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DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY MATTERS



December 2016

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.

ADVERTISING RATES

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EDITORIAL

December, as usual promises to be a busy month. Christmas parties, Nativities, the switching on of Christmas lights and Carol Services.

However, it is a worry to some that there is so much to be done; ordering all the food and drink, making sure that everyone has a present and so it goes on. So, for several reasons, we can get wound up this month.

I expect Joseph and Mary were pretty wound up too trying to obey the order to return to Joseph's tribal village and to find a place to stay so that Mary could be comfortable in her confinement. Suddenly everything changed and all that stress must have washed away in the wonder of the birth of Jesus. Let's hope that we are all enveloped in the same wonder this Christmas.

Ed

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS TO DERRY HILL

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill, 14.30 – 16.00

Tuesdays: **13 December 2016 and 10 January 2017**

Kingston House Derry Hill, 9.40 – 10.25

Mondays: **26 December 2016 and 23 January 2017**



CALNE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL AND LANTERN PARADE

Saturday 3 December 2016



This is going to be a busy day in Calne particularly in the afternoon.

Please be aware that certain parts of Calne will be **CLOSED TO TRAFFIC** including the **A4**.

Having said that there will be lots of fun with Santa's Grotto, Food and Drink stalls, Dancers, Music and a Guinness Book of Records attempt for the Most Living Figures in a Nativity Scene. The lights Switch on is at **6.15pm**.

Further details on the Calne Town Website (www.calne.gov.uk). *Ed*

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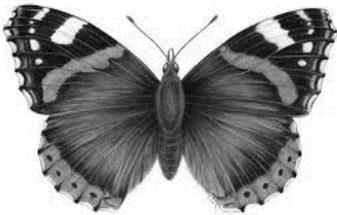
ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

I believe that we humans, every one of us, have a sacred and inescapable duty to maintain and protect this planet and all its inhabitants so it is truly terrifying to realise that **58%** of wildlife on the planet has been lost since only **1970**.

But this loss is also in our own locality so complacency in our daily lives, and gardens and in the neighbourhood, is not the order of the day! There is an initial opportunity in our two villages to begin to stem this loss by our helping to ensure that the imminent detailed planning application for Blount's fully includes all the environmental policies of our Neighbourhood Plan. It won't undermine the requirement of the builder who has now purchased the land. But it will improve the focus from the careless building of the past to conservational and imaginative building of the future.

It is important that Studley Lane does not become urbanised with pavement and lights and that there is generous tree and hedge planting across the whole site to off-set habit loss, aid human health and wellbeing, and maintain carbon capture. So please look at the environment policies of the Neighbourhood Plan and support them in the planning process for Blount's in **2017**. Your views count!

Summer displays of our swallows were as usual magnificent. There seem to be more pied-wagtails around - I always think that their movement looks somewhat comical. Red kites are now colonising the area from eastern England. And our buzzards seem to be doing well. The gliding and calling of these magnificent big birds is quite beguiling.



Butterflies were knocked back this year by the high rainfall and overall numbers have been down and appearances were later than usual. However, the Marbled White has been seen in more places, as has the summer visitor (from Africa via France and Spain) the Painted Lady.

Summer seemed to have merged into autumn this year: in the garden I saw Red Admirals, dragonflies and bees out in early November and plenty of ladybirds. All manner of plants have been flowering late. Of course, we may pay for it with hard weather later.

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So, as you gather around your snug warm living room and engage in Yule time feasting and family joy, please give a thought to how you can help our local wildlife this winter.

And keep those bird feeders stocked up. Leave a pile of leaves and twigs in the corner of your garden. Don't forget that fact sheets and wildlife workshops will be available to you in **2017**. And there are student study placements and training courses. I also hope you will join in the various wildlife audits.

I wish you and yours and all creatures a warm, safe and joyous Christmas. *Stephen*. ©Stephen Cox Garden Trust

webpage: www.stephencoxgarden.simplesite.com

email: stephencox.gardentrust@gmail.com

HAND BELL RINGING

Wednesday evenings from **7.30pm – 9pm** we meet to practice our hand bell ringing but we will be stopping for a while after our last public outing of the year on 18th December until 11th January. Do join us then and give it a try - no experience needed! There is a small charge of **£2** per week per person to cover costs. We hope to see you in January!!! For more details, please contact **David Bedford** on **07977143822**

MEDITATION – ALL ARE WELCOME

We meet **every Wednesday** at **6.30pm** until **7.00pm**, just a very short time. We arrive quietly, there is a short reading and then we meditate for **20** minutes. We leave in silence, so there is no need to feel you must join in social chit chat, though we can greet one another!

