

PLACE SURVEY

Residents may have received a questionnaire in September as part of a "Place Survey" being conducted by Herts County and the District and Borough Councils. This is a national initiative intended to gain information to help improve the delivery of services that more effectively meet the needs and priorities of local people. Questionnaires need to be returned in the Freepost envelope provided by 19/12/08. We are assured that all responses will be confidential and will be stored securely.

OH YES THEY ARE!

The Carol Kristian Theatre School are to put on a production of The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe at the Chorleywood War Memorial Hall from 24th December to 2nd January. The Cast will be made up of local young professional actors plus the Carol Kristian Juveniles. A surprise celebrity Santa will also be making an appearance. For further information and details on where to buy tickets contact the website www.cktheatreschool.co.uk

Chorleywood Matters



Issue No 13 Autumn 2008

NEWS & VIEWS FROM CHORLEYWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

- Stalls • Funfair • Music • Santa's Grotto •
- Refreshments • Family Atmosphere •
- Mince Pies & Mulled Wine •

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Late night shopping
in Chorleywood

Friday 5 December // 5pm – 9pm

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No _____

Hand into the Parish Stand during the Evening

Free Prize Draw
Win a £50
Budgens'
Hamper

Chorleywood Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2009.

Chorleywood Parish Council, South Lodge, Rickmansworth Road, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 5SL
Tel: 01923 285594 e-mail: info@chorleywood-pc.gov.uk



GRAZING LATEST NEWS!

At its last meeting the Parish Council confirmed its commitment to return grazing to the Common as the best means to restore and enhance the biodiversity of its important grassland habitats, as it is required to do under the NERC Act 2006.

Since the Commons Act 2006 came properly into force, it has been possible for the Council to make considerable changes to its original proposals. Under previous legislation, permanent fencing was the only feasible option. Now, under the 2006 Act, the Council is permitted to use temporary fencing for conservation grazing purposes. So we are now able to respond to the concerns expressed by local residents, so there will be no permanent fencing or cattle grids and it will be possible to keep the cattle away from the horse track.

Prior to any permanent undertaking, the Council propose to graze a small number of cattle on a limited area of the Common in the early Spring of 2009 for a period of about six weeks, depending on the condition of the grass. The cattle will be in enclosures of temporary fencing with access gates and will be placed in a secure paddock at



night. Water will be provided in both the grazing area and the paddock. Walkers will be free to enter the grazing area if they wish but dog walkers entering the area will be required to keep their animals on a lead. The Rangers, in particular Chris Watts who is a qualified herdsman, and the Grazier who will supply the cattle, will be responsible for their well-being. We hope this will enable our parishioners to see first hand what grazing will involve and to experience what it would be like to have cattle back on the Common.

Prior to the beginning of the trial, the public will be fully informed of everything that will be happening by means of notices on the Common, information leaflets and an exhibition in Chorleywood Library. There will also be regular up-dates on the Parish Council's website: www.chorleywood-pc.gov.uk.

After the trial is completed, a full consultation by means of a questionnaire sent to every house in the Parish, will be carried out to assess your views on the success of the trial and on continuing grazing on the Common.



VILLAGE DAY 2008

Our annual Village Day was held on the Common on July 12th and was notable, in such a soggy summer, by managing to stay dry until the end of the afternoon and even producing a short period of sunshine. Well over 1500 attended and enjoyed the events and attractions. The number of stalls was considerably increased this year and the home made produce on sale proved very popular. As always the dog show was a major attraction, this year's winner of best in show being Chip owned and cared for by Emma Butler, closely followed by the ferret racing. Our thanks to all those who contributed to making it such a successful day.



Three Historic Halls

Residents of Chorleywood are fortunate to have access to three village halls. All are managed by Chorleywood Parish Council and each had an interesting beginning.

Chorleywood War Memorial Hall was built in 1920 with money raised by public subscription to commemorate the men of the Parish who lost their lives in the First World War. Further money was raised to add the stage and dressing rooms in 1969 and the hall has now been in constant use by the community for nearly ninety years.

Hollybush Hall, immediately behind the Memorial Hall, was originally built as the club house for the Artisans Golf Club. When, in the 1980s, this club merged with Chorleywood Golf Club and a new combined club house was built, the Hollybush Hall passed to the Parish Council.

