

THE LINK

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

JULY 2025

£1.20



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

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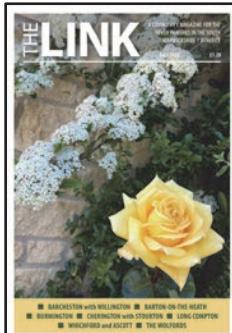
EDITORIAL



Welcome to the July edition of The Link. High summer and for once the sun is shining for us. Despite the obvious pitfalls, I am a big fan and at my most energetic and productive when the sun is out. It is also the time friends and family all want to visit the Cotswolds and who can blame them, the countryside is looking spectacular and the villages beautiful. Aren't we lucky to live where we do?

Happily, this is also a time when there is plenty to do both out and about and at home so do check through these pages to check what's on near you. Enjoy the sunshine!

Sara Billins



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www.stevelavelle.com

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

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July 10th**

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Letter

Dear David,

I live in Little Wolford and enjoy reading your Nature Notes every month.

We were away for half term last week and our dog sitter found a large snakeskin in the garden.

We haven't seen snakes in the garden before so I got very excited thinking that it might be a slow worm....upon our return, I chatted with our gardener and he said that there are snakes and slow worms about, but after further research, this particular one looks too long to be a slow worm.



But we will keep our eyes out going forward and thanks as always for the interesting information!

With very best wishes,

Caroline Costin Wright



Ed: There are quite a few about, including these at the allotments in Long Compton. They are getting tangled in garden netting, so do check and release as necessary.



Happy Birthday!
July 2025



Molly Johnson
Arthur Says
Phoebe Williams
Ryan Baldwin

Burmington
Willington
Willington
Stourton

10
12
16
17



Carers4Carers

Monthly support meeting at Kineton Village Hall on Friday, 25th July, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon. This month, we're excited to offer a short session of gentle, chair-based exercise (to be confirmed). It's a great opportunity to relax, stretch, and boost your well-being in a friendly and supportive setting! As always, there will be refreshments, chat and mutual support. Carers are encouraged to bring loved ones, who can join the Companionship Group while the meeting takes place. For more details or assistance with transport, contact Gillian or Lisa at 07947 893504, email kcarers4carers@gmail.com, or visit www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk.

Lisa Barnett – Assistant Coordinator



The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th July.

As usual, in Burmington village hall at 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm.

Please book with Brenda on Tel. 01608 6643131



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



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

Even the word "dementia" can be daunting...
but we believe it's better to get the practical advice
and emotional support you need as a family carer

Please visit one of our dementia friendly cafes locally

Tuesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm



Shipston on Stour CV36 4QG

Wednesday from 2pm - 4pm

Wellesbourne Village Hall CV35 9NH

Thursday from 10.30am - 12.30pm



Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0DS

Friday from 10am - 12 noon



Tysoe Village Hall CV35 0SE

1st Tuesday of each month
from 10.30am - 12.30pm

Compton Verney House CV35 9HZ
(contact us for entrance tickets)

Google



talkdementia.uk

Advice and support for carers of loved ones
living with dementia in South Warwickshire

Contact Paul and Heather Dowler

Phone 01295 688376

Email talkdementia.uk@gmail.com



Moreton-in-Marsh Country Market

For everything homemade, home grown, home cooked and home crafted.

Every Thursday, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, WI Hall, New Road, Moreton in Marsh.

All of the food we sell is cooked in the home, not processed in a factory, using locally sourced, seasonal produce and you can speak directly to the producers. We also have some wonderful crafters with unique, creative products.

Have you thought about getting involved with the market? We are always in need of new producers and volunteers to help with selling our lovely produce. Contact details below:

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

A big thank you to all our customers for your continued support.

INFO LINK

editor@swlink@gmail.com

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>.

Local Catholic Church Services

Chipping Norton

Holy Trinity, London Road. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 11.00 am Tel: 01608 642703

Stow-on-the-Wold

Our Lady and St. Kenelm, 5 Back Walls. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 9.15 am Tel: 01608 674354

Shipston and Brailes

Shipston, Our Lady and St. Michael, Darlingscote Road. Sunday 9.15 am.

Brailes, SS Peter and Paul, Friars Lane. Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm (for Shipston and Brailes Tel: 01608 685259)

Chipping Campden

St Catharine's Lower High St. Sunday masses: – Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 10.30 am Tel: 01386 84026

Local Quaker Meetings

Local Quaker Meetings for worship:

Broad Campden, Quaker Meeting House, GL556US - Sundays at 10.30 am.

Ettington, Quaker Meeting Hse, Old Halford Rd, CV377TH -Sundays at 11.00 am.

Sibford, Quaker Meeting House, Sibford Gower, OX155RX - Sundays at 10.30 am.

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

Local Congregational Services

Services at the Ebenezer Chapel, Long Compton bi-monthly Sunday at 3.30 pm.

Chair Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778 Sec/Treasurer Sally Franklin

PARISH PEOPLE

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

	<i>Barcheston St Martin</i>	<i>Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence</i>
Churchwardens	David Hodges 07767840857	Walter Sawyer 684755
Secretary	Alice and Tom Murray 238755	Penny Mead 674595
Treasurer	David Cleave 666002	Kay Sonneborn
<hr/>		
	<i>Burnington St Barnabas & St Nicholas</i>	<i>Cherington St John the Baptist</i>
Churchwardens	Michael Macdonald 662483	Roger Maycock 686404
Secretary	Graham French 239032	Paul Levitch 686353
Treasurer	John Boulter and Mary Scott (joint treasurer) 07968 450331	Sherry Gasson-Barker 686420
<hr/>		
	<i>Long Compton St Peter and St Paul</i>	<i>Whichford St Michael</i>
Churchwardens	Jill Kirby 684923	Sophia Corlett 684369
Secretary	Zoë Wrigley 650404	Mandy James 684479
Treasurer	John Nye 684363	Jenny Scrivener
<hr/>		
	<i>Wolford St Michael and All Angels</i>	
Churchwarden	John Wrench 674389	
Treasurer	Ann McKenna 674009	

