



Chatton News



A Newsletter for Chatton and surrounding area

December 2018

Thank you for your continuing support this year. Without your contributions, there would be no Chatton News. We hope you have the best holiday ever, and that all of your wishes for next year come true. All the best. *Rupert and Murdoch.*

History of our Village Store

The history of the Village Shop goes back many years. This issue brings us up to the present day.

Bringing the History of the Village Store up to date.

In 1970, Harold and Betty's son Brian and his wife Helen took over the shop. It remained a general store for fifteen years, then in 1985 the Post Office was added. Helen was the mainstay of the shop and widened the range of goods on offer. These included newspapers, groceries, household linen, wool, slippers, electric kettles and fancy goods. She belonged to a 'Shop Local' syndicate which offered cheaper name brand products for the small rural shop. She also ran a Christmas club which people paid into all year, then at Christmas time chose from a large array of goods in the upstairs showroom. This was successful in its' day as people didn't travel far from the village, being more dependent on buses in the early days. They ran the store until their retirement in 1999.

The Store was then taken over temporarily by John and Valerie Connolly, who had retired themselves from running the Post Office in Lowick.

In November 2001 Jeff Smith was appointed as Post Master and continued the running of the general store. One of his main innovations during that time, was the gaining of a liquor licence for the sale of beers, wines, and spirit, as well as introducing The National Lottery. Jeff spoke at length of his time in Chatton in the last issue of Chatton News. *Written by Rupert with references from 'Chatton a Portrait' by Joy Palmer-Cooper* Which brings us to the present day.....



Ally & Shi Shi took over the running of Chatton Village Store in two stages! They got the keys to the shop on 5th August and kicked off their new administration

by introducing take away coffee, tray bakes and pies which are all proving very popular. Jeff stayed on running the Post Office side of things

and was finally allowed to retire on 6th November. We are passionate about stocking local produce and being able to provide the best possible service for the community. If there is anything you'd like to see stocked just let us know! The outside of the shop has had a makeover and there are lots of plans in the pipeline for inside too. Ally & Shi Shi would like to say a huge Thank You to everyone for their support and patience, especially with the Post Office, and are very much enjoying being the Mrs Goggins of Chatton!!

What's Been Happening

Harvest Supper and Auction

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Harvest Supper and Auction.

I really appreciated all that you do in the village for our " Little church with a big heart"

Yours, Rev Marion.

The Auction realised £2,145.00 bringing the total funds raised from the Harvest Supper to £3,548.77 *Ian Catchpole*

Remembrance Sunday

Thank you, for those who came to the service, you will agree that the church looked beautiful.



The flowers draped down the Altar looked colourful yet respectful. I want to thank Dorothy Bolam and my sister June for knitting the poppies. I have to confess I did knit one poppy! which had to be undone as it looked

ne!! Dorothy came to my aid. The flowers looked stunning and thank you to Wilma for arranging them. Thank you to everyone who took part in the service and helped at the war memorial. Thank you to Anne, our organist who played all the well known Remembrance Sunday hymns, and to the piper, Revd. Canon Brian Cowen who did a brilliant job for us. A letter of thanks has been sent to him. And last, but not least, Trevor from the Percy for putting on such a wonderful spread and having the fire stoked up for us all after being out in the cold. We will remember them. Yours as ever, Rev Marion.

Photos by Trevor Thorne

Remembrance Service Collection

The collection from the Remembrance Service in the church on 11th November raised £230.00



which will be donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. *Ian Catchpole*

Village Poppy Sales Total

The combined total raised from poppy selling by Wilma Clark and The Village Store was £218.60p

Chatton Village Hall

Most people will have already heard about the outbreak of dry rot found in the meeting room of the Village Hall. Atay and Stefan's overuse of the Village Hall discovered the issue! However once the discovery of the rotten floor was made, the committee took up a section of the floor to find out just how far the rot had spread. It has meant that the room cannot be used for the usual meetings for the time being.



All the infected timber has been removed with a series of volunteer work parties, and the loose plaster hacked off almost completely round the walls.

The tongue & grooved boarding has also had to be removed, as that was found to be rotten, and the old stone fireplace has been opened up. We are currently costing the restoration and replacement project, and hopefully we will be able to have the room "up-and -running" again by Christmas. Any volunteers to help with the re-painting, once all the construction work is finished, would be much appreciated.

Photo of Andy Pigg opening up fireplace

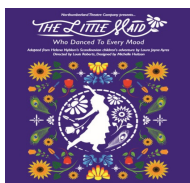
Wine Tasting

A reminder that Lance Strother has agreed to put on a wine tasting evening in Chatton Village Hall on **Thursday 6th December** as part of our Speaker Night programme.

Theatre Night Chatton Village Hall

Saturday 22 December

Northumberland Theatre Company



Presents The Little Maid Who Danced To Every Mood
Adapted from Helena Nyblom's Scandinavian children's adventure by new writer Laura

Jayne Ayres who has toured as an actor in several shows with the Northumberland Theatre Company. Through dance, song and exciting physical theatre, we follow our heroine on her journey to find her true place in the world.

