

THE LINK

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE
SEVEN PARISHES IN THE SOUTH
WARWICKSHIRE 7 BENEFICE

November 2021

£1



■ BARCHESTON with WILLINGTON ■ BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH
■ BURMINGTON ■ CHERINGTON with STOURTON ■ LONG COMPTON
■ WHICHFORD and ASCOTT ■ THE WOLFORDS

EVENTS DIARY

Contact: The Editor
Email: editor@swlink.org.uk

Events Update

November (VH = Village Hall; Ch = Church)

| | | | |
|-------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Wed | 03 | Wolfords WI, VH | 19.30 |
| Fri | 05 | Deadline for Link to Hope, Shoebox appeal | |
| Sat | 06 | Coffee Shop at The Hall, Cherington | 10.30 |
| Sat | 06 | Takeaway Fish and Chips, o/s Great Wolford Church | 18.00 |
| Sat | 06 | Deadline for Cherington Christmas Card Amnesty | |
| Sun | 07 | Organ Recital, Barcheston Church | 15.30 |
| Tue | 09 | Long Compton & District Walkers, meet in Red Lion car park | 09.30 |
| Tue | 09 | AGM Cherington Country Fair and Flower Show, The Hall | 19.00 |
| Tue | 09 | Long Compton Bridge Club, VH | 19.30 |
| Wed | 10 | Compton District History Society, Long Compton VH | 19.30 |
| Sat | 13 | Whichford Christmas Gift Fair, The Old Rectory | 10.00 |
| Sat | 13 | Social Saturday, Long Compton Village Hall | 11.00 |
| Sun | 14 | Act of Remembrance, Long Compton Ch | 10.50 |
| Sun | 14 | Christmas Gift Fair, Townsend Hall, Shipston | |
| Mon | 15 | Library Van at The Hall, Cherington | 13.40 |
| Wed | 17 | Comptonians, Christmas Lunch, Long Compton VH | 12.30 |
| Thurs | 18 | Craft Market, Long Compton Congregational Chapel | 18.00 |
| Fri | 19 | 8 Artists in the Barn, Jacques Barn, Stourton (runs to 21 November) | 11.00 |
| Sat | 20 | Brailes Picturehouse, <i>Misbehaviour</i> | |
| Tue | 12 | Long Compton Bridge Club, VH | 14.30 |
| Wed | 24 | Long Compton and District Garden Club, Gardeners' Question Time, VH | 19.30 |
| Wed | 24 | Shipston and District Literary Society, Newbold Village Hall | 19.30 |
| Thurs | 25 | CAMEO SW7 Coffee morning, Burmington VH | 10.30 |
| Sat | 27 | Full English Breakfast, Burmington VH | 10.00 |
| Sat | 27 | Extra Market in Moreton for Christmas light switch on, WI Hall, Moreton | 13.30 |



LINK cover: *Long Compton from the Air*
Photograph by LINK reader Ian Piper. Please contact Ian at <http://ianpiper.co.uk/> for further details. The full photograph can be seen on page 36.

Cover design by KMS Litho, Hook Norton.

The LINK welcomes contributions for the front cover or elsewhere. Portrait orientation photographs or artwork preferred. Please send items to editor@swlink.org.uk

LINK cover and artwork produced by KMS Litho, Hook Norton. If you would like to sponsor the front page, please contact editor@swlink.org.uk

THE LINK TEAM

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Editor | Keith Murphy | editor@swlink.org.uk |
| Treasurer | Martin McKenna | treasurer@swlink.org.uk |
| Advertising Manager | Keith Murphy | advert@swlink.org.uk |
| Distribution Manager | Alan Holmes | distribution@swlink.org.uk |
| Chairman | Keith Murphy | chairman@swlink.org.uk |
| Company Secretary | Martin McKenna | secretary@swlink.org.uk |
| Online Manager | Keith Murphy | online@swlink.org.uk |

Village Editors

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Barcheston & Willington | | barcheston@swlink.org.uk |
| Barton-on-the-Heath | John Castle | barton@swlink.org.uk |
| Burmington | Graham French | burmington@swlink.org.uk |
| Cherington & Stourton | Christine Dudfield | cherington@swlink.org.uk |
| Long Compton | Sally Franklin | longcompton@swlink.org.uk |
| Whichford & Ascott | Melanie Arnold | whichford@swlink.org.uk |
| Great Wolford | Lynn Mathias | greatwolford@swlink.org.uk |
| Little Wolford | | littlewolford@swlink.org.uk |

Feature Editors

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Church News | Liz Clarke | officesw7@gmail.com |
| Nature Notes | Tony Partridge | editor@swlink.org.uk |
| Gardening Notes | Margaret Welsh, Miranda Arnold | editor@swlink.org.uk |
| Farming Notes | Lynn Mathias | farming@swlink.org.uk |

Village Distributors

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Barcheston & Willington | Maki Sutton | 661539 |
| Barton-on-the-Heath | Helen Seymour -Smith | 674153 |
| Burmington | Julia Anne Sykes | 07497 088 882 |
| Cherington & Stourton | Ebe McLeod | 686278 |
| Long Compton | Jean Taylor | 684806 |
| Whichford & Ascott | Carol Moore | 684961 |
| Great Wolford | Sue Rew | 674380 |
| Little Wolford | Colin & Gill Ablewhite | 684962 |

Please note the copy deadline for December 2021:

Monday 15 November

THE LINK is published by South Warwickshire LINK Ltd, a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (reg. no. 07234681), and printed by KMS Litho Ltd, Hook Norton.

The opinions expressed in The LINK are not necessarily those of the Editor or any member of the Link team. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy of information printed, the Editor/team do not accept any responsibility for the consequences of any errors that may occur.

The LINK does not endorse any products, services or companies. The appearance of advertisements in this magazine is not a guarantee of those products/services or the companies that manufacture, distribute or promote such products/services.

All information held by The LINK is strictly confidential and is held purely for administration purposes and not sold or offered to third parties.

All subscription monies paid to The LINK are non-refundable in the event that the South Warwickshire LINK Ltd. ceases to operate.

EDITORIAL

Link Talk

During November, I will be emailing those LINK subscribers (around 50%), who have registered to pay their subscriptions by BACS (internet banking) and inviting payment of the unchanged £10 annual subscription. I hope I can be forgiven for requesting your subscription payments a little earlier than usual and asking if we can have your online BACS payment by 31 December.

This will enable us to clear all the BACS payments before we start collecting cash via our distributors in January and February as usual. This two-stage collection is really necessary as we do not have numbers of people to administer this process. It would be a considerable help to us if we can spread and separate these tasks. Knowing where we are with the online payments before the cash starts to be collected would be enormously helpful.

The email I'll be sending will also give you details of the 'Online Only' subscription of £5 that is available for 2022 and will remind you of your unique reference number and our bank account details. If you don't already pay using BACS internet transfer and you would like to, please email me and I can add you to the list and assign you your unique reference number.

Please be assured, we are all fully committed to the continued production of a printed LINK magazine. We are just aware that there are a small, but growing number of readers who are happy to forego their paper copy and read the magazine on their computer, tablet, phone etc., and we'd like to encourage this trend by offering a reduced subscription.

If any reader is able to help me with the Advertising, or wishes to learn how to edit The LINK, please do get in touch. It's important that we as a community have a number of people who can put this magazine together.

Keith Murphy, editor@swlink.org.uk

Cameo Lunch Club

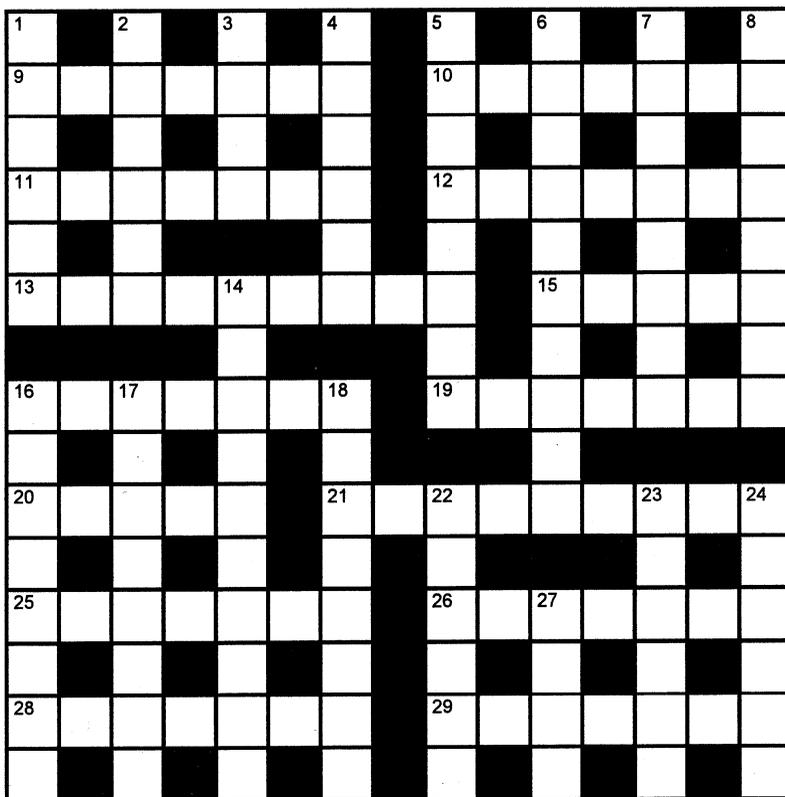
Our next meeting is Tuesday 9 November. Don't forget the club meets on the second Tuesday of every month in Burmington village hall at 12 noon for 12.30 pm. Come and join us. All are welcome. We are renowned for our welcome, our food, our raffle and our chatter.

Please book with Brenda Fitch on Tel: 664313

Our Club has joined forces with the Burmington and Willington Village Hall Committee in arranging monthly coffee mornings to take place on the fourth Thursday of each month starting on Thursday 25 November. Please come and join us. All SW7 villagers and friends are welcome.

The first of these SW7 coffee mornings is on Thursday 25 November in the hall at 10.30 am. Please book with Robyn on 07966 849149

The LINK Crossword



Across

- 9** Cephalopod will take a month to work out. (7)
10 Geographically speaking read between the lines. (7)
11 Fluctuating rat in the rice. (7)
12 Nattier compound of the compound. (7)
13 Two of them in the Bible. (9)
15 The Chairman gave instructions in the South Pacific. (5)
16 Ferment the dictionaries. (7)
19 29th of May to the 4th of June 1940 is a significant date in British history. (7)
20 Give me a go last of all. (5)
21 Fix a date for safety in the largest State. (9)
25 River nymphs die with NASA. (7)
26 A colourful refraction. (7)
28 Building a refuge, usually on high. (7)
29 Going West the salesman in Rome became Head Man! (7)

Down

- 1 & 16 down** The poet who knew the thrush repeated his song. (6)
2 Commences. (6)
3 Lady Macbeth thought it damned. (4)
4 The soul of tipsy Cheerkees. (6)
5 Many 2 downs from here. (8)
6 Last word in wine to cause a slide. (10)
7 Pasta eaten from the Baltic to Northern Ireland. (8)
8 Stir sake to make a mark. (8)
14 A "Great" city. (10)
16 See 1 Down. (8)
17 Strangely its a glee not heard from this writer. (8)
18 Ram, Bull etc. (4-4)
22 Rung at Campden at 8 pm every night up to 1939. (6)
23 Watch-chain of Princely origin. (6)
24 23 down, his eldest son. (6)
27 Zulu warriors. (4)

Compiled for us by our friend Campden John

vasa

Changing Lives by Connecting People

Volunteer drivers make a difference nearly 100 times a day. You could be part of that difference.

