

# Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

## Parish Council & Village News – February & March 2018

**Parish Appraisal:** The closing date for completed appraisals is **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. Over 40% of the parish have now completed theirs and returned them, so if you want your views to count and you haven't completed it yet, you only have a couple of weeks remaining to do so.

The anonymised results will be presented at the Annual Parish Assembly in April 2018.

**Polling Day** for the ENC Higham Ferrers Lancaster ward and the NCC Higham Ferrers division vacancies, created by the sad passing of Cllr Glenn Harwood MBE, will be on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February** in the Village Hall from 7am to 10pm.

As you will have seen on the news, it is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Parliament allowing (some) women and all men to vote in parliamentary elections for the first time: *the Representation of the People Act 1918*. Accordingly I encourage you all to exercise your right to vote. Who you vote for is up to you!

**Snowdrop weekend:** In the churchyard on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February** from 10 - 4pm and **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February** from 11 - 4pm. The Chelveston Chorus will also entertain visitors on Sunday afternoon, so do visit and enjoy the mass of snowdrops and aconites, with various stalls in the church on both days.

**Proposed closure of the road from Yelden to the former airfield site to public vehicular traffic.** This is just over the county border, but may be of interest to you. Bedford BC is proposing to stop up public vehicular rights over part of unclassified road U6, known as Church Lane, Yelden, with the reservation of the footpath and bridleway rights.

This is in response to antisocial behaviour by vehicle users taking place at the far end of the road. Walkers, riders, etc. will still be able to use the road to get to/from Yelden.

If you wish to make a response to the proposal, you can do so by e-mailing your comments to [highway.consultations@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:highway.consultations@bedford.gov.uk) no later than Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Doug Ward**, the World War 2 veteran who attended the 305<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group (BG) Memorial re-dedication event last year, sadly passed away on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at his home, the Log Cabin Airport in rural Mondovi, WI, USA, aged 94.

Doug flew a total of 37 missions, nine of which he did while flying with the 301<sup>st</sup> BG from Foggia, Italy. He came over to the 305<sup>th</sup> BG in Chelveston in 1944, and flew the remaining missions as a Ball Turret Gunner with the 364<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron.

**Parish Council Precept:** At the January meeting, the Councillors voted to keep the Precept (part of the Council Tax) at £10,400 for the financial year 2018-19. Due to a slight change in the number of dwellings paying tax, this is likely to be a 49p a year rise for a band D property, but still within the Council's goal of keeping taxation to less than a £1 a week (band D).

You will be aware of the financial problems that NCC is in, so given that costs are generally rising, where does the Parish Council get the rest of the money from? Grants and the VAT refund is the main answer. Looking back 17 years -

Source:	2000-01:	2017-18:
Precept	£4,500.00	£10,400.00
VAT refund	£287.34	£1,872.67
Grants in	£0.00	£4,258.87

So whilst back in 2000-01 the Council relied upon the Precept for nearly all its income, these days the Precept is less than 63% of the Council's receipts.

**Dog Law Seminar:** Calling all dog owners in the Village! Do you know what your legal responsibilities are as a dog owner? Do you understand your duties and potential liabilities? Would you know what to do if your dog was involved in an incident?

Groom@Stanwick and Puppy School Northants are hosting a Dog Law Seminar on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March** at 11:00am in Chelveston Village Hall. The presenter will be Trevor Cooper better known as "*The Legal Beagle*" – widely regarded as a leading solicitor in all dog related law.

Book online at [www.DogLawSoS.co.uk](http://www.DogLawSoS.co.uk)

**Dog fouling** – Residents have complained about dog fouling at the Hillside entrance to the alley that runs along the top of Duchy Close. There are several "piles", all apparently from the same dog. There are a number of dig bins around the village, so please "bag it and bin it".

On a similar theme, residents have also complained about dog fouling on public footpath MM6 (across the field to the west of Raunds Road).

**Litter Pick** – Adrian Dale carried out a litter pick around the village in January (17 bags). This was done for free as part of the lengthsman inspections.

Testing the Council's new grass cutting equipment will start soon, dependant on the weather.

**Allotment tenants** - The Clerk will be available for your annual plot rents on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February** in the *Star & Garter* between **noon and 1pm**

**Next Issue:** The April and May issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of April, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of March.

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## Events – February & March 2018

The Chelveston Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (contact Arthur Wright - 624530).

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9.00am**.  
You are most welcome to stay afterwards for coffee, tea and biscuits at the Servery.

Throughout February the churchyard has been a mass of aconites and snowdrops and visitors have come from far and wide to admire them and we hope that Snowdrop Weekend will have been its usual successful event for the benefit of the church. We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed in any way.

Usual 9am Sunday Mass, but special Easter celebrations as below;

**Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March @ 10 -12.30pm** Easter party and praise for children (adults welcome to stay). Hot cross buns and tea at the end - storytelling through party games and Easter crafts to make.

**Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March @ 2pm** - Stations of the Cross

**Easter Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March @ 7.30pm** - Vigil with Holy Communion and visit of St Mary's choir.

**Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April @ 9am** - Mass

Arthur Wright & Richard Kirk, Churchwardens.



**Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Women's Institute** (contact Raine Earnshaw – 625739).

The W.I usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **7.30pm** in Chelveston Village Hall. **Visitors are always welcome** to the meetings @ £4.00 per head suggested donation including refreshments.

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Feb** – *The benefits of Tai Chi for health and fitness* by **Robert Agar-Hutton**.



**Free Spirits Ladies Group** (contact Mandy - 625144).

Usually meets on the third Monday of the month from **2.00 – 4.00pm** in the Chelveston Village Hall. A variety of subjects to include crafts, flower arranging, talks etc. Visitors are welcome @ £3.00 per head inc. tea & biscuits.

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb** – *Planning events for the coming year*.



**Chelveston Chorus** (contact Joe Carpenter [janjoe68@googlemail.com](mailto:janjoe68@googlemail.com)).

Everyone is invited to come to sing with the encouragement of **Natasha Thompson**.

Fortnightly on Thursdays at **7.30 – 9.00pm** in the Village Hall from **Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb**. Sessions are £3.50.



If you have a smart phone / tablet, you can scan the QR code to go to the village hall web site.

The hall is available for hire by groups for meetings or private functions. Wi-Fi enabled.

For further information contact [Chelveston.village.hall@gmail.com](mailto:Chelveston.village.hall@gmail.com).



**The Parish Council** usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm** in the Chelveston Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

Members of the public may also inspect Council papers by prior arrangement with the Clerk. The agenda is posted on the website ([www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk](http://www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk)) and on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.



### Parish Council Members & Officers

**Chair: Ray Daniells**, *Fieldview*, Raunds Rd.  
**Vice: Liz Kelly**, 8 Duchy Close.  
**Jennifer Harwood**, 7 Britten Close.  
**Patricia Mommersteeg**, *Church House*, Caldecott.

**James Pentelow**, 22 Duchy Close.  
**Andrew Seaman**, *Rosemoor*, Raunds Rd.  
**Melvyn Wooding**, *Melrose Cottage*, Caldecott.  
**Clerk: Mark Hunter** *Ashbury*, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on [clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk)