



NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2020

Trees - Our Arboriculturist is inspecting the ash trees on parish land for signs of ash dieback. To-date he has identified 52 trees that need to be felled in Frithwood and 27 in the Valley Playing Field/copse. At the time of writing, we have no date as to when this work will take place, but it needs to be sooner than later. Have you ash trees on your property? If so, you will need to have them checked to ensure they are safe and prevent spread of the disease.

Web site - We are having a new web site! We need to change because of new regulations regarding access for all, with which we needed to comply by September. Our new supplier will be VisionICT and we are currently working with them to get our new site up and running. Our current web site is managed by Banyan Design with whom many of you will be familiar. Our thanks to Pete Bishop of Banyan for all his help and creativity over many years. In November, both our web site and emails suffered from significant malfunctions but are now fully operational.

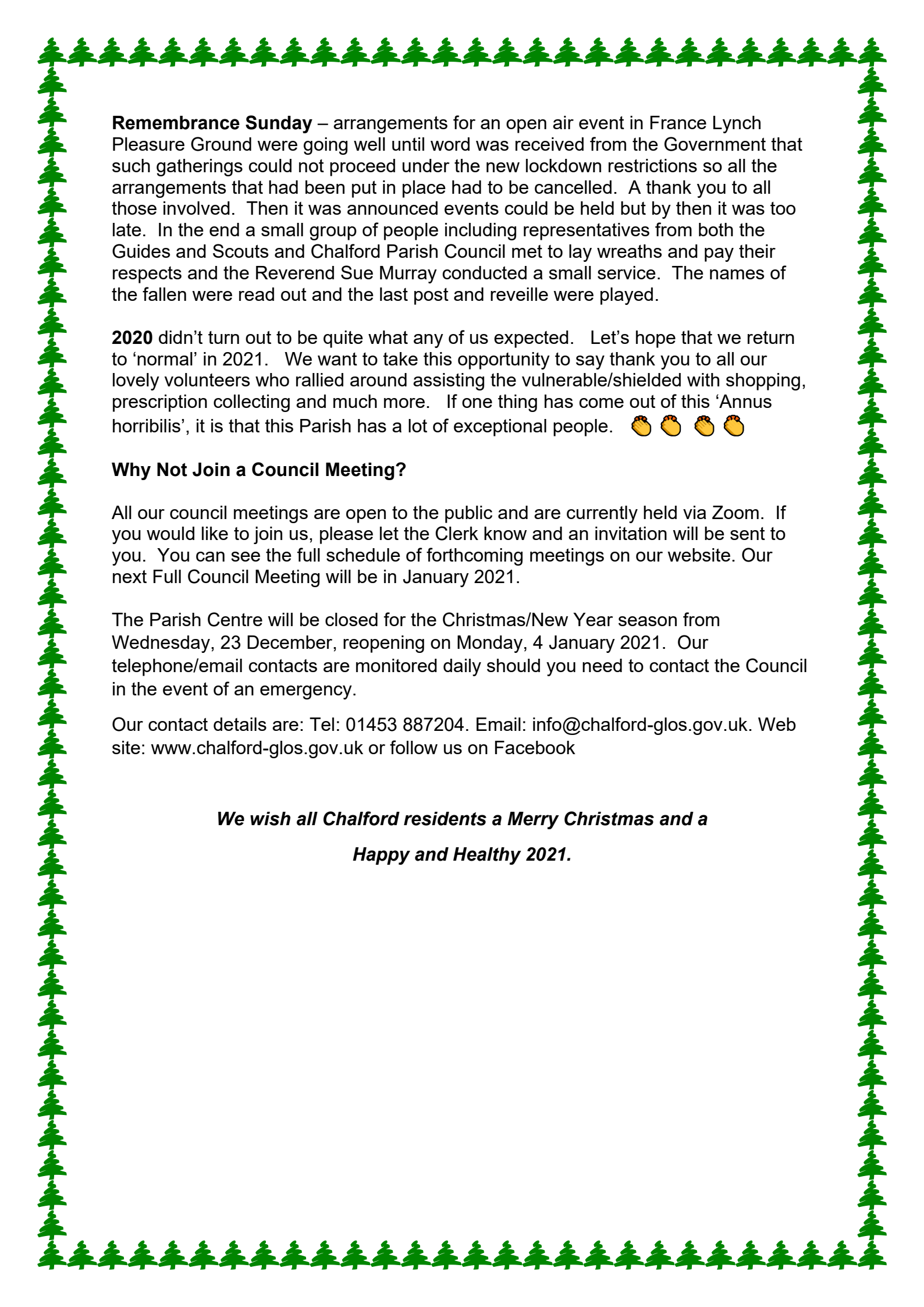
'Freezer of Love' – don't forget we have a freezer full of nutritious home-made food at the Parish Centre. We know it is a difficult time for so many so if you are struggling please come and take what you need. If you can afford to donate something towards the cost of making the food, every little helps.

