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DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY MATTERS

**December
2014**



The Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Derry Hill

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MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor	Richard Aylen	01249 814632
Advertising Coordinator	Mervyn Wells	01249 811125
Distribution Coordinator	Ian Willox	01249 811653
Webmaster	Dave Massey	01249 817926

Please send articles and other correspondence to:

Mr Richard Aylen
1 Redhill Close
Derry Hill
CALNE
SN11 9NY
Tel: **01249 814632**

email: inspireeditor@outlook.com

Please send advertisement copy and related correspondence to:

Mr Mervyn Wells
44 Newbury Avenue
CALNE
SN11 9UN

Tel: **01249 811125**

email: inspirederry@gmail.com

EDITORIAL POLICY

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the policy of this publication or its editor. **All articles submitted for publication are subject to editing.** Deadline for inclusion of material in **next** month's magazine is the **10th** of **this** month.

ADVERTISING RATES

All rates are for insertion in **12** consecutive issues of **inSPIRE**.

Size	Grayscale	Colour	Approximate size of advert (Width by height) (cm)
1/8 page	£30.00	N/A	6 by 4
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EDITORIAL

As we step into December it seems a long way from the wonderful summer we had this year. The days are shorter and the temperature has dropped and all could be gloom and doom. But hang on, what a lively month it is in many respects. We enter the Pantomime season, there's Carol singing, ice skating, who knows even sledging, the Winter Festival in Calne, switching on of lights and the excitement of Christmas Eve and finally Christmas. Families get together, friends and neighbours visit and hopefully it will be season of goodwill.



But let us not forget in the flurry of tinsel and groaning tables, a child was born in a simple stable to change the world.

Have a Happy and Blessed Christmas.

Ed

PSG CONCERT AT CHRIST CHURCH



On the 7th of November, the PSG (pop soul and gospel) choir performed a concert at Christ Church in Derry Hill. PSG are proud to have raised over **£300** for the Christ church roof fund and are delighted to have received such a warm and enthusiastic response from the local community on their very first official concert. We have since gained even

more members and the future is looking bright. We are always very excited to take on new members and if you are interested, please feel free to simply come along on a **Tuesday night to Derry Hill School hall from 8-9:30pm**. No audition is required and we guarantee a completely relaxed and friendly atmosphere whilst still achieving a quality choir sound.

Will Blake

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Please contact David Jarvis:
Tel: 01249 815755
Mob: 07503 188630

david@derryhillgardenservices.co.uk
www.derryhillgardenservices.co.uk

Desks available!



We have some computer desks 1200x1600x720mm available, each with a drawer unit below. (See photo). There are right-hand and left-hand desks. The photo shows a right-hand desk. A left hand one is a mirror image.

All I ask in return is a donation to Christ Church Derry Hill or a donation to the Ding Dong Derry Hill Project – Your choice. *Buyer collects.* Enquiries to:

Dave Massey 01249 817926
email: jd.massey@btinternet.com

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NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM NEWS

Reported Crime

I am happy to report a fairly quiet October on the rural area.

Incidents of note:

On 16th October, someone made an attempt to break into a vehicle at Blacklands but fortunately was disturbed and made off before being able to steal anything.

Overnight on 20th October at Headington, a house owner had his garage and vehicle entered and golf clubs stolen.

Between 24th and 27th October, a large amount of fish was stolen from a pond at Headington.

At 0421hrs on 4th November a house in Sandy Lane was burgled via the rear of the property. Car keys and a handbag amongst other things were taken. 6 persons were arrested later the same day upon suspicion of this burglary. The case continues.

Of note this month is another theft of a Mitsubishi 4x4 vehicle from Compton Bassett overnight on 4th/5th November. The vehicle is likely to have been out of our county within a very short time of the theft. We have several lines of enquiry to follow.

I cannot stress enough the importance of additional security being used on your 4x4 vehicles at the current time. Using one extra security device (like a quality steering wheel lock) will avoid all the inconvenience of coming out to find an empty drive and the problems this entails. In addition, where possible, please take a bit of extra time to empty valuables, it is well worth the time it takes to unload.

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Christmas is soon upon us, so I think now is a pertinent time to pass you some top tips on securing your home.

