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PARISH NEWS



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DOWN ON THE FARM Page 6  
THE CHURCH OF ST GILES, IMBER Page 8



# THE DIARY

## FROM THE EDITOR

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.

T: 840790 robinwculver@mac.com  
Editorial Copy for the UWPN must be with the editor by the 10th of the previous month in which the article is to be published. The editor cannot accept any copy after this date.



## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS

The fifth meeting of the season is on **Monday 4th February at 8.15am** at The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill. The speaker will be Thomas Minter, Director of Malaby Biogas, the company that has operated the Warminster Bore Hill Farm Biodigester since 2012. It has put Warminster on the map for renewables and resource efficiency; producing enough electricity for approximately 2,500 homes and, as a byproduct, a low carbon bio-fertiliser as an alternative to petrochemical based industrial fertilisers. As well as providing insight into the establishment and operation of this important and topical facility on our doorstep, he will endeavour to explain how biodigester technology and business is evolving nationally and internationally.

His chosen charity is the Friends of Heytesbury, Knook & Tytherington Churches.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Women's Section Heytesbury Branch

Our next meeting will be held on 27th February in the Residents' Hall at the Hospital of St John and is a social meeting, possibly with a quiz.

Visitors always welcome.

## ST MARY'S CHURCH, PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

On Saturday 2nd February at 12.00 noon, we shall be holding our annual Ploughman's Lunch in Codford Village Hall. Please come along with your friends for soup, a choice of Ploughman's Lunches, delicious desserts and coffee - all for the bargain price of £6.00, and a raffle.

## LATIN GROUP

I have now retired as a Classics teacher, but if anyone would like to learn a little Latin (or indeed refresh their existing knowledge of the language) I would be happy to run a small group. Please ring me if interested.

*Chris Beharrell (Heytesbury) 841233*

## CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES

We have now heard that the wonderful sum of £4,832.69 was raised by this year's sale of Charity cards and Christmas goodies in Boyton at the end of October. Thank you to everyone who supported this annual event, including, of course, all those who distributed the flyers for us.

*Many thanks, Frances Rigby*

## FRIENDS OF HEYTESBURY, KNOOK & TYTHERINGTON CHURCHES

### BURIED TREASURE

by Christopher Beharrell.

This talk will cover the discoveries of buried treasure hoards in Britain over the ages.

**Tuesday 19th February  
Sutton Veny Village Hall,  
doors open at 6.45pm for the talk at  
7.15pm.**

Cost of £18.00 per head includes a glass of wine on arrival and a delicious home made supper after the talk.

Please book your places now by emailing or phoning me, Sarah Buttenshaw.

Telephone 840501 or  
s.buttenshaw@btinternet.com  
Cheques made payable to The Friends of  
H, K & T Churches please and send to:  
1 Victoria Gardens, Heytesbury,  
Warminster, BA12 0HB

## PRIZE BINGO

A big thank you to all the supporters of our Village Prize Bingo held on the 1st Thursday of every month at St John's Residents' Hall, Heytesbury. Eyes down at 7.30pm.

Over the past 3 years, we have grown in strength. This is a non-profit making event and run entirely by volunteers. We have donated £900 (so far) to THE STARS APPEAL / MRI SCANNER SDH. We could not do this without the help, support and generous prize donations. Many thanks to everyone and may we continue to enjoy an evening with friends.  
All Welcome Eileen Kellow

## FILMS AT THE WOOLSTORE

### The Children Act Drama 105 min 12A

As her marriage to Jack (Stanley Tucci) flounders, eminent High Court Judge, Fiona Maye has a life changing decision to make at work - should she force a teenage boy, Adam (Fionn Whitehead) to have the blood transfusion that will save his life? Her unorthodox visit to his hospital bedside has a profound impact on them both, stirring strong emotions in the boy and long buried feelings in her.

**Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm.**

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

I would like to thank all of you within our area who so kindly donated to this year's Poppy Appeal. I am pleased to reveal that the final total for the 2018 collection for Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington was £2014.24 which was £518.25 UP on last year, for which, on behalf of the Appeal and its work, I thank you all sincerely. As you are all aware, this money does a lot of good for our Servicemen and Women and their families. My thanks also must go to the hard work put in by the 18 Poppy Collectors - well done all of you!