Parish Council

Parish	Chair	Clerk
Barcheston	David Sutton	Lindsey Walker (663567)
Barton-on-the-Heath	James Coker (674601)	Julia Hicks
Burnington	Robert Hutchings (661496)	
Cherington	Philip Townsend (686529)	Sara Cole (686250)
Long Compton	Simon Bing (684827)	Sam Weller (684897)
Whichford	Ed Law	Nicky Aldenton
The Wolfords	Pippa Lines (01608 674035)	Elizabeth Gilkes (684336)

CHURCH NOTES

News from South Warwickshire Churches SW 7

Since Ben Dyson our Rector is away on a well-earned break from his demanding task of looking after the South Warwickshire Seven Churches (SW7) , I am writing this month as a member of the Ministry Leadership Team to explain our role more fully as it falls to us to guide the organisation and pastoral care of these churches over the next couple of months or so.



CONNECT

Would you like to meet with other families in your community for an afternoon of friendship, fun, games and craft and an opportunity to meet some of your local church family in a relaxed setting.

Come to Long Compton Village Hall
Every Second Sunday of the month 3:00-4:00pm

Refreshments provided

Connect is being organised by the
South Warwickshire 7 group of churches.

For more details, please contact
Kim Petty, kimpetty@btinternet.com 07949949215

You may have noticed on the church noticeboards the pictures of the team should an occasion arise. We are here to help and meet with anyone seeking Christian guidance and help in times of need.

You may well ask what qualifies us to do this? The answer is very little except the fact that we have a developing faith in The

Lord Jesus and His strength and guidance to lead us through life. We often fail in this quest, but we rely on The Lord's Holy Spirit to see us through.

We are now in the season of Pentecost when, fifty days after Jesus Christ arose from the dead and after He had ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to all believers. This has happened continuously ever since and to succeeding generations of Christians.

Most recently five adults were confirmed in their faith in Long Compton church. Maybe someone reading this would like to consider this step too. When Ben returns, he would be happy to lead you in this search.

In the meantime, the MLT team are on hand, to help and guide. The team consists of myself and my wife Clare, (Tel 684337 or 07900 107411), Richard Stevens, (07912 043838) Liz Maycock, (686404) and Kim Petty, (07949 949215), who as many of you know is wonderfully pioneering family ministries throughout our churches. Do contact any of us if you wish.

Rev Canon Anthony Wells

What's happening in SW7 Benefice?

SW7 stands for South Warwickshire Seven and is the name for our group of churches, sometimes called a Benefice. Our goal is to give everyone the opportunity to get to know the God who made us and who loves us through his son Jesus.

In our Benefice we have opportunities outside our beautiful church buildings as well as inside.

Our free Toddler Group (Giggle Tots) on a Thursday morning is currently having a break and possibly looking to relocate.

South Warwickshire Seven Churches

Giggle Tots

Long Compton Village Hall

Free on Thursday mornings

Term time only 10.00-11.30

**Come and join us for fun,
friendship and playtime.**

**For all care givers with
children 0-4.**

More information from

Kim Petty 07949949215



Serving our Communities

We have Connect a family style Café meeting at Long Compton Village Hall every second Sunday of the month from 3:00-4:00pm.

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 4:00pm, we have an Informal Family Service called GAP (God and People) followed by drinks and pizza, or hot dogs.

On the 4th Sunday of the month in Long Compton Church at 10:30am there is a service with a Children's Group.

See your Church notice board for the many varied services and celebrations that are on across SW7.

If you would like to know more, we would love to hear from you, please do contact Kim Petty, (Family Outreach Worker)

07949949215

kimpetty@btinternet.com.

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

July 2025 CHURCH SERVICES						
SW7 Sunday Worship	St Martin Barcheston	St Lawrence Barton	St Barnabas & St Nicholas Barmingtton	St John the Baptist Cherrington	St Peter & St Paul Long Compton	St Michael Whichford
6 th July 3 rd Sunday after Trinity				10:30am CW Morning Prayer (RSt/LM)	4:00pm GAP Informal (Mth)	
13 th July 4 th Sunday after Trinity					3:00pm Connect At the Village Hall (KP)	9:00am BCP Holy Communion (MH)
20 th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity		10:30CW Holy Communion (AW/CLW)	9:00am Lay led Morning Prayer			10:30am CW Morning Prayer (MH)
27 th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity						10:30 CW Holy Communion (CLW/AW)

South Warwickshire Benefice

Reverend Ben Dyson Tel: 01608 628229 email: vicarsw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)
 Benefice Administrator: Liz Clarke Tel: 07425868855 email: office@sw7@gmail.com
www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk
facebook.com/sw7churches

BD = Ben Dyson, LM = Liz Maycock, AW = Anthony Walshe, CLW = Clare Wells, HP = Heather Parfitt, RSt = Richard Smith, RS = Richard Stevens, ADBC = Archdeacon Barry Dugmore
 BCP = Prayer Book, CW = Common Worship, GAP = Informal Service



FARMING NOTES

Editor: John Richardson

It's the 3rd of June and it rained today. While many days over the last 2 months when it forecast rain and we had little, or more likely nothing all here. It's now the driest spring since records began. Not so long ago it was two of the wettest seasons ever.

I'm being cautious in my words, but crops on the whole seem to have stood the drought better than I expected. I think due to how well they planted in good seed beds. Some of the later-planted areas for wild bird crops haven't fared as well. Some haven't germinated and some have and been eaten by many of the insects that attack seeding green growth. We now have no weapons left in our armoury to fight them off.

Dan has now topped all of the clover fields for the second time to stop any blackgrass seeding in them. They may need doing again if we do get some decent rain, and new growth keeps coming. Later they will be left to flower and seed themselves and grow onto next year when they will flower again before being destroyed to make ready for a flowing crop of winter wheat. This, I believe is the last time we will grow any, as the government, in their wisdom have pulled

the plug on all the schemes, so I guess the countryside will become a carpet of swaying corn of one sort or another.

