Arts in Cambs on Tour and Footloose Theatre present

"Dickens' Ghosts" Tuesday 18th December, 7.30pm Chippenham Village Hall

Tickets £5 each (£3.50 concs)

Two of the best ghost stories by Charles Dickens, journeying from good-humoured fun to spine-chilling horror. "The Story of the Bagman's Uncle" and "The Signalman", are vividly brought to life in a fusion of theatre and story-telling by professional actor Paul Lehmann. The performance is suitable for adults and children of 9 years and over, but perhaps a bit too scary for younger children.

Tickets available NOW from Judy Broadway, 50 High Street, Chippenham, Tel: 720619.

Snailwell Christmas Fayre

St Peter's Church

Saturday 8th December, 2.30pm

In aid of the Church Restoration Fund
Produce ~ White Elephant ~ Books ~ Toys &
Games ~ Jewellery ~ Christmas Stall
Raffle ~ Refreshments
Come along early to get your bargains

<u>COMPLIMENTARY THERAPIES</u> <u>REFLEXOLOGY, REIKI & INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE</u>

These holistic therapies assist relaxation, and may be beneficial for stress, shoulder and neck tension, Headaches, Insomnia, and minor ailments,

or just as a special treat. Gift Vouchers available. Contact Joanne Duffy, Qualified Practitioner 01638 721386

Ely's Christmas Market Special

Saturday 22nd December, 10.30am - 2.30pm

Carol Singing to Ely City Military Band with free song sheets and mince pies Littleport Lancettes Christmas Display Visit Santa in his grotto

For further details please contact Tracey Harding, East Cambridgeshire District Council, 01353 616377

Cleaner sought for professional couple in Chippenham. one day per week.
Please call 01638 721692.

Accommodation Wanted

Local accommodation required for lady (late 20s). Please phone Coach House Riding School on 720415.

Free to good home

Single bed plus mattress. Please contact Eileen Smalley, 73 New Street, Chippenham, Tel: 720453

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

MONDAY 31ST DECEMBER Chippenham Village Hall, 8pm till late

> Dancing to "Two of a Kind" Bar, Buffet, Grand Draw

Tickets £5, including buffet available now from Margie Pammenter (720054) Diana Drake (720825) & The Tharp Arms Prizes for the draw are welcome, to Diana or Margie please.

Santa's visit to Chippenham

Santa Claus will be arriving in Chippenham on Saturday December 22nd, just in time for Christmas. He will ride in state up to the Coach House Stables, arriving from the All direction. He should be coming up the High Street at about 12 noon, so do come along and give him a wave.

Church Services at Christmas

, >>>>>>>>>>>>>>

St Margaret's Chippenham

Carol Service with Dressing & Dedication of the Crib Sunday 23rd December, 6.30pm

Christmas Day Sung Eucharist, 11am

<u>St Peter's Snailwell</u> Candle-lit Carol Service Sunday 23rd December, 4pm

Christmas Day Holy Communion, 9.30am

Christmas Eve services at Fordham Church
Crib Service, 4pm
Midnight Mass, 11.30pm

Carol Singing in Chippenham

All singers and friends are invited to join in with our annual carol singing round the village on two evenings before Christmas: Thursday December 20th and Friday December 21st.

On Thursday we will visit Scotland End, Manor Farm Barns and the North part of the High Street. On Friday we'll cover New Street, Tharp Way and the High Street from New Street corner down to Chippenham Park. We'll meet on the Thursday outside the Village Hall and on Friday at the corner of New Street and Tharp Way, at **6.30pm** each night.

If you'd like to book us to come to a particular house or sing a favourite carol, please let me know in advance. Proceeds will be split half-and-half between charity and Choir funds.

Terry Cross,

721549

Ginger Cat

Found on the road between Chippenham and Fordham, a lost ginger cat, rather disoriented but otherwise ok. Please contact Sue Blazey on 720110.

Chippenham Football Club

Following our brilliant start to the season our form has now become indifferent. We have lost four out of the last 6 matches, but have shown good spirit and determination with the younger players settling in very well.