This will be my last 'Thank You' article as, for the 2019 Appeal, Mr Chris Beharrell has valiantly stepped in to take over from me. I am sure you will all wish him well as Poppy Appeal Organiser for our district.

*Mary Phillips, Poppy Appeal Organiser*



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**FRIDAY 1ST MARCH,  
6.00PM FOR SUPPER  
UPTON LOVELL  
VILLAGE HALL**

Service in the Church at 7.00pm

prepared by the women of Slovenia this year. We welcome everyone to our supper and service.

We also welcome help in preparing food and taking part in the service. Please contact Ali on 841192 or Sue on 850702.

# THE DIARY

## wylve valley



Saturday 18 - Monday 27 May 2019

### 10th WYLVE VALLEY ART TRAIL

Since being founded in 2001 by Nick Andrew, the biennial Wylve Valley Art Trail has established itself as the largest visual arts event in Wiltshire and has raised the cultural profile of this part of the county. Last year, there were 73 venues, scattered across some of the most beautiful countryside this county has to offer. A wide and eclectic patchwork of art and craft from over 300 participants was exhibited, ranging from award-winning artists with international reputations to others only just starting out on their creative paths.

We're looking for more Artists, Craftspeople and Groups to take part! Maybe those who are new to the area, just out of art college or who have been considering participating for a while. The art trail is open to any artist who lives, works or has a strong interest or connection with this area. So we would be grateful for your help in spreading this invitation. We are also searching for possible venues for exhibitions.

The Wylve Valley Art Trail is set in southwest Wiltshire, covering Warminster, Westbury, Wylve, Maiden Bradley, Mere, Hindon, Tisbury and villages between. Visit open studios and workplaces, galleries, exhibitions by art groups, student groups and other exciting events including 'hands on' activities, demonstrations, workshops and talks. A unique opportunity to see the high standard of visual arts and crafts currently being carried out in the area, across a wide range of skills, from painting to print-making, furniture making to photography

and sculpture to ceramics. It offers the chance to meet the artists and, in many cases, see where and how they work.

We would like to make it more inspiring, more memorable, and even more special! A vibrant festival of visual art excellence!

Full details can be found at [www.wvat.co.uk](http://www.wvat.co.uk).

For more information and images, please contact: Laura Rich (WVAT co-ordinator) : 07910 736563 / [info@wvat.co.uk](mailto:info@wvat.co.uk)  
Nick Andrew (WVAT founder / PR) : 07730 400784 / [na@nickandrew.co.uk](mailto:na@nickandrew.co.uk)

Heytesbury Church is hoping to be a venue once again, after its success in 2017, when over 800 people visited. If anyone is interested in using space in the church to exhibit, please contact either Ali Tebbs 01985 841192 or Sarah Buttenshaw at [s.buttenshaw@btinternet.com](mailto:s.buttenshaw@btinternet.com)

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### Wednesday 6 February 5.30 for 6.00 at The Angel Inn, Heytesbury WALKING THROUGH THE HOLY LAND

Illustrated talk by Katherine Venning  
about her  
walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Entrance free *but please give us a donation for Parish News.*

If you can come, email [venning.mk@hotmail.com](mailto:venning.mk@hotmail.com)  
so we know how many chairs to set up.

Dine in after the talk. Wednesday night is Steak Night at the Angel  
Free bottle of wine with two steaks (or glass of wine with one steak).

### PUB QUIZZES AT THE RED LION, HEYTESBURY

#### MUSICAL TODDLERS QUIZ NIGHT

THE RED LION, HEYTESBURY  
SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 7PM

#### Quiz Night in aid of the WYLVE VALLEY DISABLED CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Raising funds for the  
Annual Summer Riding Camp  
**Sunday 28 April 2019**  
The Red Lion, Heytesbury  
Starting 7:30pm Team Competition  
Donations of Raffle Prizes appreciated  
Quizmaster : Ron Dawson  
Booking essential - ring Sam or Kellie  
01985 840315

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## MINISTRY LETTER

“Granny, who is your best friend in Heytesbury?” That was an easy one to answer, but not everyone is as lucky as I am. Some people enjoy their own company, or that of their dog. But the other side of the coin is loneliness. None of us would choose to be lonely, but it happens. If national statistics are anything to go by, there must be a lot of lonely people here in our team. Anyone can be lonely, young people just as much as older people. And, if you live on your own, life can be especially lonely when things go wrong or you are not well. We don’t want to be a bother. We are such proud people, and we don’t want to be pitied.

