

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



October 2023

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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Full page	£180.00	12 by 16

Cover photo: View from Lansdowne Arms towards Chippenham one misty morning – Photo by Richard Aylen

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01249 819209

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Editorial

As the leaves begin to change their hues and a gentle chill fills the air, we welcome the enchanting month of October. This is a time when nature paints a breathtaking canvas of vibrant colours.

First and foremost, October is synonymous with the mesmerizing spectacle of autumn foliage. The trees, once adorned in lush green, now showcase a breathtaking palette of reds, oranges, and yellows.

October also marks the arrival of harvest season, a time when our local farmers, as well as gardeners, reap the rewards of their hard work throughout the year. From juicy apples and plump pumpkins to earthy root vegetables, let us savour the bountiful harvest and relish in the food it provides for our bodies and souls. But do think of others not so fortunate as ourselves. There is a crate in the church porch for you to donate foodstuffs to the Calne Foodbank which is running short of supplies.

Furthermore, October brings with it a sense of community and togetherness. As the days grow shorter, we find solace in gathering around crackling bonfires, sharing stories, and enjoying the company of loved ones.

As we immerse ourselves in the wonders of October, let us remember to cherish the beauty that surrounds us and the warmth of our community. We should give thanks to those who support our community in so many ways. Have you thought about being a school governor or joining the Parish Council? Both roles are worthwhile and there are vacancies.

May this month be filled with love, laughter, and a renewed appreciation for the simple pleasures that make our villages truly special.

Wishing you all a delightful October!

Editor

October 2023 Church Services

Time	Church	Service
Sunday 1st		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Parish Eucharist
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
10am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Said Communion
10.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Family Service
Wednesday 4th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 8th		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Parish Eucharist
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Parish Eucharist
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Parish Eucharist
5pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Harvest Thanksgiving
Wednesday 11th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Parish Eucharist
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Parish Eucharist
Wednesday 18th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd		
9.30am	St Peter's, Blackland	Holy Communion BCP
10am	St. Mary's Calne	Morning Prayer
10am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	All Age Communion
10.45	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Holy Communion
6pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Evensong
Wednesday 25th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion

Sunday 29 th		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Parish Eucharist
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Parish Eucharist
3pm	Christ Church, Derry Hill	All Souls Service
3pm	Holy Trinity	Family Service

Coming to Church

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Guidance

We have for some months now been worshipping in church with minimal restrictions regarding Covid, with people making their own choices about wearing face coverings and/or social distancing.

When it comes to Holy Communion, guidance will be given during the service.

Please stay at home if you are feeling unwell or test positive for Covid please stay at home.

As ever, 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 ask that everyone continues to take extra care during our services and respects the wishes and needs of those around us so that everyone feels comfortable and safe.



Church Contacts CHRIST CHURCH - DERRY HILL

If you wish to discuss arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged or need to see a Vicar, then please contact the **Team Administrator**:

Mrs Ann Stiff Tel: 01249 816522 email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk
Team Office: 30 Church Street, Calne, SN11 0HU
The office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am to 1pm

Church Wardens

Mr Peter Rigby 01225 704356 Mr Ian Liddle 01249 816229

PCC Treasurer (Tr) & Secretary (Sec)

Mr Peter Roycroft (Tr) 01249 660550 Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec) 07882 469005

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

Annie's Notes

Hello again! We are now well and truly into Autumn and looking forward to cosy evenings by the fire! And what about all those warming, comforting and nourishing casseroles and winter meals that reminds you of years gone by? We all need to feel comforted at this time of year but not only by food. The company of others is so important particularly to those who live alone. I know my Mum really does not like the long winter evenings, she locks her door at 4pm and it does not open again until about 9am the next morning. It must be like being a prisoner in your own home. As it gets colder, please check on your elderly neighbours and make sure they have all they need – including company for a chat and cup of tea. Remember that it could be you one day and think about how wonderful it will be to have an occasional visitor!

I believe that most, if not all, our Harvest services have taken place now but please do spare a thought for the farmers who, due to the poor weather we have had this year, are still struggling with their harvesting. It is so easy for us to just take our vegetables for granted when we pick them up from the shelves at Tesco, or wherever we shop, but perhaps the next time you do you could take a moment to stop and think about all the hard work that has gone into getting them there.

