



Chatton News

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Issue: 48

A Newsletter for Chatton and Surrounding Area

26 Oct 2007

Parish Council Oppose School Closure

At a special meeting on Tuesday 23 October Tillside Parish Council discussed the present situation at Chatton First School. It has recently been reported in the press that School Governors have asked the County Council and Newcastle Diocese to close the school.

The Parish Council is determined to keep the school open and want to work with the Governors of the school to explore ways of achieving this, despite the present problems. The Parish Council were given a summary of what had happened to date and considered what might be done to reverse the movement towards closure.

As a first step, Parish Councillors have requested a meeting with Carole Snelling, Deputy Director of Newcastle's Diocesan Board of Education and Trevor Doughty, Head of Northumberland's Children's Services to express the concerns of the community and identify measures to move forward in support of the school. Representatives of the school's Governing Body will also be invited to attend.

County Councillor, Clive Hallam-Baker, attended the Parish Council meeting and expressed his support for keeping the school open. He will also be invited to join the initial discussions.

The Parish Council want to discuss the situation with Governors of the school and organize a public meeting for members of the community, including of course, parents.

Meanwhile, Governors of the school have said that it was not possible to appoint a new Head Teacher following recent advertising of the post and the present Head Teacher would remain at the school while consultations over closure continued.

The Parish Council feel that closing the school would be a terrible loss to the community and want to see a vibrant, successful school in Chatton. They heard how Milfield and Acklington Schools with pupil numbers of 13 and 11 in February 2000 respectively had fought off threats of closure and have since received excellent reports from Ofsted, providing a good education for local children. At their meeting, Parish Councillors discussed how the community could support future development of the school.

The Newcastle Diocese Board of Education have a policy to support rural schools and their communities.



Pictured are people attending the recent celebrations of 150 years of continuous education at Chatton School.

Roy Carr

Roy Carr died suddenly on 4 October. He was 52. Roy and Iona, his wife, were married at Chatton Church in November 1980 and lived throughout their married life at Wandon. Their daughter, Anna, was Roy's pride and joy. Anna has just started a course in primary education at Durham University and hopes to teach young children.

Roy had a sister Mary and he worked for many years in forestry work with his brother, Gordon. He helped North Lilburn Estate to win a cup and a silver medal for their woodland at the Royal Show.

Roy also worked at The Wildlife in Need Sanctuary on Saturday mornings for seven years. He enjoyed his time at the sanctuary, especially the opportunity to chat with friends. A collection at the church in memory of Roy raised £227 for winter feed.

In his younger days Roy was a very good darts player, winning many cups and medals for the Percy Arms and other pubs in the area. Roy always looked forward to holidays at Arisaig in Scotland where he loved to put the first footprints on the sand each morning. He was a man who liked the quiet life.

Iona and Anna would like to thank everyone, family and friends, who have helped and supported them at this sad and difficult time. Roy was a lovely, helpful, kind person - the best husband and dad. Iona, Anna, his family and friends all miss him very much.

Church Fund Auction

The Chatton with Chillingham Church Fund Auction has been postponed until Friday, February 29th, 2008 from 7:30pm at The Percy Arms. A full menu is of course available from 6:30pm and the first Lot will be auctioned at 8:30pm

Lots include:

- A day's fishing with personal ghillie, picnic and liquid lunch
- A day out at Kelso Races
- A voucher for a joint of meat
- Director's Box ticket at Chatton F.C with pre-match drinks and lunch in the player's lounge!

....and much, much more. Put a note in your diary now for a community fund raising night with auction lots galore.

We will be finalising auction lots in January so please think what you can offer, and book the date to come along and see it sold!

Please contact the PCC secretary on 215376 if you would like to offer a lot for auction or have enquiries about the event.

Quiz Night

The next quiz organized in support of the football club will be held on Friday 30 November at The Percy Arms. Teams should consist of a minimum of 3 with each member paying £2. There are prizes for the top teams and the first question will be asked at 8pm.