The club would still appreciate a bit more support on Sunday mornings. Home games are at Fordham with K.O. at 10.30am. If anyone wants to play or would like more information please contact Peter on 720806.

Recent results

Alexandra Crew (4) Chippenham (1)

Scorer Tommy Williams

Chippenham (3) Exning Road (2)

Scorer Tommy Williams (3)

Six Mile Bottom (1) Chippenham (6)

Scorers Peter Alexander (3), Tommy Williams (3)

Wellcome CRC (5)

Chippenham (1)

Scorer Tommy Williams Darley Stud (5)

Chippenham (0) The Yard (4)

Chippenham (1) Scorer Richard Ward

Forthcoming fixtures

9th December The Dobblers Away 16th December Genetics Away 6th January Training session Home 13th January Six Mile Bottom Away Cup Tie (if we win on 13th) 20th January 27th January Genetics Home

Peter Alexander, Tel: 720806

Megan's Pets Corner

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my customers! I hope you all have a great time. If you are going away and need someone to look after your pets please call me on 01638 720062.

Megan Dumphreys



Chippenham Cricket Club

Next year's cricket tour will see us visiting Ross-on-Wye again next summer between 3rd and 7th June. The cost for the week is just £100. There are only 20 places available and with over half already taken it is important that you get your £25 deposit to Kevin Pallant quickly to secure your place. Contact Kevin on 720415 or call in at the Coach House Riding School.

Village Hall 100 Club

November Winners

1st Prize (£20): Mr Brian Martin 2nd Prize (£10): Mrs Pam Paschier 3rd Prize (£5): Mr Ray SImpson

To have a good chance of winning a monthly cash prize, why not join our club? Odds are much better than the Lottery, although we don't offer such high prizes! Contact Diana or Brian Drake at 10 Palace Lane, Tel: 720825. Tickets are only £1 per month.

Chippenham Tennis Club

Club Sessions will continue every Sunday throughout the winter, starting at 10.00am. Everybody welcome, whatever your standard of play. Just turn up at the courts and you'll get a game.

Clodagh, our excellent coach, is keen to start coaching sessions for us next year, probably taking place on Saturday afternoons following the February half-term. If you are interested in joining the adult or junior sessions then please contact Jon Van de Peer on 721783.

The Cricket Club have asked us to ensure that anyone who drives to the courts leaves their car in the gravelled parking area – this is to preserve the state of the outfield in the winter months. We have put up a sign to remind our members about this and will take it down in the summer when conditions allow.

We are very keen for people to use our lovely courts – but only for playing tennis. There have been reports of children getting into the courts to play football – this is what the new play area is for, not the courts. Anyone found using the courts other than for playing tennis will risk losing their membership and being permanently banned from the courts.

Alan Broadway

Professional Fruit Tree Pruning

IAN PITCAIRN M.I.Hort

20 years a fruit farm manager

01440 - 786467

Restoring Old Fruit Trees a Speciality Also new fruit & nut gardens designed Help with choice of varieties Planting & Training etc.



Next issue Please send all notices and news for the next issue to the Editor, Judy Broadway, 50 High Street, Chippenham, Tel: 720619, by January 17th (please note this is one week earlier than usual). You can e-mail me items to j.broadway@dial.pipex.com A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our readers.

Chippenham & Snailwell Horticultural Society

Our 2001/2 season of talks on gardening topics was launched in October with an excellent talk on the subject of hyacinths and illustrated with first-class slides. These ranged from close-ups of individual blooms to wide-angle shots of thousands being grown commercially. We were given some good tips for getting the best results from our own bulbs.

The second meeting, in November, was an inspiration - on flower arranging. Our speaker gave a very lucid demonstration of how best to tackle each of the four arrangements featured that evening. We have several very expert flower arrangers in our own society and they, along with everyone else, were enthusiastic about the commentary that accompanied the gradual evolving of each arrangement. At the end of the talk the four arrangements were raffled and 4 people went home extremely happy!

