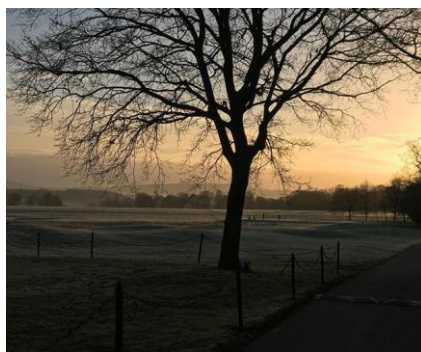




inSPIRE

DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY MATTERS

**February
2019**



The Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Derry Hill



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Calne

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the policy of this publication or its editor. **All articles submitted for publication are subject to editing.** Deadline for inclusion of material in **next** month's magazine is the **10th** of **this** month.

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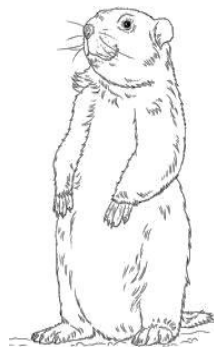
Tel: 01249 824787

Editorial

Whilst we may still be in the midst of winter this month, we are beginning to see more daylight hours – and let's hope that some of them are sun-filled! Compared with 1st January, by the end of this month we will be enjoying an extra 2hrs 47mins of daylight, 1hr 38mins of them in the afternoon. This will not prevent the possibility of severe winter weather events such as the 'Beast from the East' we enjoyed last March.

Having enjoyed the celebrations marking the start of new year 2019, (or recovered from them!) there is a chance to celebrate once again on 5 February with the start of the Chinese year of the Pig, with new year events concluding two weeks later! The Pig is one of twelve animals in the Chinese Zodiac and each is associated with one of five elements, this year's being Earth. Others are Wood, Fire, Gold and Water thus giving a sixty- year cycle. Those born in an Earth Pig year are thought to be communicative, popular among their friends and with a strong sense of time keeping. The start of the celebration centres on family reunions but thereafter the celebrations in Chinese communities around the world broaden out much further!

Or what about Groundhog Day, marked or celebrated in the United States and which falls on 2nd February? On this day, if a groundhog, a mammal of the squirrel family, emerges from his winter burrow into sunshine, it will see its shadow and retreat into it, indicating that winter will last a further six weeks. If the weather is cloudy he will remain above ground and spring will come early. The tradition is thought to have been taken to the US by German immigrants to Pennsylvania, the earliest record of the event having taken place in Punxsutawney (pop 6,000) in 1886. Today the town receives 20,000 visitors to witness the spectacle, which is also shown on television. Research by The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has deemed the groundhog's forecasts to be far from accurate. No surprise as Western Pennsylvania traditionally faces long, cold winters. Still, perhaps the event holds more excitement than TV soap operas!



Assistant Editor

Kingston House

Valentine's Bingo Evening

Wednesday 13th February. Door opens 6.45pm, eyes down 7.15pm. £1.25 a book with tea and coffee provided.



Lots of lovely Valentine's prizes to be won! In addition there is a Raffle and Tombola. Roll up! Roll up!

At Kingston House some residents have families and friends to visit them and do so on a regular basis but for others they do not have any family or friends. If you have any spare time and would like to spend half an hour chatting to someone please do come and have a conversation with the residents, they would be delighted to see you.

Linda 01249 815555

Gardening Steve

Hi! I hope you are enjoying this new year in the garden and you have exciting plans for it. Now is the time to start ordering your seeds and plug plants so that you can bring them on in the greenhouse. In frosty times try not to walk on the grass as this will damage the lawns. If the grass is growing a little give it a cut with the mower set high. You can now start pruning all shrub roses. When pruning cut out all the overgrown and big stems leaving smaller stronger stems. Cut down to around 3ft, this will enable the rose to be a lot stronger. Clear any leaves that are still on the rose bush this will help to prevent blackspot for the season. After pruning apply a good rose food, about a handful per bush, then apply a good mulch of well-rotted leaf mould or horse manure.



More news next month. Happy gardening.

Stephen Starr. Bowood Gardener.

New European Visitors To Our Village

European volunteers for 2019 have already been coming to our area to help at the Stephen Cox garden Trust (registered charity #1174239) in Studley. Having arrived on 28th. November, we said goodbye on 22nd. January to **Niklas Habig** from Dusseldorf.

And from 20th. January to 01 March we have **Giovanni Steeger** and **Luise Volker** both from Moers on the Rheinland. Giovanni will be studying cyber warfare with the army at university and Luise will study journalism. Both will be doing a lot of excursions all over the region and also look forward to partaking in our community. They will be helping to do the Spring clearing and preparation in the garden.



Also in February we have **Simon Kerstan**, 19, (who was a volunteer 25th. March - 10th. May 2018) also from Moers. Simon is now an active Trustee of our charity. He is at university studying environmental energy on an intensive international degree course taught in English. This time he is back here with us for a 10 day holiday and to discuss charity projects.

Between 26th. February and 17th April we have **Levin Knauer** age 18 from Berlin. It's his first time away from home alone. He likes soccer and tennis. He's looking forward to exploring the region and getting to know the village. He will be helping to get the garden ready for summer opening and help with some new projects.

