

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



December 2021 / January 2022

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 **20th of this month.**

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**Jane Clark
 07733 231735**

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Editorial

As well as marking Christmas, this edition of the magazine takes us into the embrace of a new year and all that it offers. After the colour of autumn, the landscape becomes bleaker and harsher but not without its own beauty. With leaves having fallen and as fields and woodlands are left bereft of much in the way of new life, we are able to see the 'structure' of trees more clearly, shrubs and the land itself before it is all re clothed during the coming springtime. We can witness frosted trees enveloped in morning mists while the countryside and our gardens are painted within a muted palette of greys and whites.



Winter skies can offer wonderful sunset colours at this time of the year though twilights are brief in winter as darkness quickly follows the departure of the sun. After dark, those same skies give us an opportunity to marvel at the heavens above, especially on dark, clear and frosty nights – much earlier in the evening than during the months of spring and summer. Even in the south of England, if you happen to be in a dark skies environment where there is no light pollution – and if you are lucky – it is possible to see something of the fabled Northern Lights.

The stripped-back landscape also allows us to see much of our native wildlife more easily. Woodpeckers, whose numbers are increasing, can also be heard more readily without the cover of trees in full leaf as they begin to drum against the woodwork, marking out their territories early in the year. In addition, murmurations of starlings can be witnessed clearly against the evening sky and offer a mesmerising spectacle. Robins are with us year-round and sing whenever they can. At a time when many birds are silent, this tuneful bird can be heard until late on a winter's afternoon.



The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch has taken place since 1979 and next year's event is scheduled for 28-30 January when those taking part are asked to identify and count the birds entering our gardens. Any hedgehogs seeing the cold months out in our gardens will see their heart rate fall to twenty beats per minute from the normal one hundred and ninety.

Snowdrops (the flower of consolation) will begin to appear before the end of January and offer the promise of Spring and bunches of daffodils will adorn many of our tables, initial supplies coming from Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Indeed, Scilly narcissi were available for purchase in Cornwall during the second week of November.

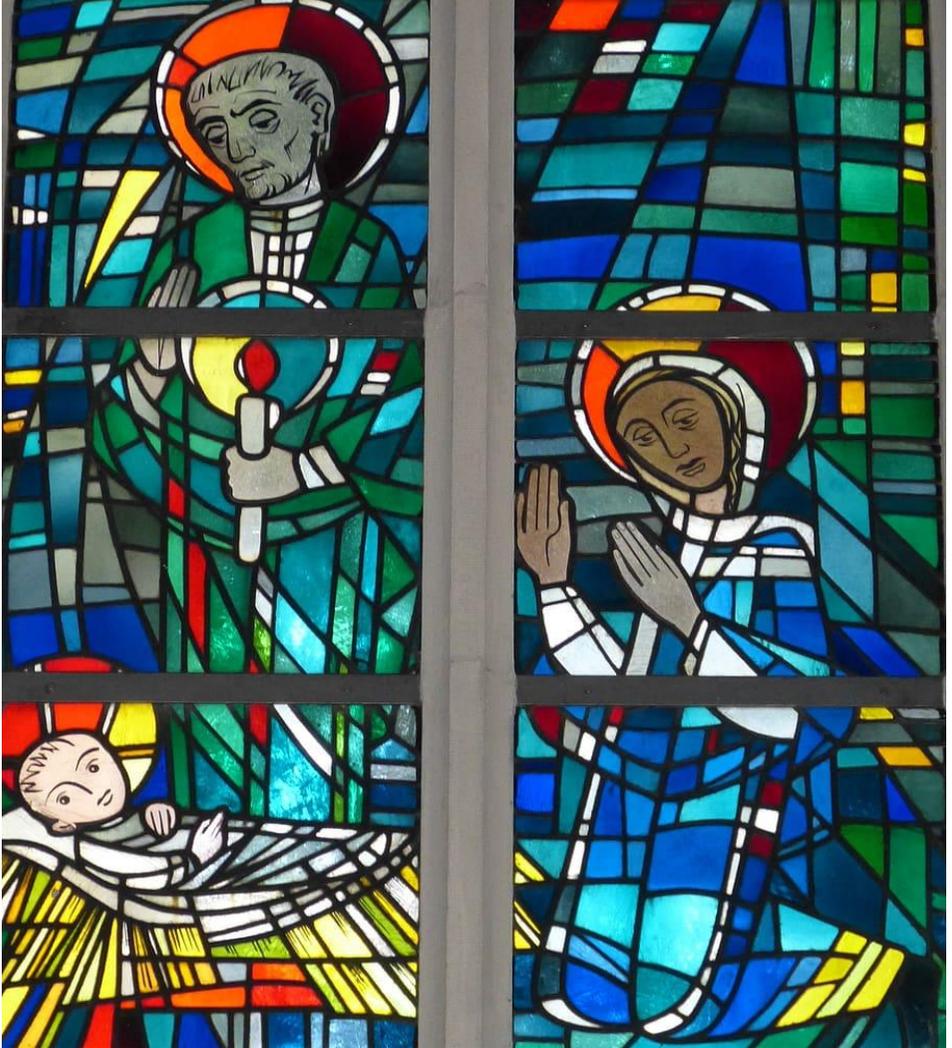
But before that we have some typically British Christmas events to look forward to. In parts of Devon, Somerset and Dorset (particularly cider drinking areas) there is the burning of the ashen faggot. On Christmas Eve a six-foot-long bunch of ash sticks, or a log wrapped up in them, are tied together with withies, strips of hazel or willow, thrown into the fireplace and lit from the remnants of the previous year's fire. When each of the withies breaks, tradition dictates that a new jug of cider is brought in – each faggot has six or seven of them! This is a long-standing custom now kept alive by local pubs. On the south beach in Scarborough, Boxing Day sees the annual Fisherman v Fireman football, held since 1893 and now a fund-raising event for local charities. This is played in fancy dress and more often resembles a game of rugby with many being dunked in the sea. The half time team talk involves drinking beer and the match is followed by a raft race and more beer.

So, from those of us involved in producing the magazine, enjoy the forthcoming Christmas and New Year festivities, and also the world around us during the coming quieter months.

Assistant Editor

Dear Friends,

There has been a lot of talk in the media about 'saving Christmas'. "UK has 10 days to save Christmas, retail industry says" – that was the Reuters headline back in September. Ever since, we have been urged to shop early and get our orders in promptly to ensure we have everything we need so that Christmas happens.



I was reminded of the opening line of “Little Women” by Louisa May Alcott where Jo grumbles that “Christmas won’t be Christmas without presents.” Tradition is important (from ‘tradere’ meaning to hand on). Every family has their own set of traditions and ways of celebrating Christmas which hold great meaning and significance. Gift giving and sharing hospitality is a huge part of what makes Christmas...Christmas.

Last year I wrote about how different Christmas would be because of lockdown. This year we are all hoping to be with our loved ones...and yes, it may well be another different Christmas. But *saving* Christmas? What if we change that verb to an adjective?

A little over 2000 years ago, a baby was born in a rough cattle stall. It was not the birth his parents would have planned for, with mum safe at home attended by her womenfolk. Instead, they were miles from home, isolated, with few possessions, and about to become refugees in a foreign country.

Yet ever since, Christians have celebrated that saving Christmas, remembering the gift that was given to humankind. Christmas doesn’t need saving – we do. And we can be confident that there are no shortages or supply issues with our Saviour. Love came down and lived among us and is with us still: Emmanuel – God with us.