Meditation is very simple and open to all. There are no “experts” in meditation. Some people come on a regular basis and some come occasionally. All are welcome.

We will continue to meet weekly through the winter and we are so pleased to be meeting in the church where there will be heating. However, we would like to make a small donation towards the cost of the heating, so we would suggest **50p** to **£1** as a guide, but this would be up to each person.

Do come along and feel the benefit of a quiet still place amidst the business of life. *Janet Robbins* - **01249 814845**

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CALNE WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

(Derry Hill and Studley are in this Parish)

The Parish Council met on Monday 7 November. The Chairman Ed Jones and Richard Ayles agreed to take part in '**Joint Strategic Assessment**' event at the end of the month. This event gathers people from all over the Calne Community area, of which we are part, to discuss and help the Calne Area Board identify local priorities and actions for the next two years. The councillors learned that many daffodil bulbs had been planted over the whole of Calne Without Parish by Councillors Mat Maddicks and Kate Morley and there were still some more left to plant elsewhere.



Councillors learnt from the Sun Edison sub group that there were still funds left for distribution and further advertising was in the pipeline to invite qualifying groups to apply.

There was further discussion on the need for more dog/litter bins in Derry Hill. As Wiltshire Council has told the Parish Council it cannot supply new bins or empty them without a charge, the Parish council decided to '**go it alone**' and order new bins and pay for them to be emptied. These new bins will be placed either end of Church road and one down by the end of Ayles Way by the Lansdowne Hall. If any of the old bins are moved to new locations then Wiltshire Council will no longer empty those.

Friends of Studley Hill will be interested to read that the saga continues, with Christine Crisp (Wiltshire Councillor for our area) assuring Parish Councillors that Wiltshire Council were still investigating the water running down the road issue.

Councillors considered an email from Janet Robbins concerning the cutting down of trees in the wood beyond Blount's Court. Apparently, the felling is being conducted by the Forestry Commission and no protected trees are being cut.

Next meeting - **5 December 7.30pm** at the **Lansdowne Hall**.

These are my unofficial jottings of the meeting that I hope you find informative.

The website www.calnewwithoutpc.org contains the official minutes, once passed, and other information.

Richard Ayles - Parish Councillor



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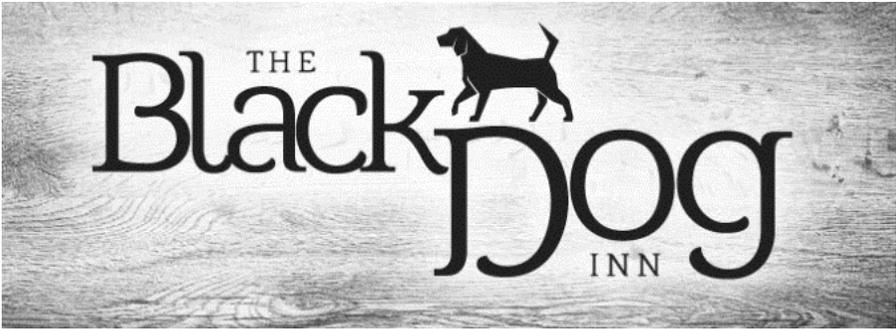
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THE BLACK DOG INN



The Soho has been transformed into the Black Dog Inn! And what a transformation it is inside and out! Outside it looks classy with its black and white décor and lovely wrought iron work. Inside the new owners have gone for a clear uncluttered look with wood and sage green furniture and stylish wooden floors.

On the opening night, Thursday 10 November, the place was heaving, even when I walked in at 9.15pm. It was one big party of locals delighted that two folk in their midst had decided to turn this pub into something different.

Mine hosts, Pete Carroll and his longstanding partner, Cathy, have lived in the area for years. In fact, Peter lived as a boy in a house in Redhill Close, Derry Hill, when it was first built in **1974**.