1. Don't leave keys or ID documents within easy reach of doors, Letterboxes or windows. Thieves poke through letterboxes to steal keys left in the hallway - then your car!
2. Keep side gates locked – put wheelie bins behind them.
3. Timer switches and radios are great if you're out late.
4. Burglars don't want to be seen or heard – think about a visible intruder alarm, and outside lights.
5. Keep side and rear boundaries high to restrict access and front boundaries low to remove hiding places
6. Photograph and mark valuables and of course sentimental items.

Other News

PCSO Yates and I have been back in the villages this month welcoming the schools back for the new term. The children at Cherhill, Headington and Derry Hill schools have been given talks on Stranger Danger this month, which they appear to have enjoyed immensely, seeing just how loud they can shout the words Stanger Danger to the Police!

Cherhill School were also treated to a visit from Patch, our drugs dog, who brought along his handler PC Steve Duffy, to show what a clever dog he is. They were lucky enough to meet out Scenes of Crime Officer who talked to the children about their work within the Police Service.

School visits remain high on our agenda so we can engage with the children that soon become our next generation.

On 3rd November, a male was stopped by an Officer leaving a premises in the Calne area and after a search, a quantity of cannabis was located on him. The premises were also subject to a Police search and a large quantity of cash and drugs were located. The male was arrested for the offence of possession with intent to supply. We continue our fight against drugs in the Calne area. If you have information or believe that drugs are being dealt near you, email me confidentially or call Crimestoppers.

WPC 319 Sonya Stockhill

Community Beat Manager – Rural - sonya.stockhill@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



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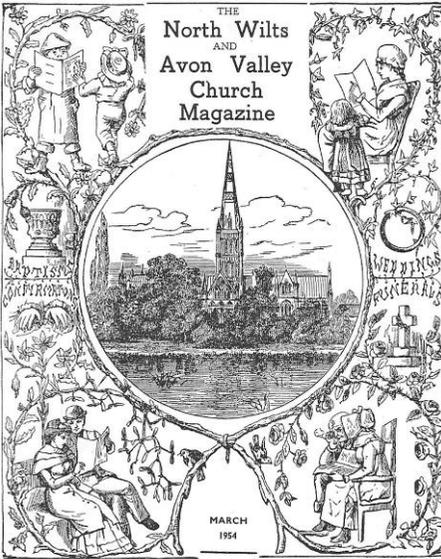


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ARTICLE FROM THE PAST



...for Derry Hill, December 1954....

It was most fortuitous that a social had been planned for the weekend when the Reverend and Mrs L. B. Bell, from Southern Rhodesia, visited their old parish. Many friends were able to chat with them about old times.

Several members of the congregation have asked if we could resurrect our branch of the Church of England Men's Society. I shall be happy to do so, and hope to announce in the near future the date of a meeting for those interested. We need something like this for the men – the women

have the M. U. and the work party.

Hopes of sending one of our choirboys to the R.S.C.M. Course at Addington Palace have not materialised – there were twice as many applicants as places. We want to take the choir to London soon to hear some special music, "The Messiah", sung by experts. Any who would like to show their appreciation of the choir's work, by giving a donation, will be giving us great encouragement.

We are most grateful to the Rector of Calstone, Mr Matthews, for finding us room in his coach for our visit to the S. P. G. Missionary Exhibition at Devizes. The visit was well worthwhile.

Don't forget the work party bazaar at the Social Centre on Saturday, December 4th, where you will be able to buy attractive Christmas presents.

Look out for notices on the Church Board which will tell you of the activities of the Church Choir, Carol Services, Christmas Services, etc.

A very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to you all.

L. W. G. Hudson.



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Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill, 14:50 - 16:00

Tuesdays: 9 December, 23 December, 6 January

Kingston House Derry Hill, 9.40 - 10:25

Mondays: 1 December, 29 December, 26 January



GARDENING STEVE



Hello to all you gardeners!

December is upon us and can be a very quiet month in gardening. This is a good time to plan your garden for next year. Order the seeds; see what shrubs or trees in the garden need replacing. Your indoor bulbs in pots should now be bought into a warmer place so you can force them on. It's best to cover hyacinths in moss before the flowers start to form as this will enable the bulbs to be presented before they go on the table. Stagger the bulbs to be forced so you can continue with the flowering display into the New Year. Keep up with leaf clearing on lawns; if you have leaves around your shrubs try to keep them on the ground as this acts as a mulch and will rot down naturally. You can prune climbing wall roses now. If you have overgrown walls take your time and prune out all the old wood and tie back all the new shoots that you have kept from the summer. Cover most of the wall: you can cross over stems as this will give you a good display in the summer. Cut down all the herbaceous borders now, this means you can leave them tidy over the winter and you can even split some so they don't get too crowded. Keep feeding the birds in the winter, they need to be looked after as well as the garden. I would like to wish you all a happy Christmas and see you in the New Year.

