



Chatton News



A Newsletter for Chatton and surrounding area

February 2018

We hope you enjoyed all the festivities and the break. There was even some snow to please the children (*above photo taken by Tony Robson*). By now most of you will be back to business as usual, at school or work. Some of you may have been indulging in dry January or joining gyms and slimming clubs – or indeed ...not! Whatever you are doing, we hope this year will be really good for you. *Rupert and Murdoch*



Chatton Village Store

Jeff Smith is intending to retire from the Post Office and store towards the end of this year 2018. Jeff took over the business seventeen years ago, and will be 70 next January. If

anyone would like to take over the shop and PO, please contact him. *Photo by Caroline Roberts*

Review of 2017



The history of the Presbyterian Church in Chatton was traced from its origins in 1849 until the present day Chatton Gallery.

- Recreation groups have continued throughout the year and have included cricket, Chatton Tramps, Community Garden, carpet bowls, archery, Vinduro, angling, quiz evenings, speaker nights and the growing membership of the gym.



Chatton Village coffee mornings have grown in popularity this year and raised a

total of £420 for various worthy causes

- Several awards have been gained this year including The Old Manse and Percy Arms. Rupert and Murdoch were recognised for their work on Chatton News by the Duchess of Northumberland.

Marion Penfold was licensed at Holy Cross



Church on 26 February to be vicar of the parishes of the Southern Benefice of Glendale, which includes Chatton and Chillingham. It was the first

licencing by a Bishop of Berwick for 400 years.

- A traffic survey was also carried out with interesting results.
- The Wellington Welfare has been alive and well! See end of issue.



One of the highlights of the year was the Tour of Britain Cycle Race which came through Chatton on Monday 4th September to a large welcoming crowd.

What's been Happening More Dog Mess!

I would like to mention about the amount of dog muck up and around Mill Hill especially on the grass next to where they are building new houses. Having 3 young children who run on the grass, it's disgusting and getting a lot worse over these past few months. Thank you. *Donna Keenan*



Where has our fingerpost gone?

Some people might have noticed that the Victorian cast iron signpost at the centre of the village has lost one of its pointers. It was a bit

of a mystery, as many residents wondered what had happened to it.

Fortunately Sheree Smith who lives at 9 North Terrace heard a bang when the panel fell to the ground. Sheree noticed that the accident had been caused by the pavement cleaning machine, and thanks to her vigilance we have an answer as to where our missing fingerpost has gone!

The iconic sign is one of the few Edwardian cast iron signs left in the parish, and a few years ago the Parish Council got Stephen Mather, the Holborn blacksmith, to repair it. Hopefully our sign will return to its post in the not too distant future.

Jim Ralton

Carol Singing

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Carol Singing around the village on December 21st. It was an excellent turn-out, and special thanks must go to the regular pit-stop venues who supply the team with fuel for the onward journey! Next Christmas, we might even have a group that would visit other outlying areas of the Parish. In the past the visit to Chillingham Village was a highlight of the tour, and several members remember singing carols around the piano at the Estate House with Lady Tankerville conducting. A total of £276 was raised for the local branch of the National Autistic Society, who have several family volunteers in Chatton. *Jim Railton*

Tillside Parish Council

BBQ AREA & PLAYGROUND AT THE VILLAGE HALL

There is a plan afoot to breathe new life to the recently cleared area behind the Village Hall now that the Parish Hut has been taken down. The Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council have joined forces and have come up with an idea to make the most of the space for the community. What is this idea I hear you cry...? it is to build a BBQ area and install an all singing and dancing playground.

Why I hear you ask...? over the recent years there has been something of a baby boom, resulting in lots of small people running around the village and surrounding area, and we thought it would be great to have somewhere in the village that they can expel some of the endless energy that they have. The BBQ area, well that's more for the big kids, or grown ups as they are sometimes known, and will be a roofed structure with a built in charcoal BBQ and somewhere that, we hope, will be used as another way to bring the community together and make the most of our beautiful village.

Plans are in the very early stages at the moment and we hope to be able to get grant funding to help with some or all of this but, if you would like to be involved or have any bright ideas we'd love to hear from you so please get in touch with Henry the Plumber! henryprytherch@hotmail.com

Chatton Quiz Night

Numbers were a little down for the January Quiz Night in the Village Hall, but three teams battled it out in a Scottish themed evening, with only ½ a mark separating the leading teams into the final stage. Final bragging rights, and cash prize, going to the team who called themselves 'Och Aye the Nooooo'. Winnings were donated to the Air Ambulance. The real success of the evening was gaining volunteers to run the next three quiz nights in February, March & April - see you there - thinking caps on! *Ian Catchpole*

Chatton Village Hall

Start as you Mean to Go On!

