



Chatton News



The Newsletter for Chatton and Surrounding Areas

Issue 47 March 2020

Thank You Rupert & Murdoch

Those of you who are avid readers of Chatton News will know them better as Dorothy Douglas and Isabel Tebay. After eight long but happy years, Rupert and Murdoch wondered if there was still a place for Chatton News. The answer was a resounding YES!



Chatton News is an important part of the village and surrounding areas. Without Chatton News, we would not know of exciting community events taking place, such as a Flavoured Alcohol competition and the delicious bacon rolls

available to be devoured at Coffee Mornings. Chatton News has been going since 2005, when it was started by Robert Perris, helped by Peter Hunt. Rupert and Murdoch took over from Stephen Alford in 2012. A new team has now emerged to continue their hard work and ensure the inhabitants of Chatton and surrounding areas are kept in touch with community events and activities.

Over the years, Rupert and Murdoch have

had fun, met some lovely people and apparently had a few drinks along the way. They are now heading for a well deserved rest to pursue other activities but are delighted that the legacy of Chatton News will continue. We would all like to extend our gratitude to Dorothy and Isabel for entertaining us and keeping us in touch with our community over the years. Many thanks to Dorothy and Isabel from all their readers, both on-line and hard copy fans.

The new team looks forward to continuing their good work and hope you will continue to send us your contributions about events, activities and items of interest.

What's Been Happening

Burns Night at the Percy Arms



The Percy Arms hosted an enjoyable Burns Supper on the 24th January.

A very tasty haggis was piped in by Mr Andrew Smith (previously Queen Elizabeth's piper) and addressed, very fiercely, by Mr Michael Ross. A delicious meal of Cullen Skink and a tasty haggis, was followed by the Scottish dessert Cranachan, made from whisky cream, oatmeal and raspberries. The piper played two excellent Pipe sets, including Scotland the Brave and The Skye Boat Song.

Christine Lawson

Carols Around the Village

We started the evening of 20th December with a goodly gathering and sung on our usual itinerary through the village.

A big thank you to all our "pit-stop" hosts who encouraged us with mince pies, warm soup and the odd 'mood changer'. Not that such sustenance was needed, as at times it sounded as if we really were a rehearsed choir, with the talented ladies adding a descant over the melody. The troupe ended the evening at The Percy Arms, having raised a grand total of £320 which has been donated to the Village Hall Trust.

Jim Railton

Flavoured Alcohol Competition

A big thank you to everyone who made this 2nd competition a great success. With over 30 entries and the standard this year being very high and diverse we can announce:-

1st Prize to Sally Douglas with a Rhubarb Gin

2nd Prize and last years winner was Susan Harrod with a Blackcurrant Gin

3rd Prize to Judith Grass with a Gooseberry Gin



A great afternoon was had by all and a big THANK YOU to Judges for the second time Jenny Saxon and Michael Strother who were overwhelmed by the high standard of entries this year. £90 was raised for the Village Hall.

THANK YOU AGAIN.

Stefan Barker

Cheese & Wine Evening

A particularly cheesy fundraising night was held in the village hall, attended by 40 cheese lovers.

Cheeses were all British and obtained locally from the excellent Alnwick Cheese Rooms and also cheese kindly donated by



Doddington dairy. Many new and different cheeses were tried, and accompanying wines, from Majestic Wine.

There were many cheesy jokes, deserving many moans & groans from the 'audience'. The two cheesiest comedians receiving a prize of cheese (of course).

We are very pleased to inform you that we raised £350 which is being divided between Great North Air Ambulance and Chatton Village Hall.

Many thanks to all who helped us and of course all the cheese lovers that attended.

Mary & Ian Catchpole

Ciara & Dennis

Unlike other parts of the country, it looks like we escaped much of the storm damage and disruption as seen elsewhere. There was some flooding as the Till overflowed as usual but, thanks to Gerald Dickinson and his drain rods, the bridge remained passable.