Stephen. Bowood Gardener.

Amanda's Pilates



***Pilates Classes**

Wednesday: Langley Burrell 10.00 am
 Thursday: Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill
 9.00 am Improver level
 10.15 am Beginner level

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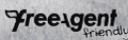
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KINGSTON HOUSE DERRY HILL

On **Sunday 7th December** we are having a festive Christmas Fayre at **2.30pm**. Do come along and meet residents, staff and relatives and enjoy what we have to offer. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available as well as cakes for sale, Tombola, Raffle and Bric-a-brac. We are also running a Christmas Bingo that everybody is welcome to on **Wednesday 10th December** eyes down **7pm**. And now for something completely different.....

One of our care workers, Sue Carr is going to shave her head for charity! Not content with doing a brilliant job she has decided that Kingston House's Comfort Fund needs boosting. Sue is hoping to raise **£1,000** by **February 27th 2015**. Please help support this effort by calling in and signing the sponsorship form on reception.

MOTHERS' UNION – DERRY HILL

The November meeting of Christ Church Mother's Union met in Church on Nov 5th.

Christine Weston opened the meeting with prayers. Sympathy was voiced for members who were unable to attend due to ill health, including Deirdre, our leading member. Plans were made for the cake stall at the Christmas Fayre and also the children's activities. Robyn and Michael will provide the refreshments.

The annual donations to Mothers Union projects were agreed and will be sent as usual by Robyn. We are pleased to accept a grant from the Village fete committee, which will enable us to continue with our work with families within Christ Church and the village. After the business meeting, Nan showed us how to make a Christmas wreath, needing no artistic skills whatsoever!! We then joined in making small decorations with fir cones and wire, which only needed a small amount of brute force and a deft hand with glue and glitter. Everyone succeeded in making one to take home and they agreed they had fun learning new skills.

The next meeting is the Christmas tea arranged by Robyn to be held at Beechfield House on **December 3rd**. It will be either **2:30pm** at Church or **3pm** at the Hotel. New members and visitors are always welcome. For information call Deirdre on **01249 822157**.





YOGA

with Suzanne

NIGHT TIME CLASS

Tuesday 8-9.30pm Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

DAYTIME CLASSES

Tuesday & Thursday 10-11.30am Bromham Social Centre, Bromham

Friday 9.30-11.00am Equilibrium Natural Health Centre, Pewsham

Friday 1-2.30pm Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

Suzanne Green Email: info@yogawithsuzanne.co.uk
07732545715 · Website: www.yogawithsuzanne.co.uk

MIXED ABILITY · BEGINNERS WELCOME

The Lansdowne Luncheon Club

We meet on alternate Wednesdays in the old meeting room at the Lansdowne Hall.

The club is open to those over 60yrs living in Derry Hill or Studley and we welcome anyone who will enjoy some social contact.

We provide a two-course hot meal, with a current charge of £3.50, which is usually paid in advance for 3 or 4 meals, to fit with our rental payments.

If you or a friend is interested in joining, please contact

Rachel Collins on 01249 817548, or Paula Edwards on 01249 816364.

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NEWS FROM RUB-A-DUB PRE-SCHOOL

WOW! What a start to our new academic year! We started the New Year by promoting Natalie Bolt to Manager and welcomed back Maggie Raybould as Deputy Manager. Both have settled enthusiastically into their roles and are excited about the year ahead, as are the children, parents and committee members.



More importantly, having enjoyed a pleasant summer, we welcomed back **14** children and **13** new starters. The children have settled well into the pre-school and are having lots of fun with the staff!

During the first term we celebrated Harvest Festival at Christ Church with Reverend Ann. The children had a great time role playing 'shops' where they brought their fruit and vegetables before taking them up to Reverend Ann to add to the growing display of donations.

This term to mark Remembrance Day, we created a very special cross of poppies, which was displayed at Christ Church. Then of course there was Children In Need day where the children (and staff) got to dress up as their superhero.

Before we know, December is upon us and the children will perform their own special Nativity Play with mince pies and tea/coffee for all parents, grandparents and carers who come along to watch back at the Hall afterwards. We will end the term with the traditional Christmas Party on the last Friday of term.