So what happens next? It's a case of waiting till March and April for the other two talks of the current series. These will be announced in the next Newsletter nearer the time, but the two relevant dates are:

<u>Tues March 12th and Tues April 9th</u>
If you are interested in gardening please make a note of them. *Daphne Hamer*

Village pump flower containers

Thanks are due once again to John Steele for planting and overseeing the containers, and to Jennifer Wilson for providing the dwarf conifers and pansies.

We all look forward to seeing the flowers in bloom. DH

Chippenham Women's Institute

We hold our Annual Dinner in December so there is no monthly meeting. We start the New Year off with a talk on <u>Wednesday 16th January</u> by Mr & Mrs Brown on "Bygones". Mr & Mrs Brown have visited us on a number of occasions in the past and always bring a selection of interesting objects from their large collection to talk about. The competition is for the 'prettiest Christmas card', so don't throw out your cards before the 16th! Our meetings always start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and include refreshments and a raffle.

Ginette Hawes, President (781127) Eileen Smalley, Secretary (720453)

MARIA WILSON

Beauty & Holistic Therapist
All *Dermalogica* and *Jessica* treatments
Facials, manicures, pedicures, waxing,
eye treatments, lash tinting & perming,
Indian head massage, body massage
Gift Certificates available

Phone 01638 7217931 Scotland End, Chippenham

Snailwell Church News

Christmas Fayre, Saturday 8th December

Helpers are desperately needed for setting up stalls in the morning and for assisting or running a stall at the Fayre from 2.30pm. Any items for sale are also very welcome. Please contact Maureen on 577456.

Carol Service, Sunday 23rd December

HealthWise

I am pleased to report that I start to write this newsletter fully recovered from my sprained ankle and having just completed my 10 weeks "exercise on prescription" at the gym. I have discovered that people living in Cambridgeshire can access the scheme by going to the gym, either Newmarket or Mildenhall, asking for a form relating to the scheme, then taking this form along to your GP or Practice Nurse to complete their part - the rest you can fill in yourself then return it to the gym and await your assessment appointment.

As well as all this physical activity I have been researching another area of interest - the power of the magnet to improve health and well-being. I have recently added this to my repertoire and am now an Independent Distributor for Ecoflow and Bioflow Products who produce a really first class range of magnetic items which have some extraordinary benefits. Again these products are for humans and animals. We have tried the small animal collar on our elderly cat who is very arthritic and within 24 hours noticed a marked change in her. First of all she was much warmer to the touch - she had always been very cold and climbing onto our laps to get warm - now she is warm all the time. This is the result of the improvement in circulation which takes place when the Bioflow magnet comes in contact with a major blood vessel. She is also much more mobile and much happier as a result. We just wish we had known about these products before. I am wearing a wrist band and like Daisy I have noticed an improvement in my circulation and a subsequent increase in energy, stamina and well-being. I have been provided with a file full of testimonials from people who have worn these magnets for a staggering range of conditions and found improvements which I could never have guessed at. It seems many health problems stem from the fact that our blood does not circulate quickly enough, there is a build-up of toxins in the system and things begin to deteriorate from there.

Newmarket Cats

I shall have a range of magnetic products as well as my Aloe Vera on display at my home on Wednesday December 5th. We are holding an open day from 10am to 10pm as a massive fund raiser for our new organisation known as Newmarket Cats. You may have read about it in the local press where our founder, Jancis Harvey regularly updates people with what is happening in terms of events. We shall have festive drinks, competitions, raffles etc. and information on the work of Newmarket Cats and I can offer you some lovely healthy ideas for Christmas presents. If you are not able to come on that day I shall have a stand at the Ely Craft Fair on Saturday 15th December and would be delighted to see some of you there. For further details please telephone Maureen 01638 Penney on 750475 or 07932 172365 mailto:maureen@jancis-harvey.co.uk For further details on Newmarket Cats please see the website http://www.newmarket- cats.co.uk/

The Carol Service will be at 4pm. David Ball will lead the service. Terry Cross with some of his Chippenham Choir are kindly coming to add some of their 'musical magic' to the service. The collection will go to charity as usual. This year our Harvest and Carol Service collections are for the Addington Fund for Farmers, Sue Ryder Homes, The Children's Society, MAGPAS and Emmaus. We collected £142 at the Harvest Festival. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously.