Last week, we had a visit from the Shipston Flood Prevention Group, to look at the weeping dams installed along our stretch of Nethercote Brook. Some were damaged in the last wet winters. These will be repaired later this summer, He mentioned he had been approached by Severn Rivers Trust, telling him they had now got some funding for reedbeds and were we interested. Dan had given it some thought in the past and had a couple of areas in mind Well, within a couple of days, a young lady contacted Dan and fixed to come out to discuss things. She came today, got wet in the rain, then came in for coffee and a chat. She photographed a map or two and would go back to put ideas forward, ask for prices etc. and in the future, we may have two or three reed beds on feeder streams running into Nethercote brook that will hold back flow in times of spate, thus helping Shipston and the village, and be a benefit to nature as well. Still, it is not certain yet, but I hope it does come about.



Some years ago, now, a colony of very rare bats were found living in Whichford wood. They were the furthest north the species had ever been recorded. The Warwickshire Bat Trust became interested in this species and arranged many visits in this and surrounding farms as the bats were known to travel many miles in search of food. I've never heard the outcome of their research, but we were offered a small amount of seed to plant in order to attract the insects they feed on. A small container seed arrived and inside was a very heavy price tag. We selected a damp, unproductive area to plant it. I set up a drill and managed to sow four turns of a four-meter drill alone at the bottom of the

field in the shade of some trees. It all came up and it's been left untouched for over 10 years, and now, totally naturally, it now sports some Common Spotted Orchids and several unusual plants. So, you never know what's round the corner, and sometimes something good happens. Still, I'd love to see more gentle rain - not a wet month - and some sunshine in-between to fill the coming harvest.

John 'Tufty' Richardson

The UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme published their results for 2024 just recently (March 2025), and it made very troubling reading. 2024 was one of the worst years for butterflies in the 49 years that the scheme has been running - it ranked in 45th place, showing long-term declines for over half of our butterfly species. It was the second worst year for the more common garden species since 1976.

There are various reasons for this decline: it was a wet spring and a relatively cool summer, which hit the mating and breeding season. But there are bigger long-term issues like loss of habitat through development, pollution, and climate change. As gardeners, we can't do much about the weather or development; we could drive less-polluting cars, I guess, but we can adapt our gardens to help. It means planting more of certain types of plant and perhaps leaving the garden a bit messier.

Thinking about what caterpillars need, you can grow - or allow to grow - species-specific plants that caterpillars feed on. The holly blue caterpillar thrives on holly and ivy, the common blue will love any white clover you have in your lawn, and of course nettles for the small tortoiseshell (you only need a few nettles to make a difference!).

Adult butterflies appreciate nectar-rich flowers, particularly when planted in sheltered spots (wind can stop butterflies from feeding). Plants such as vipers bugloss, echinops, Shasta daisy, scabious, oregano, and of course buddleia. You can extend the availability of nectar with spring flowers like forget-me-nots and dandelions, and into autumn with verbena and perennial sweet peas. You can find which butterflies are most common in your area from the Butterfly Conservation website, which will also tell you what they like to feed on or hibernate in.

Try not to use pesticides, if possible. Any traces of pesticide in the soil can be absorbed by plants that caterpillars and adult butterflies feed on, to deleterious effect. And some butterflies, such as the Purple Hairstreak and the Speckled Wood, feed on aphid honeydew as their preferred food, so leave the aphids alone!

In order to feed and mate effectively, butterflies need to bask and warm up, so if you can make space for them to do that, it's very helpful. Dark rocks and big stones that retain the sun's heat are perfect for their basking.

The good news is that some species are adapting to the loss of their favourite caterpillar food plants: the comma, for example, which was a victim of the huge decline in hop-farming, has switched to laying its eggs on nettles, and the holly blue is moving northwards, colonising new areas in the Midlands. This is great news, but we still need to do more to help butterflies thrive.

Miranda Arnold



LONG COMPTON & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB



**July summer outing to Dean Manor Garden nr Chipping Norton OX7 3LD
on Thursday 17th July 2.00pm**

The garden is set in six acres originally designed by Arabella Lennox-Boyd. The walls house an abundant selection of climbing and rambling roses and clematis. More formal gardens consist of herbaceous borders interspersed with yew buttresses, a water garden, wildflower meadows and an orchard.

Cost for an introductory talk and tea is £18.00

www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/dean-manor

Garden Club members will receive more details soon. If you are not a member and would like to join us for this visit, please contact Walter Sawyer secretarylcgardenclub@gmail.com

Dates for your diary, further details to follow -

August 13th Bourton House Garden www.bourtonhouse.com

September 8th Chivell Farm www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/chivell-farm

Visit to Kiftsgate Court

Another successful Long Compton Garden Club (LCGC) outing was organised for the 19th May to visit the Gardens of Kiftsgate Court. Started from scratch by the present owner's grandparents it is still in the family and has developed year on year to a beautiful garden above Chipping Campden with views to the Malvern Hills.



The house is surrounded with borders of pinks and mauves, turn a corner into the "Water Garden" and you find yellows and blues, there was a surprising amount of colour because of this year's strange weather but that was to our advantage.

If you are brave, go down the terraced slopes, hacked out of a steep bank by Italian gardeners in the 1930's and now full of interesting shrubs, the path then leads you down to the lower level and a plunge pool where you can sit and admire the view of the Malvern hills and quintessential English farming with hedgerows enclosing the sheep and grazing cattle, not so quietly.

Time to depart and a steady climb back up to a good tea and then an array of interesting plants for purchase to fill your own gardens. A good day was had by all and now we look forward to the next visit to Moor Wood Roses, book your place early and join us for a wonderful experience.

