 'Bring Your Brolly Day' event were pivotal in getting planning support and consent for the solar farm in 2015.

Sustainable Charlbury was reformed as a charity in 2018 to administer the grants programme. Surplus funds from Southill

Solar are ploughed back into local community projects that reduce carbon emissions and/or contribute to nature recovery.

The grants programme is available to community-led organisations that undertake activities that reduce carbon emissions. To date over £82k has been granted across 37 projects and 14 organisations, from retrofitting community buildings, providing educational support to local schools, to supporting local organic food growing and supply. SusCha has also worked with the Town Council and secured £20k funding to run the Home Comforts project.

This was a Charlbury town-wide study of typical homes typologies, carried out by another local organisation, Cosy Homes Oxfordshire, to demonstrate how retrofit measures could be implemented to reduce energy use in typical Charlbury homes. Please contact Cosy Homes if you would like any further information.

Sustainable Charlbury are actively looking for new projects to support in the community of Charlbury and its immediate vicinity. If you feel that your group or organisation have a project that could benefit from funding to help reduce your carbon footprint or improve biodiversity through nature recovery, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch via our new website
www.sustainablecharlbury.org/

Tim Crisp

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What's So Funny About Charlbury?

An interview with comedian Adrian Lancini

This October our town's only half-Italian comedian embarks on an ambitious multi-venue tour of our town with his new show – all about our town. The Chronicle's guest reporter Adrian Lancini caught up with Adrian to find out more.

Adrian: So what exactly is this new show all about then?

Adrian: Charlbury

Adrian: Can you be more specific?

Adrian: Not really, I haven't actually written it yet

Adrian: Well, can we expect the usual skewed and deranged portrayals of life's mundanities with perplexing stage behaviour that poses the question – is this comedy or some kind of nervous breakdown?

Adrian: Yes.

Adrian: So where exactly in Charlbury are you planning to perform it?

Adrian: So far it's Amarelo, The Bull, The Bowls Club, The Bell, The Shed and The Veterinary Surgeons.

Adrian: You're playing the vets?

Adrian: No, that last one was a joke.

Adrian: Brilliant! Can we expect that high standard of humour at the Show?

Adrian: Without doubt.

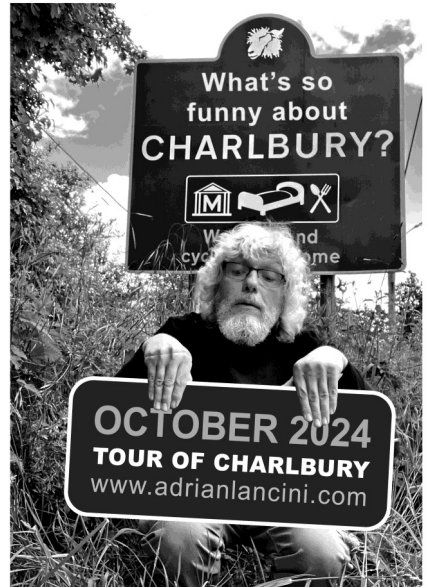
Adrian: For anybody who hasn't seen you perform before how would you describe your act?

Adrian: Skewed and deranged portrayals of life's mundanities with perplexing stage behaviour that poses the question – is this comedy or some kind of nervous breakdown?

Adrian: Anything else you want to add to sell the show to the good people of Charlbury?

Adrian: There will be an interval – though I'm not sure yet how long – probably around 20 minutes. And I'll probably wear slippers. And I might eat something.

The tour starts at Amarelo on Thursday 3rd October. Please check www.charlbury.info or www.adrianlancini.com for all dates and ticket details.