If you think it sounds fun at our pre-school, why not consider joining our Bank Staff team? Bank staff provide ad hoc cover for our staff when they are off sick, training or perhaps when we need an extra pair of hands for certain events, such as the Christmas Party. If you are interested, take a look at the advert on the home page of our website www.rubadubpreschool.com.

Rub-A-Dub Staff and Committee wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to updating you all in the first edition of inSPIRE of **2015!**

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Tel: 01249 812850

Email: enquiries@weclimited.co.uk



LOCAL WINTER WILDLIFE SLEEP

Nature is in abeyance at this time of year. Deciduous trees have shed their leaves; summer visiting birds have flown south. All seems silent. Or is it? Some creatures are hibernating: ladybirds are huddled together in the gaps of window frames, hedgehogs sleeping, frogs hibernating at the bottom of ponds, under sheds or in heaps of leaves. But many creatures are active. And whilst plants and trees seem dormant within a short time they are preparing for new growth. Primroses, crocuses, snow-drops and many other flowers are getting ready, and our native birds are still singing to cheer us each day.

Some creatures find their way into our homes for winter. I once had a family of field mice (the long tailed mice that hop as opposed to scurry like the so called house mouse) overwintering inside the bottom of my freezer in the potting shed! They just want a snug place for a couple of months and will soon be back out into the land given half a chance. But though we now have milder winters creatures can sometime be caught unaware by a sudden cold snap. It is sometimes hard for them to find water to drink or even food, so keep your bird feeders stocked up and ensure there is unfrozen water somewhere in your garden. And if you have a garden fire first check and gently turn over the debris in case creatures are nesting inside. The same is true when you dig the garden: I once dug up a family of new born field mice - I popped them into an old hamster nest box and part buried it and by next day mother had taken them off somewhere else. I once also had a juvenile fox in my greenhouse that had lost its way. I made sure it could get out of the garden and after a feed of dog food for a couple of days it found its way back home.

Make sure your fish pond is kept unfrozen (an airline is best; if not don't crack the ice, melt it) and make sure birds have plenty to eat and drink in winter. Remember that it is illegal to destroy birds' nests, or to cause distress or harm to any wildlife in general. Please be a good steward and friend- you will be rewarded. It is surprising what is going on during the depths of winter. Go for walks and see what you can find! Happy Wildlife Christmas and New Year to you all! For further info, see (or join!) our public Facebook Group – Search for “StudleyDerryHillWildlife”.

Stephen B Cox (stephen.b.cox@ntlworld.com)

CHURCH CONTACTS
Christ Church - Derry Hill
St Martin's Church – Bremhill
St John the Baptist – Foxham

www.mardenvale.org.uk

Vicar	Reverend Ann Massey	01249 817926 ea.massey@btinternet.com
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Retired Priest (PTO)	Reverend Jim Scott	01249 813114
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Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs) –

Please call if you would like a visit or chat. All in strictest confidence.

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Averil Davis	01249 814411
	Pat Day	01249 814167
	Anita Uttley	01380 859433

Church Wardens

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Mr Stephen Starr	01249 821325
-------------------	------------------	--------------

<i>Bremhill</i>	Mrs Nancy Kyte	01249 815073
	Mr William Wyldbore-Smith	01249 814969

<i>Foxham</i>	Mrs Elizabeth Hannah	01249 740619
	Mrs Mary Kellond	01249 740633

PCC Treasurers (Tr) & Secretaries (Sec)

<i>Derry Hill</i>	Mr Simon Strange (Tr)	01249 813378
	Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec)	01249 823252

<i>Bremhill</i>	Dr David Stevens (Tr)	01249 815337
	Vacancy (Sec)	

<i>Foxham</i>	Mr Robert Pegler (Tr)	01249 740253
	Vacancy (Sec)	

If you wish to discuss arrangements for
Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged then
please contact **Reverend Ann Massey** as above.

