

# NEWS & VIEWS

FEBRUARY 2024



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## FROM THE EDITOR

I hope it's not too late to wish our readers a Happy New Year. 2024 currently doesn't look too hopeful, what with dreadful wars continuing with no sign of compromise and terrible weather around the world, but perhaps it will surprise us. We can only hope so. Peace may break out, the sun may break through. Spring, after all, is just around the corner. Despite the wet, the snowdrops are pushing up, the hellebores are coming out, lambing is on the horizon. We gardeners and the farmers just need a dry spell to be able to get back on our land. But nine named storms here thus far this winter and incidents of extreme weather globally must surely give us all pause. If you sometimes feel it's all too much and you can do nothing to improve things individually, take a look at the information on our Environment pages as to what can be done locally and on your own patch to help nature. And hopefully there will be something in our first issue of the year that will cheer, entertain, inform and assist you. See you in March!

**Sue Bonney**  
[editor4newsandviews@gmail.com](mailto:editor4newsandviews@gmail.com)

### Deadline Dates

Editorial copy and photographs should be sent to [editor4newsandviews@gmail.com](mailto:editor4newsandviews@gmail.com). Articles and photographs for the **March 2024** issue should reach Sue Bonney no later than **February 20th 2024**.

### Advertising in News and Views

For more information about placing an advertisement in News and Views, please email [newsandviewsadverts@gmail.com](mailto:newsandviewsadverts@gmail.com)

**This Month's Cover:** Cheering early daffodills in the Editor's garden.

We are always on the lookout for eye-catching photographs for the front cover of News & Views. They should be portrait (vertical), in colour and be high resolution.

You can find News & Views in full colour on the West Lavington and Great and Little Cheverell Parish Council websites at:

[www.westlavington.org.uk](http://www.westlavington.org.uk)

[www.greatcheverell.org.uk](http://www.greatcheverell.org.uk)

[www.littlecheverellparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.littlecheverellparishcouncil.org.uk)

We are also on West Lavington posts on Facebook!

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## CHURCH OF ENGLAND BENEFACTORS

### Regular worship in our sister churches

**9.00 am** St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Littleton Panell

**4.30 pm** Ebenezer Baptist Church, West Lavington

### Churchwardens

**St Peter's, Great Cheverell:** Andy and Pauline Jenkinson (813775)

### Calendar of Services - December 2023

**The Lavingtons, Cheverells and Easterton**

### Calendar of Services - February 2024

Date	Market Lavington St Mary's	West Lavington All Saints'	Easterton St Barnabas	Great Cheverell St Peter's	Little Cheverell St Peter's
<b>Sunday 4th February</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> Benefice Communion St Peter's Little Cheverell				
<b>Sunday 11th February</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> United Service in the Community Hall	<b>9.00 am</b> Breakfast Church <i>Families Welcome</i>		<b>11.00 am</b> Simple Celebration Communion	
<b>Sunday 18th February Lent 1</b>		<b>9.30 am</b> Communion	<b>11.00 am</b> Communion	<b>10.00 am</b> Welcome to Worship <i>Families Welcome</i>	
<b>Sunday 25th February Lent 2</b>		<b>9.30 am</b> Praise & Worship <i>Families Welcome</i>	<b>9.15 am</b> Parish Communion	<b>10.00 am</b> Cafe Church	
<b>Sunday 3rd March Lent 3</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> Benefice Service All Saints' Church West Lavington				

## REFLECTION

January is over and Christmas is but another memory. The tree has been taken down and the lights and decorations packed away into their boxes to wait for next December. The dreary weather is now giving way to expectation of Spring as the first bulbs push their way through the damp soil. The winter is nearing its end. Thoughts of spring with the promise of warmer days and longer daylight hours fill our thoughts of new life, not only in our gardens but also in the countryside around us. The cycle of the seasons never fails to excite or lead us further on our journey through the years.

And so it is with the Church. Candlemass sees the end of the Christmas story and for traditionalists this is the time to pack away the Crib for another year. Having celebrated the birth of Christ, the Church turns to Lent and preparations for celebrating the death and resurrection of Our Lord.

The season of Lent, as with Advent, is a time of waiting and making ready - a time for self-examination. A look at our faith and how well we integrate our belief into everyday living. Do we live out our Christian faith each day or do we fall short of what we can do and be? If we fall short, how do we improve our standing in the eyes of God and our friends and neighbours? How is our relationship with the God we profess to believe in? This all sounds a bit dreary, and add to that the business of giving up chocolate, even I wonder why. But take heart, this year the Church is taking a good hard look at how we live our lives in relation to the whole of His Creation. If, as we believe, God created all things out of his love, including us, then we have a responsibility to look after things better than we have to date and how we can live that out in our day to day lives.

I will end this reflection with a prayer from Ruth Valerio's book '**Saying Yes to Life**':

To the one who surges into the fissures that cannot be accessed,  
to the one who floods into the crevices that cannot be reached,  
to the one whose presence exposes, clarifies, restores, and cultivates.  
We bask. We thrive. We harbour no secrets.