However, we find ourselves keeping Christmas this year (and I pray that we will be with our loved ones), may we also find it in our hearts to share God’s gift of saving love with our sisters and brothers further afield in such great need.

Wishing you all love, joy and peace this saving Christmas.

Linda

Poppy Appeal 2021

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this year’s Poppy Appeal. The total for the village was £518.15. I would especially like to thank my collectors who gave up their time to do the collection.

Cathy Liddle
Poppy Appeal Organiser

Rota of Services – December 2021

Date	Service	
5 th December Advent 2	Derry Hill 10am	Said Communion
	10.30am	Family Service
	Zoom 6pm	Evening Prayer
12 th December Advent 3	Foxham 9.30am	Parish Eucharist
	Bremhill 6pm	Evening Prayer
18 th December (Saturday)	Derry Hill 3pm	Carols around the Tree (in the Churchyard)
19 th December Advent 4	Derry Hill 10am	Parish Eucharist
	Bremhill 2.30pm	Carols in the Square
	Foxham 4pm	Carols in the Churchyard
21 st December (Tuesday)	Derry Hill 7.30pm	Blue Christmas
Christmas Eve	Bowood 6pm	Carols in the Courtyard
	Bremhill 11.15pm	Midnight Mass
	Derry Hill 11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	Bremhill 9.30am	Family Communion
	Foxham 9.30am	Family Communion
	Derry Hill 11am	Family Communion
26 th December	St. Mary's, Calne 10am United Benefice Service	
Contact Rev'd Linda Carter to obtain the link for Zoom Services: lindac@mardenvale.org.uk		

[For latest church news click here](#)

Rota of Services – January 2022

Date	Service	
2 nd January	Derry Hill 10am	Parish Eucharist
Christmas 2	Zoom 6pm	Evening Prayer
9 th January	Bremhill 10am	Parish Eucharist
Baptism of Jesus	Foxham 6pm	Evening Prayer
16 th January	Derry Hill 10am	Parish Eucharist
Epiphany 2	Zoom 6pm	Evening Prayer
23 rd January	Foxham 9.30am	Parish Eucharist
Epiphany 3	Bremhill 6pm	Evening Prayer
30 th January Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple)	10am United Benefice Eucharist at Christ Church, Derry Hill Zoom 6pm Evening Prayer	
Contact Rev'd Linda Carter to obtain the link for Zoom Services: lindac@mardenvale.org.uk		

[For latest church news click here](#)

COMING TO CHURCH

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Guidance

A further joint meeting of the PCCs of Bremhill, Derry Hill and Foxham was held on Tuesday 12th October to review the COVID measures in place in our churches.

We are continuing to take a cautious approach while working towards reintroducing elements of worship in church which so many have missed. In common with many other churches and retail and hospitality settings we are asking people to continue to observe the “Hands, Face, Space, Ventilation” measures which are currently in place.

Booking will no longer be required.

Social distancing remains in place. Please feel free to sit with members of your household or regular social ‘bubble’ in any pew where there are Orders of Service. To indicate your preference for space, place a kneeler on the pew.

Face coverings may be removed when you are seated. We ask that face coverings are worn whenever you are moving around the building.

Communion (intincted wafers) may be received at the high altar (standing). To reduce queuing this will be conducted row-by-row.

Congregational singing of two hymns + the Gloria will take place in church during services. Please wear a face covering if you wish to join in.

Zoom services will continue.

These measures take effect from 17th October and apply to the regular Sunday services. They will be reviewed on 10th November 2021.

An amended set of measures will apply to baptisms, weddings, funerals and other groups meeting in church subject to the requirements of separate risk assessments.

Our Christian calling is to care for all our brothers and sisters, particularly those who are vulnerable; and there are times in our lives when every one of us (and those we have close contact with) is vulnerable. We want everyone to feel welcome, comfortable and cared for. Thank you for your understanding.

Rev. Linda Carter on behalf of Bremhill, Derry Hill and Foxham PCCs 12th October 2021.

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

Lay Pastoral Assistant (LPA)
Please call if you would like a visit or chat - all in strictest
confidence

Mrs Anita Uttley 01380 859433

Church Wardens

Mrs Deidre Lias 01249 822157 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

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**

Ring one of our coordinators:

Carol Rigby 01225 704356

Ian Liddle 01249 816229

Richard Gribble 01249 812018

Richard Aylen 01249 814632

Carol, Ian, Richard A and Richard G

Derry Hill and Studley Community Support



*Christmas Music
in
Christ Church, Derry Hill*

21st December 2021

From 10am to 12.30pm, Carol (organist) will be playing Christmas Carols on the organ. You are welcome to bring your own coffee, sit, listen, stay as long as you would like and feel comfortable. You can request your favourite carol too!

In the afternoon, 2 - 4 pm, Conchordia will be singing carols and Christmas songs. Again, you are welcome to come and go whenever you wish and request your favourite carol.

We ask that you respect the Covid restrictions in church by wearing masks (until seated), use hand sanitiser and respecting each other's space.

If you would like to give a donation, there will be a collecting plate for DEC World Vision and Save the Children.



Annual Review

For those of us at Heartbeat the past year has been a quiet but rewarding year. I say quiet because like most groups in the village we only managed one fundraising activity in the year. The welcome late summer village fete enabled us to run a hamper raffle which raised just over £100, and we thank you for your support.



Most Popular Defibrillator

I said it was a quiet year but our newest defib in Bowood Gardens has been out on 5 occasions since it was installed just 18 months ago. Justification indeed for installing the unit where we did and it is the most frequently used defib.

Calne Without Parish Council Support

On the plus side the local Council have recognised our work in the community by giving us another grant to see us through this year. A great help given the difficulty of fundraising in the lockdowns. Our thanks go to loan Rees for his continued support.

Can You Help?

If you can make a regular annual donation of just £5 to help support the costs of the village defibrillators it would be tremendous. Please make an Annual Standing Order payable to:

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

Many thanks and keep safe.

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

The Night Sky in December and January

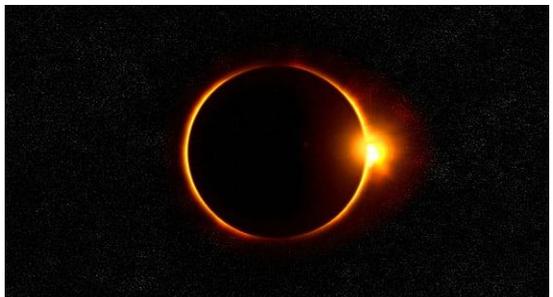
Early December sees a line up of three planets which can be easily located as they will be close to the thin crescent Moon between 6 – 8 December, so if weather conditions are unfavourable on one evening, other opportunities should be provided on the following day. On 6 December,



low in the south-western sky at 17.00h, the Moon will be almost on the horizon and just to the right of brilliant Venus with Saturn to the left and a little higher in the sky. A little further left and higher still will be the gas giant Jupiter. On the following two evenings at the same time, the Moon will be below Saturn and finally on 8 December it will be below and to the right of Jupiter. All this should be easily identifiable as both planets will be shining brilliantly – let's hope for clear skies.

Venus will remain visible at around sunset in the south-west until towards early January. On 29 December at around 16.30h the planet will be just above and to the right of the much dimmer Mercury, low in the south-western sky. Venus passes between the Earth and the Sun on 9 January next year to reappear in the south-eastern morning skies at around 07.00h.