Further applications from all over Europe are being processed. If you'd like to meet any of our young European visitors then please contact us at: stephencox.gardentrust@gmail.com.

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Symbolism of the Bee

Though sometimes misunderstood and feared bees have been a great friend to mankind over countless centuries and have been considered a symbol of chastity, valour, industriousness and concord. Indeed, without bees most pollination would cease and with it very likely our own survival. It was the fashion at various times to have images of bees sown into one's clothing. Bees are responsible for pollinating 70 of the 100 essential crops that feed the human race.

Today its symbolism also includes that of healing since it has been recognised that imbibing locally produced honey can act as an antidote to hay fever and other maladies and allergies. An apt image for an age of a flood of self-induced toxins and pollutants in our society and landscape.

According to the ancient Romans honey was discovered by Bacchus who also showed man how to tend beehives. Mircea Eileade considers bees to be a symbol of Orphic teaching and that in the Indo-Aryan and Moslem teaching they have the same spiritual significance as in the Orphic. In Christianity (especially the Romanesque period) the bee was a symbol of diligence and eloquence. In ancient Greece it was emblematic of work and obedience. According to a Delphic tradition the second of the temples built in Delphi had been constructed by bees.

Some of the oldest examples of bees in art are rock paintings in Spain which have been dated to 15,000 BC.! In English folklore, bees would be told of important events in the household, in a custom known as "Telling the bees". The custom is widely known in England, but has also been recorded in Ireland, Wales, Germany, Netherlands, France, Switzerland, Bohemia, and the United States. Bees could also be invited to the funeral. In cases where the beekeeper had died, food and drink from the funeral would also be left by the hive for the bees, including the funeral biscuits and wine. The hive would also be lifted up a few inches and put down again at the same time as the coffin. The hive might also be rotated to face the funeral procession and draped with mourning cloth. Should the bees fail to be told of a death in the family, "serious calamity" would follow not only for the family in question, but also for any person who was to

buy the hive. The heir to the household would go to the hive (having previously told the bees of the death of their master) and explain that he would be a good master to them and ask them not to leave the garden but to stay on with the family. In some regions if a wedding occurred in the household, the hive might be decorated, and a slice of wedding cake left by their hive.



Some saints are compared to bees for the sweetness of their words or the goodness of their works. And the beehive is an attribute of Saint Bernard and Saint Ambrose. Additionally the bee can also refer to the image of Christ and his forgiveness of human sins. Honey has certainly been used as a medicinal salve over the centuries, and even today, is a welcome balm for a sore throat as a warm drink!

More recently the bee has taken on another, and frighteningly potent, symbolism: it is that of the crisis facing us all through our mismanagement of the planet. Our voracious predation upon and destruction of Nature and its variety has left the bee in a parlous state, and that in turn means a terrible danger for the survival of the human race. Unless we are very careful the bee may one day become the symbol of own self-induced “Thanos protocol” for a dramatic reduction of humanity.

Stephen

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Trust <http://stephencoxgarden.simplesite.com>

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS TO DERRY HILL

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill

14.30 – 15.45

Tuesdays: 12th February, 26th February 2019

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.15 – 10.45

Mondays: 18th February and 18th March 2019



Electoral Roll - Christ Church Derry Hill

The Electoral Roll has to be revised annually, but every six years a completely new Roll has to be compiled. This means that everyone who wishes to be included on the list needs to complete an application form. These can be obtained from the **Village Stores, Church porch or Mrs M Hogarth**, Electoral Roll Officer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The closing date for completion of the Roll is 23rd March 2019.

Margaret Hogarth (Electoral Officer)

You might want to read this – A4 ROAD CLOSURE

Some days between **15th and 20th February** the A4 will be **CLOSED** 9.30 to 15.30. The affected stretch is between where the A4 meets the A3102 and A342. In plainer language roughly the A4 between the Lysley junction and where it hits the Beversbrook bypass. The alternative route is via Calne / Mile Elm / Sandy Lane. And we thought we had it bad with the road works connected to Bowood Gate! Don't forget you can check for road works on: <http://streetworks.wiltshire.gov.uk/map.aspx>



Herbert Haddrell

As Treasurer to Derry Hill Parochial Church Council I have care of our church's funds – one of these is named the “Herbert Haddrell Memorial Fund”, which no-one seems to know much about, except that the church cannot use the money in that fund. I have done a little research, and Herbert Haddrell is buried in the churchyard, and appears to be the only War Graves Commission



headstone there. His birth was registered in Chippenham in the fourth quarter of 1913 to George Andrews Haddrell and Evelyn (or Eveline or Evelina) Haddrell (nee Dodson), and their abode was given as Studley Lodge. Herbert was a Pilot Officer in the RAFVR, and died 15/10/1944, his death being registered in Northumberland West, followed by his burial at Derry Hill on 28/10/1944. His parents are also buried in Derry Hill, his father died in 1961, and his mother in 1966.

The fund is only a small one, so no King's ransom there – I just wondered if anyone knows anything more about the family that might be of interest, and may enable us to use the fund to remember Herbert's sacrifice for his country on the 75th anniversary of his death.