MARDEN VALE TEAM - SERVICES IN DECEMBER

7th December 2014

8.00am	Bremhill	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Foxham	Holy Communion (CW)
11.00am	Derry Hill	Advent Holy Communion
4.00pm	Bremhill	Evensong
4.00pm	Derry Hill	Praise@4 – The Spirit of Advent & Toys¹

14th December 2014

9.30am	Foxham	Family Service
11.00am	Derry Hill	Holy Communion
4.00pm	Derry Hill	Christingle
6.00pm	Bremhill	Carols by Candlelight

21st December 2014

8.00am	Derry Hill	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Bremhill	Nativity/Crib Service
4.00pm	Derry Hill	Carols by Candlelight
6.00pm	Foxham	Carol & Crib Service

24th December 2014 – Christmas Eve

3.00pm	Derry Hill	Crib Service
6.00pm	Bowood	Carol Service
9.30pm	Derry Hill	Midnight Mass in Bethlehem
11.15pm	Bremhill	Midnight Mass

25th December 2014 - Christmas Day

9.30am	Bremhill	Family Communion (CW)
9.30am	Foxham	Family Communion (CW)
11.00am	Derry Hill	Family Communion (CW)

28th December 2014

10.00am	Calne	United Benefice Holy Communion Service at St Mary's, Calne
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¹ *Featuring the Harmony Singers Choir with John Fitter.*

Helping older residents live independently for longer.

The darker nights are upon us. Winter coats and umbrellas are back and the leaves are well and truly falling. If you are worrying about Winter Fuel Bills, I may be able to access a £200 grant for you. Or are you concerned about how to stay healthy and stay out of hospital; perhaps we can help. Are you worrying about the possibility of a fall, or getting a hot meal. Be prepared and give me a call.

BE PREPARED. CALL ME TO FIND OUT...

- ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A SURVIVING WINTER GRANT?
- WHERE TO GET A HOT MEAL
- IS THERE A LUNCH CLUB OR COFFEE MORNING?
- WHERE ARE YOUR LOCAL EXERCISE GROUPS
- HOW TO STAY MOBILE
- HOW TO GET YOUR FREE FIRE SAFETY VISIT

For more information please call for a free and confidential chat, or to arrange your free home visit.

**If you think we can help you to find the services you need then give us a call
on 07557 922029 or**

e-mail calnegnc@communityfirst.org.uk

Wiltshire Good Neighbours is a FREE and CONFIDENTIAL service.



PARISH REGISTERS – ALL AT CHRIST CHURCH

We welcome into Christ Church through Baptism:
16 November - Oscar George Vince and Maya Alice Vince

We congratulate on their Marriage:
Victoria Liddell and Mark Bridge on 25 October
Tracey Hibberd and Mark Harwood on 14 November
Sarah Mizon and Kane Kauppinen on 22 November

ADVANCE NOTICE OF JANUARY SERVICES in Christ Church Derry Hill

4 January 2015

11:00am	Mattins
4:00pm	Praise@4 Service – From the Old to the New!

11 January 2015

11:00am	Holy Communion for All Ages (CW)
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18 January 2015

8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
11:00	Family Service

25 January 2015

11:00	Holy Communion (CW)
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CONFIRMATION

Reverend Ann is planning a series of meetings for those who would like to refresh their knowledge of the Christian faith, be baptised or/and confirmed. A decision to proceed to baptism or confirmation does not have to be made until the member of the group decides to do so. Four adults are already interested so please let Reverend Ann know if you would like to join the group or if you have any questions on what is proposed.



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DERRY HILL AND DISTRICT WI

Our October meeting didn't quite go to plan as we were let down by our speaker and the evening had to be rapidly re-arranged. We started with the 'Business' and followed with a quiz on Flower associations, provided by Sally. It was



certainly a tricky one and even our flower experts were scratching their heads. Margaret Hogarth then gave us a talk about her recent WI holiday to Ireland, Killarney and The Ring of Kerry. This sounded very interesting and was very good value for money - we all had a very enjoyable evening.

There is no meeting in December as we are fully occupied with all our Christmas festivities, but January will soon be here!

Dates for Diaries:

We will be having stalls at the Church Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 29th November** and at the Neeld Hall in Chippenham on **Saturday 13th December**. Both stalls will need knitted items so please, ladies, get your knitting needles out once again.

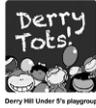
Janet Stock is very kindly hosting the next Coffee Morning at her house on **3rd December at 10.30am** and there will be a 'bring and buy' cake sale.

Our Christmas meal will be on **Wednesday 17th December** at the Lansdowne Arms and details will be finalised at the next meeting.

Sally and Mike have kindly offered to host a WI Cocktail Party at their home on **Monday 22nd December**. Members usually provide a plate of nibbles and there is a small fee to cover the cost of drinks. Again, details will be finalised later.

If you are interested in coming to a meeting please phone Sally, on **817945**, or Tina on **814145**, or just pop in – we'd love to see you. Our meetings are held on the **fourth Wednesday of every month** at The Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill, starting at **7.30pm**.