Looking forward to the end of the month and beginning of November – in the Church calendar November 1st brings All Saints Day, the day commemorates all those who have attained the beatific vision in Heaven. In the Catholic Church and many Anglican churches, the next day specifically commemorates the departed faithful. Christians who celebrate All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day do so in the fundamental belief that there is a prayerful spiritual bond between those in heaven (the "Church triumphant"), and the living (the "Church militant") All Souls Day is a day of prayer for the dead, particularly, but not exclusively, one's relatives. In Western Christianity the annual celebration is now held on 2nd November and is associated with All Saints' Day and its vigil, All Hallow's Eve or Halloween (31st October). Please note that there is no mention of ghouls and ghosts or 'trick or treating'! – These are solemn occasions both of which are celebrated in our churches.

Returning to thoughts of those who live alone, please do let me know if there is anyone in particular in need of a visit from me or any member of the clergy team.

And finally, a word of very warm welcome to the new Rector of the Marden Vale Team, the Reverend Caspar Bush, who is now in post and, I am sure, will hit the ground running and be very keen to get into the rhythm of church life here in this beautiful part of Wiltshire.

My thoughts and prayers continue to be with you all.

With love,

Annie Rev. Annie Church

Ride and Stride Saturday 9th September 2023

Well, it was rather warm, but we managed to get there and back despite the heat.

Many thanks to Bowood for providing the refreshments,

those who took part and those who donated. As I write this there is already £645 pledged.

There is still time to donate to these worthy causes: The Historic Churches Trust and Christ Church Derry Hill. If you would be so kind go to my page on JustGiving:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/richard-aylen3> or just pop something in an envelope through my door, with your name on.

Thanks in advance,

Richard Aylen

1, Redhill Close, Derry Hill.

Email: richardaylen@aol.com, Tel: 01249 814632



The Sky at Night

With longer nights and crisp autumn air, this month offers a perfect opportunity to explore the celestial wonders that adorn the heavens.

The Moon

Throughout October, the Moon gracefully transitions through its phases, illuminating the night sky with its radiant presence. On October 1st, a waxing crescent Moon emerges, gradually growing brighter each night. By the 9th, a first-quarter Moon graces the sky, and by 16th, a full Moon, known as the Hunter's Moon, rises. Finally, as the month concludes, a waning crescent Moon emerges, preparing for the next lunar cycle.

The Planets

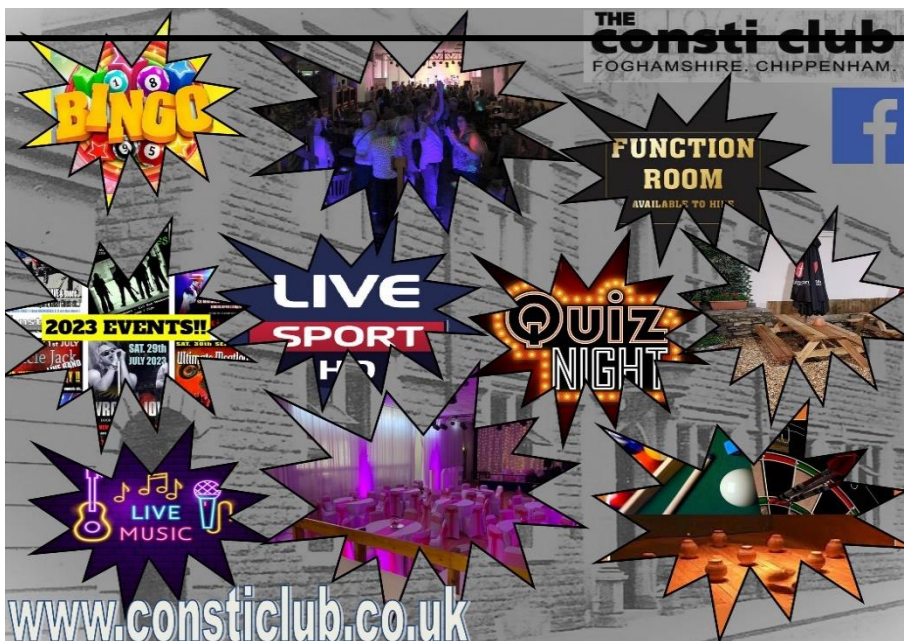
Venus, the dazzling evening star, dominates the western sky after sunset, casting a brilliant glow. Mars, the red planet, rises in the east during the early evening hours, showcasing its distinct reddish hue. Jupiter and Saturn, the gas giants, grace the night sky, with Jupiter shining brightly in the southern sky, while Saturn follows closely behind.