Peter Roycroft

Meditation – A New Year

We are always pleased to welcome new members. Our invitation is to just “turn up”. We have a wonderful mix of men and women, young and a little older. All are welcome and for new members, I will always offer a short introduction.

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

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

Do come along and feel the benefit of a quiet still place amidst the business of life.

If you want any further information, just contact me on 01249 814845.

Janet Robbins

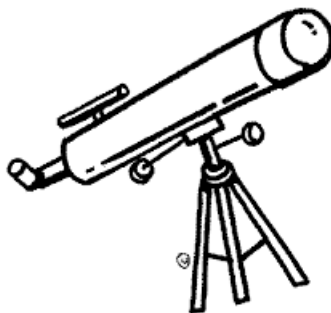
The Night Sky in February

The darker winter nights continue to offer the best conditions of the year for observing the night sky though, as with last month, much of the activity seems to be in the pre-dawn hours, but the continuing dark mornings mean that many will be able to witness the months events.

Our nearest neighbour, the Moon, is the principal source of interest this month as February sees the second of

three 'supermoons' in the first three months of 2019. The moon's orbit around the earth is oval in nature and if it is at the closest point to us in its monthly orbit (at 'perigee') at the same time as the date of the full moon, then it can appear up to 14% larger and 30% brighter than the dimmest and most distant full moon. This is exactly what will happen on 19th February and importantly, we will not experience a supermoon brighter than February's for another eight years - so here's hoping for clear skies, especially for all the photographers! The moon will be at its furthest point from us (at 'apogee') on 5 February, at some 406,555km, its furthest away of the year compared with 356,846 at the time of the supermoon.

On 1 February at around 6.30 am, the moon can be observed close to Venus, which has been extremely bright during this early part of the year. Jupiter will be just to the upper right of them. Worth seeing on 18 and 19 February at around 6.30 will again be Venus low in the South Eastern sky as it passes just above Saturn with Jupiter to their right and at a slightly higher elevation. The bright star to the right of Jupiter will be Antares. A week later, between 26 and 28 February, the moon will be close to Jupiter, low in the southern sky, once again at around 6.00 am.



	Sunrise	Sunset
1 February	07.46	16.57
15 February	07.22	17.22
28 February	06.56	17.46

Richard Carter



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with Suzanne

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Tuesday & Thursday 10–11.30 am Bromham Social Centre, Bromham

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Mothers' Union Prayer & Fellowship Group

Our first meeting for 2019 was held on Wed 9th January. After welcoming everyone to the meeting Christine Powell opened with prayers and a very touching New Year poem. This was followed by discussing the business of the day, which included details for February's meeting and preliminary details for the Charity Afternoon Tea which will be in July and led by Judi Hawkins. After the rest of the business was dealt with Christine put us into small groups and gave us a quiz which was great fun and certainly got the old grey matter working after having a Christmas break!! One question challenged everyone but I'm not going to say what it was!! However, at the end we were all quite evenly matched. Many thanks to Christine P for giving us a very enjoyable afternoon. Refreshments followed kindly done by Nan Bird and Deirdre Lias.



Our next meeting is on Wed 6th February when we will be taking part in the Mother's Union Wave of Prayer. Our timing for this world wide event is 0950 – 1010 so as you can see it is a short service and everyone is very welcome to join us. We shall meet in Christ Church at 09.45 am and after the service refreshments will be served. Please do feel free to come along and join us.

Barbara Parry

Candlemas Ceilidh!

Time to shake the dust off your jeans and join in the fun. Dancing to the Packhorse folk band.

**Lansdowne Hall Saturday 2nd February
2019 7.00pm.**

Bar available. Please bring food to share with others.

Tickets £8 Children £4 from Rev. Linda Carter 01249 817926



Calne Community Area Fairtrade Group

The Campaign launched by Calne Community Area Fairtrade Group in mid-2017 with the support of Calne Town Council and Wiltshire County Council Calne Area Board, has been going for about two years. This March we will be mounting yet another major event for Fairtrade Fortnight 2019, (25th February – 10th March) this time at Calne Library.

The Fairtrade Group has hired Calne LIBRARY to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Fairtrade in the UK with a tea party, Fairtrade stalls, films, raffle and other event activities to be announced. (Saturday 2nd March 4.30pm – 7.30pm). We will have a live Skype video & audio session with Patrick Kaberia our guest Tea Farmer from Kenya who spoke to us at the Town Hall in 2017.



Stan

Saturday Morning Breakfast Club

The February Breakfast will be Saturday – **2nd February**

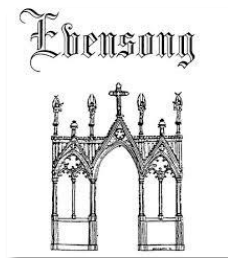
Forget the cooking and washing up for one Saturday morning a month and join us for breakfast in the church **9am-10am**. This is open to anyone who would like to come along and enjoy Christian Fellowship and a cooked breakfast. No need to book.



Stephen

Evensong Service at Bowood

The next Evensong at the Bowood Chapel will be on Sunday 10th March at 6:00pm. All Welcome
The Celebrant will be The Rt. Rev. and the Rt. Hon. Lord Chartres KCV0, recently retired Bishop of London.



CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY 2019

3rd February 2019 (Candlemas)

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

10th February 2019 (4th before Lent)

11:00am All age Holy Communion (CW)

17th February 2019 (3rd before Lent)

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11:00am Family Service

24th February 2019 (2nd before Lent)

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH 2019

3rd March 2019 (Sunday next before Lent)

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

6th March 2019 (Ash Wednesday)

7:00pm Holy Communion

10th March 2019 (Lent 1)

11:00am All age Holy Communion (CW)

17th March 2019 (Lent 2)

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11:00am Family Service

24th March 2019 (Lent 3)

11:00am Holy Communion (CW)

31st March 2019 (Mothering Sunday) (Provisional)

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11:00am Family Service

Church Contacts

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Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs)

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

Averil Davis	01249 814411
Anita Uttley	01380 859433

Church Wardens

Mr Stephen Starr	01249 821325
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 or Diane Saxty.

George is getting about!

I would like to thank people once again for contributing to the funding of a lightweight wheelchair that I needed. The chair arrived in early December and since then has been fantastic for me. I can now, after a little practice, get it in and out of a car independently, which meant that I was able to travel to the University of Birmingham to see my friends who I had not seen since diagnosis. They were very pleased to see me and impressed with the wheelchair and what it offers me. I was able to do my Christmas shopping in Bath using the park and ride, being able to get on and off the bus with minimal assistance using it and have been so much more independent than I would have without it. Since my previous writing I have begun my return to university and will be starting my revision for the exams that I missed last year. I can be confident that when I return, I will be able to get around the campus with ease, and not have to rely upon others all the time. Thanks to the generosity of others and the community, I can look to the future in a more positive light. This year I hope to return to my studies full time in September, to be able to return to sailing that I enjoy so much, and to be able to start walking around as well as any other 21-year-old. Indeed, to help my dream of a high-tech microprocessor prosthetic leg become a reality, the Bell family have generously organised a Crazy Whist Drive, for which I am very excited to both take part and say hello and thank you to all the kind and caring people in the community. The generosity of the people around me in time for Christmas was wonderful, and the fact that so many people continue to want to help is testament to the kindness in the world, and the fantastic local community we are so lucky to have.

If anyone would be interested in Crazy Whist Drive, (no card experience is required but would be helpful) it will be held on Saturday 2nd March from 7-10pm at the Lansdowne Hall in Derry Hill, and tickets are available from me by email at mcgepaxford@tiscali.co.uk or phone at 01249 817780

George



Derry Hill and District W.I.

Can you believe it? It's now well into 2019 and yet it was only yesterday that we had Christmas!

And what a Christmas we had – first there was the tree in Church, which we had fun decorating and that got us in the Christmas mood. Our members provided decorations in red/white/silver and the tree, provided by Barbara, looked wonderful.

Then, on the 12th, we all dressed up and went off to our meal at The Greyhound. Tara and her staff looked after us so well and the meal was excellent.

This was followed by a Christmas Party at Bowood, on the 20th – again all dressed up – and again we were very well looked after. The service at Bowood is second to none and the meal was very good – we even recognised the music!

Then, last but certainly not least – on the 21st we had the Cocktail Party. This was a great success and included a quiz on 2018 - we are very grateful to Tina and Julian for hosting it.

After all our festivities we got ready for the main event – Christmas!

We are now back with feet firmly on the ground and our meeting in February will be a members' evening which is yet to be finalised. Will it be a quiz, will it be a photo competition, will it be a guess the babe or will it be wine, nibbles and natter – the members have to decide.

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month at The Lansdowne Hall at 7.30pm.

For more information please contact Sheila on 01249 814538 or Janet on 01249 814152 or just pop in, we'd love to see you.

Sheila

Studley Poppy Appeal

Many thanks to all those who contributed so generously to the November collection. Our village total was £246.75.

Mary Emmerson Your Poppy Collector





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Derry Tots!

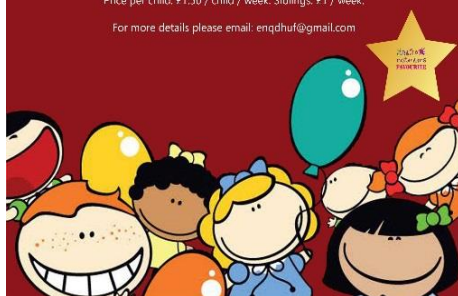
Derry Hill under 5's play group

Join us at the Derry Tots babies and toddler (under fives) playgroup, located at the Lansdowne Hall in Derry Hill village halfway between Calne & Chippenham

Every Wednesday during term time from 9:30 to 11:30 am.
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Saturday 2nd February – 7pm

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Tickets: £8 adults; £4 children

Contact: Linda Carter 01249 817926

PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – CHURCH ROAD, DERRY HILL

The Parish Council would like to hear your views on its proposals to help reduce the problems caused by school parking on Church Road and nearby roads.

The Parish Council along with many residents have been concerned for some time about problems caused by indiscriminate parking on Church Road and nearby roads particularly at school drop off and pick up times. It set up a Working Group of the 6 West Ward Councillors who prepared a report with proposals for waiting restrictions to help minimise the safety concerns. The full report is published on the Parish Council's website www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk.