As a teenager he worked in the Lansdowne Arms, even lived there for a bit, as well as working at the Soho Garage. (Now the K4 Kitchen Shop)

Pete and Cathy tell me that their aim is to be aware of local needs, so there will always be room for folk to come in to have a drink and a chat. Good quality food will be served, and from what I've seen of the menu we have a gourmet treat on our doorstep.

For the Real Ale fans, look no further, Sharp's Atlantic along with Mole's Rucking and B.D.I. (Black Dog Inn) are to the fore. I can recommend the latter in particular, though I love them all!

There are lots of plans in the pipeline including accommodation and live entertainment, so watch this space.

In the meantime, go and enjoy! *Ed*



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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 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.

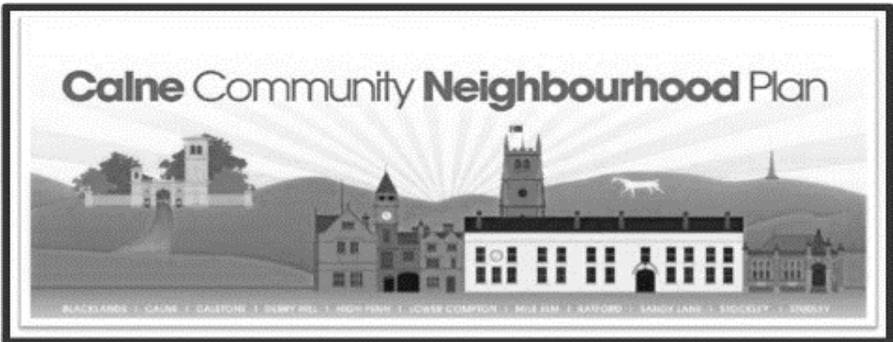
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Your Parish is part of this plan, which has been so far two years in the making.

The Steering Group creating this plan is made up of two Calne Without Parish councillors, two from Calne Town and volunteers from the community. We have been meeting on average every two weeks. Sub-groups were formed to look at existing issues in the community, particularly in housing, but also in the built environment, getting around, working and shopping, community facilities and the natural environment. There have been quite a few surveys and lots of professional help.

We now have a draft plan that will be available from now until **11 January 2017**.

The plan is for you to look at and comment on if you feel so inclined. Eventually, once various bodies have looked at it, as well as a government inspector, it will go to a public referendum. If it gets over a **50%** positive vote it will have strong legal weight in the planning process for our area.

Please, please get on to the Calne Without Parish website and find the link to the plan and how to comment. www.calnewwithoutpc.org. Otherwise, if you would like to read the Plan on paper we are aiming to have copies in such places as the Lansdowne Hall, Church and Shop. There will also be copies in the library in Calne.

We need to get this plan right in reflecting the views of our community – **that's what it's all about!**

Richard Ayles. Parish Councillor and member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

CHURCH CONTACTS

CHRIST CHURCH - DERRY HILL

www.mardenvale.org.uk

Vicar Reverend Ann Massey **01249 817926**
ea.massey@btinternet.com

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

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

Averil Davis **01249 814411**

Anita Uttley **01380 859433**

Church Wardens

Mr Stephen Starr **01249 821325**

Vacancy

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Mr Simon Strange (Tr) **01249 813378**

Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec) **01249 823252**

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.

DECEMBER 2016 IN CHRIST CHURCH

4 December 2016

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

11 December 2016

11:00am All Age Holy Communion

18 December 2016

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11:00am Children's Carols, Christingles and Creating the Crib ready for Jesus on Christmas Eve.

8:00pm Carols by Candlelight

24 December 2016 – Christmas Eve

3:00pm Crib Service with 'Live' Nativity!!

6:00pm Carols at Bowood

9.30pm Sharing Midnight Mass with Bethlehem

25 December 2016 – Christmas Day

11:00am All Age Holy Communion Celebration

MOTHER'S UNION



The November meeting was held in church starting with prayers led by Deirdre. Members had brought handcrafted bags they had made to be used as baptism bags. These were to be filled with various significant items and given to families and children brought for baptism. Many had also brought items for the baptism basket to be used by children when they attend a baptism to give greater understanding and significance to the ceremony.

