

# Chedzoy Clarion

Issue 12 (April – June 2024)



Rain. Everyone is talking about the weather. Rain. Puddles (when does a puddle become a flood that needs signing?) in the village where they have never been seen before. As well as the perennial favourites at West End Farm, Front Street and the end of Manor Road. Water is being tracked from the floods (puddles) through the village. This can't do the road surface any good being constantly wet. Not forgetting the poor farmers that could also do with some dry weather.



Let's hope that spring has sprung and brings with it the better weather. A bit of sunshine puts a smile on everyone's face. Lots going on in the coming months that need nice sunny weather to make them a success.

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## Pop In Donation



More Pop In money going to charity. This time **£1,000** to Luke Arthurton who is running in the London Marathon for Hospice UK. Luke tells me that his mother used the Hospice service before she died. He has done 4 half marathons (Bridgwater, Burnham, Alton Towers and Pisa)

and has been training for this one for the last 8 months. Good luck, Luke and well done to the Pop In Patrons for sponsoring him. You can sponsor Luke by going to [justgiving.com/luke-arthurton](https://justgiving.com/luke-arthurton)

A poem that was performed at a Chedzoy Concert in 1952. The original was written on Police Force paper. Many thanks to Carol Stokes for its donation.

As we leave the main Bath Road, along the Chedzoy Lane I strode.  
Feeling fine and full of vim, this is the way to keep you slim.  
So many corners, bends and curves, this lane will test the strongest nerves.  
The countryside is full of charm and soon we're passing Temple Farm,  
Onwards then to Nelsons Lodge where Dibbles Bus I had to dodge.  
This only tends to make me sore, but "Cheer up now" says Harry Moore  
Now we see that famous dairy, followed on by Farmer Cary  
And now the village comes in sight with all the houses painted white.  
And evening world delivered still by the famous Bess'y Hill.  
I meet a stranger, now is feared, but no, it's Norman minus beard.  
This was a shock, it made me cough, and I had to send for PC Gough.  
He could not come at all that night, for Bronco was riding without a light.  
He seems to find this very thrilling, and all it cost was just ten shillings.  
Blacksmiths now are very rare, yet all the time we boast of two.  
There's Perce and Fred and also Jim. They work so hard it keeps them slim.  
Excepting Perce, without a doubt, we notice he is getting stout.  
We have a word, and he says he'll try, to get a hat like Hwy Fry.  
A hat so smart and all trimmed modern, except the marks where the cows have trodden.  
Now Mr Hunt is looking vexed, I bet he thinks it's his turn next.  
Now looking back at the Coronation, Ted Triggol was a real sensation.  
A faster runner, I've never seen, except perhaps a runner bean.  
He ran so fast it was a sight, I thought it was his wedding night!  
Along the road I swing along, and from my lips there springs a song.  
But suddenly I stop quite still, and my poor lungs begin to fill,  
With a smell that makes me shout. I bet Les Heal is mucking out.  
Now poor Bert Stokes can't get about, grumbles cause he's got the gout.  
We used to find him very handy, but now he sits and reads "The Dandy"  
His wife comes in, but he has seed her, shouts "I'll dry the dishes for you, Freda"  
The Union man is old Bert Plummer, hoping for a better summer.  
If this comes true, he'll do a jig, with his arms around Sammy Gig.  
While round the corner looking glum, Bill Davies bites his thumb.  
"What's the matter, Bill?" I say's, "Oh, I am dreaming of those happy days  
When I saw you cutting capers, bringing round those morning papers.  
But to my sorrow I have found, you're working on a dairy round!"  
Now Mr Ashford to us did yield, he gave to us the cricket field.  
We thank you Sir with all our might, we'll always try to do what's right.  
So gentle folks, this is your lot, as we finish up at Fowler's Plot

## **Raising awareness of Fraud** by *Amy Padden, CFE*

Fraud is the biggest growing crime in the UK and is still majorly unreported. There are various ways of committing fraud, from very simple methods to long and elaborate ways. One of the most common ways of committing fraud is called phishing. This is when a fraudster aims to get your personal information from you without you knowing. A common way fraudsters do this is by creating fake websites that look like the genuine site they are impersonating. The website address can look like it's a genuine site, although subtle changes are in there. Examples include changing letters to number e.g. google.com and g00gle.com (the first being genuine, the second being fake), or amending letters to look like other letters e.g. using 2 "n"s to look like a "m" or a capital "l" to look like a lower case "l". e.g. amazon.co.uk and annazon.co.uk or visitlondon.com and visitlondon.com. Fraudsters will pay companies like Google to 'sponsor' these websites so that they appear at the top of a search feed making them appear more genuine. When you are on the fraudulent website, the fraudster will be able to see all the information you are entering.