The problems stem from the very wide area, over which the school attracts its pupils. This leads to a very high proportion of journeys to school by car. The school has only 10 off-street parking spaces allocated to teachers, the prescribed alternative for the staff is the village hall car park which is also the drop off and pick up point identified by the school for parents. However, inconsiderate parking on Lansdowne Crescent and particularly Church Road causes congestion, driver frustration and sometimes chaotic conditions. Speeds at these times are generally low and there is no record of any injury accidents. The most significant problem is seen as the poor visibility for traffic on Church Road caused by a line of cars parking on the school side of the road which also prevents two vehicles passing in a 50 to 100m stretch of road. Many of these cars are parked throughout the school day and are owned by school staff. The school has recently adopted a travel plan with measures to reduce travel to school by car.

The Working Group has suggested that the problem is best addressed through the management of on-street parking by introducing waiting restrictions to improve safety and reduce congestion. Yellow lines will discourage parking near the Lansdowne Crescent junction, the school entrance and a section of road near the traffic calming build out, this will allow vehicles to pass more easily.

It also considers it desirable to discourage school staff from all day parking along the Church Road frontage of the school. By freeing up these very convenient spaces for dropping off and picking up it would make small but significant increases in the turnover of spaces as parents would have much shorter walk distances between their car and the school.

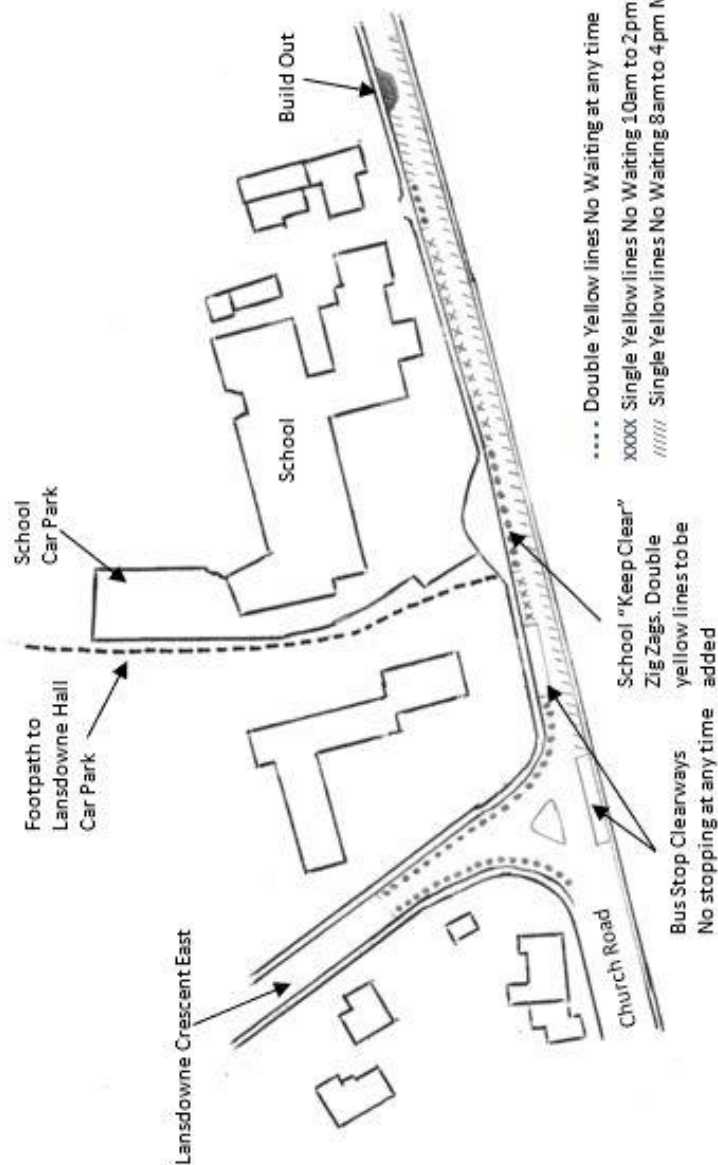
The Parish Council is to ask Wiltshire Council to introduce the combination of waiting restrictions shown on the attached plan. This includes no waiting at any time, no waiting between 8am & 4pm and no waiting between 10am & 2pm on an experimental basis to establish if they have the desired impact and that no unintended consequences arise. It has decided to consult with local residents, the School, Church and the wider community, Lansdowne Hall Committee, Chapel Street residents (through the Derry Hill Management Company) and Bowood have been asked to comment on the proposals, but the Council is also keen to hear the views of the wider community. The Council recognises that the problems can only be fully solved by a reduction in the number of car journeys to school, but it believes that with effective enforcement and cooperation by parents and staff these restrictions could contribute to improving safety and reducing congestion.

If you wish to make any comments either in support or against the proposals, please send them to the Parish Council's Clerk, Sarah Glen, by email to clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk, or by post to Calne Without Parish Council, Station House, Black Dog, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 0LU. If you would like to discuss the proposals with a Parish Councillor their contact details are available on the website www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk or from the Clerk.