The new knitted nativity figures are almost complete and drew much admiration. These will be used for the Posada, to be passed around from family to family during Advent.

Nan has written a letter of thanks to the Fete committee for their generous grant, which will be used to engage speakers for our meetings in **2017**.

Claire came to show us how to decorate a Christmas door wreath and members then helped to make some paper decorations to be used in church over the festive season. We now feel we are very skilled at making red pom-poms!

The next meeting is a **Christmas Afternoon Tea at Bowood; 7 December 2016**. We will meet there at **2:30pm**.

Our **January AGM** will be held on the second Wednesday in January, ie **11 January 2017**.

The New Start Coffee Morning, for the second half of the Christmas term, was held in church Friday 4th. November. It was well attended by several mothers of the new reception class and lots of toddlers, one of whom had a birthday on that day so we all had cake!

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Details from *Deirdre* **01249 822157**.

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A LARGE THANK YOU



It's been a busy but fruitful year on the magazine with lots of interesting news and some new advertisers. So far we have managed to keep our head above water and the adverts have paid for the printing – each edition costs around **£300**.

I hope you have enjoyed the new look colour version this year. It's great that we can have some of our news contribution in colour as well as the adverts.

Most of all I would like to say a great big thank you to all our volunteers who make this enterprise possible. In no particular order, Dave Massey our print coordinator and webmaster, who gathers everything in and makes it into a sensible, coherent magazine, print-ready for the publisher. Thank you very much to our brilliant team of distributor volunteers who deliver the mag to your door in all weathers, every month, supplied and coordinated by the tireless Belinda Tanner and Kevin Rowland.

We don't have to tap you for a penny as our energetic and persuasive Keith Treslove manages to keep our advertisers paying and finding new ones! Thank you Keith!

This magazine must keep your interest and I would like to thank all the regular contributors who put pen to paper and those who contribute now and again, you know who you are! Thanks.

Finally, a big thank you to Reverend Ann who encourages us all and puts so much effort into our parishes and this magazine. You are a star! Ed

PATCHWORK AND QUILTING GROUP

If anyone is interested in patchwork now would be the time to learn.

A new group is being set up in the **Lansdowne Hall** by me. I live locally and have several years of teaching this craft.

Please get in touch! *Shirley Peters.*

Contact: winter1peters@yahoo.co.uk



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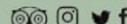
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Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collection changes

There will be no waste or recycling collections on Monday 26 December 2016.



All collections during this week will be one day later than normal, with a collection on Saturday 31 December.

Collection days will return to normal from Monday 2 January 2017.

Garden waste collections will be suspended from Monday 26 December and restart on Monday 9 January.

If you have paid for a garden waste collection you can leave your real Christmas tree alongside your garden waste bin on your first garden waste collection day in January and we will ensure it is composted.



To check your collection days at anytime visit: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-collection-days

Normal collection day	Revised household waste, black box, plastic bottles and cardboard collection day	Revised garden waste collection day
Mon 26 December	Tues 27 December	No collections
Tues 27 December	Wed 28 December	No collections
Wed 28 December	Thurs 29 December	No collections
Thurs 29 December	Fri 30 December	No collections
Fri 30 December	Sat 31 December	No collections
Mon 2 January	Collections as normal	No collections
Tues 3 January	Collections as normal	No collections
Wed 4 January	Collections as normal	No collections
Thurs 5 January	Collections as normal	No collections
Fri 6 January	Collections as normal	No collections
Mon 9 January	Collections as normal	Collections as normal

Household recycling centre opening hours

All household recycling centres will be closed from 1pm on 24 December and all day on 25 December, 26 December and 1 January. At all other times normal opening hours will apply, 10am – 4pm, five days per week.

Visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres to check which days your local centre is open.

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

CHRIST CHURCH EVENTS IN JANUARY

1 January 2017

10:00am Holy Communion at St Mary's Calne

8 January 2017

11:00am Holy Communion All Age (CW)

15 January 2017

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11:00am Family Service

22 January 2017

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

29 January 2017

11:00am Bremhill, Foxham and Derry Hill Holy Communion in Christ Church. The Feast of the Presentation of Christ - the Light of the World. More candles!!