Some useful websites to learn more about fraud can be found at:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

<https://stopscamsuk.org.uk/>

<https://www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

Yes, these are genuine websites!

There is a lot of stigma attached to being a victim of fraud, so many victims don't share their story for fear of being ridiculed. By reporting it to the police, it can help build up a picture to understand if wider fraud rings are in action. Although you may feel embarrassed by becoming a victim of fraud, sharing your story could help prevent someone else become a victim.

Amy Padden (nee Young), Certified Fraud Examiner

## Uganda Update by Ashley Chorley

Thank you to the Pop In Funds and everyone in the Chedzoy and surrounding villages who contributed towards my trip to Uganda in November. The £500 I took went on supplies for projects in the two schools we supported; wood, varnish and paintbrushes for 7 shelving units in the first school and 3 desks in the second school. They do not have any shelves in the schools so all books and equipment are kept on the floor, so that



they get muddy and dusty.

Stan and I (and a bit of my grandad!) made everything, which was amazing given the wonky set square we were given!! The two schools were so thankful that we could do this for them, and it was only possible with the money from you guys. So, thank you for supporting us. My grandparents will be heading back in a couple of years, the work continues I hope you don't mind me sharing their latest appeal. as does the need for financial help..... I hope you don't mind me sharing their latest appeal.



## BEDS, BEDS, AND MORE BEDS!



Adonai UK had funded new beds and mattresses for the various children's homes at Adonai, and they all arrived in the nick of time - the same day that the children began returning to school in fact!

However.... more children arrived than expected and their circumstances have necessitated accommodation at Adonai. This means that despite the new beds, some are sleeping two to a bed or even on the floor. Can you help us give them a safe space to sleep? They need 20 more bunk beds!

Aloysious says: According to my observation of what is going on in the country, beginning this year, COVID-19 and Ebola's effects are in full play on the lives of children from less privileged families. This is adding to HIV/AIDS effects. Your support touches lives and is much appreciated.



If you are able to help – you can make payment to their bank account with the reference BED; Account Name: Adonai UK; Account no. 00977725; Sort Code 30-18-45

Or their bespoke appeal link: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/buy-a-bed?id=22960>

Thank you for anything you can spare, Ashley, Stan and my grandparents – Christine and Bryan Watson

**CHEDZOY VILLAGE**  
**FLOWER AND PRODUCE**  
**SHOW**

SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2024

FULL SCHEDULES WILL BE  
WITH YOU NEARER THE  
SHOW, BUT HERE IS A  
SNEAK PREVIEW

## SECTION 1 -Vegetables

Class 1 Collection of vegetables 6 kinds, 3 specimens of each.

Space provided not to exceed 92cm by 61cm

Class 2 Potatoes 5 White

Class 3 Potatoes 5 Red

Class 4 Any other veg (1 variety) 3

Class 5 Beetroot 3

Class 6 Onions 5

Class 7 Shallots 5

Class 8 Pea pods 6

Class 9 Runner beans 6

Class 10 French beans (OPEN CLASS) 6

Class 11 Tomatoes (OPEN CLASS) 5 any variety

Class 12 Cherry tomatoes 6

Class 13 Cucumbers 2

Class 14 Courgettes 2 any variety

Class 15 Cauliflower 1

Class 16 Collection of herbs 5 varieties displayed in a jam jar.

Class 17 Carrots 6 tops to be cut off.