If you say yes to these 3 questions, we want to hear from you:

- Do you have time in your day you'd like to fill?
- Do you have a car and like driving?
- Do you like helping people?



transport@vasa.org.uk

01789 262889

www.vasa.org.uk

Shipston and District Literary Society

2021 – 2022 PROGRAMME

2021

| | | Subject |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24th November | James Sorel-Cameron | Did Bob Dylan deserve to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature? |
| | <i>15th December</i> | <i>Christmas Luncheon</i> |

2022

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26th January | Richard Blair | The Life of my father, George Orwell |
| 23rd February | John Burton | George Eliot |
| 30th March | David Howe | Remembering Frank Muir & Dennis Norden – two writers of comedy |
| 27th April | Michael Bell | The Periodic Table by Primo Levi |

May/June

Date to be advised

Annual Outing

29th June

Cheese & Wine Party

31st August

2021/2022 Annual General Meeting & Lunch

Meetings are held at Newbold Village Hall, 7.30pm. Visitors welcome £5 ea.

For further information ring Helen Marshall 01789-740773

THE TOWNSEND HALL

The Townsend Hall in Shipston is back for both events and club bookings. A big thank you to the Shipston Rugby Club for booking their dinner recently with us, with guest rugby union referee, Nigel Owens - a great example of things that are possible to put on at the hall given the comprehensive facilities it has to offer.

Check out our diary on the website – slots still available if you'd like to make a booking for your event / club. The hall is a charity and help on funding is always welcome – check out our '150 club'. Winners in the October draw are:

£15 - no. 65, £10 - no. 54, £5 - no. 101

On Sunday 14 November, we have a Christmas gift fair booked into the hall and some of our trustees will be attending – look us up for a chat! Visit us at www.townsendhall.co.uk to find out more.

INFO LINK

Contact: The Editor
Email: editor@swlink.org.uk

The Post Office van is in the car park by the village shop in Long Compton from 9.30 - 11.30 am Monday and Wednesday, and from 12.30 to 2.00 pm Tuesday and Thursday.

Shipston 'tip' is open - to book <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recyclingshipston>

DATES AND FETES

Please send us the dates of all your significant social events. We are continuing this listing even though events may be restricted. Please check this list before you plan a new event.

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 13 Nov | Whichford Christmas Gift Fair. 10.00 am – 1.30 pm, The Old Rectory |
| Dec 10/11/12 | Friends of Long Compton Church - Christmas Tree Festival |
| Sun 19 Dec | Christmas Service, The Chapel, Long Compton |

Local Catholic Church Service

Chipping Norton, Masses: Contact the parish priest for mass times – 01608 642703

Stow-on-the-Wold, Our Lady and St Kenelm, 5 Back Walls, Sunday 9.00 a.m. and Our Lady Help of Christians, Station Road, Bourton-on-the-Water Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m. Tel: 01608 674354

Brailes/Shipston/Kineton Masses: Contact the parish priest for mass times - 01608 685259

Chipping Campden, St Catharine's Lower High Street, Sunday masses: – Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m. Sunday 10.30 a.m. Tel: 01386 840261 (All socially distanced.)

Local Quaker Meetings

Local Quaker Meetings for worship:

Broad Campden, Quaker Meeting Hse, GL55 6US - Sundays at 10.30 am

Ettington, Quaker Meeting Hse, Old Halford Rd, CV37 7TH - Sundays at 11 am

Sibford, Quaker Meeting Hse, Sibford Gower, OX15 5RX - Sundays at 10.30 am

Shipston on Stour, in St Edmund's Church - last Thursdays (not Dec) at 2.30 pm

Local Congregational Services

Please email editor@swlink.org.uk with any service details etc.

PARISH PEOPLE

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

Barcheston St Martin

Churchwardens David Hodges 664310
 Secretary Nick Jackson 01926 640658
 Treasurer David Cleave 666002

Burmington St Barnabas & St Nicholas

Churchwardens Sonia Baker 661459
 Michael Macdonald 662483
 Secretary Sonia Baker 661459
 Treasurer Stuart Walsh, 07870 154425

Long Compton St Peter and St Paul

Churchwardens Jill Kirby 684923
 Secretary Zoë Wrigley 650404
 Treasurer Walter Sawyer 684755

Wolford St Michael & All Angels

Churchwarden John Wrench 674389
 Treasurer Ann McKenna 674009

Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence

Churchwardens Hamish Cathie 674303
 Secretary Gillian Cathie 674303
 Treasurer Mandy McPherson 674734

Cherington St John the Baptist

Churchwarden Roger Maycock 686404
 Secretary Paul Levitch 686353
 Treasurer Rory McLeod 686278

Whichford St Michael

Churchwardens Mandy James 684479
 Sophia Corlett
 Secretary Lucy Simpson
 Treasurer Andy Chapman 684652

Parish Councils

Barcheston
 Barton-on-the-Heath
 Burmington
 Cherington
 Long Compton
 Whichford

Chair

David Sutton
 James Coker (674601)
 Robert Hutchings (661496)
 Philip Townsend (686529)
 Simon Bing (684827)
 Peter O'Kane (684888)

Clerk

Ann Batchelor (661527)
 Julia Gotrel
 Sara Cole (686250)
 Sam Weller (698870)
 Sara Cole (686250)
 clerk.whichfordandascott@hotmail.co.uk
 Sue Finlay (661157)

Great Wolford Lynn Mathias (674247)
 Little Wolford Parish Meeting Helen Bostock (chairman@littlewolford.org.uk)

If you wish to update information on this page, please email the Editor: editor@swlink.org.uk



*Happy
Birthday!*

November Birthdays



| | | | |
|------|------------------------|--------------|----|
| 3rd | Claire Fifer-Flaherty | Long Compton | 10 |
| 5th | Ellen Blake | Cherington | 17 |
| 5th | Matthew Clarke | Burmington | 10 |
| 8th | James Allen | Long Compton | 15 |
| 9th | Esme Willow McCutcheon | Cherington | 10 |
| 10th | Helena West | | 18 |
| 12th | Sebastian Matthews | Whichford | 6 |
| 14th | Emilie Ada Lamb | Long Compton | 14 |
| 20th | Leah Dudfield | Stourton | 8 |
| 21st | Harvey Joshua Streets | Whichford | 13 |
| 27th | Olivia Flaherty | Long Compton | 17 |

If you wish to add, delete or edit birthday details published – email editor@swlink.org.uk

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE CHURCHES – SW 7 - Seven Parishes ~ One Church

| November 2021 CHURCH SERVICES | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SW 7 Sunday Worship | St Martin Barcheston | St Lawrence Barton | St Barnabas & St Nicholas Burrington | St John the Baptist Cherington | St Peter & St Paul Long Compton | St Michael Whichford | St Michael & All Angels Wolford |
| 31 st October All Saints Day | | | | | 4pm GAP Service (BD) | 9am BCP Morning Prayer (BD) | 10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD) |
| 7 th November 3 rd before Advent | 10:30am CW Harvest Festival (BD) | | 9am BCP Holy Communion (BD) | | 4pm GAP Service (BD) | | |
| 14 th November Remembrance Sunday | | | 10:50am Short Act of Remembrance in the Churchyard (CLW) | 10:50am Short Act of Remembrance at Village War Memorial (BD) | 10:50am Short Act of Remembrance at War Memorial (RS) | 9am Short Act of Remembrance at Village War Memorial (BD) | 10:50am Short Act of Remembrance in the Churchyard (AD) |
| 21 st November 1 st before advent | | 9am BCP Holy Communion (BD) | | 10:30 CW Morning Prayer (BD) | 4pm GAP Service (BD) | | |
| 28 th November 1 st of advent | | | | | 9am BCP Morning Prayer (BD) | 10:30 CW Holy Communion (BD) | |

BD = Ben Dyson/LM = Liz Maycock/AW = Anthony Wells/CLW = Claire Wells/HP = Heather Parbury/AD = Andrew Dowll/RS = Richard Smith
BCP = Prayer Book/CW = Common Worship/GAP = Informal Service



South Warwickshire Seven Benefice

Reverend Ben Dyson - Tel: 01608 685752 - pioneersw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)
Benefice Administrator: Mrs Liz Clarke Tel: 07425 868855 Email: officesw7@gmail.com
www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk facebook.com/sw7 churches



SW7 BENEFICE CHURCH NEWS

Dear Friends,

Coping with the Storms of Life

One of three professors of climate modelling awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics this year was interviewed on the Radio 4 Today programme on the morning just after the announcement. After clarifying their advances in weather forecasting, he humbly said that though we can now anticipate trends in climate change 'we cannot accurately forecast weather two weeks in advance!' This was indeed suggesting that we have to accept the unpredictability of imminent storms.

Life is full of storms and they come in many guises, sometimes creeping up on us but often sudden and unexpected: a flood or fire, financial insolvency, an illness, accident or a breakdown of a close relationship and most devastating for everyone, from war, conflicts and international terrorism. We have all been deeply shocked by the death of Sir David Amess, a devoted family man, Christian and Member of Parliament. It is an honour that this month we remember all who have suffered and died in sacrifice for us in two world wars and subsequent conflicts.

In view of the need of all of us to try and cope with the 'storms of life' let us look at what God offers us in the face of suffering through the lens of the Bible.

Firstly, God's desire to sustain us through life's difficulties is clearly reflected in the names given to Him in the Old and New Testaments. Descriptions like, 'He is our refuge', 'He is our rock' and 'He is our fortress' all amplify the solidity of God's relationship with His people.

Also, titles like 'Our Father, 'The Lord is my shepherd' and 'the God who provides' magnify the God who cares, guides and acts when the storms come.

Secondly, the Bible gives us stories of those who endure suffering through faith in God's sovereignty. The whole book of Job is a gripping narrative of such endurance when God allows Job to be tested by the evil one. Job's life had been filled with success and then suddenly he lost everything. Thankfully Job's life was built on God whom he trusted. The story comes to a climax when out of a mighty storm God spoke to Job as Creator God, the architect of all the detail of the universe. Confronted with the great power and majesty of God, Job fell in humble reverence before Him as Sovereign – speechless. The drama ends with Job restored to happiness and wealth.

Another big question is how do we respond to life's storms that are coming through the ill treatment of our planet? Scripture clearly gives us valuable guidance from the Creation narrative from the book of Genesis. We are to be good stewards of God's creation. Significantly this same word was used by one of the environmentalists

interviewed during the *Earthshot Prize* programme on climate change. After the seven stages of creation and the forming of humankind, God blessed them and said: (I quote from The Message translation) *Be responsible for the fish in the sea and the birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of the Earth.* Genesis 1: 28

Clare Wells

Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal

Just a reminder that it's not too late to deliver your complete boxes to me. The deadline is 5 November.

You can find full details on the leaflets in all SW7 churches. If you would prefer to give a cash donation, please contact me.

Sue Bradley - 11 Clark Close, Shipston on Stour. 01608 661635



South Warwickshire Seven Benefice



Reverend Ben Dyson - Tel: 01608 685752 - pioneersw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)

Benefice Administrator: Mrs Liz Clarke Tel: 07425 868855 Email: officesw7@gmail.com

www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk facebook.com/sw7churches

FARMING NOTES

Editor: Lynn Mathias

Email: farming@swlink.org.uk

Restoration of an old wagon

When we first came to Manor Farm more than forty years ago, we were faced with a lot of outbuildings in need of some attention. Over the years we repaired and re-roofed them all but there was one small building on the drive that was too far gone. One wall had collapsed with the roof, the other wall was in a better state, all that was holding the roof up was an old traditional wagon.

When we got around to it, we demolished the building leaving the wagon. The side next to the better wall was not too bad but there was little left of the side exposed to the elements. Rather than traditional wagon wheels, it had rubber tyres that were completely perished. With some difficulty, we managed to move it under cover and treated the rampant wood worm, hoping to be able to restore it at some point in the future.