COMMUNITY FUNDING AVAILABLE

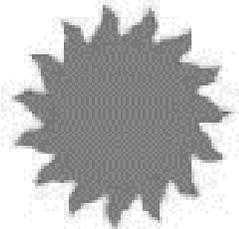
Calne Without Parish Council is managing a fund donated to the parish by **Sun Edison**.

You may remember previous news on this fund. There is still some money left in the pot so if your group has a project and needs funds this may help.

So far the fund has helped fund solar panels for Derry Hill School, a new roof for the Scout Hut and a new hut for Calne Tennis Club.

Donations have also been pledged to several projects that are still in the process of fund raising.

If you are interested, please go to the council's website for further details: www.calnewwithoutpc.org or email the Parish Council's clerk: cwpcclerk@gmail.com.





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.

We are having an open morning on 29th June, 9.30-11.30am with coffee & cake and a pre-loved toys and clothes sale.

Please come and visit us, all welcome!

For enquiries email: enqdhuf@gmail.com

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PEACE LIGHT THIS CHRISTMAS



As we did last year the Peace Light that originates from Bethlehem will be collected from Potterne and be central to our Christmas Services. In this time of extreme unrest please take some time to visit Christ Church to take part in the services from the **18th December** (when the Peace Light is received into the Church at the

morning service) to contemplate peace and the coming of our Lord. You are welcome to all the services and to just come and sit in church at any time.

DERRY HILL AND DISTRICT W

On the evening of 26 October, the ladies of Derry Hill WI with a few spouses and a capacity audience at the Lansdowne Hall had a cookery demonstration by Devizes chef Peter Vaughan.

The vegetarian theme was “***A Taste of Autumnal Wiltshire Produce***”, but ingredients included rapeseed oil from Berkshire and quinoa from near Bath. Concentrated maple syrup added sweetness. Besides being able to observe the preparation of the dishes, the audience were all given samples to taste, distributed by WI waitresses. The sautéed red cabbage and charred walnuts were memorable.



Members were continuing preparations for the craft stall at the Christmas Fayre, whilst looking forward to the **Christmas Meal** at the **Westbrook** on **7 December**.

The scheduled talk for the **January 2017** meeting on **25 January** is “***Venetian Masks***” by Karen Johnson.

If you are interested in coming to a meeting please phone Sheila on **814538**, or Janet, on **814152** or just pop in - we'd love to see you.



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Chickens	£2.90/lb £6.39/Kg	Ox Tongue	£4.80/lb £10.58/Kg
Chickens 8 lb +	£3.30/lb £7.28/Kg	Pigs in blankets	£3.00 pack 6
Geese	£5.65/lb £12.46/Kg	Gammon Joints	£3.10/lb £6.83/Kg
Ducks	£2.95/lb £6.50/Kg	Leg Pork boneless	£2.95/lb £6.50/Kg
Boneless Turkey crown	£4.65/lb £10.25/Kg	Boneless Rib Beef	£8.69/lb £19.16/Kg
- can be filled with our homemade stuffing		Bone in Rib Beef	£6.25/lb £13.77/Kg
Topside and Silverside	£4.65/lb £10.25/Kg	Rolled Sirloin	£10.65/lb £23.48/Kg
Homemade Chestnut stuffing	£2.95/lb		

Christmas gift vouchers available

Christmas opening times

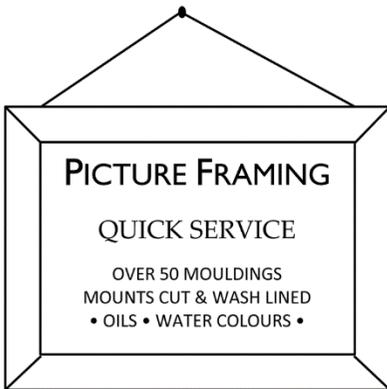
Wednesday 21st 8am – 5pm
 Thursday 22nd 8am - 5pm
 Friday 23rd 8am - 5 pm
 Saturday 24th 8am - 1pm

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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 newleaf floristry@hotmail.co.uk

STUDLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Services for December 2016

4th Dec	10:30am	Mr. Eric Clifford
11th Dec	10:30am	Rev. Janet Evans Sacramental Service
18th Dec	4:00pm	Carols by Candlelight all welcome please bring a torch!
25th Dec	10:00am	at Central Chippenham

