

# THE UPPER WYLYE PARISH NEWS



JULY/AUGUST 2018 'Growing in the Love of God' 1979 to 2018

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## WATER MEADOW TALES



We first became aware of the mistle thrushes' nest in the first week of May. They had nested in a small tree on the boundary between our garden and the paddock beyond, about a metre off the ground, which was low for this species: The Book said more like ten! Anyway, things progressed, the female incubating the eggs, with the male in close attendance, just keeping an eye on things, especially when she went off to feed for

ten minutes.

It started to get busy after about a week, when we presumed the eggs had hatched. The male began to bring food for the very small, blind, downy chicks, of which there were four. As far we could see, the chicks' food consisted of quite large worms, cut down to a suitable size for the young to manage. Over the next week, the chicks began to grow, with both parents now feeding or taking turns in

brooding the young, the male continuing his role as the lookout for any threats to the nest and its contents.....

The paddocks beyond our garden are blessed with the presence of many corvids: crows, jackdaws and rooks. Although early on they seemed to be unaware of the mistle thrush activity, the male kept a very close eye on their movements about the paddocks and, whenever one would come a little too close for the male's liking, the corvid would be seen-off, sometimes in quite spectacular fashion, attacking the intruders from above, pecking them and even removing the odd black feather!

This uneasy situation continued for another week / ten days, food being brought, the young growing, the rooks and the jackdaws, particularly, becoming a little bolder by the day.

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*Photography: Roger Hammond*



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# THE DIARY

Please let Robin know of any Social Dates you have so they can be included in the diary. We deliver this magazine door to door to all our ten villages, and the editorial team would love to have a greater overview of what is going on in the villages.

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**MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS AT ST JOHN'S**  
 will be on 11th July and 8th August



### PRAYER GROUP

We meet weekly. If you have any prayer requests, please call Anne on 840339.

**COFFEE MORNING CODFORD VILLAGE HALL**  
**Thursday June 28th**  
**9.00- 11.30am**  
 A chance to see what happens at The Wylve Valley Disabled Children's Riding Camp held annually at Punchbowl Farm Codford.  
 This is not a fundraiser, but an opportunity for the committee to say thank you to our friends in the village who support us in our collection pot in the shop and in so many other ways.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION HEYTESBURY BRANCH

Our next meeting will be held on 25th July 2018 in the Residents' Hall of The Hospital of St John and is a talk by Emily Firth (with slide show) about her VSO trip to Kenya. There is NO meeting in August and so our next meeting will be on 26th September. Visitors always welcome.

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## SHOE BOXES FOR THE TRUSSELL TRUST

It would be good to send a few more this year, so please start collecting items to go into a shoe box for a child from 5 years to 11 years old. These are all children in orphanages in Eastern Europe. They are delivered personally by the TT. They will be collected from Codford and Heytesbury early in November.

If you require a shoe box, I have several. Thank you. Anne 840339

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## MINISTRY LETTER

In our Church we have what is known as 'The Children's Liturgy' - it is our version of Sunday School and means, literally, the children's work. At the beginning of mass, after the priest has greeted everyone, the children are dismissed with their catechists, or teachers, and go elsewhere to read through the Gospel for the day; later, when they rejoin us for the second part of the mass, they will share with us their thoughts on what they have studied. At the beginning of the service we have our General Confession and quite often, by way of introduction, we remind ourselves that although the younger members of the congregation have left us for the moment, we, who remain, still have some growing up to do; this is because sin is really immaturity, our childishness.

Many years ago, I was part of a working party planning a Diocesan Conference on Adult Education which we decided to call 'Growing Into Maturity'. I think it was a good name for the conference, because it set the scene for exploring ways by which we could, together, become more developed as Christians, and therefore as human beings, and so become more effective in our Church and local communities.