Meteor Showers

October brings forth two notable meteor showers, providing an opportunity to witness shooting stars streaking across the night sky. The Draconids meteor shower, peaking around October 8th, emanates from the constellation Draco. Although it is a relatively minor shower, it occasionally surprises observers with an outburst of activity. Later in the month, the Orionids meteor shower, originating from the debris of Halley's Comet, reaches its peak around October 21st. With its fast-moving meteors, this shower promises a captivating display for those who venture out to witness it.



Ed



Knitting, stitching & craft group.

A group meets weekly, on Fridays 2-4 pm in Christ Church Derry Hill. Bring your crochet, knitting or needlework, all abilities welcome. Share tips, chat and enjoy a tea or coffee, £3. Any queries contact Christine 817780, Liz 812138 or Marcia 820196



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 **Richard Aylen – inspireditor@outlook.com 01249 814632**

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

Calne Without Parish Council

What we've been doing in the last month

We held the first meeting after the summer break with a full agenda. There is lots going on at the moment.

The council considered their initial response to the recent planning application for 205 houses on land at Penn Hill, the council is opposed to the application and will be providing their response to Wiltshire Council.

We continue to refer items to the Parish Steward for him to do on our behalf. If you notice a small highway issue that can be mended by our 'man in a van' please feel free to get in touch and we can see if it's something the Parish Steward scheme can help with. If not, we can arrange to report it via the 'my wilts' app.

On Saturday 16th September we held our second Green Energy Event. We hope that you were able to attend and found it helpful to get hints and tips on how to make your home more energy efficient and reduce your energy bills.

There is still time to be part of our Free tree scheme. Each household in Calne Without Parish Council is invited to sign up to receive a free tree. For more information, please see our website or contact the Parish Clerk.



Representatives from the council remain heavily involved and committed to the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan review process. A neighbourhood plan is a document that sets out how and where development should occur in the locality, it is a plan developed by Calne Town Council, Calne Without Parish Council and representatives of the community. The review process is edging towards a consultation stage so please keep an eye on www.calnecommunityplan.com for up-to-date information.

Wiltshire Council have recently launched their Local Plan Consultation. There will be a consultation event in Calne Library on Monday 16th October 2023 between 3pm -7pm, there is also an online event on Tuesday 10th October 2023 starting at 6.30pm, further details will be posted on our website and social media. Wiltshire Council are proposing a large amount of housing in the Calne area within this plan,

this consultation is your opportunity to have your say in the future of housing policy.

Reporting issues

We regularly receive reports of work required that we pass onto Wiltshire Council for their attention. Did you know that there is a quick and easy way to report items such as potholes and issues with street lighting straight to Wiltshire Council? Search 'my wilts' app and follow the instructions. Once you have set up an account, reporting is quick and simple.

Next Meeting Date

Full Council – Monday 9th October 2023, 7.30pm Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill.

If you need to get in touch with the Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk
07751802761

Katherine Checchia

Parish Clerk

www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

Mobile library visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill

14.30 – 15.45

Tuesdays: 3rd & 17th October 2023

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10 – 10.30

Mondays: 23rd October 2023



Wiltshire's Local Plan Review Update: What it means for you and the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan



Consultation for the Wiltshire Local Plan begins on Wednesday 27 September 2023 and runs until the 22nd of November 2023.

Drop in events where you can talk to officers and find out more are being held across the County including ones at:

- Chippenham on Tuesday 3rd October 3pm to 7pm at Olympiad Leisure Centre, Sadlers Mead, Chippenham SN15 3PA.
- Calne on Monday 16th October 3pm to 7pm at Calne Library, The Strand, Calne SN11 0JU.

A webinar is also being held on Tuesday 10th October 2023, sign up on www.wiltshire.gov.uk search Wiltshire Local Plan.

The Wiltshire Local Plan covers a wide range of issues when thinking about development up to 2038, including:

- Housing, Employment and Infrastructure growth
- Protection of the Natural and Built Environment
- Response to Climate Change

Once adopted, all planning applications will be determined against the plan, making it the most important place-shaping document for Wiltshire.

What does it mean for the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan?

Revisions to the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan mean that it will also be looking ahead to 2038 to shape and inform development and conservation.

The policies we set must be in line with the Wiltshire Local Plan, so it is important that you look to see how it will affect you and let Wiltshire Council know what you think.