Class 18 Spring Cabbage 1

Class 19 Peppers 3

Class 20 Chillies 5

## SECTION 2- FRUIT

Class 21 Raspberries 10 any variety

Class 22 Blackcurrants any variety

Class 23 Rhubarb 4 sticks

Class 24 Any Other Fruit 10 any variety

## SECTION 3- EGGS

Class 25 Brown eggs 6

Class 26 White Eggs 6

Class 27 Duck eggs 3

## SECTION 4 FLOWERS

Class 28 Rose (OPEN CLASS) 5 blooms any variety

Class 29 Specimen rose 1 single bloom on a stem.

Class 30 Sweet peas (OPEN CLASS) 12 stems any variety

Class 31 Dahlia 3 blooms pom pom any variety one vase

Class 32 Dahlia 5 blooms any variety one vase

- Class 33 Flowering geranium in pot Not to exceed 92cm x 62cm.
- Class 34 Foliage pot plant Not to exceed 92cm x 62cm.
- Class 35 Orchid Any variety
- Class 36 Patio container or hanging basket (specify on entry form)
- Class 37 Gladioli 5 Stems

#### SECTION 5- PRESERVES

- Class 38 any marmalade 1 jar (clearly labelled)
- Class 39 any Jam 1 Jar (Clearly labelled)
- Class 40 Chutney/Preserve 1 Jar any variety (Clearly labelled)
- Class 41 Lemon curd 1 Jar (clearly labelled)

#### SECTION 6 - BAKING

- Class 42 Savoury flan Please supply list of ingredients.
- Class 43 Victoria sandwich 3 egg recipe, raspberry jam and castor sugar on top.
- Class 44 Fruit cake 1
- Class 45 Sweet scones 6
- Class 46 Savoury scones 6
- Class 47 Sausage rolls 6
- Class 48 Flapjack 5 pieces
- Class 49 Home Made Bread NOT USING A BREAD MAKER
- Class 50 Chocolate cake 1
- Class 51 Gluten free cake 1
- Class 52 Vegan cake 1
- Class 53 Coffee & Walnut Cake 1
- Class 54 Rocky Road 4
- Class 55 A dessert 1

#### SECTION 7 HANDICRAFTS

- Class 56 Knitted article not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 57 Crochet article not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 58 Specimen of embroidery not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 59 Upcycled item not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 60 Paper craft not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 61 A piece of woodwork not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 62 Quilt not to exceed area 6ft x 6ft.
- Class 63 Home-made Jewellery.
- Class 64 Needlework not to exceed 2ft square.
- Class 65 Any other handicraft not to exceed 2ft square.



## SECTION 8 FLORAL

Class 66 Arrangement of 5 varieties of foliage not to exceed 2ft square.

Class 67 A summer wreath Open Class

Class 68 An arrangement in colours of rainbow. Not to exceed 2ft square.

## SECTION 9 PHOTOGRAPHY

Class 69 Black & White photo

Class 70 Holiday

Class 71 Nature

Class 72 Comic caption photo

## SECTION 10 ART

Class 73 Any medium

## SECTION 11 CHILDRENS CLASS All children classes are open classes.

Class 74 Photo "what makes you happy" taken by a child under 16

Class 75 Recycled piece of art

Class 76 Paper Mache Olympic torch

Class 77 Animal made from vegetables.

Class 78 Decorative cupcakes 5

Class 79 Brownies 5

Class 80 How many different items can you get in a smarties tube

Class 81 A miniature garden on a dinner plate

Class 82 An arrangement in a ball

Class 83 Picture of my pet. PRE SCHOOL ONLY

## SECTION 12 WINE

Class 84 Homemade bottle of Red wine. All bottles must be clearly labelled

Class 85 Homemade bottle of White wine. All bottles must be labelled

Class 86 Homemade bottle of fruit wine. All bottles must be labelled.

Class 87 Homemade bottle of flavoured gin. All bottles must be labelled.

Class 88 Homemade Bottle of sloe Gin All bottles must be labelled.

Class 89 Homemade cocktail Ingredients list please.

Class 90 Mocktail Ingredients list please.

Class 91 **Family entry a display with the theme of the 2024 Olympics.** An area of 3ft x 3ft square to be decorated. Inside the area there must be the following:- A savoury item, a bake of some sort, photo, handicraft, bottle of homemade drink, flowers arrangement, art

Class 92 **Village sunflower competition.**

All **open classes** are open to anyone that has a close relative living in the village eg: parent/grandparent.