Social Events in December 2016

Saturday 3rd Dec	10:00am to 12 Noon	Studley Villagers Christmas Mince Pie Morning Bring and Buy, Children's activities etc - all welcome
Monday 5th Dec	2:30pm	Fellowship and Poetry afternoon (Theme: Christmas) all welcome Home made cake and refreshments Supporting CAP - Christians Against Poverty

Christmas trees

If you are thinking of upsizing or downsizing your Christmas tree, then please consider donating your 'old' one to our Christmas Tree themed Carol Service

Nativity scenes

If you'd like to display your Nativity Scene at the Chapel during the Christmas period, then please do get in touch with Linda **01249 817194** or Christina **01249 448292**.

May we wish everyone a peaceful and blessed Christmas!

From all at Studley Methodist Chapel.



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NEWS FROM RUB-A-DUB PRE-SCHOOL

September saw us starting yet another new year at the pre-school. Having seen our 'Rising Stars' children leave in the summer, with many going to Derry Hill Primary school, we welcomed **15** new faces to the pre-school. 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. They brought in their fruit and vegetables before taking them up to Reverend Ann to add to the growing display of donations.

During November, the children marked Remembrance Day, by going to a service held by Reverend Ann at Christ Church. Then of course there was Children in Need day where the children (and staff) got to dress up in something spotty!

Before we know, December is upon us and the children will perform their own special Nativity Play with Reverend Ann again at Christ Church. The children will get an opportunity to think about those not as lucky as they are by wearing their Christmas Jumpers to raise money for Save the Children. We will end the term with a fabulous traditional Christmas Party!

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.

Next year, **2017**, sees **Rub-A-Dub** celebrating its **30th birthday**, so look out for future updates on how we are planning to celebrate this momentous occasion!

Rub-A-Dub Staff and Committee wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!

PS *The children were brilliant in church, and their quiet respect during the Act of Remembrance was something I will always cherish!*
Reverend Ann 😊

CHIPPENHAM BRANCH RNLI

House to House collections

On behalf of the RNLI I would like to thank the residents of Derry Hill for their most generous support for the RNLI in our House to House Collections in September/October.

These totalled **£334.83 (2015 £200.06)** out of a branch figure including Flag Day and one supermarket collection of **£4,353.04 (2015 £5,256)**, the fall in this figure is mainly due to the fact that our supermarkets have restricted us to one collection a year.



Following legislation on '**cold calling**' the RNLI has called time on House to House Collections. So many thanks to our collectors and to you for your support over the years. If you would still like to support your local branch of the RNLI you can do so by joining our **100 Club** for **£12** per year. This not only supports the RNLI in providing **24** hour cover around our coastline but you would have a chance to win one of the prizes in our monthly draws.

Please ring Lance on **01249 720686** to join or find out more.

KINGSTON HOUSE

Minibus fund

Congratulations to all those who took part in the charity dog walk with the help of St. Mary's School Sports Centre, and thanks to those who contributed to our raffle and cake sale. Over **£254** for the bus fund was raised.



Winter fare

This was on Sunday 20 November. A grand time was had by all; many thanks for all those who contributed and came along to support us. We raised over **£1,000** for the Comfort Fund, which will go primarily to the mini-bus appeal.

From all of us at Kingston House have a lovely Christmas and a great New Year.

Lynda (**01249 815555**)

REVEREND ANN WRITES

Dear All

You will receive a Christmas card with seasonal wishes and a list of Christ Church's activities in this magazine issue – I do hope you will note the events in Christ Church! Sometimes it is difficult to move out of the comfort of our homes into the cold but I assure you that you will receive a warm welcome in Christ Church! The facilities are excellent – small kitchen, modern loo and plenty of wheelchair space, plus children catered for and, it is all on the flat!

At the beginning of **Advent** we had a **Darkness to Light** at **Foxham** that was for all three parishes that I look after. We sometimes overlook that, as adults turning our minds to Christmas, to also turn towards Christ returning. We celebrate his first coming and anticipate his second. So, we try to ensure we are in a better state of preparation during Advent for his return than we might if we didn't expect him to come again!

