

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE

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March 2021

Spring!

The Parish Magazine of Christ Church Derry Hill



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The deadline for inclusion of material in next month's magazine is the **12th of this month.**

ADVERTISING RATES

All rates are for insertion in 10 consecutive issues of inSPIRE.

Size	Grayscale	Colour	Approximate size of advert (Width by height) (cm)
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Cover Photo: Richard Ayles.

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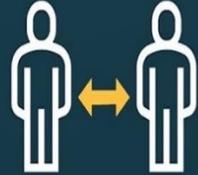
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Editorial

Spring is upon us! The days are lengthening and with British Summer Time heralding longer and lighter evenings to come at the end of this month we have something a little rosier to look forward to after what has been a fairly dismal winter. Whilst we can look forward to some warmer days, as Charles Dickens reminds us in *Great Expectations*, there is always a reminder of a colder side to the month:

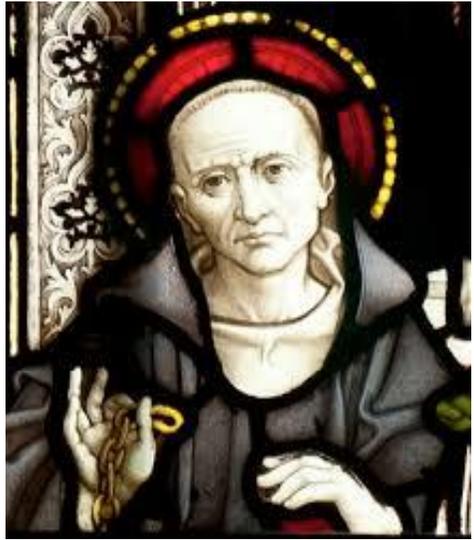
'It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.'

15 March sees 'The Ides of March', the date in 44BC when Julius Caesar was assassinated, an event which marked a turning point in Roman history. The date has been regarded by many since as being unlucky. A seer had warned Caesar that harm would befall him before the Ides of March (the 74th day of the Roman calendar, one which was marked by several religious observances and a date for settling of debts) and the events are reflected in Shakespeare's play. In the play Caesar notices the seer on his way to where he would be killed and says 'the Ides of March is come', implying that he was safe, but the seer responds by saying 'aye but not yet gone' and the rest is history - not very rosy for Caesar!



Some significant sporting events are marked this month. The first England v Scotland Rugby match took place on 27 March 1871 in Edinburgh and Scotland won, a result which was of course repeated last month. On 28 March 1912 both Oxford and Cambridge crews sank when taking part in the annual race on the Thames.

For those of a Cornish persuasion, 5 March is St Piran's Day – the patron saint of Cornwall and tin miners and marked with parades and other celebrations in many Cornish towns and villages. All these are unlikely to take place during the ongoing restrictions and because the pubs are closed – apparently in days of yore tin miners were only too willing to mark the day with copious amounts of alcohol. Like many other events around the country, St Piran's Day will still be there in the future.



On 15 March 2003, the World Health Organisation issued a global alert for a respiratory condition circulating principally in Asia and which had been first identified in China the previous month and which became known as SARS - Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Sounds familiar? Our own first lockdown of the current Covid -19 pandemic began on 16 March last year and few would have predicted the massive impact of this virus on our lives which now continues for over a year. On a rosier note, the current vaccine roll-out, coupled with the impact of our reduced mobility promises better days ahead.

1st March sees the start of British Pie Week so that too is rosy – according to internet search results, our two favourite pies are Cottage Pie and Fish Pie. The following week is Spam Appreciation Week, marking the eightieth anniversary of the product's launch in the UK.

Enjoy!

Richard Carter

Church Services suspended during lockdown period.



We are offering a short service of Evening Prayer each Wednesday at 5pm and Morning prayer each Sunday at 10am via Zoom. Please contact Rev Linda Carter for details: lindac@mardenvale.org.uk

Following the Prime Minister's statement on 4th January we find ourselves in another period of lockdown. The government has not so far stated that churches should close for public worship. Statements from the Church of England at national and diocesan level indicate that local decisions about whether to remain open may be taken at parish level.

Members of the Marden Vale ministry team have met (via Zoom) for prayer and to consider the way forward. The clear message from the government is that, at the moment, everyone should remain at home and leave for only very limited and essential purposes. Given the vulnerability of many who attend our churches the ministry team feels that the right and pastoral thing to do is to suspend public worship across the benefice for the time being. Some of us are a part of households where people who previously have been shielding have been asked to shield again. In order to reduce the risk of transmission of the new and highly transmissible variant of Covid-19 it seems best to operate with maximum caution. The good news is that vaccines are now

available and are being rolled-out and, hopefully over the next couple of months our lives will begin to improve and restrictions begin to be reduced. In the meantime, we need to keep people as safe as we can.

Whilst we won't we be opening our churches for public worship over the coming weeks it is our intention to offer times when people can come into our church buildings for private prayer. We will also continue with online worship and do all we can to support people who feel lonely and isolated. The best thing we can all do is to support and keep praying for each other. We do hope you will support us in this decision as to how proceed in the coming weeks. Obviously, we will keep matters under review as the picture changes.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last few months, both in your understanding when we have had to close churches and your patience in following new guidance for booking and attending services when churches have been open. Thank you also for your generosity in terms of financial giving, which is very much appreciated in these difficult times.

"Blessed be the Lord! For he has shown me his steadfast love when I was as a city besieged...Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who wait in hope for the Lord." Psalm 31.

Rev. Linda Carter (on behalf of Marden Vale Ministry Team)

Private Prayer at Christ Church Derry Hill

Due to the current government 'Lockdown' restrictions, Christ Church can no longer be open on a Sunday for public worship. However, it can remain open for private prayer and during the winter months this will be:

Thursday – Saturday: 10am - 3pm **Sunday:** 12 noon - 3pm

Please note only one household in church at any one time.