You’d think that social media would be the answer. But not so. The more hours you spend on social media, the more depressed you are likely to be, according to my newspaper. Not just because of trolling and bullying, but simply by losing out on one simple luxury: friendship.

The big question is: what can we do to

help each other? There’s no magic answer, and it will be different for everyone. Tuesday Greenlight and Thursday Café in Codford are in the right place for some people; there’s Saturday morning for coffee at the Red Lion in Heytesbury or the Thursday night group for those who prefer beer; games of football and cricket to watch, dog walking, knit and knatter. All good ways of meeting people. But some people have lost the key to unlock their loneliness. The first step out of loneliness might depend on someone else. You, maybe. A cup of tea?

I was playing a riotous game of cards with my grandchildren, and it made me think about simple pleasures. Can we not create get-togethers, which don’t cost us anything, meeting in each other’s houses or in the local pub - dominoes, jigsaw puzzles, scrabble, monopoly, chess, snakes and ladders ...? In this internet age, it nice to know that there’s an old-fashioned board game cafe in Oxford

called Thirsty Meeples (with over 2,600 board games to choose from). You could start your own club: whatever you like doing best. Or, if you need some help, get in touch with the clergy or Lay Pastoral Assistants (listed in the back of Parish News). Or me. We’re here to help.

February is a short month, but it can feel very long if you are lonely.

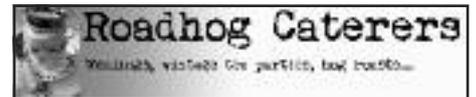
*Katherine Venning 840283*



### PRAYER GROUP

We meet weekly.

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



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## MESSY CHURCH



In January, Messy Church joined up with Plough Sunday plans for a Messy Plough Service and, at the time of

writing, it was still in planning. However, when you read this, we’ll have visited Manor Farm, watched the plough doing what ploughs do, checked out the machinery in the shed, visited the cattle, the sheep, also the ‘fowl’ - chickens, ducks, bantams and learned some more about them. There will have been a blessing of the plough, prayers, reflections about farming today, and some singing in-

cluding a lusty, “We plough the fields with tractors” to the well-known harvest tune. This will have been rounded off with a delicious Ploughman’s with cider for those who wish, or simply the British cuppa, and, of course, squash for our younger congregation.

On Sunday 17th February, we’ll be back in Codford Village Hall for our usual mixture of games, crafts, worship, food and fun. We meet at 4, and end by 6 having shared a hot meal. Our theme will be ‘Self-confidence’. If you’ve not been before or haven’t been for a while, why not come along and find out what happens and join in. More information on 850239 or [www.facebook.com/uwvtfamilies/](http://www.facebook.com/uwvtfamilies/). See you there?

## BOOK REVIEW

### THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ

by Heather Morris

Heather Morris was born in New Zealand and now lives and works in Melbourne, Australia. In 2003, she met Lale Sokolov, a meeting which she said changed both their lives. As their friendship grew, he entrusted her with the task of telling the world the innermost details of his life during the holocaust.

This book *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* is based on a true story behind one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust. That is, the blue numbers

tattooed on a prisoners’ arms. Whilst growing up, we had a lovely neighbour who had numbers tattooed on her arm, when I asked her what they were for she clammed up, but Heather Morris through her friendship with Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, has told the story of one of the men who was given that job of ‘Tatowierer’ in that terrible place, where he was literally forced to scratch victim’s arm in indelible ink.