## **The (Chedzoy) Great Tommy Sleepout Experience - 16th March 2024 by Mark Holder**

For the second year a brave group of Chedzoy folk took themselves out of the comfort of their warm homes and beds and deployed out into the wilds of the levels right near the epicentre of Monmouth's gallant retreat in 1685. The team this year, led by our commanding officer - Paul Haynes, consisted of: Jon Dethier, Will Haynes, Ron Peppin, Toby Atwood-Wright, Mark 'Sticks' Innalls, Deon Evert, Sean Turner (Our man from Horsey Lane) and myself – Mark Holder. This was again for the Great Tommy Sleepout, a really worthy cause run by the Royal British Legion Industries to support homeless veterans.

We set off Saturday morning in a convoy of Land Rovers with trailers, armed with an assortment of gazebos, tents, bales of straw, fire pits & logs, wet weather gear plus of course just about enough survival provisions for a long, dark wet evening....

Needless to say, our spirits (and spirit levels! - thanks to visitors Terry and Dave) remained high throughout even after a few of us suffered minor tent leakage in the rather persistent night rain.

Our one night sleeping out rough is not in the least bit comparable to what it's really like for these homeless veterans, we are able to get up, have a hot cuppa with a bacon & egg roll then count our blessings that once packed away, we can return home to family and enjoy a hearty roast followed by bed with a warm and dry duvet. For many, the rough, cold and wet nights continue on. We, along with a number of other brave souls doing similar around the country, continue with this annual challenge safe in the knowledge that monies raised will begin to help these men and women who have put their all on the line in the name of Queen or King and Country yet are so badly let down by the system when they need it most!

As I write this, our Just Giving pot sits at an extraordinary £2704 which is fabulous. Can we offer a big thank you to all of you who have donated towards it so far and, in advance, to any of you who still wish to do so. (this can be via cash to any of the team or follow the Just Giving link here <https://www.justgiving.com/page/paul-haynes-1708459994101> )

Can we also say a big thanks to Simon and Ray Triggol for the use of their field once again, John House and Sarah for lending us the bales of straw for wind break purposes, Rachel Chorley for the chocolate brownies plus Kerry Evert for the kind donation from her sourdough loaf making operation.



## Belfry Bulletin

As this issue goes to Press an intrepid band of Chedzoy Bell Ringers are preparing to take part in a Striking Competition (that's a competition for Bell Ringers, by a fancy name.) Tower Captain Lesley Peppin, Lesley Harmes, Becky Andrews, Philippa Haynes, Mike Horsington and Duncan Boucher are practicing hard, so the chimes on a Tuesday night might sound a little different than what you are used to hearing. Competition is early April. I am sure I speak for all of Chedzoy in wishing you all the best!!!!!!



Dedication of some Bell Ringers.

Recently Becky Andrews and Manda Lane joined in the Marriage Thanksgiving celebrations at Chedzoy Church. Not only were they lucky enough to be asked to the event, but also helped ring the bells in jubilation. Well done!! PS They didn't wear that footwear to the reception.

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How do you get a country girl's attention?

You a tractor (attract her)

Is it right that dwarf cows produce condensed milk?

Someone broke in my house last night and stole all my fruit.

I am **speachless**.



## CHEDZOY VILLAGE HALL

🧘 Pilates Wednesday 20.45 – 21.30, Yoga Thursday 20.45 – 21.45, medical conditions, injuries, chair options, beginners, all very welcome. Thank you 🙏

Please contact Hugh Grant direct for further details

Hugh Grant (**[theygymstructor@googlemail.com](mailto:theygymstructor@googlemail.com)**)

hughgrantfitness:

TikTok, Instagram, YouTube, **[Hugh Grant Fitness](#)**

**[www.hughgrantfitness.online](http://www.hughgrantfitness.online)**

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### Parish Council News

For detailed information relating to Parish Council matters, please visit [chedzoyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://chedzoyparishcouncil.gov.uk) where there is a wealth of information. The Parish Council is in the process of updating its website to make it more user friendly and to provide more information.

