



Chatton News



A Newsletter for Chatton and surrounding area

April 2018

Happy Springtime! We have compiled a photographic reminder of the recent snowstorm in case you were beginning to feel warm again. The elusive sunshine may be waiting to provide us with the hottest summer ever, well we can only dream! *Rupert and Murdoch*

History For The Future?

Everyone seems to remember the huge storms of the past, including those of 1947, 1963 and the winter of 2010/11. February /March 2018 will now be added to the list when once again the newly named 'Beast from the East' returned to the region.



Snow drift on Henlaw road and the first real snow for our children to enjoy.



Igloo on the Village Green and homemade snow ploughs!



Snow depth



The Rev. Marion Penfold with Prayerbook, not spade!

Thank you to everyone for capturing and sharing these moments in the snow.

Unsung heroes of the storm include Jeff and Kenneth Smith, who kept the Village Store open,

Jeff driving most days in hazardous conditions. The Percy Arms, local farmers spending hours clearing roads, and neighbours and friends who cleared steps and pathways. On behalf of the village, we would like to thank them all for making life easier for us.

Chatton Village Store



It has come to our attention that on Jeff's retirement, the Village Store will be developed into four holiday flats!

Perhaps, of course, some of you may think this will be a

good thing, helping the local economy, and bringing more new people to the village. Or, perhaps some of you will be very sad to see the loss of yet another extremely vital local service? Relax..... this is an April Fool, and we are very hopeful that it will not become a reality!

Rupert and Murdoch

What's been Happening?

Chatton Village Hall Quiz Night

On Thursday 29th March 2018 four teams attended the Quiz Night in Chatton Village Hall. The teams, TAPS, Dirt & Sand, The Grasse Is Always Greener and Teachers Pets vied for the title of Village Quiz Champions and of course the prizes of Easter Eggs and Wine.

In a very close fought competition Dirt & Sand took an early lead before Teachers Pets nudged ahead in the second and third round. Strategically placed Jokers in round four and six brought the teams back onto an even keel until Dirt & Sands ran away with the final couple of rounds.

Well to the winning team comprising of Tony, Gill, Steve, Jane, Verity, Barry and Catherine. I would also like to thank all of those who took part and particularly to Vicki for compiling the questions. The attendance fee of £2 a person covered the cost of the Village Hall with the £25 surplus being donated to Help for Heroes.

Andy Pigg

Help Keep Chatton Tidy

In conjunction with the great British Spring Clean, organised by Keep Britain Tidy, volunteers across the UK assembled to undertake the biggest ever clean up. Originally scheduled for the weekend 2nd to 4th March it had to be postponed due to the heavy snow that fell across the country. In order to allow sufficient time for the extraordinary

quantity of snow to melt the event was reprogrammed for Saturday 17th March 2018. In near freezing temperatures and in between



frequent snow flurries a hardy team of 8 adults and 3 children (William, Matthew, and

Charlotte Strother) undertook the Chatton Village clean up.

Working from the War Memorial we divided into four groups and in the space of an hour had cleared the village of litter up to the national speed limit signs in all directions.

In the process we collected 14 refuse sacks of rubbish and a rather well worn traffic cone.

Andy Pigg

A 'Magic Moment' for Caroline



Local author Caroline Roberts's book 'My Summer of Magic Moments', set in Bamburgh, was shortlisted for The

Contemporary Romantic Novel of the Year.

Caroline and daughter Amie went down to The Gladstone Library in London for the awards event in early March for a fabulous evening. They even met novelist Jilly Cooper amongst other literary legends. 'It was a wonderful occasion and although I didn't win, I still felt like a winner just getting shortlisted down to the last eight!' said a proud Caroline. Well done to Julie Cohen who won, and to all the other nominees.

Thanks from the Bolam Family

Ronnie and Dorothy Bolam would like to thank every one for the cards they received on their 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Particular thanks to Ian and Kath Nixon for sending information leading to a card from the Queen. Dorothy would also like to thank everyone who sent cards following her recent operation. *Ronnie and Dorothy*

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Max Renwick, President of Chatton Cricket Club, in winning the Berwick District Sports Award 'Volunteer of the Year 2017'. This is a fantastic achievement and great recognition for all his hard work and belief in the future of the club. Well done, and well deserved, Max!

Chatton Cricket Club

Chatton Coffee Morning

A great turnout at the last coffee morning in February! Thank you for coming along and to everyone who kindly donated baking and produce for sale on the day. We were able to donate £100

to the Hospice plus a very generous £50 donation from two of our regular attendees. We also received more offers of help on future events.