Sheila



Derry Tots

Derry Tots is your friendly local Under Fives Playgroup. We meet every Wednesday morning during term time at the Lansdowne Hall in Derry Hill.

Come and join us for a free taster session and see what you've been missing!

Check out our website or contact us by email: enqdhuf@gmail.com

www.derrytots.co.uk

We are also looking for volunteers to help us each week.

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DEFIBRILLATOR NEWS

Awareness Session at Studley Methodist Chapel

This was held on Thursday November 6th and was very well attended with over 40 people. Mr Richard Schofield from the charity Community Heartbeat Trust explained how the system works and gave us some refresher training on how to do Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, CPR. It was very informative and useful as before. Thanks to Linda, Colin, Christina and Janet for helping to set it up and publicise it so effectively!



Defibrillator Checking

We now have 4 volunteers who live close to the Chapel for the rota for monthly checking of the Studley defibrillator. Thank you very much you 4 for stepping forward – we will now be able to get that going.

Great news at the awareness training

We would very much like to thank **Vastern Timber** of Studley for another generous donation to our maintenance fund. To match our good response to the envelope drop earlier they sent a cheque for £250 along to the Chapel! It is gratifying to have such support from a local business for our community project. We will need to fund replacement parts and general maintenance over time.

Thanks to everyone who supported us at the Christmas Bazaar on November 29th, which was very much appreciated, and all the earlier support you have given us.

Please contact Emma or Paula below for any enquiries or suggestions. Thank you!

Emma Dadd: 01249 817438; emmadadd@hotmail.co.uk

Paula Edwards 01249 816364 bryher3@talktalk.net



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Chickens 8 lb +	£3.30/lb £7.28/Kg	Pigs in blankets	£3.00 pack 6
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- can be filled with our homemade stuffing		Bone in Rib Beef	£6.25/lb £13.77/Kg
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Homemade Chestnut stuffing	£2.95/lb		

Christmas gift vouchers available

Christmas opening times

Saturday 20th 8am – 1pm
Monday 22nd 8am – 5pm
Tuesday 23rd 8am – 5pm
Wednesday 24th 8am – 1pm

Orders now being taken

To be sure of availability please order
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Please phone with any orders or come in
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GOLDEN SYRUP CAKE

(Gluten free)

- 225g Butter (or Margarine)
- 225g² Sugar, light muscovado
if you have it otherwise
normal caster is fine
- 450g Golden Syrup
- 450g Self-raising flour, sieved
- 2 Large eggs
- 300ml Milk



Put syrup, butter and sugar in a pan and heat through until melted. Leave to cool for a few minutes.

Beat the eggs with the milk and then add the flour.

Pour the butter mixture into the flour, eggs and milk. Mix really, really well.

Set your oven to **GM3** or **150°C**

Line tins with parchment. I also pop them on a tray as if you use a tin with a removable base the mixture can sometimes leak.

You can either make one large 8" cake or 2 smaller cakes. They freeze really well.

Pop in the oven for about 50 minutes though I check after 30 minutes and again at 40 minutes just in case.



I've made this cake with normal flour and gluten free and they are both really lovely. I've often put in some ginger to give it a bit of a kick, so feel free to adapt.

For an extra splurge you can pour some melted golden syrup over the top and then add custard.....bliss!

The Secret Chef

² I've also made it with half the sugar amount and you really can't tell.



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CALNE WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Derry Hill and Studley are a part of the Calne Without Parish)

The Parish Council met on 3rd November. A representative of the High Penn Solar Park attended. The company is offering Calne Without £40,000 for community benefit schemes. Various types of schemes were discussed and how the delivery of the grant will be made.

Councillor Christine Crisp made a statement on the effect of the Planning Inspectors decision on a proposed development off Abberd Lane Calne. The result of this decision, which was in favour of the developer, as Wiltshire Council could not show a **5-year housing supply**, means that Wiltshire Council cannot oppose the proposed development of Blount's Court. At public speaking time a representative of the Studley Residents group urged the Parish Council to vote against the development as it had done before, as nothing on the ground had changed. Later in the meeting the Parish Council decided to vote for the development but attach a condition that a comprehensive crossing was built on the **A4** if the development went ahead. A majority of the council's members felt that the crossing was more likely to be achieved if it voted for the development.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had met the Highways officer outside the school in Derry Hill and it had been decided that some lines would be painted to deter inappropriate parking.

