DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE

Digital Version

October 2020

The Parish Magazine of Christ Church Derry Hill

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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

…….and so, October is upon us, the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness in all its glory and if we are lucky some sparkling days before we head into the darker months. However, those months may still be somewhat different than we have known previously given the unpredictable times we are currently living through.

At the time of writing my September piece (in the middle of August), some semblance of 'normality' had entered our lives as we had come out of lockdown and had learned to live with the new normalities of living through a world-wide Covid-19 pandemic, some clearly felt that 'it was all over'. That now seems not to be the case as the rate of infections is rising rapidly and though at a slower pace than most of Europe, that should not give us cause for complacency.

Arguably, our shops, hairdressers, places of work and many of our meeting places are as clean and as bio-secure as they have ever been and certainly the need for strict hygiene generally has a much higher profile than ever before. It appears though that the virus has begun to spread rapidly among our communities as people meet together and enjoy hospitality within or outside the home. It looks as if tougher restrictions are on the way in order to avoid the scenes we witnessed in the Spring. We are lucky that in Wiltshire we do not have

a large urban population centre, Swindon being a separate Unitary authority, and have a very good Covid-19 record so far. We are however part of a very mobile society and as the virus does not respect county boundaries, we could very easily see a very different picture if we fail to adhere to the guidelines regarding social distancing and taking suitable precautions at all times. If we do, Covid-19 can be kept at a safe distance.

Sporting and other events where people gather together in numbers continue to be cancelled and you will be saddened to hear that this year's World Conker Championships due to be held on 11 October have also been called off. They are held each year in the village of Southwick near Oundle in Northamptonshire, the local pub, the Shuckburgh Arms, playing host.

Also 'Punkie Night', celebrated in Hinton St George and other villages in Somerset on the last Thursday in October is likely to fall by the wayside this year.

The custom is similar to Halloween. Children make Jack-O-lanterns out of pumpkins, though this being Somerset, swedes and mangelwurzels are allowed, and travel through the village visiting friendly houses to decide on the best effort of the year. It could only be England! To end on a high note, at least for those of us of a certain age, 1 October is international Day of Older Persons as decreed by the United Nations in 1990 and finally National Chocolate Week falls between 14-19 October! Enjoy both!

Richard Carter, Assistant Editor

Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat

Can you help?

We are looking for volunteers who can support the team by joining the committee or making a small annual donation.

Many members of the village have arranged a £5.00 annual donation by BACS transfer – details below - as we are totally dependent on donations to purchase and maintain these lifesaving kits with replacement pads and batteries.

BACS transfer details:

Account: Derry Hill & Studley Heartbeat
Sort Code: 30-91-99 Acct. No: 52349360

Jeanette and Eddy Spong are the kind hosts for the new defibrillator in Studley Gardens

How it works

When someone suffers a cardiac arrest, every minute's delay in restarting the heart, results in a reduction of around 7% in the chances of survival. All villagers now have access, in minutes, to this vital life-saving equipment, the cabinet code being given by dialling 999 and requesting ambulance assistance. All of the defibrillators in the village are automatic with self-instruct systems which announce each action required as needed.

Autumn Trail

If you are out and about on the Village Autumn Trail at 11am to 2pm on Sat 31st October come and see the new defibrillator at Studley Gardens and we will show you how it works. Many thanks and keep safe.

Julian (Chair) 01249 814145 / julesoliver3@gmail.com

Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

It was good to fully re-open school to all our children this term and to welcome all our new starters. This was of course the first time we had all been on-site since mid-March. School is a quite different place at the present time as we seek to follow all government guidelines and continually review all our procedures in order to keep children and staff safe in the current situation. Extra-curricular activities are difficult due to limited access to anyone apart from the school population. The way we do things are handled differently as witnessed by our parents' evenings which began at the end of September and continue into this month and which are conducted 'virtually'. Our popular Harvest Festival Service being held on Friday 16 October will also be of the 'virtual' variety.
The current term concludes on Wednesday 21 October with Term 2 commencing on Monday 2 November and running through to Friday 18 December.

Hayley Roberts, Headteacher

Halloweens coming, Halloweens coming…….

Join in our spooky fun by entering our pumpkin carving competition from the 24th-31st October. Simply carve/decorate your pumpkin, take a photo of it and send the photo, your name, age and £2 entry fee along to us at rubadubfundraising@gmail.com . All photos will be added to our Face Book page, and those with the most 'likes' will win prizes.
Visit our games stall in Redhill close at the Autumn Village Trail on the 31st October to win some yummy Halloween treats.

Rub-A-Dub Fundraising Committee

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Gardening Steve

Well, autumn is definitely here and it feels colder. We've had some nice days in September though. Of course, with the trees changing colour it's a beautiful time of the year.
Leaves are coming down, so now is a good time to rake them up and start making leaf mould. You might have a chance
to give those lawns a last mow or lay some turf.
As the days get shorter and colder, we have to watch out for and protect tender plants by moving them into the greenhouse or the conservatory.
Have you considered planting spring cabbages or broad beans?

Finally, your climbing roses need attention. Cut out dead wood and dead head. Check the stems and shoots are tied in to make sure they can withstand winds and that they are encouraged to grow the right way.
Happy gardening!
Stephen Starr Bowood Gardener

Which way is this magazine going?

Since lockdown in March 2020, we have been sending out the magazine in digital form, as this edition is.

We have been trying to find out how this has affected our readership and advertising.

From what we have gleaned, there are two main points for readers; most like the digital form, particularly the full colour and the embedded links. There is a slight worry though that not all are receiving a copy, as we haven't everybody's email in Derry Hill and Studley to send it with. Also, there are some members of our community who do not have access to the digital world and thus digital copies of the magazine. Some tell us they like a hard copy to refer to, especially to find advertisers' details.

As we are still facing an uncertain world, and with that a possible downturn in advertising revenue, we have to tread carefully and not spend out too much on hard copy.

So, a compromise is proposed, circumstances allowing. We will continue to produce digitally and this Christmas we will attempt to publish a paper magazine as a one-off.

In the meantime, please let us know (inspireeditor@outlook.com) of anybody who isn't receiving a digital copy who would like it sent direct.

Another way of accessing the magazine is to download it from the Marden Vale Church website.

Above all we hope you enjoy our efforts!

Richard Aylen Editor

The Loxwell and Local Springs

When the Cistercian monks of Quarr on the Isle of White were gifted lands at Loxwell (close by Derry Hill) by the Empress Matilda in 1151 under instructions to her Chamberlain Drogo, it was on the site of 'a singular and romantic spring on the summit of a hill in Pewsham forest', to be the site of a 'chief abbey'.

