



# CHORLEYWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

LATEST NEWS \*\*\*\*\*LATEST NEWS\*\*\*\*\* LATEST NEWS\*\*\*

## VILLAGE DAY IS BACK!



### FUN DOG SHOW

Free Entry

Start Time 2.15 pm

Registration from 1.30 pm

Set in the outstanding location of Chorleywood Common, A Local Nature Reserve. This popular annual event is organised by Chorleywood Parish Council. Stalls will be selling local produce, gifts, cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, jewellery.

There will be fun activities for all to enjoy including fair rides for children, story telling, nail painting, raffles, mini music lessons to name but a few.

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Official Opening from the Chairman of Chorleywood Parish Council and music from Watford Hospital Radio

- 12 noon RISE Studio Dance
- 12.15 Chorleywood Common YFC
- 12.45 The Woodoaks Association
- 1.15 Doberdayz
- 1.45 RISE Studio Singing
- 2.15 Fun Dog Show  
*sponsored by Oscar Pet Foods*
- 3pm 1st Chorleywood Scouts  
Tent Pitching Competition
- 3.30 1st Chorleywood Scouts  
Vs All Comers ~ Tug of War
- 4pm Closing address - Chairman

**SATURDAY 13TH JULY**

**12 Noon ~ 4 pm**

**CHORLEYWOOD COMMON**

**NEAR THE CRICKET GROUND ON THE**

**A404 RICKMANSWORTH ROAD**

**info@chorleywood-pc.gov.uk - 01923 285594**

Councillor's contact details are available from the Parish Council Offices, Parish notice boards or from the Council's Website.

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# Chorleywood Matters



Issue No 29 Summer 2013

NEWS & VIEWS FROM CHORLEYWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

## VILLAGE DAY 2013

**WILL BE HELD ON THE COMMON ON SATURDAY JULY 13TH**

Last "summer" the Parish Council had two attempts to hold Village Day but were finally beaten by the months of continuous rain, which turned the waterlogged fire ride into a soggy, squelchy bog, barely able to support people on foot, let alone stalls or stallholders' vehicles.

Undaunted, we are going ahead this year, hoping for better luck and drier weather. We have a large number of stallholders already booked and a variety of events planned for the arena, including our ever-popular dog show. We shall also have a contingency site available, should the current site be too wet.

So Village Day will take place and we'll weather the weather, whatever the weather, whether we're rained on or not. We hope to see you on the Common.

## SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

You can read the full report on line at [www.chorleywood-pc.gov.uk](http://www.chorleywood-pc.gov.uk)

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. Lyn Sutherland, Chairman of the Council, was pleased to note that we have been awarded a Higher Level Stewardship grant for the management of the Common – the only Parish Council to receive this accolade. She referred to the four year vision developed by the Council to take forward a range of projects, including the refurbishment of the village halls. She regretted the cancellation of Village Day last year due to the wet weather and reported on the Council's many other events and activities that had taken place during 2012, especially the Charity Quiz Night, which raised over £6,500 for local charities.

### OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Talks with the District Council continue regarding the proposed children's play area on the Common, the potential site being in a woodland clearing close to the Shepherd's Bridge parking area.

The Rangers have been busy with work on the Common, Grove Wood, the Lawn Cemetery and the Allotments. There are 127 allotment plots over three sites and a waiting list of 18. Senior Ranger, Peter Monahan, has retired after 20 years of dedicated service. We wish him well for the future and welcome Jason Horwood, who has joined us as Apprentice Ranger.

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## SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13 CONT'D

### OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE CONT'D

Due to the adverse weather and the state of the grass, grazing was not possible this spring and the Council is now investigating a virtual fencing system to manage the cattle. New parking controls have been introduced at the Memorial Hall and the Shepherd's Bridge parking areas to discourage commuter parking.

The Chairman thanked all the groups and individuals whose support and activities do so much to help us maintain our Common.

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

There are signs that the housing market in Chorleywood is improving and the number of new properties and extensions being built has kept the Committee busy during 2012. Cllr. Jackie Worrall said that legislation is changing and Parish Councillors and staff need to keep abreast of how new regulations will affect our community and to understand how to use the Localism Act to protect the environment while keeping within the law.

The Parish Council reviewed 253 planning applications in 2012, of which 177 were approved. We objected to 36 applications, which were then submitted to the TRDC Development Control Committee. Of these, 6 were withdrawn, 14 were upheld by the Committee and 16 were overturned and accepted.

Cllr. Worrall continued to express our residents' concerns at TRDC Development Control meetings. She anticipates more change in 2013 exacerbated by the shortage of affordable family homes and the tensions between developers and the protection of the Green Belt.