FAQs

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.

Please check the [church website](#) for up-to-date details.

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. 01249 817926 Calne. SN11 9NN lindac@mardenvale.org.uk
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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
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Church Wardens

Mrs Deidre Lias	01249 822157	Mr Peter Rigby	01225 704356
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PCC Treasurer (Tr) & Secretary (Sec)

Mr Peter Roycroft (Tr)	01249 660550	Mrs Jennie Leddra (Sec)	01249 660550
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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,

“Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.” Matthew 1:18-19

Dear Friends,

In December 2019 the Arts Society Fylde hosted a lecture entitled “Joseph of Nazareth – Best Supporting Actor”. Last December a church in Texas ran a Bible study entitled “The Greatest Man Who Never Spoke a Word”. What do you think of Joseph of Nazareth? How do you see him? I have seen many a nativity set where it is difficult to distinguish Joseph from one of the shepherds. In religious art he is often depicted as an old man, leaning on a stick, on the margins of the scene. Was he a much older man when he married Mary? Is that why he seems to vanish from the gospel accounts?



Matthew’s Gospel tells us that Joseph is a ‘just man’, or righteous, faithful to the law, good, depending on which translation you read. But Joseph was not merely faithful to the law (which would have seen Mary stoned to death according to Deuteronomy 22:23), Joseph adheres to a deeper sense of justice found in the prophetic wisdom of Isaiah. This enables him to act boldly, to break the law of Moses and dismiss Mary quietly rather than subjecting her to the shame and full force of public exposure.

We then see Joseph make a crucial decision, choosing to believe the angel in his dream, that the child is ‘conceived from the Holy Spirit’. Joseph decides to take Mary as his wife; the child is Joseph’s until he says otherwise (according to Jewish law). Joseph shows great courage in challenging the culture of his day. His decision to choose to listen to the

angel over the voices around and within him undoubtedly saves the life of Mary and her unborn child.

We are used to hearing that if Mary had said “no” to the Angel Gabriel, then it would have been game over for God’s great enterprise. Every year we hold our breath until Mary utters those words: “...let it be with me according to your word.” God will be born. Yet it is also true that the birth of Messiah, son of David depends on the “yes” of Joseph, son of David. It may come as a surprise to note that there was no official feast day for Joseph of Nazareth until the fifteenth century. The date of Joseph’s feast day is 19th March. In a world where it often seems that the loudest voices and most dramatic exploits hold sway, I want to commend Joseph of Nazareth, a just man: “In quietness and trust shall be your strength” Isaiah 30:15

“But all that I can offer is my arm around your back.
Its strength will never be enough to show
the strength of love that holds me to your side.
But ready still to comfort, to steady and to reassure,
my arm around your back, if needed will be there.”

Lisa Debney from ‘Once in Bethlehem’

With love,
Linda



What should I do if somebody has a suspected heart attack in Derry Hill and Studley village?



Phone 999 immediately – don't delay.

1. Tell them where you are in the village. They will tell you the access code for one of our defibrillators if they want you to use one.
2. Get the patient flat on the floor before they fall over. Start CPR as soon as possible (if needed) and continue until the ambulance/paramedics arrive and take over, or a defib is connected.
3. Our defibrillator equipment is set up with the pads already wired ready for use. If the patient is a child under 7 years old, then fit the pads one on their front and one on their back. If the patient is an adult fit both pads as instructed on their front. The defib will automatically tell you what to do and it will adjust the charge as appropriate to reset the heart.
4. Once life is re-established put the patient in the recovery position.
5. Once the ambulance/paramedics have treated the patient please return the defib to the cabinet and notify the contact on the rucksack label.

NB: You cannot be sued for giving CPR or using a defibrillator. The law covers you for saving life!

Keep safe.

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

Chuckle corner

1. It would be rather good if we could put ourselves into the dryer for a few minutes and come out with fewer wrinkles and a few sizes smaller.
2. A robber who stole a diary got 12 months.
3. There are times when you need expert advice, talk to yourself.
4. My iPod started to sync once I change its name to Titanic.
5. I've noticed that people of my age look much older than me...
6. There's a bloke I know who drinks brake fluid, he says he can stop any time.
7. England doesn't have a kidney bank, but we do have a Liverpool.
8. I saw a robbery in an Apple store recently. Does that make me an iWitness?



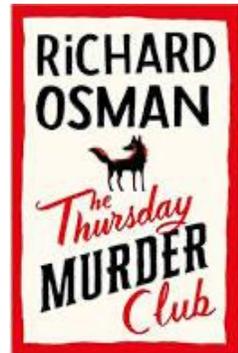
With thanks to Anita

Book Club Review

The Thursday Murder Club – by Richard Osman

A very English 'whodunnit' set in a rural retirement village with diverse characters all with age related mental and physical issues but none the less identifiable to those of us who have someone we know who fits the bill! These amateur sleuths form a club to investigate an ever-increasing number of deaths/murders using very unorthodox methods. There are some very poignant moments coupled with gentle humour and chuckle moments. It's an easy read especially in the current climate.

Dani



Parish Council News

Grants Awarded

Devices for schools

The Parish Council was able to approve grants for Derry Hill Primary School, Kingsbury Green Academy and Cherhill Primary School to



provide devices to aid home schooling for pupils from the Parish. A total of £10,208 has been split between the schools providing 10 devices for Derry Hill, 11 for Cherhill and 5 for Kingsbury Green. Once the need for home schooling is over the devices will be used within the classrooms.

Stephen Cox Garden Trust

£1570.87 was awarded to the Stephen Cox Garden Trust to repair and refurbish the summerhouse to provide a library, study, rest area and extra classroom. Many residents will be aware of the work of the Garden Trust and the improved facilities will be used by students, volunteers, scholars, European student helpers, helpers on residential programmes from school & university, students, student conservation managers from regional universities.