The council considered a budget for the Neighbourhood Plan being worked on by the Parish and Calne Town jointly. As there are many stages to the plan it was pointed out that concise costings were difficult. It was decided to cap expenditure to **£7,000** over the anticipated **2 years** the plan will take to complete.

Earlier in the meeting Charles Oram was co-opted onto the council to fill the vacancy in the West Ward.

You may like to know that the council has funded a new website which can be found at www.calnewwithoutpc.org. Past, approved minutes can be found on the site as well as contact details of your councillors and maps of the area. The council meets again on **1st December 7.30pm** at the **Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill**.

These are my unofficial jottings from the meeting, which I hope you find informative. *Richard Ayles*, Parish Councillor

LANSDOWNE ARMS
DERRY HILL

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BOXING DAY :- KICK BACK AND RELAX
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TO WELCOME IN **2015**

NEW YEARS DAY: - ENJOY THE FIRST DAY OF 2015 WITH US-
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FLOODLIGHTING THE SPIRE

This is a lovely thing to do to remember loved ones and to celebrate special anniversaries and birthdays. The Spire is currently lit between 7pm and midnight, though this varies with the time of year. Floodlighting the Spire can be arranged through Dave Massey Tel. **01249 817926** or jd.massey@btinternet.com. A donation to the church for the cost of the lighting is welcome.

ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in Church: The Flower Guild are inviting flower sponsorship for the single pedestal in Christ Church, Derry Hill each week. If you would like to do this or sponsor part of a pedestal, in memory of a special occasion then, to find out more contact Claire Satchell, on **07968 091217** or email newleaffloristry@hotmail.co.uk



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The Friends of Derry Hill School invite you to the

Spring Ball 2015

At Wellington Barn
Saturday April 25th
7.30pm - carriages at 1.30am
Tickets £45

Ticket price includes:

- Glass of Prosecco on arrival
- 3 course dinner with locally sourced ingredients from Sweet Pea catering
- Raffle and Auction - Disco until late!
- Instalments x 3 of £15, 1st payable at end of October, then end of February & March
- Tables of 10, smaller groups are of course very welcome

Tickets **NOT** ON SALE

for further information please email nicky.skinner22@gmail.com

FREE training in Community Organising

At Community First we are offering FREE training in Community Organising. If you care about your local



area and are interested in learning skills to help you to inspire and support local action in the community, this training might be for you.

Trainees will be working with our team of Community Organisers to listen to those around us; our friends, relatives and neighbours, and then support them to convert their ideas into action, bringing people and groups together to tackle shared issues and enact positive solutions in their own neighbourhoods.

The **six-month programme** will start with an initial **two-day training course** (held in **Devizes** on the **24th & 25th of January 2015**) and after that trainees will be expected to dedicate a couple of hours a fortnight for the rest of the programme. No prior experience is required and all training and mentoring will be done locally, with full support and guidance offered throughout. There is also an option for trainees to study for either a **Level 2 or 3 accreditation** in the purpose, practice and process of community organising alongside the training but this is not mandatory.

If you think you may be interested or want to find out more, please contact Alex North on **01380 715892** or by email at **anorth@communityfirst.org.uk**

REVEREND ANN WRITES

Dear All

Is Christmas really just round the corner??

I think with all the commemorations regarding the centenary of the commencement of WW1 that Christmas has just crept up behind us and surprised us!

It is still only mid-November and we have finished the Remembrance Services for this year. It is a difficult time as we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. We don't really feel like joining in all the hype and manic busyness that seems to precede Christmas these days. Many people are time starved, me included, as we seem to have more to do than time allows. Fire-fighting is a way of life more than it ever used to be! Christmas means stepping even harder on the accelerator.

God though wants us to enjoy our lives. There are instructions right at the beginning of the Bible in Genesis to take one rest day per week to renew our batteries! But so much has now crept into Sunday that it has become yet another action packed day – little different from any other. However, it doesn't have to be Sunday that we rest, but we should rest on one day each week regularly!

It is only by switching off and relaxing that we can hear wisdom! It is in stopping and noticing those around us, reflecting on what Christmas is really about that we start to feel the Christmas spirit. It is about showing that we value each other for who we are deep within ourselves. How can we do this with integrity if we are too busy to notice the little things about each other most of the time? A small gift that shows we know someone really well is worth a thousand words. Take time out this year to reflect before stepping on the accelerator again. Take time to remember that Jesus brought wisdom into the world and that when we are rushing around we tend not to see God among us, and we don't get the most enjoyment out of life.