Paul Field

NATURE NOTES

Editor: David Sewell

Mayflies. I'm not talking about the spring already hurtling towards summer, rather the winged insects that many of you will have noticed at the end of May and into early June. This year seems to have produced a bumper crop of these delicate 'Ephemeras' and I had several crashing around the garden. I was somewhat surprised because mayflies are normally associated with 'unpolluted' water (the larvae spend up to 2 years in the water feeding on algae and plants before emerging as adults) a title our local stretch of the Stour would struggle to live up to at times. Either way and unrelated the water quality is their longevity...or lack of it. Most last no more than two days while many last only a couple of hours. Another reminder of the fleeting nature of the world around us.



Another even more spectacular species that suddenly appeared in numbers in June was the day-flying scarlet tiger moths. Often mistaken for butterflies, these vivid moths have black forewings studded with white and gold splodges, while their hindwings are scarlet red with cryptic black markings. And for a couple of days in June my garden was full of the things. The adult moths start their lives the previous year when the caterpillars spend the late summer chomping on comfrey, green alkanet

and nettles. They spend the winter as a caterpillar emerging again in the spring to continue feeding and growing. Eventually they pupate and finally out pops the adult moth to delight us all in May and June. The purpose of this synchronised hatching is to find a mate and start the whole process all over again.



Staying with the lepidoptera theme it is with some relief that I'm seeing lots more butterflies this spring, so hopefully numbers will start to recover from last year's appalling wet, cold spring that decimated some butterfly populations. Keep an eye out wherever there are flowers and keep looking. Over the weeks, through the summer, various local species will hatch and create 'waves' of butterflies so at any site you might see different species

depending on what's recently emerged. A few days ago, it was marbled whites and I counted over 30 on an early morning walk.

One of the best sites for butterflies locally is the Sun Rising natural burial ground near Tysoe where they have created two butterfly habitats and have so far recorded 23 of the 38 species listed in Warwickshire. Obviously huge respect and reverence should be exercised when visiting this site; aside from the butterflies, keep an eye out for tree sparrows as well! Otherwise, the Warwickshire Wildlife trust has several reserves under 10 miles from us including Radway Meadows near Kineton, Hook Norton cutting and Loxley Church meadow. Look on their website for further details.

Finally, a quick ID tip for those that carry an iPhone. You can often identify a species by taking a picture on the phone then swiping the image up with your finger. If the image is clear and close enough the phone will often tell you what it is. I find it particularly useful for wildflowers (especially orchids which can look rather similar.) You can thank me when you see me!

David Sewell

Combining interests

A number of our regular walkers are also members of the local book club. Last week illustrated how the two interests could coincide. Our next walk will be along the Cherwell from Wolvercote into Jericho returning along the canal to the Trout. The inn has a long literary history from Lewis Carroll through to Morse and the entrance features a stone lion said to be C S Lewis's inspiration for Aslan.



A few days later, a number of us were at Asthall Manor to wander through the gardens, stopping every few hundred yards to hear another one of the Mitford sisters reading letters or extracts from their various writings in an excellent production by Chipping Norton theatre entitled "*In the footsteps of the Mitfords*". Walks based on the family's houses at Asthall, Swinbrook and Batsford can easily be located

A Google search quickly revealed the possibility of further literary walks. Tolkien is buried close to the Trout in Wolvercote; the Rollright Stones, Broadway Tower and Moreton in Marsh all feature in his book "Lord of the Rings" as Barrow Downs, Amon Hen and Bree respectively, with The Bell in Moreton being the Prancing Pony.

Adelstrop Park is said to be the setting for Jane Austen's Mansfield Park. J.M. Barrie wrote much of Peter Pan at Stanway House where he organised a cricket team featuring, amongst others, Conan Doyle, AA Milne and P.G Wodehouse.

TS Elliott and Graham Greene both lived in and wrote from Chipping Campden, and it is possible to identify their houses and some of the settings featured on short walks.

A little further away, but still within an hour's drive, is my own favourite literary walk – the Laurie Lee trail at Slad, including 10 wooden posts embossed with Lee's poems and ending at his favourite pub - the Woolpack.

There are lots of other possibilities to be found both in books specifically featuring Cotswold authors and their walks, and in offerings from local travel companies. The local group will hope to try out others in the course of the next few outings.

Stuart Brown scbqc1@gmail.com

SCHOOL NOTES

News from Acorns

As we rapidly approach the end of the academic school year, there is a vast array of activities being planned and taking place, from cluster athletics and rounders events to the Shipston Primary School Proms. We also have our own Sports Day and end of term celebrations during which we will say goodbye to our Year 6 leavers as they take the next steps in their educational and life journeys. A selection of Year 4 children will be attending a Maths Challenge Day at Kitebrook School, an event which has been thoroughly enjoyed in previous years. The Stour Federation Trust has also been visited by Trust leaders from Essex in recent weeks; each of the five schools has hosted the visitors and it has proved a great opportunity to share excellent practice and 'wonder' about ideas for future developments.



News from across the classes



In Little Acorns, to continue their Sunshine and Sunflowers topic, the children enjoyed planting sunflower seeds and caring for their seedlings. Reception children learned all about compost and created their own mini composter to see composting in action. Inspired by famous works of art and flowers in our garden, the children created some beautiful artwork. They used pastels to produce still life sketches of vases of flowers, poster paints mixed with flour to give the effect of acrylics to create sunflower

paintings, mixed media flower collages, water colour paintings and plasticine flowers.

Class 1 pupils have been developing their skills as time detectives in their *Movers & Shakers* topic. They've learnt how to read dates and order events chronologically, even the tricky 2000s! Using this new knowledge, they created timelines showing the birthdates of significant people from the past, as well as one charting key moments in the history of space travel. As part of their Design and Technology companion topic, *Chop, Slice and Mash*, children have started practising how to safely use a range of kitchen utensils, including peelers, sharp



knives, and graters, really enjoying preparing vegetables and working together to improve their chopping and slicing skills.

Science lessons in Class 2 have focused on dental hygiene and the importance of keeping our teeth clean. To investigate this, pupils carried out a

fascinating experiment using eggs to represent tooth enamel. One set of eggs was 'brushed' with toothpaste with the other left untreated, whilst left in vinegar! Over time, pupils observed the changes, helping them understand the impact of plaque and the protective benefits of brushing with fluoride toothpaste. There were some very surprising (and slightly smelly!) results, sparking lots of thoughtful discussion.