Forthcoming Events

Birds of Prey Experience

Great afternoon for all family - See birds up close with Andy Howes from Birds of Prey Centre

7th March 2pm, Chatton Village Hall

Admission Adults £4 Children £1 to include refreshments

VE Day Celebration

Please join us for the 75th VE Day celebrations, 8th May 2020 to be held at the Chatton Village Hall Green. Proceedings start at 4pm.



Bring your own food and drink. Street party to be held with music and games.

Fancy/period dress optional. All welcome.

Atay Dervish

Church Matters

Easter and Holy Week services are as follows:-

Palm Sunday 5th April 9.30am - Holy Communion at Chillingham, with distribution of Palm crosses.

Compline Monday 6th April 6pm at Chatton.

Maundy Thursday 9th April - No service.

Good Friday 10th April 2pm at Chatton, An Hour by the Cross Service of Meditation with Hymns and Readings.

Easter Day Sunday 10th April 9.30am - Holy Communion at Chatton.

When Will We Get a New Vicar?

We hope the current vacancy will be filled soon, it is being advertised as a half-time Priest in Charge post for 3 years to enable us to move forward. In the meantime all Services of Holy Communion will be covered by visiting ministers.

Can you help?

Chatton and Chillingham Churches are looking for new PCC committee members to start in April. The committee meets 4 times a year with occasional additional meetings, as and when required, and there are various roles to fill. If you are interested in helping to keep our churches open and working properly please contact Jo Lucas or send an email to holycross@chatton.uk.

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 4th April 7pm in Chatton Village Hall - an evening of musical entertainment with the Glendale Voices and Lionheart Harmony Singers. There will be a bar and refreshments. Tickets £7. If you can help with the evening or want to buy a ticket please contact Ann Murray, Jo Lucas or email to holycross@chatton.uk.

September - a trip to Kelso Race. Further details to follow.

Saturday 17th October - Harvest Supper - an evening with Ernie Coe and Friends. Details to follow.

Jo Lucas

Chatton Village Stores

Just before Christmas we had some very exciting news - we were chosen to be one of the three North East Regional Finalists in the Village Shop category for The Countryside Alliance Rural Oscars. A huge thank you to all our wonderful customers who nominated us and signed the petition. We would not have made it without your continued support, suggestions and custom. It means so much to us so THANK YOU! Now to smash the next round, fingers crossed!!



We've so much going on in the shop at the moment. We've started doing bacon sandwiches in the morning and homemade soup for lunchtime which, along with the traybakes, sweet treats and take-away

coffee that are proving a huge hit. We plan to carry this on throughout the year and we'd love to hear what you'd like to see on offer when the weather gets a bit warmer?

As you know, we love to support as many local producers as possible and we have expanded our range to include seasonal, organic veg boxes from Christmas Farm, just outside Longframlington. These 5kg boxes can be ordered weekly or as one offs and cost £11. If you'd like to order one please let us know by Mondays for delivery on Thursday morning.

We've also increased our selection of fresh fruit and restocked many of the Produced in Northumberland lines, including

Northumbrian Bakehouse biscuits and shortbread, Coffee & Kin biodegradable & compostable coffee pods (which you can now buy by the pod) and Heatherslaw Mill flour and cereals.

We're dedicated to doing our bit for the environment and reducing single use plastic so have introduced an Ecover refill station - bring your own bottle, or buy one of our glass bottles, and fill up with Washing Up liquid, All Purpose Cleaner, Non-Bio Laundry liquid and Delicate laundry liquid, saving 25% and the planet!!

We have so much else on sale but if there is anything we don't stock that you would like to see on the shelves please let us know. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Ally Prytherch & Shi Shi Ord

Friends Remembered

Lisa Bolton

Lisa Bolton, a well-known and well-respected resident of Chatton for over fifty years has died at the age of 86. In 2008, she was awarded an MBE for her dedication in caring for the welfare of animals. During her life, she worked at a dairy farm, served with the Women's Royal Air Force, did teacher training at Alnwick College of Education where her husband was a registrar and worked as a special needs teacher, progressing to be Deputy Head teacher of the Grove School, Berwick. Lisa and her husband John bought Shepherd's Cottage in Chatton in 1965 and used it as a holiday home for a couple of years before moving there permanently with their two children, Gay and Nick.

