

Chilton Chronicle

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Happy Christmas



Christmas is going to be a bit different for all of us this year so this December the Chilton Scarecrows would like to sprinkle some Christmas magic over Chilton and spread some joy through our wonderful village. We present to you

"Light up Chilton".



Firstly, we would like to see as many people as possible decorate their houses with Christmas lights to get December started with a sparkle. If you don't have Christmas lights feel free to get creative with other sources of light. Join us for **The Big Switch On** by turning your lights on at **6pm on 1st December!** Unfortunately we're not allowed to congregate, but join us from your doorsteps with a mince pie, a warming hot chocolate or even a glass of mulled wine to see the village come alive with festive magic. Chilton Garden Centre is kindly offering a 10% discount on their festive string lights in November for all Chilton residents (maximum of 2 per household). Proof of address needed upon purchase. They are also offering a real Christmas tree to be given in a prize draw of all houses taking part, which will take place on 5th December.

On **Saturday 19th December Father Christmas** himself is going to be making a visit to Chilton! He will start his journey through Chilton at 4pm in the old side of the village and then travel through to the new side. See the Chilton Scarecrows Page for more information about the route he will take. We'd love to see as many people as possible ring some bells, or bang a pan, make some noise from their doorsteps to cheer Father Christmas on his way back to the North Pole!

Let's put on a **dazzling display for Father Christmas**. We are looking for villagers to create large Christmas baubles to display outside their houses. The baubles must be bigger than 30cm, the bigger the better! If you are able to make a bauble please contact us at chiltonscarecrows@gmail.com to register **by Saturday 5th December**. All bauble makers will be entered into a prize draw to win a Sunday carvery with a bottle of wine at the Rose and Crown for up to two adults and two children, kindly donated by Shea.

And that leads us to **The Great Chilton Bauble Hunt!** Our first ever Christmas hunt! Between **Saturday 19th and Thursday 31st December**, find the giant baubles around the village and see if you can count them all. Enter your estimate for how many baubles are hidden in the village online. All correct, or closest, guesses will be entered into a prize draw to win a fabulous hamper kindly donated by Chilton Garden Centre.

See the **Chilton Scarecrows Facebook Page** for more information and to stay up to date with all our festive activities.



All Saints' Chilton and St Matthew's Harwell are busily planning both online and in person (socially distanced) events for Advent and Christmas

To keep up to date with plans, please see our website HCChurches.org, our Facebook page facebook.com/HCChurches, and posters on the main village noticeboards



Chilton Living Advent Calendar

This year why not try an Advent calendar with a difference, try a **Living Advent Calendar!**

There will be 24 different Advent windows dotted around the village. Each night a different one will be lit up with a scene from the Christmas story and children visiting will get a chocolate and sticker. It's festive, it's **fun** and it's **free!**

To find out more and to register please go to: <https://harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk> or visit our **Facebook Page**. Registration deadline 30th November 2020.



Chilton Scarecrows would like to give a HUGE thank you to everyone who took part in the Chilton Big Bug Scarecrow Trail and to all our fabulously talented scarecrow makers. We were blown away by the 38 scarecrows made by residents and the positive responses we received from visitors. Despite the wet weather over half term, we had over 500 families complete the trail raising a whopping £524 to be shared equally between Chilton Primary School and Chilton Baby and Toddler Group!

There was a hidden phrase to discover spelled out by the scarecrows, well done to everyone that got it correct! From the answers submitted we drew a winner at random, congratulations to J. Dixon who won a family ticket to Fairytale Farm! And congratulations to the winner of the most popular

scarecrow, Superworm, with a whopping 40% of the votes!

Once again, a big thank you to all who took part! And a huge thank you to Chilton Garden Centre for selling the maps and for donating a wonderful hamper as a prize for the most popular scarecrow.

We can't wait for next year's trail and hope we can make it even bigger and better.



Thank You

Although the formal working party couldn't take place, a big thank you to all those people who came along and worked in distant corners of the

churchyard. Lots was achieved including weeding, cutting down ivy and plenty of leaf raking.