The Season of Sundays after Pentecost (or Trinity or Ordinary Time) are the season of the 'growing time' in the church; in the Northern Hemisphere it tallies quite well with the growing season in our countryside and gardens - the green of growth reflected in the liturgical colour in our churches. Jesus said "You see, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5): yes, Jesus, that is a comforting idea, but please begin with me. This renewal must develop into an awareness that God, through our world, provides all that we need to be self sufficient in ourselves; young children naturally make quite sure they don't 'miss out' on things, that they get fair shares, or even get a bit of

someone else's fair share; it is a natural defence mechanism for the preservation of Number One; but if society is to be ordered, we have to grow out of that natural instinct; the trouble is so often we don't. History is full of instances when wars have been fought over the preservation (or extension) of territory. Preservation of our own status, or ideals, displays the same principle; we can see this at every level of society - global, national, within the community, and (let's face it) ourselves. Dare I say it, even as Churches! At the most basic level, it really boils down to immaturity - childishness. We adults can display a surprising childishness at time.

Once, Jesus took a little child on his lap and reminded us of the need to regain something of childlikeness ourselves. (S Mark 9:33-37). But this has got nothing to do with being childish; it means growing in *Christlikeness*, as fully developed and mature human beings, depending on our Lord and Saviour for our pattern of perfection in maturity. For that is the Liturgy for all of us, to become more like Christ.

*Raymond Hayne*

### THE VACANCY - AND WHERE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS

Change is afoot in the Upper Wylde Valley Team. With the departure of Revd Ali Morley, we are now officially in a 'Vacancy', and have advertised in the Church Times for a new Priest-in-Charge. Details are on the Diocesan website and also on our own. Short listing of candidates will be on 11th July with interviews planned for 17th and 18th July and details, as they emerge, will be posted on the website.

A period of Vacancy can often be a time of opportunity, as well as reflection, and the spiritual life of our Team carries on, not just as usual, but optimistically.

The Team Vicar, Revd Clifford Stride, is in charge pro tem and he is supported by a robust and resilient organisation of retired clergy, lay worship leaders and many others that are determined to ensure that life in our valley, in our churches and in our communities continues as seamlessly as possible.

### MESSY CHURCH - 'GONE TO THE DOGS...?'

In June, Messy Church will have gone '...to the dogs'..., also the cats, rabbits, and was there a horse? As Messy Church in June normally falls on Father's Day, we will be joined up with The Sunday Worship Team and Bug Hunters to bless our animals. The Pet Service in Heytesbury Church gives us a chance to take all pets to be blessed, followed by a messy 'bug hunting' walk along the river to tea for all.

Don't let the last Messy Church of the school year escape without you. It is on Sunday 15th July at 4pm in and around Codford Village Hall BA12 0PP. We hope the weather will be kind so that we can do outside activities and a picnic. Let us know you're coming, so we can cater for you (messychurchinuwvt@gmail.com). It will be fun, informative and welcoming to everyone whether small or larger. Do join us, we'd love to meet you, and share with you. For more information join our Facebook group [www.facebook.com/groups/MessyChurchUVWT](http://www.facebook.com/groups/MessyChurchUVWT) or check [www.facebook.com/uwvtfamilies/](http://www.facebook.com/uwvtfamilies/)

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

If any of you falls short in wisdom, he should ask God for it and it will be given him, for God is a generous giver who neither refuses nor reproaches anyone. But he must ask in faith, without a doubt in his mind; for the doubter is like a heaving sea ruffled by the wind. James 1:5,61 v1-3

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## DOWN ON THE FARM

Farming is a 'way of life'. Phone calls during the night are not an unusual occurrence in our household and I no longer freeze for the fear of bad news but wait to hear that the herd is on the A36 or in the village or embarrassingly, in someone's well cared-for garden (so, so sorry)! We have been woken by torches being shone through our bedroom window, courtesy of the police, informing us that cattle, which were out on the road, have now been herded into a field, but would we like to repair the fencing? No, not really at 2.30am on a cold December night with a husband in bed with a twisted ankle hollering, "Yes, officer, no problem, we will be out shortly." "Will we?" I say. Dutifully, I load and drive the pickup. With my husband shouting commands at me from the comfort of the truck and the headlights as my only source of light, I endeavour to put my rather appalling

fencing skills to use. I could write a book of such yarns, but it highlights that this is a 'way of life'.