Concern has been expressed about the flooding in Ward Lane and the apparent lack of action from Somerset Council. Councillors are also worried in case the “improvement works” to the King Sedgemoor Drain between Parchey and the Sluice gate has meant that the local water table might have risen. Which, in turn would mean an increase in flooding problems.

Correspondence from Somerset Council said they would no longer supply sandbags for flood prevention purposes.

The Highways Department were again to be contacted to see what was happening to bring the speed limit signage up to standard so that our Village Speedwatch could become operational.

## Dates for your diary (All at the Hall)

**3<sup>rd</sup> April – Coffee morning with an Easter Theme.10.30 -12. Drink & Cake only  
£3. Come along and meet friends & neighbours .**

4<sup>th</sup> April – Chedzoy Stitchers – 10 – 12.30

4<sup>th</sup> April – Yoga 20.45-21.45. See Hugh Grant Fitness for further details.

**5<sup>th</sup> April – Pop In – 7 til late**

6<sup>th</sup> April – Chedzoy Stitchers, 10-12.30

8<sup>th</sup> April – Dancefit. 10.30 to 11.30

11<sup>th</sup> April – Yoga – 20.45-21.45

15<sup>th</sup> April – Dancefit 10.30-11.30

**15<sup>th</sup> April – Parish Council 7.30**

18<sup>th</sup> April – Chedzoy Stitchers 10 – 12.30

18<sup>th</sup> April – Yoga 20.45 – 21.45

22<sup>nd</sup> April – Dancefit 10.30-11.30

22<sup>nd</sup> April – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30 - 6.30

24<sup>th</sup> April – Village Hall Committee meeting 7.30.

25<sup>th</sup> April – Yoga – 20.45-21.45

29<sup>th</sup> April – Dancefit – 10.30-11.30

29<sup>th</sup> April – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30-6.30

**1<sup>st</sup> May - Coffee Morning – 10.30 – 12**

2<sup>nd</sup> May – Local Elections – 7am to 10 pm

**3<sup>rd</sup> May – Pop in, 7 til late**

4<sup>th</sup> May – Chedzoy Stitchers – 10 - 12.30

7<sup>th</sup> May – Blizzard Dance for Children 4.30 -6.30

9<sup>th</sup> May – Chedzoy Stitchers – 10-12.30

9<sup>th</sup> May – Yoga 20.45-21.45

13<sup>th</sup> May – Dancefit – 10.30 to 11.30

13<sup>th</sup> May – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30 – 6

**15<sup>th</sup> May – Playing Field AGM 6.30PM**

16<sup>th</sup> May – Chedzoy Stitchers – 10 – 12.30

16<sup>th</sup> May – Yoga 20.45-21.45

**19<sup>th</sup> May – Village Sale. All day** (See advert for more details)

20<sup>th</sup> May – Dancefit 10.30 – 11.30

20<sup>th</sup> May – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30 – 6.30

23<sup>rd</sup> May – Yoga 20.45-21.45

30<sup>th</sup> May – Yoga – 20.45-21.45

1<sup>st</sup> June – Chedzoy Stitchers – 10-12.30

3<sup>rd</sup> June – Dancefit – 10.30 – 11.30

3<sup>rd</sup> June – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30 – 6.30

**5<sup>th</sup> June – Coffee Morning – 10.30 – 12**

6<sup>th</sup> June - Chedzoy Stitchers 10 – 12.30

**7<sup>th</sup> June – Pop In with an 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day Theme**

10<sup>th</sup> June – Dancefit – 10.30-11.30

10<sup>th</sup> June – Blizzard Dance for children – 4.30-6.30

17<sup>th</sup> June – Dancefit -10.30 – 11.30

17<sup>th</sup> June – Blizzard Dance for Children 4.30 – 6.30

20<sup>th</sup> June – Chedzoy Stitchers 10-12.30

24<sup>th</sup> June – Dancefit 10.30-11.30

24<sup>th</sup> June – Blizzard Dance for Children – 4.30-6

# Chedzoy Village Sale/ Brocante

Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

10am to 4pm



£5 per table

(No shared tables please)

Refreshments @ Village Hall

(courtesy of Playing Field Committee)

To reserve a table email [sallyjhowes@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyjhowes@hotmail.com)

Proceeds from the sale will given to the Parish Council for the upkeep of the churchyard

## ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHEDZOY - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **Friday 29th March - GOOD FRIDAY**

Our Good Friday services will follow the traditional pattern of a 10.30 am service at our sister church in Westonzoyland to remember that Jesus carried his cross through the streets of Jerusalem. Then, in the afternoon, Good Friday reflection continues with a service at Chedzoy at 2.30 pm. You are welcome to come to both or just one of these services. Refreshments will be available at Chedzoy after the service.