Grant Applications - If you are a local organisation in need of funding towards a project, you may be eligible for a small grant from the Parish Council. The deadline for applications is 31 January 2021. Grant application form and rules are available from the Parish Centre.

Parking – we are receiving complaints about vehicles parking on verges with the consequence the verges are left in a very poor condition. Please park considerately to prevent this damage. Silver Street Car Park – Stroud District Council is currently looking into resident parking permits due to some vehicle owners having received parking tickets this year as they have parked beyond the 23 hour limit. Until a decision is made on this matter the Council will not be issuing tickets for overstaying.

Neighbourhood Warden – we say a fond farewell to Peter Tiley who has left us for pastures new. As our Warden, Peter has been very effective and helpful over the years. Although we wish him every best for the future, he will be sorely missed. Once we are aware as to his replacement, we will let you know.

Footpaths - Lockdown activity - The second lockdown has stopped the regular Thursday morning Footpath Volunteer sessions, but individual volunteers are using the opportunity to walk our footpaths and combine outdoor exercise with looking out for work that needs doing. A particular focus is the walks described in the booklet 'Eleven Walks Around Chalford Parish' to check if any have become obstructed or otherwise made difficult to walk. We'll get to work on problems that are found when lockdown is eased. And volunteers are being encouraged to do what any walker can do, and that's carry a pair of secateurs or the like and remove the odd bramble that gets in their way as they walk.



Remembrance Sunday – arrangements for an open air event in France Lynch Pleasure Ground were going well until word was received from the Government that such gatherings could not proceed under the new lockdown restrictions so all the arrangements that had been put in place had to be cancelled. A thank you to all those involved. Then it was announced events could be held but by then it was too late. In the end a small group of people including representatives from both the Guides and Scouts and Chalford Parish Council met to lay wreaths and pay their respects and the Reverend Sue Murray conducted a small service. The names of the fallen were read out and the last post and reveille were played.

2020 didn't turn out to be quite what any of us expected. Let's hope that we return to 'normal' in 2021. We want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our lovely volunteers who rallied around assisting the vulnerable/shielded with shopping, prescription collecting and much more. If one thing has come out of this 'Annus horribilis', it is that this Parish has a lot of exceptional people. 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌

Why Not Join a Council Meeting?

All our council meetings are open to the public and are currently held via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please let the Clerk know and an invitation will be sent to you. You can see the full schedule of forthcoming meetings on our website. Our next Full Council Meeting will be in January 2021.

The Parish Centre will be closed for the Christmas/New Year season from Wednesday, 23 December, reopening on Monday, 4 January 2021. Our telephone/email contacts are monitored daily should you need to contact the Council in the event of an emergency.

Our contact details are: Tel: 01453 887204. Email: info@chalford-glos.gov.uk. Web site: www.chalford-glos.gov.uk or follow us on Facebook

***We wish all Chalford residents a Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy 2021.***