And as we know springs abound all over the hill (Red Hill was the originally name of the area around here). Indeed, a good example of course is the spring that regularly bubbles up and runs across Studley Hill from near the house called The Drock: drock being an old name for a watercourse. And near the foot of Old Derry Hill a handsome well and canopy, was constructed inscribed with the following verses:

“Here quench your thirst, and mark in me An emblem of true charity,
Who while my bounty I bestow Am neither seen nor heard to flow;
Repaid by fresh supplies from heaven for every cup of water given. ”

Over a smaller spring and cistern at the top of the hill Canon Bowles caused this plaque to be engraven:

“Drink, traveller, and more than worldly wealth,
Enjoy the best of Earthly blessings, health”

Early records indicate that the Lockswell site had a copious water-supply and that there was a substantial spring flowing from 'beneath' the foundations of the farmhouse which it is thought stood on the site of the early monastic building. This spring was supposedly later conveyed by a stone conduit to the new site at Stanley, in 1241. There is a supposition that this early abbey site was also the location of the “Loxwell Holy Well”

The Abbey at Loxwell was also referred to as the abbey of Drogo's Fount. The name 'Drownfont' was derived from Drogo's fount or spring. The compilers of the 'Red Book of the Exchequer', (a few years after the community was founded), referred to it as 'the monks of Drogo's fountain', or 'the grey monks of Worde'. And this fountain or spring was copious, reportedly flowing at a rate of 150 gallons a minute. It was also apparently of the clearest water and in time became known as the 'Holy Well of Locheswella'.

However, when the good monks moved from Loxwell to Stanley (which was called 'Stanleia Imperatricis', because the Empress Maud granted the endowment) whilst they had good land the brotherhood had lost good water. So, it is recorded that the Abbot at the time devised that an underground conduit of stone be constructed to convey the pure fresh stream at Lockswell from the source three miles to Stanley. A manuscript in the Bodleian records that:

" In the year 1214 the aqueduct was finished by Thomas de Colestune (Colston) the Abbot, who, though timide incepit (he began in fear) yet " Deo et Domino Jesu Christa sibi auxiliante (by the help Of God and the Lord Jesus Christ) he successfully completed this good and noble work, for which his memory ought to be blessed forever ."

Of the spring itself 19th c. local writer Bowles remarks:

"It is a magnificent spring, rising on the very top of the hill, which is on all sides surrounded with wild and romantic scenery. It appears in the spot in which it bursts, nearly three feet broad, singular and beautiful, rushing into day, and then winding its precipitous and solitary way till it is lost among the wildest glades of the ancient forest of Chippenham; once famous and hallowed, it has flowed for centuries through the wild bourne . "

Water courses are more usually tenacious in survival than human constructions in the landscape. The abbey building of Loxwell and the magnificence that once was the abbey building of its replacement and successor at Stanley and much else have vanished from our local vistas, but the trickles and springs all around remind us how the landscape's gifts brought forth our ancestors' attraction to this land for our present day communities.

©Stephen Ben Cox

Calne Without Parish Council News

Lord Lansdowne retires from the Parish Council
After over 40 years as a Parish Councillor, Lord Lansdowne has announced his retirement from the Parish Council. The Chairman of the Council has written to thank him for his service to the community and wish him well in his retirement. The vacancy this leaves for Pewsham Ward may not be filled until May 2021 as the Government has suspended all Parish elections until next year. If no election is requested the provision exists for the Parish Council to use co-option to fill the position until May '21 and this will be advertised.

Church Road Community Speed Watch
A traffic survey carried out on Church Road, Derry Hill earlier this year showed the speeds of vehicles in the 20mph zone to be high enough to meet the criteria for the formation of a Community Speed Watch Team. The summary of the survey results can be read here.

Community Speed Watch brings local people together to monitor speeding in their communities. All information recorded is passed to the police.

CSW volunteers work closely with Community Policing Teams (CPTs), supported by the Special Constabulary Roads Policing Unit.

To get the Speed Watch team up and running the Parish Council needs at least 5 volunteers who will be willing and able to spare the time to carry out the speed watch activities. This will include vetting and training carried out by Wiltshire Police. The details of the scheme and how it works can be found here.
If you are interested in getting involved or would like to find out more please contact the Clerk for a form to apply or contact Cllr Alan Malpas who is taking the lead on this for the Parish Council.
Alan Malpas alan.malpas@calnewithout-pc.gov.uk 01249819204

New Benches for Tile Court

The new benches that sit in the hedges around Tile Court should be in place by the time you are reading this. The Parish Council decided to replace the old ones that were becoming unusable back in March, but they were delayed through the lockdown and have only now been able to be delivered. Green Square, which manages the Tile Court properties, has very kindly joined forces with the Council in this project and agreed to remove the old ones and install the new ones.

The original benches were dedicated to past residents of Tile Court and the Council has been in contact with the families to offer them the opportunity to put new plaques on the new benches.

Dog Waste Bin for Studley Gardens

Crest have approved the Parish Council's request to put a dog waste bin in Studley Gardens near the kissing gate that leads to footpath that runs between the A4 and Studley Corner.

This has been provided following complaints about the dog mess on the footpath. The Parish Council spends over £1000 a year of residents Council Tax money on providing and emptying the dog bins that it provides.

The Council considers this to be a lot of money to spend to clear up after the few dog owners who do not act responsibly and would remind owners that there is a fine of up to £1000 for those found leaving a mess.

Sarah Glen

Clerk Calne Without Parish Council

It all went without a hitch – well not quite!

Setting off a week later than planned to cycle our sponsored Bike ride for Christ Church Derry Hill and The Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, we managed to visit 10 churches and ride some 18 + miles. We planned our route carefully to avoid going up and down too many hills!

From Derry Hill we crossed to Studley, down to Hazeland and up to Bremhill. From there along the ridge to Charlcutt and down to Foxham. Next along the back road to Christian Malford. There unfortunately Mary's bike's rear wheel suffered a puncture! However, we had a spare tube and tools so the inner was quickly replaced. The pump we brought along didn't want to cooperate and we had to look around for help. This came in the form of a local villager who we had talked to on the way into the village. He turned out to be a keen cyclist and an ex-resident of Fitzmaurice Close, Derry Hill! He kindly lent us a pump. So that was all good and I feel that someone was looking after us!

Back on the road we sped off to Sutton Benger and then down Sutton Lane to Maud Heath's Causeway and the tiny church of St. Giles Tytherton Kellaways. The next stop saw us at the Moravian Church at East Tytherton. Now on the homeward stretch we took time out to walk across the field to the sweet little church of St. Nicholas at Tytherton Lucas. It was then an up-hill ride to Studley and finally to our home church of Christ Church Derry Hill. Phew!

Normally, at most churches, there would be refreshments and even a toilet, and of course the chance to peep into the churches. But this year was different. Let's hope we can repeat this route next year and have full facilities! A pictorial account is available here using the password 'ride'.

Many thanks to all those who supported us on JustGiving and in other ways. We have raised a splendid £700 in all for the two causes mentioned above.

Richard and Mary Aylen

Derry Hill and District W.I.

Summer Newsletter 17 – August 2020

A somewhat mixed bag of weather this last week! It has to be better than a drought and wildfires, but it does make it difficult to organise anything. Sally must have said the word BBQ as that usually brings on the rain!