With this 'way of life', long days are normal and no more so than the months ahead of us. To quote my husband, "Once July arrives, suddenly it's Christmas," and he is right. Second, third and fourth cut of silage are still to come. Some will be for the pit and the rest will be made into big bales. Oil seed rape will be ready for cutting in late July, followed by spring barley and wheat in August, maybe even early September, if we are unfortunate enough to have a wet summer. We still combine our own crops, but many will use contractors for convenience as they will have equipment that covers the ground quicker and is more reliable; combines are notorious for breaking down and, at a cost of £200,000 plus, it is hard to justify the ownership. However, there

is something very satisfying about harvesting your own crop; it is after all the final chapter in the book of the months behind us and my husband is hanging on to his combine, as if his life depends on it. The grain needs to be below 15% moisture; if not, it will need drying and, if it comes in very wet, it will go through more than once which affects the quality, the price it is worth and man power. The dryer needs to be running continuously to accommodate the trailers coming in and may well not be turned off until the early hours of the morning. The straw will be baled, stacked and stored in barns ready for feed and bedding. This whole process is made up of weeks of endless days and nights toiling and the long hours are far from ending as we turn the corner into Autumn 'down on the farm'. *Kit Pottow*

## AROUND THE APIARY

Well, after four hard days at the Bath and West Show, talking to people about bees, the environment and conservation, I was glad to get home and take five. There is a lot more interest out there and people are asking about our pollinators, and they make me more hopeful that they are concerned about the environment and what we humans are doing to it.

The look of surprise on people's faces, when I tell them it is not only farmers that need to think about what they are spraying on crops, but the gardeners as well, as it would make a big difference if they put their spray bottles away. So for the B and W, I took two colonies of bees to the show. Previously, I had to first split off the flying bees. To do this, I put an empty hive at the side of the existing hive, then took out the frame with the queen on, put it in the new box and then added more frames with brood, larvae, eggs and young bees. Then

all the flying bees went into the old box; what this does is splits off the flying bees, as these tend to be the stinging bees, not what you want at a demonstration. So I took both new boxes with the Queens etc., and my colleague took an observation hive that was set up with a marked Queen. This pulled people in, the children loved to watch the bees and asked lots of questions. We set them up in an area behind a fine net fence so we could open the hives and show people the frames with what is going on inside the hives.

When you can show the audience a baby bee emerging through the cappings of its cell after 16 days in development, it grabs their interest, to say the least. Then after that I found a drone bee, that is a male for those of you that don't remember, and put him on my bare hand and let him run around and the audience thought I was so brave, but then, I have to tell them that being male, he does not have a stinger so not so brave after all! Don't forget that the drones are only there to mate with virgin queens, nothing else.

We also had some of the staff from Longleat helping out; there were two different people each day, they talked about bees and conservation. This came about because I look after the bees at Longleat and had given talks on beekeeping there last year. As their theme was based on bees and other pollinators, we had different bee equipment, old and new, set up in the school room.

*Den Pictor, your local friendly beekeeper*

## PLACES TO VISIT ...

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FROM INDEPENDENT MARKET

On the first Sunday of each month from March to December, the main streets in the centre of Frome are closed to traffic and taken over by a huge range of market stalls. It is open from 10am - 3pm and stretches from the car park by the library, through the shopping centre and the High Street and into Catherine Hill. There are stalls selling, amongst other things: artisan foods, antiques and collectables, art, crafts and original designs. There is music to entertain you and street food to sustain you while you meander through the town. The market has a real buzz and has become very popular, which means parking is difficult. There are dedicated Park and Ride areas, detailed on their website. It is also worth checking the website, if the weather is bad, as the market has sometimes been cancelled when there are high winds or other difficult conditions.

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## SPORT: ANGLING

### ANGLING NOTES

We are now in the middle of the mayfly (*Ephemera danica*) season and, as usual, my days on the river have been varied. I had a day on the Itchen; the sun was bright with a cool NE wind. Some mayflies were hatching out of the silt, which is where the nymphs live, in the margin of the river. In the hot sun, they were popping off in an instant, the blood filling the veins in their wings almost instantly. The direction of the wind blew them away from the river and up into the willow carr. Almost none of them were available to the trout, at any point. As a consequence, few trout were rising and those that were were taking something small.