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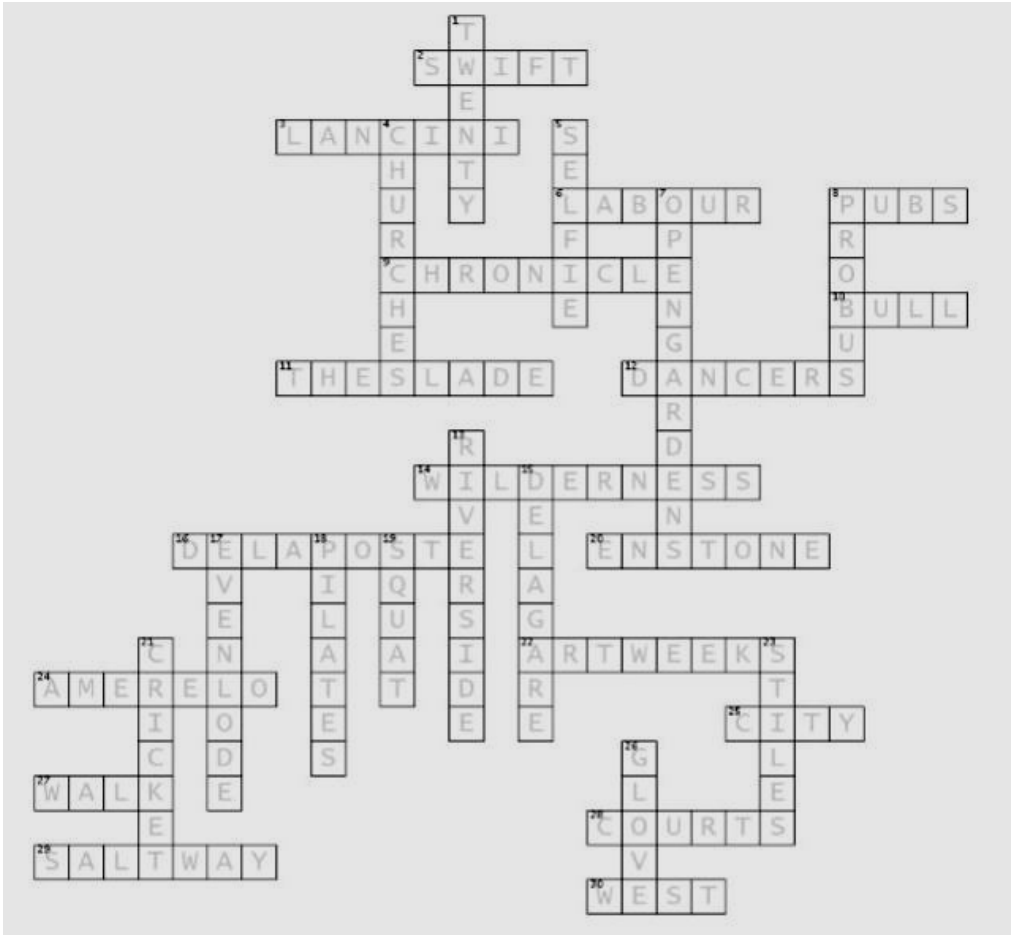
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CHARLBURY COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Please note that it is the responsibility of each organisation listed in the Community Directory to notify any changes to the Editor

Artweeks - Maureen Sparling (07779 779121)

All Together In Charlbury (ATIC)

To request help (01993 776277). To contact management committee (07487 413892)

Baptist Church - Kay Colyer (01608 810107)

charlburybaptistchurch@gmail.com

Charlbury Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

Sue Haffenden, Secretary 01608 676642

charlbury.drama@gmail.com

www.charlbury-drama.com

Charlbury Art Society (CAS) Joanna Shakir

secretary@charlburyarts.co.uk

Charlbury Beer Festival - Michael Peake

info@charlburybeerfestival.org

www.charlburybeerfestival.org

Charlbury Beer & Wine Circle - Brian Murray

(01608 819091)

Charlbury Bowls Club—Chris Webb

secretary@charlburybowls.co.uk

Charlbury Bridge Club— Secretary Monica

Wilkinson (01608 810560)

Charlbury Canoe Club - Hugh Belshaw

(01608 810130) *hughandjoan@uwclub.net*

Charlbury Chronicle - Susie Finch (07879

693733) *editor.chronicle@outlook.com*

Charlbury Community Centre—Daniela Jenkins

(01608 811878)