In Design and Technology in Class 3, children have been fully engaged in their Architecture project, learning how to build stable structures using recycled materials to create functioning buildings, connecting their learning to the main class topic: Groundbreaking Greeks. In Art, the focus has been on the Expressionist movement, capturing facial expressions through photos and using pastels and watercolours to create expressive portraits.

Vacancies:

We also still have a vacancy for one Community Governor to help set the direction and ethos of our school and be a valuable part in the future success of Acorns Primary. If you know anybody who might be interested, please ask them to come and talk to me (Mrs. Young) or to contact Gary Stokes, our Local Academy Council Chair via the school email address admin2639@welearn365.com. To ensure that the Local Academy Council is properly balanced, these positions cannot be filled by any of our current parents as all of our Parent Governor positions are full.

Hannah Young

News from Brailes

This term has seen our Early Years children in Squirrels class travelling around the Big Wide World! The children had a wealth of ideas of how to travel in style, from front-loaders and tractors to helicopters and hot air balloons. They began by looking at our world on Google Earth and identifying the land and the oceans before travelling around the World on a magic carpet with *"My Granny Went to Market"* by Stella Blackstone, visiting lots of countries and looking at a suitcase of objects from all the places they stopped at.

Next, they talked about and explored our school village of Brailes and the surrounding countryside and compared it to Mama Panya's village in Africa. The



children played with animals from the African continent, dressed in traditional clothes, played the drum and thumb piano and made beautiful Ndebele patterns with pastels. Continuing with the animal theme, *"Under the Same Sky"* by Britta Teekentrup introduced them to animals from different habitats. Identifying the wild animals found around Brailes, they also discovered where lions and elephants live, and where you'd find a polar bear or a walrus. It's been a magical learning adventure filled with curiosity and wonder.

Children from Years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed a wonderful visit to Sculpture at Kingham Lodge. Beneath a blue sky and glorious sunshine, the children explored 5 acres of beautiful grounds - a magical home to hundreds of sculptures.

They were welcomed on arrival by Christopher, the owner of the garden, who challenged them to explore the grounds and find sculptures made of stone, metal, glass, wood and resin. He explained that the sculptures had been made by local, national and international artists as well as children from local primary schools. Some of the sculptures stood tall and proud whilst others were hidden away in the long grass, hedgerows and leafy branches. They also spent some time sketching their favourites which helped them to look even more closely and notice tiny details.

We are very grateful to the work of CATS: Cotswold Art Through Schools, a charity delivering art, drama, dance and music experiences to schools in the Cotswolds, who funded our visit to the garden. The children found it very inspirational and it was a wonderful opportunity to widen our horizons and aspire to greatness!

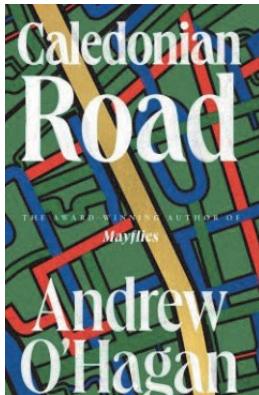


Throughout this term, we have continued to build valuable momentum and our commitment as a school and wider community to encourage and support a Smartphone Free Childhood for our children, living our core values of courage, compassion and curiosity, growing together and shining brightly!

Heather Childs



Book Club



We enjoyed meeting to talk about '*Caledonian Road*' by Andrew O'Hagan. It is a vast state-of-the-nation novel based around London and displays an astonishing array of settings and characters, all to a greater or lesser extent influenced by money.

This highly acclaimed novel apparently took ten years to write and forms a part of O'Hagan's large body of work, including non-fiction and many plays. It was the basis of lively discussion, with some finding it depressing. However, everyone agreed that the writing was superb, witty in places and sadly relevant to our current times.

Gillian Cathie

Barton-on-the-Heath in past years

This time the photograph of the village green, unlike that in last month's The LINK, shows the trees in leaf. It also shows a barn that is no longer in existence. The houses are still there but the space immediately outside them has changed with flower beds in one case



Oxfordshire History centre POX0179729

Christopher Fance



Burmington Farmer, David Tame's 100 Mile Walk



The LDWA (Long Distance Walkers Association) hold their flagship event: an annual 100 mile walk at various locations around the UK.

This year's was held in and around Suffolk in May and Burmington farmer, David Tame took part.

The event is held over 48 hours, with multiple checkpoints along the route. The weather was, thankfully, not as hot as in previous weeks, and was a mixture of sunshine and showers. Walkers continue walking through the night, and some have to continue on through 2 nights!

David successfully completed the 100 miles in just over 32 hours. Interesting fact- the oldest competitor was 83 years old and finished his 43rd 100 miler!

Anyone interested in joining the LDWA should contact the Heart of England LDWA.

Bingo Night

31

15

29

6

8

40

77

£10 / 6 Games + Flyer

Raffle £1 Ticket

B.Y.O.B

6:30 for 7pm

Sat July 12th

Burmington Village Hall

Limited spaces, reservation line: 07966 849149



House of Bread Open Day

The House of Bread Christian retreat centre in Burmington, had an open day on Saturday 14 June. The sun shone and many came to enjoy the beautiful gardens, grounds and river; as well as having a look around the lovely spacious meeting rooms for up to 50 people and sleeping accommodation for up to 36 guests.



In 2024 over 3000 people spent time at The House of Bread – it is a place that can be booked by Christian groups to host their own events. It is also a place for people to take time on retreat; to step away from the busyness of the world and take time in stillness and quietness.

As part of the open day, the barn at The House of Bread hosted an art exhibition, children enjoyed a quiz as

they explored the site. Armfuls of second-hand books and plants went home with visitors, and the cream teas were a sure favourite!



VILLAGE NEWS

Cherington with Stourton

Editor: Christine Dudfield



Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Feel Good Friday Social Afternoons

Social Afternoon dates for your diary are Fridays 11th and 25th July 2:00pm to 4:00pm at The Hall. On Friday 11th we'll be having a Summer Tea Party.