At 07.33h on 4 December there is a total solar eclipse but unfortunately it will only be visible from Antarctica where they will be approaching mid-summer. On the same day at 10.04 the Moon will be at perigee, its closest point to Earth in 2021



at some 356,794km. Meanwhile, on 4 January at 06.54h the Earth will be at perihelion, its closest point to the Sun at some 147,105,000km. (The Earth will be at its furthest point away from the Sun in its orbit – aphelion - on 4 July, around 5m km more distant).

The red planet, Mars, will be visible in our morning skies during the months, rising at around 06.00h low in the south-eastern sky. On the mornings of 27 and 28 December at around 07.30h, Mars will pass very close to the star Antares (meaning 'Rival of Mars') and on the last day of the year at the same time, they will be joined by the thin crescent Moon. Into the New Year and the planets Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury line up once again with the Moon shortly after sunset at around 16.45h, low in the south-western sky. Jupiter continues to be visible in the evening skies but is setting earlier at around 20.00h.



The Quadrantid meteor shower begins in late December but reaches its peak on the night of 3-4 January. This is one of the strongest and consistent meteor showers of the year and as it coincides with a new Moon, there will be very little light interference to spoil viewing. The meteors are of a yellow-white colour and may reach a maximum of 120 per hour. 21 December does of course see the Winter Solstice and we can begin to look forward to the lighter evenings, though still some way off.

	Sunrise	Sunset
1 December	07.51	16.02
31 December	08.13	16.09
31 January	07.47	16.56

Richard Carter

Footcare in your home

Are your feet complaining
of corns, thick toenails,
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Handside**

MAFHP, MCFHP

☎ **07813 094 395**

✉ lynda@handysides.co.uk

📍 [Footcareinyourhome](#)



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- Other Garden Jobs
- Gardening Gift Vouchers

Please contact David Jarvis:

Tel: 01249 815755

Mob: 07503 188630

david@derryhillgardenservices.co.uk

www.derryhillgardenservices.co.uk

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Derry Hill School

Christmas Bonanza

Everyone is excited about the School Christmas Bonanza, please come along with friends and family to support this amazing fundraising event



Father Christmas will be making an appearance and children will be able to meet with him and receive a Christmas gift.

Thursday
2nd
December
2021
5-7pm

Chocolate Tombola
Christmas treasure hunt
Lucky Dip
Wine and water
Fun and games
Stall holders
Face Glitter
Refreshments
Pop-up Photo Studio

Anyone interested in having a stall at our Christmas Bonanza then please contact school on 01249 812139 or email: admin@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk

Wanted – donations of Christmas jumpers or pyjamas for our stall at the Bonanza – please hand in to classrooms.

Thank you.



How to protect yourself and others from scam phone calls and texts

It's never been more important to protect yourself from scam phone calls and texts

They've been on the rise, particularly during the lockdown periods of the past year and a half, and Ofcom research shows that lots of us have come into contact with some form of scam.

^m Scam calls and texts are carried out by criminals who are trying to encourage you to hand over money, or your personal or financial information.



Remember, even if you think a scam is easy to spot and you don't think you'll get caught out, think about people who could fall victim. Only by reporting these scams can we collectively clamp down on the criminals behind them.

What is 7726?

7726 is a number used by all the major mobile phone companies to allow their customers to report unwanted texts. In fact, '7726' was chosen because it spells 'SPAM' on an alphanumeric phone keypad – that's a handy way of remembering it.

You can forward a suspicious text to 7726 free of charge. When you've done this, your mobile provider can investigate the number.

If you think you've been scammed

If you think you've been the victim of a scam, report it to Action Fraud as soon as possible. You can do this by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting the Action Fraud website at www.actionfraud.police.uk

(Information taken from an October 2021 Ofcom article - Ed)



*Derry Hill
Theatre*

MAY THE
FARCE
BE WITH YOU

by Andrew Yates



Blast Off

Friday 28th January 6.30pm

Saturday 29th January 2.00pm & 7.00pm

Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

Hyperspace Tickets

Tel 07733231735

Adult £6 | Child £3 | Family £16



SCAN ME

*Doors open 30 minutes prior to blast off!
Refreshments there will be!*

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



The shops of Derry Hill continued...

Following last month's article on Charles Wiltshire's shop in 80 Studley Lane,

Rebecca Tebbit wrote in to say that Charles Wiltshire was her great uncle Charlie and corrected last month's article in two respects;

'The lady standing with him in the photo mum says was his daughter Kathleen Cleverly who after she married lived down Norley Lane. Also, the name of the man who he was in partnership with was Mr Iles, not Giles'.



An ex-villager wrote in to say; 'I was sorry to read the sad news that Simon Strange has recently passed away. Before Mum died, I popped in the shop most weeks to buy some groceries and pay Mum's papers and have a chat with Simon and Sonia. Growing up I remember his father Tom who ran the shop and also delivered lemonade, Tizer and other soft drinks around the village. It's very much the end of an era with Simon and his father before him running the shop for over 60 years. The photo and article about Charlie Wiltshire brought back many happy times and I well remember going to the shop with a few pennies to buy sherbet and sweets and collect cards of the sporting heroes of the day such as Dennis Compton and Randolph Turpin.

I also remember well the Reverend Hudson who was kind enough to give extra maths tuition once a week at the vicarage'.

Ingrid Chapman wrote in to say what her next-door neighbour Shotte Alexander told her when she was alive; 'Shotte told me about the butcher on the corner and how her Mum would send her down with a bowl for blood when a pig was slaughtered, to make black pudding'.

It's a fitting time to recall the history of the present village shop now that Simon Strange has sadly passed away.

With the help of Mike Jarvis, I've pieced together this potted history of the Strange's shop.

Originally the cottage we see to the right of the flat roofed shop was two cottages.



On the right-hand side lived the Chivers and their daughter, Dorothy, who eventually lived on the left-hand side. Dorothy used to make sweets and sell them in Calne. Later she married Tom Strange and together they ran a grocery business with Tom often delivering around the villages. The 'shop' was in their living room. In about the 1950's they extended the business premises with a flat roof extension to the side and then later they extended at the back as well.

Tom and Dorothy had a son, Simon, who went to Calne Grammar school. Later he studied business at the then Chippenham Technical College. Simon worked with his parents in the shop and when he was old enough, they bought him a van and he would do the deliveries in that. Tom died in 1983 and Dorothy in 1990.

The Post Office was further along Church Road and run by Greta Abbott. Eventually the Post Office business was transferred to the Strange's shop. The Strange family worshipped in the Methodist Chapel (still there but no longer a house of worship) at the bottom of Old Derry Hill. Simon and Sonia (Née Brighton) got married at Sheldon Road Methodist Church in Chippenham in 1975.

When the chapel on Old Derry Hill closed Sonia and Simon started to attend Christ Church Derry Hill. They soon became involved, running Sunday School at church and sometimes in their cottage alongside the

shop. Simon eventually took over from John Carter as treasurer of the Church until quite recently.



Steve Calder pointed out, that, in this photo which he supplied, you can see the original windows compared with the plate glass ones in the colour photo above. Simon told him he had them installed to make the shop brighter inside.

Sadly, Simon has passed away, with his mine of local information and Sonia continues to be cared for in Kingston House. I'm sure many people have fond memories of this lovely couple who spent most of their adult lives running the shop and being so heavily involved in our community.