Judith Russell



2020 Poppy Appeal, Chilton

This year has been very different for everyone, including the annual Poppy Appeal. Table collections in Chilton plus the boxes and collecting tins in the Curie Avenue shops and businesses raised a total of £1,494.71 for the 2020 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thanks to everyone for their generosity and a special thanks to everyone who braved the rain to come to the table collections.

Many thanks, Hazel Benton, Chilton Village Poppy Appeal Organiser



Chilton WI

Although we have not been able to meet in person since February, we have been holding virtual meetings using Zoom. We have had talks on Oxfordshire and the Spanish Civil War, artists and poets with links to the Thames Valley, growing up in communist Bulgaria and a quiz. It was Chilton WI's 60th birthday in October, under normal circumstances we would have had a big party to celebrate so instead we had bags printed with our logo and delivered a delicious cream tea in them to all our members.

In November we held a papercraft session to make Christmas decorations. In December we are planning to hold a virtual Christmas party and Christmas quiz. If anyone would like to join the Christmas fun zoom quiz please email Sylvie Thompson on sylviethomp@hotmail.com We would love to have new members join us, we are a very friendly group. If you are interested please contact our President, Liz Robbins, Telephone number 834501, email fireflyplus2@me.com, for further information.



Hello from Hayleigh & Sarah Update from your Local District Councillors



Hello! We hope that you and your families are still staying safe and well, whilst staying home as much as

possible during this second COVID-19 lockdown. For many reasons, this winter lockdown is extra tough on many residents and businesses, so we would like to remind everyone that the council's support services are available for anybody who needs help. More details are provided below, but the key message to anybody who is unsure if they need help, or if they're unsure if the councils can help, is *if in doubt, get in touch*.

As always, we will keep you updated on council matters and the council's response to COVID-19 through these newsletter articles, as well as on our dedicated councillor Facebook Page: [Cllrs Hayleigh Gascoigne & Sarah Medley](#). Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any issues or concerns - our email addresses are

hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and sarah.medley@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

Remember, for the most up-to-date coronavirus information relating to district council support and any changes to services, please take a look at the dedicated Vale webpage for updates:

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/covid19



Rose and Crown News **Takeaway Menu**

Shea would firstly like to thank everyone for the continuing support he has received this year. It's been a difficult time with a long way to go still for us all. In lockdown number 2, we need to support our village pub as much as we can. Shea is continuing to serve takeaway food as well as takeaway beer and other drinks!!!! So please support him, have a night off from cooking and order a takeaway!

Available 5 – 8 pm Wednesdays to Saturdays

- Fish & Chips with Mushy Peas £9.95
- Chicken Curry with Rice & Naan £9.00
- Homemade Burger and Chips £8.00 with or without Cheese
- Sausages, Mash, Onion Gravy, Peas £8.00

Sunday lunch £9.95, available 12.30 – 2.30 pm Sundays

- Roast Loin of Pork or
- Roast Shoulder of Lamb or
- Roast Chicken with Stuffing

Potatoes & Vegetables, Gravy

Beer available, £3.00 a pint in take away container

Tel 01235 862992 to order

Payment can be made by card when order is placed or card/cash on collection

Please allow time for preparation

Christmas Carvery menu, Boris permitting

It's still far from certain (at the time of writing) what level of Christmas festivity will be considered prudent. When the pub is allowed to reopen, Shea has planned this Christmas menu.

Starters

Seafood salad (smoked salmon, prawns, rollmops, mackerel) served with a house dressing

Country pate, served with toast & a side salad.

Homemade soup, served with crusty bread.

Main course

Roast Turkey with honey roast Ham, Pigs in Blankets, with homemade stuffing.

Poached Salmon, served with a White wine & Lemon sauce.

Vegetarian Crumble, served with Side Salad & Garlic Bread.

All main courses are served with roast potatoes, new potatoes & fresh seasoned vegetables.

Desserts

Traditional Christmas Pudding, served with Brandy cream.