Playground and Fitness Equipment for Derry Hill – Survey Results

Based on the outcome of the recent survey the Parish Council has decided not to proceed with a feasibility study to examine the provision of a children's playground and outdoor fitness equipment at Petty Acre, Derry Hill.

The survey was initiated following representations from some residents about the provision of a children's playground and outdoor fitness equipment at Petty Acre, Derry Hill. The survey was conducted throughout December 2020 until 8th January 2021. 628 questionnaires

were distributed. The results, measured against the criteria established by the council, were:

- Overall Response Rate: (Threshold: 65% (408): Result: 21%, 130 returns – NOT MET
- Positive Response Rate: (Threshold: 65% (83): Result: 79%, 103 – MET
- Weighting: (Threshold: 75 % (19): Result 11%, 3 – NOT MET
- Community Involvement: (Threshold 5): - 7 MET

The majority of positive votes did not include a comment beyond expressing support and, in some cases, regarding it as addressing a longstanding deficiency. Some positive votes supported a playground but not fitness equipment.



Those against usually provided a more detailed commentary to support their objections. Key concerns included the potential change of use of what is currently well used community green asset – even more so during the periods of lockdown. The potential for use and abuse of any playground or outdoor fitness equipment during unsocial hours with

the attendant impact on the significant number of residences that back onto or overlook Petty Acre; particularly if it became an area of congregation rather than activity.

Concern was also expressed that the necessary infrastructure would detract from the green space, particularly if it required access paths and lighting. A reduction in privacy for adjacent residences if the facility was poorly located and provided high level vantage points was also raised.

The potential for the facility to attract users beyond the village community e.g., children attending Derry Hill school but not resident in the village with the additional traffic and parking issues that may result.

As a result of the survey, the Parish Council will not be proceeding with the proposed feasibility study. However, given the level of support from those who did respond to the survey, investment in community facilities is a subject on which the Parish Council would again ask for proposals from residents and it will be a topic for discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting when there is an opportunity to convene one.

The detailed papers considered by the Council can be viewed on the [Parish Council website](#).

Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Council had to cancel last year's Annual Parish Meeting due to the lockdown restrictions but has decided to hold a virtual meeting this year on **10th March 2021 at 7.30pm**.

This meeting will allow the Council to report what it has achieved over the last two years but is essentially for the community to come and tell the Council what the important issues are for them and what they would like to see happen in the Parish over the forthcoming year. The details of the meeting will be available on the [Parish Council website](#) and we hope as many of you as possible will join us on Zoom and take part in the meeting.



There are many issues under discussion in our area including the plans Wiltshire Council has for future growth and new roads, the proposal for a solar farm at Forest Gate, road safety issues, provision of new or improved community facilities and what will help the community coming out of lockdown and back to a less restricted way of life. The Councillors will be there to listen to all your comments and

ideas and hopefully pass them on to the new Council in May to take forward and make a new plan for the Parish.

May Elections

The Government has indicated that the local elections will go ahead on the 6th May 2021. Residents will have received information from Wiltshire Council about how to apply for a postal vote and to reassure that the

polling stations will be safe. To apply or find out any more details about voting please visit the [Wiltshire Council Website](#)



All 15 Parish Council seats will be available including the 6 seats in West Ward (Derry Hill and Studley) and 1 seat in Pewsham Ward (Devizes Road, Old Derry Hill and rural surrounds). The Local Government Boundaries Commission and Wiltshire Council through the latest rounds of Governance Reviews have set the new Ward Boundaries for the Parish and the number of

Councillors to serve those Wards. A map of the new wards is available [here](#).

For those of you that would like to become a Parish Councillor and make a difference in the community the [Wiltshire Council website](#) has all the information you need about how to stand, what you need to do and the important dates.

Census 2021

Census Day is 21st March 2021.

It's a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. It helps plan and fund public services, like transport, education and healthcare.

By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure you and your community get the services you need.

Nearer the time, you'll receive more information. There'll be plenty of help to take part for people who need it.

Find out more at www.census.gov.uk

Wiltshire Local Plan and Future Chippenham

Don't forget to have your say on the consultations being run by Wiltshire Council into the future development of the area. There are forms to download or fill in online for you can email your comments direct to the Wiltshire Council officers. There is also a phone number to ring for help and paper copies of documents if you need them or know someone without access to a computer 0300 456 0100 lines open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday.

For the websites for Wiltshire Local Plan information [click here](#) and for the Future Chippenham consultation about a possible road route and associated development [click here](#)

Sarah Glen, Clerk

clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

Want the latest Coronavirus data for this area?



[Here's a link to the government website](#)

Easing out of lockdown



Stage one is divided into two phases:

8th March

- All schools and colleges will reopen.
- University students can return for practical courses. There will be a review by the end of the Easter holidays for all other students.
- Face coverings are recommended in class for secondary school students and also for parents and staff in primary schools.
- Wraparound childcare can also return for vulnerable pupils and where it is needed for parents or carers to go to work, support groups or to seek medical care.
- Two people from different households can meet outside for recreation, which can include "a coffee on a bench".
- One nominated person can visit care homes, but will need PPE, a lateral flow test and to "keep physical contact to a minimum".
- Weddings attended by up to six people can take place in any circumstances.

29th March

- People will be allowed to meet outside, either with one other household or within the "rule of six", including in private gardens
- The stay-at-home rule will end but people should stay local as much as possible.
- Outdoor sport facilities will reopen, including tennis and basketball courts.
- Formally organised outdoor sports can also restart.
- Parents and children groups can return but are capped at 15 and must be outdoors. Indoor groups can take place for vulnerable children and where parents need the groups to go to work.

