

Charney Chatter

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January 2013

ROAD SAFETY - UPDATE

Towards the end of November several residents expressed concern that local roads had been left in a dangerous and unsafe condition by farm vehicle operators depositing mud on the road. There were several reports of vehicles skidding and an unconfirmed report of an incident involving a motorcyclist/cyclist. Other concerns alleged inappropriate speeding.

The Clerk to the Parish Council contacted me for advice as one of your representatives on the Faringdon East Neighbourhood Action Group.

The legal position is that farmers and vehicle operators who deposit mud on the road are potentially liable for a range of offences under legislation enforced by the County Council and the Police. The County Council (the Highways Authority) is under a statutory duty to keep roads safe and can require those who deposit mud on the road to undertake remedial action. If this not done they have the power to clean the road and recover the cost from the offender. The Police role normally covers responding to complaints, assessment, intervention if necessary and where appropriate referral to the Highways Authority for action.

The following update is circulated for information

(1) An officer from the Highways Authority has visited the alleged offender and drawn their attention to the legal requirements..

(2) The opportunity has been taken to advise the Police in general terms of long standing concerns about farm vehicle operators in relation to inappropriate speeding, damage to road verges and the alleged use of mobile telephones whilst driving. In doing so, it has been stressed that residents recognise the difficulties faced by farm vehicle operators and acknowledge their general willingness to comply with the law.

(3) Residents with concerns in the future are advised as follows:

MUD ON THE ROAD: Contact OCC (Highways enquiries team) 084531011 11 (office hours) or on line at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ If serious or urgent contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101

INAPPROPRIATE SPEEDING/ DRIVING WHILST ON THE TELEPHONE: Contact Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101. Please provide as much information as possible on times, location, vehicle registration number etc.

(4) The Police have been asked to consider taking joint action with the Highways Authority in the Spring to remind local farmers and agricultural contractors of the requirements of the relevant legislation.

I hope you will agree that this is an appropriate and proportionate approach.

David Sibbert (Faringdon East Neighbourhood Action Group)

(Note: Faringdon East Neighbourhood Action Group covers Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor, The Hanneys, Stanford in the Vale and surrounding villages and works with the Neighbourhood Policing Team and other partners to identify and resolve crime and community safety issues that matter most to local communities. The Charney Bassett representatives are Mike Cox and David Sibbert.

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Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour will resume, after the Christmas break, on Tuesday 15th January in the Village Hall from 10.30 to 11.30 am.

The cost of £1.00 per person includes as much tea or as you like and biscuits too.

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Jane Fry 868114
David Roberts 868285.

Meetings are normally held at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 9th January 2013

Adverts and Events

Village Diner

Come and enjoy a delicious and hearty two course lunch at Buckland Village Hall, every third Wednesday in the month. It's great value at £5.00 per head, and you will be made very welcome by the regulars. Upcoming dates to put into your 2013 diary: -

16th January

20th February

20th March

PERSONALISED HAND-MADE CARDS

Can't find the right card for that special occasion? Eunice will make one for you.

Ring her on 868646.

Deadline for copy for the March 2013 edition: **20th February 2013**

Contributions are welcome, preferably by e-mail. Adverts are free!

Charney Chatter can be e-mailed free to anyone giving their e-mail address to the Editor. roger.watson@tiscali.co.uk

From Joyce Ferguson

My very warmest, but still inadequate, thanks to everyone who saw me off the premises so wonderfully, for the lovely gifts and for the amazing number of cards I have received, which have given me a great welcome to my new home. I am superficially getting straight – i.e. stuff has been thrust into cupboards and on shelves to give me plenty of exercise looking for things

My address is 70 Pavilion Walk, South Street, Letcombe Regis, OX12 9SQ. Telephone number 01235-770073. I'd love to hear from anyone who happens this way. I shall still turn up in Charney from time to time (Fridays Pilates a regular), so *au revoir*, with many thanks again.

Joyce

Oxfordshire LINK - Your voice on local services

Oxfordshire LINK gives people across the county a voice on health and social care services. They are conducting a survey of community and support groups in all areas of Oxfordshire. If you run such a group or have any information about local support groups, please contact the LINK Support Officer directly.

Margaret Eaglestone - LINK Support Officer

Oxfordshire LINK, ORCC, Jericho Farm, Worton, Witney, OX29 4SZ

Telephone 01865 883488

margaret.eaglestone@oxonrcc.org.uk

Roaring 20s Cocktail Party

On 17 November, the Village Hall was transformed into a glamorous 20s cocktail bar. The Charleston rang out down Chapel Lane, as an entertaining evening of excellent food and cocktail creativity was enjoyed by gangsters and their molls, as well as the sartorially elegant.

The event raised £135 for Children in Need. Thanks to all those who made the evening go with a swing.

Stephanie Wright

Community Oil Buying Scheme 2013

January 2013 - **Monday 7th**

All orders to be received by 12 noon

More dates to come soon

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

High Speed Broadband**Does your community want better broadband?**

The County Council wants to make sure that residents and businesses across the county are not left behind by poor internet access. High speed reliable broadband means better connection for all kinds of purposes. The County Council wants public services to be more accessible, schools to be able to access more resources, families to be better connected and businesses to find it easier to develop and grow. This is why the Council is investing £13.86 million to bring better broadband to Oxfordshire by 2015.