What a wonderful picnic in Andreas's garden on Wednesday! 18 members attended. The weather was **perfect,** and the venue beautiful! There was a lot of chatter and laughter as we all caught up with each other's news whilst munching our picnics. I don't usually suffer with 'picnic envy' but Margaret had a very exciting tinned drink, not just any drink but a M&S drink, of course. You must ask her about it. Andrea and Douglas had marked out their garden with socially distanced pegs for us all to sit safely apart. Our WI presented Andrea with a bouquet expressing our gratitude for hosting our 'Summer Get Together'. I have included some photos for you all to see.

The Committee are working hard behind the scenes trying to get all the plans in place for a safe return to the Hall in September. Many of us are looking forward to meeting as a group again. It will be so good to see us all under one roof. I will have to send out a note detailing all we need to do to make our meeting as safe as we can. We are obliged to follow the Government Covid-19 Regulations, NFWI Guidance and the Hall's safety advice, but we believe we have picked our way through it all!! If guidelines change or local measures are put in place we will keep you informed

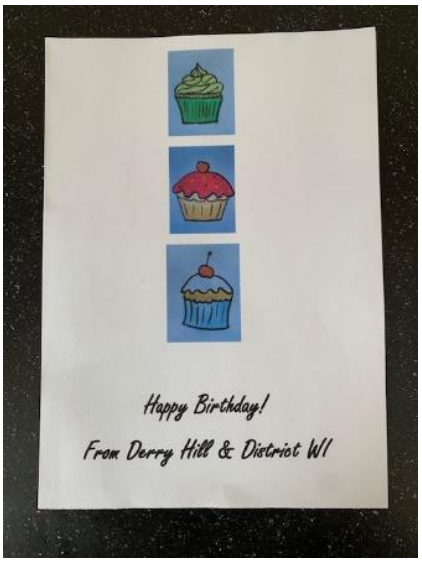
Are any of members willing to entertain us for 10 mins during our meetings? You could demonstrate a skill, craft or a quick recipe. You might tell us about your holiday or how you spent 'Lockdown'. Do you have something to show and tell? Put your thinking hats on and let me know if you can contribute to the October meeting.

Thank you to those who entered our WI Birthday Card Competition. I have included photos of our creations and now need you to select a winner. Email me the number of your first and second favourites, ASAP, and I will get the result to you as quickly as I can.

Number 1

Number 2

Number 3



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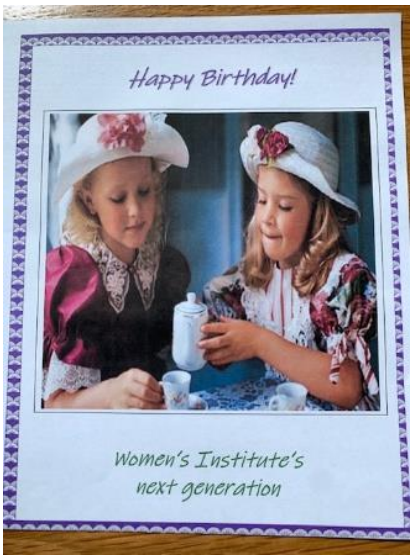

We are spoilt for choice! Well done ladies, great ideas.
Only 2 people solved the conundrum this time, so well done to Sheila and Kathryn who were both very quick off the mark! CASHTRAIN becomes ANARCHIST.
Try this one Conundrum - PRONGEXIT what could this possibly be?
One final maths problem for you to solve!! 20 people entered a tennis knockout tournament. How many matches are needed to find the winner? Keep in touch.

All answers to the Conundrum, Maths problem and your Birthday Card choices to me please.
I have enjoyed writing to you all over the last few months. My intention was to keep us together as a group, to share our news, entertain and post our photographs for you all to see. It has been tough not seeing people, but things have moved on a little now.
I will continue to keep you all informed about our WI until we go back to monthly meetings, then I will be signing off!!!
Keep safe and well,

Tina (Email christina_oliver@btinternet.com)

"The Derry Hill and Studley Autumn Trail "

Christ Church Derry Hill is hoping to organise an autumn trail around the two villages. We would like to invite any organisation or private resident to host a stall on their driveway.

This is an opportunity, in the absence of the usual Christmas Fayre, to raise much needed funds for organisations and the church. We will produce a map marking the stalls and giving details of who is taking part, this will be available from outside the church. There will also be a trail of clues for the children to collect from each stall. We would like to ask for a donation of £5 per stall for organising the event.

If there is sufficient interest, we propose Saturday 31st October between 11am and 2pm weather and government permitting!

Anyone interested in taking part please contact me.

Jennie Leddra

Secretary PCC on 01249 660550 or jjleddra@talktalk.net

Supporting our community and church

The Night Sky in October

Having passed the autumn equinox last month, our progress towards the darker winter nights leaps forward this month with the ending of British Summer Time at 02.00h on Sunday 25 October. However, given clearer skies, there is plenty to observe this month. Firstly, we have two Full Moons with the first on 1 October (at 21.05h) and this is the Harvest Moon. The date of the Harvest Moon is calculated as being the nearest Full Moon to the autumn equinox. This normally occurs in September but can be in October on occasions. The second Full Moon of the month is on 31 October (at 09.30h) and is a 'Blue Moon' – it is of course not so coloured but this is the name given to a second Full Moon in a given month because it happens rarely – 'once in a Blue Moon'.

Another sign of the onset of winter is the arrival of the constellation Orion in our Eastern sky. Orion accompanies us on our journey to spring each year as it moves across the night sky in a westward direction, moving by a degree each night.

There are plenty of opportunities to view our neighbouring planets this month, often aided by their proximity to the Moon which assists in identification. On the evening of 22 October at 19.00h low in the Southern sky, the near quarter Moon will be immediately below Jupiter with Saturn (much less bright than Jupiter) to the left of its giant neighbour. The star Nunki will be to the right of the Moon and a little lower. If conditions are not right, the following evening will see Saturn and Jupiter to the right of the moon. Jupiter remains visible throughout the month low in the south-west shining brightly before setting around 22.30h. Venus continues to shine brilliantly but in the morning skies rising at around 03.30h and will be close to the crescent Moon low in the Eastern sky at around 05.30 on 13 and 14 October.

The brightest planet in the evening skies however is Mars and on the evening of 29 October at around 19.00h the Moon will be just below the red planet towards the south-east. Earlier in the month on 3 October but this time at 06.00 the Moon will be once again found below Mars in the

south-western sky. On 13 October Mars will be at its closest to us in its elliptical orbit at 62m km. Mars is the second smallest planet but has similarities to earth – it has polar caps and an atmosphere, thin and mainly composed of carbon dioxide, and also has seasons though they are twice as long as ours as the planet is further away from the Sun. It has some striking geological features such as the biggest Volcano in the Solar System – Olympus Mons – some 26km high – three times the size of Mount Everest. It would completely cover England and its crater could swallow London. There is also an enormous canyon some 4,000km long and 7km deep – the Valles Marineris.