Stage two

No earlier than 12th April:

- All shops allowed to open.
- Restaurants and pub gardens will be allowed to serve customers sitting outdoors, including alcohol.
- Gyms and spas can reopen for individuals and households.
- Hairdressers, beauty salons and other "close contact services" can reopen.
- UK "staycations" away from home permitted, with self-contained accommodation able to reopen for use by members of the same household.
- Children allowed to attend indoor play activities, with up to 15 parents or guardians allowed to join them.
- Zoos, theme parks and drive-in cinemas can reopen.
- Libraries and community centres can reopen.
- Weddings attended by up to 15 people can take place.



Stage three

No earlier than 17th May:

- People can meet in groups of up to 30 outdoors.
- Six people or two households can meet indoors.
- Up to 30 people can meet to celebrate weddings or other life events, like christenings.
- Remaining outdoor entertainment, such as outdoor theatres and cinemas can open.
- Indoor entertainment such as museums, cinemas and children's play areas can open.
- Hotels, hostels and B&Bs can reopen to household groups.
- Performances and large events can resume, with some limits. For indoor events they can be at half capacity or 1,000 people, and outdoors they can be at half capacity or 4,000 people - whichever is lower. For large venues (at least 40,000 capacity) up to 10,000 will be allowed to attend.
- International travel will resume no earlier than 17 May.
- Adult indoor group sports and exercise classes can start up again.

Stage four

No earlier than 21st June:

- All legal limits on social contact will be removed.
- No legal limits on the number of people who can attend weddings, funerals and other life events. From April, the government will run pilots for events such as large weddings, festivals and work conferences. This will help to determine how measures such as enhanced testing might allow large groups to attend without social distancing.
- Nightclubs and theatres will be allowed to reopen.

With thanks to the BBC

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AND ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR
COMMUNITY, WE NEED YOU**

**Calne Without Parish Council
Elections 6th May 2021
For more information go to the
[Wiltshire Council website](#)**



Forrester Sylvester Mackett

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01666 822671

01793 522688

01225 755621

01985 217464

What is Probate? An explanation by Georgina Hughes from FSM Solicitors.

Finding yourself as the Executor of a loved one's Estate can be a daunting prospect. Understanding the jargon and knowing what to do and when can cause a great deal of worry.

People often use the term "Probate" to describe the process of administering the Estate of a person who has died. This includes identifying the value of their assets and liabilities as at their date of death then finally distributing the Estate between the beneficiaries.

A Grant of Probate is an Order issued by the Court, and it confirms the authority given in the Will to the Executors, so they can distribute deceased person's Estate in accordance with their wishes. A Grant of Probate may not be required if the Estate is small, or if the assets are held in joint names and will be passed to the joint owner via the right of survivorship.

What is the Executor's role?

The role of an Executor is to adhere to the terms of the Will, including obtaining a Grant of Probate if necessary. The Executor named in the Will may be a friend or relative of the deceased. A Solicitor can also be instructed to act as an Executor.

What should I do first?

Following a death there is no immediate urgency to apply for a Grant of Probate. The first steps are to register the death, ensure that the house and contents are secure, and that the home insurance providers are aware that the person has died, and they will continue to provide cover. You must also locate the Will and make the funeral arrangements. Wills are usually read in private. Formal Will readings (such as those portrayed on television), rarely ever happen. Beneficiaries are usually notified by the Executors in writing or verbally.

Who will pay for the funeral or Inheritance Tax?

If the deceased's bank account holds sufficient funds, then the bank will usually release monies before the Grant of Probate is issued for the payment of the funeral and any Inheritance Tax.

What happens if there is no Will?

If there is no Will, the Estate will be distributed amongst the deceased's relatives according to the Intestacy Rules. As the deceased person will not have appointed an Executor, the Estate must be dealt with by an Administrator – most often it is a relative entitled under the Intestacy. If anyone is likely to challenge the distribution of the deceased's Estate, then it is sensible to involve a Solicitor at the outset.

How long will it all take and what costs are involved?

The timescale of winding up an Estate can vary. In straightforward cases it can be finalised in a few weeks or months, in more complex cases it can take a year, or longer.

It is necessary to use a Solicitor?

No, you are not required to use a Solicitor. In many cases you will not need a Grant of Probate if the Estate is small or simple to administer. However, if the Estate is large, has foreign property, multiple properties, or investments or if there is going to be Inheritance Tax, you should take advice. An Executor (whether professionally experienced, or not) takes on the liability for administering the Estate and a mistake could cost the Executor personally, even if they have not inherited anything themselves. The costs of taking legal advice will be met by the Estate, and not the Executor personally.

If you have more questions, Georgina Hughes works at FSM Solicitors' Chippenham branch and has extensive experience in dealing with Estates, Wills and Powers of Attorney. If you would like to have a confidential and informal discussion about this without obligation, please call **Georgina at Forrester Sylvester Mackett Solicitors** on 01249 444 300 or email georginahughes@fsm solicitors.co.uk.

The Stoop of the Peregrine



This true story is written because I fear that very few people living in this part of England will have ever had the privilege of seeing for themselves what was for me the experience of a lifetime.

It was during the long hot summer of 1922 that I was sent to spend a convalescent holiday with an uncle who manage the large farm at lford near Lewis.

The land comprised some 1500 to 2000 acres along the Lewis to Newhaven Road with some 500 acres of marshland and more of downland, stretching away in the direction of Telscombe Cliffs near Brighton.

One summer evening I made my way up the farm track past the Big Spinney and up onto the crest of the South Downs.

In those days vast warrens of rabbit holes were found in more or less circular clumps among the gorse bushes, inhabited by an incredible number of rabbits of all ages and sizes.

As I lay on the closely cropped sward watching the antics of the “baby bunnies” and listening to the song of the skylarks, suddenly there seem to come a warning signal. Every rabbit scuttled to the nearest hole and disappeared from sight, as if I wondered, what they have seen or heard that I have not, I became aware of a strange hissing or whizzing sound coming from high above me. I looked up and saw three rock pigeons flying about 200 feet altitude in close formation. Above them I also saw what looked like a large stone hurtling down upon them out of the blue. The hissing sound (which many years later I was to associate with Jerry’s bombs coming down!) got louder and louder until the object struck one of the pigeons with such force that a cloud of feathers was wafted onto the light breeze, and the unfortunate pigeon crashed, with a broken back in sudden death, into a field of standing wheat nearly 6 feet high, some one hundred yards from me.

