INSPIRE

DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY MATTERS

January 2015

The Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Derry Hill

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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.

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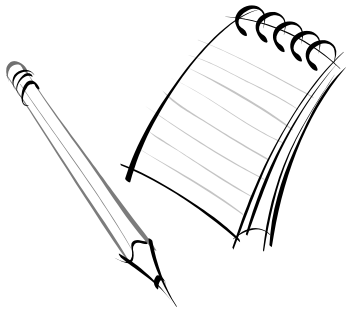
EDITORIAL



Happy New Year! With a fresh new year ahead of us we can shake off the cobwebs of the past year and look forward to longer days and many new events in the village.

I hope you have your tickets for the Pantomime and are looking forward to the production as much as I am. It is pleasing to note that this is the sort of community event that the Hall was partly built for; helping build relationships that bind our community together.

Ed

GARDENING STEVE

Hi All! I hope you all had a great Christmas. January is a good month to get out into the garden and start pruning the wall climbing shrubs like wisteria. In the summer you should have cut back the new long shoots of wisteria to 5 or 6 buds from the main stems. Now these same shoots should be shortened to 2 or 3 buds. The advantage of doing this now is that with no leaves on the plant you can see the plant more clearly.

You can now sow sweet peas, these like a good root run in long sweet pea tubes. Sweet peas don't need very high temperatures to germinate so there is no need for a propagator, a cool light room or even a sheltered cold frame is okay.

Start now forcing the rhubarb, this will encourage growth of tender young stems in the spring. Although you may not notice it, even in late January things are beginning to stir, sap is beginning to rise and the trees are awakening after their winter rest. Look out for this and see if you notice it.

More next month! Happy gardening!

Stephen Starr

Bowood Gardener

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Neighbourhood Police Team News

We have seen a decrease in crime on the rural area, which is pleasing, however, the theft of 4x4 vehicles continue. Currently, our enquiries indicate that offenders have travelled into the area from some distance away, we are working to progress our enquiries with the assistance of specialist departments. However, it is still very important for residents to remain vigilant and consider all vehicle security options and report suspicious activity.

Crimes this month

4th November – Burglary at a house in Sandy Lane overnight. Six offenders arrested the following day in Bristol.

Overnight on **4th November**, 4x4 stolen from Compton Bassett – recovered in Thames Valley on **7th November**.

Overnight on **7th November** – large quantity of electric fencing taken from Foxham

Between **21/24th November** – Quantity of fuel syphoned from farm vehicles at Heddington.

Overnight on **26/27 November** a Subaru Forrester 4x4 was stolen from Compton Bassett.

It was located on **28th November** upside down in a field at Marsh Farm Hilmarton minus the wheels and shock absorbers.

The ignition barrel had been forcibly removed.

The car is a write off.

(Grateful thanks to Alan Jennings who kindly used his tractor to aid recovery as the vehicle was on its roof with all wheels and shock absorbers removed)

We continue to identify possible vulnerable premises and persons with a view to issuing personalised crime prevention advice.

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email: goldmansinteriors@gmail.com

Other News

The Rural Officers continue work within the schools with upcoming chats to the children about Road Safety and visits with Patch the drugs dog and his handler in January.

We receive a high level of complaints regarding poor parking outside the local schools. We see blocked driveways, parking on junctions and parking on hazard marking lines. We are now working with the schools in order to action this and educate/warn drivers before enforcement action will be taken. Hopefully, this will result in a positive solution.

Don't forget to watch www.facebook.com/calnepolice to see all the latest news from us. (You don't need to be on FB to see it).

We launched Operation RED on Facebook in the last week to Christmas. (for the children).

A huge thank you to all our NHW members who, in this voluntary role, give up their valuable time to support us in our fight against crime. We look forward to working with you in the New Year.

Second huge thank you to Community Speedwatch, where all our volunteers are giving up much time to make our villages safer places to live. Thank you.

As we reach this wintery time of year, please may I appeal for help in our community? We know there are a number of people who may be vulnerable in some way (through age, disability, financial difficulty) and it is important that we look out for these people, and refer them for the correct help. If you see your neighbours or any other members of our community at risk, please let us know and we can try and secure the help needed.