	Sunrise	**Sunset**
1 October	07.09	18.44
15 October	07.32	18.13
31 October	07.00	16.42

Richard Carter

Picture of the Month

Sent in by ***Sheila Rosekilly***

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tel: 07732 545715 www.yogawithsuzanne.co.uk

MIXED ABILITY | BEGINNERS WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome you to pray in church

Christ Church, Derry Hill is open for individual, private prayer for a maximum of 4 people at any one time

The church will usually be open at the following times:

when there is no Sunday service:

Sunday: midday to 4pm

Tuesday to Saturday: 10am to 4pm

the week following a Sunday service:

Thursday to Saturday: 10am to 4pm

There may be times when the church remains closed e.g. after a funeral service so please check the notices, noticeboard or website.

Sunday worship in our churches

As things are so variable at the moment it is best to check the church noticeboards.

It is our intention to hold an All Souls service on 1st November and Remembrance Service on 8th November.

Plans to re-open St Martin's, Bremhill will be considered once roof repairs are completed. Depending on how things go, it is hoped that a sustainable pattern of services including Morning Worship, Parish Eucharist and Evensong will evolve around the parishes to take us through the next few months.

Where a Sunday service has taken place in church, that building will be closed for **72 hours** after the service to minimise the amount of cleaning required. We plan to review safety procedures after each service in response to attendee numbers and behaviours, so please check service details and information on our website, Facebook page and Noticeboard.

Our main priorities are the health and safety of our community, so things will not be quite the same as usual, but we recognise the importance, for many, of meeting together in worship so have put together this brief explanation of what to expect:

Q. How is the church managing social distancing?
A. We have assessed the seating capacity and space available and worked out the best way to seat everyone to maintain **2 metre distancing**. There will be markings on the path and on the floor inside church. A Churchwarden will be on hand to welcome you and show you where to sit. At the end of the service, please remain in your seat until you are asked to make your way to the exit.

Q. Do I have to book in advance?
A. It would help us to know if you intend to come to a service so that we can maintain safe social distancing. We ask that you telephone **01249 817926** or
email lindac@mardenvale.org.uk before **8pm on Saturday** evening to check availability.

Q. Will services be at the normal time?
A. Morning services will be at **10am**. Evensong (when available) will be at **6pm.**

Q. Can I sit with my family or a friend?
A. People from the same household or "bubble" can sit together. Everyone else will need to observe appropriate social distancing at all times.

Q. Will there be communion?
A. Services will vary but where communion is offered this will be wafers only. Distribution will be carefully controlled to minimise transmission risks according to government and church guidelines.

Q. Will the hymn books be sanitised?
A. Sadly, hymn singing is not allowed at the moment, so all hymn books and bibles will be removed.
There will, however, be music to listen to.

Q. I usually give cash in the plate when I come to church. I believe this is not advised. What can I do to support the work of the church?
A. We would prefer not to have to expose our volunteers to handling cash, but we desperately do need your support. Please take a moment to look at the Parish Giving Scheme. If you prefer to leave cash, please do use the collection plate by the main entrance.

Q. Do I need to provide contact details?
A. In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, we are taking contact details (name and telephone number) for all visitors, as well as recording times entering and leaving the church building.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else.

Q. Will I be able to talk to my friends after the service?
A. To minimise risk, services will be shorter than normal, and the church will be closed promptly. Catching up with friends is better done outdoors. We ask that you do not obstruct the aisles or exits to allow everyone to leave safely. **It is obviously vital to obey social distancing guidelines at all times**.

Q. Will it be safe to come?
A. We have carefully assessed the risks of bringing us together and have put in place measures to control and minimise the risk of transmission of the virus. However, it is not possible to eliminate risks completely – everyone attending must evaluate their own circumstances and act accordingly. We all have a responsibility to act responsibly to ensure the safety of everyone else.
Please do:

- use the hand sanitizer provided when you arrive and when you leave
- comply with social distancing rules – keep 2 metres apart whenever possible.
- cover your nose and mouth if you sneeze or cough – take your tissues home to dispose of them there.

Q. Should I wear a face covering in a church building?
A. From 8th August face coverings **must** be worn by all those attending a place of worship.

If you do not feel it is safe or if you feel unwell – please do stay at home and enjoy the online services from the Marden Vale Team.

Rev. Linda Carter

Church Contacts CHRIST CHURCH - DERRY HILL

Vicar:
(Day off Monday.
Urgent calls only that day please)

Reverend Linda Carter
The Vicarage,
Church Road, Derry Hill.
Calne. SN11 9NN
lindac@mardenvale.org.uk

01249 817926

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

Please call if you would like a visit or chat - all in strictest confidence

Mrs Averil Davis 01249 814411

Mrs Anita Uttley 01380 859433

Church Wardens

Mr Stephen Starr 01249 821325

Mr Peter Rigby 01225 704356

PCC Treasurer (Tr) & Secretary (Sec)

Mr Peter Roycroft (Tr) 01249 660550

Mrs Jennie Leddra (Sec) 01249 660550

If you wish to discuss arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged then please contact Reverend Linda Carter

Dear Friends,

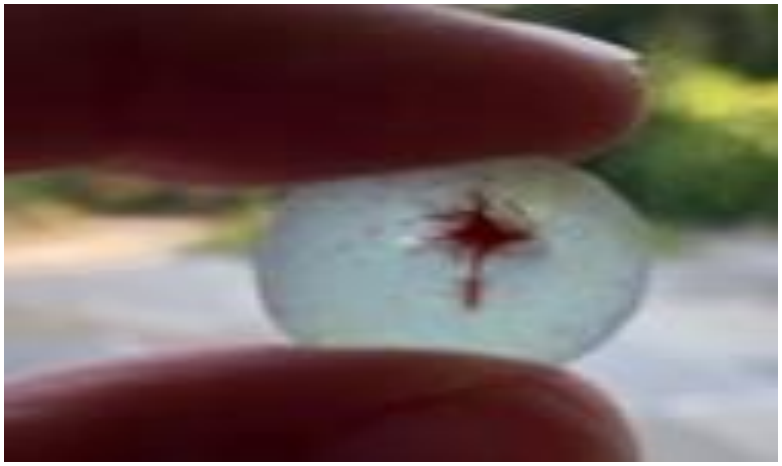
Over the last couple of years, I have taken to collecting sea glass whenever I have the opportunity to visit a beach. Sea glass washed up on the beach are fragments of glass which have a distinctive beauty of their own. No longer sharp shards of glass, they have been transformed into smooth, frosted gems. (Sea glass is also known as 'mermaid tears' from a traditional belief that mermaids would cry when sailors drowned in a shipwreck, and their glass tears washed up on the beaches.) My collection of sea glass is mostly made up of very tiny pieces and the vast majority come from Cornish beaches, although there are some interlopers from Whitby…

Sea glass is formed as a result of the tumbling, rolling action of rocks and waves on discarded bottles and other glass objects. Some sea glass is well over a hundred years old. Opinions vary but it can take around 40 years of tumbling in the ocean for glass to take on the smooth, rounded, translucent appearance of sea glass. As the glass spends more time in the water, the minerals react with the soda and limestone in the glass. Although sea glass can be formed in as little as 5 years, it can take as long as 50 years. The process cannot be rushed; it takes time for the transformation into beautiful sea glass to take place, for the constant repetition of the action of the waves, the weathering of the salt and the friction with other objects to work their magic.