Meeting grouchy farmers, a flock of flamenco dancing pigeons and finally a handsome prince - but is the life of a princess something our little maid truly wants? And will she still be allowed to dance? Suitable for family audiences of all ages.

Refreshments available from 5pm

Performance starts at 6pm

Tickets are available from Chatton Village Shop. Adult £10 Child £5

Regular Activities:

Yoga: Tuesdays 1-2.30 pm. £8 per session.

Contact Gill Rollings on 01668 215 613

Carpet Bowls: Wednesdays 7- 8.30pm.

Contact Tony Harrison on 01668 215 613

Bright Ideas and Suggestions..... are always appreciated! To keep up to date, do look at our website villagehall.chatton.biz or follow us on Facebook! *Jim Railton*

Quiz Night

Another fun filled evening racking brains at bizarre questions and groaning in despair at another wrong answer, when of course, we knew the right answer all along! Described by one worn out participant as being like 'Sitting 'A' Levels again!!' Iona's spellings challenged many, 'diarrhoea' and David's leaves proved a leaf too far for some! Richard's fishing reel could have been on Flog It and would have got a good price. Christine's Anglo Saxon riddles perplexed many but the incentive of a bottle of wine helped. A great evening! *Christine Lawson*

Bingo Night

Once again, Chatton did us proud! We had over 60 people on our bingo night and raised £563. This money will go towards speakers and therapists who will support families and carers of autistic people. We would like to thank you all for your help including Asda, Morrisons, Chatton Village Store and The Percy Arms. Also, a big thank you to George and Sharon from Belford for providing the fish and chips. Hope to do it all again! *Jean and the N.A.S group.*

Tillside Parish Council

Please see our website and local notice boards for details of new vacancies for councillors and for minutes of our meetings. Northumberland County Council have informed us that work will start to restore Chatton Bridge from 7 January 2019 for three weeks, weather permitting! We have been successful in persuading the County Council to include improving safety at Lyham crossroads as a high priority in their road programme for next year, and to continue their monitoring of parking in Chatton. The PC are considering several possible projects - traffic speed warning sign to the east of Chatton, bottle recycling, replacing the damaged Millenium horse chestnut trees to the east of Chatton, Chillingham traffic signage, and additional streetlighting - and would be keen to hear your views. *Richard Tebay.*

Forthcoming Events

Carol Singing

As usual we will be carol singing in and around the village. The chosen evening is on Sunday 23rd December. We will be starting at the village green at 6pm. All will be welcome, and our itinerary might even include a few "out of town" visits. Funds will be raised for our Village Hall Fund. If you don't want us to call, please get in touch. Otherwise - our collection cans will be jangling on the Sunday evening, and if you want to join us on our rounds, please do. We will end up in the Percy Arms at the end of the night.
Jim Railton 215323 or 0777 424 1111

Chillingham and Chatton Churches

From the Vicarage, Eglington

Dear Friends,

It's that time of year again. I went into Newcastle last Monday on my day off, to buy my last Christmas presents (12th November!) I start Christmas shopping at the beginning of October and then as the weeks draw nearer to Christmas, I can concentrate on our carol and the Christmas services in the Benefice and of course my family too. Sometimes I really need to stop and take a deep breath in all the bustle at this time of year. In all our planning for a festive time this Christmas, why not join us at Holy Cross church for our Crib and Carol Service on Christmas Eve and of course on Christmas Day at St. Peter. We would love to see you.

My father loved this time of year and was always the village Santa Claus. Sadly, he died at Christmas. I like to think I follow on the tradition in our family of loving this time of year, although not dressing up as Santa! Maybe that's not a bad idea!! I love to see people happy with one another, caring for each other and just helping people to have a good feel about this time of year. I know my father wouldn't have wanted me to be sad every Christmas on his anniversary he would want me to bring Christmas happiness to everyone. Jesus came into the world to help everyone no matter who they are or what they are. As we prepare our homes this Christmas decorating our rooms and putting up the Christmas tree, take a moment as we switch our Christmas lights on let's remember Jesus is the light of the world and can switch a light on in each of our hearts then we can shine that light on people around us. May your God and My God give you a Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Lots of God's Love, From Rev Marion.

Crib and Carol service 6pm Christmas eve at Chatton. Christmas Day 10am Chillingham

Chatton Coffee Morning, Village Hall

The next coffee morning will be held on **Saturday 8th December** from 10.30–12.00, £1.50 entrance fee which includes refreshments. There will be a Christmas Raffle, baking & produce stall. Any

donations baking or produce would be very welcome. Hope you can come along. Proceeds will go towards the Village Hall. *Chatton Coffee Morning Team*

Chatton Flavoured Alcohol Competition

Following last Chatton News re a gin making competition, we can confirm there **will** be a competition. Any flavoured home infused alcohol can be entered. If you think your sloe gin is the best or your damson rum is to die for, then why not enter our village fun competition. The judging will take place early February so there is plenty of time and any flavoured alcohol can be entered more information on how to enter in the next Chatton News. *Stefan Barker*

