



Chatton News

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Issue: 41

A Newsletter for Chatton and Surrounding Area

23 March 2007

Saturday Night Fever

Where else can you see Madonna dancing with Abba, Ozzy Osbourne, a couple of punks, and Austin Powers? . . . at the



Decades Disco held in the Percy Arms, Chatton, of course.

A fun night was had by all, and a total of £168 raised for Chatton C of E First School, in aid of their 150 Year's Celebrations. Thank you to all the people who helped with raffle prizes, those who came along,

especially to all those who turned up in costume, (and what a sight they all were!), for the balloons from The Flower Basket, Fiona and David, for playing host and those tasty bacon butties, and generally to all those who supported this event. The winners of the fancy dress competition were the Abba girls aka Julie Lee, and Vicki Rathbone, and Michael Rathbone for his original Chatton Punk outfit - loved the hair!

Thanks to all again, and watch this space for more news and up and coming events to celebrate the 150 years of our fantastic village school.

Caroline Roberts



Golden Wedding Celebration

Lisa and John Bolton celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 8th March with a meal at the Tree House in Alnwick, and by visiting Barcelona in the company of their son, Nick and daughter,



Gay, along with their respective partners. They had a fabulous time but found the return to freezing temperatures a shock after enjoying the heat of Spain.

Lisa and John came to the village some 42 years ago and their dedication to the Wildlife Sanctuary and contribution to the

community has been remarkable. Back in the 60's when they arrived, they were one of the first 'new' people to move into the village from outside the area and were known as the 'white settlers' - much to their amusement. We all congratulate them on their Golden Anniversary.

Chatton C of E Aided First School Celebrates



This year 2007 sees the celebration and commemoration of 150 years of continuous education in our village. The building dates from 1857 and remains one of the focal institutions of the village. A week of celebration is planned to take place in June when the school will host an Open Week for members of the local community, past pupils, staff and friends of the school.

A Thanksgiving Service is planned to be held in Holy Cross Church, which the Bishop will attend and the week of celebration will end with a Garden Party at school to which all the community are welcome. We would love to hear of any old photographs and memories to help give the children of today a sense of the history of their school. Please contact me at school if you would like to pass on any reminiscences that could be incorporated in our record for the anniversary. Thank you.

Sally Tait, Head Teacher

Some Scary Stories at Chatton School



World book day on Thursday 1 March was based on "Scary Stories" - the children (and staff) dressed up. Lunch at school included Rat Stew, Toads Skin, Witches Tongue and Slug Slime and Frog Spawn for pudding. The day was enjoyed by everyone.

Pictured are Sophie Robinson, Ellen Stubbs and Lauren Rathbone.

A Taste of the Past

Last week Chatton School held a Victorian School Day as part of curriculum work linked to their 150th anniversary. The children dressed up and really entered into the spirit of the day. They were quaking in their shoes at the sight of the tawse (the leather belt for chastisement). They realised how life was in those days.



Food For Thought Winner

At a Food For Thought Competition held at Alnwick Castle recently, June Duddy came away with first prize with her Chatton Cheese Quiche, based on an 1850's recipe handed down through her family. Well done June.

Lewis Bumps into his Hero

To their delight and surprise, Barry and Louise Stubbs with children Lewis and Ellen met Alan Shearer outside the Alnwick



Tree House on Friday 16th March. Alan Shearer was attending a charity dinner in aid of the NSPCC. The whole family were impressed by Alan Shearer, who was very polite and friendly and, in Barry's words, 'a true gent'. Lewis was over the moon at meeting his hero!

Victorian Lamp - Your Views

The response to our survey in last month's News is interesting. Of the 10 respondents, 7 want the lamp to be placed on the village green, only one would like to see it at the bench at the top of the village and 2 would like to see it outside the Percy Arms. Bill Douglas has a postcard from 1911 showing the lamp (arrowed) in its original position where the war memorial now stands. Food for thought for the Parish Council in making their decision.