I'll leave you with this photo of postman George when he retired, about 30 ago, being given a grand send-off at the shop with lots of villagers, including Simon centre stage,

Ed

Register of MP's financial interests

With all the understandable interest in what our Members of Parliament receive outside their salaries and expenses [here is the link](#) to the register of MP's Financial Interests to help you find out.

Ed



Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

December is always a very busy month in school with many events and activities being held within a brief period, but first an update on some happenings of the last month.

Firstly, two teams were entered into the Chippenham Schools' Football event at Stanley Park with both doing very well. One of the teams made it to the semi-final

stage and won an award for their bravery and sportsmanship during the penalty shoot-out. November also saw the elections for head boy and girl and their deputies. Very visible in the middle of November was the arrival of a new host of colourful playground markings which will make playtimes more interesting!

19 November saw our Outdoor Learning Day and the weather was very kind to us, enabling the day to be spent outside with a range of activities being successfully carried out including natural art, exploring wildlife and the teamwork needed in bridge and den building. The day ended with the whole school coming together around the firepit on the field to talk through the events of the day and the themes of anti-bullying week which had just concluded and also explored acts of kindness.

There are a host of Christmas events to mark in the coming weeks including our Christmas lights being switched on. This takes place on the first day of the month, classrooms having been decorated in advance. Our tree is located outside the school so that the whole community can enjoy it. During Advent, a new window display is being put together during the first two weeks of December with each class being allocated two dates on which to put up their displays. These will be outward facing so once again the village community will be able to see the whole display taking shape during the pre-Christmas period.



Four of our children were chosen to take part in the recording of this year's Christmas song 'The Gift' which is to be aired on local and social media.

December will see Nativity plays, a Christingle Service and a Carol Service in church on the last day of term with Rabbit Class going to the Lansdowne Hall to sing carols with a local community group earlier in the month. Mid-month sees Key Stage One and Key Stage Two Christmas parties and the Christmas Lunch, while the whole school is looking forward to a trip to the Pantomime on 8 December to see 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Fox Class will also be entertained by a trip to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at Sheldon School.

This very busy period finishes at 2.10pm on the final day of term, Friday 17 December with Term 3 beginning on Tuesday 4 January 2022. In the meantime, everyone at the school wishes you a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year!

Emma Williams, Acting Headteacher

Studley Methodist Church

The Coffee Morning held on Saturday 20th November was bustling with folk being able to enjoy each other's company once again. There were various stalls selling homemade Christmas gifts ranging from local bee products, hand sewn items and seasonal wreaths. Delicious homemade refreshments were provided by church members. The sum of £360 was raised for the heating fund.



A Carols by Candlelight service will be held on **Sunday 19th December at 4pm** led by Rev David Gray.

Please see outside notice board for upcoming events.

A very happy Christmas time to one and all.

Christina

Friends of Derry Hill School (FoDHS)

Parents, guardians, staff and pupils raising funds for Derry Hill School together



Hello!



And already it is December 2021! It has been a long time since our last update in INSPIRE magazine; it has been a strange and difficult time with very few opportunities for fundraising, but we are pleased to say that WE ARE BACK! And ready to organise lots of school and village events for you all to enjoy – all to raise funds for our lovely school.

At the beginning of November we finally had our AGM, which had been postponed since the previous year. We had a very successful meeting - thank you to all those who came along to support us. Many of the current team are due to move on from Derry Hill School soon and so are stepping down from the committee, so it was wonderful that so many new members came forward to join.

Huge thanks and gratitude to them all, especially Sarah, Lauren, Clare and Emma who are taking on the crucial roles of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, without you there would be no committee. So, thank you!

Christmas Bonanza

Our new refreshed team is currently busy preparing for our main event this term, the Christmas Bonanza on the 2nd December, 5-7pm. It is going to be a very busy night with lots of activities. There will be stalls selling gifts, craft activities, games, tombola, face painting, a pop-up studio for Christmas photos, a visit to Santa, a licensed bar serving mulled wine, mince pies and lots more. If you are reading this before 2nd Dec, please do come along as it promises to be a fun evening and you might be able to get some of your Christmas shopping done too!

We will also be running Santa's Little Helpers at the Bonanza (a 'no adults' Christmas shop) where children can buy presents for their families. We keep the price super low so that as many children as possible can be involved – so it's not a huge fundraiser but such a lovely thing to do. We hope you like the presents your little people choose for you!

Christmas Raffle

We will be selling tickets for our fantastic raffle from next week. Books of tickets will come home with children from school, we will have a stall selling them at the bonanza on 2nd Dec and they can be bought afterwards up until the 10th December. If you would like to buy some tickets or want extras please contact friends@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk

The draw will take place on Christmas Dinner day at school, 14 December. There are some fantastic prizes to be won including annual membership at St Mary's Sport Centre, a family night out at Boom-Battle Bar and family photoshoot vouchers.

Events in 2022

In the New Year we will be finalising events for terms 3&4, but there is likely to be a Quiz Night, a children's disco and possibly a barn dance. We will also be organising a HUGE pre-loved uniform sale day for earlyish in 2022. We will also be re-running the popular 100 Club Lotto from January with three draws for Valentine's Day, Easter and the summer. It is £10 to buy a number which is yours for the rest of the academic year and everyone has three chances to win a £100 cash prize!

If anyone has any suggestions for events they'd like to see, come along to, or help organise then please do let us know.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us over the last two years and especially over the last few weeks as we get back on our feet and up and running full steam again. We have a fabulous committee full of amazing volunteers who are going to do great things! Watch this space for 2022 events 😊 Please do get involved too, the more the merrier 😊

We would also like to say a huge thank you to the outgoing *and* the incoming committee for all their hard work and to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Here's to 2022 being fabulous!

Email: friends@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk [Facebook](#)

Gardening Steve

Well, we are at the end of another year. Where has the year gone? I hope you have enjoyed your year in the garden. I certainly have. December is usually a quiet month but there are still some jobs that you can do. There is still time to plant some tulip bulbs. Keep an eye on hyacinths and Christmas narcissus that are being forced in the greenhouse. These can be brought into the house so they can flower. Put moss around the hyacinths this will hide the soil. You can plant bare root roses and other shrubs or trees. Take care everyone and have a nice time in the garden.



Stephen Starr Bowood Gardener

Sadly, this is Stephen's last piece as he is feeling the pressures of work and life not giving him the time to contribute meaningfully. Thank you, Stephen, for all your brilliant advice over the years. We will still look forward to seeing you as we traverse the terraces at Bowood House! **Ed**

Book Review

Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark T Sullivan

Based on a true story, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is an epic tale of a young man's incredible courage and resistance during WW2.

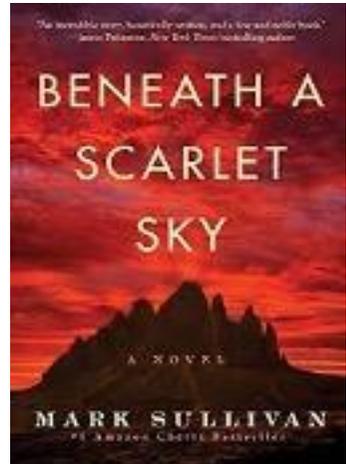
Pino Lella is a normal Italian teenager, obsessed with music, food and girls. When war breaks out, he wants nothing to do with it or the Nazis, but when his family home in Milan is destroyed by allied bombs Pino has no choice. He joins an Underground Railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps. He also falls deeply in love with the beautiful, but slightly older, Anna.