WPC 319 Sonya Stockhill
Community Beat Manager – Rural - sonya.stockhill@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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Christ Church PCC Bottle Stall

On behalf of the PCC, I would like to thank all those who helped make the bottle stall at the annual Christmas Fayre, the success that it was. We had a huge number of bottles from the residents of a Derry Hill and Studley and lots of support on the day. Thank you to all the helpers and to all those who tried their luck on the stall.

Lucinda Prater
PCC Secretary

Christ Church Christmas Fayre

Well we had a great time. Ian Willox was in charge for the first time this year and thanks to Deirdre handing over very carefully we didn't make too much of a hash of it. Many thanks to all the stallholders who came along and gave of their time energy and enthusiasm, and thanks to all our loyal customers who emptied their purses and wallets. It was just lovely to have live music from Conchordia - Carol, Rita and, new this year, Peter. Their singing makes the whole occasion so special.

We hope all the stallholders made enough for their particular cause. The Church PCC stalls and the gate were up on last year, so brilliant! Sorry Ian you are going to have to do a repeat performance next year!
Richard Aylen

The Derry Hill Theatre Group

This home grown lively group will be performing a pantomime called KNIGHT FEVER! in **January 2015** at the **Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill**.

Great cast, fantastic director and amazing jokes!

Performances: **Friday 9th 7pm, Saturday 10th 8pm, Sunday 11th 3.30pm**. Jane Clark may have some tickets left: Adults **£6** and Kids **£3. 07733 231735**

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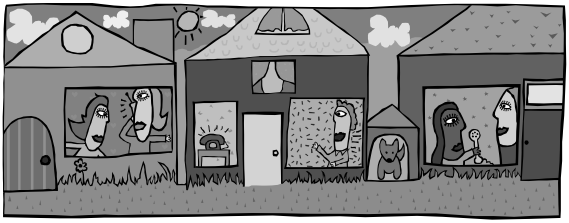
Mobile Library Visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill, 14:50 - 16:00
Tuesdays: 6 January, 20 January, 3 February 2015

Kingston House Derry Hill, 9.40 - 10:25
Mondays: 26 January, 23 February 2015

The Studley Villagers Event



The Studley Villagers held their first ever event at Studley's Methodist Hall on **Saturday 6th December**. We were very nervous at 10'clock, on this frosty December morning that no one would come, but we needn't have worried, as by 10.30 the hall was packed with people enjoying mince pies, homemade cake and hot mugs of coffee.

It was brilliant to see so many members of our community all in one place. I, for one, met up with old acquaintances and made lots of new ones and some people who had lived near each other for years, met up for the first time.

The children's activity table was a hive of activity all morning and I would especially like to thank Elise and Danny for all the effort they put in to arrange this. The children really enjoyed all the Christmas themed activities and it added to the festive feel of the event.

Several villagers made suggestions for other events and activities we could organise in the future, such as, a Studley History Group, a book club, a proper retro style jumble sale, monthly coffee mornings and many more.

Everyone of all ages was enthusiastic and delighted to be part of this new Studley Villagers' adventure.

Many thanks, also, to everyone who helped on the day. I think we made a great team and I am already looking forward to our next event, whatever it may be.

Angie Cleverly

Amanda's Pilates

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Thursday: Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill
9.00 am Improver level
10.15 am Beginner level

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*Mr Mervyn Wells - **01249 811125***
email: inspirederry@gmail.com

THE FAMOUS STUDLEY CARROTS

Do you grow carrots and if so do you have success? The reason I ask is that if you do then you are part of an old Studley tradition that goes back a few hundred years! Our area has seen Celtic farmsteads, Roman villas (at Bowood, Sandy Lane, and Studley where there was also a temple) and then Saxon. Throughout Norman and Medieval period our area was part of the Royal Forest of Chippenham which was gradually hived off and sold to the local manors and nobility.