John, who died in 2014, created the Millennium sculpture at the entrance to the village. Lisa was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List in 2008 for her dedication to the welfare of animals at Wildlife in Need. She and her husband set up the wildlife sanctuary in 1970 at Shepherd's Cottage, where they were helped by many individuals and organisations to look after all creatures great and small throughout the years. Local people brought many injured animals, including badgers, foxes, deer and owls to the sanctuary.



Ronnie Bolam

Ronnie Bolam passed away peacefully on 10th February aged 83 years. Beloved husband to Dorothy and father to Iona and Raymond. *Memorial to follow in next issue.*

Matty the Horse

Our much loved Matty the Horse passed away sadly in his sleep on 12th February 2020. He was 30 years old and had a wonderful happy life. As we all know he loved his treats from us all. Many will remember the times Matty decided to make a break for freedom, chasing after him heading for Wooler or finding him in someone's garden eating the plants. You'll be missed by us all.

Helen Ray



Chatton Angling Association

The AGM was held on 18th February and set an earlier date of 30th May this year for the Jim Nesbit Trophy competition. If you are a member, or will be joining this year, please put this date in your diary (more details/publicity nearer the time).

Amongst other fishy business, the committee also agreed charitable donations to Great North Air Ambulance, Hospice Care north Northumberland, Chatton Village Hall, Chatton CC, the Community Garden, and also to assist the new Chatton News team with their costs.

All residents in Tillside Parish are eligible for local membership at a nominal cost - a legacy from former Chatton resident the Duke of Northumberland who remains president of CAA to this day. Please contact Dorothy Douglas, secretary/treasurer, if you wish to join, or give me a call if you want to know more about our fishing on the Till.

Richard Tebay

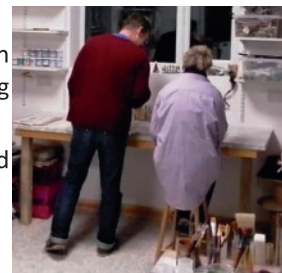
Creative Activities

Pottery

Hazelrigg Studios is up and running with many wonderful clay pieces are being made.

Sessions are held on Wednesdays and Sunday afternoon, at the Old School.

For more information contact Maggie direct or via news@chatton.uk



Creative Writing

Christine's Creative Writing Workshops takes place on the first Thursday of every month at Chatton Village Hall 2.00 - 4.00 Fee £10

We are a friendly, supportive group, who enjoy playing with language and writing for its own sake. You do not need to write a novel, read your work aloud, or worry about spelling and punctuation. Just come along to explore your own creative voice through writing.

Hazelrigg Clay Play! New potters experiment. Each glaze a surprise!

(Japanese Haiku poem written in Creative Writing Workshop by Chris Algar)

For more information contact Christine Lawson direct or via news@chatton.uk

Tillside Parish Council

The PC have successfully objected to the siting of a 13M MAST and associated smart metering equipment on the roadside on the western boundary of Chatton adjacent to Cheviot View. The Planning Committee agreed with our arguments on inappropriate siting at the entry to the Conservation area.

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY - The litterpick for Chatton is planned for Sunday 15 March - see posters around village.

We have been pressing for the RESURFACING of the main road through Chillingham and pleased to see this has made the shortlist for the County Transport Plan. Additional bottle RECYCLING BINS are to be provided as needed. The contract for the PATH through Chatton COMMUNITY GARDEN is ready to be signed and work is to commence in the spring.

We have agreed to site a CHRISTMAS TREE on Chatton village green - details later in the year. The County CONSERVATION OFFICER attended and briefed the PC meeting. You can find his useful notes on the PC website. Please report POTHoles using the PC or County website - it does work and it helps if multiple residents report these hazards.