The wagon had been built by Arthur Lainchbury and Sons who had a factory in Kingham. In the forties and fifties they were well-known agricultural engineers specialising in augers, elevators and other grain moving equipment. We think our wagon dates from the early forties, the same design as a wagon drawn by horses, but we think our wagon always had a metal draw bar so that it could be pulled by a tractor, which were just coming in at that time.

A few years ago we asked Charlie Brittain-Jones, a friend with an interest in old military vehicles, if he could source some tyres to replace the original ones so that we could move the wagon more easily, he was not able to find the correct tyres so we eventually settled for four WW1 wheels from an army vehicle which we could make fit. This was a big step forward as we could now move the wagon much more easily should we ever need to.



A couple of years ago our son Peter thought he had found some suitable tyres in East Anglia that would fit the original wheels, this spurred us on to getting the original wheels sandblasted and powder coated, and they now have some proper tyres. We also asked our woodworking tenants, *Mornington Day*, if they could see their way to restoring the wagon if they had some slack time. Having worked all through Covid, they have now had some down time, which means they have been able to get on with the restoration.

Roland and his staff with their normal attention to detail, have stripped everything back to the frame and replaced anything that needed replacing. He has used ash for the



Stripped back to the frame



The wagon almost completed

sides rather than the original elm, and a continental wood for the base which should be longer lasting than the original.

They have checked the paint colours with some experts, and it is now a very bright yellow with red frame which we think is how it probably looked when new. In the spring we will get a signwriter to copy the additional design work on the sides. Chris is also intending to have a small plaque in memory of his grandfather, Harry Hawes, the original owner and of his father who would have known the wagon when it was in use.

When all the painting has been completed, we will swap the WW1 wheels for the originals which are safe in the barn. The wagon is nearly how it looked when new and it is very satisfying to have finally got it restored. Roland's staff, who are normally fine cabinet makers to royalty (both pop and real), oligarchs and a few locals really enjoyed the challenge of this rather different project.

Lynn Mathias farms at Manor Farm in Great Wolford

GARDENING NOTES

Editors:

Margaret Welsh, Long Compton Garden Club

Miranda Arnold, Whichford Amateur Gardener

November can be a rather drear gardening month with damp, chilly weather and shortening days in which to complete tasks. There is, however, satisfaction to be gained in cutting back unsightly vegetation which is dying back and revealing the bare bones and structure of the garden.

Now is a good time to add trees or roses as they are available as bare root plants which are cheaper than pot grown plants. Native hedge whips are also good value, and they establish well. Roses are greedy plants, and a generous sized planting hole should have a good supply of well-rotted manure or garden compost as well as mycorrhizal fungi to help them get established. If any roses in your garden have black spot, gather up their leaves and bin them. Rambling roses should be prepared for winter. Prune out one third of the old stems and tie in the new pliable stems horizontally to replace them.

For established trees, check their ties which may need loosening and see if the stakes are secure so that they can withstand any winter gales. At the same time, look for any dead branches or signs of disease such as coral spot or apple or pear canker. If present, prune out the branch and dispose of it. Remember to sterilise your secateurs before tackling another plant. For newly planted trees, weed round their bases and water if there is a dry spell.

Hard wood cuttings can be taken now from trees, shrubs or fruit bushes such as gooseberries and currants. The cuttings should be pencil thick and 6 - 12 inches long. Insert them by at least a third into well drained compost. Similarly, root cuttings of plants such as Acanthus, oriental poppy or phlox can also be taken. They should be approximately 2 inches in length, with a horizontal cut at the top and a sloping cut at the base (to help you place them the right way up). The horizontal surface should be just below the compost. Then add grit.

Wait until the temperature drops before planting tulips. They are prone to the fungal disease tulip blight or tulip fire which is more likely to flourish in warm conditions. Plant them in a sunny spot to a depth of about 3 times their height. If your soil is heavy, dig in grit and lay the corms on a layer of grit to stop the base plate sitting in water. If they are to remain in place next season, ensure that the sun can reach to bake the corm. Planting with wall flowers and forget-me-nots is a good combination as these are usually lifted at the end of spring. You can continue planting tulips until Christmas provided the soil is not frozen.

In milder weather, the lawns will continue to grow so continue to cut the grass with the mower on a high setting. The added benefit of mowing is that fallen tree leaves are also taken up. When you stop cutting the lawn, rake up the leaves and store to provide leaf mould.

Other jobs for November include protecting vulnerable plants from frost and alpiners from rain. Raise pots onto 'feet' to help with drainage. Check that netting is secure on brassicas to protect them from pigeons and regularly check stored fruit and remove anything which shows signs of rot.

Margaret Welsh

Paws, Claws and Whiskers

Paws, Claws and Whiskers has gotten off to a roaring start! Class 1 at Acorns kicked off their topic by reading Rachel Bright's book, *The Lion Inside*. The children quickly realised that they had read other books by the same author. They discovered that she uses rhyming lines in lots of her books. Selected scenes were chosen and pupils headed outside to act out how the characters were feeling and to show empathy. Class 1 were brilliant at using their body language and facial expression to portray feelings.



Following this, the class has listened to, read and shared a lot of *Just So Stories* like *How the Zebra got his Stripes* and *How the Camel got his Hump*. They found out that there are so many other versions, lots of which the class has enjoyed. A class favourite may have been when the zebra was caught sleeping at a party and was forced to wear his black and white striped pyjamas for ever more as punishment! This motivated the children to create their own *Just So* stories which were carefully planned, written, edited and read aloud to share with parents on the Seesaw app.

In art, Class 1 have explored the shape of different animals and mimicked these using pencil. They have also explored the features of a tiger's face, paying special attention to the colours and then investigated the patterns that they see on lots of different animals.

In geography, Class 1 have explored the world and begun to learn about the seven different continents and the surrounding seas. They've sang songs, made up mnemonics and pieced together the world just like a jigsaw. Class 1 have asked some very interesting questions such as 'will the continents change again?' and 'who named the continents?'

In Forest School, the children have studied camouflage and created life size versions of large animals using natural materials. Class 1 have worked really hard to collaborate and verbalise their ideas so that others can understand.

Hola Mexico

The children at Acorns in Class 3 have thoroughly enjoyed the start to their 'Hola Mexico' topic. The project had a magical memorable moment in which the children made mocktails and explored Mariachi music. The mocktails were a huge success and culinary skills were developed in the preparation these tasty drinks; appraising and evaluating were also important and we're pleased to announce that Strawberry Margarita was the overall winner! Children have also put their geography skills to the test, revising key world information, map labelling, locating Mexico and researching human and physical features of this country. It has been eye opening to watch video clips and read about different festivals, traditions and daily life in this region and the children produced some fabulous fact sheets to share their new learning. Mastering a range of art skills has also featured heavily in this first half term and the children have enjoyed exploring pattern and colour in the designing of their own Dia de los Muertos masks and they have also

practised sketching skills in the design of an Ancient Mayan Stela (a stone sculpture), which they have carved into bars of soap to produce their own sculpted slab.

Last week saw the class being introduced to the Ancient Mayan game of Pok-a-Tok; the children enjoyed learning about the mythical roots of this game and how the tradition has lasted over 3000 years, although they were relieved to hear that the losing team captain is no longer sacrificed to the gods!.

Music

At Brailes School, we have all enjoyed returning to singing, with new class songs as well as some mixed Key Stage 2 singing. The Owls class have been working hard to learn songs for harvest, and have been impressing Miss Wilson with their attention to detail when picking up new tunes and melodies. The children have also been enjoying the new brass instruments, with everyone getting started on their cornets. Next month, some of our Year 4 children will move over to baritones to round out our class ensemble sound. The children have been brilliant about learning to look after their new instruments, taking care over polishing, checking valves and keeping cases neat and tidy. They're looking forward to playing some more complicated pieces in the class band soon!

Africa

Children in Badgers class at Brailes School have made an excellent start to their learning this year; they are working hard, being kind and encouraging to each other and making fantastic links and connections within their work. They have started the academic year by finding out about the hugely exciting and diverse continent of Africa.

In design and technology work, the class has looked at a range of textiles from different African countries. Although the textiles varied hugely in style, each one had a strong use of geometric pattern. They found out that 'pattern' is an integral part of African art and craft design and is often strongly influenced by the environment and natural surroundings. Having explored a range of different patterns, children then had a go at designing their own. The teachers have been very impressed with the children's bold use of colour and shape.



Prospective Parents

Usually at this time of year we welcome families to Acorns and Brailes to show them round our wonderful schools, whether it is for 3 year olds in Nursery, new starters in Reception for September 2022 or mid-year moves. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to show groups of families around while the children are in school, but are delighted to offer tours of the school one family at a time every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 4.00 pm.

Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The closing date for Reception 2022 applications is 15 January 2022.

Acorns - 01608 684654 -admin2639@we-learn.com

Brailes - 01608 685253 -admin3014@we-learn.com

Christian Hilton – Executive Headteacher

Living in the country as we all do, I am sure that there will have been readers who meandered down local lanes in spring and summer. Here they would have admired the trees and hawthorn as the leaves burst forth, but had they cast their eyes downwards to the hedge bottoms, sooner or later they would have come across a plant called cuckoo-pint. This plant, together with sweet flag, is as far as I can see the only representative of this family (araceae) in this country, having been brought into Europe from Asia. It has collected other names over the years: lords-and-ladies, jack-in-the-pulpit, cows-and-bulls, devils-and-angels. It depends on where you were born I suppose, as to which name you use. In appearance, it consists of two wide, pointed leaves almost joining at their point between which a thin cigar-like growth can be seen growing from a central point between them. Its attraction at this stage is nil but later, if our walker takes himself back that way, he will see that two leaves have disappeared to have been replaced by a stalk of small orange berries. And so, it will remain until these berries are dispersed. I have had one plant install itself in my garden, though how it came there I shall never know. The berries are highly poisonous so although you can purchase arums from garden centres take care where you have dogs and children about the place. Its roots used to be used to make starch. A curious feature of its pollen is that it emits a faint glow, giving rise to the name 'fairy lamps' to these plants.

And now for a tree which found a home in my garden. Unwanted and initially unidentified, a very thin wand-like growth appeared in one of my flowerbeds. 'Get rid of it!' came an order from my wife. But as with so many things, I placed her wishes to one side in my mind and it continued to grow. Eventually turning from its fragile wand-like appearance to a tree trunk! And so, it became what is now a 40-foot high cooking apple tree. Amongst other things, what amazes me is how nature looks after itself. In spite of restrictions we impose, a tiny seed was blown onto or carried by a bird to my flowerbed, flourished with no help at all and is now an established feature of my garden. You will ask of course what the cooking apples from this tree taste like in the apple pies we concoct for ourselves. Sadly, I have to tell you that in spite of valiant efforts on our part, the birds always get to them first!

If there is one sight I like to watch, it is a flock of gulls following a working tractor up and down the field. Such a sight I had a few days ago. The operator was (I think) drilling winter corn. I wonder if painters like Constable had this sort of experience. Surely, whilst wandering about painting hay wains and suchlike, they could have found time to picture on canvas the sight of a team of horses followed by whirling sea gulls. Perhaps some artists did so and readers with a greater knowledge of the art world will know this. It wasn't until open waste dumps appeared and a number of small lakes were dug out in local fields, that we saw gulls here at all. Previously, they had remained in their seaside habitats and derived food from such sources as they could find. One problem in the days before they were fully developed seabirds, was that of salt in sea water. Over the course of time, they developed a specially adapted salt-gland in their nasal area whereby they can excrete the salt found in the water they drink. Of course, our gulls on the field I

watched have no such problem deriving liquid from the lakes on which they live as well as moisture from creatures they eat.

