

# West Hagbourne

August NEWSLETTER 2011 ISSUE 102

## Village History

The History group and the Village association invite you to spend a nostalgic afternoon down the memory lanes of West Hagbourne

**Sunday 25th September 2011**

**2pm - 5pm at York Farm, York road**

The History group will open up its collection of historical memorabilia

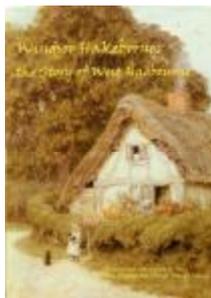
Old photographs Census returns

Videos Scrapbooks Maps

Cream teas will be served



Don't miss this unique opportunity to find out more about your village and the people who have lived here down the centuries



Sheila Taylor

## Madge Trophy

Last year the winners of the Madge Trophy for the best village garden were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allen of York Farm. Wesley Smith of Radio and TV fame will be coming to find this year's best village garden sometime during the week beginning Monday the 12th of September. The Madge Trophy will be presented at "The Village Archive Event" on Sunday, the 25th September.

Betty Kendrick for the Village Association

## Bike Night

Thank you to everybody who supported and helped run my hot dog and beef burger stand at the Hagbourne Bike Night which raised £559.00 for Helen & Douglas House.

In particular, a special thank you to Alex and Pauline Stacey the landlord and landlady of the Horse & Harrow for allowing us to use their car park and supplying the barbeque.

Pauline Mulford

## Tribute

Many friends and family recently gathered in St Andrews Church to celebrate the life of Charlie Lay, who sadly died on July 17 aged 89.

Charles Fredrick Lay, was described by his family as a 'strong local man with two passions in life - his family and his farm'. Known by those who worked for him as someone who never took a day off during harvest, he would have found it strange to see combine harvesters standing silent in several of the fields surrounding West Hagbourne. Something of a fitting tribute for a local farmer as the bells rang out for his funeral.



Charlie was born at home to proud parents John and Elizabeth Lay, on the 20th May 1922 at Manor Farm in West Hagbourne. One of five children he had three brothers, Geoff, Jack and Philip and one sister Audrey.

Born and bred in Hagbourne Charlie only ever moved house 4 times in his life. He spent his childhood at Manor Farm, then moved to the Laurels as a newly wed couple when he married Pam Oates in 1951. They then moved

back to Manor farm, with their children, Chris, Paul, Jenny, Nicky, Tim and Debbie. Before eventually moving back to the Laurels as their family left home.

Charlie and his long standing friend Dickie Allen of York Farm having met at school, went on to enrol in the Home Guard together in 1940, saw their farms modernise and change, went on outings to dances and trips as far as the seaside, and would attend Church together on Sunday evenings.

Charlie may be remembered by some in West Hagbourne as the best traffic calming measure the village could have asked for; as his old Land Rover was a regular sight on the roads and lanes, always full of purpose but never going that fast!

He always took a big interest in the lives of his children and fourteen grandchildren, wanting to know how they were getting on, he followed all their careers and lives with great fascination. Earlier this year Charlie and Pam enjoyed their Diamond wedding anniversary and the family helped them celebrate 60 wonderful years together.

Pam and the family would like to thank everyone for their kind letters and many messages which have been of great comfort at this time, and were much appreciated.

To quote the words of his Grandson James, "Charlie Lay had a remarkable life, the life he wanted. He was just one of the most sincere genuine men you would ever wish to meet and thank goodness he was in our lives, he will continue to be greatly missed.

The Lay Family

# News

## Citizens Advice

The Local Citizens Advice Bureau provide regular bulletins addressing frequently asked questions and advice on recent legislation changes. Key points from their most recent bulletin which focused on credit cards are included herein

New changes to give consumers more control over their credit card accounts came into effect in January 2011. The six main changes are:

1. The most expensive debt will always be paid off first.

Before, most credit card companies used your repayments to pay off your cheapest debt first. This meant you paid interest on the more expensive debt, such as cash withdrawals, over a longer period of time.

2. On new accounts, the minimum payment will reduce the outstanding balance.

For new accounts opened from 1 April 2011, credit card companies must set the minimum payment at a rate that reduces your actual balance by 1% each month. Before, if you made the minimum payment, this would generally only cover fees and interest charges and wouldn't reduce your outstanding balance.

3. No credit card cheques unless requested

Before, credit card companies could send you cheques that you could use to withdraw money against your account. Now you will only be sent these cheques if you ask for them.

4. More choice and control over credit limit increases

Before, your credit card company could increase your credit limit without asking you. Now, they have to contact you if they want to increase your credit limit. You will have 30 days to decide whether to accept the increase. This gives people more control over their spending.

5. Clearer communications about interest rate increases

Before, if credit card companies increased your interest rate and you chose not to accept it, your account would be closed and the outstanding balance repaid at the existing rate over a reasonable period of time. Now, once your credit card company has contacted you, you will have 60 days to decide whether to reject the new rate. This means you will have more time to explore alternative deals.