During the German occupation, once Pino reached the draftable age he was conscripted into either the German or Fascist Army. At his parents' insistence he enlisted in the German army as the mortality rate was lower. Pino became known to the Nazi General Hans Leyers after he helped to fix his car, he became his personal driver and interpreter which at huge personal risk enabled him to also become a spy for the allied forces, risking his life again and again.

Pino Lella remained quiet for sixty years about his war experience, he felt overwhelmed by shame for having worn the Nazi symbol even though it enabled him to become a spy and pass invaluable intelligence to the allied forces. Mark Sullivan, having heard about Pino, travelled to Italy and interviewed him. He spent ten years on this book, spending much time in Italy and Germany to verify information. Unfortunately, although most people and events in this book are real, due to lack of paperwork and evidence which was destroyed at the end of the war much of the content had to be filled in by Sullivan.

The book club's general consensus was that it was a gripping page turner that gave a good insight into the terror of living in an occupied city when your options are severely limited and you have to do what you need to, to survive.

Tanya





BOWOOD

Cook/Chef – Stables Restaurant

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a cook/chef to work in the Stables Restaurant at Bowood House & Gardens.

The successful candidate will have a background in catering for large groups or as a chef in a commercial setting. You will be a confident and well organised cook, looking for a new challenge in a unique setting.

This is a full-time position between c.9am-3pm on five days per week, from mid-March to mid-November. However, we would also consider flexible arrangements for an exceptional applicant.

We offer a competitive salary and rent-free accommodation within Bowood House for the right candidate.

To apply, please visit www.bowood.org/work-for-us.

Estate Ranger

A rare opportunity has arisen to join Bowood as Estate Ranger.

The Ranger is responsible for wildlife/conservation management, general maintenance and security duties throughout the Estate. The successful candidate will have a passion for the countryside and working in it, ideally with previous experience in a similar role.

You will be adaptable, hardworking and, while part of a wider Estate team, comfortable working independently from day-to-day. You will have a broad range of countryside management and maintenance experience, ideally holding PA1/PA6 (sprayer) and chainsaw qualifications.

This is a full-time position, working 40 hours per week, which must include Saturdays and Sundays. We offer a competitive package and a rent-free Estate cottage at the centre of the Grade I listed Park.

To apply, please visit www.bowood.org/work-for-us.

Lansdowne Hall – help needed



The Hall is still on the lookout for a part time cleaner and it is hoped that this plea for help reaches someone willing to take on this essential community support position.

In addition to this, the Hall is looking for a general handy person for minor maintenance work and some general gardening.

Anyone interested in either of these positions is urged to contact the Hall's administrator on 07860 940323 or at administrator@lansdownehall.org who will be only too pleased to provide further details including remuneration and hours.

The Hall is happy to consider combining these two jobs together.

The Hall's Management Committee also needs some extra volunteers to aid the efforts of its small Committee to continue with the efficient running of the Hall. The Hall's administrator would appreciate a call from anyone who would be interested in supporting this much valued and used community asset.

Alan Rosekilly (Rosekilly@aol.com)

Secretary to the Management Committee



Forrester Sylvester Mackett

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Derry Hill and District W.I.

As we approach Christmas, I think we can all look back and remember what glorious Autumn weather we have just enjoyed. The Walking Group of our WI recently had a walk in and around Laycock and ended up with a welcome lunch at the George Pub.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Our October meeting proved to be a great success with Margaret Hogarth and Barbara Barnard (Mags and Babs) sharing memories and memorabilia of the last 48 years living in the village. Most of our members were unaware of the swimming pool the school once had; or of the hilarious Pantomimes that were produced every year in the school hall.

A coffee morning was enjoyed by our members and was held in our Lansdowne Arms pub (thank you Sarah and Mark) where the coffee and cake and lots of conversation was appreciated by all.



The next meeting will have a Christmas theme, when we will be making and decorating a Christmas Gift Bag and a Christmas Cracker.

As this newsletter will be for both December and January, I will mention that in January we will be playing "Call My Bluff" and February sees the Members Meal cooked and presented by our members.

Should you be interested in coming along to any of our meetings or for any other information please contact our secretary Sally Hole on 01249 817945 or sallyhole@hotmail.co.uk

Finally, we wish you all a happy and enjoyable Christmas from the WI members and Committee.

Barbara Barnard

The Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club

Wow, the interest in **The Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club** has been beyond our wildest dreams and we are truly excited to be holding the Club's inaugural meeting in the Lansdowne Hall's New Meeting Room on Tuesday 25th January beginning at 7:30pm. At this meeting we will introduce the 2022 programme of meetings and events. As novice gardeners, we are having great fun working out which month in the year we should be talking about planting, harvesting, pruning, composting and all sorts of other things.



If you have not already registered, it's not vital that you do but it will help us determine how many cups of tea and packets of biscuits we may need to provide. You can register your intent to join us by dropping me a line at peterprater@btinternet.com. We are relatively new to gardening and have lots to learn and we look forward to welcoming members that may be at any stage of their gardening journey, whether complete novices or Chelsea Gold Medal winners (you can help us learn).

Peter Prater

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS TO DERRY HILL

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill

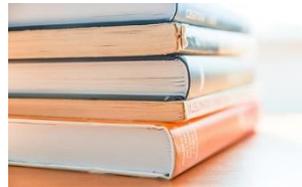
14.20 – 15.45

Tuesdays: 14th and 28th December &
11th and 25th January 2022

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10 – 10.30

Mondays: 20th December and 17th January 2022





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Calne Without Parish Council

It's been another busy month for Calne Without Parish Council, budget setting time is always busy and brings with it lots of meeting and discussions.

The minutes for November's meeting can be found on our website www.calnewithout-pc.gov.uk. The council were presented with the 'stage one report' for the Road Safety Feasibility study that was commissioned last year. The full report can be found on the document library on the website. Councillors will now spend time looking at potential solutions for the sites selected for inclusion in the second stage of the study.

Getting to know the Councillors

In last month's article I gave some basic information on the Parish Council and what it does, this month and for the next few articles I would like to let the Councillors introduce themselves, first to introduce themselves is one of our West Wards Councillors.

"My name is Lucy Campbell Rogers and I've lived in Derry Hill for 5 years. I've been a Calne Without Parish Councillor since the summer. I've been involved with other community organisations but it's my first time as a councillor. Professionally, I work 4 days a week in an agile software development team for a financial services company. At home I'm a busy mum of two who likes all things food & nutrition and attempting to garden and grow a few home-grown vegetables.

As a councillor I'm a member of the HR and Finance committees, and also on the Engagement and Participation working group and the Climate Emergency working group. An average week as a councillor involves a couple of hours of face-to-face committee meetings or remote working group meetings, and a few hours keeping up with the communications and contributing to the progress of the strategic plans.

The Climate Emergency working group is one that I'm passionate about and we want to hear from Parishioners about how important this is to you and what you want us to focus on in our Parish. Our working group has created this survey to get your views. We'd really appreciate you taking 5-10 minutes to give us your input. Thank you!"

Calne Without Parish Council are interested in your views as to what you think we should focus on to support you in reducing emissions and to reach our goal of a carbon neutral parish by 2030.