There have been numerous books about the Holocaust, but nothing quite like this book. Sokolov understood what was in store for him and he was determined to survive and live his life

to the full. There are moments of bravery, hope and courage and a discerning reader might think, why on earth did he risk all to do what he did? I think the most incredible thing about this story is the fact is also a love story.

I have visited Auschwitz, a grim place, but something, which I was determined to do, with my students. I remember one of them saying, “It was a privilege to be able to enter that awful place, but an even greater privilege to be able to leave it behind.”

I have no doubt this book will make you weep, but it will also uplift you.

AN

# SPORT: ANGLING AND FOOTBALL

## ANGLING NOTES

I made three fishing trips in November, the first a trip to the Wylde produced only one small grayling and so I concentrated my efforts on the Itchen above Winchester. At this time of year, the light is critical on this very clear river if you are to see the grayling before they see you and I was fortunate to have some cloud cover on both days. There were not large numbers of grayling but there were some large ones which are very exciting to 'sight' fish for.

I fished a weighted fly, a shrimp imitation, very pink, and those fish, which I found before spooking them, seemed to

like it. In the two visits, I caught eight grayling which is not a great number, four were more than 1½ pounds with the largest almost 2 pounds, two more were between 1 and 1½ and the remaining two were about ¾ of a pound. This sounds like exciting fishing, but I would have been happier if there had been smaller fish to indicate a healthy population. All the weights are, of course, estimates as all fish were returned by pushing the barbless fly out with the rod tip. This means that the fish are never out of the water, are never handled and are certain to survive. There was a hatch of fly which peaked around mid day and, if I had fished a dry

fly, I may have actually caught more fish but I do not believe that I would have caught the larger fish. In the short days of winter, there is little time for experimentation and fly changing.

On the first of the two visits, the temperature dropped sharply at about 3pm and fishing was over for the day. On the second visit the light became very difficult in the afternoon and it became almost impossible to see fish before they saw me.

The green woodpeckers have stopped yaffling in the village, but I have been fortunate to see them in my garden on a number of occasions. I have left a number of apples on the lawn in the hope that they will attract fieldfares and perhaps redwings. There are lots of fieldfares in the fields and on The Plain but the good crops of fruit on the hawthorns seem to be keeping them well fed for the moment.

*Robin Mulholland*

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## HEYTESBURY TOP DIVISION 1

Heytesbury have continued their good start to the season, managing to stay at the top of division 1 over the Christmas break. There was a 4-1 win at Heytesbury Park against Trowbridge Town reserves and this was followed by a 5-0 win, in atrocious conditions, away at Calne Eagles.

The first game of the New Year was disappointing with Freshford United taking the points with a 6-0 win at the Park. January will be a difficult, but exciting month.

A Wiltshire Junior Cup quarter final, away at Alderbury, is followed by two more quarter finals from the Trowbridge and District League; one against Warminster United in the Knock Out Cup and then Holt in the A&B Cup.

The good support for us at Heytesbury Park continues, we are always pleased to see you enjoying the football.

*Martyn Spratt.*

Club contact details-  
Martyn Spratt 07790728197  
email [heytesburyfcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:heytesburyfcsecretary@gmail.com)

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## DOWN ON THE FARM

Second month of the year already, wow! Before we know it, the clocks will be springing forward, and we will be basking in the British summer, a rather poetical thought.

Unfortunately, before then we still have winter to contend with and, within the farming calendar, we are looking at cold and dark starts and finishes, frozen pipes, frozen water troughs, in extremes the parlour freezing and, of course, MUD everywhere! Fortunately for the cattle, they are tucked up in warm, dry barns with cosy beds and an endless supply of food. It can reach -6 before a cow will even notice a nip in the air.

The dairy, of course, runs as normal but for the arable aspect of the business, this is a relatively quiet period with some field preparation needed for crops to be planted in the future weeks. Personally, I think gauged by what one's farming compatriots are doing, as I witnessed with my husband, when one was seen ploughing on a recent trip out (that got the cogs turning I can tell you). Now is a good time to walk the fields and inspect the progress of the crops. Early development in the plants' life is crucial for analysing its rate of growth, quality and what steps will be needed next e.g. fertilizer, for a healthy, strong

and productive crop.