Help Needed

The Recreation Group Committee met recently and agreed to clean the inside, paint the outside and fix the guttering of the pavilion. They hope to restore the pavilion to its former glory. If you are willing to help for all or part of the day on Saturday 21 April from 10am please contact Bob Scott on 215376 or email bob316scott@yahoo.co.uk. Everyone will be very welcome.

Welcome to Chatton

Jan and John Butler moved into Bridge House in Old Road, Chatton during December and we extend a warm welcome to them. John works in the telecommunications industry. They have come to Chatton having most recently lived in Aberdeenshire. They value the peace and quiet that Chatton offers.

Gardening Club

An exciting and interesting programme for members of the Gardening Club was announced at The Cheese and Wine Evening hosted by Phillippa and Bob Scott on Sunday 18 March. Thanks go to Bob & Phil for their excellent hospitality. More than 25 members attended to hear about the garden visits that have been planned. They are:

Thur 17 May, 6pm	Etal Manor and afterwards at Jan's Plants
Wed 23 May, 7pm	Outchester Manor, Belford
Wed 6 June, 7pm	Fowberry Mains Farmhouse
Wed 4 July, 7pm	Whitton Grange, Rothbury

In addition there will be a talk on eco-forest gardening in September, the pumpkin show in October and a quiz night in November. Please contact Rebecca Moss on 215233 if you want to join the club.

Post Office Threat

The Post Office has decided to axe 2500 branches. Chatton's Post Office may be affected. The key measurement to be used in making decisions will be profitability for the Post Office and



distances for people to the nearest office. If we lose the Post Office, Chatton might have a mobile service calling in the village on set days. This will never replace the service that we enjoy now.

Decisions are being taken between May and December this year. An important consequence will be the impact that this could have in the longer term on the village shop. The more these facilities are used, the better chance that they will be here in five years. It is worth considering using the shop and Post Office - especially when the alternative is to use fuel driving to Wooler. To give people a chance to compare prices *Chatton News* will publish some each month. For example, a 500ml bottle of Fairy Liquid, a Twin Pack of Fiesta Kitchen Rolls and Flash Wipes are all priced at 99p.

Church Services

Everyone is most welcome to join the congregation for the services listed. Church members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting is being held in Chatton on Wednesday 18 April.

Volunteers Needed...To tidy the Churchyard on 29 April and 6 May from midday. Please contact Phil Scott on 215376 if you can help.

25 March	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion
1 April	9:30am	Chatton Palm Sunday United Family Service
1 April	11:30am	Chillingham Holy Communion
2/3/4 April	7:30pm	Chatton Compien
6 April	2:00pm	Hour at the Cross, Chatton
8 April	9:30am	Chatton Easter Holy Communion
15 April	9:30am	Chatton URC Family Service
18 April	7:30pm	Chatton Church AGM
22 April	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion
29 April	9:30pm	Chatton Holy Communion

Brian Lockett

February Weather Report

David and Meg Thompson of Chillingham Barns provide weather information for the area to the Met Office. Chatton had snow on February 6th and 7th and snow was on the Cheviot on 26th.

Max. Air Temperature:	15.2°C on Feb 1
Min. Air Temperature:	-7.4°C on Feb 9
Min Ground temp	-6.6°C on Feb 6
Total Rainfall February 2006:	2.55"
Average for February:	1.77"
Total Rainfall for 2007 to date	3.97"
Average Rainfall for first 2 months	4.33"

Walk For Chatton School

There will be a sponsored walk on Saturday 21 April to support the school in celebrating 150 years of service to the community. The walk is for children and families (of all ages!) and proceeds will help meet the cost of the celebrations later in the year and the installation of a commemorative stained glass window. Sponsorship forms are available from Fiona Munro in the Percy Arms. The walk begins at Hepburn Woods car park at 11am will include a treasure Hunt and last about an hour. Take a picnic and a teddy bear.

With thanks to all contributors to this issue. The next issue to be published will be on April 20. Items to Bob Perris by April 16 please. (Tel:215564 or email at robert.perris@btinternet.com)