Friends of Derry Hill School



After having excellent summer holidays making some wonderful memories with family and friends, we have hit this term running, having our committee meeting in the first week back. This term we have some wonderful events planned: Rabbit and Fox classes cake bake, FODHS AGM Friday 6th October for those of you that would like to know more about what we have achieved last year and our plans for this year. Bags2school, if you have any unwanted saleable clothes, please bring them along to the school bike shed for 9am on Thursday 9th November or contact us via email to arrange collection. Our Christmas Bonanza returns on Friday 1st December.

We are pleased to team up with Chippenham uniform exchange with the aim to make good quality preloved school uniform accessible to ease the financial burden.

There has been some committee changes this year and we thank everyone for the support you have given. We are always looking for people to join our committee, volunteer at events and raffle donations for our events including our Christmas Bonanza. We are also on the lookout for a Co-Chair and Secretary. If you can help, please email us at friends@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk.

Sarah

Chippenham School Uniform Exchange

This may be of some use if you have school age children who go to school in Chippenham.

[Link to the website](#)

<https://chippenhamuniformexchange.org.uk/home/>

Private Samuel Beer of Studley

Private Samuel Beer, 6th Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, died of acute gastroenteritis on the island of Lemnos in Greece on 1st August 1915. His name is inscribed on the Derry Hill war memorial. Samuel is buried in Portianos Military Cemetery on Lemnos. He was the 23-year-old son of Frederick George and Thirza Beer, of Studley. Photo is of Samuel and Thirza Beer



On the 4th August 1915, Second Lieutenant Henry Maurice Chambers, his platoon commander, wrote to his mother – Thirza Beer: “Dear Mrs. Beer, it is with deep regret that I have to inform you that Private Beer, of my Platoon, died on Sunday. For eleven months I knew him, and he was always most anxious to become an efficient soldier. He was much beloved by his comrades and esteemed by his officers, while his record in the Regiment was blameless. Everyone considers it is very sad that your son should have been taken away from us so soon before the Regiment goes into action. He passed away on Sunday morning, and was buried the same afternoon, being accorded full military honours. His remains were played to the graveside by the Regimental band, where the Regimental buglers sounded the “Last Post,” and his comrades fired three volleys over his body. Everything has been done to beautify his grave, while a cross, stating his name, regiment, age, and date of death, has been erected to his memory. It is forbidden to tell you his place of burial but be assured that as long as the Regiment remains here everything possible will be done to keep the grave as I know you would wish it to be kept. Believe me, all his comrades and officers have the utmost sympathy with you in your great sorrow”.

The letter was printed in the Wiltshire Telegraph on 28th August 1915.

This September Robin Collyer (Studley) and Steve Calder (Derry Hill) took the opportunity to visit Samuel's grave at the Portianos Military Cemetery. 108 years after Samuel's passing his grave is regularly tended by the Commonwealth War Grave Commission – ensuring Second Lieutenant Chambers promise remains to be kept “everything possible will be done to keep the grave as I know you would wish it kept”.

Frederick Beer died in February 1940 and Thirza died in March 1951. They are buried in Christ Church graveyard. Sadly, there is no marker for their final resting place.



SAMUEL BEER'S GRAVE LEMNOS

Steve Calder

WI Walking Netball

We are back! Alas some members are still on holiday, but this doesn't stop us having fun! Friday was so hot we couldn't play in the intense heat so we opted for cool drinks at a shady table in the Pewsham Garden!! I can assure you we talked netball even if we didn't play. The heatwave has passed so we have returned to our normal venue.



Nancy has kindly agreed to come once a month to coach us. We are all very excited and can't wait.

If you would like to come and have a go at Walking Netball it is £2 per session, Monday and Friday at 1.45-2.45 pm on the outside multi-pitch next to Lansdowne Hall. An excellent way to socialise, have fun and keep fit.



Tina (01249 814145)



Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE" – MATTHEW: 5:16

We are currently recruiting 4 Church Foundation Governors to join our Governing Body.

The inclusion of foundation governors on the governing bodies of Voluntary Aided Church schools is one of the distinguishing characteristics of church school education. Our Christian Values are at the centre of everything we do at Derry Hill Primary School and we believe these Christian values empower our pupils to develop their spirituality and guide them in personal development as effective learners and good citizens.

At this time, we are looking to fill our foundation governor vacancies from individuals who are not related to any children within our school. Foundation governors can belong to a broad tapestry of Christian groups who are member Churches of 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland' (CTBI) <https://ctbi.org.uk/member-churches/>

The role of a School Governing Body is:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation, its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Foundation governors have additional responsibility as representatives of the church's role in the school, and must fully support, cherish, preserve and develop the distinctive Anglican and Christian ethos of the school. Ensuring also that the school has a distinctive Anglican and Christian vision and values which lead to effective practice and outcomes whilst striving to preserve and strengthen the links between church, school and Diocese.