We couldn't help but notice, when walking the footpaths and fields, just how much the dog mess in the area has increased. Apart from being extremely unpleasant for other folk using the area, especially children, and being rather disrespectful to others, there is a more serious concern and that is to livestock. I'm not here to judge or police this matter (all dog owners at some time have casually ignored the actions of their pooch) and I take on board the attitude, 'it doesn't matter in the fields'. Although I stress that I do not agree with it because it can matter, due to the parasites Neospora and Sarcocystis found in some dog poo. The Neospora eggs from the poo lay in the grass and can develop into Neosporis infection. If a cow is infected, it can be the main cause of abortion, sadly causing distress to the cow, reduced milk production and, if severe enough, a premature life span for the cow - an unfair scenario for animal and owner.

For those of us who have several footpaths running through grazed ground, the problem is highlighted further and runs a much higher risk to our herd. Access through these fields is good so there is no excuse for owners not to be able to pick up the gifts left by their pooch. I'm sure

you would all protest if it were your garden, would you not?

I fully appreciate I am 'preaching to the converted', but it may give food for thought to some and if only one or two take heed of this information, it is a step in the right direction.

Any how, happy dog walking (if you have a dog) and, as we move into March, I will be taking a month off but look forward to updating you in April with news from 'down on the farm'.

Kit Pottow

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# TURBO'S TALES – THE DOG BLOG FOR THE NEW YEAR 2019

Christmas is over! Grown-ups mostly breathe a sigh of relief but for children and dogs the disappointment is palpable; the former because they face thank-you letters /emails /texts /Whatsapps /phone calls and back-to-school stuff and for us dogs because there are fewer titbits, snacks, leftovers and 'dropsies,' as normal times resume.

Our Christmas was 'doggy'. We were to stay a couple of days with my cousin, Baffle, and my brother, Dibba, up in the North - well, north to us Dorset and Wiltshire folk - and five other dogs. Arriving on Christmas Eve and departing on Boxing Day was the plan and, amazingly, our journeys went smoothly and without mishap. The only difference was that Baffle and Dibba came home with us, as their people had gone to the Alps. Rather than me; it's quite cold enough here in England for my liking and although I don't get to indulge in hot chocolate drinks mid-morning, a huge baguette at lunchtime and a giant fondue in the evening, I am content with my lamb and rice kibble and my bed by the radiator. I'm happy to leave all that stuff in the snow to the St Bernards, although the Guvnor is appalled to learn that they aren't allowed to carry little barrels of brandy any more.

Here is an extract from my Boxing Day diary: 'Dibba spent the journey from the North scowling at me. No-one cared, and especially not me, as I was safely curled up on her knee. Every now and again Dibba would whinge, 'Are we nearly there yet?' 'No, we bloomin' aren't,' I replied, 'and anyway, when we are there, we work to my rules; got it?' He furrowed

his brow.

I had plenty of thinking time on the way home so decided to turn my hand to a bit of poetry (or doggerel, as the Guvnor rather rudely called it - probably because he can't do it):

"Bah! Humbug", cried old Ebenezer, As he grumpily peered into his freezer; Nothing for him, that's why he's so thin; I had turkey and goose, roulade and plum puddin'.

But reality returns as the new year hits us; A distant memory, last year's Christmas. Some weeks of winter still left to manage, But snowdrops and daffodils hasten its passage.

Good luck to my genus - we four-footed soldiers And God bless our patrons, by that I mean owners. Now there lies a question for all to ponder, Who 'owns' whom? Them or me, I wonder!

## PLACES TO VISIT ...

without breaking the bank

or somewhere to take the outlaws over Christmas. (Check the website [imberchurch.org.uk](http://imberchurch.org.uk) for opening and access times)

The Christmas celebrations were over, the turkey well and truly devoured and we wanted somewhere to take the in-laws. By chance, we noticed that the church of St Giles at Imber was open. We decided this would be a suitable visit. This was not the time when you could take a double decker bus over the plain; this was an opportunity to drive across the plain. This is so different to the bus journey; it was cold, it was wet and it was muddy (big mistake to take a white car). The village was mainly destroyed in its use as a training ground and what you see now are modern building used for training the troops, but what is particularly noticeable is the church. Besides the displays about Imber, have a close look at the church itself.