I had a similar day on the Avon, where again the warm sun meant that the fly were getting off quickly and few trout were interested.

My next visit was to the Wylde on an overcast day which turned to heavy rain in the afternoon. Reasonable numbers

of mayfly were hatching and both trout and grayling were rising. They were not easy to interest however, and it was necessary to cover a fish carefully, perhaps a number of times, before it would take the fly. My usual favourite patterns, Grey Wulff and French Partridge, were not working well whereas my companion's parachute nondescript was proving attractive with the body of the fly flat on the surface. I commented that there were few duns drifting down on the surface and we realised that the duns were being drowned by the heavy rain. Some fish, including the grayling, were chasing nymphs and making great violent rises and others were quietly sipping the drowned duns, which, because they were dead, were easy targets. We

caught sufficient fish to keep us happy.

The following day we went to the Wylde again. Conditions were perfect, overcast and cool, but almost no mayfly hatched! I blame the previous day's heavy rain for this, but I do not really know if that was the cause. I shall continue to try and hope to continue learning before this ephemeral season is over.

*Robin Mulholland*



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## BOOK REVIEW

### CAROL:

a novel by Patricia Highsmith

Our library copy of 'Carol' has photos of Kate Blanchett and Rooney Mara on the cover, giving it a very modern feel, but the book was first published in 1952 in the USA as *The Price of Salt*, a novel by Claire Morgan. It was Highsmith's second novel, when gay relationships were considered shocking, but, by 1953, it had sold a million copies and had generated considerable fan-mail from the gay community. As recommended, I didn't read the 2010 Foreword until I had finished the book. Far better to let the book tell its own story, without any clue as to what will happen. The plot is gripping, similar in style to Highsmith's thrillers: tense and hinting at potential disaster throughout. There's even a loaded gun and a private detective.

Heytesbury Readers' annual film evening was divided between those who had seen the film before reading the book, and the

rest of us. Those who had seen the film first preferred the film, but that is to belittle the original plot and the human condition it portrays. Maybe the film enriched the experience of reading the book, but the book comes first.

Divorce, 1952-style, was grim and unforgiving, and the film softens the impact in deference to modern social conventions. In the book, the child is a mere pawn in the psychological warfare between Carol and her domineering husband, but, in the film, the child has a greater importance which makes Carol appear softer and more likeable; in the book she can appear quite hard. In 60-odd years, social mores have changed... and one of the joys of the film was the wonderful clothes, the cars and the 'period' feel that it has. And you forget how much everyone smoked!

The end of the film omits the last two sentences of the book, leaving us not knowing - and maybe not wanting to know - what will happen.

*KV and LW*



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## BOOK REVIEW FOR YOUNG VOICES

### THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN

by David Walliams

If you have a reluctant reader in the house, I can recommend this book without hesitation. If you have a child who loves reading, this is the book to read. It will make them, and you, laugh and giggle. It is a collection of stories about five beastly boys and five gruesome girls and it is exactly what it says on the flyleaf.

My young grandson was just about to go for a sleepover in the Natural History Museum. He was looking forward to it immensely and the first story is all about the Natural History Museum, we discussed coincidence but became too occupied in the book to continue this conversation. He did, however, check out the dodo case before settling down to sleep in the NHM. The stories are brief, tell a very descriptive tale and are beautifully illustrated by Tony Ross.

A few warnings, before you embark on this reading adventure; if your son or daughter appears to be reading the book upside down, do not be concerned. If they appear to be looking at it sideways or even turning it as they read, it is all part of the story. I am not going to describe the characters or stories, this will all become clear with the reading. Finally, it makes a great bedtime story book, but sleep may be a while coming, if the reader gets the giggles!