The British Trust for Ornithology have, in their tracking of birds' ages, recorded the age of a Scottish sea eagle which they have studied, and which has achieved the age of one month short of 24 years! That is some bird they have there considering the environment in which it lives which is the bleak snow-covered highlands of its native land. How, prey, does it achieve such stamina? Wait a moment, down below in the glens is being distilled a world-renowned drink whose aficionados will guarantee its ability to combat the greatest of problems. Who is to say that unbeknown to us, all this worthy bird does is to find a vat where one of the best single malts is produced, makes regular and physically productive visits to the aforementioned vats where it sups a small quantity? Thereafter with renewed strength and confidence returning to its natural haunt and pursuing its life in confidence and contentment. With this in mind, we may well hear of it achieving an even greater age.

VILLAGE NEWS

BARCHESTON WITH WILLINGTON

Editor: Please email – barcheston@swlink.org.uk

Barcheston Church - Recital Series 2021



Sunday 7 November: Mark Swinton, Assistant Director of Music, St Mary's, Warwick

Sunday 5 December: William Peart, Postgraduate Student, Universität der Künste, Berlin

Recitals will start at 3.30pm and last about 50 mins.

Entry is free but donations are invited to St Martin's Organ Fund which is used to maintain the organ and fund future recitals and concerts

For further information please contact David Hodges:
david@famington.co.uk www.stmartinsbarcheston.co.uk

It's probably **FREE** – Subscription to The LINK online is free for existing subscribers within the SW7 distribution area so please do sign up...

THE LINK

<https://www.swlink.org.uk/>

THE LINK

Email online@swlink.org.uk for more details

Beneficial Book Group

We very much enjoyed meeting again on Sunday 19 September to talk about our monthly choice, *Last Letter from Istanbul* by Lucy Foley.

This was a most illuminating story of a time in the history of Istanbul, the 1920s, after the fall of the Ottoman Empire when the British were among other victorious nations occupying the formerly peaceful capital of Turkey. The descriptions of the city are particularly notable and the main story about the relationship between a British medical officer, who is now billeted in the former grand home of the wife of an outlawed Turkish Army officer, is poignant but sadly doomed. Everyone very much enjoyed the novel.

Our following meeting was on Sunday 17 October when we talked about *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummings.

Gillian Cathie

Hedges and Verges

The first of September each year is the date after which rural, as opposed to urban, hedges can be trimmed. Trimming is not allowed after 1 March to protect the benefits which hedges provide to our natural environment during the summer.

In every village in SW7 there can be a lively debate about which, where and how often local hedges can be cut back and/or trimmed. Hedges are regulated in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in terms of their contribution to the visual environment whilst the frequency at which they are trimmed (annually or less frequently), is controlled by the Environment Agency through the Rural Payments Agency.

I mention this because early October saw the skilled trimming of the hedge beside the road from the village towards Kitebrook. As we round the corner by our telephone exchange and drive down the slope towards the culvert over the stream leading to Stanford Brook, it is as if we are entering a new, undiscovered, view from the village across the valley towards Barton Hill and Salters Well. The view is certainly spectacular and justifies Barton being in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Verges too can generate lively debate. The Highways Authority mandate County Authorities to cut back verges by one metre from the edge of the highway, mainly in the interests of road safety. In the village itself, the responsibility lies with the District Authority to keep the village 'tidy'. At the turn of the decade, Barton opted out of the District scheme because some residents preferred to mow their own verges to protect flowers and shrubs which they valued. The rest of the verges were regularly cut by a local contractor who also knew the location of valued plants such as daffodils, snow drops and irises which give so much colour to the village each year. It was the task of the village treasurer each year to claim a rebate from Stratford for the cost of the contractor. But Stratford never reimbursed the full cost because it could get a far better hourly rate by the scale of the work they could contact out for the whole district. The difference between the village cost and the District Council reimbursement became so large that

in about 2010 the Parish Council decided to join the District scheme. Now a large sit-on mower charges around the village four times a year in less than half a day mowing everything in sight. It really is not progress. The village does pay to have St. Lawrence Churchyard mown twice a year from the precept and it makes the church setting look valued and cared for- at least one task the village can control.

[Village Ed - apologies if this report is not strictly correct. Our farmers have a whole heap of regulations to manage which I can never fully get my head around.]

John Castle



Moreton-in-Marsh Country Market Christmas Opening Times

The last full Christmas Market will be held on **Thursday 17th December 2021**

Collection of pre-ordered items will be on **Thursday 23rd December 2021**

In addition to our usual produce, there will be Christmas food (cakes, mince pies, puddings, sweets and food gifts). And a wide selection of gifts and cards.

PRE ORDER FOR CHRISTMAS – PICK UP AN ORDER FORM AT THE MARKET

Find us in the WI Hall, New Road, Moreton in Marsh, every Thursday, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Phone Angela 07933 141410 / mimcountrymarket@gmail.com or find us on Facebook

****Extra Market for Christmas Lights Switch-On****

Saturday 27th November 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm



The LINK can offer your local business...

Advertising across SW7 Benefice directly into the community.



Please email adverts@swlink.org.uk

For a suitable commitment, we may be able to offer new advertisers an introductory 'advertorial'.
...and we can put an advert together for you if you need a hand.

What I do in the desert

On Saturday 9 October, in Burmington Church, Michael Macdonald gave a fascinating lecture on his work of over 40 years in the deserts of Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Michael is one of the world's leading authorities on the history, languages and scripts of pre-Islamic Arabia, and on the way-of-life of the ancient nomads of the Arabian deserts. In his talk, Michael described how, influenced by the work of the eminent archaeologist Gerald Lankester Harding in the early 1970s, he became fascinated by the graffiti carved by the nomads of the Syro-Arabian deserts in the 1st centuries BC and AD, at a time when the Romans were expanding their conquests in the Near East. This was the only time before the present when these nomads were able to read and write. Tens of thousands of graffiti and drawings on the basalt rocks of the desert have survived until the present day.

Both men and women carved them, mainly to pass the time while pasturing the sheep, goats, and camels, and they give a fascinating insight into the way-of-life of these nomads, their relations with each other and with the powers outside the desert such as the Romans, Nabataeans and the Jewish kingdoms of Herod the Great and his descendants.



They are also full of very personal feelings: fear, loneliness, grief, missing friends, happiness, mischief, and even humour. In this, they are like individual pages from tens of thousands of personal diaries scattered over the desert, not intended for others to read. And so they provide a unique source of information about the daily lives and feelings of individuals some 2000 years ago. We have no similar source for any other community, at any period, in the ancient Middle East.

In the 160 years since they were first discovered, over 50,000 of these inscriptions have been recorded by a handful of scholars, and there are still tens of thousands more awaiting discovery.

By setting up an online database of these inscriptions with photographs, translations and all the available information about each, Michael has made them accessible to scholars, students, and all those interested throughout the world.

Around seventy people came to hear Michael's lecture which was warmly received and donations of over £400 were made to Refugee Charities. Michael will repeat his talk on 19 February 2022 in the village hall. Details will be in The LINK (January and February magazines).

Lebanese Meal

Following the enthralling talk given by Michael MacDonald, nearly fifty people enjoyed a three-course Middle Eastern extravaganza.

A range of mezze were followed by slow cooked chicken marbella and meatballs topped off with sticky and delicious baklava. The Lebanese meal was such a success that a modified version will be repeated on 19 February 2021, following a repeat of Michaels' talk.

Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment! (Sonia 661459). A massive thank you to Sonia Baker for organising this event and to her helpers (Jan, Dennis, Vicky and Guy) for making this event such a success.



Robyn Sutton

November Events in the Village Hall

Breakfast is Saturday 27 November 10.00 am – 12.00 pm and there's a coffee morning, Thursday 25 November 10.30 am.

Future Events 2022

You may have taken part in the recent survey to find out what activities people wanted going forward. As a result, we have planned an exciting programme of events for 2022 with more to come:

22 January 6.30 pm - Curry and quiz. Tables of four are £40 per table.
(Text/call 07966849149 to book.)

19 February - Lebanese meal

5 March – St. David's Day Meal

2 April - Wine tasting quiz

7 May - Garage Sale/Children's Scarecrow competition and historical exhibition +
Breakfast sandwiches and drinks in the village hall.

5 June - Big Sunday Lunch



Book Sale



Burmington Village Hall

Every Saturday 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Come along and see if there's a book for you. Prices will be displayed.
To our generous donors: please don't bring any more books to the Hall.
We have enough for the time being... Thank you. Julia Sykes

Scarecrow Competition

Burmington and Willington residents are already excited at the prospect of a mammoth scarecrow competition as part of joint village activities planned for the spring of next year.

For those of us not familiar with making scarecrows, classes on 'Basic Scarecrow Building' will be arranged beforehand under the guidance of Babette (pictured).

Readers should know that Burmington and Willington creations are a cut above all other SW7 scarecrows. As you can see, we have been able to teach Babette to read. She is an avid reader of The LINK. Her progress in using a knife and fork is currently less advanced, as you may see from the red spots on her face.

Readers should also note that Babette dislikes being called a 'scarecrow'. She prefers 'manikin' but is offering a prize to the reader who suggests a name more appropriate for someone/something of her beauty and that of the village creations to follow here in the spring.



Dennis Cummings

Christmas Social Gathering

Burmington Village Hall

Saturday 4 December – 6.00 pm start

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Raffle
Ken's Legendary Quiz, Childrens' Activities

Everyone Welcome

Come Along and Get Your Christmas Festivities Underway



Dreams do come true!

Sue Williams and her late husband Graham, spent almost 25 years showing Dartmoor ponies as a hobby, from their rented yard in Cherington.

Most of these ponies were bought as foals from old established studs in the Dartmoor area, never having been handled, and were trained by the couple to be shown in hand at County Shows around the country, and then sold as children's riding ponies. After many very successful years of doing this, the couple decided to breed some of their own foals, with the aim of breeding a champion with their own stud prefix.

Their first home bred foal *Feldons Fieldfare*, achieved some of their ambitions, but the last foal born after Graham's death in 2015, and named *Feldons Red Kite*, with the stable name of *Tonto* (*Tonto* was son George's nickname for his Dad), has made all Sue's dreams come true.

Six year old *Tonto* was the Ridden Champion and then overall Supreme Champion at the Dartmoor Breed Show at Okehampton, Devon in August this year, beating the best Dartmoor ponies in the country. He also qualified for the Horse of the Year Show at the NEC in Birmingham, ridden by his new owners, two sisters aged eight and thirteen. For the girls, it was their dream come true to be riding at the most prestigious show in the country, for which all riders have to qualify, and which is held indoors, with spotlights, music and a large audience of horse enthusiasts.



For Sue, it was definitely her dream come true, to have a pony with the Williams family stud prefix of Feldons, appear at this show as the culmination of *Tonto*'s first year of showing. *Tonto* is only six years old so should have many more successful years to follow this one, but Sue says nothing will ever beat her feeling of pride at seeing him enter the ring under the spotlights and hearing his name, and hers as breeder announced. The only regret is that her greatest supporter Graham, was not there in person to share the moment with her, but she hopes he was looking down with equal pride.

Sue Williams

Coffee Shop, The Hall

Come along and catch up with friends over a coffee and it's your chance to meet people from the village if you have recently moved in. Everyone welcome. If anyone would like to help, then please get in touch with Christine 01608 686288 / 07866127409.

Coffee Shop - Saturday 6 November



10.30 am - 12 noon.

At The Hall, Stourton - CV36 5HG

Bacon or Sausage Baps, Teas, Coffees,
including Cappuccino, Latte etc. + Cakes.
Takeaway Drinks available.

Christmas Greetings in support of St John the Baptist Church

We are running the Cherington and Stourton Christmas Card Amnesty again this year. If you would like to make a donation and are already on the Christmas greetings list which will be distributed with the December LINK, we will assume that you wish to continue. If you would like to be removed or wish to be added, please contact Pam Brookes on 686367 or Sherry Barker on 686420. Alternatively, you can email us on nsl_barker@hotmail.com

Replies by Saturday 6 November would be helpful, thank you.