Charlbury Community Speedwatch

charlburycsw@gmail.com

Charlbury Community Workshop

www.charlburycommunityworkshop.co.uk

Charlbury Cricket Club -

www.charlburycricketclub.co.uk

Charlbury Lunch Club- Tanya Stevenson (07871

795748)

Charlbury & District Probuc Club

Mike White - *CPCKingfisher.ed@gmail.com*

Charlbury Green Hub - Christine Elliott

(01608 811057) *www.charlburygreenhub.org.uk*

Charlbury Garden Society

secretary@charlburygardensociety.org.uk

www.charlburygardensociety.org.uk

Charlbury Ladies Luncheon Club—Gill Grason

(01608 810154)

Charlbury Morris - Peter Smith (01608 811007)

peter@charlburymorris.org

www.charlburymorris.org

Charlbury Museum - Curator—

curator@charlburymuseum.org.uk

Charlbury Music Class - Peter Fry (01993

359189)

Charlbury Open Gardens - Catherine Goyder

csfgardens@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Pioneer Country/Western Club

(Ray & Margaret) (01993 831345)

Charlbury Pre-School—Emily Dytor

emilydytor@gmail.com (01608 811200)

Charlbury Royal British Legion - Nick Potter

(01608 810388)

Charlbury School -Head (01608 810354)

office@charlburyschool.org

Charlbury School Association -

charlburySA@outlook.com

Charlbury Scout Group - Cheryl Hornsby -

cheryl@redstonecomputers.co.uk

Charlbury Society - Chairman, Nikki Rycroft

n.rycroft@doctors.org.uk

Charlbury Street Fair - Chairman—Alan Carreras

(csfchairman@charlburystreetfair.org

Charlbury Tennis Club - Mark Jarman (01608

811692) *charlburytennis@hotmail.co.uk*

Charlbury Town Council—Lisa Wilkinson, clerk

(07311 259412) *charlburytownclerk@gmail.com*

Charlbury Town Football - Keith Claridge

(01608 810201 or 07870 426707)

Charlbury Town Youth Football Club - James

Ball (01608 810270) *jolliecat@btinternet.com*

Charlbury Town Walking Football

John Munro *charlburytownwf@gmail.com*

(07388 010496) *www.charlburytownfsc.co.uk/*

walking-football

Charlbury Wildlife Society

charlburywildlifesociety@gmail.com

Charlbury Women's Institute - President -

Heather Hill *charlburywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk*

Corner House Community Bookshop—Neil

Pakenham-Walsh (01608 811899)

Corner House and Memorial Hall -Office (07826

056496)

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810562) *rosalind.scott@hotmail.co.uk*

Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens - Simon

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Dementia Friendly Charlbury— Meryl Smith

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811033) email: *sueeterry@btinternet.com*)

Holiday Club

parishoffice@stmaryscharlbury.co.uk

Methodist Chapel - Sue Tokumine (01608

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Mind in Chipping Norton (Mental Health

Support) (01608 645296)

Riverside Festival - Andy Pickard (01608

810635) *admin@riversidefestival.charlbury.com*

www.riversidefestival.charlbury.com

St Marys C of E Church Rev. Fergus Butler—

Gallie (01608 810230)

St Teresa's RC Church Fr Clive Dytor (07484

158642)

Sustainable Charlbury - Liz Reason (01608

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The Bell Inn (01608 692887)

The Bull Inn (01608 810689)

Thomas Gifford Trust- Chris Potts (01608

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United Nations Association (West

Oxfordshire) - Neil Pakenham-Walsh (01608

811338)

Walkers are Welcome Tony Merry 07580

917584 *tonyhmmerry@gmail.com*

Wychwayz Border Morris - Teresa Duester

(01608 810934)

www.charlbury.info - Richard Fairhurst



Charlbury's Police Community Support Officer

C9837 Wesley Smith

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