However, by the late 17th century (approximately the reigns of King Charles II and the later Stuarts) Studley carrots had become renowned both for their quantity and for their quality! It would seem that vegetables were the coming thing from this time onward and the Studley (and later also Derry Hill) areas became full of allotments. The produce would have been packed off to markets at Chippenham, Calne, and Bath, and with the coming of the Canals in the 18th century even further afield. By the time of the railway in the 19th century it was possible to send our vegetables to the London markets via the railway siding at Blackdog Hill.

The allotments included the southern part of Studley Common of approximately **25** acres on the land which later became Blount's Nursery on the west side of Studley Lane, and which was laid out as inclosed strips of about two acres each by **1728**. Earlier it was Common pasture used by cottagers of Studley. Vegetable allotments were also laid out along the A4 and down the east side of Studley lane behind the cottages. On the area called The Red Hill, there were also allotments between the old cottages of Derry Hill and the A4 in the area which is now Chapel Street, Lansdowne Hall etc, To the north of Studley Corner and Studley House Farm, was the wooded area of Bodnage Copse. Close Wood (to the west of Blount's and running down Derry Hill to Pewsham was there of course. There were also wooded areas just to the north of Norley Lane.

In 1883 the allotment part of the old Common (that is the eastern half of Blount's) was laid out as eight allotments between The New Road and Studley Chapel. The same map shows allotments and vegetable plots in the entire area between The New Road and Old Road (Rag Lane). Maps of **1890**, **1901**, **1924**, **193**8, **1960** and **1974** still show these allotments as being there.

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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 **60**yrs 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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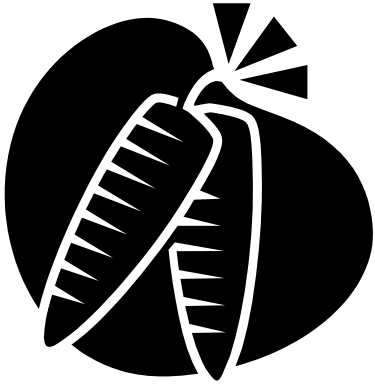

Allotments of course would not have been those we call them today. They would have been one or two acres or more and used as small-holdings like a full time job selling to the markets. Today all of the thriving magnificent allotments and nurseries have gone. The present lay out of the land shows remains of elements of these long established tracts. So keep up the tradition now and get growing those carrots!

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

Mothers' Union – Derry Hill

The December meeting took the form of the Christmas party, when most members met at Beechfield House for a festive tea.

During the afternoon we presented June with a card and gifts to mark her sixtieth wedding anniversary.

We all expressed good wishes and congratulations to her and John.

Thanks go to Robyn for organising yet another very enjoyable outing.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday 7th January 2.30pm** which will be the **AGM**.

New members and visitors are always welcome.
For information call Deirdre on **01249 822157**.

A Thank You.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported the coffee morning at the Lansdowne Hall on **12th November** to raise money for the **Royal Marsden Hospital** in London.

Our nephew Harry (three years old) is being treated there for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL).

The grand sum of **£1,000** was raised.

John and Janet Knight

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News from Rub-A-Dub Pre-school

Having enjoyed our Christmas holiday staff and children have now returned to the pre-school and are looking forward to the coming term. January and February can be cold and gloomy, but here at Rub-A-Dub there is always lots of laughter and fun – enough to keep us all warm!

Everyone enjoyed last terms events: Children in Need, Save the Children Christmas jumper week, the fabulous Nativity and our Christmas Party with our surprise guests!

To help raise funds for the pre-school we organised Santa's Grotto at the Church Christmas fayre. Those involved did a great job and it was lovely seeing the children's faces who visited. We would like to thank those of you who brought a ticket and for your positive feedback.

Looking ahead to this term we will be encouraging children to think about healthy eating and healthy bodies as well celebrating the Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day.

We would like to remind parents that as there is a risk of wintry weather, if the pre-school is forced to close then we will post a message on the home page of our website www.rubadubpreschool.com. You can also check our Facebook page for any notices. A useful reminder is that if Derry Hill School is closed due to adverse weather, then we will also be closed, so listen out on local radio for school closures.