6. More flexibility about how much you pay towards your bill

Before, if you wanted to set up a regular payment you would have had to pay either the outstanding balance, or the minimum payment each month. Now you can choose to repay any amount you want between the minimum and the full balance.

For more information and to download a leaflet on your new rights, visit:

[www.adviceguide.org.uk/index/credit\\_card\\_changes](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/index/credit_card_changes)

Further information available from Didcot CAB at Dales, 9-15 High Street, Didcot OX11 8EQ or 08444 111 444.

the charity for  
your community



## Energy Advice

The following information has been provided by The United Sustainable Energy Agency. A not for profit company.

CUK Feed-in Tariffs (FITs) make solar photovoltaic (PV) panels an attractive investment for homeowners who have savings. The soon to be introduced Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) will also provide better returns for solar water heating (SWH). But there are some points to consider before chasing quotes:

Which way does my roof face?

A south facing roof is best but panels can deliver very good results facing anywhere between east and west, through south.

Do I have the roof space?

A minimum of about 10m<sup>2</sup> of panels are needed for solar PV and approximately 4m<sup>2</sup> for SWH (based on a household of 4 people). Sections of roof shaded by trees or buildings are to be avoided.

Will I get the most benefit?

Daytime users of electricity and hot water have much to gain by directly replacing energy they'd otherwise have to pay for with free solar energy.

Can I afford it?

An ideal budget would be in excess of £8,000 for PV and £3,500 for SWH. It's important to remember that in order to be eligible for FITs and RHI your system must be installed by an MCS certificated installing company.

To find out more, check out Cocoon's new on-line 'Solar Suitability Checker'. This tool allows you to find your roof on a satellite map, check its size and orientation, and see what returns an investment in solar might deliver. No personal details are required. The tool will go live in Summer 2011 at [www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk](http://www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk)

## Foliage

Over the past weeks shrubs and trees have had a spurt in growth. Please could all villagers check that plants are not over hanging or obstructing the pavements.

# Notices

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## Parish Meeting Newsletter

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the village, in the grounds The Square on Saturday 18th June 2011

The full meeting minutes will be published on the Website in due course.

Annual reports were received from the following representatives:

- The Parish Council
- The outgoing Chair of the Parish Council
- The Village History group
- The William Tyrrell Trust
- Oxfordshire County Council
- South Oxfordshire District Council
- The West Hagbourne Village Association

Many thanks to all those who participated

The Parish Council have agreed that the Newsletter should also be included on the West Hagbourne Website. This will be completed as soon as practical.

Contributions for the newsletter are always welcome on all subjects but in particular anything affecting the residents of the parish of West Hagbourne

The newsletter is distributed to every house in West Hagbourne Parish. It is edited and distributed by members of the Parish Council and entirely funded by advertising revenue.

# Parish Council

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## Clerk

Lucy Dalby  
[parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

## Councillors

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Michele Thornhill 850489  
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## District Councillor

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07908 686706  
[leo.docherty@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:leo.docherty@southoxon.gov.uk)

South Oxfordshire District Council  
01491 823000

## County Councillor

Patrick Greene 813 396  
[patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.greene@oxfordshire.gov.uk)  
Oxfordshire County Council  
01865 792422

## Planning applications

One major new applications came before the Council subsequent to the July meeting.

You can search for any current or past planning applications, view plans, see decision - all based on your post code at [www.southoxon.gov.uk/planning-service](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/planning-service)

## Advertising

For sale or wanted small ads are free if you live in the Parish, but all other advertising revenue pays for the production of the newsletter and the costs associated with hosting the web site.

please e-mail copy for inclusion to [parishclerk@westhagbourne.org](mailto:parishclerk@westhagbourne.org)

## Minutes

Minutes of all meetings of the Parish Council are available online. If you do not have access to the internet, call the clerk and a printed copy will be delivered to you.

[www.westhagbourne.org/pc\\_minute\\_s.htm](http://www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minute_s.htm)

Highlights from the July meeting are listed below:

The Council agreed it would prove difficult to find the extra funding needed to commission and install the Monica Lawson memorial bench. The Council therefore agreed to take no further action to erect the Commemorative bench but would support any volunteers who wanted to fundraise.

An application for a grant towards the refurbishment of the schools swimming pool changing rooms has been received. It was agreed to make a donation £500.

The Council had a lengthy discussion about the potential problems of the extra traffic that will be created by the new housing in Didcot. The Council felt strongly that measures should be taken to discourage the extra traffic being funnelled into West Hagbourne. It was also agreed that the current traffic situation should be recorded so comparisons can be made once the development has been completed.

It was agreed that the views of the village on the need for a cycle path should be sought as part of the updating of the Village Plan.

## Next meeting

The Parish Council will next meet at 7.30pm in Hagbourne School on Wednesday September 7th 2011.

Members of the public are welcome

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