

Chaddleworth News

In this new edition...

- ✓ Sloely Cup and Terrier Race winners,
- ✓ the Chaddleworth Community Plan report is coming,
- ✓ about Chaddleworth Book Club and Chaddleworth Yogis,
- ✓ Under 5s and School news,
- ✓ The Alpha Course with Rev. Mike,
- ✓ the Downland Volunteer Group's 40th Anniversary,
- ✓ The latest Chaddleworth Village Hall 100 Club winners,
- ✓ and plenty more information from our local groups, charities, and businesses.

Please provide your letters, suggestions and contributions for the next, April edition by 20th March 2026. Thank you! **Ed.**

Dates for your calendar...

- Tuesday 10th February 7:30pm Chaddleworth Book Club revival
- Each Tuesday @ 5:30pm Chaddleworth Yogis, Village Hall
- Each Thursday @ 18:45 Alpha, West Downland Rectory
- Friday 13th February HandeBus Marlborough

- Friday 20th February HandeBus Bletchley Park
- Sunday 22nd February @ 9am St Andrew's Chaddleworth Service
- Sunday 22nd February, Ibex Bingo
- Until Sunday 1st March 2026 Snowdrops at Welford Park
- Tuesday 3rd March 2026 @ 7:30pm Chaddleworth Parish Council
- Thursday 5th March, Ibex Mussels
- Saturday 7th March Shaw House 17th Century Day Out
- Friday 13th March HandeBus Portsmouth
- Friday 13th March, Ibex Quiz Night
- Tuesday 17th March PTFA Clothes Recycling Collection
- Sunday 22nd March @ 9am St Andrew's Chaddleworth Service
- Saturday 28th March, Ibex Irish Night
- Easter Sunday 5th April from 12noon Chaddleworth Easter Egg Hunt
- May through August Chaddleworth Cricket Club fixtures
- Sunday 28th June Chaddleworth Open Gardens
- Other services and events in detail in this edition and via included links.



www.chaddleworthparish.gov.uk

ChaddNews@gmail.com

Co-Editors: David Jennings, Tish Slade. Distribution Team: John Ballard, Ruth & Andrew Lee, Nikkie & Kevin Macnamara, Joe Mills, Grahame Murphy, Sue Ridgeway. Printing costs are paid for by Chaddleworth Parish Council.

Electronic colour eCopy available on the village website.

Letters

Chaddleworth Book Club: It has been proposed that the former Chaddleworth Book Club might be revived, possibly in a different way.

A democratic meeting will be held at **White Oriels, Main Street on Tuesday 10th February at 7:30pm** to discuss what kind of format is required, where and when to meet; structured with set reading; a casual chat about favourite books or just a place to be sociable with no reading. Tea, coffee, wine and biscuits will be available.

Ladies or gentlemen, just come along or call Lea Naples on 01488 638488 or Martyn Lisby on 07946 318101 or email lea.naples@motionlink.co.uk...

...for information or if you are interested but unable to come on that evening.

Who knows there might even be spin-off groups such as readers of poetry, nonfiction lovers, murder mystery tales, a Shakespeare readers group. Please come along to talk about the possibilities.

Lea Naples

And a new champion secured the win! Alas the maker wasn't present, but as per competition rules a nominated taster tasted, **Ray Young**, and he received the trophy on her behalf. **Well done Ling!**



The Sloeley Cup

The Chaddleworth 'Sloeley Cup' sloe gin competition takes place on the last Sunday in January in The Ibex Inn and this year saw a strong field with eleven entries.

Huge thanks to **Gavin** and all the crew at the Ibex Inn for letting this great competition take place and to **Shane** for leading the competition this year.





The Senior's Christmas Lunch

In mid-December The Ibex Inn pub was filled with laughter, chatter, and one or two festive tipples for the annual ***Chaddleworth Senior's Christmas Lunch***, and what an afternoon it turned out to be!

A massive **THANK YOU** to '***The Old Gits***' and their equally brilliant ladies for pulling everything together and making sure this much-loved get-together happened.

The raffle in between courses went down an absolute storm!

Another big thanks as well to **Rosie and Sarah**, who very kindly gave up their time to volunteer and help everything run smoothly.

It is days like these that remind us what the pub is really about: good food, good company, and bringing people together.

Thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a joyful, festive afternoon. ***Same time next year?***



The Terrier Race

Chaddleworth's annual Terrier Race did not disappoint and once again proved to be one of our favourite days of the year. With a brilliant turnout, plenty of enthusiastic supporters lining the course, and an impressive selection of four-legged athletes raring to go!



The Open Race (open to any breed and any size) saw a familiar face steal the spotlight, as **Henry** defended his title in style. Showing confidence, speed and a clear love for the chase, Henry powered his way to the finish line to take the win once again.

The Terrier Race itself was everything you'd expect: fast, feisty, and full of character. After a fiercely contested run, it was **Bullet** who shot down the track to claim victory, take back the title of Terrier Champion.

A massive **THANK YOU** to everyone who entered their dogs, to the 'Old Gits' & co who helped organise the event,

volunteers on the day, and of course to everyone who came along to cheer, clap and celebrate. Another **HUGE** thanks to **Dave & Sarah** who, after Beans won last year, have revamped the winners trophy to stand on a gorgeous plinth!