Rub-A-Dub is a registered charity and relies on parents to take up the key roles to form the committee that helps run the pre-school. However, it is getting increasingly more difficult to find parents to take on these roles, which isn't surprising as many parents are living busier lives than ever before. Ashley Balloch our current Chair is stepping down and we are still looking for a replacement. If this role is not filled, then there is a real risk that the pre-school will have to close. We are sure that this would be a real loss to the community.

You don't have to be a parent to be on the committee, which is why we are appealing to the wider community to find a new Chair. If you think you may be interested and would like to find out more about what is involved, please email Ashley at rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk.

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
Retired Priest (PTO)	Reverend Jim Scott	**01249 813114**

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs) –

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

Derry Hill	Averil Davis	**01249 814411**
	Pat Day	**01249 814167**
	Anita Uttley	**01380 859433**

Church Wardens

Derry Hill	Mr Stephen Starr	**01249 821325**
Bremhill	Mrs Nancy Kyte	**01249 815073**
	Mr William Wyldbore-Smith	**01249 814969**
Foxham	Mrs Elizabeth Hannah	**01249 740619**
	Mrs Mary Kellond	**01249 740633**

PCC Treasurers (Tr) & Secretaries (Sec)

Derry Hill	Mr Simon Strange (Tr)	**01249 813378**
	Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec)	**01249 823252**
Bremhill	Dr David Stevens (Tr)	**01249 815337**
	Vacancy (Sec)	
Foxham	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 JANUARY**

4th January 2015

8.00am	Bremhill	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Foxham	Holy Communion (CW)
11.00am	**Derry Hill**	**Mattins**
4.00pm	Bremhill	Evensong
4.00pm	**Derry Hill**	**Praise@4 – From the Old to the New**

11th January 2015

9.30am	Foxham	Family Service
11.00am	**Derry Hill**	**Holy Communion for All Ages (CW)**
11:00am	Bremhill	Holy Communion (CW)

18th January 2015

8.00am	**Derry Hill**	**Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30am	Foxham	Holy Communion (CW)
11.00am	**Derry Hill**	**Family Service**
4.00pm	Bremhill	Evensong

25th January 2015

9:30am	Bremhill	Family Service
11:00am	**Derry Hill**	**Holy Communion (CW)**
6:00pm	Foxham	Evensong

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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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

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Parish Registers – all at Christ Church

We remember:

5 November 2014 – Eileen Rayment
10 November 2014 – Kathleen Poiner
30 November 2014 – Mary Lawson

May they rest in God's peace

Advance Notice of February Services

in Christ Church Derry Hill

1 February 2015

11:00am	Mattins
4:00pm	Praise@4 Service – Candlemas

8 February 2015

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

15 February 2015

8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
11:00	Family Service – Love and Marriage

18 February 2015 – Ash Wednesday

7:30pm	Reflection with Holy Communion

22 February 2015

11:00	Holy Communion (CW)

A message from Janet Stock in Studley

Who would have thought the Studley Defibrillator would be needed so soon after installing. The early morning of Saturday the 6th Bill Stock became very unwell and I had to call the emergency 111. They asked if there was a defibrillator near by and yes it was at Studley Chapel. It was fetched, very easily unlocked and brought to the Bungalow, by which time the paramedics had arrived. Although we didn't have to use the defibrillator it was comforting to know we could if necessary. Thank you all who made this possible. We are so very grateful. Bill is back home now and on the mend. ***Janet Stock.***

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Derry Hill and District WI

The Open Evening talk by Steve Williams, on WW1, was very well supported and enjoyed by all. Not only did we make a profit but we also raised money for SSAFA (www.ssafa.org.uk), who do such a lot to help servicemen, ex-servicemen and their families.

In our November meeting we had a talk about Wiltshire Air Ambulance (www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk) which was very informative. It is amazing how so much good work can be completed by so few crew and support staff. The helicopter can reach anywhere in the county in just eleven minutes, which is a very comforting thought if ever you should be unlucky enough to need them. The fact that two of our members have had to use this service brings home the point that it is not a distant luxury for other people!! Let's hope their fundraising continues to go well.