## TURBO'S TALES – THE DOG BLOG FOR SUMMER

The grass has certainly 'riz' and we are out mowing from morning to night; well, he is anyway - I just lie in the shade and watch. Codford has been a busy place. The Royal Wedding tea party took place in the Village Hall on 19th May and attendees were encouraged to enter into the spirit of the day by dressing up. The Guvnor and his wife did so and merited a photograph for 'a good effort'; he spoilt it by fibbing that they had to race back from Windsor down the M4 to make it on time. "Huh," I lied to my mates, "they don't need to mention the M4, as they returned by helicopter."

The Guvnor prepared his fishing rod for 'Duffers' Fortnight', when the abundance of mayfly usually ensures that

even he can catch a fish, but the hatch was so late here that he missed it. Never mind, he mused; a plate of whitebait at the pub is enough to make him feel better these days and he is overjoyed at the 'Friday Night is Fish 'n Chips Night' at the reopened George, as am I, as there are usually leftovers. As an aside, I abhor the use of 'n' to shorten the conjunction 'and' to make it sound more modern. Shakespeare, and even Chaucer, would be turning in their grave(s). Then I idly speculated on the number of words there were, all together, in the English language.

There is no single sensible answer to this question. It's impossible to count them mainly because it is so hard to de-

cide what actually is a word. Is dog one word, or two (a noun meaning 'a kind of animal', and a verb meaning 'to follow persistently')? If we count it as two, then do we count inflections separately too (e.g. dogs = plural noun, dogs = present tense of the verb)? Is dog-tired a word, or just two other words joined together? Is hot dog really two words, since it might also be written as hot-dog, hot dog or even hotdog? I leave you to sort out this very human of problems - if you can be bothered. Me? I'm now dog-tired. Two words or one? Does it actually matter? Yes or no?

PS - I raise this to tease the Editor who, his dog tells me, was an English teacher.

### WATER MEADOW TALES *Continued*

Every now and again jackdaws would try (yet again!) to get into the nut or seed feeders, which were fairly near. These forays would bring very vociferous defence of the nest from both thrushes, bringing a scene to the blue skies over the garden reminiscent of dogfights in the skies of Kent during the Battle of Britain!

The increasing levels of attention on the part of the corvids was not looking good. Allied with the fact, having grown to be quite big now, the young would greet

the arrival of a parent bird bringing food with ever-louder, excited calling.

Things came to a head early one morning. A couple of rooks landed in the top of the tree above the nest. Both the adult thrushes reacted by attacking, one chasing off one of the rooks. Other rooks arrived and joined in the melee. Both adult thrushes were now in close combat. At this point, a rook landed in the top of the tree, made his way down through the tree to the nest, took one of the young

and flew off.

Things settled down after a while, the corvids withdrew and the adult thrushes were nowhere to be seen. I went and had a look in the nest to inspect the damage and found huddled right down in the nest cup a feathered ball of young mistle thrushes, lying very, very still. Not wanting to cause any more disturbance I went back indoors.

About a quarter of an hour later I was looking out and saw an adult thrush, with a worm in its beak, land on the fence, go straight past the nest and into the dense hedge beyond. On checking the nest I found one dead chick.

We think that the young, just after the raid when I had seen them in the bottom of the nest, had dispersed into the hedge, away from any further threat. The dead chick I saw later had perhaps been killed when the other one was carried off.

A sad end to what had been a fascinating couple of weeks, when we were granted a privileged view into the private and sometimes, harsh Nature of His Creation all around us.

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# CREATIONTIDE - About Creationtide

The Creationtide season runs from 1st September, Orthodox New Year, until 4th October, the feast of St Francis, every year.

Creationtide is originally an Eastern Orthodox initiative, but has now spread widely among Anglican, Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations, bringing Christians together to pray and work for the protection of the environment that sustains everyone. Pope Francis gave a major boost to the profile of Creationtide in 2016 when he declared 1st September an annual 'World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation'.

As Christians, we acknowledge that the environment is our common home, and we need to tread more gently on the earth and care for our shared planet. To help us tread more gently, here are just a few ideas addressing the food we eat and the things that we throw away. These may very well be 'Coals to Newcastle' to many of you and we apologise if that is the case. Please have a look and see how well you are doing to care for God's creation.