### **Sunday 31st March – EASTER SUNDAY**

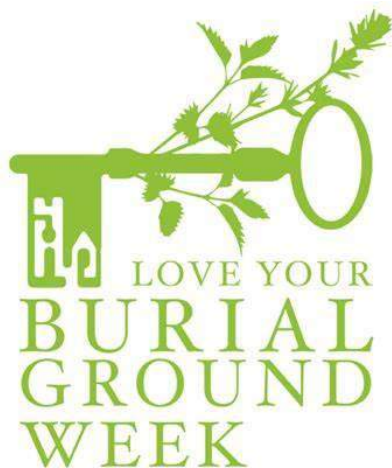
NEW This Year – TWO Services on Easter Day

9.00 am – Easter Day Communion. Simnel cake and coffee will be available after the service.

11.30 am – Easter Day Worship. An Easter Day Morning Praise all age service of hymns and praise. Followed by refreshments.

### **Saturday 8th June – CHURCH YARD TIDY UP**

St Mary's, Chedzoy is taking part in Love Your Burial Ground Week, a national campaign promoted by the conservation charity, Caring for God's Acre. If you can spare an hour or two your help will be very welcome. The plan is to tackle some light weeding and edging of the flower beds and borders, planting out for summer, reclaim the path widths, collect dead wood, cut back brambles and reduce the compost heap, etc. Many hands make light work and please bring your own garden tools and gloves. Refreshments after. For times and details nearer the date please check the website [www.achurchnearyou.com/chedzoy](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/chedzoy)





## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

01. If a bottle of poison reaches its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
02. Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
03. Do twins ever realize that one of them is unplanned?
04. Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
05. The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".
06. Over 100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.
07. If people evolved from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?
09. As I've grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but p\*\*sing everyone off is a piece of cake!
10. I'm responsible for what I say, not for what you understand.
11. Common sense is like deodorant. The people who need it the most never use it.
12. My tolerance for idiots is extremely low these days. I used to have some immunity built up, but obviously, there's a new strain out there.
14. It's not my age that bothers me - it's the side effects.
15. I'm not saying I'm old and worn out, but I make sure I'm nowhere near the curb on trash day.
16. As I watch this generation try and rewrite our history, I'm sure of one thing: it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.
17. As I've gotten older, people think I've become lazy. The truth is I'm just being more energy efficient.
18. I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Produce Department trying to open this stupid plastic bag.
20. Turns out that being a "senior" is mostly just googling how to do stuff.
22. I'm on two simultaneous diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.
23. I put my scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.
24. My mind is like an internet browser. At least 18 open tabs, 3 of them are frozen, and I have no clue where the music is coming from.
25. Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall, and when it rang, I picked it up without knowing who was calling.
26. My wife says I keep pushing her buttons. If that were true, I would have found mute by now.
27. There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. The truth is that once you get old, you stop being polite and start being honest.



**CHEDZOY PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE**

*By Amy Kimber on behalf of the Committee*

This year is going by very fast and as always, our wonderful village has been busy with lots of community events already and we have a lot to be thankful for.

Thank you to all those who organised the Christmas Pop-In and the festive fun that took place. The Playing Field Committee had great fun helping Santa create some lovely gifts for all the children in the village. A great time was had by all.

Then we had another successful Burns Night. A lot of hard work goes into this so it's fantastic to see it's so well supported and enjoyed by so many. Thank you to all who helped in the organisation, the dancers and those who attended for making for a such a wonderful evening.