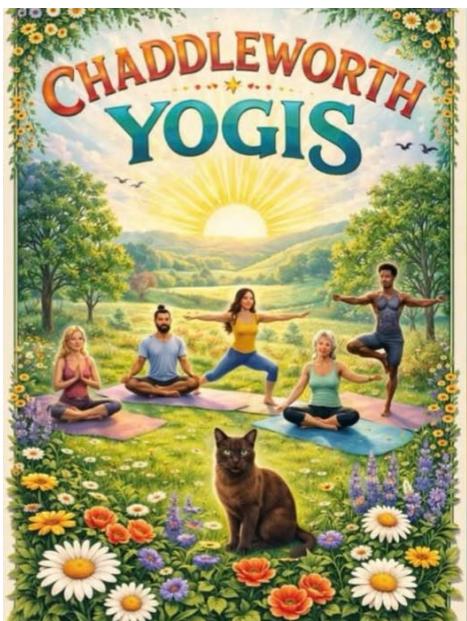
Until next year...



Chaddleworth Yogis

Thank you to everyone joining the yoga sessions at Chaddleworth Village Hall on Tuesday early evenings.

Bekah



Chaddleworth Cricket Club

FIXTURES 2026



Date	Opponent	Venue	Start Time
Sunday 3 rd May	Chieveley	Away	13:30
Sunday 10 th May	Ramsbury	Away	14:00
Sunday 17 th May	Purely on Thames	Away	14:00
Sunday 24 th May	Stroke Makers	Home	13:00
Sunday 31 st May	Boxford	Home	13:30
Sunday 7 th June	Peasemore	Home	13:30
Sunday 14 th June	Crazies Hill & Cockpole Green	Home	13:00
Sunday 21 st June	Wantage & Grove	Away	13:30
Saturday 27 th June	Seattle Cup	Home	13:00
Sunday 28 th June	Reading Uni Alum	Home	13:00
Sunday 5 th July	Letcombe Regis	Away	14:00
Sunday 12 th July	Inkpen	Away	13:00
Sunday 19 th July	Gentlemen of West London	Home	13:00
Sunday 2 nd August	Chieveley	Home	13:30
Sunday 9 th August	Twyford & Ruscombe	tbc	tbc
Sunday 16 th August	Binfield	Home	13:00
Sunday 23 rd August	Mandem	Home	13:30

Games are subject to change this early in the year. We always love the support and cheers from the Villagers at our home games! We are also in the middle of organising indoor net sessions ahead of the 2026 season (and while it's too wet to play on the pitch) so please do keep an eye on our Facebook page for details.

You can join the team, become a non-playing member, or give a one-off donation to the club. Contact via
ChaddleworthCricketClub@gmail.com

And, we are delighted to share that the money raised at the Chaddleworth Fete last year has been used to purchase a defibrillator, which will be installed at the cricket club. This means there will now be a defibrillator available at the top end of the village, providing access to vital life-saving equipment for players, spectators, and the wider community. A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the fete and helped make this important addition possible.

AGM Chairman's Report: Summing up this season we had pretty nearly a full book of games and some welcome extra September games but following a familiar trend, particularly this year the good old British weather thwarted us on several occasions. The

Seattle Cup was a great success and tends to bond the Club so well!

The ground was well tended with the usual loving care courtesy of Mr Mills Snr and his assistant Mr Doncaster with the occasional help of Mr Mills Jnr, Neil Baillie and particularly Ben Barratt. We now have wire netting around the 'troublesome boundaries where we used to lose so much time retrieving lost balls.

The inside decoration was refreshed and a great job was made of it by members of the team. We are scheduled to get a new roof fitted to the pavilion in the New Year. Thank you to Ben and the Team.

Thank you to all the ladies who provide the teas for their invaluable service for which they are not thanked enough. They are in no particular order Jean, Ashleigh, Rosie, Holly, Tish, Izzy and Jacqui for those yummy sausage rolls.

Thank you to all the Life Vice Presidents and the Vice Presidents who have been very generous in their support of the Club over the years

Thank you too to our Secretary Rosie for all her hard work and organisational skills. If I have forgotten anyone please accept my apologies.
Grahame **UP THE CHAD!**

St Andrew's Church, Chaddleworth – part of the West Downland Benefice



West Downland Benefice

The Church of England in Brightwalton & Catmore
Chaddleworth, Fawley, Great Shefford & Shefford
Woodlands, Leckhampstead and Welford & Wickham.

Dear Friends,

This time of year can be confusing to work out where we are. January seems to go on for ever. The weather seems to be keeping us all indoors. In the church we have been celebrating the Epiphany since the 6th and that continues until the 2nd February. Will we ever get to spring?!

The news has also been pretty bleak through the winter months. We are desperate for some green shoots of new life. However, we have made it to February. As the snowdrops push through the hard ground, we can start to look forward to brighter days ahead.

At some of the Christmas events that were run across the benefice, I had a number of people ask me if we were going to run an Alpha Course at any point. For those who don't know, Alpha is an opportunity to unpack life's big questions. It starts with a meal, then a short video with a topic to explore and then plenty of time to chat and hear what other people think.