Please [click here](#) or scan the QR code below to access and fill out our 5-10 minutes survey of your views:



CWPC - Climate Emergency &
Environment Survey
forms.office.com

Community Governance Review

As mentioned last month Wiltshire Council have begun a Community Governance Review. The consultation period has now started, and I believe you will get a letter directly from them. There is also an online version of the consultation that can be accessed by visiting www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-democracy-cgr There is also a public meeting on the 2nd December, you will find the link for that meeting on the same webpage.

Covid Recovery Grant Available

I'd like to remind you all that if you are a local club or non-profit organisation looking to resume activities after lockdown but need some financial support to do so; The Parish Council has a budget allocated for grants to help local groups restart. If you feel that you could be assisted by this, please get in touch and we can discuss the process. Please email clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk to get the process started.

Upcoming Election

We have been notified by Wiltshire Council that the vacant West Ward Seat will be contested by election on Thursday 20th January. At time of writing, we do not have the timetable for dates of nominations, however these will be posted on our website and new Facebook page as soon as we have the information. You can also keep an eye on the Wiltshire Council website for information as its published [Upcoming | Elections | Wiltshire Council](#)

If you would like more information on what being a councillor entails, please feel free to contact myself or the Chairman of the Council. clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk or ioan.rees@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

New Facebook page

The parish council has recently launched a Facebook page to help keep local residents updated on Parish Council matters, please search [Calne Without Parish Council](#) and like our page to keep updated.

And finally, the Councillors and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Katherine Checchia

Clerk to the Parish Council clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

Lansdowne Lunch Club

The lunch club was originally started in the newly opened Village Hall at the beginning of 2001 to enable older and more isolated residents to come together for a time of social interaction, while enjoying a tasty hot meal, which was prepared on site by a small group of volunteers.

In 2018 this came to an end when the organiser was no longer able to commit to the fortnightly event.

However, we spoke to Sarah and Matt at the Lansdowne Arms, who got the approval of Wadworth's to provide meals for us at the pub. We still meet every other Wednesday and would be pleased to welcome new members, from Derry Hill or Studley. If you, or a friend or neighbour, is interested in coming along, please contact me on 07851062685.

Rachel Collins

A New Parish Council for Derry Hill & Studley - Survey & Public Meeting, 6pm Thursday 2nd December

This is a really important time for us all to let Wiltshire Council know our views on creating a new parish council for Derry Hill and Studley. We have a golden opportunity to have our own parish council where the interests and decisions affecting our community can be made by people who live in our own community rather than by councillors from the other side of Calne.

Wiltshire Council who will decide whether to create new parish, have set up an on-line survey to help them to review the parish council arrangements in our area. The survey can be accessed through [this link](#)

Wiltshire have also arranged an on-line Microsoft 'Teams' meeting via the long link below on Thursday 2nd December at 6pm where Wiltshire Council will present information and hear feedback from the public. I would urge you to complete the [survey](#) and join the meeting to have your say, [using this link](#).

With the major growth in housing in our villages, Derry Hill and Studley has become a large and distinct community that for many years has needed its own parish council. It's more than big enough to be a viable parish council and would be the biggest parish in our area. Parish Councils are meant to be based on **local** communities with a recognisable identity - that cannot be said of the current parish of Calne Without, which is far too big! It wraps around Calne and stretches from Pewsham to the Cherhill monument. If someone proposed setting up a parish like this today, they would be ridiculed. We have little or no connections with the rest of the parish. Calstone, Stockley and Lower Compton are some miles away and all physically divided from us by Calne itself and the Bowood Estate.

Back in 2019, a very large petition signed by 767 local residents requested Wiltshire Council to consider creating a new Parish for our community. The petition was supported by over 95% of residents canvassed in Derry Hill, Studley, Old Derry Hill and the immediate surrounding area. Although Wiltshire Council acknowledged the compelling argument for a separate council for Derry Hill & Studley, they felt they needed to consult more widely on the future of the remainder of Calne Without Parish.

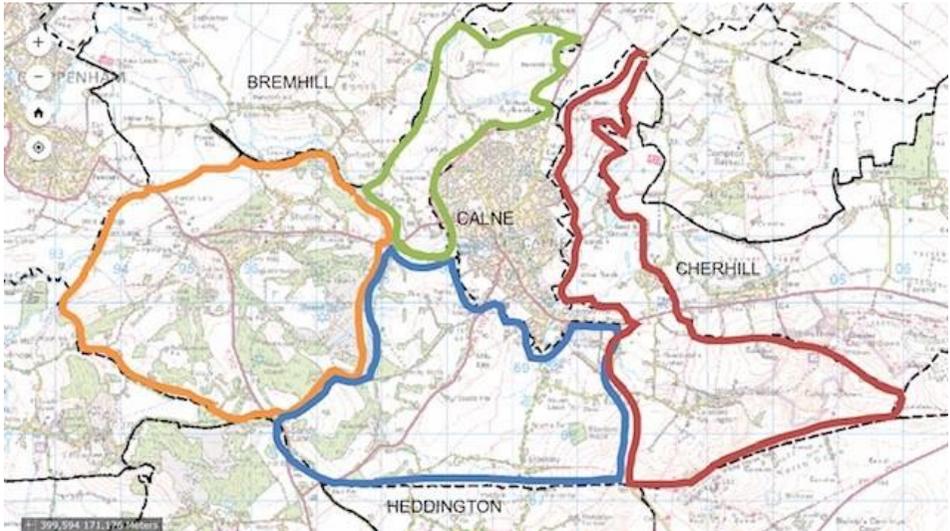
At the time of the petition, it was felt that the remainder of the parish, which currently represents slightly more than half of the council would remain as a parish but without the West and Pewsham wards which covered Derry Hill, Studley and Old Derry Hill. Unfortunately, Wiltshire Council were concerned that the remaining part of Calne Without would not be viable as a parish council as it didn't have a village hall and may not be able to deliver even the very limited services it was responsible for.

I and many others disagreed with their conclusion, but I do believe there is a much better solution whereby Derry Hill, Studley and Old Derry Hill can become a separate Parish Council with the remaining parts of the council successfully combining with their neighbouring parish where they already form important parts of those communities.

Whilst no one would deny that the remaining part of Calne Without has very few facilities, that is because these settlements are all integral parts of other communities just across the parish boundary in adjoining parishes. People from Stockley, Calston and Lower Compton do not use the facilities in Derry Hill and Studley. Stockley residents use the school, pub, village hall and church in Heddington which is only a mile away. They join with Heddington for their Steam Rally, and the Heddington and Stockley firework display.

Similarly, residents of Calston and Lower Compton use the school, pub, village hall and church in Cherhill which is again only a mile or so away. Derry Hill & Studley are over 5 miles away on the other side of Calne and have no recognisable links or cohesion with these communities. Residents of Stockley, Calstone and Lower Compton even have to use polling stations in Heddington or Cherhill to vote in Calne Without Parish Council elections.

The plan below shows how the residual (green, blue and red) parts of Calne Without could be combined with the adjoining parishes of Bremhill, Heddington and Cherhill to the mutual benefit of all.



Part of the survey also seeks our views on 6 areas of land within Calne Without that Calne Town Council have sought to incorporate into Calne's boundaries. Two of the proposed areas are the new housing estates of Cherhill View (185 houses, immediately to south of Calne) and Low Lanes housing estate (about 50 houses immediately to the east of Calne). Both estates can only be accessed by road from within Calne and are effectively urban Calne housing developments that have crossed the boundary into our predominately rural parish. Logically their incorporation into Calne should be supported as their residents relate entirely to Calne and use the town facilities.