Dates for Diaries:

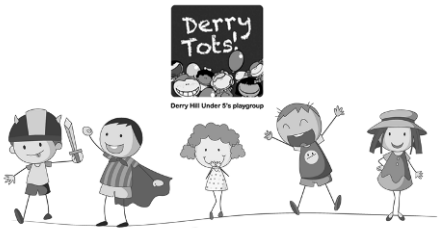
The **Knitting and Craft Group** will meet again at **Margaret Hogarth's house** on **Monday 12th January from 8-10pm**.

The next **Coffee Morning** will be at **Janet Baumber's** new house, 54 Lansdowne Crescent, on **Thursday January 15th at 10.30am**

Our **next meeting**, which will be on **January 28th**, is our '**Members Evening**' and we will have a 'School Photo' competition together with Wine Tasting. We can't wait to see all these girls with pigtails!! Members are asked to bring along some nibbles, but you can leave your spittoons at home.

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.

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www.derrytots.co.uk

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Ding Dong Derry Hill

With all eight bells sponsored we now await Salisbury Diocese's approval to the project. We are pleased to say that all their queries so far have been answered. We are also pleased that English Heritage have also given their blessing to the project.

Grant applications continue to be submitted but the more successful the community is in raising funds for the project then the more likely it is that grants are forthcoming.

So…. There is a list of supporting components to enable a bell to be rung and these are listed and priced below. We respectfully ask if any one who is interested in sponsoring an item gets in touch with Ken Webb (Project Manager): kenwebb@ringhilmarton.freeserve.co.uk and **01249 760682**. Ken will be able to advise if the part is available for sponsoring and also discuss part sponsorship of an item. No sponsorship is too small!

The parts needed are:

RHS HEADSTOCK (Inc. stocking down)	£1,000.00
BEARINGS (Pair) (per bell)	£212.00
SUPPORTING BOLTS (per bell)	£19.50
INDEPENDENT CROWN STAPLE (per bell)	£130.00
CLAPPER (per bell)	£159.00
WHEEL + BRACES (per bell)	£675.00
PULLEY UNIT (per bell)	£128.00
ASH STAY AND BOLTS (per bell)	£59.00
ASH SLIDER (per bell)	£62.00
RUNNER-BOARD (per bell)	£55.00
SLIDER PIN (per bell)	£35.00
BELLROPE (Pre-stretched Terylene) (per bell)	£192.00
BELL FRAME	£19,624.00

Note: I believe the Clappers are going quickly……..

Thank you!

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Guilt Free Roulade

3	Eggs
8 tbsp	Granulated sweetener
1 tspn	Vanilla essence
2 good tbsp.	Quark or low fat yogurt

Fruit of choice, I tend to go for Strawberries

Oven on at **180°C**

Separate the eggs. Whisk the whites in a bowl until stiff.

Mix the egg yolks and the sweetener together then add the Vanilla.

Fold the egg whites into the yolk mixture using a metal spoon. Try to keep as much air in the mixture as you can.

Pour the mixture onto a lined tray (I also spray the paper with some fry light), into a rectangle shape.

Pop into the oven for about **12-15** minutes, though after **10** minutes I'd keep watching. You just want it to start turning golden at the edges.

Remove from oven and leave to cool. If you're feeling brave you could try to peel it from the tray but if you want to keep the skin on your fingers it can wait until you're ready to assemble.

When ready peel away the baking paper and pop it on a chopping board or similar, just so you can roll the roulade up.

Chop up the Strawberries into smallish chunks, mix in with the Quark (or yogurt).

Pour the fruit mixture onto the meringue type base, spread evenly but not too close to the edges.

Slowly start rolling it up, making sure the filling doesn't squidge out the edges too much. Once rolled decorate with thin slices of strawberries.

Obviously this could feed about **4**, but, if like me you crave something sweet as a treat as soon as you've paid your **6** week subscription to a slimming club you can eat this all on your own and be safe in the knowledge that it's got no added sugar and lots of fruit in it!