If anyone would like to join the dancers to learn something new and make friends, you can contact Liz Beckensale from the Long Sutton Scottish Country Dancers and Somerton U3A at [ealbeckinsale@me.com](mailto:ealbeckinsale@me.com)

Also, a massive thank you to those who have donated and held events to help raise money for the Playing Field. Including The Coffee Morning Team, the Race night, the recent Quiz night and any volunteers that help out at any of our events. It is much appreciated and has helped to raise a little over £2000 towards the maintenance of the Playing Field.



Whilst it is amazing that we have raised so much money so far this year the Playing Field also relies on volunteers and committee members to keep this wonderful resource going. Thank you so much to Karen Medland, Steph, the Parish Council and any other volunteers not on the committee who have helped with the physical maintenance of the field (mulching, work on willow dome, planting, weeding, litter picking etc).

Coming up the Playing Field will be helping at the following events:

**Garage Sale / 19<sup>th</sup> May / Village Hall** - We will be selling lots of yummy refreshments, hot and cold drinks. Hope to see you enjoying some of the delicious fresh and homemade treats available.

**Flower and Produce Show / 3<sup>rd</sup> August / Village Hall** - We will be selling raffle tickets, hosting some activities for the children during the day and a few other surprises install.

**The Playing Field AGM / 15<sup>th</sup> May @ 6.30pm / Village Hall** - Please feel free to come along and see what we are all about. All are welcome, it is a great way to meet the committee and you don't have to commit to anything you don't want to.... that said if anyone is looking to join the committee, you are more than welcome. If you did join you can do as little or as much as you want to from helping when you can, to becoming our new Secretary. All help is very much appreciated and received.

We hope to see you at the meeting..... Oh, and there will be cake!!!



We may be biased but our village playing field is a fabulous clean space for people to enjoy the facilities, enjoy the Fair Share Project planting, take in the quiet scenery and fresh air.

Please help to keep it this way.

You do not have to be a committee member to help with the playing field. We welcome all volunteers/help from doing an hour's stint selling refreshments at an event, baking/cooking items for an event, doing a bit of litter picking (or at the least taking your litter home with you).

Thanks for supporting the Playing Field Committee and our wonderful community.



**Rector's Ramblings for Eastertide** Well, Easter has come upon us very quickly, hasn't it? In Western Christianity Easter can happen as early as 22<sup>nd</sup> March and as late as 25<sup>th</sup> April. This makes it what is called a 'moveable feast' in the church calendar.

The season of Lent begins 6 weeks before Easter and it is a time to take stock of our lives and our spirituality and see if there is anything about those things we can change, that would make us feel more fulfilled.

The year so far has flown by and both our churches have been busy. At Chedzoy we have been trying out a different pattern of services to enable us to cater for more of our community. If you have any ideas for 'church' then do let us know.

We continue to have a gentle stream of baptisms and recently had a Marriage Thanksgiving service which was great fun.

Speaking of thanksgiving, I am so thankful for our community in Chedzoy. I know I've said this before, but the village is full of people who do so much for the church regardless of their personal faith. This is so much appreciated. So, a huge 'thank you' from me for all the whist drives, race nights, car boot sales, Lent lunches and other events that so generously help our church.

There is so much kindness in the village and people do such a lot for each other. That is a sign of love for our neighbours and all love we share is a reflection of God's love which comes to us in our Lord Jesus. God's love is pure and unbounded. He loves each and every one of us equally – whoever we are and whatever we do. There is nothing between us when it comes to God's love. One of the 'jobs' of Christians is to pray for those we know who need God's love more than ever because of sickness in mind, body or Spirit, or because they are just going through a rough patch. And prayer works! It doesn't have to be along complicated procedure – just lay your feelings before God in the way you would to a close friend and he will listen and respond.

Easter time is so special because in the resurrection of Jesus, God fulfils his promise to us that Jesus will be a ransom for all our sins and through him we are forgiven and invited into the Kingdom of Heaven. But Easter Day is not the end of the story. After Easter we hear of all the amazing things that happen when Jesus came back from the dead.

Over the years I have had some lovely and lively conversations about life after death. I firmly believe there is life after death and for me the greatest demonstration of that life is the post-resurrection Jesus sitting by the seashore eating fish with his friends. The account in John 21 thrills me like no other. The disciples, waiting for Jesus to return fill in time going fishing. They see Jesus on the shore but don't immediately recognise him. He calls to them to bring some of the fish they have caught and they see who he is. He cooks breakfast for them. This is Jesus back from the dead with a body that is recognisable to his friends. He eats and drinks with them, he talks and laughs and gives them advice.