It is lovely to come together in church and especially over Christmas to make a special effort to heal old wounds and bring reconciliation.

It will be lovely to welcome the school into Church this Christmas again. Of course, Rub-a-dub and the Under 5s too bring an eager liveliness to the church too – there is nothing to compare with seeing the children and their parents comfortable in church, enjoying what is on offer. We welcome them always wholeheartedly!

On **10th December** at **10am** we will be putting up the **Christmas Tree** in **Christ Church**. This is the first occasion for families to come together in church over Christmas and it is an exciting time – trying to get a bauble into that space which is just a bit too far away! Do come!

On **18th December** we have a **Children's Carol Service (11am)** in which we will welcome the **Peace Light** from **Bethlehem**, light the Christingles and make ready the manger for the arrival of baby **Jesus** on **Christmas Eve (3pm)**. The traditional **Carol Service** is in the evening at **8pm** in Christ Church. **MASK** will once again perform a Christmas programme on **12th December** at **7.30pm** in church. We shall sing carols and listen to Christmas readings and enjoy a mince pie or two! Let us together welcome the king of peace, love, joy and hope into the world with gusto! May you know the blessing of Christ's birth this Christmas time and throughout **2017**. *With Love Ann*

DEFIBRILLATOR NEWS



Thank You

Once again we must thank the sterling efforts of the Studley people for their magnificent fund-raising efforts in support of the defibrillator fund. The money raised in last month's coffee morning was passed to our Treasurer, Emma Dadd, and will go towards the maintenance of our three defibrillators.

Good Neighbours

We are entering the season of "**goodwill to all men**", so there can be no better time than to get to know your neighbours and look out for each other. We have previously mentioned how important this is when an emergency arises and a defibrillator is called for. Please make this small effort, who knows, it could save your life!

Meeting notes

At our last meeting, we decided to have in each defibrillator kit a battery LED head torch instead of the wind-up hand-held variety. We also now have a checklist of all the 'kit' in the defibrillator bag. The list will be used every time we do our monthly check of the equipment. The monthly checks are entered online so the ambulance service knows that the defibrillator is operational. Please remember to phone the ambulance service if you think the kit is required, they will give you the key code.

Farewell!

Finally, it was with great sadness that everyone in our small group said a fond farewell to our Chairperson, Paula Edwards, who has moved out of the area. Paula was the main instigator in getting the project of raising funds to buy a defibrillator off the ground and has been a driving force throughout, steering us through the process of starting up the charity, fund raising and buying not one but three defibrillators. Who knows how many lives they could possibly save in the future. A big thank you to her and we wish her and her husband Michael health and happiness in their new home.

Hazel Eastham, 01249 822400.

GIVE A LITTLE TO MAKE A LOT OF GOOD

Having just received our copy of inSPIRE I noticed that the Brownies are looking for help. This, plus the fact that the Derry Hill Guides closed due to lack of volunteers, made me think about the importance of volunteering in our community.

When you become a parent, you start to become involved in a whole new world of clubs and organisation. This even starts when they are babies and toddlers with attending mother and baby groups or sending your child to the local pre-school. As they get older, they want to do football, join Scouts or Guides groups, and get involved with a Youth Club and much more!

Here in Studley and Derry Hill, we are lucky to have Rub-A-Dub pre-school, Derry Tots, a mother and baby group, both based at the village hall, along with the Youth Club. We have a Scout group, consisting of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and for now, Brownies. When they start school, you can get involved with the Friends of Derry Hill School, a group of parents who raise funds for the school by staging events for children and parents. There also is the Derry Hill Football Club near the newly named Black Dog Inn!

As parents, we have become involved with many of these groups as volunteers, met many new people, whom we would otherwise never have gotten to know and have made new friends. We cannot deny that at times it can be hard work and it sometimes involves attending occasional courses, but it is great when you see the children enjoying themselves, developing their confidence and learning new skills.

Volunteering can be good for the soul, and in many cases, you may not need to have children at the group to get involved, just a desire to help. I have stayed on as Treasurer at Rub-A-Dub pre-school even though my children have long gone!