- ❖ *The food we eat:*
  - plan meals ahead and only buy what you know you'll use
  - buy food with less packaging
  - check the food miles and buy local if possible
  - buy British fruit and veg in season and fairly-traded food, if affordable
  - try to support local shops
  - eat less meat eg a meat-free day each week
  - grow some of your own food
- ❖ *The things we throw away:*
  - 3 R's: reduce, re-use, recycle
  - simplify life, be liberated by needing less
  - always take your own bags when shopping
  - try to reduce your use of plastic
  - drink tap water, not bottled
  - 're-invent' secondhand goods from charity and nearly-new shops; improvise, make things!

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## CODFORD CODFORD LAWN TENNIS CLUB

We have decided to repeat our very popular Quiz Night and combine it with our annual BBQ.

On Friday 17th August, starting at 6pm, in Codford Village Hall BA12 0PP, our cool quizmaster, Martin, will again ask the questions, as we chew our pencils to come up with the answers. Part way through, we'll gather outside to share in a BBQ, before returning for more questions.

Tickets £10 per person. Bar. Raffle. Prizes for the winning team. Everyone welcome.

We would also like to remind folk that we organise tennis games for members 3 times a week, weather and players permitting and we'd love to welcome you for a taster. If you haven't played for a while and would like to return, do contact us. If you have never played and would like to start, also contact us. 01985 850239 or 218863

## THE ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS IN CODFORD

Saturday, 19th May, 2018 was Royal Wedding Day, but here in Codford, a much calmer but no less joyful 'street party' was held in the Village Hall in celebration. Our own Codford duchesses, Karen Johnston and Romy Wyeth, organised the event with the backing of the Parish Council and, as is the way with such

## VILLAGE NEWS

events, lots of help from a great many people.

Karen and Romy particularly wanted to acknowledge and thank John Wyeth, John Foster, Simon Mostyn and Alec Thomson for preparing the hall, J Claypoole for a wonderfully appropriate wedding flower arrangement, Sandy Stokes for making a beautiful replica of the wedding cake made with original ingredients (elderflower and lemon), Brian Marshall for his special table decorations and posters, the Woolstore Theatre for backcloth and stage coverings and John Wyeth again for devising a way to keep the flags on show. Karen and Romy wanted to say all that themselves, but what they

couldn't do was to add that none of it would have happened without their drive and skill and the persuasive powers necessary to get things done. The proof of the tea cake (to misquote the idiom) was in the eating.

Masses of kind people contributed a huge array of cakes, biscuits, sandwiches, scones and other delicacies to the party and our thanks go to every one of them. Stalwart members of the Parish Council (Colin Beagley, Sue Mitchell, Tom Thornton and Karungi Grant) manned the tea points and a hard-working but unsung team were active behind the scenes. Colin Beagley, as Chairman of the Parish Council, made a short speech in appreciation and concluded by proposing a toast to the Royal couple.

Think Indian; dine...

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The Fane Hall was buzzing at Rogation (which was also in Café format), and the people, who came, asked to have Café Church again, please.

There will be a different theme each month: the July theme is healing and there will be an opportunity to donate to the Salisbury Hospital Scanner Appeal, which is our charity of the month. The August theme is pilgrimage, with Iona as our destination.

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HEYTESBURY

WILDFLOWERS  
IN HEYTESBURY CHURCHYARD

Earlier in the year, I read in the Church Times that Kew was offering free wildflower seeds to community projects and churches. Involving children in growing and knowing about wildflowers was part of the aim. We were too late to apply for the free seeds, but I felt it would be good to try a small experiment in Heytesbury and to involve the Bug Hunting children. The PCC agreed to our trying to sow wildflower seeds in a patch along the wall opposite the south door of the church. This area has now been left unmown and daisies, plantains and herb robert are flowering. We have added some scabious and wild wallflowers. Do go and have a look!

This is a small start. If you have wildflowers in your garden that you would like to see there, please dig out small plants and put them in or collect their seeds. We can sow the seeds in the autumn, involving the children. Oxeye daisies and red poppies would be great - poppies especially for remembering the end of the First World War in 1918.