At the moment my collection of sea glass sits in a tumbler on the kitchen windowsill. Maybe I will find time to display it more creatively, but for now I can look at the different pieces, enjoying the feel of them and appreciating that although they have come from a common source, they are all very varied, they

each have a story to tell. I can enjoy the memories of time spent alone or with family, on leisurely strolls along the beach in sunshine or Cornish mizzle.

Next to the tumbler are some pieces on the windowsill which have not been in the sea long enough. They are still a bit 'raw'; shiny with sharp edges and need a few more years in the sea. Sometimes that's how I feel. I know when I have spent too long relying on my own strength and not spent long enough in the company of my Lord. I become dry, and sharp, and just a little too shiny for my own good. So, it's back into the sea of regular, intentional prayer and scripture, learning again and again to value bumping up against ideas and opinions which are different from mine, and allowing the invigorating wind and fire of God's Holy Spirit to shape me. What gives me hope is that God can already see beyond the sharp shards I display, to the sea glass I was made to be. Know that God already sees each of you transformed into the beautiful person God made you to be too.



(I will return the 'raw' glass to the sea, maybe just keeping one or two pieces to remind me to allow God to continue to shape me.)

with love and prayers,

Linda.

More Wiltshire libraries to open soon

We're continuing our phased approach to reopening libraries in the county and further libraries will soon be opening, providing a new order and collect service.

In the week beginning 21 September, Royal Wootton Bassett, Westbury and Melksham libraries opened and, on 28 September, Malmesbury library will open. You won't be able to drop-in and browse at these libraries but an order and collect service has been set-up providing access to books. You can also book to use the computers for up to 45 minutes. It is hoped that these libraries will be able to allow browsing in due course. Amesbury, Bradford on Avon, Calne and Marlborough libraries have opened offering this service. Further information about order and collect, including how to place an order and book a computer, can be found on the Order and collect service page.

Chippenham, Corsham, Devizes, Salisbury, Trowbridge and Warminster libraries have reopened for you to browse for up to 30 minutes, to select and loan books and use the computers for pre-booked 45-minute sessions. They are operating different opening hours and there are safety measures in place to ensure we keep people as safe as possible.

This mix of approaches allows additional libraries to reopen and provides increased coverage across the county sooner than would be possible with only a browsable service.

The schedule follows our recent public consultation on reopening some library services during the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 7,000 people took part, with many stating their desire for the council to prioritise reopening as many libraries as possible, with different services available depending on the conditions at each individual library.

All items borrowed before the libraries closed, that were due back from 9 March onwards, are still being renewed automatically, to the end of October at the earliest, so there is no rush to return items.
The following measures have been brought in at Chippenham, Corsham, Devizes, Salisbury, Trowbridge and Warminster libraries to help keep you and our staff safe:

People are advised to be sensible and not pick up and put back lots of books.
Social distancing measures are in place, with clear signage.
Hand sanitiser is available at each library.
Depending on how many people are using the library, you may have to queue outside upon arrival.
Computers in the libraries can be used for 45 minutes, but you must book them in advance. They can be booked by phoning the relevant library during their opening hours.
Library staff will only be able to provide limited help to customers using the computers, whilst maintaining social distancing rules. If you need help using the computer, please bring someone with you to support you and let staff know when you book so that they can book you on to a computer with additional space.
Please bring your library cards.
Returned books will be stored for 72 hours before being taken off your account and put back on the shelves.
Screens will be in place at main customer service desks.
You will be asked to provide contact details as part of the COVID-19 test and trace system. Details will be handled in accordance with GDPR laws.

The following will not be available for the time being:

Toilet facilities, group activities such as book clubs and rhyme time sessions, newspapers and magazines
The online library content, which has proven to be hugely popular over the lockdown period, will continue.

We're currently looking at options to deliver the mobile library service during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a decision expected in September; the remaining libraries will be subject to discussions with key stakeholders in a series of facilitated workshops, with libraries in community areas where no other library is open a priority for these conversations.

We're looking forward to seeing you soon.

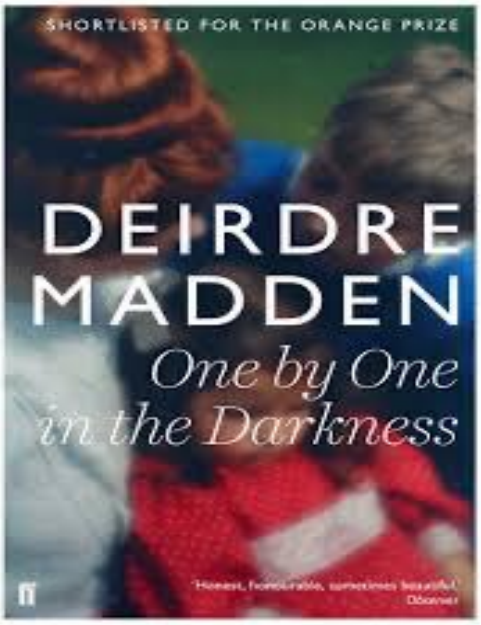
(A Message from the Wiltshire Library Service)

So that's where it came from……

1. In the 1400s a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb.
Hence, we have 'the rule of thumb.'
2. Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'... and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
3. Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades - King David, Hearts - Char lemagne, Clubs -Alexander the Great, Diamonds - Julius Caesar
4. In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... 'goodnight, sleep tight.'
5. It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.
6. In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts...
So, in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts and settle down.'
It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's'
7. Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service.
'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.
8. In 1696, William III of England introduced a property tax that required those living in houses with more than six windows to pay a levy. In order to avoid the tax, house owners would brick up all windows except six. (The Window Tax lasted until 1851, and older houses with bricked-up windows are still a common sight in the U.K.) As the bricked-up windows prevented some rooms from receiving any sunlight, the tax was referred to as “daylight robbery”!

With thanks to Tony Crowder

One by One in the Darkness - Deirdre Madden



One by One in the Darkness follows a week in the lives of 3 catholic sisters who come together at their mother's house, one with a secret to share, shortly before the start of the IRA ceasefire. Although set in the sisters' present, we are treated, with flashbacks, to the story of their childhood in the 60's and 70's, at the start of the 'troubles'. The story evolves through the memories of the three, very different, sisters' perspectives.

Considering the violent background of the novel Deirdre Madden successfully manages to find a quiet and understated voice. She develops the characters with sensitivity and respect and drawing from her own experience, transports you to the natural beauty of Northern Ireland. She talks evocatively of the Irish family home and her affection for the landscape is evident.

This book was well received by all of the book club, we were lucky to have some members with differing personal experiences of the times which allowed us to explore the circumstances of the novel with depth and understanding. The book was not difficult to read considering the circumstances and as a group we agreed it was gentle and sad with a quiet perspective on the impact of the troubles.