The Summer Family Prize Bingo is Saturday 9th August doors open at 7:00pm, eyes down at 7:30pm.

Please bring your children and grandchildren; we look forward to seeing you there.

For more information, please contact me on 01608 663320.

Vanessa Compton

BINGO BONANZA

Join us for an exciting night of **SUMMER FAMILY PRIZE BINGO**
Great prizes and lots of fun in a fabulous venue...

SATURDAY 9TH AUGUST

Doors Open 7.00pm
Eyes Down 7.30pm

Cherington, Stourton and Sutton under Brailes Hall,
Pinfold Lane,
Stourton
CV36 5HG

PAID BAR & REFRESHMENTS

The Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership (SHWP) are pleased to advise that they will be continuing

Feel Good Friday Social Afternoons

2.00pm - 4.00pm
at The Cherington, Stourton and Sutton under Brailes Hall

On the following dates:

11th July - Summer Tea Party • 25th July
Saturday 9th August - Evening Family Prize Bingo at 7.00pm
22nd August - 5th September • 19th September
3rd October - 17th October • 31st October • 14th November

- ♦ Want to re-connect with old friends?
- ♦ Looking for friendship or company?
- ♦ Need a change of scenery?
- ♦ Come along, play a game or have a chat whilst enjoying free refreshments in a warm, friendly atmosphere

Everyone Welcome!

For more information contact Vanessa Compton 01608 663320

www.shwp.org.uk



Coffee Shop

Saturday 19th July 10.30am-12 noon

The Hall Stourton CV36 5HG

Bacon baps, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cake. Eat in or takeaway

We are always looking for people to help out if you want to get involved please contact me on 07866 127409.

Christine Dudfield

Village Lottery Draw

1st Jim Walton £80 2nd Alan Moug & Andy White £45

3rd Annie Parmenter £30.

Congratulations to our winners and thank you for your continued support. For more information on joining, please contact me.

Averell Kingston aap.kingston@gmail.com 07984 003675

Safari Supper 2025 will be on July 19th



Great news - Safari Supper is returning! It's a great way to connect with neighbours and fellow villagers. We would especially love to welcome those in the village who have never taken part before. Once you've joined us the first time you'll never look back! Please contact Sally (sallyclubley@gmail.com) or Sue (sueeileenmaaz@gmail.com) if you would like to take part or require more details. Keep an eye out on the village website -

<https://cheringtonandstourtonvillage.com> for further announcements about this event. Why not subscribe and keep up to date with all the news and information about our villages!

Brailes Picture House Team at High Noon



A big thank you from the Brailes Picture House team to all those who have enjoyed our films and supported us over the past year.

We now take our summer break so there are no movies in July or August, but we look forward to seeing you all again in the Autumn when we plan to show:-

September 19th Bridget Jones: Mad about the Boy,
October 17th Grumpy Old Men
November 14th Maria.
Fridays 7:15pm doors open for 7:45pm film start as usual.

Chris Shepperd on behalf of Deirdre and Stephanie

Dear Everyone

The time ,very sadly, has come for me to leave Cherington after 12 memorable and happy years spent in The Old Rectory with my dear beloved husband Tony. The house and garden are going to be in good hands with the family who are moving in and I thank you all for your kindness and friendship, particularly during the last 2 years.

With love and thanks

Hilary Paine

The Hall, Cherington, Stourton and Sutton-under-Brailes

Join us on Saturday 16th August for an open-air Performance of "*Three Men In A Boat*", adapted from the classic book by Jerome K. Jerome. Come and join in the fun as Jerome, aka Giles Shenton, expertly takes the helm and pilots you through the ridiculous and hilarious tale of men (and a dog!) behaving badly while messing about in boats on the Thames...

Weather permitting, the show will take place outside – making the most of our lovely setting and some good August weather (fingers crossed, but indoors if wet). There will be limited seating or bring your own blanket and enjoy the summery pleasure of stretching out on the grass!

Arrive from 5:00pm, show starts 6:00pm, finish approx 8:00pm. The Hall Bar will be open from 5:00pm and during the interval, for drinks, coffees and ice-cream, as well as post-show to extend the evening.

- Seating Section Tickets £15.00 / £8.00 u-16
- Picnic Section (BYO blanket/seat) £12.00 / £6.00 u-16 / £30.00 family ticket for 4 (max 2 adults)

Picnics available to order in advance, for collection from 5:00pm – contact the Hall for info. Or BYO.

Get your tickets direct from The Hall at info@thehallevents.org.uk / 07775 765572 or from the online Box Office at:

<https://buytickets.at/gilesshentonproductions>

Dates for your diary:

3rd July: Farmer's Market, 6:00-8:00pm

11th July: Flooding and sewage meeting, Manuela Perteghella MP, 9:30am

2nd Aug: Cherington and Stourton Show

9th Aug: Family Prize Bingo, Bar from 7:00pm

16th Aug: "*Three Men In A Boat*", The Hall Pop-up Theatre with GSP – Outdoor Performance (weather permitting)

2nd Nov: The Cantamus Choir Concert, 2:00pm

22nd Nov: "*Dead On Cue*", The Hall Pop-up Theatre with GSP

29th Nov: Christmas Family Prize Bingo, Bar from 7:00pm

Events Team: we want to provide a varied and busy calendar of events at The Hall, If anyone is interested in helping out with anything, from inputting ideas, organising a fundraiser, delivering fliers, manning the refreshments, or anything else, do get in touch (no expectation to commit!!).

Contact Erry, Hall Bookings Manager: info@thehallevents.org.uk / 07775 765572

Feldon Valley Military and Naval History Society

the next meeting will be at
The Hall, Pinfold Lane Stourton,
CV36 5HG

on Wednesday, **16 July 2025**
at **8.00 pm** for a talk by David Marriott on

**The Battle of Waterloo, 18 June 1815:
Three days which changed the course of
European history**

(This will be our last meeting before the August break)

*contact: Peter Stoddart at:
petercstoddart@gmail.com*



Well, we are busy working away in the background! We are sorting out some of our systems and processes, and web pages; boring but essential. Hopefully some of our changes will make it easier for people to book the village hall for their events. Also, we are improving our Social Saturdays. As a result of this, there will be no Social Saturday on 12th July, but we will be back in August with our new and improved Social Saturdays so watch this space!