Interregnum

The continued support of everyone: parishioners, lay readers, retired clergy, the Rural Dean, the Archdeacon and Bishop John has made this Interregnum an interesting and enjoyable time. As a Churchwarden I cannot begin to say how much I appreciate this support. I am sure that I speak for Bryan Orme too.

MH

Chippenham Fen Video

Those of us who came to the launch of the new video produced by English Nature about Chippenham Fen were treated to an excellent large-screen showing in the Village Hall. English Nature have produced the video over the summer months, showing some of the great variety of beautiful and rare wild-life we have on our very own nature reserve. You can get a FREE copy of the 20-minute video by applying to Nicholas Sibbert, English Nature, Regent House, 110 Northgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1HP, Tel: 01284 762218.

Volunteers wanted

If you'd like to help with some of the voluntary work that goes on throughout the year at Chippenham Fen, such as making up footpaths, mending fences, carrying out surveys or showing groups round, please apply to English Nature as above.

Cambs Conservation Volunteers are holding a working day at Chippenham Fen on Sunday March 10th next year, so if you'd like to help them please contact Peter Michna on 01353 775161.

Could you be a Road Verge Warden?

Verges occupy significant area Roadside а Cambridgeshire, providing a boundary of over 1,500 hectares of grassland to our roads. Old undisturbed roadside verges are often the only remnant of unimproved semi-natural grassland in intensively farmed surroundings. They provide a refuge to an amazing range of wildlife including over 30 rare plants, including in Cambridgeshire autumn gentian and crested cow-wheat. Along with plants an abundance of other wildlife finds its home on the verge, including mammals, reptiles, birds, butterflies, bumblebees and amphibians. In the past, the road verge had its own special place in the rural economy, the herbage often being removed for hay or by grazing. Today this practice is far less common.

In some areas, road verges preserve fragments of entire habitats - limestone grassland for example. Important verges are designated as Protected Road Verges, including one Short Road, Snailwell, near the railway bridge, and one in Isleham Road, Chippenham. The purpose of this designation was to identify those road verges which had a special wildlife value so that the appropriate management could be undertaken to conserve their nature conservation importance.

Last year the County Council's Countryside Projects Unit commissioned the Wildlife Trust to undertake a detailed survey of 41 of these sites and to produce a list of recommendations for management each Management of verges involves moving, usually with a flail, a number of times a year. However it does not include the removal of cuttings or the removal of any encroaching scrub. Hawthorn and blackthorn scrub will eventually shade out and kill the grasses underneath, whilst the removal of cuttings is also advantageous to the grassland habitat. The Council's Countryside and Highways sections identified nine sites, including Snailwell's. Here management is needed to safeguard the wild clary Salvia horminoides an indicator of chalk grassland habitat.

For the future we would like to see each verge clearly marked with posts, and managed to prescriptions agreed by all interested parties, with the help of Voluntary Road Verge Wardens selected from each Parish. If you'd be interested in helping the County Council to look after these special lengths of verge, please contact Phil Clark, Countryside Services Team, Cambridgeshire County Council, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP.

Parish Council News

The Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations

Both Parish Councils are beginning to think about potential events for the Jubilee in June next year. **Snailwell** Councillors will be discussing this at their meeting on December 4th, so if you have any suggestions as to an event or memorial which could be provided, please let them know.

In **Chippenham** the Parish Council would like to encourage all village groups and societies to send a representative to a Working Party to plan the celebration. Suggestions so far have included an afternoon event with sports, a children's party, and an evening dance. The first meeting of the Jubilee Working Party is proposed for <u>Friday January 8th</u> in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. If you can't come but have some ideas and would like to be involved in planning Jubilee events, please contact any Councillor or the Clerk on 720619 (50 High Street).