Comments are requested by the 17th February 2019.

Sarah Glen Parish Clerk, Calne Without Parish Council

Church Road, Derry Hill: Proposed Waiting Restrictions



Council sets Precept
Calne Without Parish Council Budget setting for 2019/20

Calne Without Parish Council considered its budget for the year 2019/20 at the meeting on the 10th December 2019 and resolved to approve a budget requiring a precept of £24,000, a band D charge of £17.97 per annum.

The increase reflects the increased running costs to the Council of complying with the General Data Protection Regulations and the cost of supplying services to the community such as waste bin provision and emptying. The budget will also allow the Council to respond to resident's requests on highways/road safety issues, maintenance/ improvement of footpaths, gateway features to the villages and improved communication. The additional money will also facilitate the spending of the Community Infrastructure Levy funds that the Council has received from developments being carried out in the area.

Councillors noted that even with the rise the Parish would still have the lowest Band D charge in the local area.

The Parish Council now submits its precept request to Wiltshire Council, with a final decision made by them in March as part of the Council tax setting process.

Parish Council Meeting Dates 2019

Meetings are held at the Lansdowne Hall, Petty Lane, Derry Hill, Calne SN11 9QY

Month	Day	Date	Time
January	No Meeting		
February	Monday	11 th	7.30pm
March	Monday	11 th	7.30pm
April	Monday	8 th	7.30pm
May	Monday	13 th	7.30pm
June	Monday	10 th	7.30pm
July	Monday	8 th	7.30pm
August	No Meeting		
September	Monday	9 th	7.30pm
October	Monday	14 th	7.30pm
November	Monday	11 th	7.30pm
December	Monday	9 th	7.30pm
Members of the public are welcome to attend, if you would like to speak at a meeting please contact the Clerk.			
Annual Parish Meeting date to be confirmed.			

Don't forget you can access the Parish Council's documents and other useful information on their website:

www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

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Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

After all the work and extra activities of December, school returned for Term 3 on 7 January. The term concludes at 3.10 on 15 February.

Firstly, some updates on events of recent weeks. The school raised some £417 for the annual Children in Need appeal from a cake bake organised by some of the members of Owl class and a



non-uniform day. £92 was also raised for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Our range of Christmas events were successful, including the whole school trip to the Pantomime in Swindon, the Christmas parties and lunches together with the Christmas jumper day. Thanks to all those who helped to make them such enjoyable events. Key Stage two organised and led our Nativity Service in Christ Church at the end of last term and the whole school gave enthusiastic renditions of some favourite carols and Christmas music in front of over one hundred parents, grandparents and friends.

Two football teams took part in the Chippenham Schools football tournament at Stanley Park and performed very well. One of the teams comprising members of Years 5 and 6 progressed to the Mid Wiltshire Competition in early January where they were once again successful, resulting in further progress to a tournament involving schools from across Wiltshire. Details from this event will be included in next month's magazine!

This month sees the cycle of Parents' Evenings continue with two events being held in the afternoons of 12 and 13 February. A school Disco is scheduled for 6 February and Hedgehog class will be paying a trip to The Cotswold Wildlife Park six days later. Meanwhile plans are being put in place to organise the recycling of empty crisp packets in aid of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Hayley Roberts, Headteacher

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Book Review - Nights at the Circus by Angela Carter.

Roll up, roll up ladies and gentlemen and be entertained by the glorious tale of Sophie Fevvers - a woman who claims to be hatched from an egg and now the owner of a pair of splendid wings and the power of flight. What's more she is a true Cockney virgin. ‘

I chose this book for book club having seen a BBC 4 documentary about its author, Angela Carter, whose own life story is as fascinating and full of individualism as this one. As the tale begins Fevvers, a six-foot two, curvaceous, peroxide blonde has just become a celebrated aerialiste and her early life and rise to fame is being captured by the young journalist, Jack Walser.

The book is split into three sections, London – in Fevver's dressing room post performance – and then on tour with the circus to St Petersburg and finally Siberia. The novel is carefully structured and the narrative voice alternates between Fevvers and Walser as the story itself alternates between the chaotic and hypnotic and the pragmatic and the grounded. Despite his rationality, Walser is so entranced by Fevvers that he persuades his chief to allow him to join the circus on its grand imperial tour.

For me - having a great love of old London town, I really enjoyed the imagery drawn by Carter of our capital and especially the section describing Fevver's first flight across the rooftops, and the description of St Paul's dome as the 'divine pap of the city'.

The story is set at the turn of the century and contains a multitude of characters, many of whom are drawn from the circus life, which embraces and gives a home to people who find they don't fit in easily with regular society. These characters give the story a mythical fairy tale quality, and there are many vignettes within the main story, that like a warren of rabbit holes, invite the reader to fall down and explore. There is Sybil, the circus owner – Colonel Kearney's pet pig, who is intelligent and clairvoyant and upon whom he relies on to make his business decisions. Then there is Madame Schreck who is the owner of a female freak show and whose voice is described like “wind in the graveyards...” Best of all there are the clowns, whose world is captured with superb poetic imagery and insight by Carter.

This book will not disappoint, but be aware it is as rich in detail as a lovingly, hand-made Christmas cake, so make sure you have all your wrapping done before you enter the sawdust ring...