Everyone is welcome. The first session will be held in the Rectory on **Thursday, 5th February**...

and you can sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/69xCHUVchkBj8zAf6>

Looking forward through the rest of February, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (18th February) and we have come up with a fun fundraising idea to round throughout Lent (until the end of March) based on the parable of the Talents. We will be offering £10 notes to anyone who wants to participate. The idea is that you take your £10 and try and grow it. Perhaps you could make marmalade, or some other craft? You might be good at up-cycling or repairing. Whatever your talent might be, if you can think of a way to make some money at it to help preserve our wonderful church buildings then do let us know. You can email Office@westdownland.co.uk if you would like to join in. There will be an artisan market during March for people to buy the amazing things that are created. Watch this space!

With my love and prayers,

Rev Mike

Office Contact
Details



www.westdownland.co.uk

office@westdownland.co.uk

Telephone 07954 117093



Everyone's welcome

Alpha is for anyone who's curious
to explore the Christian faith.

Alpha

HOW 2025 WENT...

What an incredible year 2025 has been for the Entertainments Committee! We're thrilled to announce that plans for 2026 are already in full swing, including preparations for the Chaddleworth Village Fete. Be sure to save the date: **Saturday 13th June**

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US

Chaddleworth Entertainments is a group of local residents who come together with the aim of bringing everyone in Chaddleworth Parish closer throughout the year. As members of the community ourselves, we organise a wide range of events – including the Chaddleworth Fete, the Easter Egg Hunt, and the Curry & Quiz Night – all designed to strengthen connections across the parish. We are a not-for-profit organisation, all proceeds are used to fund future events and, on occasion, to support good causes within the community.

EASTER EGG HUNT



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be taking place on **Easter Sunday, 5th April from 12noon** **Meet at the Walled Garden of St. Andrews Church**

and follow the signs! **Free for all to attend.** There will of course be plenty of yummy Easter Eggs up for grabs!

OPEN GARDENS

The open gardens are returning this year on **Sunday 28th June**. If you would like to showcase your garden please get in contact with **Martyn on 07946318101**.

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The Parish Plan survey showed us that 80% of villagers value our fete, and 73% of villagers would like to get more involved in volunteering within the village...

We have lots of great ideas to bring to the village in 2026, but we cannot do it without a few more pairs of hands onboard.

EVENTS COMING UP IN 2026

- ❖ VILLAGE BBQ
- ❖ FETE
- ❖ OPEN GARDENS
- ❖ CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
- ❖ PLUS MORE

If you have a few hours to spare, your involvement can help us plan and deliver some fantastic events.

If you feel that you cannot commit to the meetings and planning but are keen to volunteer on the day of an event, please do also get in touch!

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in joining our committee please contact via entertainment@chaddleworth.net

Come along to our next fete planning meeting on 17th February at 7:30pm at The Ibex Inn. Everyone is welcome!

CHADDLEWORTH COMMUNITY PLAN

YOUR VILLAGE | YOUR VOICE | YOUR FUTURE



Chaddleworth Community Plan: Next Steps

Chaddleworth Community Plan: Turning Your Voice into Action

Following the incredible 80% response rate to our community survey last autumn, the Chaddleworth Community Plan Steering Group has been hard at work analysing your feedback and developing action plans.

What We've Done So Far

We've carefully reviewed all survey responses and created a comprehensive list of initiatives based on the areas you told us matter most. These ideas directly reflect your priorities – from traffic management to community facilities and green spaces.

Next Steps: Making It Happen

Some actions will be taken forward by existing groups like the Parish Council and Chaddleworth Entertainments. However, many of your brilliant ideas will need new volunteer groups to bring them to life. Over the coming months, we'll be reaching out to the community to form

these action teams – whether for improving communications, developing green spaces, or enhancing village facilities.

Funding Your Ideas

The Parish Council has earmarked a small seed fund in the budget from April to help kick-start some quick wins. For larger projects, we're reviewing West Berkshire Council's Parish Plan Grant Fund and other trusts and donors. Having an approved Community Plan significantly strengthens our case for external funding.

Ongoing Support

We'll be establishing a coordination team to support action groups with communications, funding applications, and tracking the impact of completed projects. This ensures your ideas don't just gather dust but become lasting improvements to our village.

Review and Approval Timeline

- Mid-February 2026: Draft Community Plan released for community review
- February-March: 4-week consultation period for your comments and feedback
- End of March 2026: Final plan submitted to West Berkshire Council (WBC) for approval.

WBC approval unlocks access to external funding opportunities, and we can begin implementing our priorities in earnest.

Your Voice Still Matters

When the draft plan is published in February, please take the time to review it and share your thoughts. This is your final opportunity to shape the document before it becomes our village's official blueprint for the next five years. Together, we're building a Community Plan that truly reflects Chaddleworth's future.

In February the Draft Plan, and already the Survey Results and detailed data are available at:



www.chaddleworthparish.gov.uk/community/chaddleworth-parish-council-20938/chaddleworth-community-plan/

For more information or to get involved, contact the Community Plan Steering Group via
chaddleworthplan@gmail.com



West Berkshire Council

Safety Alert: Bin Lorry Fire Caused by Lithium-Ion Batteries

On Thursday 8th January a bin lorry caught fire in Leckhampstead because of lithium-ion batteries in a household waste bin. These batteries ignited when in the back of the collection vehicle, posing a serious risk to collection crews, vehicles, and the public.