Having struck its quarry, the peregrine falcon, for such it was, made a graceful upward zoom on half-open wings, then flew in a circle over the spot where its quarry had fallen. But whether because I was visible, or because of the height of the corn, I shall never know, the majestic prince of Britain’s predators flew off on outstretched wings with superb ease and grace back in the direction of Telscombe Cliffs.

Earlier I have described this experience as the chance of a lifetime, and so, indeed, it has proved to be for one who all his life has taken the keenest interest in our native wild birds and bees.

Henry John Newman

P.S. experts approve the velocity of a ‘stooping’ Peregrine to be in excess of 180 mph.

(This delightful piece was written by Rachel Collins’s father in 1974)

The Stephen Cox Journals

Stephen Cox is taking a well-earned sabbatical and hopes to contribute again in the near future.

Ed

Gardening Steve

Hi - March is here and so Spring is nearly here. There are plenty of plants and trees beginning to show signs of new life. You can now feed the borders with Blood Fish and Bone fertiliser; this will give all plants a real good start. Hoe the fertiliser in and water in if any rain hasn't fallen in 4 days. It's now time to give the lawns its first cut; raise the height to its



highest setting. After you have cut it you can scarify the lawn to get rid of all the thatch. Next you can give the lawn a good feed of spring feed and spray the lawn weeds. If you have been growing any Christmas hyacinths or narcissus plants in the garden borders and let them die down naturally, this will give you extra flowers in the garden next Spring. Open the greenhouse on a sunny day as this will cool it down. More news next month.

Happy gardening.

Stephen Starr Bowood gardener.

Walking Netball

Unfortunately, due to the latest Lock Down restrictions we have had to stop all our Walking Netball sessions, like so many other sports.

We are however looking forward to the time when we can get back on court and play again.

Very sad seeing our brilliant court standing locked and empty.

Barbara

GET CONNECTED:

Try our NEW tablet loan service

Are you a disabled or older person living in Wiltshire?

Would you like to try joining a virtual club or group?

Would you like to try internet shopping?

Do you have friends or family that you have not been able to see: would you like to video call them?

Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living (WCIL) can lend you a computer tablet **FREE** for one week at a time so that you are able to connect with your local community.

You will get basic instructions on using the tablet. We can also support you to look at ways you may be able to purchase a tablet of your own.

You do not need to have internet at home to use the tablet.

**** All tablets are cleaned and sanitised between loan periods****



Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living
11 Douch Lane, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 1EB
Charity no. 1120611 Company no. 5480781

Contact WCIL to find out more:



info@wiltshirecil.org.uk



0300 1233 442

Derry Hill and District W.I.

Following on from our last report of the WI, we all had great fun on our Burns' Night Zoom.

A big effort had been made to wear some tartan and a tippie ready for the toast. We had some poetry and Margaret Hogarth gave the address to the Haggis followed with a dramatic stab! The final toast was to ourselves the WI Lassies. This was taken from the Zoom screen.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



We have recently held another Zoom coffee morning, and enjoyed catching up with any news, and again going into Breakout Rooms to chat more easily with only four members per room. We have now been set for another competition to send in later in the month a photograph of an Easter Egg, Easter wreath or table decoration.

Another 2pm afternoon tea is planned for 3rd March, when we will have a couple of fun quizzes and lots of chat.

A recent request was for our members to send in anything positive they have achieved or done during this Lockdown situation. It was decided to call this "Silver Linings News" as every cloud has one. (see below)

The following has been collated by Tina, our Chair, with a brilliant outcome to help staying positive in the present situation we find ourselves in. For any other information please contact our secretary Sally Hole on 01249 817945 or sallyhole@hotmail.co.uk

Barbara Barnard

Silver Lining News

Digging a Pond!

Mike and I like to have a project on the go, either a holiday in planning stages, a DIY job involving tradespeople or some sort of family event to organise. None of these could be done in lockdown so Undeterred we set about digging a pond in the Autumn – we were too busy doing nothing in the Summer! There was a lot of measuring and calculating (Mike) and a lot of digging and rock removal (Me) but eventually we had a hole big enough for a 5ft long liner.



Luckily, we had a lot of large rocks from some previous owner's water feature (removed on the grounds that it was electrically unsafe, having been connected to an indoor 13amp plug!) and a variety of plants were moved or given to us. We also bought a solar fountain – only about 2" high which came from Amazon in a big box, but it does work. We have yet to find pond weed, seemingly a seasonal item, but it looks pretty good and hopefully will attract some frogs and make the local birds happy. For Christmas we received a beautiful metal heron to stand guard so now we just watch and wait.

Standards Ladies Please !

Being able to wear pyjamas at the WI zoom coffee mornings without anyone noticing! I hasten to add that I've not actually done this (yet) but have thought about it.

Captain Sir Tom.

This is my latest project I saw a knitted Captain Tom on Facebook and thought that I would have a go! As I had to make a lot of it up as I went



along, the walker was a bit of a tricky job, it turned out alright in the end! Take care. 😊

Cosy Toes for Grandchildren...

I have never knitted a pair of socks in my life! I was given a sock' knitting pattern book over a year ago and never got round to it. I knitted both my daughters 'shark' socks, to wear in your wellies, as Christmas presents this year and they loved them. I am now knitting 'Fox' and 'Raccoon' socks for the Twins, then Llama socks for their sister Anna. I have actually enjoyed it. I am usually quite busy so having all this extra time has opened new doors!



Heroic Deed!

I have learnt to live with my husband 24/7.

Keep Calm and Keep Trying!