There are lots of exciting events planned for the rest of the year and July will see us holding our 80s Disco Night on 19th July so it's time to book your place and practice your vogue moves. We are planning a special event in December 2026 to mark the 70th anniversary of the opening of Long Compton Village Hall.

Thank you to everyone who continues to help us with our charitable work, the Social Saturdays and our events. If you'd like to be part of our team, or simply just offer your help, please contact us via email on lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk.

As always, a big thank you to everyone for continuing to support the Village Hall.

Long Compton Village Hall Committee



Grab your leg warmers, it's
1980s Disco Night
19th July 2025

7.30pm Long Compton Village Hall
Dress in an 80s style or come as you are
Licensed bar
DJ Keith Lane plays 80s dance tracks
Entry fee £5 in advance
Phone Karen on 07815 300645
or email lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk





LCVH Events 2025

JULY	12TH SOCIAL SATURDAY 19TH 80S DISCO
AUGUST	2ND SHIPSTON TOWN BAND 9TH SOCIAL SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER	TBC RACE NIGHT 13TH SOCIAL SATURDAY
OCTOBER	TBC QUIZ NIGHT 11TH SOCIAL SATURDAY
NOVEMBER	TBC FRUIT SPIRIT TASTING 8TH SOCIAL SATURDAY
DECEMBER	13TH CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY



100 Club

The 100 Club Draw for June took place at the Village Hall Social Saturday on 14 June. The prize winners were:

1st David and Wendy Ward
3rd Karen King

2nd Jill Jeffrey
4th Rachel Sellars

Due to previous commitments the Social Saturday planned for Saturday 8 July has been cancelled. Thus, the next 100 Club Draw will be held at the August Social Saturday on 12 August and will be a double draw.

Village Hall Bridge Club

There will be no meetings of the Bridge Club in July and August due to holiday commitments. The Club will start again on Tuesday 9 September, and thereafter on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month. New players and beginners welcome!

Chris Galloway 684234



Hello, my name is Theo, and I am a student at Chipping Campden School. I'm fundraising for a trip to Borneo, with Camps International, in July 2026. It is a three-week expedition involving community work, environmental projects and conservation. I believe it is an unmissable opportunity that will provide me with important skills I can use throughout my life. I am looking forward to experiencing a different culture and language. Therefore, any financial support is greatly appreciated and can be made using the QR code below.



As part of my fundraising, I am organising a treasure hunt (perfect for children and adults of all ages) around Long Compton on the 5th of July between 13:30 – 17:00 finishing with an open garden afternoon tea at Stoneleigh, Broad Street, Long Compton. The treasure hunt will involve downloading an app called What Three Words. For more information, please contact sellarsra@gmail.com.

If you do not fancy the treasure hunt but still would enjoy a cream tea, please still feel free to come along for a memorable afternoon. Please collect a treasure map and any instructions at Stoneleigh before you begin your adventure.

Thank you very much.

Theo

Long Compton Chapel



Sunday 20 July Afternoon Tea for Breast Cancer Now – 3:00-5:00pm (See poster). Tea tables can be booked in advance or come along on the day.

Select craft stalls (call to book)

Saturday 26 July Whist! 7:00pm – Prizes, refreshments and raffle.

Saturday 23 August Whist!

Saturday 30 August Craft, Flower and Produce Show (See poster).

We are always grateful for any help and send our Thanks go to those who help out. We hope to see you soon.

Elizabeth Gilkes (07791 621778) and Sally Franklin (07870 545431)



LONG COMPTON CRAFT, FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW @ THE CHAPEL

Saturday 30 August 2025

CLASSES

WINES & LIQUEURS

W1 Bottle homemade Cordial
W2 Bottle of home made fruit liqueur

BAKING

B1 A Classic Victoria sponge
B2 A Savoury Tart
B3 A plate of Cheese Scones
B4 A Chocolate Cake
B5 A plate of Flapjacks
B6 A plate of Cup Cakes



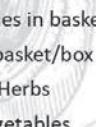
PRESERVES

P1 Jar of Jam
P2 Jar of Fruit Jelly
P3 Jar of Chutney
P4 Jar of Marmalade



FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

FV1 Collection of Vegetables in basket/box
FV2 Collection of Fruit, in basket/box
FV3 Collection of Culinary Herbs
FV4 Collection of Salad Vegetables



FLOWERS

F1 A vase of garden flowers
F2 One specimen bloom
F3 Vase of roses
F4 Fragrant rose
F5 A pot plant



FLORAL ART

FA1 In the green - leaves and flowerheads
FA2 A Table Decoration
FA3 In a basket
FA4 Fusion: A mix of silk/dried/fresh - in any combination

ART

A1 Painting - flowers
A2 Painting - landscape
A3 Painting - something living
A4 Abstract
A5 A Portrait



CRAFTS

C1 An item to wear
C2 Greeting card—any medium
C3 An item to display - textile
C4 An item to display - other media

PHOTOGRAPHIC ART

PA1 An Animal
PA2 My Favourite Place

A set per person fee of £3.00 to cover costs (for any number of entries) and prizes will be in the form of Award Certificates.

Entries to be staged from 9am to 11am on Saturday 30 August.

Details: Sally Franklin 07870 545431 or Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778

longcomchapel@hotmail.com

Long Compton Chronolog - 25th Anniversary

Tucked away at the end of Butlers Lane is a special memorial which celebrates the turn of the 21st century. The Long Compton Memorial Chronolog was the brainchild of three residents of the village, Dick Shacklock, Simon Holmes and Dave Whatley and the design, created by local artist Richard Podd celebrates

significant events over the last 2000 years. These are explained on the very informative notice board which sits beside the cross and sundial in its peaceful garden

The formal opening ceremony, alongside a host of Millennium village celebrations took place across the weekend of July 1st and 2nd 2000, the highlight of which was

a procession of villagers in costumes celebrating the 2000, led by the Bishop of Warwick, the Rt Rev Anthony Priddis. The festivities culminated in a hog roast and firework display.