Governors need a strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children, the inquisitiveness to question and analyse, and the willingness to learn. You will work alongside the other categories of governors and the Senior Leadership Team to support governance across the school.

If you join our governing body, you will serve for a four-year term. Being a governor does take up time. There are five full governing body meetings each year, these are currently held at 6pm on Thursday evenings in school. As part of the Governing Body you will need to set aside time to prepare for these meetings, school monitoring activities and undertaking training/updates. We offer new governors a supportive induction and a mentor. Full training for the role is also provided via the Local Authority and Salisbury Diocese.

We warmly invite anyone interested in finding out more about the role to contact the school to arrange an informal chat.

Tel: 01249 812139. Email: clerk@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk

Jazz Club at Marden House 7 for 7.30pm

31st October: Dave Newton trio
Entry £10

28th November
GALA NIGHT with the
HENDO WASHBOARD KINGS
Entry £15



Please pay at the door
BYO REFRESHMENTS small tables provided.
Reservations please email: harphammusic@hotmail.com or by phone to 07976 945055

If you like, please select where you'd like to sit at the front, halfway back, in the back row, on the back wall or in the Balcony.

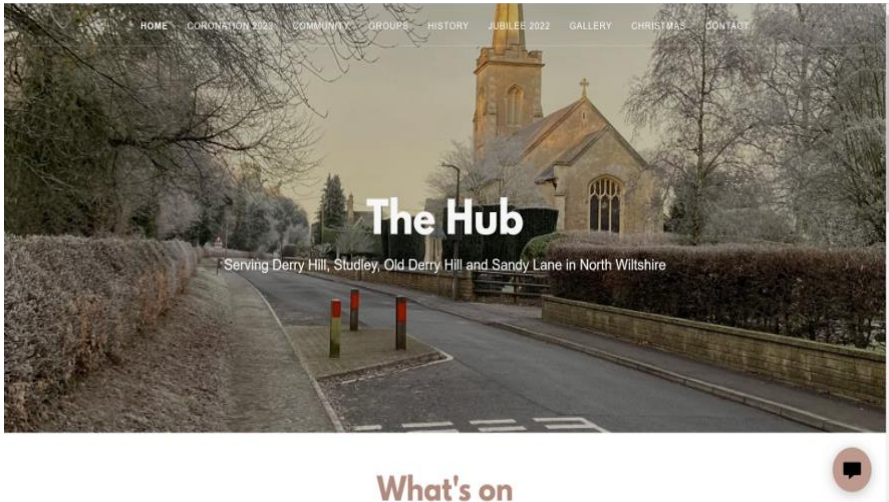
Plans are also going ahead for 2024 with for instance on February 27th the JAKE LEG JUG BAND!

We hope you're keeping well and tappin' your feet to the **jazz!....**

James and Brigid

The Hub - serving Derry Hill, Studley, Old Derry Hill and Sandy Lane in North Wiltshire

www.derryhillandstudley.org



What's on

It's panto time again!

I am very excited to announce we will be performing **'The Wizard of Oz'** this January 2024!

This is our 10th year anniversary, so we are really looking forward to you joining us in celebrating this milestone for the group and see if we do find the Wizard in his emerald castle!

The shows are on the following dates:

Friday 26th January 7pm

Saturday 27th January 2pm

Saturday 27th January 7pm

We are still very interested to hear from anyone who would like to help backstage or front of house.

If anyone would like to book tickets, they will be on sale very shortly so please look out for the posters.

Jane



JOIN US FOR 3 HOURS OF CREATIVE FUN AND NEW FRIENDSHIPS



YOUR NEW COURSE

ART CLASS

FOR ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS TO IMPROVERS - JUST LIKE YOU!



LEARN TO PAINT AND DRAW PEOPLE AND PLACES

Over the **14 week** course you will explore at least four different mediums: **Pencil** or other sketching media, **Pastels**, **Watercolour**, **Acrylics**. Discover how to paint faces, figures, beautiful landscapes, animals, still life and much more! Learn artists' secrets needed to create beautiful pieces of original art.

HAVE FUN AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Even if you have never picked up a brush before, we will guide you through to make it easy and fun! On completion of the course you will have 12 pieces of original art to cherish forever. This is an extremely enjoyable way to develop your creative side, and really enjoy the next few months.