Christmas Market at Chatton School

(A Chatton with Chillingham PCC event in aid of Church Funds)

Saturday December 8th from 2pm

Come and join us for a 'Feast of Christmas'

- Local speciality foods to sample
 - Homemade cakes and preserves
 - Handmade candles and soaps
 - Christmas table decorations, crafts
 - Christmas plants, greetings cards
 - Mulled wine and refreshments
-and much more

If anyone could offer to make cakes and scones for sale with refreshments, we would be very grateful

ALL ENQUIRIES: PCC Secretary on 215376

MacMillan Coffee Morning

I would like to thank everyone for their support for the coffee morning and Fiona and David for hosting the event in the Percy Arms. Thanks also go to the many who donated cakes, raffle prizes and cash along with the people who helped on the day.

The people who came along made all the effort worthwhile and a total of £325 was raised. It was another fantastic contribution from our small village. Thank you all!

Dorothy Bolam

Weather Report up to 25 October

David and Meg Thompson of Chillingham Barns provide weather information for the area to the Met Office.

Max. Air Temperature:	19.6°C on Oct 11
Min. Air Temperature:	-1.0°C on Oct 18
Min Ground temp	-3.0°C on Oct 18
Total Rainfall for first 25 days of Oct	13.1mm or 0.52"
Average for October:	60mm or 2.36"
Total Rainfall for 2007 to date	18.02"
Expected Rainfall for first 9 months	21.82"

The weather has been very quiet. So far this month no wind has been recorded on 12 days and there have only been three days when there was more than a very light wind - not very helpful for windmills!

Black and Blue Bin Weeks November



Blue bins emptied on:	7 Nov, 21 Nov
Black bins emptied on:	31 Oct, 14 Nov, 28 Nov

Chatton FC Consistent

Results have continued to be a bit of a disaster for Chatton's football team. While the village can take some pride in the fact that they were given a place in the league's Cave Cup for being a club in the top 16 of the Good Behaviour Table last season, Red Row proved too strong and ran out easy winners in the first round of the competition.

The two league games that have been played during the last month have left Chatton with no points and leaves them second from bottom of the league on goal difference. Despite results the playing squad remains committed and there are periods in every game when some neat football is played. Too many soft goals are being given away early in matches.

Results:

Red Row Brick	Cave Cup	<i>lost</i>	1-8
Felton	League	<i>lost</i>	1-11
Shilbottle	Div 4 Cup	<i>lost</i>	3-11
North End Trap	League	<i>lost</i>	0-8

Fixtures:

28/10/07	Morpeth Black Swan	League	Away
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Spectators are always welcome at matches. Unless otherwise stated kick off is 10:30am.



Summer Time Ends

The clocks go back at 2am on Sunday morning so everyone gets another hour in bed.

September Parish Council Meeting

At their meeting held on 27 September, Tillside Parish Councillors agreed:

- To submit a letter opposing Middlemoor Wind Farm.
- To meet the cost of tidying up Johnny Hull's Field.
- To financially support further adverts for the post of head teacher at the school.
- To ask the County Council to tidy up the three lay-bys around Chatton.
- To invite Northumberland CC to the November meeting to discuss speed restrictions in and around Chatton.
- To write to the contractor refurbishing the fountain at Chillingham asking him to expedite the work.

Mens' Darts Team

The Percy Arms mens' darts team is in its first season in the Lowick Darts league. The team has beaten two Berwick teams - The Angel and Bonner Steads and lost three games. Last week they were beaten 9-1 by league champions The Grove but they have upheld the honour of Chatton by drawing with local rivals Belford Community Club.

The team includes Ian Nixon, Bill Reed, Mick Renwick, Paul Geary, Mick Douglas, Dick Logan and Russell Hodgson. The next home match is on Friday 2 November against The Red Lion.

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Articles are always welcome. If you have any views or news or information about an event please let us know.

With thanks to all contributors to this issue. The next issue to be published will be on November 23. Items to Bob Perris by November 19 please. (Tel: 215564 or email at robertperris@btinternet.com)