Lastly but importantly, due to its location in Heronsgate, there is the **Bullsland Hall**. Lady Lorna Lewis, Chairman of Chorleywood Urban District Council, organised the building of this hall in the 1950s for the benefit of local residents.

The WRVS meals on wheels service has operated from this location ever since. When in 2006 there was doubt about the halls future, following a complete refurbishment, the Parish Council was allowed to take over the running of the hall and the WRVS continues to use its kitchen to provide meals for local elderly people. Bookings can be made at info@chorleywood-pc.gov.uk

New Friends

A new "Friends of Carpenters Wood" group has recently been started to help maintain and improve one of the most important woodland sites in Chorleywood. This ancient woodland (which includes Carpenters Wood, Whitelands Wood and Hillas Wood) is not only a wonderful local resource; it is also a Wildlife Site and lies within the Chiltern Hill Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The "Friends" meet twice monthly, on Thursday and Saturday mornings, and engage in a range of tasks from clearing paths, removing dense holly, thinning and clearing areas of trees, etc. The group is guided and supported by Three Rivers District Council Woodland Officers and by Countryside Management Services staff. No special skills are needed, just enthusiasm and an interest in preserving our woodlands for future generations.

If you think you might be interested, please contact Barbara Green on 01923 282610 or bgreenshirelane@yahoo.co.uk.

New members will be very welcome.

Chorleywood Calendar

If you are stuck for Christmas presents we may have the answer! The Parish Council have agreed to publish a Chorleywood Calendar showing seasonal scenes from around the Parish. The cost for the slim line calendar is £5.50 and will be sold at the Parish Office, Late Night Shopping Evening and at Chorleywood Library. More details are available on our website.

IS YOUR HEDGE PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY?

A number of residents have complained recently about hedges and shrubs which overhang pavements. Several examples have come to our attention, where pedestrians are forced into the road to bypass overhanging foliage, thereby putting themselves in danger.

However, many people may be unaware that their hedge or shrub border is causing an obstruction to others, or that overhanging hedges are the responsibility of the homeowner. Should you encounter difficulties with overgrown hedges when walking along our pavements, then contact Herts Highways either by ringing 01923 257000, filling in the contact form at www.hertscc.gov.uk or emailing hertsdirect@hertscc.gov.uk. They have a duty to write to the owners of the offending hedge to request that it is cut back. The simplest solution, however, is for everyone to CHECK THEIR HEDGE and make sure it is "pedestrian friendly".

CHORLEYWOOD LITFEST 2008

The Chorleywood Literary Festival is back in action on Remembrance weekend (7-9 November). Speakers and events will include Katharine McMahon speaking on her novel set in the time of the Crimean War, An Vrombaut of "64 Zoo Lane" fame hosting an afternoon event for children, a comedy writing workshop led by Peter Vincent, who has contributed to many well known shows including The Two Ronnies, and Kate Adie will be talking about her new book on people who are attracted to living dangerously.

Full details of all speakers and events are available from the Library and the Chorleywood Bookshop.

ALLOTMENT PRIZES

The Horticultural Society held its Autumn Show at the War Memorial Hall on September 13th. The standard of the entries was impressive, especially as the weather had been so dreadful all summer. Cllr. Mrs. Jarrett presented the prizes for the best allotments on the Council's three sites. Our congratulations go to Mr. Bryce Mitchell, who not only won the top prize for Copmanswick allotments but also carried off the overall prize. Our thanks, as always, to the Horticultural Society for judging the allotments.

SAY NO! NO! TO PLASTIC. CLOTH BAGS ARE FANTASTIC!

As part of a campaign promoted by the Council's Chairman, Cllr. Marilyn Hampton, to help stop the use of plastic carrier bags, the Parish Council will be placing posters in local shops encouraging customers to "Bring Your Own Bags" as a small gesture to help the environment.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

We have been experiencing major difficulties in getting this newsletter delivered throughout the Parish. Could you let the Parish Office know if you would be willing to deliver Chorleywood Matters in your road three or four times a year?

GRANDPUPPIES

We are happy to announce that our Canine Ranger, Chip, is now a grandfather.

Woody and his mate Lily produced seven happy, healthy and very inquisitive puppies this summer. They were brought into the Office to meet their Granddad, who, we have to say, was singularly unimpressed by the event.