The remaining four areas of land subject to Calne Town Council's boundary change requests are all rural fields that the Town Council anticipate may be developed at some stage in the future. These areas of land have no residential properties and are not designated for development, there is therefore no reason why they should be incorporated into Calne as part of this review and could be considered again in the future if they were designated for development.

Ioan Rees - 01249 819428.
ioan.rees@calnewithout-pc.gov.uk.

Calne Eco Fest

A very well presented and exciting Eco Fest took place on Saturday 6th November in Calne Town Hall with around 350 people attending. The programme was developed in collaboration between Sustainable Calne, Calne Area Board (Wiltshire Council), Calne Without Parish Council, Calne Town Council and Friends of the Marden Valley.



Tara Caste

It was timed to tie in with COP 26 to offer families and local people the opportunity to explore easy changes to their daily lives that can help save the planet and talk about sustainability. There were a good variety of stalls, both for information and an opportunity to purchase eco-friendly goods and sustainable gifts for Christmas.

Tara Caste, a trustee from Avon Needs Trees said, “Fantastic event bringing together like-minded people and we have had some great conversations about what ANT is doing to improve biodiversity by planting trees and people wanting to get involved and volunteer.”

Calne Without Parish Council chose the event to launch their [Climate and Environment Emergency survey](#) to find out from residents what is important to them about the current situation and what areas they would like the parish to focus on. See page 40 for details on this survey and how you can get involved. Keith Robbins, Vice Chair said, “Brilliant to see the whole community coming together to make this a success. The number of people passing through interacting and having conversations was pleasing to see.”

The organisers encouraged children and young people to get involved too by making a green pledge for the environment and / or to ask their family to make one too. Acorn shaped sheets were given out by some of the Calne area schools including Derry Hill Church of England Primary School, who were very supportive of the event. The 'acorn green pledges' were then brought along on the day to hang on the Calne Area Communitree, which was made from recycled materials and proved a talking point at the event.



There were also activity tables for children run by Marden Vale C of E Academy and upcycled jewellery session, 'Turning Trash into Treasure' for young people run by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Tasty vegan refreshments were provided by Nova Bakes from Lyneham.

Two lively discussions took place, one on how we can preserve, enhance and promote our green spaces and water ways and join them up for wildlife and to increase biodiversity and one on getting around the town and villages in more sustainable and healthy ways and what can be done to encourage us all to leave our car at home more often.

Celia Stevens from Sustainable Calne our local eco group, stated, "Several hundred people attended and great to see so many people from different age groups taking an interest in sustainability. Lots of good practical ideas came out of the discussions - which were also attended by local Wiltshire councillors. We hope that some of these will be acted on by councils and individuals to make a difference to climate change. "

The WC waste team attended and a free raffle for a sustainable hamper with goods from Fairtrade Calne and Eco Creations was drawn by the Mayor of Calne, Cllr Rich Jones. In the afternoon Friends of Marden Valley held a celebration of the River Marden.



Yatesbury Japanese Taiko Drummers

Feedback from people attending the event was collected on leaves which were hung alongside the acorns on the Communitree. One family said, "This has been a fantastic event we learnt some new ideas and as a family it's been a great day out. Thank you!"

Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Wiltshire Councillor for Calne Rural said, "The Eco Fest showed just what can be achieved when the Calne community comes together to raise awareness of an important issue.



ASHLEY O'NEILL, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR CALNE RURAL & SUE DEEDIGAN, COUNCILLOR FOR CWPC

It was a fantastic day that showcased how we can all do our bit to look after the environment, and it was pleasing to see so many people engaged with the stalls, activities and discussions.

A big thank you to everyone involved in organising the event and members of the public who were able to come along"

Sue Deedigan

Are you willing to donate your Winter Fuel Payment to help vulnerable people in Wiltshire?

The need

It is estimated that 30,000 households in Wiltshire and Swindon live in fuel poverty, meaning they cannot afford to heat their home properly through the coldest months of the year.

NHS statistics show that that up to 300 people in Wiltshire and Swindon die each year simply because of cold homes. Most people who suffer premature winter-related death are over 65 and 75% of these deaths are due to the impact the cold has on respiratory and circulatory conditions. This year the situation is likely to be worse due to the energy crisis and the impact it is having on fuel bills this winter. It comes at a time when food prices and other household costs are also going up, leaving the elderly and vulnerable on low incomes in our county under more pressure than ever before.

[Wiltshire Community Foundation](http://wiltshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk) will again be working with our partners - Age UK Wiltshire, Warm and Safe Wiltshire and Wiltshire and Swindon Citizens Advice - to help those most vulnerable in our communities. They will provide tailored including energy grants, energy-saving and benefits advice, boiler service or repairs, door-to-door hot meals to people living in food poverty.

01380 729284 info@wiltshirecf.org.uk

Warm and Safe Wiltshire

Warm and Safe Wiltshire is a service provided by Wiltshire Council, Swindon Borough Council, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service in partnership with the Centre for Sustainable Energy to help residents live in safer and healthier homes. Additional funding for Warm and Safe Wiltshire has been provided by the Warm Homes Fund, which has enabled the service to offer more support to residents across Wiltshire.



 0800 038 5722



Calne
Food
Bank

Working for Our Community

If you wish to donate food to the Foodbank please take donations of **non-perishable food** to 4A Mill Street, Calne on a **Monday or Friday** between **12noon and 4pm** and **Wednesday between 10am and 1pm.**

You can also donate at our drop off points at Calne Sainsburys, Tescos or One-Stop.

THANK YOU!

This week we have
donated

20 family food parcels
8 single food parcels
11 couples food parcels



Calne
Food
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W/C 15 November 2021

FREE MEALS

PLEASE SEE BELOW INFORMATION FROM THE COUNCIL REGARDING FREE MEALS FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN:

Free meals for vulnerable children in Wiltshire during school holidays*If you are entitled to free school meals or universal credit and struggling to pay for food over half term, please contact the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub for support.

For more information on how to claim, please contact the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub Team onwellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk or call 0300 003 4576. The team is available Monday to Friday between 9am-5pm. Wiltshire Council**

Don't forget the foodbank are here as well to support you when you need it.



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Calne Town Hall Moviola

After a two-year absence we are looking forward to welcoming you all back on the 19th January, covid permitting.

There will be some social distancing of the seating arrangements, hand sanitiser will be available and we would like you all to wear a mask until you are seated.

Doors will open at 7.00pm and tickets £6 will be available from the information centre, unfortunately they do not take card payments and it would help us greatly with the seating arrangements if you could buy them in advance. There will be some available on the door.

We look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.



Viv

Share your experiences of GP services in the last six months

Healthwatch Wiltshire is working with other Healthwatch teams across the south to hear your experiences of GP services over the last six months.



The Covid-19 pandemic has put a huge strain on the NHS and had an impact on how we access health services. Staff at GP practices have been working hard to deliver the vaccine programme, catch up on the backlog of treatments and respond to new ways of working such as offering video and telephone consultations and providing online consultation software, such as e-Consult.

We've heard that these new ways of accessing GP services have worked well for some people, allowing them to save time and get the help they need, quickly. But for others it's been more difficult, time consuming and frustrating to access support when they need it.

How you can help. We've already run a survey for GP staff to understand how their roles have changed during the pandemic, what practices do well, and what challenges they face.