### VILLAGE HALLS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2012 saw the 90th year celebration of the War Memorial Hall. Several special events took place in November to mark the Hall's opening in 1922. Recently the Hall has been rewired and a new public address system provided. An attractive leaflet has been produced to give information about the halls and to encourage bookings.

Several councillors are exploring ways to make better use of the interior of the War Memorial Hall. There are plans to upgrade the toilets and

changing rooms and to provide disabled access to the Hollybush and British Legion Halls. Councillors are working to find grant funding to enable this work to be carried out. The Parish Council provided extra funding during 2012/13 to make up for the accounting deficit in running costs.

### Outside Bodies on which the Parish Council has Representatives

#### THREE RIVERS ENVIRONMENT FORUM

The Forum brings together all groups, official and voluntary, who work for the environment in Three Rivers. It aims to raise awareness of environmental issues and to work towards the delivery of the National and County Biodiversity Action Plans. It is also responsible for the Rickmansworth Canal Festival and Environmental Fair. During 2012 presentations to the Forum have included recycling issues in Three Rivers and one on Oxhey Woods Nature Reserve.

#### HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

The Association is an umbrella organisation supporting and lobbying on behalf of 114 parish and town councils in Hertfordshire. Issues this year have included successfully challenging the subscription fee increase requested by the National Association of Local Councils and the introduction of specialist advice sessions on topics such as tax.

#### THE CHILTERN CONSERVATION BOARD

This organisation is a Government body responsible for protecting and enhancing the Chiltern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One of its projects, the Chilterns Commons Network has been granted Heritage Lottery funding and aims to reconnect local people to their commons by encouraging them to get involved. Well attended training workshops have been held on a variety of subjects ranging from the law and history of commons to pond management. Activities include Chilterns Commons Day, which in 2013 will take place on Chorleywood Common.

#### CHORLEYWOOD YOUTH CLUB

The club continues to thrive. The management committee are working with the YMCA who supply workers to run the Club. Meetings are held every Friday at Chorleywood House Estate.

#### CHORLEYWOOD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In 2012 a visit was made to Dardilly. The packed agenda included a trip to the fascinating Lumiere Brothers Museum and the planting of apple trees from Chorleywood as part of the exchange between our respective orchards. At the AGM in June, the Association kicked off another year of activities, including a French Market in Chorleywood, a superb Soiree Gastronomique and a Quiz Evening. Dardilly compatriots visited Chorleywood in April 2013 and their programme included a trip to Harry Potter World.

#### THE CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

The Museum is seeking funds to pay for staff and improvements to the site. The Hadenham Cottage has recently opened and the play area is nearly ready. TV companies continue to use the

Museum for filming. Over the last two years, £650 has been donated from the proceeds of the Parish Council Quiz Night. The Museum runs a variety of events, including jousting, gladiators and a Classic Car Show.

#### POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSOS)

As a result of hard work by Tania Stabler and James Stoppard, crime is down by 30% and anti-social behaviour by 33% to March 2013 compared to last year. Key activities over the past 12 months include bike marking and addressing speeding in the local area. The monthly Beat Surgeries are now held at a number of locations on different days and times to encourage as many people as possible to attend.

## SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE HALLS

The Parish Council manages three Village Halls on behalf of the community of Chorleywood. Have you ever thought of hiring one of them for a family party, a fund raising event, a business opportunity? The War Memorial Hall has hosted a variety of events including weddings, quiz nights and antique fairs. The Bullsland Hall has a large kitchen, which is used regularly by the WRVS to supply meals on wheels to our older residents. Could you use this facility for a cookery demonstration, a children's party, or a business meeting? The Hollybush Hall is the smallest but still has a kitchen and is suitable for group meetings. If you are interested in holding a Farmers' Market, a Craft Fair or a Charity fund raising event in partnership with the Parish Council, please contact Michelle Putnam or one of your 17 Parish Councillors.

**War Memorial Hall** has a capacity of 200; with fully fitted kitchen; tables and chairs are available; with 100 place settings and a sound system.

**Bullsland Hall:** Capacity 40; Kitchen; tables and chairs available; 40 place settings.

**Hollybush Hall:** Capacity 30 – 40; Kitchen; tables and chairs available.



## KILLER ALIENS IN POND

We are still removing masses of goldfish from Darvell's Pond and this spring someone has dumped a number of koi carp in there.

Can we remind the people who are doing this that these fish are aliens in natural ponds. Loose in our ponds these carnivores eat invertebrate, tadpoles and newts, mayfly and dragonfly larvae. Putting them into the Common ponds causes the destruction of a valuable natural environment and endangers a species protected by law.

Add to that, dumping fish in this way is illegal. It is a crime to introduce a non-native species into the wild and the maximum penalty for doing so is two years' imprisonment and a large fine.

If anyone has unwanted fish, take them to an aquatic centre.

**Please, Please, PLEASE,** do not put them in the Common ponds!