Tina Sitwell, Stephanie Stokes and I went to a meeting about Wildlife in Wiltshire Churchyards which helped put us in touch with what other churches are doing and how to develop our ideas.

Caro Barker Bennett  
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# VILLAGE NEWS

## SHERRINGTON

The grey days of relentless rain earlier in the year, though tedious and depressing, were, I think, of huge benefit to plant life. As a result, the land is now enveloped in lush, healthy growth. Horse chestnuts put on a spectacular show of candles. In certain villages, there are handsome acacia trees that this year hang with delicate flowers like lace handkerchiefs. Hawthorn has been thick with blossom, generous as whipped cream and, of course, that augers well for Winter bird life, migrant and resident.

Our lilac tree (in common with everyone else's) has never looked better, branches so heavy with bloom they had to be supported. Wisteria and now roses climb over lonely little Cress Cottage and the clump of iris outside no. 40 seems doubled in size. How I love foxgloves. They wander all over the garden each year deciding on a new site and wherever they settle, I am delighted.

On the Plain, there are carpets of golden birdsfoot trefoil and yellow rock roses, here and there pink sainfoin. Soon vivid blue viper's bugloss will stand tall in the long grass. So far, the churchyard has disappointed. Golden trefoil has not shown and today on the 8th day of June, I have seen just one orchid, perhaps it is early for them.

Has something happened to insect life I wonder? When I take the dogs out for last orders, no moths cluster round the door light and it is years since I saw a lovely blundering maybug. We used to see glow worms on the Cleeve at this time of year. They may still gleam there, but I confess I do not explore there at night anymore. No insects on car windscreens must mean a scarcity for insect eating birds feeding their young. However, other food must have been plentiful; our nuthatch and blue tit families fledged

successfully. I wonder if the visitors in the letter box at Carters Cottage fared well.

A cheerful sight is the number of bees swinging on the clumps of blue geranium, thronging the nepeta and squeezing into foxgloves, and soon hollyhocks will offer up thick yellow pollen.

Grateful thanks to the diligent mower of footpaths. Parsons Path has never looked better. In addition to making a walk along there pleasant, it is good that the dreaded spear grass is gone, such a menace for dog's ears and piercing between their toes.

Easy to become downcast about the damage we humans inflict on the beleaguered planet. Perhaps a growing awareness will lead to repair and recovery. Every now and again one hears of some miracle of regeneration and hearts are lifted.

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# VILLAGE NEWS

## SUTTON VENY

In commemoration of the 1918 Armistice Centenary and the 150th Anniversary of St John the Evangelist, we are delighted to announce that the acclaimed NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE will be performed in Sutton Veny at 7pm on Friday evening 21st September.

NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE is a recital of poetry and music written during the First World War. Over a 90 minute show, it brings together the poetry of Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Edward Thomas, Vera Brittan and many more with the contemporaneous music of Elgar, Ravel,

Debussy, Ivor Gurney and others.

NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE is touring the UK with performances in London, Bath, Chichester, Aldeburgh, Canterbury and a number of festivals. It is also featured on BBC Radio 3's In Tune programme in May. We are delighted to have secured a performance in Sutton Veny in the village hall.

We recommend early booking of tickets. Tickets purchased before 30th June are £5 for adults. Tickets for serving military and under 25s are £8 for two. Tickets can be purchased from the excellent Woolpack Pub in Sutton Veny or by email fromw-mitchell@hotmail.co.uk

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## SUTTON VENY PRODUCE STALL

This will begin again on Saturday 7th July at 10.30 and will be situated on the little green in the middle of the High Street.