Pam Brookes and Sherry Barker

Cherington & Stourton Neighbourhood Watch

I'm your local co-ordinator and welcome reports of suspicious behaviour. Please let me know about anything that seems to you to be a little bit out of the ordinary as your information might just be the piece of the jigsaw that helps solve a problem. Everything is completely confidential, please contact me on 07866 127409/ 686288 or christinedudfield53@gmail.com.



Village Lottery

1st - Rory McLeod £80 2nd - Robyn Durie £45 3rd - Peter Kenealy £30

Congratulations to our winners and thank you for your continued support. For more information on joining, please contact me on 686293 or steveallkins53@gmail.com

Steve Allkins

Cherington, Stourton and Sutton under Brailes Country Fair and Flower Show

The AGM for the flower show will be held on Tuesday 9 November from 7.00 – 8.00 pm in the cart shed at the village hall. Everyone is very welcome to attend. We are always happy to receive your input (and help), to make the show a really successful, good family event that has the added advantage of supporting local charities. Put the 9th in your diaries and come along to the meeting.

Sally Clubley and Ann Stevens

The Mobile Library

The mobile library comes to the hall every three weeks on a Monday afternoon at 1.40 pm until 2.00 pm. The next date is Monday 15 November. They have a selection of books including spoken word and books for young children.

It is accessible with a low entrance, 2 steps and ramp for wheelchair users. You are required to wear a mask and sanitise hands.

Brailes Picturehouse

Saturday 20 November - *Misbehaviour*. In 1970, the Miss World competition took place in London, hosted by US Comedy Legend Bob Hope. At the time Miss World was the most watched TV Show in the world with over 100 million viewers. The newly formed Women's Liberation Movement achieved overnight fame by invading the stage. Stars Keira Knightley, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Jessica Buckley, Phyliss Logan, Rhys Ifans, and Greg Kinnear.

Future Screenings:

11 December - *The Muppets Christmas*

22 January 2022 - *Dream Horse*

19 February 2022: *James Bond - No Time to Die* (possibly 22 January if available).

Deirdre and Team

Are there fairies at the bottom of the garden? No, only hoglets!

In Britain, the hedgehog population has plummeted by a quarter in the last decade, so our once common garden friend is in serious trouble! However, here in Cherington and Stourton the hedgehog population appears to be thriving. Conversations with residents of both villages show that many now have hedgehogs in their gardens with regular nighttime sightings. Maybe the messages from all wildlife authorities to put food out all year round, and leave a part of your garden 'wild' is having the right effect.

The lecture in the village hall two years ago by the girls from Stratford (Hedgehog Friendly Town), was extremely informative and may have helped with creating the correct garden environment for these endearing creatures.

My interest started four years ago when four orphan hoglets were found in a neighbour's garden in early May. These babies were hand reared by the girls in Stratford and then returned to me later in the summer for release in my garden. (Any hedgehogs found in a garden or park, should always be released back into the same area if at all possible.) These four were the start for the population in my garden and adjoining ones. Hedgehogs can travel more than a mile a night so myself and my neighbours cut small holes in our wire and wooden fences, so that the hogs could travel freely. We also started leaving special hedgehog food out in feeding stations each night and placed 'hedgehog houses' in suitable areas in the gardens.

In early September this year, my garden helper saw movement at the back of a flower bed she was working on. She was clever enough to video the three hoglets emerging from an old hog house which I had almost forgotten about. After sending the film to the Rescue Centre in Stratford, it was decided that I should remove the hoglets from the nest and take them to be checked over. Some hedgehogs do have two litters a year but unfortunately if they do, it is highly unlikely that the hoglets will survive winter hibernation, as they will not have time to gain the 700 grams of weight needed before the cold weather comes. I managed to remove mum and three babies, only to then find two more tiny ones hidden underneath mum. I took the whole family to Stratford where the three bigger ones were declared healthy but underweight, and the two small ones were quite unwell and both suffering from ringworm. My neighbours and I had to change the bedding in our houses as ringworm can live in the bedding for up to a year. Whilst performing this task, we discovered another mum and three babies in one of her igloo houses, all appeared healthy so they were left with mum.

My neighbour and I have become anxious stepmothers, going out late at night to try to see them and check that they are growing, and so far, they appear to be doing well. Three of the five I discovered at the bottom of my garden (all males). They are now back living in a very large cage in my garden shed and being weighed every other day. If they can reach 600 – 700 grams before the cold weather begins, they will be released into a hog house near to where they were found which I will fill with hay and dried leaves, and then leave them to hopefully live out their lives free and wild, but with extra food support from myself and my neighbours.

Apparently, there has been an increase of autumn juvenile hoglets in the past few years, thought perhaps to be due to our changing climate. This year, we had a very cold spring which may have delayed the mating season, followed by August with warm evenings which may have encouraged love to blossom! Whatever the reason, there is no doubt that without human intervention and help, most of the eight hoglets we have found this Autumn would have died. One in five hoglets never make it out of the nest, and as few as 30% survive their first winter. Hedgehog mums only feed their young for six weeks and after that, leave them to their own devices, and in the case of the two small ones found by me and still being treated in Stratford, mum had already decided to abandon them. My neighbour and I certainly feel proud and pleased that by our actions, we are helping the hedgehog population.

Finally, I would just add that I am now an official hedgehog foster carer, working in conjunction with Stratford Friendly Town. I attended a very interesting course at the Vale Wildlife Hospital, Evesham a few years ago, which has helped me to understand more about care and first aid of hedgehogs. If anyone has any worries about a hedgehog, please phone me anytime.

Sue Williams - 01608 686414



Chipping Norton Wednesdays

Bus Shelter 9.48 am, Featherbed Lane 9.50 am, Stourton Crossroads 9.52 am
Returning at 12.44 pm

Banbury Morrisons Thursdays

Featherbed Lane 9.42 am Stourton Crossroads 9.52 am
Returning at 12.44 pm

Fridays Shipston-on-Stour

Bus shelter 9.20 am, Featherbed Lane 9.23 am, Stourton Crossroads 9.25 am
Returning at 11.10 am

Saturdays Stratford-upon-Avon

Bus Shelter 9.06 am, Featherbed Lane 9.09 am, Stourton Crossroads 9.11 am
Returning at 12.20 pm



Paddle Steamer in the Thames Estuary circa 1900. Oil on canvas by Stourton artist, Colin Beckett

Arts and Crafts

8 Artists in the barn



November 19th, 20th, 21st
Open each day
11am - 5pm

Handcrafted Gifts

Jacques Barn,
Stourton,
CV36 5HG
tel: 07710 385032

painting | pottery | sculpture | jewellery
photography | blown glass | knitwear | wood

Jonquil Sabin | Wood | www.at-temple-mill.co.uk
@jonquilsabin

David Turner | Sculpture | www.davetheblacksmith.co.uk
@david_turner_blacksmith

Andy Gill | Flowerpots | www.argillpottery.com
@andyrill

Jane Stillwell | Photography | www.janesphotography.com
@stillwell.jane

Jonathan Abbott | Glass | www.lumsdaleglass.co.uk
@lumsdaleglass

Nicola Durrant | Painting | www.durrant-artwork.com
@nicola_durrant_art

Katie Beswick | gifts | www.littlebirdsoaps.com
@littlebirdsoaps

Elly Dunford Wood | Jewellery
@themetaltharmer



THE *spirit* OF CHRISTMAS

DISTILLERY SHOPPING EVENINGS

9th, 10th & 11th DECEMBER 2021 6-8 PM

Come & join us!

GREAT MULTIBUY BOTTLE OFFERS

10% OFF 1 x BOTTLE*, 15% OFF 2 x BOTTLES*,

20% OFF 3 x BOTTLES*

(* 70 & 50cl bottles only, excluding Peated, Sherry & Bourbon cask and Hearts & Crafts)



PLUS 10% OFF OTHER GREAT GIFT IDEAS



FREE TASTERS & FREE MINCE PIES



STILLHOUSE CAFÉ OPEN

Enjoy hot drinks & cool cocktails with our cheese or charcuterie sharing boards

We hope to see you!



COTSWOLDSDISTILLERY.COM
PHILLIP'S FIELD, WHICHFORD ROAD, STOURTON, WARWICKSHIRE CV36 5HG



Let the BUS take the strain



SHIPSTON LINK

'Bringing Shipston and the Rural Community together'

• Tel:- 01386 593446 • Email:- enquiries@shipstonlink.co.uk

UBUS

'For anyone living in an area with limited public transport or who struggles to use public transport because of mobility or health issues'

• Tel:- 01789 264491 • Email:- ubus@stratford-dc.gov.uk

STAGE COACH

'Save on Student Travel - Half price tickets for job seekers'

• Tel:- 0345 810 1000 • Email:- midlands.enquiries@stagecoachbus.com

VASA

'Door to Door volunteer cars for medical and social appointments, mileage costs are payable. Free transport for COVID19 vaccinations including boosters for priority groups'

• Tel:- 01789 262889 • Email:- transport@vasa.org.uk

All offer you the opportunity to travel free or at reduced rates, regularly within the Stour Valley

VILLAGE NEWS

LONG COMPTON

Editor: Sally Franklin

Email: longcompton@swlink.org.uk

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2021

The total amount raised in the Long Compton district last year, including the 'pop up' collections on Remembrance Day, was just short of twelve hundred pounds.

This year's appeal, which will run from Saturday 30 October to Saturday 13 November, should be back to normal, with our door-to-door collectors (including some new volunteers), calling on all residents to seek your generous support for this important and very worthwhile cause.

David Whatley, Long Compton District Appeal Organiser



Royal British Legion Long Compton & District



Remembrance Sunday

Sunday, 14 November – 10.50 am

Long Compton Church

An Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
recalling those who died in the Great War
and subsequent conflicts,
followed by a church service - All are welcome.

Nick Jackson - 01926 640658

Long Compton Bridge Club

The Long Compton Bridge Club meets in the village hall on the second Tuesday (7.30 - 9.30 pm) and the fourth Tuesday (2.30 pm - 4.30 pm) each month. Beginners very welcome.

Chris Galloway 684234



Our next meeting is on Thursday 11 November at 7.00 pm

We will be discussing *Exposure* by Helen Dunmore

All Welcome - Contact: Carole Clements 01608 684938
carole.r.clements@gmail.com

Long Compton Neighbourhood Watch



Our local co-ordinator is Jordan Boswell, who would very much welcome reports of suspicious behaviour. Do let him know about anything that seems to you to be out of the ordinary. Your information might just be the little piece of the jigsaw that helps solve a problem. All calls and emails are completely confidential – your name will not be made public.

Contact Jordan on 07795 008998, or at jordanlboswell@hotmail.com

Long Compton Village Hall

As we put the clocks back for autumn, it would be great to think we are also putting the world back to how it used to be pre-2020. However, this is not the case, but gradually things are returning to normal. Our October Social Saturday was back inside (on ironically one of the mildest days we'd had for quite some time) and there were stalls for people to browse as well as the delicious sweet and savoury refreshments on offer. With well over 40 folks to attend to, table service was provided by the unflappable Phoebe who rushed around keeping up with the new arrivals. I believe we may have created a record for the largest age span at a Social Saturday at nine decades! Not bad, eh?



For November, we have made the decision not to hold a Christmas Fair as we might have done in the past, but just a standard Social Saturday on Saturday 13 November. We will throw everything Christmassy at the December event on Saturday 11 December with stalls and a grand Christmas raffle. Hopefully this will be some consolation for those who would normally be looking forward to our Christmas Tea Party. Surely next year we'll be able to get together to rehearse the singing, entertainment and panto so we can resume that event as well.

We were delighted to welcome the Comptonians back to the hall for their very popular fish and chip lunch. They join the History Society, Choir, Pilates Class, Atomic Dance, Bridge Club, Needlework Group, Garden Club, BSA Owners' Club, Royal Photographic Society and several private parties who have all come back to the hall to get things going once again.