Homemade Bread and Butter pudding, with Custard
Chocolate Sponge Cake, with Fresh Cream

3 courses £19.95

2 courses £16.95

Main course only £15.95

Coffee or tea served with mince pies and cream
£4.95

Serving 3 December to 23 December, or as allowed by coronavirus restrictions. Please phone 01235 862992 to book.



The Lydia Thomas Chilton Gift Fund

The Trustees of the Lydia Thomas Chilton Gift Fund are looking forward to visiting some of the senior citizens of Chilton on or around New Year's Day to distribute parcels of groceries or baskets of fruit provided by the Fund.

The distribution of these gifts is an annual event and in January this year we were delighted to be able to supply some substantial gifts because of the generous donations from kind parishioners which swelled the Fund.

We always welcome donations from parishioners to increase our budget. Donors may specify whether they would like their gift to be spent in the current year or whether they would prefer the Trustees to invest the gift so as to enhance our spending power in future years. **So if you would like to make a donation to the Lydia Thomas Chilton Gift Fund** please contact one of the following Trustees:

Hazel Benton

15 The Orchids

John Berry
Steven Launchbury
Pam Rolls

'Schneeberg', South Row
6 Diamond Way
15 Elderfield Crescent

The Trustees are also glad to hear of any potential new recipients – to qualify recipients must be aged 73 or over and have lived in Chilton (including Chilton Field) for at least 6 months. Please let us know if a family member, neighbour or friend is eligible.

If any of our existing recipients would like to change from groceries to a basket of fruit, or from fruit to groceries, please let one of the Trustees know as soon as possible. We will be ordering the goods in mid-December.

A little background information: Lydia Thomas was a benefactress of Chilton who died in 1807 and provided in her will the sum of £333-6-8d in 3% Consols for distribution of £10 each New Year's Day for the benefit of the poor. The endowment was administered by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Parish and used for a distribution of goods, usually of loaves of bread. It is believed that Lydia lived at the Malt House in Main Street. In 1975 the Fund was amalgamated with the Chilton Aid Fund (set up in 1955) to form the present day Fund. The Chilton Aid Fund arose from the Chilton share of the proceeds of the sale of the Nurse's House administered in connection with the Harwell and Chilton Nursing Association. That charity was comprised in a conveyance dated 1926.



Linda's Christmas Quiz

- 1 Sounding more like a dog's name, what is Dudley Moore's character called in Santa Claus the Movie?
- 2 Which Christmas song was the first to be sung in space in 1965?
- 3 Which of the Seven Dwarfs in the Disney film had a crush on Snow White?
- 4 What is the traditional name of the cow in the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk?
- 5 In A Christmas Carol by Dickens, who says "Merry Christmas, one and all"?
- 6 According to the words of the carol We Three Kings, in which direction were they headed?
- 7 In which Christmas song do you "make the Yule-tide gay"?
- 8 In which panto does the character King Rat appear?
- 9 Which of the Gospels gives the fullest account of the nativity?

10 Shirley Temple stopped believing in Santa at 6 years old when, in a department store, Santa asked for an autograph – true or false?



Bus Service Changes

As predicted in Chronicle 471 (September) Chilton will see some major and unwelcome bus service changes from the beginning of January, with the loss of most of its X32 direct services to Oxford and Wantage; replaced by the 94 route to Didcot, which has been extended to serve Chilton and Harwell Campus

The 94s will take a different route to Didcot compared with the X32s, over Hagbourne Hill to the Horse and Harrow at West Hagbourne, then to Upton and Blewbury from where they take the road to East Hagbourne and into Didcot via Fleet Meadow before serving the Orchard Centre and Didcot Parkway railway station.

Following the Parish Council's representations, supported by our County Councillor Mike Fox-Davies, to Thames Travel about the loss of the X32 service, a number of peak time X32s will continue to serve to Chilton as before.

These will cater for school passenger flows, as Oxfordshire County Council has a statutory obligation to provide scholar transport.