Before Christmas I decided I wanted to knit a Mrs Christmas (alias Mrs Claus), but I couldn't find yarn - I think everyone else had the same idea. Anyway, I have a good friend, who lives near Wells, who I email practically every other day and I had a moan about the lack of yarn. A few days later I received a parcel with red, white and green yarn - from Jill - such a lovely surprise. So I knitted the doll and then started the dress! It had a scalloped edge, and I could not understand the 'idiot's guide' on how to knit it. Had I bought

the yarn myself I would most likely have given up there and then but because Jill had gone to the trouble to buy the yarn and to post it to me (not cheap!) I decided to keep trying. I found that the lady who makes up the patterns runs tutorials on the web, so I logged into that. It was a lifesaver, very easy to understand and I now have a beautiful, scalloped hem. How's that for positivity?

Found Long Lost Auntie!



I recently found a photo of myself at about 12 years old. It was with an Auntie (my late father's sister) who lives in

Queensland Australia. (I used to live in N S W), I have been able to find her after all these years, and found out that the photo was taken on her 21st Birthday. I have since been in regular contact with her by messenger, it has been lovely to receive recent photos of her and her daughter. I found out a lot about my father's side of family which I didn't know!

Tongue in Cheek?

I only learnt to "drink more wine" which I don't think is anything very positive!!!



Ha ha! Not quite what I meant!

30 Years In The Making!

I finally finished this jumper for Mark. I started knitting it over 30 years ago but lost interest after a bottle of red wine exploded on the sleeve I was knitting.



Time Well Spent!



Lockdown has given me TIME! I've stopped buzzing around like a bluebottle. I've been painting and drawing more, learning online and improving my digital skills and I've discovered Tai Chi which is very calming.

Lockdown Fairy Godmother!



A photo of the teddies I have made during lockdown. I knitted over 20 during the summer gave a lot of them away to children going past our house on their daily walks with their parents. We had lovely conversations with people we would never have met without lockdown.

How to be Saintly with minimum effort!

Having mastered Zoom, I have now had another 'positive' thought...I will give up going to the Pub for Lent!!!

Example To Us All!

Lockdowns! I can't say anybody has enjoyed the forced 'lock-ins' we have endured this last year but it has made us all appreciate our homes, gardens and environment. Apart from clearing out clutter I have enjoyed looking through photo albums and reminiscing over family events. I have telephoned neglected friends,

practised my piano and completed many jigsaw. My technical skills barely exist but I have learnt to Zoom and FaceTime to keep up with family, exercise, art lectures, church and WI get togethers. Daily walks have made me realise how lucky I am to live in this area and weekly shopping trips have been an adventure.

As Spring approaches and vaccinations are in full swing - freedom is just round the corner!

Thank you all!



Rachel is running for Charity.

On three occasions while staying with our daughter and her family in Auckland, New Zealand, I have taken part in the annual [‘Round The Bays’](#) fun run – a 8.4k run along the seafront road in Auckland, which in March 2020 attracted over 30,000 runners, including me!



The coronavirus pandemic has prevented us planning a visit to our family this year, so instead I plan to run the distance locally, at the beginning of March, and will be raising money for [Macmillan Cancer Support](#). My sister and I are both living with a blood cancer, and my brother-in-law is currently receiving chemo for cancer and being supported by Macmillan nurses.

If you would like to support this charity, you can donate via my [Just Giving page](#)

Thanks,

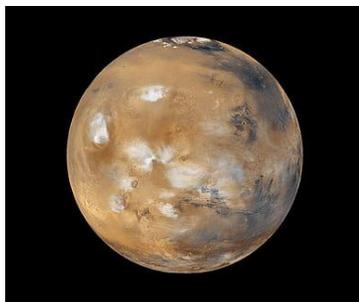
Rachel Collins

The Night Sky in March

Spring arrives this month and after a very cold spell in the early part of February, it will be most welcome. Meteorologically, Spring begins on 1 March but astronomically it arrives on 20 March, the date of the vernal equinox when the periods of day and night are virtually identical. Technically, the equinox is when the sun crosses the celestial equator which this year occurs at 09.37h. Later in the month our lighter evenings are extended when British Summer Time commences on 28 March, so clocks need to be advanced by one hour.

At 22.00h on the evening of 19 March, Mars will be easily located in the western sky as it will be immediately to the right of the crescent moon. Whilst not as bright as it was last summer and autumn, its reddish tinge makes it easy to identify. At the same time, the object to the left of and just below the moon is the star Aldebaran, the brightest star in the constellation of Taurus. It is some sixty-five million light years from the Sun and some forty-four times its diameter. A little further to the right of Aldebaran the small 'smudge' of stars called the Pleiades can be identified. With the right viewing conditions, this grouping will make an interesting tableau.

Things became a little busy around Mars in February with the arrival of three spacecraft. Firstly, the United Arab Emirates' 'Hope' mission went into orbit around the planet on 9 February and almost immediately began transmitting images of the surface.



China's Tianwen-1 entered orbit the following day and the plan is for its rover vehicle to land on the surface of Mars in May or June of this year.

Finally, NASA's Perseverance mission, with its plethora of cameras, was scheduled to land on the planet's surface on 18 February. It is hoped that its rover will collect soil and rock samples for return to Earth. Among other objectives all three missions are hoping to confirm the existence of water on the planet, or that water was once present. To date only the United States has successfully landed a spacecraft on the surface of Mars with

eight missions since 1976. Many have not survived the landing, including China's last attempt, a joint venture with Russia in 2011.

All three spacecraft were launched in July last year, at a time when Earth and its neighbour were at their closest, thus saving rocket energy. It takes Mars almost twice as long to orbit the Sun as Earth does, 687 days against our 365 so missing last July's launch window would have meant a two year wait to carry out a suitable launch.