STRICTLY LIMITED PLACES

Our classes are popular, and places are strictly limited to maintain high standards of tuition so hurry... don't miss out!

PLACES LIMITED. PLEASE CALL NOW FOR MORE DETAILS AND A FRIENDLY CHAT.

NEW CLASS STARTS SOON

YOU DESERVE THIS TREAT



Lansdowne Hall
in Derry Hill, Calne

01249 736 494



Police Crime and incident updates

On 25/08/2023 22:45hrs, Unknown suspects have scraped all the bark off a mature beech tree from ground level to a height of 2 metres in Studley Gardens.

07/09/2023 13:43hrs, an item believed to be human vertebrae were located after clearing out some undergrowth of a garden in Chilvester Hill. Police attended and collected the item. The item was examined where it was established the organ was not human.

On 11/09/2023 19:45hrs, a tractor GPS unit was stolen in East Tytherton. The item was valued at approximately £10,000. If you have any information which may assist us with our enquiry regarding this matter, please contact us on 101 quoting this crime number – 54230096226

Local News

Recently, a small group of youths have been loitering, littering, causing criminal damage to a mature beech tree, spraying graffiti on a boundary fence and on one occasion been abusive towards a dog walker in Studley Gardens.

Police patrols have been increased in the area in response to this matter. We have been examining CCTV footage provided to us as part of the ongoing investigation.

We will also be working with the estate Management to address the boundary foliage to prevent this location being used as a meeting spot and location where Anti-social Behaviour is occurring.



Regular updates for the Calne area can also be found on Community messaging and our Facebook page: Calne police

Christmas Lights in Derry Hill

From 4:45pm on Saturday 2nd December at the Lansdowne Hall car park we see the launch of a new event in the village calendar, The Christmas Lights Switch On.



A cold, crisp evening with a light dusting of snow has been ordered to support this truly Dickensian style event. 5-4-3-2-1.... Our VIP will count us down to an illumination of the Derry Hill & Studley Christmas Tree and, if you all play your cards right, a simultaneous remote lighting of all other community or household lights at 5pm on the dot.

Following the switch-on stay and enjoy the modest **Christmas Market** we hope to bring together including German sausages, glühwein, hot chocolate and mince pies. You will be able to order or even purchase and take home your real Christmas Tree and other greenery and more besides.

To top it off, we will have carols around the tree with the Corsham Town Brass Band.

There will be some activities for children and we hope some may carry non-naked flame lanterns for the occasion. You will get the chance to make these at the Xmas Fayre on 18th Nov. Two highly anticipated community events. What more could we ask for.

So, put the 2nd in your diary and come along for what promises to be a relaxing, convivial occasion to kick start your Christmas.

Peter Prater

Gardening Club

The club enjoyed an informative talk from David Usher on “The answer lies within the soil” David mentioned a quick way to check the soil in your garden, using the Soilscares Viewer.

It’s a free, easy-to-use, online soil reporting tool which produces a summary of soils information for a specific location. Use this link to access it:

<https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscares/index.cfm>



Plans are afoot for a Christmas Fayre on 18th November at the Lansdowne Hall 11am to 3pm and Gardening Club members are being asked to donate items for the Garden Club raffle hampers.

The photos for the inaugural Derry Hill and Studley calendar were displayed and voted on by members. The calendar will be available at the Christmas Fayre on 18th November.

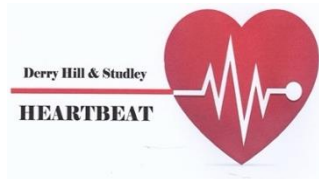
The next club meeting is Tuesday 3rd October when members will be given a talk by Andrew Tolman entitled ‘Stumperies, Ferns and Shady Friends’.

Further details on how to become a member of the club can be had by contacting Paula Wheatcroft: pdoel@live.co.uk

Paula and Peter

Have You Swallowed A Battery Recently?

Around 3,500 Americans swallow batteries every year, according to the US National Poison Centre. It's apparently such a common problem that there's even a specific hotline dedicated for such an emergency.



A team of researchers at the Italian Institute of Technology in Genoa recently unveiled what is billed as the world's first fully rechargeable, edible battery. The new device uses riboflavin (often found in shiitake mushrooms) as its anode and quercetin (seen in capers) as the cathode. Activated charcoal amplified the electrical conductivity alongside a water-based electrolyte. Nori seaweed (seen in sushi) served as the short circuit prevention separator, while beeswax-encased electrodes and food grade gold foil contacts also contributed to the design.



