



Chatton News

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Issue: 62

A Newsletter for Chatton and Surrounding Area

January 2009

Lisa Bolton MBE

News spread quickly through the village of the award of an MBE in the New Year Honours to Lisa Bolton for her dedication over many years to the welfare of animals at Wildlife in Need. In an interview in *The Journal* she was characteristically modest: "Nobody could have been more astonished than me when I got the letter."

The MBE is awarded for outstanding service to the community or for 'hands-on' service which stands out as an example to others. In Lisa's case it is most certainly both. Everyone is delighted at Lisa's MBE - so well deserved after many years of devoted hard work and great spirit - and send their congratulations and best wishes to Lisa and John.

Parish precept unchanged

At the last Parish Council meeting, councillors agreed to a parish precept of £3,500 for 2009/10, unchanged from previous years. This amounts to about £10 per household each year, and this precept then makes up part of the council tax for the residents of the parish. The precept is used to help pay for improvements in local facilities and services within the community and for specific expenses such as grass cutting, insurance cover for facilities and utility services in the parish hut.

Bob Scott

A game of two halves

Recent Results:

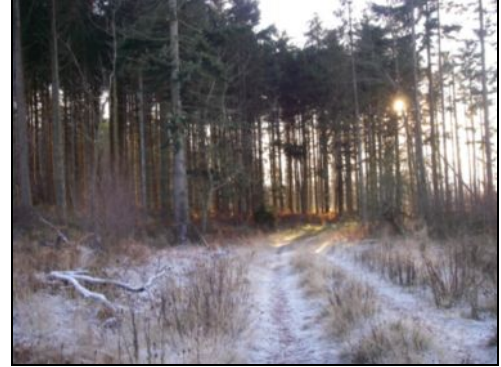
Morpeth Black Swan 5 - 1 Chatton
Chatton 2 - 7 Ashington Hirst Ind.

Chatton again squandered clear chances to take points from two games that they dominated in the early stages. Against Ashington Hirst Industrial they were two goals up after thirty minutes and looked like sealing their first win with a third goal that was disallowed after a dodgy offside decision. Chatton's second came after a brilliant cross from deep by Jack Strangeways, floated into the path of Ross Simpson who smashed the ball on the volley past the keeper. Having played their best football of the season at home this year, Chatton then collapsed, losing all shape, and allowed the opposition to get on level terms and finish the second half with seven goals.

Forthcoming fixtures are as follows. Kick off is 10.30am. All spectators welcome!

Date/home/away	Opponents	Competition
11 Jan / Home	Ashington Conchie	League
18 Jan / Away	Bomersund	League
25 Jan / Home	Felton	League

Bob Perris



Update on the Village Hall

Further discussions have taken place to progress a lease for use of the school building as a village hall. Members of the Steering Group met with Northumberland Estates on 16 December in what proved to be a constructive discussion of revised terms on which the lease will be based. The Steering Group, in collaboration with the Parish Council, will be responding to Northumberland Estates and so we hope moving a step closer to establishing a village hall to serve Tillside Parish. The Steering Group are also progressing grant applications in readiness for setting up the hall and to support activities which meet the needs of the community. All ideas are welcome - a recent proposal suggests ballroom dancing under the banner "Strictly Comes to Chatton" !

Bob Scott

Goodbye Harley

The draw to name the reindeer that stood patiently outside the Percy Arms waiting to be re-homed for Christmas took place on 19 December. The name drawn out of the hat at random was Harley. Harley the reindeer has now gone to a good home with winner Peter Shearer.



Pictured is Kenny Topham picking the winning ticket under the supervision of football club president Colin Hunter. Thanks go to the 177 people who bought a name, hosts David and Fiona Munro

for taking good care of Harley the reindeer and Neil Douglas and Colin Hunter for creating Harley in the first place. All of the proceeds will go towards maintaining the football field.