Thank you! *Chatton Coffee Morning Team*

Chatton Speed Watch

The speed watch group's activity continues to be supported by the involvement of Northumbria Police Authority officers - who are carrying out additional speed watch checks in Chatton village. Both locals, and visitors to the area, are reminded of this combined activity by the addition of speed camera road signs at the four entrances to the village, thanks to a donation from Tillside PC. The Speed Indicator Device, at the west approach to the village, has been serviced and the speed setting now correctly set to 30mph. This means the SLOW DOWN warning will only be displayed if a vehicle is travelling at more than 30mph so, if you see the warning displayed, you are exceeding the speed limit so take heed of what it says. As always, we would welcome interest from anyone who may want to join the village speed watch group. A contribution of 20 minutes a week of your time, would help to make Chatton's roads a safer place for all of our children – and in fact for all of us. Chatton Speed Watch

Chatton Village Hall - April 2018

Beer Tasting with our Local Brewery: Nick and Judith Grasse of Hetton Law Brewery gave a fantastic presentation on March 15th, as well as a tasting of their different brews. Almost 40 people were unable to resist the pull of the local pint and sampled the Hetton Howler, the Hetton Hare-Raiser, the Hetton Hornet and, last but certainly not least, The Hetton Harlot!

Linda Bankier: First World War Research in our Area:

Berwick archivist Linda gave a fascinating talk about the impact of World War One on our local area, in terms of the men who were lost, the families who were left behind, and all sorts of everyday consequences that you might not have expected. It was a sobering, but very interesting evening, almost 100 years since the end of The Great War.

February Coffee Morning: these get better and better! Thanks so much to Vick, Isabel, Jane, Kath and friends.

March quiz night: Many thanks to Andy and Vicki Pigg, for organising such a great quiz.

WE HAVE WIFI

We are connected!! This makes The Village Hall an even better venue for your function or meeting. Many thanks to Sebastian Moss for organising this.

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

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

Dr Campbell will talk about changing patterns in salmon runs within the River Tweed system, and the amazing ecosystem that is our very own River Till.

**Thursday 24th May: Antiques Roadshow with
Jim Railton**

Bring your antiques and curios for appraisal and valuation by our resident auctioneer.

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

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

Chatton Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be held at, Chatton Village Hall, on **Saturday 14 April** 10.30am until 12.00pm. Please come along and join us! Proceeds on this occasion will be donated to the Village Hall. *Chatton Coffee Morning Team*

Evening for HospiceCare North

Northumberland - A Date for your Diary

Please note your diary for Saturday 19 May for an evening of entertainment at 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. *Joyce Fairbairn*



**Chatton Cricket Club - Race
Night 14 April at Percy Arms**

Please come along and support the team in their efforts to raise money for a new pavilion.

Place your bets on the night!

Committee members will be looking for race sponsors and horse owners before the evening.....name your own race or horse. The Percy Arms, who sponsor our club, have kindly agreed to provide some nibbles. Hope to see you there!

Village Fun Day Sunday 8 July

Please put this date in your diary. We are planning a fun cricket match, BBQ, duck race and lots more.....look out for more information on this event. *Chatton Cricket Club*

'Tea for Angela' A diary date!



Garden Fete 2018.

Sunday 19th August.

Watch out for further information. *Joyce and Joan*

Chatton & Chillingham Churches

Chatton and Chillingham churches will be organising an evening Harvest Supper with Fund Raising Auction on **Saturday 27 October 2018**, to be held in Chatton Village Hall. More information to follow. Please note the date in your diary! *Jane Butler*

Further Features

Tad's IT Spot

Be Nice to Friends: Social media is a great way of keeping in touch with friends, but a huge number of people sign up to a service then ignore the opportunity of updating their security & privacy settings – this is Scammers Nirvana. First, ask yourself, *Who do you really want to share all your content – a nice friendly group centred around your friends, or everyone, including potential future employers plus the seedy underworld?* Hopefully just the former, so go to settings (there's a link at top right of the blue banner on Facebook) and select Privacy – now edit the settings to choose who can see **Your Activity**. If you later want to post something for the world to see, not just your friends, you can do so by clicking the three dots at the bottom of the Post window and selecting who your audience will be this one time - either Public (anyone), Friends, a group or subset. But, what happens if you are hacked – the first thing a hacker does is change your password to lock you out to take away your control and you lose everything. Before this happens (i.e. Now!) go to Setting -> Security & Login. Now **Choose 3 to 5 friends to contact if you are locked out** – if the worst happens your chosen friend will be able to go in (with your permission) and change your password back to something you know, and not the hacker.