Edible batteries could help power medical devices inside the body for gastrointestinal tract monitoring and could also be a safe alternative to toxic children's toy batteries.

Julian (Chair) 07769 970401 / julesoliver3@gmail.com

Rub a Dub

We have had a fabulous start to the new academic year. We have loved meeting all our new rub a dubbers.

Our afterschool club is now open and we are enjoying meeting some new faces and seeing some faces we already know (albeit a bit bigger now!)

A big thank you to everyone who took part in our recent Bags 2 Schools collection, it really helps when someone gives us a bag of old clothes, every kg of textiles becomes money in the Preschools pocket.

We are just finalising our fundraising calendar for the year ahead, we are likely to have all our usual suspects, the pumpkin carving competition, a Christmas raffle and quiz, we are very keen to do another Barn Dance this year.

If you are a company that might be able to donate something for us to include in our Christmas raffle, we would love to hear from you, a good wide-ranging set of prizes really does help with the sales of tickets.

Kate Checchia Rub a dub Chair Rubadubchair@hotmail.co.uk



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Autumn Tidy Up

9 o'clock on Saturday 21st October

By popular demand, the community of Derry Hill and Studley will hold another Tidy Up event from

9 o'clock on Saturday 21st October. Please join us outside the Lansdowne Hall armed with brushes, shovels, yellow jackets and all the other usual paraphernalia for a couple of hours of

tidying followed by **copious butties and warm drinks.** It will be a chance to meet with neighbours and get the village ready for our winter events.



Peter Prater

Derry Hill & District WI

After the Summer Break we are now settling back to normal. We have been blessed with glorious weather in September which enabled us to have an outdoor coffee morning in Hazel's beautiful garden in Studley. Thank goodness Hazel and Laurence had erected their gazebo! The shade was so welcome. Once again, we enjoyed tea, coffee and cake. Thank you, Hazel and Laurence.



On September 15th some members visited Salthrop House Open Gardens Day, a grade II listed building Nr Wroughton. The gardens are set on the edge of the Marlborough Downs. Everyone enjoyed the visit and managed to spend money on plants too!



October's meeting will be our 'Craft' session'. I wonder what we will be creating this time. Christmas is coming!
We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Lansdowne Hall, 7.30pm. Why not come along and give it a try. **Tina**

Sad Handbells

I am the biggest bass bell that is rung by Marden Vale Handbells.

I am sad because I will not be rung for some time as the team have not enough



humans to ring all 37 bells. I will be left, with many other bells, in our boxes while a few smaller bells will be rung on our practice on Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in Christchurch Derry Hill.

The humans who play us have lost a few of their friends and they are looking for new humans to join them. They have a wide range of music and have been known to produce wonderful sounds quite recognisable at times.

If anybody reading this would like to try playing myself and my other bells, please contact the human leader David Bedford tel. 07977143822 or come along to a practice any Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in Christ Church Derry Hill.

You would be doing me a great favour as I don't like to stay wrapped up in the dark in a cloth. All bells need to be out in the open and played as often as possible.

The humans say you don't need any musical knowledge at the start, so everybody is welcome to come.

So don't delay - save me and the other bells from a life of sadness!

David

Events at Avon Needs Trees site at Hazeland

The next events at Hazeland are:

Fungi safari on 18th October 11am - 3pm

Take a walk with foraging and mushroom expert Fred Gillam. We will see what is coming up in our woods, and Fred will tell us about the importance of fungi for our wildlife and woodland ecology, and some of the remarkable discoveries that have been made in recent years about the amazing world of the fungi. Fungi are very photogenic, and there is no telling what we might find on the day... from stinkhorns and brightly coloured deceivers, to death caps and scarletinas, many are very beautiful and just a few are very edible too. Fred will give you some simple tips to help you take your first steps in mushroom hunting, and to make sure that you stay safe - bring a camera and a notepad and come dressed for the weather!



Tree ID walk on 5th November 11am-1pm

Join Neill Talbot of Avellana Ecology for an opportunity to learn about identifying British trees in autumn at Hazeland Woods. Neill will help you to learn common identifying features to familiarise yourselves with our native trees. The site features a range of habitats from riverside meadow and ancient woodland, to pasture and hedgerow with a wealth of trees to discover.

Please be aware that due to preserving the biodiversity at Hazeland there are no hardstanding paths and we are not able to allow dogs on site (except assistance dogs).