We have produced a summary timetable in this Chronicle for the new bus service from 4 January, which dovetails the X32s and 94s. You will note that the X32s now provide a direct service to the John Radcliffe Hospital.

The explanation for the service changes that the Parish Council received from Thames Travel opens the door, or should we say gate, to a possible reinstatement of the X32s:

“Should steps be taken that result in bus operating speeds increasing, such as the introduction of bus gates in Oxford or the introduction of other bus priority measures, we would be happy to look at using the time ‘saved’ to divert more X32 journeys around Chilton. Unfortunately, the County Council recently decided against the temporary introduction of bus gates in Oxford in the short term, although bus gates are still proposed as a longer-term measure.”

This means that Chilton now has its very own ‘gate’ scandal - Busgate.

Just don't forget ‘Busgate’, and keep lobbying the County Council to introduce the bus gates in Oxford, then there will be a slim chance we might get our X32s back.

New timetable at back of Chronicle

Charity Market

We regret the November market had to be cancelled but £259 was raised for SeeSaw as Liz Robbins made pies etc to order which were collected from her home and chrysanthemums were sold at our garden gate. A huge thank you to Liz. Hopefully we will be able to hold the market again on December 12th dependent on Government guidelines. This will be for SeeSaw, the local charity which provides vital support for bereaved children.

There will be an amazing selection of home baked goods, cakes, jams, and of course Liz's famous delicious chicken pies. There will also be books, plants and attractive Christmas items.

Thank you to everyone who supports these amazing events. All enquiries to the Goodalls on 834503.

Cryptic Quiz

The next quiz ,No. 61 , will be out on Tuesday 8th December , called “Fish and Chips” , and will be for SeeSaw. Quiz sheets will be available from Atomic Hair (if they are allowed to open) Audrey Slater 9 Latton Close Judy Goodall 43 Crafts End and at the market if held .

The last quiz, No 60, was again won by Gill Riches from West Hagbourne with 49 out of 50. Second was Morag McIntyre and third was Julie Cittern. £187 was raised for End Polio Now which the Bill Gates Foundation will treble !

Thank you
Judy Goodall

All Saints' Women's Group

We will be holding our Christmas meeting on Tuesday December 8th, most probably by Zoom. We shall have carols and readings. Everyone is welcome to join us. Just send me an e-mail - thegoodalls43@outlook.com - and we will send you the Zoom link.

Happy Christmas
Judy Goodall



Free and friendly help for computer users every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 12:00. We provide help remotely using telephone, Facetime, Skype, Zoom, Teams, WhatsApp or whatever is best for you. Book a 30 minute appointment by emailing theastononline@gmail.com or, if this is not possible, by phoning 07780 958249.

Join in an online meeting 10:30 – 11:15 on Tuesday 8 December to exchange good ideas about Christmas online including carol services, pantomime, Zoom Christmas lunch, shopping and seasonal scams. Book a place using the email address above.

www.astononline.uk for more information
Bruno Brunskill (On behalf of Astons Online)

theastonsonline@gmail.com 07780 958249

www.astonsonline.uk

UK Online Centre 3455623

Cyber to the Citizen Initiative



Preparing for a different kind of Christmas

This time last year, you were probably looking forward to Christmas and had never heard of COVID-19. This year, however, we are all facing a very different kind of festive season. With guidelines changing so often to keep pace with infection rates in different areas, one thing we have all had to do is be flexible and adaptable. What does this mean for Christmas though? We have all been affected by the pandemic, but we are not all in the same boat. Some of us may still be able to buy gifts online and have a small family celebration with members of our own household. Others may be bravely facing their first Christmas without loved ones. Wherever we are and whatever situation we are facing, there are steps we can take to prioritise our mental health and wellbeing.

Get a move on

Being less active can really affect our health mentally and physically. For those who are able, getting outdoors to enjoy a walk wrapped up in winter woollies can be just the tonic. The NHS has some great ideas for armchair exercises and other fitness tips for those who aren't able to get outdoors. See [nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/sitting-exercises](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/sitting-exercises).