Tanya Dolman

POPPIES

Following the Royal British Legion's decision, I regret to inform that there will be no house to house collections this year.

Cathy Liddle

THE
LANSDOWNE
ARMS

A note from The Lansdowne Arms…

Thank-you to everyone for your continued support we would not be here without you. We are very proud to have maintained the essence of The Lansdowne Arms whilst being COVID-19 secure. We want to assure you that we are going above & beyond by following both current government guidelines and legislation. We understand that this is a very difficult time, but we believe it is very important to have a place in the community that you feel safe to meet.

Are you feeling nervous about visiting us? Please give us a call & we will talk you through the ways that we can make your experience more relaxing.

Have you downloaded our App? This is great for grabbing a quick drink & a great tool for a distanced experience.

As we move forward to the winter months please remember that for everyone's safety our doors will remain open to ensure air flow so please wrap up according to the weather, blankets and hot water bottles are welcome. We will continue to have the heating on and fires lit. We are starting to think about Christmas so visit our Facebook or Website for Christmas menus and events.

Sarah and Matt

Bin day!

Do you sometimes forget which bins to put out when? Well, here's a handy page on the Wiltshire Council Website to help you.

Ed

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September 2020

4 COUNTIES OIL TANKS

SUPPLIED & FITTED

Call: 01666 510510
Mobile: 07966 690807

THE VILLAGE STORES

Church Road, Derry Hill

Village Shop and Post Office
Temporarily Closed

Dear parents/guardians,

I'm writing to you on the subject of county lines. This term is widely used in the media today. But what does it mean?

County lines refers to gangs and organised crime networks based in large cities who groom and exploit young or vulnerable people to sell drugs for them. Often these young people will live in smaller towns in rural areas such as Wiltshire and will be forced to travel across the country to deliver these drugs, using dedicated mobile phone lines to organise the supply chain.

It might seem like something that would never happen to your child, but any child can be exploited, regardless of their background. We continue to see young people getting caught up in county lines and the associated violence, and often, their parents will have no idea about what is going on.

That is why it is crucial that we are all alive to the signs that our children are being criminally exploited so that action can be taken before it's too late.

There are a number of signs that county lines drugs gangs are criminally exploiting your child, or another child you're aware of. These can include:

· Returning home late, staying out all night or going missing
· Being found in areas away from home that they are unfamiliar with
· Increasing drug use, or being found to have large amounts of drugs on them
· Being secretive about who they are talking to and where they are going
· Unexplained absences from school, college, training or work
· Large amounts of money, or new phone(s), clothes or jewellery that they cannot account for
· Asking for money, or acquiring money through crime, which may be to pay off drug debts
· Increasingly disruptive, aggressive or violent behaviour
· Hanging around with older children, or groups of peers not known through their usual social network
· Using sexual, drug-related or violent language you wouldn't expect them to know
· Coming home with injuries, being assaulted, or looking particularly dishevelled
· Having hotel cards or keys to unknown places.

This week, and ongoing, we'll be visiting schools and colleges around the county alongside PCSOs to raise awareness amongst young people themselves about the dangers of county lines and criminal exploitation, but we need your help to spot the signs and report your concerns to us. If you have concerns that a young person may be being criminally exploited or may be in danger, please call 999 in an emergency or 101. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.
It's also really important for you to speak to your children about this - there are a number of support sites online for parents / guardians and young people, such as NSPCC, Childline, and Fearless.
Thank you,

Sonja Leith

Head of Improvement and Change

'81% of us would be happy to receive food from a neighbour'

Have you heard of OLIO? It connects neighbours with each other and with local businesses so surplus food can be shared, not thrown away. This could be food nearing its sell-by date in local stores, spare home-grown vegetables, bread from your baker, or the groceries in your fridge when you go away. For your convenience, OLIO can also be used for non-food household items too.

OLIO is super easy! To make an item available, simply open the app, add a photo, description, and when and where the item is available for pick-up.

To access items, simply browse the listings available near you, request whatever takes your fancy and arrange a pick-up via private messaging. It's free to use.

Don't forget to take the usual covid-19 precautions!

Ed

Still not keen to leave the house and go shopping or do other tasks?

Derry Hill and Studley Community Support has been operating since the beginning of lockdown and is continuing to help those who find it difficult to go out.

We offer a range of help from shopping, picking up prescriptions, dog walking or just a friendly confidential chat.

Please get in touch if we can help

Email the dedicated email account: **dhsfriend@gmail.com**

Or

Ring one of our coordinators:

Carol Rigby	01225 704356
Ian Liddle	01249 816229
Richard Gribble	01249 812018
Richard Aylen	01249 814632

Prayer support is also available:

Prayer is an important part of our spiritual life ask for prayer. If you have a particular prayer request you can ring Rev. Linda Carter 01249 817926 or email lindac@mardenvale.org.uk or one of the co-ordinators above and they will write out your prayer and put it on the prayer tree in church. Linda will use these in her daily prayers in church unless you wish it to be kept confidential.

Carol, Ian, Richard A and Richard G

Derry Hill and Studley Community Support

Opportunities with a garden education charity

The Stephen Cox Garden Trust is a Registered Charity (nr.1174239) in Studley, Wiltshire. The stated purpose as approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales is:

1. To advance education in the subjects of horticulture and conservation in particular, but not exclusively by providing study courses, training placements and workshops.
2. Such charitable purposes for the public benefit as are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time determine.
(This also includes heritage, well-being, international student exchange).

Opportunities Available
It currently fulfils these goals in several ways (to individuals, agencies, educational organisations and private groups) including but not restricted to:

- Training/skill enhancement for young unemployed.
- Weekly sessions for adults with learning difficulties via Wiltshire Council under supervision.
- Projects/information for local conservation and wildlife.
- Library access for scholars & researchers.
- Relaxation visits for residents (with their professional carers) of nursing & retirement homes.
- Individual residential placements for European students for 2 to 6 weeks to interact with the local community, learn skills, enhance international friendship, and improve their understanding of Britain.
- Association with Bath Spa University, Bristol University, University of Bath, and the University the West of England for their student volunteering portals.

● Pre-booked private group visits by Women's Institutes, Art groups, Gardening clubs, and various other social and cultural organisations, including our villages. (social distancing measures in place)

● Internships and placements for students via colleges in the E.U.

● Seminars and workshops on various subjects such as: conservation, horticulture, heritage, well-being, sacred-space, landscaping.

The Garden

The garden consists of a series of 'rooms' or collections/themes (including herbarium, exotics, grasses/phormiums, fruit & vegetable gardens, coastal, cottage, specimen trees and shrubs) together with fish pond, arches and arbours, seating, patios, beach, waterfall, wetland, fountains, life size statues, with a mix of formal and informal design & landscaping. A range of plants are sometimes available, depending on season, for a donation.

Enquiries

The charity relies on donations for its continued existence. The garden is not open to the general public. All staff work unpaid. Support & sponsorship is always welcome. Interest in any of the above opportunities or general enquiries can be made to:

stephenbcox.gardentrust@gmail.com

(website: stephencoxgarden.simplesite.com)

The Baraka Catering Company Ltd.