I must take this opportunity to thank Neil Skelton who provided me with this fascinating insight into the fabric of the building.

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## THE CHURCH OF ST GILES, IMBER

The church occupies the site of an earlier building dating from the mid 12th Century. The nave was rebuilt towards the end of the 13th century. This was followed c.1400 by the addition of the north and south aisles, the tower and north porch. The old chancel was demolished in 1849 and rebuilt with the addition of a vestry for the Lord Bath, Lord of the manor and patron of the living of Imber. The medieval stone heads of a king and queen have been reset either side of the internal hoodmould of the vestry east window.

On the east side of the north door are the arms of Walter, First Lord Hungerford who died in 1459. He succeeded the de Rous family as Lord of the manor. The Rose of England is carved on the label stop on the west side. Some of the graffiti in the porch dates from the 17th Century.

The font now at Brixton Deverill church dates from the mid 12th Century. It stood just inside the door where the plinth remains.

On the nave arcades, the chequer-board pattern in red and white with a vine curling round the squares dates from the 13th Century. On the south side, and just

above the eastern-most pillar is a small figure, with eyes, formed by the linking of two of the symbols imitating marbling.

There are many paintings on the north aisle, and to the west of the door is a painting of Avarice from the seven deadly sins. On the east side of the door the painting shows the weighing of souls with a balance held by an angel. To the right the Virgin Mary adds the weight of her rosary to influence the good works of the soul being weighed. The Lord's Prayer dating from the 18th century partly over-paints this. The remaining fragments of wall painting cannot be easily deciphered. The table of bell ringing changes for the five bells of the north wall of the tower is very interesting. These are dated 1692 and are the only known example extant.

The 17th century box pews were removed in 1849, the squire's remained until 1895. In 1895, the musicians gallery was removed and a reed organ installed. The nave and church tower were restored in 1896. On completion of the restoration, the church was re-opened by John Wordsworth, Bishop of Salisbury.

The tower is unusual in that it has

five pinnacles. One of the merlons (battlements) was taken and used as a foundation stone for the garrison Church of St Giles in Warminster, opened in 1967. Formerly the tower contained a ring of five bells, one of which, the old third, cast in 1721 by Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester, is now in use at Edington priory. The remaining bells were sold for scrap. During August 2010 a light ring of six bells by various founders was installed utilising the old timber bell frame.

The two large 'crusader' tombs can be seen in the south aisle of Edington priory, as can the royal arms of Charles II, the medieval glass from the south aisle window and the altar from the south chapel. The wooden eagle lectern was returned to Imber Church in 2008 as were two of the original pews. Other furnishings and fittings were distributed among other churches, mainly in Wiltshire, however the majority of the pews went to St Bartholomew's, Churchdown, Gloucestershire. The fine 17th century pulpit is now in a church at Winterbourne Earls.

The altar in the chancel was given to the church during the 1970's and came from the chapel at Erlestoke Prison. The 19th Century altar and rails are now at Bratton. The fate of the 19th century patterned glass in the chancel east window is unknown. The names of those men from Imber, who served in the First World War, are inscribed on a brass plaque on the west wall of the north aisle. Originally, this was outside the village blacksmith's shop.

On the evacuation of Imber in 1943 and until 2002 the church building was maintained by the War Department and later the Ministry of Defence. Following the official declaration of redundancy, the building was vested in the CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST on 14th September 2005. The first of the five phases of repair was completed in January 2006. This included: repair of the tower masonry, recovering of the chancel and nave south roof slopes, overhaul of the rainwater goods and the initial conservation of the wall paintings. The second phase, completed in December 2006, saw the recovering of the nave north and porch roof slopes, improvements to the drainage and removal of the gypsum plaster from the internal wall surfaces. The windows were repaired in 2007. During the summer of 2008 the high level wall paintings were cleaned and conserved and the side aisle walls replastered. Further conservation of the wall paintings was completed during the summer of 2009.