Happy New Year!!!!! ***The Secret Chef***

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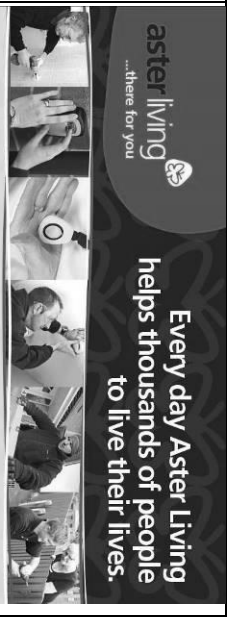

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Kingston House Derry Hill

On Sunday 7th December we had a festive Christmas Fayre. A great time was had by one and all. Tea, coffee and mince pies were in abundance as well as cakes for sale, Tombola, Raffle and Bric-a-brac. The event raised over **£400** for the Resident's Comfort Fund. Thanks very much to all who supported it.

Don't forget, if you have any old clothes Rag Bag is a good and charitable way of recycling them. Just give us a bell on **01249 815555** and we'll drop one in to you, or pop in and see us. Thanks to all those who have contributed so far. ***Lynda***

Poppy Collection 2014

I would like to say thank you to all the people throughout the villages who contributed to the above appeal. The total raised through the house to house collection was **£581.17** and, with the addition of the church donations, the final figure sent to **The Royal British Legion** was **£880.35**.

I would also like to thank the collectors who gave freely of their time - I really do appreciate your willingness to do this. ***Cathy Liddle*** (PAO)

Jack Stephen's Teasers

Welcome to the fun page dear reader. I hope you enjoyed the puzzles I set for you in December and that they got your grey matter working overtime. I will now set you free of your misery by supplying the answers!

1) One
2) The letters in each word are in their normal alphabetical order, eg LMN, NOP, DEF, RST, GHI and STU.
3) The next in the series is **e**. The series is One Two Three Four Five Six Seven and Eight.
4) There was a brother and a sister. The brother's son was there and so was the sister's daughter. From this all the relationships can be deduced.

I hope you enjoyed that "more taxing than normal" column. Join me for another one next month-if you dare. May I take this opportunity of wishing you all the very best for a magical 2015.

Jack www.jackstephens.co.uk

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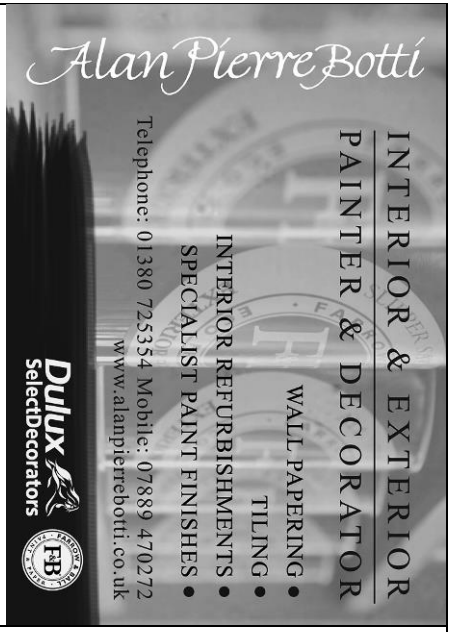
	6.00 - 11.00
FRI-SAT	**12.00 - 12.00**
SUN	**12.00 - 11.00**

A warm welcome awaits you from Paul, Ginnie and all our staff.



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

Reverend Ann Writes

Dear All

Happy New Year!!

By the time you read this the festivities will be over. I do hope you all had a peaceful and joyous Christmas. It was lovely to see so many of you at our services and at the various events during December.

One of my duties this year was to lead The Peace Light service at the Mid-Wilts Scouts Headquarters in Potterne. I knew little about this event until 2014.

You can find details on the internet: www.peacelight.org.uk but in essence it is a Peace initiative that draws on the support and help of the Scouts and Guides to spread the gift of Peace worldwide. A lantern is lit in Bethlehem and from there it passes into Europe, arriving in England during the second weekend in December. On Monday 15th December in Potterne around 60 scouters brought lanterns from groups as far as Dorset and Gloucestershire – a wide circle. A short service took place to welcome the Peace Light and to light the lanterns to take them back to local districts. The message to pass on was:

"***May the kindly spirit of Christmas spread its radiance far and wide, so all the world may feel the glow, of this Holy Christmastide. So may this light of peace today that has travelled many miles bring joy and hope to many, and fill each face with smiles. So may every heart and home continue through the year to feel the warmth and wonder of this season of good cheer. And may it bring us closer to God and to each other with every stranger known as friend, whether sister or a brother***."