Murder Mystery Evening

The next Murder Mystery will be held on **Saturday 9th February 2019** in the Village Hall. The evening will include a set menu meal and a bar will be available, but how astute will your table be to unmask the guilty party from the suspects played by local characters. This event will be themed on 'Chatton 1943' so everyone is encouraged to join in and dress for the period. Tickets may be purchased individually, or as a whole table, and will go on sale in the new year - due to the format of the evening, places will be strictly limited to six tables of eight, so get in early to avoid disappointment. *Ian Catchpole*

Percy Arms



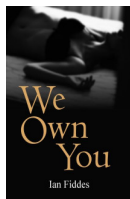
We are in the process of "decking the hall with holly" as we prepare for the Christmas activities. Alistair has put together a fine Christmas Fayre menu, which we are serving from the 1st to the 31st December, and bookings are keeping the Percy Arms kitchen in full swing. Christmas Day is a "sell out", but most evenings in December, you

can come for a festive supper, with live music playing on the 14th, 21st and 28th December. We are working in partnership with Lilburn Estates to encourage diners to eat more pheasant. We are offering these dishes at below our normal prices, hoping the public will eat more game birds. Our speciality is the gougons of pheasant at £3.95, but we also offer a game pie, pheasant curry, and fajitas with pheasant. Thanks to all our villagers who have bought into our voucher scheme to supply the pub with surplus apples in return for pints of beer. Dave McArthur's apple crumble with crème anglaise is the tops! Mary Berry, eat your heart out. Compliments of the season from Trevor, the kitchen team, and all of the front of house. *Trevor Thorne, Manager*

Further Features

Local Author

Ian Fiddes who lives near Chatton, is a retired police officer, and Charity Worker for Changing



Lives. He was stationed at both Alnwick and Berwick in the 90s. He later served in the Force Crime Team and Force Intelligence, dealing with organised crime. He has published a book "We Own You" centering on a

group of young women who were coerced into prostitution. Ian has also suggested changing the law in relation to sex work based on the issues he faced as a detective and for Changing Lives.

Details can be found on

<http://www.ianfiddes.com>.

Tad's IT Spot

I've recently received a number of calls from an automated voice claiming to be from Ofcom, stating that my internet has been compromised. All I need do is press '1' for BT or '2' for other providers. You've guessed it - it's a scam! By pressing any number you will be redirected to an 090 premium rate number and charged a fortune to listen to another recorded message. Ofcom do not monitor your IP address, and they certainly do not make personal cold calls of this nature. If you receive such a call, just hang up. Better still, add it to your barred call list. If you're unsure about a call from an unrecognised number, check it out on who-called.co.uk (or just do a Google search on the number) - if it's dodgy you're probably not the first person to report it.

Recipe



Festive Spiced Orange Shortbread

Ingredients

8 oz (225grams) Butter (softened)

4 oz (110grams) Caster sugar – plus

extra for dusting

5 oz (140grams) Plain Flour

3 oz (85 grams) Corn Flour

4 oz (110grams) Rice Flour

Finley grated zest of 3 Satsumas/Clementines or

1 large orange

1 tsp Ground mixed spice

Dried cranberries and Demerara sugar to decorate

1. Cream the butter and sugar together in a large bowl until pale and fluffy. Stir in the grated orange zest. Mix together the flours and mixed spice then sift into the butter and sugar mix in four stages to form a smooth dough.

2. Roll out on a lightly flour surface to approx. 6mm thick then cut into rounds and stars or any shape you choose. Try not to over work the dough or the biscuits may become tough. I roll mine out twice and then gather together the remaining dough roll into a thick sausage then roll

in demerara sugar and cut into round disks. Place the biscuits onto a lightly greased or lined baking trays and then decorate the tops of some with a sprinkle of finely chopped dried cranberries and demerara sugar for bit of festive sparkle. Bake in a preheated oven 170 oc/150 oc Fan/gas 3 ½ for approx 20mins until lightly golden, remove from the oven and dust lightly with caster sugar. Leave on the tray to cool for a few minutes then carefully remove to a wire rack to cool completely. Make approx 36 biscuits depending on size of cutter (I use 5.5cm round and star ones)

These will keep for up to 2 weeks in an airtight tin and make ideal Christmas gifts. *Jo Hume*

Weather

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

October 2018 rainfall 56.2mm/2.21ins.

November 2018 25.4mm/1.0ins

Handy Hints

The first one is real, the second one is just for fun.

- Run out of **long** matches, and have lots of Christmas candles? Light one end of a spaghetti strand, it will burn long enough to get the job done. *Lyta Lotta Candola*
- Of course, to prolong the life of your Christmas candles simply leave them unlit. *Noel Whitewick*

Last Word

We have been good!

Dear Santa, Here is my list. I have been a good girl. However, my brother has said some naughty words one or two times.... Just thought you should know! Love Brenda.

Dear Santa, I was good for the last week or two. Can we focus on that please, as I do like presents? From Michael.

Dear Santa, Could you come early this year? I have been super good, but I can't last much longer. Please hurry. From Jim

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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Isabel Tebay

5 New Road

10 Mill Hill

Phone: 215543

Phone: 215560

chattonnews@gmail.com (By 25 Jan. please)

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