The Council wants to hear from residents and businesses what they have to say about their current broadband services and their future needs. They want people to register their interest in faster and more reliable broadband so that they can show there is an active demand in the county for better connectivity. Importantly, they hope that this will help them to deliver their better broadband programme, furthering their business case when they talk to broadband suppliers.

It will be particularly important for residents and businesses in rural communities to join in the campaign to demonstrate demand for faster broadband, as services for scattered, more isolated communities are likely to be a less interesting business proposition for broadband suppliers unless a lively demand for improved speeds is demonstrated.

The County Council is conducting a survey of demand which runs to 31 December 2012 – one survey for residents and one survey for businesses. You are encouraged to join in the appropriate survey, which is found on the County Council's website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/broadband.

(Article from The ORCC Bulletin)

CHARNEY HALL and FIELD TRUST

The next meeting of the CHAFT Management Committee will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 31st January at 19:30.

Village residents are welcome to attend.

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

Charney Village College 2013

Forthcoming activities in Charney Bassett Village Hall:

Fun Machine Quilting Workshop : Saturday 19th January : 10am - 4pm

All you need to bring is your sewing machine with instruction book, a Walking foot and Embroidery foot. A couple of spare machine needles may be a good idea! Everything else will be provided.

Tea, coffee and cake will be served throughout the day but bring a picnic lunch for the 30 minute rest period. Cost: £12.00.

If you have any queries on the content of the workshop do please give Julie Ingram-Johnson a call on: 07775 568292 or email: julieingramjohnson@me.com

Singing Workshop : Saturday 26th January: 10am - 1pm

Do you enjoy a good sing-song? By popular request following last year's session with Liz Hodgson, come along and sing your heart out with songs from around the world. (No need to be able to read music). Cost: £5 (this may vary slightly depending on how many attend).

Calligraphy Workshop : Saturday 23rd February : 10am - 1pm

All you need to bring is a saucer and some scrap paper! An experienced tutor from Oxford Scribes will provide us with an introduction to Calligraphy. Cost: £5 (this may vary slightly depending on how many attend).

If you would like to enrol on any of these workshops please contact me:

Lynn Brookes, 01235 868471 or email: village.college@yahoo.com

CHARNEY ARMY 2012

The Charney Army have been pretty busy again this year as some people may have noticed. We have nearly finished the Jubilee Orchard opposite the Church; there are a dozen fruit trees now planted and also some currant and gooseberry bushes. We are also hoping to get some rhubarb in there in the new year. It is with thanks to David Godfrey that we have been able to clear the ground for this project and to Colin Mcguire for providing the manure to mulch the trees.

The magnificent Christmas Tree generously provided by the Chequers was erected in position on the Green by the army. The weather during the summer was somewhat unkind to say the least and made life very difficult keeping the playing field and other areas tidy, consequently there is a backlog of rubbish still to be burnt and also the clearing of the stream at Ock Green has been pretty difficult this year. Hopefully the reeds will be cleared in the new year ready for next seasons 'crop'!

John DGLISH

From your MP - Ed Vaizey

Over recent weeks I've received a massive number of emails about the proposals to cull badgers in rural areas to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis. I understand the feelings on both sides - many people feel powerless in the face of a disease that has cost the taxpayer £500m this decade and many others feel great concern about taking such a drastic step. The Government has therefore decided to pilot the scheme in areas of very high concern and I will be carefully watching the results of these pilots and the local reaction to it. (*Cull now delayed; Ed.*)

Another major campaign which hit my mailbox last month supports the proposals to force energy companies to move customers onto the cheapest tariff suited to their circumstances. I absolutely support these proposals as I believe they will lower every family's cost of living - and help make sure everyone can afford to keep warm during the winter. In a previous newsletter, I mentioned the CAB as a source of advice. I've been reminded that the Independent Advice Centre in Wantage is also a very good place to go for reliable, impartial information on a wide range of issues. Do you know of somewhere else in the constituency where good advice is available that I can mention to readers?

Recently, the European Space Agency announced it would put its telecommunications satellite monitoring work at its base in Harwell. Now, telecoms satellite monitoring

might sound pretty technical, and not something that impacts on our daily lives, but the decision is part of a wider good news story. The decision will lead to a 100 jobs, but that's not all. It also confirms that Harwell is now one of the leading space research places in the UK, and therefore the world.

If you asked most people what a Government's policy for space should be, they might assume it was putting men on the moon or sending them to Mars. As we haven't done either in the UK, then you might also assume we are nowhere in the 21st century space race. In fact, we have one of the largest space economies in the world, worth £9 billion, and a lot of it is based in Oxfordshire.

Because space does affect our daily lives - whether it's TV reception, satellite navigation in our cars, or mobile phone signals and a host of other applications, all depend on space technology. That is why I was delighted when George Osborne, the Chancellor, announced recently that he hopes to triple the size of our space economy from £9 billion today to £30 billion by 2020: that means more jobs and more investment in Harwell and other parts of Oxfordshire.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, tel. 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

Ed Vaizey MP

CHAFT 100 CLUB WINNERS - November & December

	First prize	Second Prize
November	£25 No 100 - Paul Johnson	£10 No 86 - Brenda Ewins
December	£100 No 28 - Brian Greenaway	£50 No 38 - Pam Edwards

Congratulations to the winners and Happy New year to all our members

Mahala & David