Richard Tebay

eMail Distribution

We are using MailChimp to deliver electronic copies of Chatton News, as well as broadcast messages about upcoming events and important information. The distribution list has been migrated to the new system so anyone who previously received this newsletter by email should have received at least a couple of messages already, as well as this issue - if not please check your spam folder then inform us of the problem.

Paper copies of Chatton News will still be produced and distributed as usual. If you wish to be included in the email distribution, please send a request to mail@chatton.uk. This, and previous issues, can be found on our web site news.chatton.uk.

Chatton News IT Department

Copper's Corner

I'm PC 8873 Curtis Ritchie from the local neighbourhood police team and here is the first of hopefully many blogs offering advice and information into various topics which are relevant to yourselves as residents in the rural community. This edition relates to door to door sellers and what to do to keep yourself safe. Firstly, a lot of sellers will be legitimate but there will be some who won't - they're the ones to look out for. Here's some advice.



1. When someone comes to your door who you don't know consider putting your chain on, if you have one, until you've confirmed their identity.
2. Always request to see their ID or licence

(peddlers licence/ utility worker etc.) and ask to hold it yourself so you can make sure it appears genuine and it relates to them.

3. If in any doubt take the sellers details. Legitimate sellers likely won't object.
4. If in any doubt then don't invite the seller into your home unless you are happy to do so. It's your home remember.
5. Don't feel pressured to buy anything or agree to anything you're not happy with.
6. If you don't want to buy anything or use the service they are offering be firm but polite.
7. Finally, if you feel there is something not

right or the person is suspicious then contact the police via 101 passing details like descriptions and vehicles so we can check them out.

To sum up there are numerous persons lawfully going from door to door offering various products and services but remember there are some who aren't and they are the ones we need to know about.

Thanks for reading and be safe.

PC 8873 Curtis Ritchie

Quirky Corner

Q : What do you get if you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole at Easter ?

A : Hot Cross Bunnies !

Q : How do you make Easter easier?

A : Replace the 't' with an 'i'

Meet The New Editorial Team

Jane Lockyer



I'm very much a people person, who enjoys spending as much time outside as possible. Otherwise, I'm to be found in my kitchen baking.

My hubby Mart and I moved to Chillingham six months ago with our two dogs, Tillie and Sky. For the past twenty two years, Mart and I have successfully run our own bed and breakfast, coffee shop and security businesses. It's now time to kick back and enjoy all that this lovely community and beautiful landscape have to offer.

Christine Lawson



Born in Durham, I became a teacher of English and Drama in Gateshead before leaving to work as an English Adviser in Oxford. After almost thirty years in the South, I moved back to the North two years ago. I now spend my time walking on beautiful Northumbrian beaches, reading, writing, gardening and looking after my Burmese cat. I am delighted to be living in this special place, surrounded by such friendly, welcoming people.

Richard Allen



I have spent 40 years in public service and retired from West Yorkshire to come to this beautiful part of the country which my wife and I have loved coming to for many years. My time is spent in keeping fit, walking, reading and involving myself in the community which have been most welcoming to us.

Ian Catchpole



Mary & I retired to Chatton to run a B&B in 2013 and have loved it ever since. It's great that I can put my 38 years experience working in telecommunications research to good use in the Chatton News IT department (when I'm not tinkering with my cars, running the B&B or doing a bit of outdoor cooking).

Photographic Competition

We know there are a lot of keen photographers out there and so we are organising a prize winning photographic competition. The theme for your photographs is **A Cheerful Spring**. The entries will be judged by Caroline and Richard Roberts. Please send your entries to news@chatton.uk by 20th March. All entries will be displayed on our web site at news.chatton.uk

If you would like to include something in the April / May newsletter, please get in touch with us by email to **news@chatton.uk** or contact any of the editorial team
(By Sunday 22nd March please)



Thanks again to Richard & Caroline Roberts, of Elm Bank Coastal Park in their generous support for Chatton News. Thank you to all who deliver copies, Ian Nixon and Andy Pigg in Chatton and to John Scott, and Kingston Macauley for delivering copies to Chillingham and the Hepburn District.