New bus services to Newmarket & Ely

With this Newsletter you should receive a leaflet about the new bus services to Newmarket and Ely on Saturdays. There's a new return fare to Ely, now only £2.50, with Newmarket only £2 return from Chippenham, £1.50 from Snailwell.

So far over 122 single journeys have been made on the service (which includes passengers from Isleham), and the County Council is pleased that the service is being so well used.

There's one mistake in the leaflet: Bryan and Betty Orme are at 5 <u>The Green</u>, Snailwell, not as printed.

Tharp Arms floral displays

Chippenham Parish Council would like to express their thanks to Tom and Pam at the Tharp Arms for providing such an excellent flower display throughout the summer. The tubs and hanging baskets were really magnificent and helped to brighten up the village.

Seats on the new play area

Many thanks to Chippenham Chipmunks for their kind donation of £400 towards the purchase of two new seats for the play area off New Street. These will be in place very soon.

Current Planning Applications

Plans recently considered by Chippenham PC:

- Nanny flat above garage, Larkwood Stud, Freckenham Road, 01/00972, for Mr Leaver.
- Installation of 40mts wind mast, Waterhall & Sounds Farm, Norwich Road, 01/00985, for Mrs A Crawley
- Two-bedroomed bungalow and garage, rear of 4 Tharp Way, 01/00927, for Mr & Mrs Devonport
- Additions and extensions, 4 Tharp Way, 01/00922, for Mr & Mrs Devonport

Plans recently considered by Snailwell PC:

 Two-storey research and development office facility, 7 parking spaces, Lynx Business Park, Fordham Road, 01/00937, for Lynxcourt

Village Hall extension: Further plans

I reported in the last issue that the extension project had received the offer of a grant of £10,000 from the Countryside Agency. We need to match this funding with a grant from East Cambs District Council (who have very generously donated the staging and superb lighting equipment). ECDC have advised us that our application will be for a major award and that we will need to resubmit, with our best chance coming next April - the start of a new financial year. We also wish to take the opportunity to alter the plans slightly to give more height above the stage. The new staging and lighting were put to good use at the village Music and Talent night last month when £300 was raised towards the fund. Our grateful thanks to Paul Mangell and friends for a very enjoyable and successful evening. We will be discussing the grant application and the revised plans at the start of the next Parish Council meeting on December 13th when all Village Hall Committee members and interested villagers are very welcome to attend. Fred Fuller

A skateboard facility in Chippenham?

The Parish Council has been asked by some of the village's young people to consider adding a skateboard ramp to the Play Area off New Street. We'd like to find out how popular this might be, and if there are any other sports which we could provide for on the area.

If you're keen on skateboarding or roller-blading, please let us know soon. Contact Lynn Miller at 40 High Street or Judy Broadway at 50 High Street.

The Clerk has spoken to Soham Council where a new skateboard park has recently been installed, and we are investigating options and prices, but we must know if anyone will use it before we commit any money to the scheme.

Parish Council Precepts for 2002

Chippenham and Snailwell Parish Councils have both now held their meetings to decide how much precept to raise for the coming year. The Precept is the amount each Parish Council receives from your Council Tax to spend in the parish. For the year beginning April 2002, Chippenham's precept is £5,500, Snailwell's £1,800, both the same amount as last year. This represents an annual payment of about £24 from each band D Council Tax payer in Chippenham, £26 in Snailwell.

Interactive sign for Chippenham High Street

The Parish Council has voted to spend about £5,000 on the installation of an interactive warning sign near the Village Hall. This will flash up a warning to vehicles travelling at more than 30 mph coming into the village from the Fordham/Isleham direction. Similar signs have proved effective in other villages, and Councillors are hopeful that it will help to remind drivers to keep to the speed limit.

<u>THE NEXT MEETING</u> of **Chippenham** Parish Council will be on Thursday December 13th at 7pm in the Village Hall. **Snailwell** Parish Council's next meeting will be held in St Peter's Church on Tuesday 4th December at 7.45pm.