Stay connected

We may not be able to socialise in the way we're used to but it's amazing how many different social groups you can join from the comfort of your own home, from book clubs and cooking classes to good old family quiz nights. These could be a great way to keep everyone entertained during the Christmas holidays. Why not search online for some new activities so that you can socialise and stay safe at the same time? Or, even better, set up your own!

Sing your heart out

Research by the University of East Anglia found that singing boosts our mental wellbeing. Sadly, it looks like the restrictions on singing in groups will put a stopper on carol services this year, but why not check out what's happening online in your area through community Facebook pages, or do a

Google search for your local church which are all active on line. Having a good sing-along from your sofa means that you can be as loud and as silly as you like while still enjoying some community spirit.

Help others

For many, this winter may be a very lonely time, so it is important that we find ways to connect and help one another out. We may not be allowed to invite friends or neighbours over to the house, but there are other ways to bless them. Perhaps you could do a food shop for an elderly neighbour, or bake biscuits with the kids to deliver to a friend's door. Helping others is scientifically proven to boost our own mood too.

Give gifts that mean something

Every Christmas, millions of presents in the UK end up being re-gifted or donated to charity. Keep this in mind if you are feeling under pressure to buy gifts for everyone you know. Research into the psychology of gift giving shows that personal, handmade presents, an experience, or a specially created playlist often say a lot more than a shop-bought present. After a tough year, showing someone that you really know and appreciate them will mean a lot without over stretching your pocket.

Seek help with money worries

Struggling with money can have a severe impact on our mental health, especially at this time of year. Don't let your Christmas be filled with worry – get help today by contacting an organisation like CAP for free debt help. You can call CAP on 0800 328 0006 or visit capuk.org to find out more. There are also Money Courses run locally to help with budgeting. Enter your postcode on the CAP website to find a course in your area.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity with over 580 services across the country delivering debt counselling, money management, job clubs, life skills groups, and support for people breaking life-controlling dependencies. Visit capuk.org to find out more.



Useful Reminders

The Chilton Mutual Aid Group can be contacted on chiltonaid@gmail.com or their Facebook page, Chilton Mutual Aid Group.

Facebook pages that will have information

Chilton Village Community

Chilton Village, Oxfordshire

Chilton Field Community

The play equipment is open for use; please remember to keep your distance when using the equipment. No food or drink in the areas, wash your hands or use sanitiser before and after using the equipment. Stay away if you feel ill.

PCSO Tim Deane's contact details.
Mobile: 07976 978916
Email:tim.deane@thamesvalley.pnn.police
.uk

**The new Bus Timetable from 4th
January is on the back page**



Lights Out, Potholes, Fly Tipping?

These can all be reported on Fix-My-Street by going to
<https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

Follow the link above and then enter an Oxfordshire
postcode, or **street** name and area; locate the
problem on a map of the area; Enter details of the
problem



The next Parish Council Meeting will be on
**Wednesday 9th December at 8.00pm. This meeting
will be a remote meeting and the agenda and the
link to join the meeting will be published on the
Council website.** Members of the public are invited
to attend.

The Parish Council website can be found at
<http://www.parish-council.com/chilton> where you
will be able to find out details of all the Parish Council
meetings, who your Councillors are, and other useful
information.

Items to be included in the next Chronicle should be
sent to the Clerk (preferably by email) by the 23rd
December. Clerk: **Liz Morris, 6 Latton Close, 01235
834233**

Email: parishclkchilton@btinternet.com

Parish Council Chairman

Mr Chris Broad
14 Latton Close
834347

Please Note: The Parish Council does not accept any
responsibility for the adverts placed in the Chilton
Chronicle.

Quiz Answers

- 1 Patch
- 2 Jingle Bells
- 3 Bashful
- 4 Old Buttercup
- 5 Tiny Tim
- 6 Westward
- 7 Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
- 8 Dick Whittington
- 9 Luke
- 10 TRUE