How do you know if someone is hacking your account? Again, go to Settings -> Security & Login and turn on **'Get alerts about unrecognised logins'**. The downside is you'll get emails if you use your account from a different device, but that is a small price to pay. Finally, be nice to your friends. Go to Settings -> Privacy and edit **Who can see your friends list** to be just Friends. Whilst there, also check what is set under **Notifications** and **Public Posts**. Facebook is changing all the time with new features so you need to do this regularly to stay on top of new ways that your privacy can be hacked.

If there is an IT related subject you'd 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.

February 2018 rainfall 32.2ml/1.27ins.

March 153.9 ml 6.06 ins

Actual for last three months 9.06ins

Average for last three months 6.05ins. March is the wettest month by far!

On a lighter note.....



Recipe

Blueberry, Lime and Coconut cake

This takes a little bit of effort - but well worth it!

170g very soft butter

230g caster sugar

2 large eggs

170g self raising flour

140g fresh blueberries

30g desiccated coconut, plus a little for the top

Juice of 3 limes and zest of 2

1. Grease a 20cm springform cake tin and preheat oven to 170/gas mark 3.5

2. Cream the butter and 170g of the sugar till pale and very fluffy. Hand mixer is best.

As it can take at least 10-15 mins. Scrape bowl down from time to time.

3. Beat in the room temp eggs one at a time, mixing for two to three mins between each one. Try to prevent it from curdling.

4. Add the flour, blueberries, coconut, and the juice and zest of one lime and gently fold in using your hand or spatula but be careful not to over mix. The cake is to be very light.

5. Scrape the batter into prepared tin and bake near the bottom of the oven for 50 mins until a skewer comes out clean.

6. To make the syrup, place the juice of two limes and zest of one in a small pan with the remaining 60g caster sugar. When the cake is about to come out of the oven, put the pan on a medium heat and gently bring to a simmer. Cook till the sugar is dissolved and the syrup is clear, but don't let it thicken or colour.

7. Drizzle the light syrup evenly over the cake and then a little more coconut. *Jenny Saxon*

Seasonal Snippets

Spring Awakening



This is the time of year when hedgehogs begin to emerge from their long Winter's sleep. Not all hedgehogs will have hibernated but those which

have will be extremely weak from living off their brown fat for such a long period during hibernation and will take a while to build up their reserves again. What can we do to help? Putting out food and water for them will help enormously and conserve what little energy they have initially. A mixed selection of food is best which can include kitten biscuits, crushed peanuts (they can choke on whole ones) a few mealworms or, better still, calci worms, or moist cat food (see our website for details of preventing all the local cats from enjoying your hospitality too!) The other very important thing we

can do to help is take care on the roads when driving at night. We hear far too many stories regarding them being squashed on our roads, so please do try and avoid increasing those numbers. Hedgehogs are really in such serious decline. In the 1950's there were approximately 30 million and we're now down to less than 1 million. Not a good track record when you consider they've been roaming this earth for millions of years. 2017 was our busiest year ever with the numbers of hedgehogs needing our help increasing by 20%. Part of the increase could be due to more awareness which is fantastic as that is part of the work we do here. It's not all cleaning out and helping a hedgehog back to full health again ready to be released, but also to educate where possible. Check our website www.hedgehogs-northumbria.org Please help these amazing animals before it's too late.

Carole Catchpole Northumbrian Hedgehog Rescue Trust

Handy Hints

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

Spring cleaning tips

- To clean a stainless-steel sink, put the plug in the sink with two denture-cleaning tablets, and half fill with water; leave for several hours or overnight and the next day it should be sparkling. Then use the water to clean the draining board, too. *Luke Steele*
- Save money on cleaning products by mixing together lemon, water and your favourite spirit. Drink, enjoy, forget the cleaning! *Ava Tipple*

Last Word (Worst joke yet!)

Two people standing on opposite sides of a lake on a beautiful Spring day.

One asks 'How do I get to the other side of the lake?'

The other person answers. 'You **are** on the other side of the lake!'

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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(By 1st June please.)

Thanks again to Richard and Caroline Roberts and Elm Bank Coastal Park in their generous support for Chatton News. Also, thank you to John Scott, Ian Nixon and Andy Pigg who deliver the newsletter in Chatton and Chillingham. If you know someone who would like to receive Chatton News by email please ask them to contact us.