Do come along and join us for homegrown produce, cakes, savouries, jams and chutneys. Coffee, a comfy chair and good company with old friends and new are always available

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

*We welcome into the Christian Church*

**Thomas Humphrey**

on 22nd April at Tytherington

**Pippa Fern Gunter**

on 28th April at Norton Bavant

**Oliver Robert Self**

on 29th April at Tytherington

**Imelda Joy Dixey**

on 5th May at Codford St Peter

*May they grow in the Christian Faith*

### Weddings

*Congratulations to*

**Nichola Coles & Scott Daniels**

on 9th June at Upton Lovell

*May they have many*

*happy years of married life together*

### Funerals

*Our sympathy and love to those who mourn the passing of*

**Peter Welch**

on 29th May at Sutton Veny

**Barbara Brooks**

on 30th May at Sutton Veny

*May they rest in the peace and light of Christ*

*Please contact the Ministry Team to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation preparation or Service of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage.*

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Wednesdays	10.00am
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Visitors are welcome to our services.

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### ATTACHED PRIESTS

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# UPPER WYLYE VALLEY TEAM

## CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY

1st	Tytherington	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
5th Sunday	Codford St Mary	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP with hymns)	
after Trinity	Norton Bavant	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
	Corton, Fane Hall	10.00am	Café Church, breakfast from 9.30	
	Upton Lovell	11.00am	Parish Communion	
	Heytesbury	11.00am	Patronal Festival	<i>Choir</i>
	Tytherington	6.00pm	Taizé	

8th	Boyton	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
6th Sunday	Codford St Peter	10.00am	Sunday Worship	
after Trinity	Sutton Veny	10.00am	Parish Communion	
	Codford St Mary	11.00am	Parish Communion	
	Knook	11.00am	Patronal Festival	<i>Choir</i>
	Upton Lovell	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	

15th	St John's Chapel, Heyts	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
7th Sunday	Norton Bavant	9.30am	Parish Communion	
after Trinity	Codford St Peter	9.30am	Parish Communion	
	Sutton Veny	11.00am	Flower show service	
	Upton Lovell	11.00am	Parish Communion	<i>Choir</i>
	Codford Village Hall	4.00pm	Messy Church	

22nd	Codford St Mary	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
8th Sunday	Sutton Veny	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
after Trinity	Codford St Peter	10.00am	Parish Communion	
	Heytesbury	10.00am	Sunday Worship	
	Boyton	11.00am	Parish Communion	<i>Choir</i>
	Heytesbury	6.00pm	Evensong	

29th		10.00am	Pilgrimage from St Leonard's SV to	
9th Sunday	Tytherington	11.00am	TEAM SERVICE (St James)	
after Trinity	Codford St Mary	6.00pm	Evensong	<i>Choir</i>

## AUGUST

5th	Norton Bavant	8.30am	BCP Communion	
10th Sunday	Corton, Fane Hall	10.00am	Café Church, breakfast from 9.30	
after Trinity	St Leonard's	6.00pm	Team Service: Evensong	

12th	Codford St Mary	10.00am	Team Parish Communion	
11th Sunday				
after Trinity	Upton Lovell	6.00pm	Team Service: Evensong	

19th	Knook	10.00am	Team Service: Matins	
12th Sunday				
after Trinity	Boyton	6.00pm	Team Parish Communion	

26th	Codford St Peter	10.00am	Team Parish Communion	
13th Sunday				
after Trinity	Heytesbury	6.00pm	Team Service: Evensong	

### HOUSE GROUPS

<b>Mondays</b>	6.00 - 7.30 in Codford. Contact Clifford Stride 850941
<b>Wednesday</b>	alternate weeks) 7.45pm in Water Meadow Cottage, Heytesbury. Contact Diana Hammond 841185

### WEEKDAY SERVICES every week

We welcome you to share in prayers for the Church, the Nation, the World, the Sick, and for others as well as ourselves.

Tuesdays	Tytherington	8.30am	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	Codford St Peter	8.30am	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	Codford St Peter	9.00am	Holy Communion
Thursdays	Sherrington	8.30am	Morning Prayer
Fridays	Sutton Veny	8.30am	Morning Prayer

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*Heytesbury* www.heytesburyparish.co.uk

*Norton Bavant* www.nortonbavant.co.uk

*Sutton Veny* www.suttonveny.co.uk

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Secretary: Philip Spicer 850577

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Sutton Veny

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