Thanks to the swift action of the collection crews and emergency services no-one was injured this time. The crew ejected the load so that it could be safely extinguished.

- Never put batteries in your general waste or recycling containers.
- Lithium-ion batteries from devices like e-cigarettes, laptops, and power tools, need to be taken to a household waste recycling centre for disposal
- We collect smaller household batteries if placed in a clear bag on top of your black wheelie bin on collection day.





SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -
more funds for
your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

17 MARCH
TUESDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

WE ACCEPT ✓

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

Great Shefford Under Fives



Our “drop in” Monday **Baby & Toddler group**, run by Debbie and Kathryn, has been busy with many new parents, carers and their very young children. This runs on Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11am for £3 including refreshments for all, so please come along with your little ones. Penny Locke from the Hungerford Food Community has visited to cook tasty snacks with the families using inexpensive ingredients and air-fryers. Delicious!

At **Pre-School** we have welcomed artists from the City Arts project in Newbury to join us for three mornings. The children are making crafts based around the stories of Elmer the Elephant; a plastic milk carton can be converted to Elmer surprisingly easy! The children will also be working with clay. To support the learning we have given each child an Elmer story book, wrapped in brown paper, to keep at home or to bring in and swap from our dedicated Elmer selection. We encourage a love of reading, and the secret book is a great start.



The weather has been very miserable, but we continued to learn outside every afternoon.

We have bought a wheelbarrow to take to the woods and fields, it has accompanied us on every trip!

With our wetsuits on we splashed in puddles, visited the Bug Hotel, walked across the fields and enjoyed the park. We tried to count the birds in the rain as part of the RSPB Big Bird Watch, plus we have identified their sound using the free Merlin Bird App and heard a Common Chaffinch and Blue Tit.

We do have Pre-School spaces in September so if you would like to know a little more about what we can offer your pre-school child, please do get in touch or look at our website
www.greatsheffordunderfives.co.uk

Denise Herrington

Chaddleworth St Andrew's and Shefford C.E.

Federated Primary Schools



It's been another busy week of learning! With children proud to share their progress and achievements such as improved handwriting, presentations of History learning, teamwork in Forest School, sporting skills and accuracy, applying phonics in reading and writing and development of creative artistic skills too!

Thank you for everyone being weather ready, ensuring children have coats and wellies or trainers for playtimes means we can get outside for fresh air and a run around at break times 'whatever the weather', with only heavy down pours this week taking us inside for wet playtimes.

Ms Munday,
Headteacher www.csfschools.org

Stingers Netball

A small group of us went to Park House on Tuesday evening for a very cold netball tournament against lots of local schools. Despite the freezing weather, the girls played brilliantly, showing incredible perseverance and teamwork and really challenging their opponents. We played three very closely fought matches, with some fantastic interceptions and great movement up the court. The team encouraged each other, cheered on the other teams' successes and showed amazing sportsmanship. A thoroughly well done to all of them; I was so proud!

Mrs Chrimes



Whole School Worship

Our Christian value focus on **Courage** this term gave a good opportunity for us to share the Bible story of 'Moses and the Burning Bush'. *Moses is one of the most important people in Judaism, one of the oldest religions in the world, that began about 4,000 years ago in the Middle East. Moses was a very important leader in the Bible who helped free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and received the Ten Commandments from God.*



Through our discussions in worship we realised Moses was courageous and used his bravery to listen to God's message and act on it, even when he really wasn't so sure he was able to follow God's instructions at first.

Children were able to share their examples of courage, such as keeping going with sporting challenges, not giving up on tricky learning tasks and being brave to try new opportunities.

Friday fruit snacks

Our popular initiative of 'Friday Fruit Pots' is back! With the keen organisation of Lilly-Rose and Kasey who prepare and present the mixed fruit selection bowls in time for break, everyone has a fruit salad option, alongside the varied daily healthy fruit snack offer, to enjoy as a healthy snack at the end of the week – yum!



The Ibex Inn

01488639052

bookings@theibexinn.com



WE ARE CLOSED MONDAYS!

We wanted to let you know that from **Monday 2nd February**, The Ibex will be closed on Mondays for a short while. We did the same last year to help soften the blow of those never-ending price rises (which we know you're all feeling as much as we are). This little breather will help us keep doing what we love without compromising on quality. We always appreciate your support.

We will be reopening on Mondays by mid-March, just in time for the longer days and better weather.

• VALENTINES DAY •

2-COURSES FOR £95 PER COUPLE

Enjoy a Chateaubriand to share, with a delicious chocolate fondue to finish... all topped off with a bottle of house wine. The best way to celebrate your loved one. (*£20 per couple deposit required upon booking)

• DATES FOR YOUR DIARY •

Six Nations is back - England's first game on Saturday 7th February!

England vs Wales – 4:40pm

For all England games you can enjoy a burger and a pint for only £20.

Restrictions apply.

BINGO – Sunday 22nd February

From 5:30pm. Lots of fun, and lots of prizes to be won. Please call or email to book your table! Drinks-only tables are also available.



MUSSELS NIGHT

Thursday 5th March

Enjoy Moules Marinière at The Ibex. Mussels paired with a delicious garlic & wine sauce... what's not to love?! We won't be able to accommodate walk-ins, so please make sure you are in before **Monday 2nd March**.



QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 13th March

Quiz night returns! Usual quiz rules apply: max. 6 per team and £2 per player. If you would like to order from our Quiz Night menu, please have this sent in by Monday 9th March. More details to follow over on our *Facebook*!



IRISH NIGHT

Saturday 28th March

Join us for a fun evening celebrating all things Irish... live Irish music, hearty Irish-inspired food, a fine selection of Irish Whiskies, and, of course, Guinness! Full details coming soon, but expect a lively atmosphere – will be a good craic!

HOW TO KEEP UP TO DATE:



The Ibex Inn



@theibexinn



Sign up to our mailing list:
www.theibexinn.com

**Fantastic Fridays
2026
excursions**



Downland Volunteer Group

*West Berkshire Community Car and
Handybus Scheme*



HandeBus

Chieveley(Ci)-Orchard Park (OP)-Peasemore-Leckhampstead-
Chaddleworth (Cd)

To Book:

Email DVG.Handebus@btinternet.com

Call: 07713 813523



Glide into these locations in the comfort of our
12 seater Electric Minibus.
Fare £5. Events marked * require separate
entry fees and booking..



Date	Destination	Timetable – Leaving @
January 16 th	Reading Oracle	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
January 23rd	Swindon Outlet Centre	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
February 13th	Marlborough	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
February 20th	Bletchley Park*	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
March 13 th	Portsmouth	Cd 10:00 - OP 10:40
April 10th	Salisbury	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
April 24 th	Kew Gardens*	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
May 8 th	Wisley*	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
May. 22nd	Stourhead Gardens*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
June 5 th /7th	Avon Beach Mudeford	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
June 12th	WaterPerry Gardens*	OP 11:40 - Cd 12:00
July 24th	Lymington	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
July. 31st	Broadway (Cotswolds)	OP:11:45 Ch 12:00
August 14th	Windsor	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
August 21st	Lacock House*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
Sept. 11th	Bath	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
Sept. 18th	Dyrham Park*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
October 17th	Westonbirt*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
October. 24 th	Cirencester	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
November 21st	Southampton	Cd 10:30 Ci 11:00
November 28 th	Blenheim (xmas mkt)*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
December 4th	Waddesdon House*	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
December 11th	Christmas in Bath	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30
December 18th	Oxford	Cd 11:00 Ci 10:30





Chaddleworth Village Hall

(Registered Charity 1055503)

The Chaddleworth 100 Club draw was hosted by the Chaddleworth Yogis...



The lucky winners for December are number 41, **Jules Tym** and number 17, **Rose Fishlock** – each winning £31.

The lucky winners for January are number 64, **Margy Layman** and number 79, **Carole Hince** – each winning £31 too.

THANY YOU to the 62 current members.

Unfortunately, 30 members are currently lapsed. **Please would you renew your membership to continue to provide vital support to your Chaddleworth Village Hall and increase the prize amount too?**

Please consider joining or rejoining...

This is a really good way of supporting OUR Village Hall which has been around for well over 100 years and as you can imagine needs constant on-going maintenance.

The Village Hall Committee have a programme of improvements in the coming year that need financing, and the 100 Club supports these.

If you would like to utilise the Hall, become a trustee or assist with the care and maintenance of it, please contact us via ChaddleworthHall@gmail.com

How do I join the 100 Club?

Here's what you do if you "internet bank", set up a standing order for £2 per month (one number) or £24 a year. Payable to:

Recipient: **Chaddleworth Village Hall**

Sort Code: **23-05-80**

Account No: **56083967**

(which is a Business Bank Account with Metro Bank)

Alternatively, by cheque or cash is fine.

Contact us on **07827 309401**

or chaddleworthhall@gmail.com to get your allocated lucky number!

PLEASE NOTE: NEW BANK DETAILS AND EMAIL ADDRESS

Chaddleworth Parish Council

Chaddleworth Parish Council meets every other month with the next regular meeting on **Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7:30pm in Chaddleworth Village Hall**, all welcome.

The latest Chaddleworth Parish Council meeting covered:

- a local planning application,
- reviewed the latest statement of accounts, and budget vs expenditure for the current 25/26 financial year,
- agreed to use of the available Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for the recent playground repairs,
- agreed the budget for the next 26/27 financial year,
- agreed new and updated policies including Financial Regulations, IT Policy, Data Protection Policy, supporting Data Map and Appropriate Policy Document (ADP) and Privacy Policy,
- heard the latest news from the Chaddleworth Community Plan team,
- and checked and reported the status of the nine road grit bins located around Chaddleworth Parish.

The detailed minutes from this and previous meetings and the agenda for the next one can be found on the Parish website in the 'Parish Council' section.

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February 2026

Visit the Chaddleworth Parish website which also includes:

- 24 Chaddleworth History articles,
- the back-catalogue of Chaddleworth News editions,
- information from Chaddleworth Entertainments, Chaddleworth Village Hall,
- and of other of other local charities and organisations and links to these.