The Parish Churches of Chippenham & Snailwell

Church Diary

December

Sun 2nd Advent Sunday

Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44 Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Advent Candlelit Service Chippenham 6pm

Sun 9th Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12
Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am
Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 16th Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11 Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 23rdFourth Sunday of AdventCAROL SERVICESnailwell4pmCAROL SERVICEChippenham6.30pm

Tues 25th Christmas Day

Hebrews 1:1-4 John 1:1-14

Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 30th First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9 Hebrews 2:10-18 Matthew 2:13-23
Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am
Matins Chippenham 11am

January

Sun 6th Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12 Matins Snailwell 9.30am

Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 13th The baptism of Christ

Isaiah 42:1-9 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17
Holy Communion Snailwell 9.30am
Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 20th Second Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

Matins Snailwell 9.30am Sung Eucharist Chippenham 11am

Sun 27th Third Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23Holy CommunionSnailwell9.30amMatinsChippenham11am

Christmas/New Year Pastoral Letter from the Rural Dean

Dear Friends,

Wise Men (and Women)

I have always felt challenged by T S Eliot's words towards the end of "Journey of the Magi" (written in 1927): "We returned to our places, these kingdoms, but no longer at ease here in the old dispensation, with an alien people clutching their gods".

Christmas Day and beyond is a strange mixture of clinging to our traditions, at a holiday period of such profound change to our normal lifestyle, when all the usual pressures of daily living are lifted by our enforced occupation of family houses. The escape routes normally open to us are not there and we are forced in upon ourselves and the immediate circle of loved ones. This is no bad thing, we have to face up to our responsibilities of duty, love and care; even the New Year card to the person we forgot to send a Christmas card to, but with whom we really don't want to lose touch! Normality resumes on January 2nd, and suddenly it's back to the usual routine... or is it? Will you have been touched by the message of Christmas and be no longer at ease with the way things were?

Whether or not you resolve to tackle life differently next year, the political, social and personal changes and challenges will all have to be faced: privately we may have to ask ourselves some searching questions about meaning and purpose, without which a shallow futility creeps into the picture. Is not the key to our 'dis-ease' bound up in the Christ-child, who came to challenge our old ways and to offer us hope and redemption?

Mark Haworth

Snailwell Sunday Rota Readers/sidesmen Flowers & Cleaning

		·
December 2nd	Betty	Bryan & Betty
December 9th	Betty	Sophie & Jane
December 16th	Kurt	"
December 23rd	Michael	Carol Service flowers – all
December 25th	Maureen	Cleaning: Terry & Maureen
December 30th	Betty	"
January 6th	Kurt	Bryan & Betty
January 13th	Michael	"
January 20th	Maureen	Sophie & Jane
January 27th	Betty	"
February 3rd	Kurt	Terry, Maureen & Muriel
	J	

Reserve cleaner: Audrey Rooks, Tel: 720130. If these dates don't suit, please swap and contact Maureen.

Chippenham Sunday Rota												
SUNDAY	Dec 2nd Advent Carols	Dec 9th	Dec 16th	Dec 23rd Carol Service	Dec 25th Christmas Day	Dec 30th	Jan 6th	Jan 13th	Jan 20th	Jan 27th		
SIDESMEN	Jan	Julie	Brian	Jan	Julie	Brian	Jan	Anne	Julie	Brian		
READERS	All	Peter	Eileen	All	Chris	Brian	Jan	James	Peter	Eileen		
FLOWERS	Nicola	Joyce	Joyce	Christmas flowers: everyone		Jennifer	Jennifer	Jan	Jan			
CLEANING	Judy Eileen & Mary	Julie	Paul & James	Fiona & Mandy		Judy Eileen & Mary	Julie	Paul & James	Fiona & Mandy	Judy Eileen & Mary		
WINE	Fiona & Peter	Nicola	James & Jan			Brian & Jennifer	Linda	Alan	Chris	Sean & Moira		