We would like to thank all our funders and the National Lottery Heritage Fund for supporting our work at Hazeland.

Full directions and details will be sent out when you book your place.

To sign up for all events at Hazeland please visit our website:

<https://avonneedstrees.org.uk/events/>

Tara Castle

Hazeland Project Coordinator



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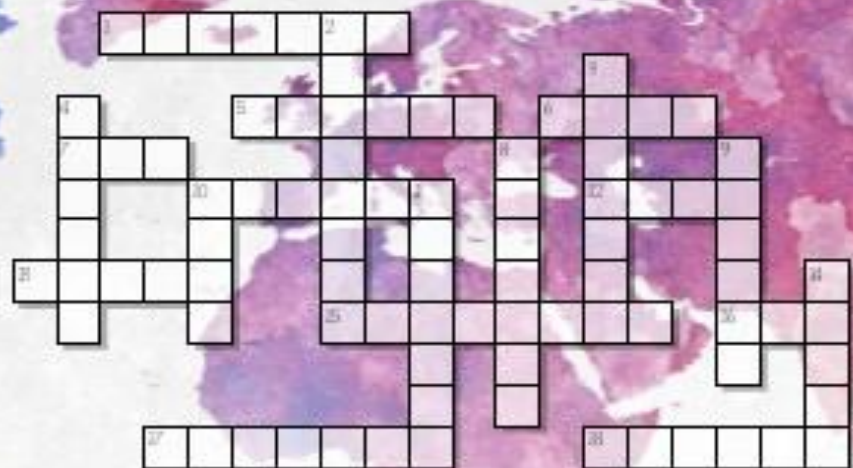
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October 2023 Crossword



ACROSS

1 Erect (6)

5 Nearly (6)

6 Rip (4)

7 Total (3)

10 Detritus
(6)

12 Row (4)

13 Large sea
(5)

15 Envelop
(8)

16 Can (3)

17 Stir ((7)

18 Scamp (6)

DOWN

2 Comic (8)

3 Pagan (7)

4 Facet (6)

8 Answer (7)

9 Cunning
(6)

10 Refuse (4)

11 Dawn (7)

14 Mollusc (5)



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Starring Lily James, Emma Thompson and Shazad Latif.

Tickets £6 from the information centre or on the door.

(Sorry no cards at either venue. cash only.)



Viv

Mothers' Union Prayer and Fellowship Group

We met at 2pm on Wednesday 6th September in Christ Church and after welcoming everyone Colette did the opening prayers before we quickly ran through any relevant business. We then handed over to our guest speaker Viv Sadler who talked about her journey into making jewellery and she brought examples of her beautiful work to show us, explaining where she sources her pearls and gem stones and the work that goes into making individual pieces. Her work is really beautiful and she is certainly a very talented lady and some of the group bought some lovely pieces. It was a very interesting talk enjoyed by all and followed by lovely refreshments done by Robyn and Barbara.



Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th October at 2pm in Christ Church when Nan will give us a talk on the language of flowers. Mary Hobbs will be doing the opening prayers and Colette and Jean are kindly doing the refreshments. All are very welcome to join us.

Barbara Parry



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Wellbeing notes

Sparrowhawk meditation

To live surrounded by nature is a privilege, and one I don't take for granted. It feels extra special when animals – deer and hares in particular, as well as countless birds – come up close to their human neighbours.



Recently, this particular bird came calling: a female sparrowhawk. She was striking in every sense: strong, watchful and beautiful. I'd never seen one in such detail before and was curious to read about her.

The Eurasian sparrowhawk, also known as *Accipiter nisus*, is a modestly sized bird of prey. They live in woodland and hunt smaller birds. Used in falconry, they've featured in poems, myths and stories from many cultures.

The sparrowhawk, small and fierce, is said to represent a warrior's inner spirit, complete with a clear-sighted ability to see the whole picture. A simple meditation on these qualities can be uplifting and energising.

Sit somewhere quietly. Take relaxed, even breaths. Then close your eyes and focus with your thoughts on the sparrowhawk's characteristics – whatever comes to mind. You might think of its striped feathers and far-seeing eyes, you might think of its beauty, boldness and strength.

As you continue to breathe in and out, be aware that those qualities are also within you. Feel a purposeful power filling the whole of your being. Enjoy that sense of strength; truly own it. And when you're ready, open your eyes.

The message of the sparrowhawk ultimately comes down to this: you are stronger and more able than you think.

Suzanne Askham



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