Maybe this can be our New Year's resolution together.

Next year I hope we will, at Christ Church, be able to arrange our Christingle so that the Christingles can be lit from the Peace Light and so enable us all to be at one with others in the world supporting Peace as one body in Christ. Helping to bring Peace at a time when there is so much unrest and terror can only be to continue what God sent Jesus to initiate.

May you have a blessed and happy 2015.

With love and best wishes

Ann

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.

COMMUNITY FIRST
STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN WILTSHIRE & SWINDON

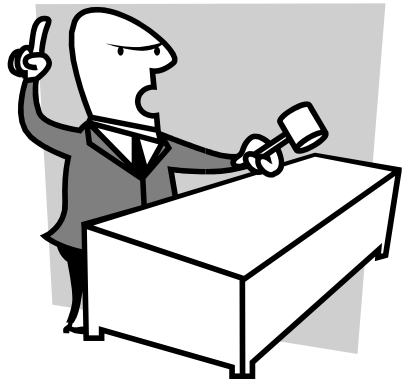
Trainees will be working with our team of Community Organisers to listen to those around us; our friends, relatives and neighbours, and then support them to convert their ideas into action, bringing people and groups together to tackle shared issues and enact positive solutions in their own neighbourhoods.

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**

Calne Without Parish Council News

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



The Parish Council met on 1st December 2014.

The council listened to a summary of the revised Hill's Waste recycling station re-application (Lower Compton) by Peter Alberry from Compton Bassett Parish Council. Despite revision, Peter Alberry was very clear in his presentation that the proposal would still mean increased traffic and resultant pollution in the Calne area. Given that there are already two pollution black spots in Calne town where the levels are above government limits (New Road and Curzon Street/Wood Street) this cannot be welcomed, especially as there is a more suitable site near the motorway. The councillors agreed to draft a letter of objection.

The Chairman announced he had received an estimate for the repair and cleaning of the Derry Hill and Studley War Memorial and it was thought appropriate that this should go ahead in the near future. Also under consideration for refurbishment are the railings, posts and gate when an estimate is available. Other items of possible Parish expenditure will be considered at the next meeting when the precept will be fixed. (I'm sure all the councillors would be happy to hear resident's views on any possible improvements in the parish). The precept fixing this year felt to be so important this year that we will meet for an extra meeting in January. There was further discussion on the amount and type of information on the Parish web site. (www.calnewithpc.org)

The council will meet again on **5th January 2015 7.30pm** at the **Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill**. Members of the public are welcome to come along. Further information about how you may bring an issue to the council will soon be available on the website.

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

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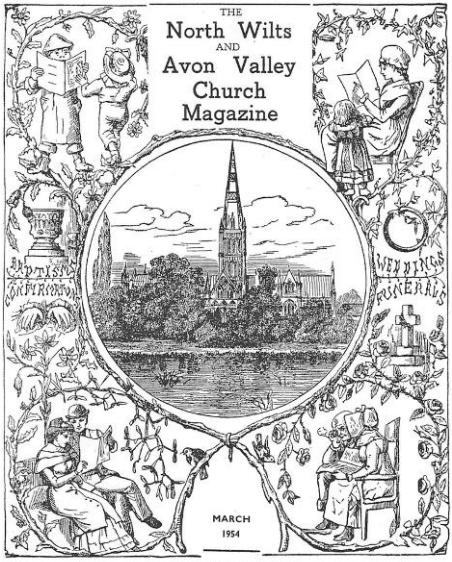
ARTICLE FROM THE PAST



For Derry Hill, January 1955…..