This month will see a 'Supermoon' on 28 March when it should appear larger and brighter than usual. This is occasioned by the fact that the Full Moon occurs at a point when it is close to Earth in its monthly orbit. This year we will see four such events, the best will be in May. On the evening of 23 March, in the south-eastern sky, the twin stars of Castor and Pollux will form a diagonal above the Moon.



In the early morning sky, Jupiter rises at around 5.00 am in the eastern sky and shines brilliantly. At 06.15h on 5 March tiny Mercury will be seen almost immediately above the planet with Saturn a little way above and to the right.

Finally, low in the western sky, a final glimpse of the constellation Orion will be visible prior to its leaving our spring and summer skies and returning next autumn.

	Sunrise	Sunset
1 March	06.52	17.48
15 March	06.21	18.12
31 March	06.45	19.39

Richard Carter

MAKE A CHANGE



Calne Without Parish Council
Parish & Wiltshire Council Elections due on 6th May 2021

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**To register to vote call Wiltshire Council on
0300 456 0112**

Or go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

You can register if you are-

- 16 or over (you cannot vote until your 18th birthday)
- a British or Commonwealth Citizen
- a Citizen of the Irish Republic or another EU State.

You can also arrange to vote by post or by proxy.

An extract from John Wesley's book 'Primitive Physic' Original 1747. This from a re-print of 1845

British Champaign (original spelling)

Take of white sugar, eight pounds; the whitest raw sugar, seven ditto; christolized lemon acid or tartaric acid, an ounce and a quarter; pure water, eight gallons; white grape wine, two quarts; of perry, four quarts; of French brandy, three pints.

Boil the sugars in the water, skimming it occasionally for two hours, then put it into a tub, and dissolve it in the acid.

Before it be cold, add some yeast, and ferment in the same manner as directed for British Madeira.

Put it into a clean cask and add the other ingredients. The cask is to be well bunged and kept in a cool place for two or three months, then bottle it and keep it cool for a month longer, and it will be fit for use.

If it should not be perfectly clear after standing in the cask for two or three months, it should be rendered so by the use of isinglass before it be bottled. By adding a pound of fresh or preserved strawberries, and two ounces of powdered cochineal to the above quantity, the pink Champaign may be made.



Cheers!

Free events at the Chippenham Fringe

Although this event is called the [Fringe February 21](#) there are events up to and including March 7th.

There are some interesting events to book into for young an old, all supported by Chippenham Borough Lands Charity.

Ed

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tel: 07732 545715 www.yogawithsuzanne.co.uk

MIXED ABILITY | BEGINNERS WELCOME

People with Autism Spectrum Conditions and their relatives and carers asked for their views on services

Healthwatch Wiltshire would like to find out what people with Autism Spectrum Conditions and their relatives and carers think about health, care and support services.



Working in partnership with Wiltshire Service Users Network (WSUN), which runs the National Lottery funded Wiltshire Autism Hub, we want to learn more about the experiences of adults with autism when they attend health and care appointments, and whether they feel they are getting the support and information they need from local services.

We have launched two surveys which can be completed online, by phone, or on paper.

For people with an [Autism Spectrum Condition](#):

For [friends, relatives and carers who support someone with an Autism Spectrum Condition](#):

You can save and return to the online surveys at any time.

If you would like to share your views and would like support to complete the survey, or would like a paper copy to be sent to you, please contact Healthwatch Wiltshire on 01225 434218 or info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk or WSUN on 01380 871800 or info@wsun@btconnect.com and we will arrange this for you.

Julie Brown, Acting Manager of Healthwatch Wiltshire, said: "We want to hear from people with Autism Spectrum Conditions, and their friends, relatives and carers, about their personal experiences of health and care services.

"Everything you share with us will be used to tell those who run services what could be improved or developed in the future. All feedback is confidential and anonymous."

Louise Rendle, CEO of Wiltshire Service Users Network, said: "We would love to hear about how services are working for you, what's going well and where you think things could be better.

"We'd also like to know if you have enough information about any support and other services that are available to you."

What is going on?

Apart from our pavements being dug up to provide a fibre network to our houses, should we want it, there are some serious **proposed** developments that you might want to look at if you haven't already.

1. A massive housing (7,500) and industrial development on our side of Chippenham (east) part of a bypass scheme linking the A350 around Chippenham.
Here's the main [information page](#). Also on YouTube there is a video showing the [route options](#) of the bypass.
This whole proposal is only at consultation stage at the moment. The proposal was put forward by Wiltshire Council to Chippenham town Council with the carrot of a £75 million grant. Needless to say there are many who consider this to be development too far.
2. [The Solar Farm at Forest Gate proposal](#). This proposal has been fully covered in previous editions of this magazine.

Applications in the pipeline:

3. 32 houses south of Chilvester Hill. (The land on the right as you go up the hill to Calne, just before the roundabout). This [planning application](#) has been opposed by your local parish council (Calne Without), Calne town Council and Wiltshire Council. That may not be the end of the game as the developers may appeal.
4. [32 retirement apartments in the centre of Calne](#).
This site is roughly between the Pippin (where Sainsburys is) and nearly to the High street, stopping behind Lloyds Bank,
An application to build these has been contested for some time. Calne Town council has vigorously opposed them on the grounds that they do not conform to the Neighbourhood Plan and the Town Plan. There was a hearing in front of a government inspector and the decision is now awaited.
5. Lidl has [submitted plans](#) to build a supermarket and 10 industrial units at the top of the Oxford Road Calne, just off the roundabout by the big new Tesco.

Ed

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

Make a
difference in your
community

Photo Credit: drawingrooms@icloud.com COMMUNITY
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Demand for our service is growing
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volunteers** to support the service.



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

Email: linkproject@communityfirst.org.uk

Electoral Roll - Christ Church Derry Hill

The Electoral Roll has to be revised every year prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This year the meeting takes place on **Sunday 21st March** directly after the 10am Zoom service.