Bob Perris

Home darts fixtures at the Percy Arms

Ladies (Monday nights)

19 Jan	Angel, Wooler
2 Feb	Bridge of Aln
23 Feb	The Wheatsheaf, Wooler

Men's (Friday nights)

23 Jan	White Swan, Lowick
13 Feb	Albion, Spittal
27 Feb	Angel Inn, Berwick

Chatton with Chillingham news

The PCC is sad to announce that the Vicar, the **Reverend Brian Hurst**, will be leaving us early this year for a post at Bamburgh and Ellingham where he will take over from Eileen McClean in developing the mission there. More information on this will be made available in next month's *Chatton News*.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his work on our behalf, particularly his leadership on the 'Rural Mission and Ministry Initiative' the aim of which is to strengthen and build the local community in Glendale as a whole using the many (and sometimes under-recognised) resources there are here.

*

The PCC would like to thank the **Carol Concert** Congregation for taking the time to stay afterwards and chat over mince pies and sherry! We felt it was a more sociable occasion for all concerned and an opportunity for people to catch up. We hope to do the same next year.

*

The PCC was able to pay its Parish Share in full this year for the first time in a number of years thanks to the support of the community. Much of the **fundraising** has been for specific use, for example renewal of electrics, and that will remain designated solely for its specified purpose. Some however has increased funds which enabled us to pay our share to the Diocese. This means we are not reliant on a 'top up' from other parishes effectively, and have been able to pay our own way.

*

There is now a **flower list** at Chillingham, and will be soon at Chatton, if people would like to join in with flower arranging. Offers of help would be very much welcomed.

PCC Secretary

Chatton Children's Group

Activities for the coming weeks are:

7 January	Board games
14 January	Computers: snow theme
21 January	Animal masks: arts and crafts
28 January	Story writing

As usual we meet in the Parish Hut at 4pm on Wednesdays. For more information phone Caroline on 215445.

Church services

Church services for January and February are as follows. Everyone is welcome to come to the services.

11 January	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion
18 January	9:30am	Chatton United Service
25 January	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion
1 February	9:30am	Chatton United Service
	11:30am	Chillingham Holy Communion
8 February	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion
15 February	9:30am	Chatton United Service
22 February	9:30am	Chatton Holy Communion



Weather report for December

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

December was a very quiet month: for sixteen days no wind was recorded at 9am, and for fifteen days there was no recorded rain. Over the whole of this year, however, we had 5.9in more rain than average.

Max. air temperature:	13.2°C on 21 Dec.
Min. air temperature:	1.1°C on 31 Dec.
Min. ground temperature:	-8.4°C on 1 Dec.
Total rainfall for the month:	53.8mm/2.13in
Average rainfall for December	61 mm/2.40in
Total rainfall for 2008:	32.88in
Average rainfall for the year:	26.98in

A visit to Chatton

The main road heading for Wooler drops down with steep gradients and many corners to the village of Chatton, where the low stone cottages look bowery and trim and smiling, as they should do in the heart of a great estate, and a long stone bridge close to the village crosses the Till, babbling gently between crumbly red banks on its way to that distant Flodden A hostelry with some air of rural distinction is a prominent feature in Chatton, and enjoys a monopoly between the coast country and Wooler. I made some acquaintance with it later, when the grayling which now swarm in the Till to the partial discomfiture of its indigenous inhabitants, the trout, came into season. It was then the halfway house of jocund farmers returning from the autumn sales with the biggest cheques in their pockets, or at their banks, they had handled on a sheep account for twenty years.

A.G. Bradley, The Romance of Northumberland (1908)

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue. The next issue will be published in early February. Items to Stephen Alford at 4, New Road by 24 January please. Tel 215551 or email saa24@cam.ac.uk

Black and Blue Bin Weeks January 2009



Blue bins emptied on: 14 Jan, 28 Jan, 11 Feb
Black bins emptied on: 7 Jan, 21 Jan, 4 Feb