First may I wish you all a very Happy New Year and a prosperous one. Happiness, of course, comes only from being in communion with God – being right with Him. Let us resolve to be right with Him by worshipping Him regularly in Church. Prosperity means 'well-being' – in body, mind and spirit. Whilst I see many in the parish whose bodily well-being cannot be questioned, especially in terms of this world's goods, but who raise their hands in horror when asked to give a little or a little more for God's work in the Church, yet it is only too obvious to me that they are not prospering in mind and spirit. Let us, in 1955, increase our mental and spiritual prosperity, first by using our mental powers more for the work of the Church and the spread of God's Kingdom, second by increasing our own spiritual power through regular worship at church and regular receipt of the Sacrament. With this before us, a new and inspiring spirit could develop in this parish. It's up to YOU.

We do most sincerely congratulate the Work Party on their most successful Christmas Bazaar. Their hard work was fully rewarded.

May we say 'Thank you' to all who helped with the decorating of the church for Christmas. Such work helps materially the atmosphere conducive to true worship.

I am disturbed by the fact that so few confirmation candidates have come forward. The blame for this must rest squarely on the shoulders of parents and God-parents who are neglecting their duty. "Ye are to take care that this child be brought to the Bishop to be Confirmed by him." It is as plain as that. To refuse or neglect to do so is to break one's promise to God at the child's Baptism. L.W.G. Hudson.

The Soldier's Wife

Treasured mementoes lie quietly in trembling, bird like hands
Flames crackle in the hearth beside a velvet pink armchair.
Ghosts of men taken long ago in wars waged on foreign lands
Wisps of laughter on village greens before the dark days of despair.

Kisses stolen in the moonlight illuminating coffee coloured eyes
Sees him in her mind's eye, alive in a different time and place.
Blushing bride clad in ivory white vows to love him till she dies
When her hair still fell in golden waves around her pretty face.

Tunics pressed iron straight and boots shined until they gleam
Soldier boys make the uncertain journey towards the battlefield.
Teary farewells on crowded platforms wreathed in fog and steam
They are giving up their lives to act as King and country's shield.

She waits anxiously for news as her belly swells with precious life
Praying he comes home safe and sound to meet his new-born child.
He skulks in trenches surrounded by guns, bodies and bloody knives
The true horror never known despite all the history books compiled.

War is not honourable, it kills men without a single piteous thought
It ravages minds and mutilates bodies beyond all hope and repair.
Leaving broken hearted children, young widows utterly distraught
Futures traded for our freedom, suffering more than they could bear.

He is always on display amongst the neat rows of family and friends
A dignified soldier forever standing tall behind smooth polished glass.
Medals proudly collected from exotic lands that he valiantly did defend
Battles all too soon forgotten, before long relegated to the past.

She turns and stares out the window into the relentless driving rain
Her grey-haired dim reflection belies the passing of countless years.
A life filled with joy, laughter and pride but yet overshadowed by pain
Remembers her sweetheart lost on a strange blood-stained frontier.

Kirsty J. Liddle - 2014

DEFIBRILLATOR NEWS

Up and Running

We now have all 3 defibrillators set up and running with regular checks being done by our bands of volunteers. Well done everybody and thanks again to all those who have helped either financially or in other ways. Support from the community has been fantastic. By Jove we did it!

Future Plans

We now have to do a smaller amount of fund raising for maintenance and spare parts for our three defibrillators. That will continue by any means we can think of.

First Aid in the Village

We are all up to speed on awareness of defibrillator use now (!) thanks to our refresher sessions. A further step could be to look at general first aid for that unexpected emergency.

Please let us know what you think about this.

We would like to set up some training or retraining sessions for anyone interested using some of the money we have in hand to pay for professional courses. Please e-mail or phone the contacts below with any suggestions/thoughts about how you would like to do this.

We need your input!

Thanks in advance!

Emma Dadd **01249 817438**
emma.dadd@hotmail.co.uk
Paula Edwards **01249 816364**
bryher3@talktalk.net

Praise @ 4

Christ Church Derry Hill

4pm Sunday 4th January

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

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Praise @ 4

Christ Church Derry Hill

4pm Sunday 1st February 2015

Coffee @ 3.45pm
Children's activities
All ages welcome

www.mardenvale.org.uk