

# Cholsey Village Voice December 2018

The monthly newsletter from the Parish Council. Available free in most shops and pubs, The Pavilion foyer, the library and The Great Hall. CVV can also be read on the Parish Council website in the News and Events section. If you have any short, topical articles that we could publish, please forward them to [clerk.cpc@outlook.com](mailto:clerk.cpc@outlook.com)

## Happy Christmas from the Parish Council



The Parish Office will be closed from 21<sup>st</sup> December to January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019.

## Parking for the Station

Over recent weeks there seems to have been an increase in the amount of parking around the station, leading to much disquiet among residents. There is particular concern that the station car park is always full.

The Neighbourhood Plan undertook to work with GWR to work on enlarging the car park. These discussions are ongoing, but have stalled as there is no available land.

The Parish Council is committed to resolving this issue and to that end we are casting our net wider in order to find a piece of land.

## Library News

Cholsey Library are holding Christmas Gift Sales each Saturday in December.

Find the perfect gift on our Christmas gifts table or our Bric A Brac shelves just inside the doors. We also are continuing our "Buy a bag and fill it with free books" offer every day.

The Library is open Monday to Friday 2 to 4.30, Friday evenings 6 to 8 and Saturday Morning 9.30 to 12.30

## Jigsaws!

The Library is also please to announce that we have a range of jigsaws available for loan. What better entertainment could there be over the Christmas holidays that a family jigsaw.

## All it takes is one distraction

Did you know that 1 in 3 people rescued from house fires in Oxfordshire are rescued from cooking fires? Or that distraction is the main cause of cooking fires?

It's easy to get distracted - the phone rings, someone's at the door or a TV show catches your attention. If you need to leave your cooking, even for a couple of minutes:

- turn down the heat
- set the timer
- or ask someone to watch it for you

Or could find that Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service firefighters join you for dinner!

Find out more at: [www.365alive.co.uk/cooking](http://www.365alive.co.uk/cooking)

## Warm Home Discount

People who have difficulty paying their energy bills might be able to take advantage of the Warm Home Discount, a new kind of grant offered by the government and energy suppliers.

The Warm Home Discount is a scheme that provides people on low incomes with a single discount of £140 on their winter electricity bill. (You might be able to get the discount applied to your gas bill instead - contact your supplier to find out.)

The discount will not affect your Cold Weather Payment or Winter Fuel Payment.

Not all energy suppliers are part of the scheme. You can contact your supplier to see if they offer the discount. (If the supplier doesn't, you might want to switch to a supplier that does.)

Most people who are eligible will receive the discount automatically, without having to apply. This will be the case if, on 8 July 2018:

- They were with an energy supplier that is part of the scheme; and
- They were receiving the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit; and
- Their name (or their partner's name) was on the bill.

If you don't receive the discount automatically, you might be eligible if you have a low income and receive certain means-tested benefits. Bear

in mind that energy suppliers could have different eligibility rules.

Applications for the discount open at different times for each supplier and people who are not auto-enrolled need to apply as soon as possible to improve their chances.

Further details are available from <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme>

Citizens Advice can help. Contact us in person during opening hours or on the telephone (Adviceline 03 444 111444

## Advice For Dog Owners from Thames Valley police

We have recently seen an increase in reports of dog attacks. We would like to remind dog owners to take reasonable steps to keep your dog under control by considering the following: Consider keeping your dog on a lead in public places

Ensure your dog is comfortable off a lead and will respond to your recall

Use a muzzle if you are concerned about your dog in public

Keep your dog on a lead when near livestock

See advice from the local Vet Surgery if you have any concerns

It is your responsibility to ensure that your dog is under control at all times.

Your dog must be wearing a collar with an identity tag that has the owners name and address on it - just a telephone number is not enough.

## Fly Tipper given curfew

Following a successful prosecution by South Oxfordshire District Council, an Oxford man was given a three month curfew for dumping waste illegally (fly tipping) after a large amount of building rubbish was found on land near Wittenham Clumps earlier this year.

Michael Joseph Andrews, 35, of The Slade, Headington, pleaded guilty to fly tipping and not having a Waste Carriers Licence at Oxford Magistrates' Court on 6 November.

On 13 February, a member of the public saw a vehicle belonging to Mr Andrews' former employer being used to dump building waste at an entrance to a field in Little Wittenham close to Wittenham Clumps.

The district council investigated and Mr Andrews admitted to being paid by an unknown builder to remove waste and to dump it, without the permission of his employer at the time. The council put together a prosecution case against him and he appeared at court on 6 November.

At court he was given a community sentence of a three month curfew (7pm to 7am) for the fly tipping offence and was fined £100 for not having a waste carrier licence. He was ordered to make a contribution to the council's costs of £200 and a victim surcharge of £85.

## COPA News

COPA—Cholsey Older Persons Activities/Advice/Befriending

Enquiries 01491 652100, 07979 188701 (Jennie Kent), COPA direct line 07526 291088

COPA is a community service for older people, their families and carers. We work closely alongside Cholsey's Older Persons Worker Vicky Beardall-Richards (07855606894

or [opsw.cpc@outlook.com](mailto:opsw.cpc@outlook.com)) in providing an opportunity to access a range of useful information and support services, as well as regular social activities, and a team of volunteer befrienders to support those who are lonely, and would benefit from a "listening ear". Your community can help! Our activities include a monthly Brunch Club, Film Club, and Chat Group (cancer/bereavement/memory café) (see diary dates). We also organise occasional trips out, and we support activities at the Day Centre. Look out for COPA's monthly newsletter.

## December's What's On

**Saturdays - The Pavilion** Community Tea Shop – 10:00 – 12:00pm

**Thursdays 12 – 12.45pm The Pavilion** 'Time to Breathe' Gentle Exercise, Mindfulness and Meditation.

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30-11.30 The Forty** Hort Soc sale of wrapped potted bulbs

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30 Great Hall, 10 The Pavilion, 10.30 The Forty** Santa

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm The Forty** Carols on The Forty

**Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Dec** No COPA Film Club

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Dec** No COPA Chat group

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 11am The Forty** Welly Walk

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Jan** No Brunch Club

## Opening Times

**Parish Office** – Wednesday 10am-12pm, at other times call us for appointment. Phone 652255

**Library** Monday to Friday 2- 4.30pm, Friday 6 – 7.30pm and Saturday 9.30am – 12.30pm

**Day Centre** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am – 4pm. Phone 652970

**Happy Hub** Mon – Wed and Fri 9.15-11.30am, Thurs 9.45-11.15 at the Great Hall, Sat 10-11.30am. Activities and fun for under 5s.

Baby Groups Wed 12.30-2.20pm at the Happy Hub and Fri 1-2.30pm at The Great Hall.