Anyone whose name is already on the list will remain but anyone who wishes to be added to the Roll needs to complete an application form. This will be available [via the Pew Sheet \(notices\)](#), and can be completed and returned by email to jjleddra@talktalk.net

To be entitled to be included on the Roll a person must be:
Baptised.

Over 16 years of age on or before 7th April 2019.

A Member of the Church of England resident in the parish.

A Member of the Church of England not resident in the parish but attending Christ Church regularly.

A Member of a Roman Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, URC church who are prepared to declare themselves a member of the Church of England and have attended worship for at least six months in the parish.

In order to serve on the Parochial Church Council or vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting you need to be on the Electoral Roll. This is an ideal opportunity to have an input into the running of the church and its life within the village.

The closing date for completion of the Roll is **6th March 2021**.

Jennie Leddra PCC Secretary



Wellbeing notes

A perfect spring bounty for our times

One of Wiltshire's biggest harvests is growing fast right now. It'll be ready to gather towards the end of March, and it will keep on giving until May. This produce brings an array of vitamins and minerals to the table, as well as antibacterial and antiviral properties. And yet this wonder harvest is not farmed. It simply grows wild in ancient woodland. And we can gather its leaves for free.



The plant is commonly called wild garlic. Its botanical name, *Allium ursinum*, references the fact that bears apparently seek out wild garlic as their first spring food. It is a plentiful, green, spring tonic that gives energy and immunity-boosting benefits to animals weakened by a long hibernation. So this is the perfect time for us to walk in nature, to breathe in the pungent scent of wild garlic and to gather bowlfuls for the cooking pot.

Be sure to pick the correct plant. Wild garlic is green, with pale stems and white, starry sprays of white flowers. The leaves are a sort of long, floppy arrow shape, and they release their pungent odour when rubbed between fingers and thumb. Never confuse it with other, harmful plants such as lily of the valley, *Convallaria majalis*, which has a purple stem and no odour when rubbed; or broader-leaved lords and ladies, *Arum maculatum*, which can often be found growing amidst a carpet of wild garlic.

You can chop wild garlic leaves finely for salads, mix them with butter, simmer them like spinach or blend them into a fabulous pesto. You'll find some ideas [here](#).

Suzanne Askham author of [This One is Special](#)

Age UK Wiltshire's free-to-access service

- Advice on what equipment to use and how to better use it as well as the best ways for you to access the internet.
- Support you to achieve the things you want to do with technology.
- Help you if you have no friends or family who can assist.
- Make technology equipment more affordable by checking your entitlement to welfare benefits and grants.

Click & Connect is not a training course but it will provide 1-2-1 support to help you achieve what you tell us is important. We cannot lend or give out equipment, but we can advise on whether your equipment is suitable and suggest options for equipment you may need.

We can't provide you with help indefinitely, but we can provide support until you are confident in performing the tasks you want to do.

If you feel there is something you want to do but don't know how, then Click & Connect could help!

How to access the service

If you would like to find out more, please call our team on 01380 710 296 and we will be delighted to speak with you. Or email us click@ageukwiltshire.org.uk

Rub a Dub

Like many other pre-schools, RAD remains open for key-worker children at present. We're now looking for bank staff to help cover staff leave and sickness. If you would like more information about this role please contact Natalie on 07894073865.



As you can probably imagine, fundraising has proved to be a little tricky for the last few months. However, our fundraising committee are busy coming up with lots of new and exciting ideas. Watch this space!

Sarah RAD Fundraising Committee

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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

Every Wednesday during term time from 9.30 to 11.30 am.
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February 2021



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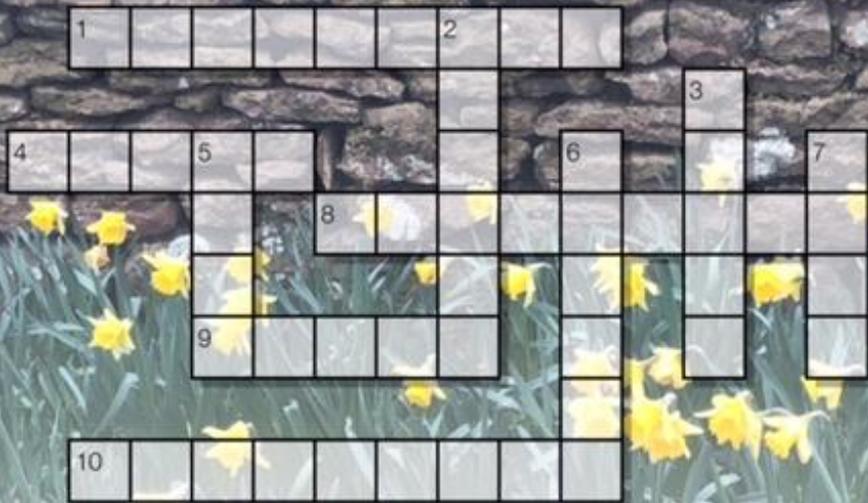


RICS

res.calne@atwellmartin.co.uk

www.atwellmartin.co.uk

March 2021
Anything Spring to mind?



ACROSS

- 1 Signs of spring in the pond (9)
- 4 Woolly harbingers of a new year (5)
- 8 Animal in Alice in Wonderland story (5,4)
- 9 From which most plants grow (5)
- 10 Spring flowers (9)

DOWN

- 2 From which mighty Oaks grow (6)
- 3 Growing in the lawn (5)
- 5 Parts of plant ready to burst into leaf (4)
- 6 Bird's young (6)
- 7 Somewhere to lay eggs (4)

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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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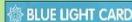
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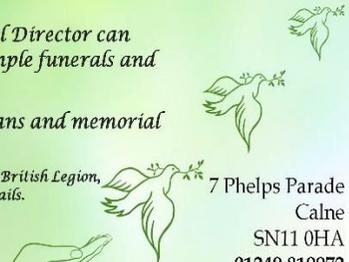
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