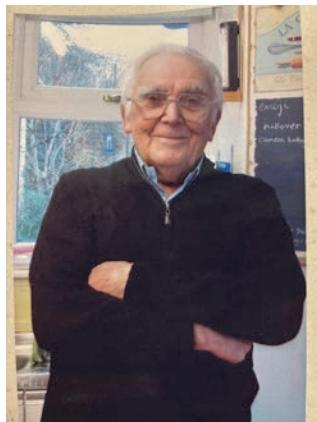
The Chronolog and garden have recently had a clean and general spruce up. If you have never stopped to have a closer look, please do next time you are passing. It is a special corner of our village and testament to the vision and imagination of all those involved.

As the Bishop of Warwick observed at the time, it is '*a celebration of 2000 years of history and of our country as well as distinctive elements in the history and life of the village of Long Compton. To do all these things, and in a way that will last for many future generations is a wonderful achievement'*



Sara Billins

Obituary: Jim Cunnington 1927 - 2025



Born September 18, 1927 to Lionel and Daisy Cunnington in Leicestershire, and christened Humphrey James. Jim studied Agriculture at Reading University where he met and married Doreen. They were together for 73 wonderful years. Jim is survived by Doreen and their three children Paul, Gyan and Sadie, as well as a close loving family of six grandchildren, and soon to be nine great-grandchildren, all who fondly knew him as 'Papa Jim.'

After graduating from Reading Jim worked as a farm manager in Oxfordshire. In the 1960's he took his family to Lincolnshire to take up a new career in Agricultural Sales.

They moved to Long Compton in 1987, a community that became the heart of Jim's life. He retired from Sales, and along with the very able Doreen, opened Archways B&B where they made friends from all over the world. His ornamental garden and fishpond became a showpiece.

The Church of St Peter and St Paul, as well as the whole church community, were central to their years in Long Compton. Jim was Churchwarden for many years and his sound faith and trusted support were greatly valued by clergy and parishioners alike. He was always there with a warm greeting at the church door and was happily involved in many memorable fund-raising and social events. He had a natural ability to analyse a problem or issue, and come up with a practical solution, solving it without any fuss. Jim was quietly proud of the Community Room, Kitchen and Gallery he was instrumental in creating at the back of the church.

Jim was also a valued and well-respected volunteer driver for 10 years for Social Services.

Jim and Doreen found time to travel all over the world to visit family and enjoyed holidays in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and India, as well as visiting many friends and destinations in Europe.

Recently they moved to Willow Gardens in Chipping Norton, from where Jim passed away on 6th May.

Jim and Doreen very much enjoyed their years in Long Compton ... it was a truly happy and fulfilling time of their lives.

Gyan Saga

VILLAGE NEWS

Whichford and Ascott

Editor: Melanie Arnold



The Reading Room Draw

The Reading Room draw winner for June is Shane Slater.

Jenny Scrivener

Whichford & Ascott Flower Show & Fete

The annual show is getting closer, Monday 25 August, with many exciting events which we'll have full details of soon. We are always hugely grateful for the support of volunteers to get the tents and stalls set up; it wouldn't be possible without your help. The main set up is Sunday morning, and even an hour would be brilliant. There are of course other times when help is really useful so do get in touch.

Anne Tebbs would also love cake and biscuit contributions for the tea tent from anyone handy at baking.

There's obviously no immediate hurry but for more information or to offer your help do contact me by email or phone below.

Sophie Corlett, 01608 684 369, sophiacorlett@btinternet.com



VILLAGE NEWS

The Wolfords

Editor: Lynn Mathias



The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club

The June winners were :

1st Christopher Wolverton 2nd Sue Elliot 3rd Janet Pope

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



Coffee, Cake and Chat at Wolford Church

Tuesday 19 September 11am-12.00

Come and join us for a chat over coffee/tea and cake at St Michaels Church

Come and meet new friends or old.

Share your interests and just chat

Everyone welcome

Repairs to St Michaels churchyard wall in Great Wolford



On a beautifully sunny Saturday morning in the middle of June volunteers from the village came together to sort stone from the area of collapsed churchyard wall. The stone was sorted into piles of similar sizes prior to the dry-stone wall being rebuilt

Wonderful new kneelers for Great Wolford Church

On Sunday 13 July there will be a dedication service in St Michael and All Angels Church Great Wolford for the new church kneelers which have been stitched by women in Little and Great Wolford and Toddenham and sponsored by parishioners in memory of their loved ones

The kneeler tapestries were worked by: June Dyer, Jenny Henderson, Sarah Franklin, Marion Hill, Pippa Lines, Marilyn Roberts, Shirley Wrench, Roz Warriner, Deborah Wolverson, Sue Rew, Rose Yates and Jane Baker

Sponsors of the kneelers in memory of departed loved ones included: Wendy Veale in Memory of John Scott-Lees, tapestry worked by Rose Yates; Bob Large in memory of Shirley Large tapestry worked by Sue Rew; Sue Elliott to remember one hundred years of the Women's Institute.

Wolford PCC would like to say a huge thank you to Jane Baker for organising this for the Church, to all those who worked the tapestries and the sponsors and we do hope you are all able to attend the service of dedication

Everyone is welcome

BOULES TOURNAMENT and BBQ

Competing for the infamous
'CHURCH -FOX TROPHY'

plus

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THE
LINK

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- £5 a quarter page
- £10 a half page
- £20 a full page

Please contact Cathryn Aitken for further details
adverts@swlink.org.uk



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Clare at clareh26@gmail.com or Phone 01608 674494



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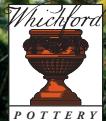
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