Beef Ragu Lasagne £5.00
Beef mince slowly cooked with smoked bacon, vegetables, red wine & tomatoes then layered with lasagne, béchamel sauce & mature cheddar

Beef Bourguignon £5.00
Beef Steak cooked with rosemary, shallots, button mushrooms & bacon in red wine

Persian Lamb Tagine £5.50
Lamb cooked with spices & preserved Lemon & sweetened with apricots & dates

Lamb, Aubergine & Red Pepper Lasagne £5.00
Lamb Mince cooked with, rosemary, aubergine & roasted red peppers then layered with lasagne, béchamel sauce & topped with feta & coriander

Cider & Mustard Pork £5.00
Pork & mushrooms in Somerset cider, mustard & thyme

Chicken with Tarragon £5.00
Whole chicken breast with leeks, lardons, tarragon & cream

Chicken & Chorizo Ragu £5.00
Chicken thigh meat with smoky chorizo, tomatoes & red onion with feta & parsley

Spiced Chicken Tagine £5.00
Whole chicken breast with fresh orange, spices, fresh parsley & coriander with toasted sesame seeds

Fish Pie £5.50
Selection of fish on fresh spinach in a béchamel sauce with cheese & chive au gratin

Salmon & Tarragon Pie £5.50
Salmon, butternut squash & leeks in white wine, tarragon & cream with puff pastry top

Aubergine Cannelloni £4.50
Strips of aubergine rolled with rich ricotta on a fresh tomato sauce with Parmesan & fresh basil

All meals
Last on average 3 months in the freezer
Be made completely gluten free
Can be made and put into your own dishes
Are packaged in disposable tin foil containers, single portion or family size
We look forward to you ordering our delicious home-cooked foods and making your life easier.

CALL CAMILLA
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TOWN HALL MOVIOLA

We are unable to show any films in the Town Hall at the moment.
We hope to be back in February but that depends on what is going on in the public arena.
Thank you for supporting us in the past. Stay safe and keep well, we will be looking forward

To seeing you all again in the future.

Viv

On a beautiful September day, we officially launched Avon Needs Trees and celebrated our first land purchase - Hazeland. Wildlife presenter Miranda Krestovnikoff was there, wonderfully enthusiastic about all the wildlife potential, and she has pledged to come back, year on year, to see our progress.

Volunteering at Hazeland

As well as the launch we also had another volunteer day in September that was absolutely wonderful! We had lots of new volunteers visit the site for the first, we took out loads of unnecessary fencing and finished building the tool shed.

This shed was donated to us by The Trinity Centre who were using it to store tools, but before that it was an air quality monitoring station! It may have been a challenge to set up, but this shed has saved us thousands of pounds we were going to spend on a new one. Huge thanks to everyone involved in its construction, and yes, we are currently deciding on what to do to make it look a bit nicer!

Our next volunteer days will be on Wednesday 30th of September and Saturday 10th, Friday 16th and Sunday 25th of October. To sign up, first make sure you've registered as a volunteer and then email us via contact@avonneedstrees.org.uk. In order to give everyone a chance to volunteer we're asking that everyone please choose one of these four days to sign up for.

Our volunteer days are exempt from some COVID rules, however we still have to be pretty strict about how many people we can have on site at once, so sign up early to avoid disappointment.

Also, worth noting - we won't be planting trees until November. Jobs for these upcoming days will include removing the last of the old, unnecessary fencing; repairing and fixing some fencing we do need to preserve; scything some grass; digging trenches to plant trees in, collecting seeds, washing the graffiti off the tool shed and possibly repainting it. If you have any further questions about our volunteer days please email us at

contact@avonneedstrees.org.uk.

Studley Methodist Church

Please see outside Notice Board for upcoming services.

Tina

Coffee, Crafts & Chat

Unfortunately, this is postponed until further notice.

Shirley Mobile 07483 286009

Make a difference in your community

Photo Credit: drawingrooms@icloud.com

COMMUNITY FIRST

LINK GOOD NEIGHBOUR VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Your local Link Scheme needs you:

Demand for our service is growing and we **urgently need new volunteers** to support the service

YOUR MILEAGE PAID

If you could spare some time, or for more information please contact us: 01380 722 241

Email: linkproject@communityfirst.org.uk

Wellbeing notes

October, with its mists and mellow fruitfulness, is a fantastic month to take a daily wellbeing walk. I could motivate myself for this challenge by imagining a healthier me by the end of 31 daily walks, but that would be 'end-gaining' – I would be focusing on the goal rather than the many enjoyable moments in between.

Wellbeing is not actually about hard work or duty. It's not about struggling or depriving myself now in order to enjoy some future goal. Rather, it's about being open to the countless small moments of happiness that add up to a happy life.

So my wellbeing walks are not long, or arduous. But I aim to be fully present during each one. Have you ever walked or driven somewhere, only to arrive and realise you don't remember the journey because while your body went through the motions, your mind was elsewhere?

During a wellbeing walk, I mindfully focus on the natural world. This month, that means I witness the colours of autumn: exactly how would you describe the rich red of an acer tree's leaves, or the polished brown of a conker lying on green grass? I pause to notice the stunning, concentric pattern of an autumn flower such as a rosy petalled dahlia. I look upwards and sideways and all around to observe changing patterns of sun and cloud. I listen to an incredible natural orchestra of bird song that radiates outwards into infinity. Such moments pause the mind's busy thoughts, bringing a fresh sense of happiness.

Suzanne Askham, author of This One is Special

Just in case you didn't get the message…..

NHS
Test and Trace

This is a public health message from NHS Test and Trace

As part of the government's coordinated response to Coronavirus, NHS Test and Trace has developed the new NHS COVID-19 app.

It is now available for download to all residents of England and Wales. We strongly recommend that everyone over the age of 16 downloads and uses it.

> Download the 'NHS COVID-19' app from the App Store or Google Play. There is more information at https://covid19.nhs.uk

The app will help you to understand and manage your personal risk and reduce the spread of Coronavirus. The more people who use it, the more effective it will be.

The app requires operating system 13.5 or above if you have an Apple iPhone. It requires Android 6.0 or above if you have an Android phone. If your smartphone is not compatible, you can still access full support from the NHS Test and Trace service.

NHS Test and Trace

All individuals over the age of 16 who are registered with a GP in England and have provided an email address to the NHS are receiving this email. Some people will receive a text message instead, if an email address has not been provided.