2018 started with a bang for the Village Hall, with an excellent New Year Party once again. Many thanks to all those who made it such a success.

Recent Highlights

Since the last edition of Chatton News, we have hosted:

- **Caroline Roberts**, who told us about her latest book, *The Cosy Christmas Chocolate Shop* and her hugely successful writing career.
- **Atay Dervish**, who gave a superb cookery demonstration.
- **2 quiz nights!** Many thanks to Tony Harrison, for organising December's quiz, and to Ian Catchpole for hosting the Burns' Night Quiz. Would the bard have been impressed with the team names, however? Och Aye the Noo took first prize, followed by The Taps, with Two Beards and a Chin taking third place!

Forthcoming Events:

Speaker Nights (Always 7pm: £3 entry to include tea or coffee)

Thursday 15th February: Linda Bankier, Berwick Archivist: *First World War Research in our area.*

Thursday 15th March: Nick and Judith Grasse of The Hetton Brewey: *Talk and Tasting*

Thursday 19th April: Dr Ronald Campbell: *Senior Biologist for The Tweed Foundation: Secrets of The River Till.*

Thursday 24th May: Antiques Roadshow with Jim Railton

Wifi: We are hoping to install Wifi shortly. More details to follow.

Theatre: Northumberland Theatre Company should be returning to the Village Hall over the autumn and Christmas period-watch this space.

Regular Activities:

Archery: Tuesdays 7.00-9.00 pm. Contact Lowick Archery Club lowickarchery@gmail.com

Carpet Bowls: Wednesdays 7-8.30pm. For details, contact Tony Harrison on 01668 215 613

Working Party Day: Saturday April 7th: 10.30 am- 1.00 pm. We shall be doing work on the outside yards, the gym, and the kitchen. All welcome!

Bright Ideas and Suggestions..... are always appreciated! Contact Alistair Cochrane on 07801 981377 or any of the other Trustees. To keep up to date, do look at our website (villagehall.chatton.biz) or follow us on Facebook! *Alistair Cochrane*

Forthcoming Events

Pilates

Is Your New Year Resolution To Keep Fit And Well?

Then don't miss an opportunity for increased suppleness and relaxation at Saturday morning pilates in Eglington Village Hall. We're very lucky to have Samantha Kelly as our instructor. She caters for all abilities and provides all the necessary equipment.

The class runs from 11am to 12 noon and costs between £5 and £8 a session depending on numbers attending. **Hope To See You There!**

Please contact Ali Wrangham for more information. aliwrangham@btconnect.com

01668217329/0797085760

Chatton Angling Association AGM

The Chatton Angling Association AGM will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 20th February at 7pm. All local and Associate members are invited. Anyone else with any interest in fishing is welcome to come along.

Chatton Angling Association fishing tickets are available at concessionary rates to all residents living in the Parish. For further information, contact Dorothy Douglas on 016682155543

Chatton Tramps



The Chatton Tramps meet outside the Percy at 9:45 on the first Saturday each month, and set out to explore the glorious North

Northumberland countryside, both within Tillside Parish and a little beyond, which Chatton is at the heart of.

We share transport to the starting point of the walk, which is typically between 4 and 5 miles long, and we aim to be back in the village by 1pm. If you are thinking of joining us, no experience is necessary, as walks are led, but you need strong walking shoes or preferably boots and warm, waterproof clothing - and you mustn't mind a bit of mud!!

As well as some exercise, members enjoy "good craic" and sharing what they know about the area, and often go on to repeat the walks with visiting family and friends.

If you want to hear about future walks, or find out more, contact Bryony at bryony@bryonys.co.uk

CPR/AED Refresher

We shall be running another CPR/Automated External Defibrillator evening in the Village Hall on Monday 5th March at 7:30pm. It is open to

everyone, young & old, in the village to learn what to do in case someone collapses, to practise performing Chest Compressions (on a manikin), and to have a go using a defibrillator such as the one that's available in the village. If you've learnt CPR before, come to keep your skills up and share your knowledge with others. If you have not, then now is the time to learn in an informal friendly way. *Ian Catchpole*

Chatton Coffee Morning

We are planning the next coffee morning, again at Chatton Village Hall, on Saturday 14 April 10.30am until 12.00pm. Please come along and join us! The proceeds this time will be for the Village Hall. *Chatton Coffee Morning Team*