One friend heard me say these things and said, 'I am so glad you believe that Jane, it is a lovely thought but I'm not sure how that would work!'

It works simply because we believe that what God promises is true.

So, now have a very Happy Easter and may you meet the post-resurrection Jesus on your faith journey and allow him to walk with you, as he did with the disciples on the Road to Emmaus.

I shall close with an Easter blessing for you all:

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and The Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you and those whom you love and pray for, always. Amen

### **My first memories of Chedzoy** by Francis Hunt

In 1962, I had left school and joined Bridgwater Young Farmers Club. In the autumn of that year the club were building a Carnival Cart at Fishers Farm, Chedzoy.

My friend Mark having just passed his motor cycle test and could take a passenger, suggested we took a ride out to Chedzoy to help with the Carnival cart, so off we went!

On arriving at Fishers Farm nobody else had arrived and after an hour of waiting we decided to go home. On departing from the barn, we spotted a carrier bag full of empty beer bottles which were worth one penny each on deposit.

We soon found ourselves at the off licence window at The Manor where we traded them for two full bottles! Off we went home happily but unbeknown to me at the time, this is where a young schoolgirl lived. Seven years later she became my girlfriend, and we were married in 1971 at Chedzoy Church. When I arrived at Fishers Farm in 1962 I didn't realise how important Chedzoy would become to me in the future and I finally moved to the village in 2006 where Helen and I have enjoyed a happy retirement in a friendly community.



Helen & Francis are offering a small prize for the answer to the following question.

Who are the two small boys blocking the gate? at their wedding in Chedzoy Church. Local tradition of children tying the Church gates. Would only untie them upon payment from the Wedding Party.



Prize for identifying the good-looking young man on the left holding the pitchfork.

Entries for competitions to Rodney Young (contact details on back page) by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Anyone else like to share their first impressions of Chedzoy, especially any new residents.

## BRIDGWATER - CHEDZOY - MOORLINCH - STREET

MONDAY - FRIDAY (EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS) *From: 03/01/2023*

<b>BRIDGWATER, BUS STATION</b>	0900	1130	1430
<b>BRIDGWATER, SAINSBURY'S</b>	0902	1132	1432
<b>SLAPE CROSS</b>	0908	1138	1438
<b>CHEDZOY, CROSS</b>	0911	1141	1441
<b>STAWELL, CHURCH</b>	0916	1146	1446
<b>SUTTON MALLET</b>	0922	1152	1452
<b>MOORLINCH, RING OF BELLS INN</b>	0925	1158	1458
<b>GREINTON, PHONE BOX</b>	0928	1200	1500
<b>PEDWELL</b>	0930	1203	1503
<b>ASHCOTT, THE RIDGEWAY</b>	0937	1207	1507
<b>WALTON, CHURCH</b>	0945	1215	1515
<b>STREET, CRISPIN HALL, LEIGH ROAD</b>	0952	1222	1522
<b>STREET, CRISPIN HALL, LEIGH ROAD</b>	1000	1230	1530
<b>WALTON, CHURCH</b>	1007	1237	1537
<b>ASHCOTT, THE RIDGEWAY</b>	1013	1243	1543
<b>PEDWELL</b>	1017	1247	1547
<b>GREINTON, PHONE BOX</b>	1019	1249	1549
<b>MOORLINCH, RING OF BELLS INN</b>	1022	1252	1552
<b>SUTTON MALLET</b>	1028	1258	1558
<b>STAWELL, CHURCH</b>	1033	1303	1603
<b>CHEDZOY, CROSS</b>	1039	1309	1609
<b>SLAPE CROSS</b>	1042	1312	R
<b>BRIDGWATER, SAINSBURY'S</b>	1048	1318	R
<b>BRIDGWATER, BUS STATION</b>	1049	1319	R

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Additional Service, Term Time Only, at 08.25, Arrive 08.40 at Bus Station,  
Leave Bus Station 16.45, Chedzoy at 16.56 (Advertised on Village  
Noticeboard)