Please note the Parish Council website and email addresses are:

www.ChaddleworthParish.gov.uk
clerk@ChaddleworthParish.gov.uk

The regular **Downlands Ward Councillor's Report** is available via West Berkshire:

[www.westberks.gov.uk/
downlandparishcouncilreport](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/downlandparishcouncilreport)

Kind regards, **Councillor Clive Hooker**

Chaddleworth Wednesday Club

Join the Wednesday Club (from February for a while) at the Ibex Inn each week for a social time with a complimentary hot drink and bowl of soup which are kindly funded by the *Chaddleworth Bakers Trust*.

Chaddleworth Bakers Trust

(Registered Charity 204875)

The Trustees recognise that energy bills have dramatically increased and are set to go up again in the autumn. All applications are always treated with the utmost confidentiality. If anyone is having difficulty in paying their bills and or are in 'fuel poverty' (spending 10% or more of their income on energy) they are urged to contact the Bakers Trust via the Parish Clerk on:

Clerk@ChaddleworthParish.gov.uk

Saunders Wynn and Coventry Educational Foundation

(Registered Charity 269215)

The three named benefactors set up the Trust to offer financial help to further the educational needs of the children and students (up to the age of 25) of the Parish of Chaddleworth. The Trustees meet four times a year with the next meeting scheduled for **19th February 2026** to consider applications including any relating to the additional costs of home-schooling and remote study for students.

Previous contributions have been made towards the cost of school uniforms, books for university courses, music courses, specific equipment and kit for courses, and residential activities.

If you wish to apply for funds please contact the Foundation's Clerk, **Heather Murphy**, Tower Hill Cottage, Botmoor Way, Chaddleworth RG20 7EU or email botmoorway@gmail.com for an application form.

All applications are treated in the strictest confidence. Any applications received after this scheduled meeting will still be considered for awards by the Trustees but there may be a delay before awards are made.



Thames Valley Alert

Report Fraud launches

The City of London Police, the national lead force for fraud, announced the full public launch of **Report Fraud**, which has now officially replaced Action Fraud.



Report Fraud is the place to tell the police about cybercrime and fraud. Members of the public and businesses can report online or by phoning the Report Fraud Contact Centre.

The Report Fraud Victim Service also offers dedicated, and specialist help to victims of cybercrime and fraud.

Make a report: Tell us what happened and we'll help you report it to the police.

Protect yourself: Find out how to protect yourself from the different types of cybercrime and fraud.

Get help & support: If you've been affected by cybercrime or fraud, we're here to listen, to help, and to support you.

A new media and advertising campaign is live to help raise awareness of the brand-new service for reporting cybercrime and fraud. The advertising campaign, running across radio and social channels, features the service's clear new visual identity and message, '*Every Report Counts*'.

See the campaign hero film via <https://youtu.be/CpZRbpNxCOM>

Tell the police about cybercrime & fraud by visiting www.reportfraud.police.uk or calling 0300 123 2040.

From www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

the WI

INSPIRING WOMEN

LECKHAMPSTEAD

Leckhampstead WI

We celebrated the festive season in December with lots of fun and laughter as our creative skills were let loose creating Christmas baubles and personalised greeting cards. This was followed by an amazing festive tea to which we all contributed something tasty and a Christmas gift swap!



In preparation for the year ahead, The WI Committee have been working really hard behind the scenes and have lots of wide-ranging speakers; new places for Cuppa and Chat meet ups; and other activities planned for the year ahead. There's lots to look forward to in 2026!

Our upcoming talks and events at

2.30pm:

- 11th Feb – The Nabobs of Berkshire
- 11th March – 12.30 Lunch & AGM

You are most welcome to come along to one of our talks (£4 entry for visitors) or to join us as a member. A very warm welcome from ladies of ALL ages awaits together with a delicious homemade tea!

Contact:

- **Adrienne Wright**, 077887 80907 aawright@btopenworld.com or
- **Mary-Ann Brown**, 07966 361648

Next meeting: **Wednesday 11th February 2:30pm Leckhampstead Village Hall**

Louise Weston



DOWNLAND VOLUNTEER GROUP



This January marks the 40th anniversary of the formation of the DVG back on the 9th January 1986. I hope your readers will find this an interesting article about a charity that has made over 1300 trips for Downland residents to attend their medical appointments in our last financial year. The 'running rate' for this financial year looks like we will exceed last year's total.

Joe Clerkin



Mrs Deb Jeffs, co-founder and first Chairman of the DVG with the current chairman, alongside the all-electric HandEbus

The Downland Volunteer Group (DVG) is unique. It was founded by sixteen-year-olds. This statement was made by Mrs. Deb Jeffs, one of the founder members of the DVG. In 1984-85 pupils at The Downs School in Compton with their teacher, Steve Poole, conducted a social studies project on communities. They looked at the contribution of voluntary organisations. Many of The Downs School pupils came from the number of small villages situated just north of Newbury (the

Downland area) and it was clear that each of these villages had groups and facilities that operated in isolation from other villages. The pupils decided to try and bring these various groups together, so a series of lunches were arranged. They invited parish councillors, scout and guide leaders, local clergy and social services to create a coordinating body to help link these various groups. So the Downland Volunteer Group was born, and the school catchment area became the area of operation.

In 1985 a management committee was appointed consisting of seven local volunteers, a teacher, two pupils from The Downs School along with representatives from Newbury Social Services and the Community Council of Berkshire. The chairman was a local councillor (Peter Robinson) which gave some authority to their efforts.