*Neil Skelton*



# VILLAGE NEWS

## CODFORD

Though writing on 4th January, already this month there has been play on court ... despite there being ice still on the grass! The recently deep-cleaned courts were completely free of anything slippery and everyone enjoyed their games. Yes, Codford Tennis Club members play throughout the year, weather permitting. Our subscription year runs from April, but for a notional amount, new members are welcomed at any time of year. Membership fees are £30 for single membership and £50 for a family. For a membership form, drop an email to Philip, our secretary spicerpg@gmail.com.

Maybe you would like to find out a bit more about us. If so, do call Chair, Vincie on 850239. Or meet us in a different way - one of our popular socials is really soon.

Saturday 23rd February is the next Tennis Club Curry and Quiz night at the Village Hall in Codford. Form a Team of up to 6, or come alone, and we'll put you together with others. Our curries are legendary, as is our Quizmaster, Martin. The bar will be open, and there'll be the usual raffle. Tickets, £10, will be available from Budgens, Broadleaze Bar and from committee members at the

beginning of the month.

We look forward to seeing many for a fun evening. All are welcome.

## SHERRINGTON

When days are grey and chill remember the shortest day is behind us and slowly, surely, days are getting longer. Snowdrops will show their first pale spears and the delicate nodding bells will follow. There are days like today when the sun is bright, stronger and incredibly the hazels are bright with catkins. On the Heytesbury bypass the bank is alight with dancing yellow tassels and on the river path to Codford silver slivers of promise show on the pussy willow.

Hollies in the garden are still laden with berries, a sign that food out in the fields and hedgerows is still plentiful and birds are not driven into gardens. So far, no Beast from the East, thank goodness. However, February is always a hungry month; our bird feeder is swinging with visitors; today a few goldfinches, a nuthatch, several house sparrows, a pair of hedge sparrows and a motley collection of tits. All are welcome and an endless source of interest.

Locking the church in the afternoon, I enjoy the sight of egrets coming in

to roost, upwards of a dozen this afternoon. It seems to me that in 2018 Sherrington blossomed. New families were welcomed (and family members too, Rosie arrived at Carters Cottage). Perhaps the day spent clearing the major cress bed had something to do with it. The majority of the village gathered to enjoy a mud bath, both adults and children worked incredibly hard and the job was done in no time at all. Charlie and Rosie gave the workforce and supporters a great barbeque and it was such a chance to greet new families.

This happened again in December with the singing of carols around the village, again the Thomas Family did the honours and, finally, came the Carol Service in the little church. It is always so good when newcomers step up to read the Christmas Story and we sing and smile.

BL

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# VILLAGE NEWS

## FRIENDS OF SUTTON VENY CHURCH

For 150 years now we have had a wonderful building in the middle of our village. As the gathering place for weddings, baptisms and funerals, not only has it often played a key part in the major events in villagers' lives, but it also has an interesting place in the history of church architecture. The churchyard is the resting place of some 140 Australian and New Zealand troops who lost their lives in the 1st World War.

It is so important to keep the fabric of both the building and the churchyard well maintained and up to date with the needs of the 21st century, so plans are being implemented to form a charity to raise funds to cover the costs that will inevitably arise in the future.

We hope that the network of Friends for our church will extend far and wide. As well as present and past villagers and our Australian ANZAC connections, one of the strands that will be pursued are the linkages created by the church's famous architect, John Loughborough Pearson. Fourteen years after he designed our church, Pearson went on, in 1880, to use the same Gothic revival style for Truro cathedral, which took some 30 years to build.

As we began setting up this Friends Group in the run up to Christmas 2018, we noted that another incidental coincidence with Truro was that in 1880 the then Bishop of Truro drew up the order of the traditional service of 9 lessons and carols.

It was originally known as the Truro service until it was adapted in 1918 for use in the Chapel of Kings College Cambridge and has been broadcast by the BBC every year since 1928.

George Brooks has been asked to set up this charity and we would very much like all our friends far and wide, and everyone in the village, to be involved. We will need both ideas and help with the fund raising and we hope we can all have a lot of fun and enjoyment in doing so. Do please contact George with any ideas and thoughts for raising these funds and we will keep you up-to-date with our plans and progress through the Parish News. Email georgebrooks@hotmail.co.uk (don't miss out the 'r') or telephone 01985 840671.