Sue Deedigan

Studley Methodist Church

Services for February 2019

10.30 am

3 Feb Mrs H White

10 Feb Rev David Gray

17 Feb Mrs C Whittington

24 Feb Mr I Roberts



At the beginning of December, a Coffee Morning organised by Studley residents was held at the Hall and were able to enjoy using the newly refurbished kitchen facilities. These are now more spacious and well equipped. Crest Nicholson have kindly offered to supply blinds to the kitchen and a baby changing unit to the new toilet facilities.

A Children`s Concert organised by Mrs Catherine Dempsey took place in the lead up to Christmas and a lovely time was had by all. Mrs Linda Morley and Mrs Janet Stock helped with serving refreshments.

Our own Minister, Rev David Gray, led the Carols by Candlelight Service on 16 December and around 60 people attended. The Chapel was decorated in white and gold flower arrangements and crib scenes. Seasonal refreshments were served at the close of the service.

January 2019 will see us recommence Fellowship Afternoons and will be held on the last Monday of each month (unless Bank Holiday) 2.30pm and all are welcome - please see notice board for further details.

The Studley Villagers will be using the Hall for a coffee morning and get together on Saturday 9 February - 10am to noon - again all welcome. Further activities are planned during the forthcoming spring and summer.

Tina

TOWN HALL MOVIOLA

Our film for Feb is **'The Children Act'** (12A)
Ian McEwan adapts his own novel in a drama about a

High Court Judge who finds her personal and professional principles colliding when she has to decide on a case involving a teenage boy who is refusing a blood transfusion.

Showing on **Weds 20th Feb** at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00pm.

Refreshments available. Tickets £6.00 from information office.

Viv



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Tuesday 26th February

4 + 1 + guests

Tuesday 26th March

Catherine Sykes

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James and Brig



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View of an occasional visitor to Derry Hill

It is 3 months since I last visited Derry Hill. Upon arriving at 4.50.p.m on Friday afternoon, the first thing my daughter did was take us out for a walk. Well, having been sat all day at a desk she was a little short of the 10,000 to 15,000 steps she endeavours to do every day!

I must say straight away that I enjoy walking and especially around Derry Hill where over time we have devised routes of differing lengths and challenges. As you know you do not have to venture far though before encountering a hill.

Today, we met up with a friend of my daughters as they walk regularly together. We started near the Village Stores and proceeded as far as the entrance to Bowood. I find it a must before going under the arch to just take a few moments to stand here and take in the panoramic view to the side of the Lansdowne Arms over the valley towards Chippenham – Stunning.

On a shorter walk like todays, only 7000 steps I am told, we walk along the well-worn footpath which runs parallel with the golf course boundary fence. Every time I walk along this path I expect to suddenly hear “Fore” as a whistling golf ball comes in my direction, but this has not happened yet although, I have found the occasional golf ball. This path is a favourite with dog walkers and as such I am always watchful where I step but, in all honesty I have not encountered dog mess or for that matter any litter generally. What does amaze me is that most of the dog walkers I have seen along this path are ladies; they seem to know each other and therefore stop for a chat. Over the years the number of dedicated seats facing the golf course has increased to four including a bench on this path.

I have often walked along this path in the early morning. On a clear sunny day with a clear blue sky, it is magical looking to the distant hills where, there is with a view of the White Horse at Cherhill. At this early hour golf green keepers can often be seen cutting grass and raking the bunkers with ducks and swans sometimes on the small golf course lake nearby. The scenery, views and fresh air make for a super start to a day that is if you ignore the regular noise from the early arriving airplanes flying overhead.

Mike

Dear Friends,

2nd February is Candlemas or the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. In church on Sunday 3rd, we will hear again of the encounter of Jesus, Mary and Joseph with Simeon and Anna, two people who have waited and waited patiently, spending long years in faithful prayer, awaiting the arrival of the promised Saviour. Such trust and enduring steadfastness prompts me to consider my own prayer life.

Sometimes I pray aloud, sometimes by singing, sometimes I pray by writing.

Sometimes I pray while I am out walking, sometimes I need stillness and silence.

Sometimes I kneel, sometimes I lift my hands.

Sometimes I find praying extremely difficult.

R.S Thomas once wrote about "Prayers like gravel flung at the sky's window, hoping to attract the loved one's attention" and there are times when I feel as if I am simply talking to the ceiling. At times like this I am grateful to be able to pray with other people, all together in church, in a small group, knowing that others will pray when I cannot.

And then there are times when I look to the enfolding love of God in the ancient Celtic Christian tradition of the Caim or Circle Prayer, which was a way to surround oneself with the protection and blessing of God. There are many variations of this kind of Circle Prayer, and I offer this (by Mary Fleeson) to any who would find it helpful:

Creator God, never ending, eternal, perfect,
Circle me.

Merciful God, protect and save all those I love,
Circle me.

Awesome God, restore me and keep me safe,
Circle me.

Circle me Lord, let love be my reason,
Let hate be a stranger. Circle me Lord, let joy be
my comfort,

Let sadness be no more.

Circle me Lord, let peace be my aim,
Let conflict be resolved.