The DVG set up their office in a room in the Compton scout hut in which they managed to fit in a desk, a phone and later an answer phone machine.

Their phone number was Compton 394, which later became 578394 and is still the office phone number today. A Rota of office volunteers worked two hours every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. A prize from the Shell Village Venture competition and donations from Thames Valley Police and various parish councils helped get the Group started.

The Downland Volunteer Group officially started on the 9th January 1986. Initially it operated like a good neighbourhood scheme helping residents with gardening, DIY jobs and transport. Given the number of small villages spread across the area and the lack of regular public transport, helping residents attend their medical appointments became the main focus of their activities. Finding volunteers was a challenge. Alongside this service, with the help of The Downs School, they also began creating a directory of services within the Downland area.

At the first AGM held in November 1986, Mrs Deb Jeffs became the Chairman supported by Sue Fletcher as Vice Chairman and Dave Morris, the local police officer, as the Treasurer. In the first year the DVG made 179 trips to surgeries, hospitals, dentists etc. At the time they were careful not to clash with the Hospital Car Service but to fill the gaps that service did not offer. They

had 21 volunteers in this first year. Publicity was their big challenge, creating awareness of their service and recruiting volunteers to drive or manage the office. Their financial situation was good, any shortfall between what clients donated and what drivers claimed for their mileage was covered by donations from parish councils. Again, The Downs School continued to support the DVG efforts with students distributing leaflets in their villages and putting up posters promoting the service.

As the DVG grew it was decided to draw up a Constitution to enable the Group to achieve charitable status. It became a registered charity in 1989.

By 1990 the DVG car service was achieving over 500 trips a year. Also, in that year it became involved with the Handybus service. At that time the Handybus was owned by Newbury District Council and was used each morning to take patients to the Downland surgeries. In the afternoons the DVG could organise shopping trips for residents in various villages or allow other organisations to hire it.

The DVG has always worked closely with The Downland Practice and in 1995 one of their doctors was voted onto their committee. This close relationship still exists today.

After 11 years working out of the scout hut in Compton the DVG office moved into a room in the Compton surgery where it remains today.

In 1998 the DVG helped set up a monthly Lunch Club supported by a £100 donation from 'Help the Aged' for residents to attend on the last Friday of the month. Many of those involved in the organisation were also DVG volunteers, preparing a freshly cooked two course meal for mainly elderly residents, with DVG drivers offering transport for free. Twenty-seven years later it is still going strong and with two of the original volunteers still involved!

By the turn of the millennium, the DVG was exceeding 1,000 trips per annum. The office became computerised to cope with this growing demand for transport and the statistical data needed to support the grants they received.

By 2005 the DVG also became a limited company registered at Companies House.

In 2018 West Berkshire Council decided to 'gift' the Handybus to the DVG. Previously the DVG

just supplied the drivers and organised the trips. Now they had full responsibility for its upkeep.

The Covid crisis set back the DVG operation for over a year. With surgeries not seeing patients and hospitals tackling the covid pandemic their services were not required. When they restarted, some draconian measures were introduced. Clients had their temperature taken before starting their journey, masks were mandatory and they had to travel in the back seat with a window open. The car then had to be sanitised after each trip! Once the surgeries and hospitals returned to normal the DVG service began returning to pre-Covid levels.

It was decided to replace the ageing Handybus with an all-electric vehicle. The timing of this decision was important as West Berkshire Council and other organisations wanted to encourage environmentally friendly public transport. Thanks to many generous contributions, the new HandEbus, as it became known, was launched in February 2024. It was the first all-electric community transport vehicle in West Berkshire and one of only a handful in the country at that time. It has proved to be a great success both with residents and many environmentally conscious organisations in the area.

To help maximise the use of this new vehicle the DVG amended their Constitution. The focus is still on the 'elderly and those in need' for the car service, but they wanted the new HandEbus to benefit the whole Downland community, the young and the not so young.

In the last 40 years the Downland Volunteer Group has come a long way. So much has changed during that time and yet certain things do not change. They are always looking for new volunteers; they still need to publicise the service to new residents in the area and there are still car parking issues at some hospitals. Nevertheless, the continued demand for this service, the gratitude shown by clients and the satisfaction the volunteers derive from knowing their efforts make such a positive contribution, proves that what began in January 1986 has been very beneficial to the Downland Community.

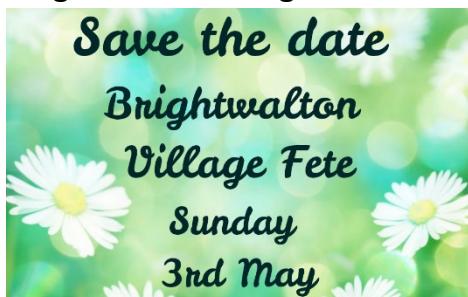
*Companies House No. 05572984 Charity
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Leckhampstead Village Hall

Come along to our next mini market on Saturday 21st February. Bacon butties!



Brightwalton Village Fete



Snowdrops At Welford Park

Until Sunday 1st March

www.welfordpark.co.uk/event/snowdrops-at-welford-park/



National Animal
Welfare Trust
BERKSHIRE

NAWT Trindledown

Reg Charity: 1090499

A Belated Happy New Year from All of Us at NAWT Berkshire.