Evening for HospiceCare North Northumberland – Date for your Diary

Please note your diary for Saturday 19 May, Chatton Village Hall. This fun evening is to raise funds for the Northumberland Hospice. Marty Craggs, ex Lindisfarne and Happy Cats front man, teams up with Grammy Award winning guitarist Trevor Sewell in a new dynamic duo. Expect a blend of Lindisfarne, Happy Cats, Animals, Dire Straits, some traditional Geordie tunes and maybe a hint of Irish, lashings of humour, singing and dancing. Tickets will be £10 per person, numbers will be limited. Watch out for more information on this event. *Joyce Fairbairn*

Percy Arms



Happy New Year to the village of Chatton. Thank you to all the villagers who came along and supported our annual Burns' Night supper. The whole event went with a

swing, excellent haggis, neeps and tatties and fine music from the Queen's Piper, Andrew Smith, and a full house.

We are celebrating Valentine's Night on the 14th February with our Head Chef, Alistair, concocting a special menu for those in the "romantic mood". Ladies will receive a single red rose, and one lucky couple will receive a complimentary overnight stay at the hotel.

Mothers' Day luncheon is being celebrated on Sunday 11th March – book early to avoid disappointment.

We were very pleased to host a wine and curry evening for the "Bed & Breakfast" providers in the village. We are always extremely grateful to The Old Manse, the Manor House at Chillingham and the rest for all the business they send to the Percy Arms. *Trevor Thorne, Manager Percy Arms*
(Photo by Caroline Roberts)

Further Features

Tad's IT Spot

What's the Password

I needed an eight character password so I picked "Snow White & the 7 Dwarves" (Nick Helm's funniest joke of the 2011 Edinburgh Fringe). But, passwords are serious business.

Current advice from the National Cyber Security Centre (a part of GCHQ) suggests that previous best practice of having complicated passwords, using special characters, changed regularly and not written down is counter productive. This is because code crackers know the rules about special characters and, by requiring passwords to be regularly changed for more complicated ones, people forget, which makes the crackers job easier.

Their advice is:- Always change default passwords as soon as possible. Never store passwords as plain text, but use a password management app for encrypted storage (such as Password Safe). Don't use personal information in your password.

But, this message hasn't filtered down to all online providers yet. So, if you're required to compose an eight digit password using upper and lower case letters with a number and a special character make it memorable and easy to type - you could use something like **lb2f&coF**, but that's not easy to remember, or is it? In fact it's an abbreviation for "I buy 2 fish & chips on Fridays" which is true, & a good way of remembering a complicated password that's quite hard to crack even if your personal information has been compromised. *If there is an IT related subject you like addressed please drop a line to Chatton News. Regards Tad O~*

Weather

David and Meg Thompson of Chillingham Barns years have been recording for 66 years.

November 2017 rainfall 69.6ml/2.74ins

Actual for 11 mnths 28.76ins.

December 56.8 ml 2.24 ins

Actual for 12 mnths 30.19ins

Average for year 26.98ins. 3.01ins up for the year
January 2018 41.5ml 1.63ins.

Recipe

Chocolate Cake (adapted from a Good Housekeeping recipe of 1966)



Ingredients:

4oz olive oil spread

4oz caster sugar

2 eggs beaten

3oz self raising flour

1oz Green & Black's cocoa powder

Method: Heat oven to 190degC. Grease and line a loaf tin. Cream fat and sugar – beat in eggs a little at a time. Fold in flour and cocoa powder. Place mixture in tin and cook in centre of oven for about 30mins.

When cool, cut cake in half and sandwich together with the following filling:

2oz icing sugar and a large tablespoon of cocoa powder sifted together, then add 1oz olive spread and cream together.

Good quality cocoa powder is the key folks!

Enjoy Jane Butler

On a lighter note.....

Seasonal Snippets



Photo by Dean Smith



Photo by David Harrod

Handy Hints

The first one is genuine, the last one is just for fun!!!

- Should the snow return and it requires clearing, spray some WD40 onto your shovel before use, to prevent the snow from sticking to it. *Sen Sybil*
- To change your Summer tyres into winter models. Simply take all the Summer air out of your tyres, then fill up with Winter air!! *Foo Lish*

Wellies on holiday



Photo by Bryony Stimpson

Last Word

Dear Lady Luck,

May we be best friends in 2018 please?

If you would like to include something in the next newsletter, please get in touch with us by phone, letterbox or e mail, details below:-

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Phone: 215543 Phone: 215560

chattonnews@gmail.com (By 5 April please.)

Thanks again to Richard and Caroline Roberts and Elm Bank Coastal Park in their generous support for Chatton News. Thanks also to everyone who helps deliver in the area. If you know someone who would like to receive Chatton News please ask them to contact us.