Take time and look out for God this Christmas. You will meet him - and your Christmas will be transformed!

With every blessing for a transforming Christmas Season

Ann

THE ABC OF CHRISTMAS

A is for Angels in the sky, singing praises to God on High

B is for is for Bethlehem afar, and for the Baby's birthday star

C is for Crib in stable bare with the Christ Child sleeping there

D is for Donkey, small and grey, quiet and still that Christmas day

E is for Everyone on earth, glad because of Jesu's birth

F is for Father God above, He sent Jesus with His love

G is for Gifts we give away, all because its Christmas Day

H is for Hills where herald bright told the shepherds news that night

I is for Inn "All full" they said "no room here" no empty bed

J is for Joseph, good and kind in the stable room he'd find

K is for Kings come from afar, bringing gifts, led by a star

L is for Lights of candles gay, shining on this Christmas Day

M is for Mother Mary dear, holding Jesus near

N is for Night when children say, Santa Claus may come their way

O is for Oxen wide brown eyes, watching where the baby lies

P is for Peace on Earth, good will to men, church bells ring their song again

Q is for the Quest that brings eager feet - Shepherds run to their King to greet

R is for Robin Redbreast gay, feed him well on Christmas Day

S is for Stable, shepherds stare, seeing the baby Jesus there

T is for Trees both tall and small, holding gifts for one and all

U is for Unto us a child is born, message on this Christmas morn

V is for Voices; sweet and clear, singing carols we may hear

W is for the Wish – I wish for you, may your days be happy too

X is for the kisses families share, love for all and some to spare

Y is for the Yule log on the fire, see the dancing flames leap higher

Z is for Zest for food and fun, and the Christmas Alphabet is done!!

Contributed by Rosemary George.

PUZZLE PAGE

Welcome to the fun column. Sit back, put on your thinking cap and try and solve these brain-teasers.

Take the number one million

- Divide it by four
- Divide the result by five
- Divide the new result by two
- Divide the result you now have by twenty
- Subtract fifty
- Divide by three
- Divide by eight
- Subtract one
- Divide the result by seven
- Add two
- Divide the result by three
- Add two
- And divide the result by five.

Complete the above calculation without the use of a pen, a calculator, a computer, or an abacus!

- *Calmness, Canopy, Deft, First, Sighing, Stud*

These words have a common feature? What is it?

What is the next letter in this series?

- O T T F F S S

All the following members of a family are present at a family gathering.

- *Mother, father, son, daughter, uncle, aunt, brother, sister, cousin, nephew and niece.*

Only four people are there. How is this possible?

Now, I am going to keep you in suspense, and NOT give you the answers here and now. You will have to wait until the next magazine issue, and so you have a full month to solve these puzzles. Good luck.

Jack

www.jackstephens.co.uk

THE MAGIC BANDAGE

As a child I always loved it when,
With every cut and graze,
Mum would dress it with a bandage,
Which I proudly wore for days.

Throughout my life, like most of us,
I guess I've had my share,
Of bandages and plasters,
Plus the odd stitch here and there.

But now I'm much older,
A solution springs to mind,
To repair the damage,
Self-inflicted by mankind.

I've a magic bandage,
So enormous, when unfurled,
It would stretch right round to bind and heal,
This cut and bleeding world.

Then as it stemmed the blood flow,
And covered open sores,
Mankind might learn to live in peace,
And there'd be no more wars.

But I know it's just a pipe dream,
And when I'm dead and gone.
There will be no magic bandage,
And the bloodshed will go on.

By IG Fenner.

Kindly sent in by *Rosemary George*





M.A.S.K.

PRESENTS

**AN EVENING OF
CHRISTMAS
MUSIC**

Monday 15th December

7.30pm

Christ Church

Derry Hill SN11 9NN

Refreshments

Free admission
Retiring
collection for
church funds



Praise @ 4

Christ Church Derry Hill

4pm Sunday December 7th

The Spirit of Advent

Children's activities

All ages welcome

TOYS

Children are invited to bring new or nearly
new toys for children in need

Refreshments after the service

www.mardenvale.org.uk

Praise @ 4

Christ Church Derry Hill

4pm Sunday 4th January

From the **OLD** To the **NEW**



Refreshments

Children's activities

All ages welcome

www.mardenvale.org.uk