We hope your holidays were filled with warmth and joy. As we step into 2026, we want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible kindness and support you've shown us.

First, a truly heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated during our Double Donations event over Christmas. Because of you, the charity as a whole raised an astonishing £100,000! Every single pound will help give abandoned and mistreated animals across the UK the second chance they deserve. Your generosity changes lives – THANK YOU for being part of that.

This year is a special one for us: we're turning 25! That's 25 years of rescuing, rehoming, and loving animals who needed a helping hand. We're planning a summer celebration to mark this milestone, and we'd love to hear from you. What would make this event unforgettable? What have you loved in the past – or wished we'd done differently? Your ideas and feedback mean the world to us because this isn't just our journey – it is yours too.

We're also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help us make this year's events and fundraising activities a success. If your New Year's resolution was to get more involved in your community, this is the perfect opportunity. Please reach out if you'd like to join us – we'd love to have you on board.

And if you have any unwanted Christmas gifts, please consider donating them to us. Whether it's a bottle of wine you won't drink or a game you're not interested in, these items will help us raise vital funds for animals in need throughout 2026.



In 2025, we were proud to rehome over 300 animals. That's 300 stories of hope and happy endings. Our last rehoming of the year was extra special: Malachai, a sulphur-crested cockatoo who stole our hearts. We don't usually take birds, but

when we heard his story, we knew we had to help. Seeing him go off to his forever home was the perfect way to close the year.



Looking ahead, we have some incredible animals waiting for their chance at happiness – like Will, who's been with NAWT for three months. He's smart, full of energy, and loves learning. We know his perfect person is out there somewhere – could it be you?

From all of us at NAWT Berkshire, and from every animal whose life you've touched, thank you for all your support in 2025. Your kindness makes everything possible. Here's to another year of compassion, community, and giving animals the love they deserve.

Molly Hall

West Berkshire Heritage



What did Diversity mean to the Romans?

According to the Latin poet Virgil's epic about the origins of Rome, the Aeneid, Jupiter, king of the gods, promised the Romans an 'empire without end' in space and time. Such a vast empire would go on to span three continents, with countless peoples living within its borders. The diversity of the Roman empire is undeniable. Indeed, our word 'diversity' is from the Latin word *diversitas*. But what did *diversitas* mean for the Romans? And did the Romans understand their world as *diversus*, or *diverse*? ***Find out at this talk by Dr Samuel Agbamu.***

West Berkshire Museum |
Wednesday 4th February | 7pm | £5



The Meditation Zone – Stress free you

Join Buddhist nun Gen Nyingpo for a transformative talk and guided meditations course designed to help you create a calm, balanced, and stress-free life. Through instruction, guided meditations, and practical stress management techniques, you will learn how to cultivate inner peace, clarity, and emotional resilience.

Shaw House |
5th February | 7:30-8:45pm | £10
Book www.learntomeditate.org

Chaddleshaw News



Mini Messy Museum

Held over five consecutive Wednesday mornings starting on 25th February is our art and craft session, Mini Messy Museum, for children age 2 to 5 years.

At each session, you and your child will take part in a fun and simple art and craft themed around a museum object, and then have the opportunity to do a self-led gallery visit (treasure hunt) to find the museum object linked to the morning's art and craft.

Places are limited and must be pre-booked online. £12 for the five week course (accompanying adult is free).

Session dates: 25th February and 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March 2026.



Talk: 10,000 finds from West Berkshire

In early 2021, 5000 objects found in West Berkshire had been recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. Under 5 years later, the milestone of 10,000 finds was reached. This talk by Berkshire's Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) presents new finds from the past 5 years and how they have added to our knowledge of West Berkshire.

Bookings close at 4pm the day before the talk.

West Berkshire Museum |
Wednesday 25th February | 1pm | Free

For more sessions and more details visit:
www.westberkshireheritage.org



**North Wessex
Downs
National
Landscape**

**Check out the postcards at the North
Wessex Downs Landscape Trust:
www.nwdlt.org.uk/postcards**



© Michael Day, 2016

THE WOOLLEY MONUMENT

A rough hewn stone cross on a square two-stepped base stands in memory of Major Philip Musgrave Neeld Wroughton of Woolley Park, who was killed in action in Palestine in 1917 at just 29 years old. Also mentioned in the inscription on the monument are those in the Berkshire Yeomanry who gave their lives for their country in the Great War, 1914-1918.

While early UK war memorials celebrated military leaders and victories rather than common soldiers, this began to change after the Boer War (1899-1902), with increased public recognition for volunteers leading to more local memorials listing the names of the fallen. The immense number of casualties during the First World War and the ban on repatriation of bodies then created a huge need for local monuments to mourn the missing, and you'll find memorials in some form in many towns and villages across the Downs and, indeed, across the whole country.



YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE ...

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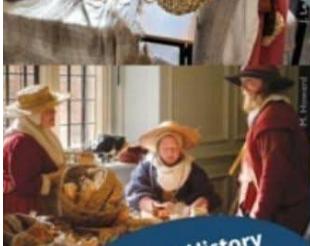
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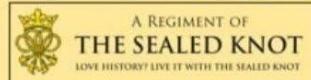


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April Edition of Chaddleworth News

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by 20th March 2026 Go well!