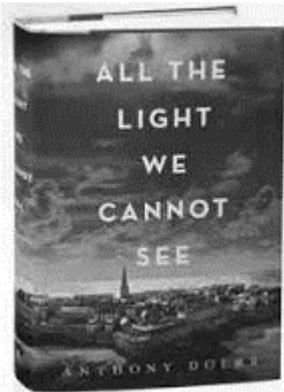
So, readers, when you see an article in inSPIRE from one of the charities looking for support, please take some time to think hard as to whether you could volunteer and help keep a group that's brings something to our community thriving – even if you don't have children!

Elise Baird

PS. I'm delighted to report that Rachel Bailey has volunteered to help with Brownies. Well done her! I gather that Guides and the Defibrillator group are still looking for help. *Ed*

BOOK REVIEW

All The Light I Cannot See by Anthony Doerr Chosen by Ann Vaid



This is a crisply written, long and complex story which skilfully weaves plot threads to a satisfactory conclusion and will pull on your heart strings. The two main characters are young people who live in different countries during the Second World War and only meet briefly as the war ends. Werner is a German orphan, destined to labour in the mines until a broken radio fills his life with possibility and brings him to the notice of the Hitler Youth. The French Marie Laure has been blind since the age of six and lives in a world which she navigates with the help of her father and the

miniature mazes which he builds for her both of Paris and St. Malo. Does a maze hide an invaluable diamond and will Marie Laue be rescued or shot?

This novel will be an excellent read for a long journey or a holiday.

If anyone would like to borrow a copy of this book or any others we have read, please contact [Dani](#) 01249 816106.

GARDENING STEVE

December in the garden can be a quiet month. Keep checking on forced Hyacinths. By now they should have flowering buds. Keep turning the bowls so that they flower evenly. Fuchsias and Pelargoniums and Geraniums that are kept in the greenhouse; keep watering to once a week. Keep



leaves off lawns so the grass doesn't turn yellow. You can keep leaves on borders as this will give them a mulch. This is also the month to clean all the pots and seed trays with Jeyes fluid. This will kill all the bugs that live in the pots and they will be clean ready for potting up plants in the Spring. I hope you all have a great Christmas and see you all in the New Year.

Stephen Starr Bowood gardener

RURAL ARTS DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

It was great to see so many at the Rural Arts event in October. All those in the Bremhill village hall created a lively atmosphere.

The next event is: **Thisbe Door Ajar Theatre Company**

Friday 3 March 2017 Bremhill Village Hall

This theatrical production is based around characters from **Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream**. But do not be daunted by this. Thisbe is a magical adventure, full of unruly comedy and live music. Puck will be there with many pranks. There will be six actor-musicians and an original score. It will be another unique evening. Ticket details to follow. *Marilyn Adcock*

SOUP FOR SYRIA – SYRIAN REFUGEES

£125 was raised and sent to support the refugees. Reverend Ann and Stephen Starr cooked an amazing array of soups to tempt our palates on Saturday 19th November. Well done to them both and their supporters. We could choose as many soups as we wanted to try for a donation! My favourite was the Beetroot soup and I thought I'd share the recipe Ann used with you:

450g red beetroot, 1 tbsp butter, 1 tbsp olive oil, 2 sliced leeks, 1 med sliced onion, 2 chopped celery sticks, a large pinch each of ginger, allspice and pepper, a bay leaf, a spring of thyme, two sprigs of parsley and 120ml single cream. Salt and pepper.

Here's what you do:

1. Roast the beetroot by wrapping in foil and putting them in a preheated oven (200C) for around an hour until tender.
2. Cool and peel the beetroot. Cube, reserving a few for garnish.
3. Put butter and oil in med saucepan and gently cook the celery, onion and leeks for about 15 mins. Add pepper, ginger, allspice, and beetroot. Stir for five minutes taking care not to let the contents stick to the bottom of the pan.
5. Add 1 ltr of water, the thyme, the parsley and the bay leaf. Bring to the boil and simmer until the beetroot is tender, 20/25 minutes. Take out the thyme, parsley and bay leaf. Allow the contents to cool and then puree; reheat as needed. Add cream, salt and pepper to taste, stir well, serve and garnish. *The sous chef*



Presents...

Robinson Crusoe

by Steve Shaw



Performances

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 [Facebook.com/DerryHillTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/DerryHillTheatre)

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