NHS Test and Trace Privacy Notice

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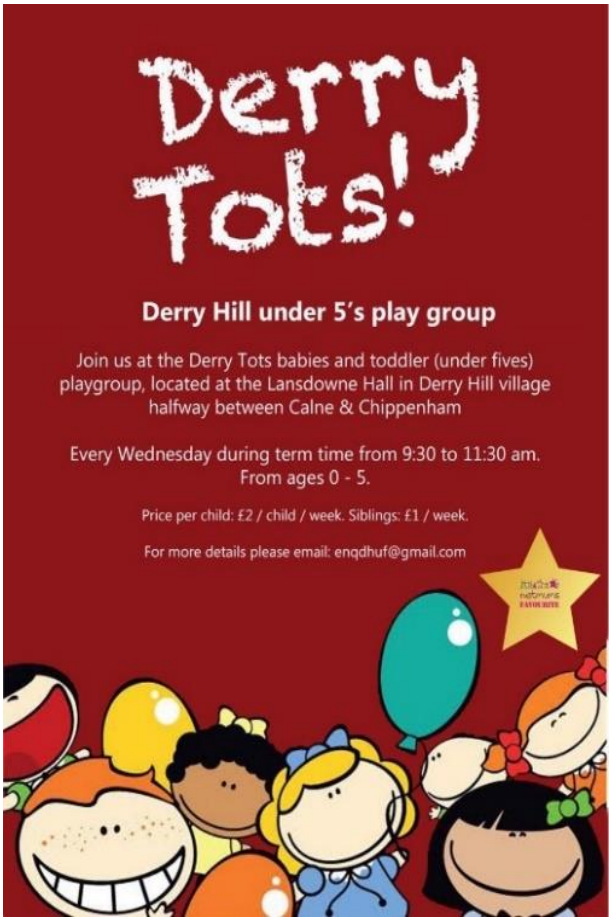
1st November


Derry Tots!
Derry Hill under 5's play group
Join us at the Derry Tots babies and toddler (under fives) playgroup, located at the Lansdowne Hall in Derry Hill village halfway between Calne & Chippenham
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SHARE SOME LOVE
TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

The most vulnerable in our community need some extra support during these difficult times. Residents of our local care homes may not receive visitors and would therefore love to receive **letters**, **drawings** and **paintings** from children who are currently not at school, to help brighten their days.

The Bethesda Home
Church Road
Derry Hill
Calne
SN11 9NN

The Firs/The Lilacs
2 Lickhill Road
Calne
SN11 9DD

Goatacre Manor Care Centre
Goatacre
Nr Calne
SN11 9HY

Kingston House Care Home
Lansdowne Crescent
Derry Hill
Calne
SN11 9NP

The Maltings Voyage Care
Brewers Lane
Calne
SN11 8EL

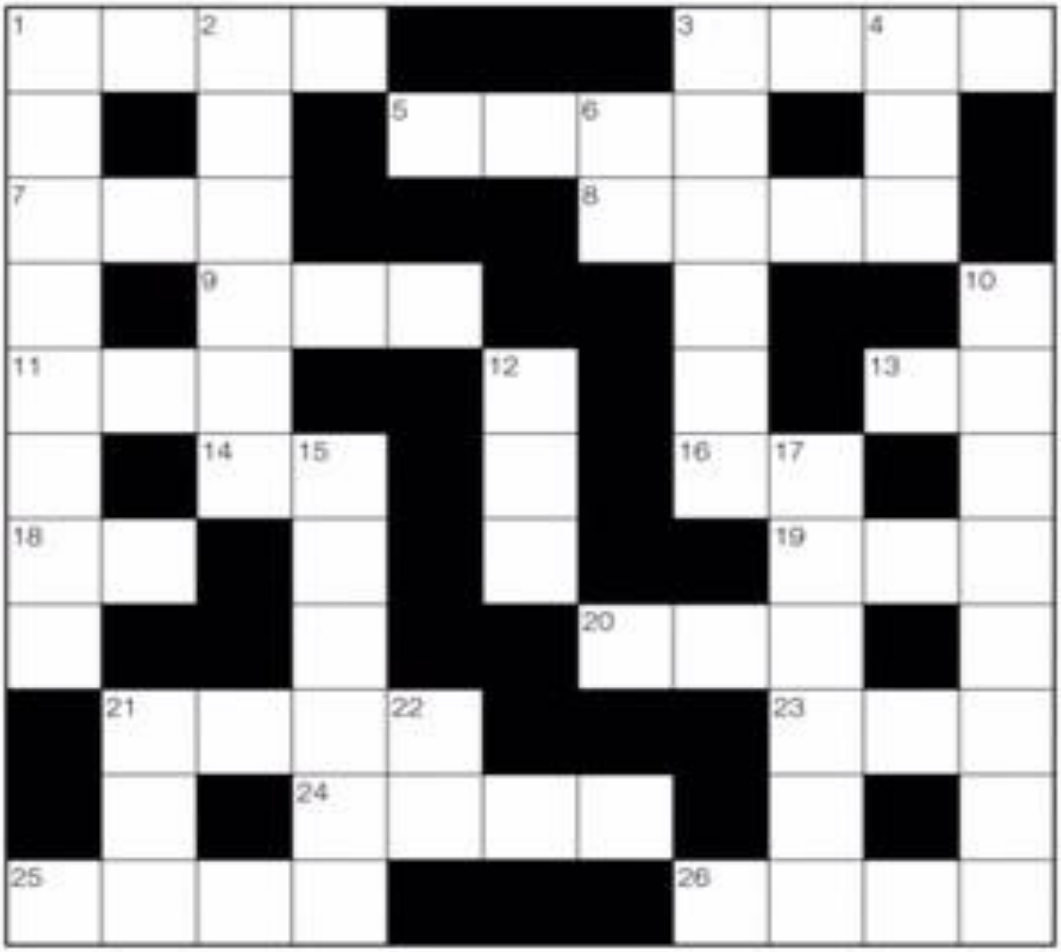
Marden Court
Quarr Barton
Calne
SN11 0EE

PLEASE POST!

TO ENSURE THE RESIDENT'S SAFETY, PLEASE POST THE LETTERS DIRECTLY TO THE LISTED HOME ADDRESSES!

Public Health England (PHE) has advised that people receiving parcels are not at risk of contracting the coronavirus. From experience with other coronaviruses, we know that these types of viruses don't survive long on objects, such as letters or parcels. Further info: **royalmail.com/coronavirus**

Kindly organised for the community of Calne, by Calne Town Council



October 2020

Across

1 Pricy (4)
3 Tyre changing aid; boys name (4)
5 Land of the alpaca (4)
7 Distress signal (3)
8 Prayer conclusion (4)
9 Observe (3)
11 Here, in Cannes (3)
13 Behold (2)
14 Exercise in schools (2)
16 Initials of expensive car brand (2)
18 Preposition (2)
19 Shoemaker's tool (3)
20 Taxi (3)
21 Lamp light (4)
23 Large (3)
24 English aristocrat (4)
25 Requests (4)
26 Eyelid irritation (4)

Down

1 Healing place (8)
2 Tittle-tattle (6)
3 Type of top (6)
4 Is able to (3)
6 Egyptian god (2)
10 French Channel port (8)
12 Pal of Tarzan (3)
15 Birds of prey (6)
17 Jumping jack?
21 Urban transport
22 University award (2)

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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 **Reverend Linda Carter,** The Vicarage, Church Road, Derry Hill. Calne. SN11 9NN
lindac@mardenvale.org.uk
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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