Regrettably, last month's plea for short mat bowls players has only produced 3 prospective players which is not enough to get the group running again. If you're interested, please do get in touch. All the equipment is at the hall, all you need to do is turn up and give it a go. Please remember, it's your Village Hall so do make use of it.

**Mo Read, Chair, Long Compton Village Hall
684130, 07814802814 or lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk**

100 Club Draw - October

The October draw was made at the Social Saturday held at the hall on 9 October. The results are as follows:

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|------------------|-----------|-----|---------------|
| 1st Prize | 84 | Jane Burras | 3rd Prize | 141 | Jill Baker |
| 2nd Prize | 23 | Eileen Whittaker | 4th Prize | 65 | Wendy Bentley |

The next draw will take place at the Social Saturday at the hall on Saturday 13 November.

Chris Galloway 684234

The Compton Creatives

For those of you who don't know us, we are a group who enjoy arts and crafts, with an emphasis on textiles. We meet monthly, usually on the third Monday of the month.

Sometimes we just work on our own projects whilst indulging in coffee, cakes and chat. Sometimes one of us holds a mini workshop, and sometimes we have an outside teacher come to take a workshop. We also enjoy outings to exhibitions and places of interest. If you would like to join us, please contact me.

caroline.nixon@btinternet.com or jhburras@yahoo.co.uk

The Long Compton Indoor Short Mat Bowls Club



We are looking for new members! The equipment is all ready to go, we just need YOU! Instruction can be given if you've not tried it before.

If you fancy giving it a go, contact Mo on 07814 802814 to arrange a taster session. Let's see if we can get this well-established club thriving once more.

Comptonians

The fish and chip lunch last month was well attended and everyone enjoyed the meal. It was lovely to meet up with friends after such a long break and we took the opportunity to catch up on news. I very much appreciated the help that I was given by volunteers from the village.

We shall meet again on Wednesday 17 November for Christmas lunch. Members should arrive at the village hall at 12.30pm.

Margaret Welsh (684238)



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

Bins are provided in the Chapel car park (Butlers Lane) for aluminum cans and foil (in bags please). These are collected and the proceeds go to support KHH

Ebenezer Congregational Chapel

Harvest Festival – October 2021



Rev. Marion shares her harvest thoughts.



Cllr Jo Barker talks about the work of The Shipston Food Bank that she is involved with and thanks Long Compton for their contributions.



Jim Cunnington reflects on marvel of natural recycling

Chapel offertory collection to support their work was £75.00

The Craft Market in September went well, although it was disappointing that there was low footfall. We hope that the October one is better attended which is later this week so we will report next time. The next craft market will be on Thursday 18 November followed by Thursday 16 December. We have lots of stalls booked, so please come along and support these industrious crafters.

Our Harvest Festival on Sunday 10 October went well as seen in these photos. It was an enjoyable occasion, and we were all delighted to be able to sing freely again.

Our proposed date for our Christmas Service clashes with the Parish Church so we have decided to hold a Celebration of Christmas on Saturday 18 December at 3.30 pm when we will be joined by the Choir (who are always looking for new members), and look forward to singing our favourite carols.

The aluminium can and foil collection is still in the car park and the proceeds from this goes to Katharine House Hospice. Please put your cans in carrier bags and deposit in the bins provided.

The Book Exchange in the porch is popular and please feel free to browse. As the weather worsens, we will have to close the porch door. However, it will not be locked and if it sticks pull it toward you as you twist the handle!

There is still a collection for the Shipston Food Bank at the Stores. We were told they supported 120 families at one point and still assist, probably more so since the recent end of Furlough and the Universal Credit decrease. All donations are appreciated either in produce or in donations. Indeed, our collection at the Harvest Festival was given to them.

Macmillan – The Macmillan fundraiser was less well supported than in years gone by (including last year!) However, we raised £393 which I'm sure will be put to good use.

We had our first 'in person' Church meeting since January last year which meant it was quite long, but hopefully brought everyone up to date and allowed us to plan for the future. We are run by our members however if you would like to join us, either as a member or simply interested in helping to preserve our lovely building, we would welcome you with open arms.

Sally Franklin 07870 545431 or Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778



Ebenezer Chapel

Long Compton Congregational Church
Butlers Lane

Craft Market

18 November and 16 December – 6.00 to 8.00 pm

Refreshments on Sale

For details: Sally Franklin 07870 545431/01608 644739 or Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778
longcomptonebenezerchapel@live.co.uk

The Friends of Long Compton Church
Present

Christmas Tree Festival – 11th and 12th December



<https://www.friendsof longcomptonchurch.com/>
and Facebook. Please contact ficc.sec@gmail.com

Long Compton and District Garden Club

Autumn/Winter Programme



November 24th – Gardeners' Question time: Panelists are local garden experts Walter Sawyer, Michelle Hunter and Hilary Twigg.

February 23rd - Planting for Ponds and Damp Gardens - James Allison of Water Garden Solutions.

(All meetings start at 7.30 pm in Long Compton Village Hall)

March and April are still to be finalised. We also hope to arrange trips to see snowdrops and bluebells.

Anthony Wells: 684337 or Lesley Roberts: 684545 lesleyroberts46@gmail.com



Long Compton from the air by Ian Piper. Contact Ian at <http://ianpiper.co.uk/>

[Ed - This photograph was taken on the afternoon of Thursday 21 October and is one of a series that Ian has taken.]

Long Compton & District Walkers

A much drier day awaited us for the walk in October, for which, those hardy souls who braved the elements last month, were extremely grateful.

After making our way to Fifield, a small village near Shipton-under-Wychwood, we set off on a five-mile circular walk over some quite undulating countryside. The harvest was complete, but autumn did not look as though it had really arrived, apart from the hedgerow blackberries which just had to be sampled by almost everyone.

After our stop for coffee, we set off again, only to hear a cry that someone had left their backpack on the log pile. A quick check revealed that our leader, in the enthusiasm to get going again, had completely forgotten to reunite himself with his possessions! That minor mishap overcome, we returned to Fifield passing Little Rissington airfield, which appeared to boast a very large new hanger.

Hopefully next month we will have our full complement of walkers for a walk to who knows where? We shall meet as usual in the car park at the Red Lion on Tuesday 9 November at 9.30 am.

Jan Treadaway 01608 684553

Compton District History Society

Our meeting on 13 October could have been a total disaster. Our speaker failed to appear! Evidently, he was completely lost. By the time we got in contact he was too late and too far away and had given up.

However, after further delay and some clever work with IT equipment, we were able instead to enjoy a remarkable film. Made by the Central Office of Information shortly before the Second World War, it showed details of the life and landscape of an area of 24 square miles around here, a rectangle with Banbury at the top right corner and Chipping Norton at bottom left. It gave a remarkable view of rural life when such services as electricity and piped water were not available in the majority of the villages. There were few cars on the road, but people did benefit from much better bus services then!

On 10 November our speaker will be Will Gowers who will tell us about Warwickshire in the time of Richard II. We meet at 7.30 pm in the village hall, as usual.

Diana Cook 01608 684771

Village Organisations

[Long Compton and District Garden Club](#) - Contact Anthony Wells 684337 or Lesley Roberts 684545

[Compton and District History Society](#) - Contact Diana Cook 684771

[Comptonians](#) - Contact Margaret Welsh 684238

[Village Hall](#) - Mo Read on 684130, 07814802814 or lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

[Compton Creatives](#) - caroline.nixon@btinternet.com or jhburras@yahoo.co.uk

[Long Compton & District Walkers](#) - Jan Treadaway 684553

[Long Compton Short Mat Bowls](#) - Club Contact Adrian on 684024

[Long Compton Bridge Club](#) - Chris Galloway 684234

[The Friends of Long Compton Church](#) e: friendslcchurch@gmail.com

f: [@friendsoflongcomptonchurch](https://www.facebook.com/friendsoflongcomptonchurch) and <https://www.friendsoflongcomptonchurch.com/>

[Long Compton Sports Club](#):

Secretary: Andrew Lund-Yates 07813 032144/ 01451 820467 andrewlundyates@gmail.com

Cricket: Andrew Badham 07900-466339 andrewbadham@icloud.com

As part of Operation Snap, members of the public can report and submit digital footage showing potential moving traffic offences. This can range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists.



For moving traffic offences, your submission to Operation Snap will be sent to Warwickshire Police where the evidence will be reviewed by one of our road traffic police officers.

Any footage submitted through the portal can be used by us to help educate other road users and to advise on case results.

Google 'operation snap warwickshire'

The Proposal to create South Warwickshire Council by merging Stratford on Avon District Council and Warwick District Council.

Read more at
<https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swc/>



Whichford and Ascott Car Drivers for Medical Appointments

If you need transport for a hospital or doctor's appointment within a 15-mile radius, do give us a ring:

Caroline O'Kane 684780
Jenny Scrivener 684564
Sophia Corlett 684369
Mandy James 684479
Mary Manville-Hales 684679

A donation to the Church would be appreciated. Please try to give us as much notice as possible and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Mandy James

Whichford and Ascott Christmas Lunches



After the success of last year, Whichford Pantry will again be serving up Christmas lunches for villagers who might be interested in having a festive meal delivered to their home on Christmas Day. We have funds available from generous donations already received, and more details will be in the December issue of The LINK.

Caroline Gibbs

The Reading Room Draw

Congratulations to Joanna Cook who was the winner of the October Reading Room draw.

Jenny Scrivener

Whichford Christmas Gift Fair

Saturday 13th November 10am to 1.30pm

For Fabulous Christmas Shopping!



**WHICHFORD MADE
SOPHIE'S CUSHIONS**

TANIA LLEWELLYN

MR. PORTOBELLO

NICOLA LOADES

GRANNY GALORE

DEE'S COTTAGE PRODUCTS

SHEER INDULGENCE

BRANCHE D'OLIVE

SANTA POOCH

BRIDGE IN THE BOX

MUGS, JUGS AND MORE

JENNIE RAKE

SHELDONS WINE CELLARS

**JEWELLERY, TOTE BAGS, LAVENDER PILLOWS, NOTICEBOARDS
BEAUTIFUL CUSHIONS TO BUY AND ORDER**

**LADIES, MEN'S AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING & SCARVES FROM INDIA
VELVET TROUSERS & SHIRTS, COATS, PJ's, KIMONOS, KAFTANS & COATS
CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY, VINTAGE FRENCH ACCESSORIES**

**NIGHTWEAR, SOCKS, GIFTS FOR GARDENERS, SOFT TOYS
CARDS, JIGSAWS, ADVENT CALENDARS & WRAPPING PAPER**

**CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS, CAKES AND HANDMADE CHOCOLATES
FRENCH FRAGRANCES, DIFFUSERS, SOAPS
DOG ACCESSORIES & CHRISTMAS TREATS**

**HIGH QUALITY BRIDGE CARDS & ACCESSORIES
OVENPROOF, DISHWASHER & MICROWAVE PROOF TABLEWARE**

**HANDKNITTED FAIRISLE CLOTHING AND GIFTS
POP UP BAR, GIFTS, WINES & SPIRITS**

**PLANTED BASKETS, CHRISTMAS WREATHS TO ORDER
HOME MADE JAMS, JELLIES, CHUTNEYS, VINEGARS AND MUCH MORE**

Wonderful Raffle Prizes

Entry £5 includes home made mince pie and coffee

By kind invitation of Peter & Caroline O'Kane

The Old Rectory, Whichford, CV36 5PQ

Parking signposted from the green

Please bring cash/cheques as some stallholders may not take cards

In Aid of The Friends of St. Michael's Church, Whichford

First Class Fish and Chips – Takeaway Saturday 6 November

Thank you to everyone who joined in our Fish and Chips takeaway on 9 October – a fantastic 104 orders! We really do appreciate all your support. The money raised is used for the upkeep of St. Michaels Church like repairing the holes that keep appearing in the churchyard wall!