## SOME THINGS REALLY ARE WORTH



WAITING FOR.....

The Footscray-Yarraville City Band were scheduled to perform a short ceremony and concert in Sutton Veny at 10:30am on Monday 12th November as part of the WW1 commemorations. (It seems a lifetime away now but still worthy of a report). Come 10:30am, we had a large, eager and expectant audience but no band. Rising panic, frantic phone calls

and by about 11.15am, many of our audience started to drift away. We were about to give up and devour the assembled sandwiches, when they arrived, delayed by heavy traffic, feeling a tad embarrassed and apologetic.

And then they started to play, just four members of the band, starting with "Abide with Me". At that moment I nearly choked, what a beautiful sound. This was no "oom pah pah", just amazing music. We were treated to a lovely short concert followed by a ceremony by the Commonwealth War Graves.

A magical, a very special event, long to stay in the memory. Thank you to the band for making that journey in their crowded schedule, thank you to Brian Long and all the helpers that made this event happen. Finally, apologies to all that could not stay.

PH

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## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

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

**Anne Rucker**

on 29th November

at Tytherington

*May she 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.*

*The clergy will officiate at any crematorium service.*

# UPPER WYLYE VALLEY TEAM

## CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

3rd Candlemas	Tytherington Codford St Mary Corton, Fane Hall Heytesbury Upton Lovell Tytherington	8.30am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Café church, breakfast from 9.30am Parish Communion Morning Prayer on Sunday Taizé		
10th 4th Sunday before Lent	Boyton Sutton Veny Codford St Peter Codford St Mary Knook Upton Lovell	8.30am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Sunday Celebration Parish Communion Parish Communion Evensong (BCP)		Choir
17th 3rd Sunday before Lent	Heytesbury (St John's) Codford St Peter Norton Bavant Sutton Veny Upton Lovell Codford Village Hall Codford St Mary	8.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Parish Communion Matins Parish Communion Messy Church Pimms & Hymns		Choir
24th 2nd Sunday before Lent	Sutton Veny Codford St Peter Heytesbury Boyton Heytesbury	8.30am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Sunday Worship Matins Evensong		Choir

### 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	Heytesbury	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

### HOUSE GROUPS

<b>Mondays</b>	6.00 - 7.30 in Codford. Contact Clifford Stride 850941
<b>Wednesday</b>	Please note that for the foreseeable future, the Wednesday House Group will meet in Church House, Heytesbury (840522) fortnightly.

### HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN, HEYTESBURY CHAPEL SERVICES

Sundays	10.30am Eucharist with hymns
Wednesdays	10.00am Holy Communion(1662)

### CHAPLAINS

The Revd Russell Chamberlain	01373 824020
The Revd David Walters	01980 620038

Visitors are welcome to our services.

### ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 31 Boreham Road, Warminster BA12 9JP

#### MASSES

Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	8.00am and 10am

### PARISH PRIEST Fr Martin Queenan

#### ATTACHED PRIESTS

Fr Raymond Hayne	Fr Malcolm Ferrier
01985 212329	

Enquiries to [upperwylyevalleyteam@gmail.com](mailto:upperwylyevalleyteam@gmail.com)  
(emails will be checked twice a day during the vacancy)

### MINISTRY TEAM

#### Team Vicar

**The Revd Clifford Stride** (days off Mon and Friday)  
cgstride@btinternet.com 850941

Ordained Ministers with Permission to Officiate

**The Revd Diana Hammond** 841185  
roger213hammond@btinternet.com

**The Revd Jane Shaw** 850141  
shawjane2005@gmail.com

**The Revd Jayne Buckles** 851176  
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**The Revd Robin Hungerford** 840522  
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**The Revd Anne Bennett-Shaw** 840339  
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Licensed Lay Minister

**Katherine Venning LLM** 840283  
venning.mk@hotmail.com

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Evelyn Read 850831

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*Norton Bavant* www.nortonbavant.co.uk

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