Now we need to hear about your experiences of accessing GP services so we can help the NHS understand what is working well and what could be better. Please help us by [completing our questionnaire](#) and tell us about your experiences of accessing GP services in the last six months. We'd like your feedback on how you contacted your GP practice, how you booked an appointment and how your appointment went.

If you would like to complete the survey over the phone or would like us to send you a paper copy, please call Healthwatch Wiltshire on 01225 434218 or email info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk

Everything we hear will be collated and shared with NHS services and organisations to help shape the way services are developed in the future. All feedback is anonymous and confidential.

The closing date for the survey is Friday 31 December 2021.



**** FLU JAB FOR CARERS ****

Do you look after a partner, relative, friend or neighbour who relies on you for help? Protect yourself and the person you look after by having the flu vaccination.

If you have not already booked your flu vaccination, please contact us on 01249 821 831 or email Melanie.hayward1@nhs.net to arrange your flu jab appointment accordingly.

<p>Which carers are eligible for a free flu vaccination?</p> <p>Anyone who looks after an older or disabled person or someone with a long term medical condition whose health would be at risk if their carer was ill.</p> <p>This includes carers who are in receipt of Carer's Allowance. Young carers can have the vaccination too. There is no age restriction.</p>	<p>You are missing out!</p> <p>There are 5,430,000 unpaid carers in England. Only 174,522 carers were vaccinated* during the 2014/2015 flu campaign.</p> <p><small>* NHS Health Protection Agency</small></p>
<p>Why offer carers a flu vaccination?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help you avoid getting flu.• help reduce the risk of you being too ill to look after the person you care for.• reduce the chance of you passing flu onto the person you care for.	<p>Where can I get vaccinated?</p> <p>You can have your free flu jab at your GP surgery or participating pharmacy each winter.</p>

Rub a Dub Pre School

Many thanks to all of you who have supported our recent fundraising events, we had the Pumpkin Carving Competition which showed how much talent there was locally and then more recently we had the textiles recycling. At the time of writing, I don't know how much the textile recycling has raised but



I do know that many committee members have had piles of bags in their houses kindly donated waiting for the collection date.

It really means so much to us that the local community supports us in our continued fundraising endeavours. Thank you again.

If you would like to support the Pre School throughout the year, we would love it if you could sign up to [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com).

Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to Rub-a-Dub Pre-School, Derry Hill for FREE every time you use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com) to shop with them. This means you can support the preschool when you get your groceries, book a holiday or day out, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else – at no extra cost to yourself! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. Just visit using the [link](#).

As we look towards the new year our thoughts are starting to move towards planning for the next academic year. If you or a family member are considering Rub A Dubs as a childcare setting, we would love to show you around.

Please contact rubadubpreschoolenquiries@gmail.com and we will be able to arrange a tour around the setting in the new year.

Rub a Dubs would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year.

Kate Checchia

Chair of the Committee

WI Walking Netball

Having been persuaded by friends to give walking netball a try, I can honestly say it is great fun! It doesn't matter if you've not played since school, used to play 'normal' netball or have never played before, the sessions are about learning new skills and enjoying a team sport which you can take at a pace to suit you. We don't take ourselves too seriously, it's friendly, competitive in a very light-hearted and fun way, we have a good laugh, you improve fitness and make new friends. We are ladies across the age spectrum - some have children at school which is why the sessions are timed to finish before school ends! If you want an hour or two a week to have some fun, come and give walking netball in the village a try.



Allie Burchell

Mondays and Fridays 1.45 - 2.45

Contact Tina 01249 814145

MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP GROUP

I'm afraid that due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to cancel our November meeting. In December we are all looking forward to having our Christmas Lunch at the Dumb Post and our next meeting in church will be on Wednesday 5th January 2022 when Christine Powell will be organising a quiz and Christine Weston and Barbara Parry will be doing the refreshments. Anyone who wishes to join us will be made very welcome.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Barbara Parry



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Wellbeing notes

Building up your loving kindness muscles

A wise person once said to me, “The most important thing you can learn to do is to forgive.” The act of forgiving has become a life-long lesson. It’s hard to forgive someone who has hurt me personally, or hurt others whom I care about, but there is something freeing about the act.

A useful tool if you wish to become more forgiving is to practise loving kindness meditation. Sometimes called Metta bhavana in the language of early Buddhist texts, or simply ‘Metta meditation’, the concept predates Buddhism, suggesting that kindness is part of our human character.



Try this common form of metta meditation. Close your eyes and think kindly thoughts towards yourself. You might say, silently: “May I be well. May I be happy. May I be safe. May I be peaceful and at ease with myself.”

Then, think of someone you love. Repeat those same kind thoughts: “May you be well. May you be happy. May you be safe. May you be peaceful and at ease with yourself.”

Then, think of someone you feel neutral towards. Cultivate the same feelings of non-judgemental kindness, and repeat the same words: “May you be well...”

And now, think of someone you find difficult, and repeat the process again, as best you can.

Finally, think of all four people together, in the same spirit of loving kindness, and repeat the words: “May we be well. May we be happy. May we be safe. May we be peaceful and at ease with ourselves.”

Suzanne Askham

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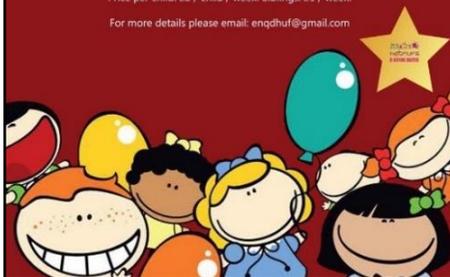
Derry Hill under 5's play group

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December 2021 / January 2022 Crossword



ACROSS

- 2 Frozen rain (4)
- 3 One of Santa's reindeers(7))
- 8 Festive bird (6)
- 11 Bearded December visitor (6,9)
- 14 Snow transport (6)
- 15 Red breasted bird (5)
- 16 Praise (4)
- 17 Christmas decoration (6)

DOWN

- 1 Roasting on an open fire (9)
- 2 Santa's tipples (6)
- 3 Ardent lover (5)
- 4 Gift (7)
- 5 First of January (3,5,3)
- 6 Jesus's crib (6)
- 7 Winter neckwear (5)
- 9 Winter sport (6)
- 10 Christmas songs (6)
- 12 Winged messenger (5)
- 13 Santa's helpers (5)

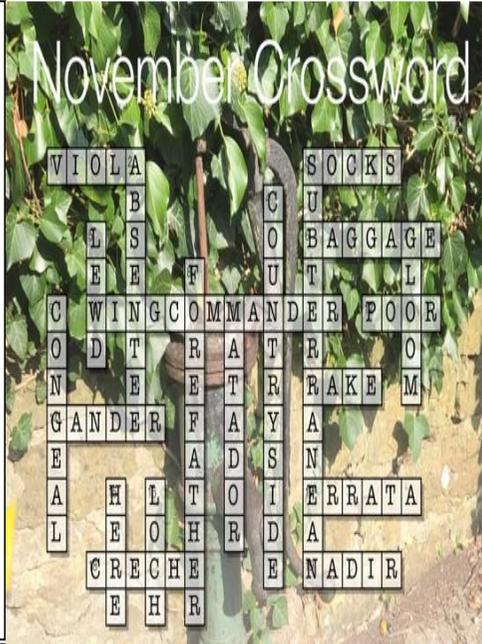
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A donation to the church for the cost of the lighting is welcome.

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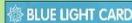
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