As some of you emailed to say you were on holiday for that one, we are running another takeaway night on 6 November and as before, these delicious traditional takeaway fish and chips will be served straight from the van in the centre of Great Wolford.

On Saturday 6 November you're invited to come and collect your pre-ordered fish and chips in a specified time-slot direct from the van we've always used at the village hall. Regulars have said it's the best fish and chips around. The van will be parked by St. Michaels Church in Great Wolford from 6.00 pm.

Here's how it works. We need at least 50 meal orders to make the van's visit viable so now is the time to express an interest by emailing or ringing Ann McKenna (see details below) with the number of meals you would like.

Cut-off date for ordering is Thursday 4 November and to keep the delivery on the night quick and efficient, we're asking for payment to be made in advance when we confirm your order. And of course, you don't need to be a Wolford resident to join in – if you can come and collect, then you're very welcome to place an order.

The cost remains at £10 per serving. To order please contact - Ann McKenna (email: anmckenna3@sky.com or tel: 01608 674009).

Ann McKenna

The Wolfords WI

This month we combined Zoom technology with a meeting in the hall so those that could not physically join us, could still join us on zoom. Our Zoom Speaker was Graham Birchmore on *Interpreting Dreams*.

His interest in dreams was initiated when he dreamt the name of a winning horse. His research led him to realise the importance of dreams. Following historical examples of predictive dreams such as Buddy Holly's plane crash, he went on to explain the different stages of sleep. From R.E.M rapid eye movements to stage 4 deep sleep. Sleep walking is not dreaming.

He then went on to explain some symbols in dreams; falling is the most common so if you see yourself flying in the air with a sense of fear and anxiety, then it could mean that you are craving for stability. Trains are seen as an opportunities, i.e. do you get on it or let it pass by? Dreaming of a house is another common symbol, a house typically is a kind of prompt to explore different facets of our internal landscapes.

In his summary he told us that we ignore dreams at our peril. It was interesting to note that in our group some people dream all the time and others rarely remember a dream. We then enjoyed a lovely spread of refreshments and a chance to chat.

Next month we hope to meet again in Wolfords village hall on Wednesday 3 November at 7.30 pm for our Annual General Meeting. This will be followed by a scarf swap, so if you have any scarves you no longer wear, please bring them along.

All are welcome and if you would like to join us at a meeting, please contact President Sue Elliot 674295 or Secretary Roz Warriner 684223 or Sarah Franklin 674615.

The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club

The October winners were as follows;

- 1st prize – Jane Barker
- 2nd prize – Simon Lewis-Beeching
- 3rd prize – Graham Franklin

Many congratulations to the above. Please let me know if you would like to have more shares as the club is still short of 100 shares. Of course, multiple shares do increase the chance of winning! All proceeds go to help with the upkeep of the village hall.

James van Helden

The Wolfords Christmas Tree

This year, St Michael's and all Angels is planning to organise an outside Christmas Tree in the churchyard near to the gate for all to see and enjoy.

It is hoped that villagers will come and place a decoration on it by way of a dedication to a loved one. In addition, there will be stars available to write prayers on and ribbons which can be added to the tree along with the decorations and lights. We will leave these things inside the church vestibule from Saturday 18 December.

If you have any surplus decorations which can withstand rain and are shatterproof, they would be appreciated and can be left in the box supplied. All are welcome to come inside during daylight hours to see the Christmas flowers and other decorations and have some quiet time over the festive season in our beautiful church.

Do please pay us a visit. Thank you.

Contact, Sarah Franklin 01608 674615

Katharine House Hospice – Aluminium Recycling Bin

A reminder that there is a recycling bin in Great Wolford where you can deposit your aluminium drinks cans, aluminium foil and foil trays (clean ones preferred please). Please note that food tins of any type are not accepted. This will enable money to be raised to support Katharine House Hospice near Banbury. Several villages in the SW7 area participate in the scheme.

The bin is located in the drive to a house called *Glasfryn*, between the pub and the crossroads. You can't miss the bin as you walk up the drive.



Keith Murphy – Great Wolford Parish Council

Warwickshire has produced more than just one great writer. George Eliot has provided the poem for this November issue of The LINK. She's 202 this month and that, along with her Warwickshire connections, has flagged up the need to feature her works. George Eliot is the 'pen name' adopted by Mary Anne Evans, one of the leading writers of the Victorian era. Mary Anne was born on the Arbury Hall Estate in Nuneaton, Warwickshire in 1819 where her father was estate manager.

She is the author of seven novels, including *Adam Bede*, *The Mill on the Floss*, *Silas Marner*, *Middlemarch*, and *Daniel Deronda*. Most of these are set in provincial England and are well known for their realism and psychological insight. Her 1872 work, *Middlemarch*, has been described as the greatest novel in the English language by Martin Amis and Julian Barnes.

Evans was keen to escape the stereotype of women only writing light-hearted romances, and consequently adopted her pen name; but it may also have been useful to protect her private life from scandal. She lived what was afterwards described as an 'irregular' life and it's said that because of her rejection of Christianity, Eliot was not buried in Westminster Abbey. In 1980, on the centenary of her death, a memorial stone was established for her in the Poets' Corner.

Her poem, *Count That Day Lost* communicates a clear and simple message.

Count That Day Lost

If you sit down at set of sun
And count the acts that you have done,
And, counting, find
One self-denying deed, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard,
One glance most kind
That fell like sunshine where it went --
Then you may count that day well spent.

But if, through all the livelong day,
You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay --
If, through it all
You've nothing done that you can trace
That brought the sunshine to one face--
No act most small
That helped some soul and nothing cost --
Then count that day as worse than lost.

George Eliot (22 November 1819 – 22 December 1880)



Please keep your poetry suggestions coming; writing them for us would be even better! Please be sure to submit your suggestions in good time bearing in mind that more recent poems will often be protected by copyright and if this is the case, the publisher's permission will need to be obtained.

Keith Murphy, editor@swlink.org.uk

*Holycombe Holistic
Retreat Centre,
Whichford*

*Weekday Classes for
locals, Weekend
Residential Retreats
Therapies and Therapy
rooms for hire
Glamping and Camping
Spanish holiday
cottage sleeps 6
www.holycombe.com
www.cotswoldscamping.com
01608 684239*



*Physiotherapy clinic & pilates studio
A helping hand to get you back to health*

**Physiotherapy
Sports Massage
Pilates Classes**

Visit the website for more information
or call to speak to a member of the team

T 01608 645 608

E physio@chippingnortonphysio.com

www.chippingnortonphysio.com

**Oats
Health Foods**



Comprehensive range of foods,
supplements, body care and
eco-household goods.

Upstairs a greeting card gallery plus
anything else that takes our fancy.

26 High Street
Chipping Norton, OX7 5AD
Tel: 01608 64 65 56

Counselling, and Art Psychotherapy

Integrative Arts

**Psychotherapeutic Counsellor
Caroline Moss (IATE UKCP)**

The aim of therapy is to help people to make their lives and relationships more fulfilled. It is useful for a wide range of issues, feelings and behaviours. It can be for people who want to bring about change as well as those who are temporarily unable to cope. As the therapeutic relationship develops, we will explore your inner world in a safe, non-judgemental and confidential space and as you learn new insights into yourself, change will naturally follow. Individual or Group Therapy.

For all ages.

For more information, please contact
Caroline: caroline@theraptree.com
07538 339811 www.theraptree.com



Come and Shop at

The Studio

Willington, Shipston-on-Stour,
CV36 5AS

(by appointment only)

*"A Jewel in
the Cotswolds"*

silk, cotton & velvet Jackets



cotton Shirts & Tops



cotton Nightwear

and much more...

Call or e-mail Tania to book your appointment:

M : 07905 149126

E : studio@taniellewellyn.com

10% of all proceeds
go to our wonderful
local charity
Shipston Home Nursing



www.taniellewellyn.com

Wolford Wood www.wolfordwood.com

Buy seasoned dry hardwood logs from Wolford Wood and protect the future of this precious and rare SSSI Ancient and Historic Ash & Oak woodland.

Full load **£160** inc. VAT
Half load **£85** inc. VAT
FREE delivery area

Percy: 07788 778 000
Petra: 01608 650 890
Email orders to: hello@wolfordwood.com

All our timber is harvested using low impact methods. The timber is seasoned for one year in full lengths outdoors. Our logs are processed and then stored undercover before distribution to our customers. This reduces the energy cost and carbon footprint which is associated with kiln dried logs.

Blocked Ears?

EAR WAX can be troublesome and cause sudden loss of hearing, feel uncomfortable and itchy – but it can be easily removed at our clinic in Blockley.

The Willows

NORTH COTSWOLDS EAR HYGIENE CENTRE
Unit 47, Northwick Business Centre,
Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 9RF

Book Online: www.earhygienist.co.uk
Or contact Jo today: 01386 701650
jo@earhygienist.co.uk

HUNT BESPOKE KITCHENS & INTERIORS

Beautifully DESIGNED, lovingly CRAFTED, expertly
FITTED handmade kitchens and interiors

Call us to discuss your kitchen wishlist - 01295 721111
High Street, Bloxham, Banbury, OX15 4LT



www.huntbespokekitchens.com

HUNT BESPOKE

KITCHENS & INTERIORS



The Forge Garage (Brailes) Ltd

Telephone: 01608 685247

Email: enquiries@theforgegarage.co.uk



A family-run, community-focused garage since 1952, where excellence is at the centre of all we do. You'll be guaranteed a tailored service every time.

Quite simply, Forge Garage saves you time, money and stress.

Vehicles are everything we know. That's why we're able to keep every part of your car running at optimum – from an honest, reliable MOT to brakes to diagnostics to air conditioning. We're here to help so please contact us today on 01608 685247 if you have any questions about your vehicle, or for a free no-obligation quote.

We also have a pump attended fuel station selling unleaded, diesel and Autogas, as well as Calor gas, kindling, logs, coal, BBQ coal and firelighters.

<https://www.theforgegarage.co.uk/>



SNJ CARPENTRY AND GLAZING

WWW.SNJCARPENTRYANDGLAZING.CO.UK

**SPECIALISTS IN
INTERNAL AND
EXTERNAL CARPENTRY
AND GLAZING.**

- Door hanging
- Skirting and Architrave
- Bespoke built in cupboards
- Wooden flooring
- Replacement Windows and Doors
- New Windows and Doors
- Replacement glass
- Replacement hinges, handles or locking mechanisms



**CONTACT US FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE:
07851 436 136 / 01608 661352**

CHERINGTON LOCKSMITHS & HANDYMAN



**LOCKS CHANGED
FLATPACKS ASSEMBLED
SHELVES PUT UP
PAINTING
NO JOB TOO SMALL**

**TO FIND OUT MORE
GIVE US A CALL
01608 685957 / 07970 321718
JOHN OR ANNE**



**BESPOKE DESIGN SERVICE FOR
CUSTOM MADE FURNISHINGS**

**Pattern book room for you
to browse Fabric designs
Curtains, Blinds & Cushions
Loose covers & Lamsphade making
Headboards & bedspreads
Curtain poles & tracks
New Sofas & chairs & reupholstery**



01295 788145

ann@annwoolgrove.com | ann@yarnhill.co.uk

www.annwoolgrove.com

DANIEL KNIGHT

**SEASONED
HARDWOOD LOGS**

£90.00 A LOAD

KINDLING AVAILABLE

07815 795783

danielknight27@outlook.com

HALL FOR HIRE

Burmington Village

Historic hall in a pretty location
Carpeted, heated hall
Well equipped kitchen
Tables, chairs & cloths
...all included in the price
Contact Irene Clarke 01608 656296

K.A. PERKINS

SITE CLEARANCE **PLANT HIRE** GROUND WORKS

Water Supplies, Drainage, Ditching
Road & Drive Construction
Tarmacing, Patios, Block Paving

DEMOLITION Tel: 01608 686189 BUILDING
Mobile: 07702106739



Generations of Care

R. Locke & Son

Independent Family Funeral Directors – Est 1853

Caution Corner
BRAILES
OX15 5AZ
t: (01608) 685274

Prompt, personal attention with
arrangements made either
at our premises or in the
comfort of your own home.