Circle me.



Prayer may be described as the practice of being present to God, reminding us that *all of life* is to be lived in the conscious awareness of the presence and love of God.

Michael Mayne describes it like this:

“...our times of conscious prayer are much more like taking our flutes or fiddles and joining in a great symphony of praise and thanksgiving – one in which the music never stops, and where to pray is to join in what is already going on both on earth and in heaven.”

May we be inspired by Anna and Simeon’s steadfast prayerfulness to join in this symphony.

Linda.

News from Bremhill Village Hall

This will be something new for the village hall!
Rural Arts Touring are presenting Will Finn and Rosie Calvert **Beneath This Place**
Thursday 4th April 2019 7.30pm

This duo come from the north east of England and are venturing down south to perform for us. ‘Beneath This Place’ is the album they produced in 2018. Will plays the keyboard and Rosie plays the kettle drums. And other musical instruments are also used. They sing in close harmony (totally delightful) and individually, covering a range of genre.

Those of you who enjoy singing may be interested to know that they have produced a songbook especially for community choirs. It contains 12 new arrangements of folk songs.

Tickets: £10 children £5 from Marilyn (01249 661369) Rosie (01249 813642) or Pound Arts (01249 701628). Bar and tasty morsels.

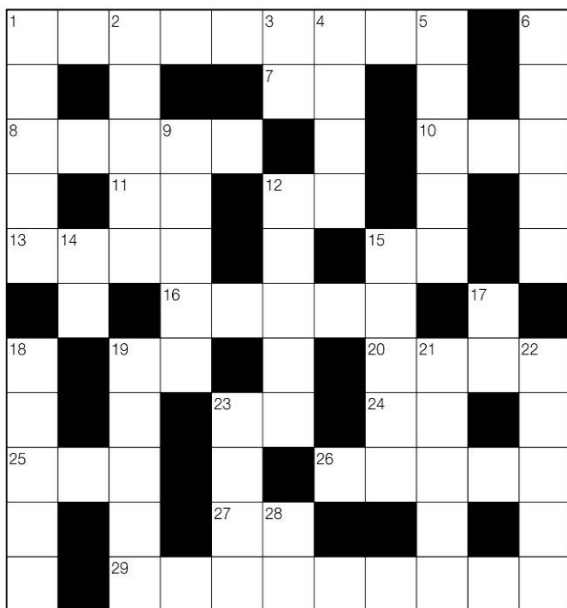
Marilyn

Magazine Distribution

Many thanks to Karen Jones who has kindly volunteered to distribute the magazines down the A4. Thanks also to Stephen Cox who has kindly stepped up to the mark to make sure the new folk in Bowood Gate get a copy. Many thanks to these guys and all those who distribute the magazine

Ed





- 19 Rabbit residence (5)
 21 Mosaic technique (5)
 22 Not even once (5)
 23 Nan alternative (4)
 28 Either (2)

February Crossword

Across

- 1 Fun show 'Oh no it isn't' (9)
 7 French for 'in' (2)
 8 Cowboy contest (5)
 10 Jamaican music (3)
 11 Short for Doctor (2)
 12 Short for International House (2)
 13 Toy on a string (4)
 15 Upon (2)
 16 Gave out cards (5)
 19 Pronoun (2)
 20 Common suffix for a noun made from a verb (4)
 23 Like the pope's church: abbr. (2)
 24 French for 'in' (2)
 25 In good shape (3)

- 26 19th C. Russian statesman (5)

- 27 Towards (2)
 29 Hairdresser's appliance (9)

Down

- 1 Fencing move (5)
 2 Big Ears friend (5)
 3 Personal pronoun (2)
 4 Go slowly (along) (4)
 5 Red dye (5)
 6 Sneezzy or Sleepy (5)
 9 Wear away (5)
 12 "Shaft" composer Hayes (5)
 14 Either (2)
 15 Fish-eating mammal (5)
 17 Depart (2)
 18 Israeli port (5)



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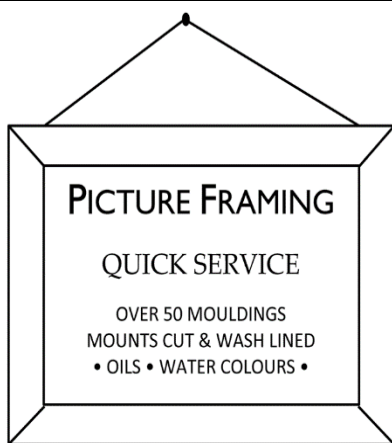
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FLOODLIGHTING THE SPIRE

This is a lovely thing to do to remember loved ones and to celebrate special anniversaries and birthdays. The Spire is currently lit between 7pm and midnight, though this varies with the time of year.

Floodlighting the Spire can be arranged through Diane Saxty on 07846 244726 dianes@mardenvale.org.uk

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

ALTAR GUILD

Flowers in Church: The Flower Guild are inviting flower sponsorship for the single pedestal in Christ Church, Derry Hill each week. If you would like to do this or sponsor part of a pedestal, in memory of a special occasion then, to find out more contact Claire Satchell, on **07968 091217** or email newleaffloristry@hotmail.co.uk



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