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans
www.golden-charter.co.uk 

Monumental Masonry - Offices also at Kineton & Wellesbourne

TOWN & COUNTRY JOINERY

Purpose made Joinery
& Furniture

Glebe Farm, Blackwell
Shipston-on-Stour, Warks CV36 4PB
Tel: Will Parker 01608 664511

THE WOLFORDS VILLAGE HALL

Ideal for children's parties, meetings, classes,
family gatherings, BBQs, company training

- seats 50 - 60, (80 standing)
- excellent disabled access
- well-equipped, modern kitchen

Bookings:

<https://www.thewolfordsvillagehall.org.uk>



John Lyne

homehardware

Stockists of a wide range of DIY, Household,
Gardening and Cookware products

Shop Local - no need to travel out of town!

Free local delivery service
1 High Street, Shipston-on-Stour.

Tel: 01608 661422

OPEN: Mon to Fri: 8am-5.30pm. Sat: 8am - 5pm

www.homehardware.co.uk



Morgan Roofing Services

07765 228784



We are one of the leading roofing companies in Warwickshire and West Midlands. We undertake all types of traditional, domestic and commercial roofing work including: repairs and restorations, re-roofs and flat roofs, lead roofing, and built up felt roofing.

For a free quote, call **Peter Morgan on 07765 228784** or 01608 433032 or 01386 304324. Email: **morg11p@hotmail.co.uk**
We provide completely free no-obligation estimates for all jobs.

www.morganroofingservices.co.uk

Give us a detailed description of what you want done, and we'll respond quickly with a detailed, no-obligation estimate.

S.M. Duck ELECTRICAL

*Serving the Cotswolds
since 2002*

**EXTRA SOCKETS • LIGHTING
FUSEBOARDS • REWIRES
PAT TESTING**

✓ *No job
too big
or small*



**01608 674438
07796 482249**

Sun Rising

Natural Burial Ground
Nr Lower Tysoe, S Warwickshire

Sun Rising is a place of deep natural peace, where loved ones can be laid to rest amidst growing native woodland and meadows. For those of all religious faiths or none, this carefully managed site is available for coffin burial and interment of cremated remains.

01295 688488
sunrisingburialground.co.uk

Nature Reserve
Burial Grounds Ltd



Sole Funeral Service

Bidston Close, Over Norton

Sympathetic & personal service
from a qualified funeral director
with private chapel

Memorials designed & supplied

Tel: 01608 644112

at any hour

TAXI!

CLARKES OF SHIPSTON

Licensed Private Hire

Airport Service

To book or obtain a quote call:

(01608) 661418

or email:

stuart.clarke@lineone.net

W E Sutton Ltd

Ground Works & Plant Hire

Est. 1963



Long established and experienced company

- All types of ground works
- Drainage
- Plant hire
- Council Approved contractors

7 Brook Cottages, Willington, Shipston on Stour,
Warwickshire CV36 5AU

Tel: 01608 663300 Fax: 01608 664669

Mobile: 07970 632265

Need a Good Venue?

Long Compton Village Hall
can meet your needs, **as
soon as normal service
can be resumed.**

Superbly equipped kitchen, ample
parking, capacity for up to 100,
separate meeting room, china and
furniture hire.

Wifi now available!

Call Ann Lattimore on 01608 684540
or email lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk
for more information, or to make a
booking.

Long Compton Village Hall



PICTURE FRAMING

Competitively priced framing of
artwork, prints, photographs, using
conservation techniques and materials.

A wide range of frames, mounts and
decorative options available.

BRIAN SIMPSON

20 Roman Row, Whichford, CV36 5PJ

Tel: 01608 684787 / 07818 529095

Web: www.bmspictureframing.com

 : fb.me/briansimpsonframing

Email: brian_simpson@live.co.uk

IN PRODUCTION SINCE **1993** *giclée* **quality** **creativity** **complete** **efficient** **friendly** **Enthusiastic** **professional** **dedicated** **PASSION**
print **solutions** *coffee* **detail** **litho** **lets** **talk** **print**
DESIGN **artworking** **DIGITAL** **reliability** **PAPER**
EXPERIENCE

litho printing | digital printing
 giclée fine art scanning
 design & artworking | print finishing

KMSLITHO
 YOUR PRINT, OUR PASSION

T 01608 737 640 E enquiries@kmslitho.co.uk www.kmslitho.co.uk
 Railway Bridge House, Station Road, Hook Norton, Oxfordshire OX15 5LS

SHIPSTONLINK
 ...bringing Shipston and the rural community together

Shipston Link runs scheduled local bus services, Tuesday to Friday, from surrounding villages into Shipston Town Square, via the Medical Centre, plus weekly shopping trips to Banbury, Moreton-in-Marsh and Chipping Norton.



Our friendly drivers can take you right to your destination; so relax and let us worry about the parking. Bus Passes are accepted on all our Services, with flat-fares for cash customers.

We also provide a very reasonably priced Private Hire service, seven days a week, using our comfortable 16-seater mini-buses.

For more information about our scheduled Services call the Travel Line on 0871 200 2233, or click www.shipstonlink.co.uk

Surinderpal Singh
For all your Strimming,
Hedge Cutting and Lawn
Mowing (using your
mower) needs.



Tel: 01608 684 860
Mob/SMS: 07542 00 00 80
sur1nderpal@yahoo.com



THE RED LION

a country inn with rooms

Delicious, local food served
all day on Friday, Saturday, Sunday
and Bank Holidays.
Bar open all day, every day.
Excellent garden terrace.

Long Compton, Nr Shipston on Stour,
Warwickshire CV36 5JS

Telephone: 01608 684221

www.redlion-longcompton.co.uk

**Renovations in Long
Compton, traditional
alu-clad timber,
STM Tinlum**



ENLIGHTENED WINDOWS

Truly the next generation of products

**HIGH QUALITY, DURABLE WINDOWS
& DOORS MADE IN GERMANY & DENMARK**

Please call to arrange a visit

01608 684607

Long Compton, Warwickshire

www.enlightenedwindows.co.uk



John Napier Forestry and Timber

Tree work and hedge cutting undertaken:
farm work and gardens

Trees purchased: standing, felled dead or live

Seasoned, dry, barn-stored, locally-felled
firewood and kindling

07816 379836

jnapierforestry@yahoo.co.uk

website: jnapierforestry.com

**Fed up with the headache of
bookkeeping?**

**Let me handle everything for you.
Professional Bookkeeping and
Payroll Service**

Vat returns* Annual accounts* Cash flow*
Monthly figures

Bank reconciliation* Using your system or
starting from scratch

Ann McKenna MICB CB.Dip PM.Dip
Leylands Business Services

07500 678206/ 01608 674009
annmckenna3@sky.com



**Member of the Institute of
Certified Bookkeepers**

Cotswolds Aikido

**Tai Chi Meditation Yoga
Forest Bathing**

**Sessions now at
The Wolfords Village Hall
(Monday am + Thursday evenings)**

Contact:

hari_aohm@hotmail.com

07713455154

Jonathan Perry
CHIMNEY SWEEP

Open fires, Inglenooks, Wood burners,
Agas

For a clean, friendly and professional
service please contact me on:

Tel: 07557 058051

Email: jperrychimneysweep@gmail.com



Guild of Master Chimney
Sweepers qualified



All work certificated for house
insurance purposes

Long Compton Village Stores

Main St, Long Compton.

- ✓ **Takeaway food: hot pies, fresh cut sandwiches, tea & coffee etc.**
- ✓ **Instore bakery, cakes pastries etc.**
- ✓ **Dry Cleaning**
- ✓ **Greengrocery, dairy products, confectionery**
- ✓ **Gluten free products**
- ✓ **Newsagents & Stationery**
- ✓ **Off licence**
- ✓ **Flowers**
- ✓ **Home delivery**

Tel: 01608 684277

MUSIC TUITION

Tuition in Classical Guitar
and Piano.

All ages welcome.



Dr. Julian Grimshaw

B.Mus, D.Phil (Oxon)

01451 821525

07891 423855

jdwyergrimshaw@btinternet.com

Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction
service of individual items
through to complete property
and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or
email info@leauction.co.uk

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

www.leauction.co.uk



LOCKE & ENGLAND
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

**01926
889100**

**18 Guy Street,
Leamington Spa,
CV32 4RT**



Shipston Care for Local People

Compassionate Care for people of the Cotswolds



Shipston Care

Shipston Care is a leading home care provider based in the Cotswolds. We offer a Live-in care service that can be a great alternative to leaving the familiar surroundings of your own home.

Our success is built around the quality of our carers and support staff who will carry out a **free, no obligation needs assessment** to establish what your individual needs are.

Whether you require personal care, assistance with daily activities, or would just like some companionship, we are dedicated to delivering the highest possible standards of live in care to enable you to continue living in your own home.

For an informal chat, please give our friendly team a call on 01608 663377



"I knew, through my work as a nurse at a local Hospital, of your good reputation and responsiveness before you started caring for my mum. However, it was only when she needed your help that I realised quite how good you are. It's been quite reassuring knowing that mum had been safe at home with your carers. I know that she is also grateful for the stability this has provided. Without your support, my mum wouldn't have been able to stay in her home for so long - and the way you have been able to increase care rapidly when she needed it helped with this." Philip Vial.

We have built our reputation on:

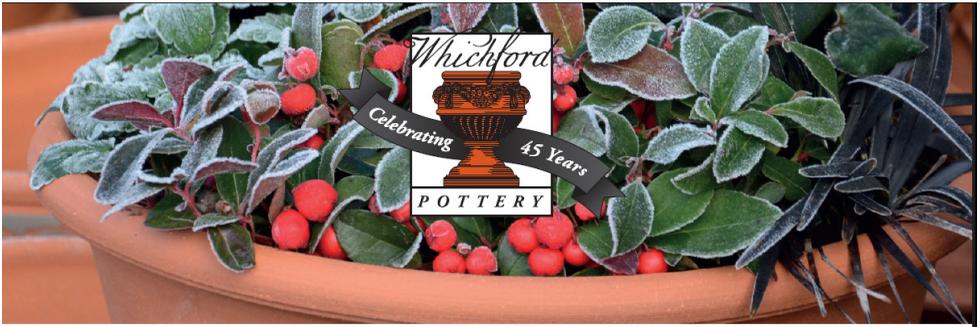
- Carefully matching the carer to you, our client
- Our support for daily activities
- Empathetic Personal Care
- Respectful Companionship Care
- Safe Medication Handling
- Excellent Meal Preparation

You will benefit from:

- Industry best yet affordable care
- The services of one carer who is carefully selected to best suit you, your needs, and your lifestyle
- Catering for your requirements and ongoing needs
- A personalised service

enquiries@shipstoncare.co.uk | 4 Granville Ct, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4PP | 01608 66 33 77

Shipston Care Limited is fully regulated by the Care Quality Commission



Christmas Shopping at Whichford Pottery

Head to the tranquillity of the Pottery to find...

- The Octagon stocked with Christmas gifts with a difference
 - Handmade Frostproof Flowerpots • The Straw Kitchen
- Please see our website for Pottery & Café opening times.



Whichford Pottery, Whichford, Nr. Shipston-on-Stour,
Warks, CV36 5PG Tel: 01608 684416 www.whichfordpottery.com

Can't visit us? Take advantage of our Christmas Free Delivery Offer available online.