We hold onto no heaviness we fear makes us unloved.

You are the first ingredient for life.

The universe, not to mention our hearts, would wither away without you,

Light of the world. *Amen*

**Rev Marion Harrison**

**Revd Marion Harrison**

**01380 816963**

**lavingtonrector@gmail.com**

25 White Street, West Lavington SN10 4LW.

*Friday is the Rector's day off.*

**Benefice Office**

Open Mondays and Wednesdays from  
9.00am to 1.00pm

**churchlavington@gmail.com**

More information can be found at

**www.lavingtonchurch.org**

## Benefice 200 Club

I have two winners to announce for two different years!

### December 2023

The December winner was **Carol Treloar** of Market Lavington.

### January 2024

The January winner is **Richard Gamble** from West Lavington.

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket for 2024. The proceeds have been sent to the Benefice Treasurer to help with the cost of running the Benefice office and to provide the prize money to be shared out to the lucky winners of every draw. Unfortunately I cannot increase the winner's prize as we don't have enough participants to fund a larger win. I hope it still feels good to be a winner despite this. Good luck to you all for the following eleven months.

**Bonnie Matters** [bonnie\\_matters@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bonnie_matters@hotmail.co.uk).

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS



## Baptisms

Cousins **Clementine Fairfax FAULKNER-SHEARCROFT** (Clemmie) and **Octavius Albert Fairfax SHEARCROFT- NEVE** (Otto) were baptised at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington, by Rev Marion Harrison on Saturday 3rd December 2023.

**Martha Eileen SNAPP** was baptised at St Barnabas Church, Easterton on December 27th 2023.

## Funerals

**Shirley Joan SLIMANE** of Little Cheverell died on 31st December 2023 at Salisbury Hospital aged 90 years. Her funeral at West Wiltshire Crematorium was held on 17th January 2024.

**Ronald William SIMS** (Ron) of West Lavington died on 23rd December 2023, aged 88 years. His funeral was held at All Saints' Church, West Lavington on 24th January 2024 followed by cremation.



## St Barnabas Church Easterton Christmas Tree Festival 2023

The results for the 2023 Christmas Tree Festival were:-

**Judges Vote:** **No 2 Karen Oldfield and children** with *The Stickman*.

**Public Vote:** **No 10 Sewing Bee** with *Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

Thank you to Harold and Carolyn Kiddle for kindly agreeing to be our judges- not an easy task!

The Children's books depicted were:-

### The Guides:

Harry Potter

### Karen Oldfield and children:

The Stickman

### The Hub:

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

### Nicola Coupe:

The Little Wooden Horse

### W.I:

Jolly Christmas Postman

### Easterton Village Hall:

Hansel and Gretel



### Market Lavington Museum:

A Night at the Museum

### Market Lavington Library:

The Snowman

### St. Barnabas School:

Twas the Night  
Before Christmas

### Trinity Church:

The Lion the Witch  
and the Wardrobe

### Sewing Bee:

Twas the Night  
Before Christmas

A huge thank you to all those who contributed or provided help and support and, of course, to all who visited over the two days, enabling us to raise nearly £350 for church funds.



## West Lavington Fete Saturday July 6th 2024

**from 2pm at West Lavington Village Hall & Playing  
Fields**

We are pleased to confirm the date for this year's Fete and look forward to seeing you all there!

We have already confirmed the attendance of Amesbury Town Band, Devizes Morris Dancers, a Bouncy Castle, Wiltshire Fire and Rescue and St John's Ambulance.

I will be contacting previous stallholders shortly. If you are interested in having a stall (community group or local artisan) please do contact me. In the meantime, as always, we need volunteers to help us set up the Fete, and with the teas, so if you can spare us a few hours of your time on the day, please do get in touch!

# St. Arbucks

## COMMUNITY CAFE




### OPENING HOURS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH

Monday	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
Tuesday	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
Wednesday	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
Thursday	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
Friday	10.00 am - 3.30 pm
Saturday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm

*Half Term 12th to 16th  
February - extended  
opening to 3:30 pm*

We hope to extend opening hours from April with volunteer help. If you think you would enjoy meeting people and working with us please visit the café and talk to Beth or contact us through our facebook page 'St Arbucks Coffee House'



## CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE AT THE BELL GREAT CHEVERELL

### February 5th at 7.30pm

## The Science of Aviation Safety

Graham Greene

How research supports aviation safety:  
pilot fatigue, aircraft fires, weather  
and emergency evacuation



Our February meeting takes place on  
**Thursday 8th February at 2pm**  
when we will enjoy a

## SARI SAFARI!

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*so if you are not a member  
and would like to join us*  
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*The* Great Cheverell  
**PAVILION** *Club*  
**FILM NIGHT**

**Presents**  
A fantastic very recent movie  
which we are not allowed to name  
*A heartwarming true story starring*  
Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson  
**Saturday February 10th**  
Doors open 7pm  
Members Free - Guests £5  
Next month's film night is on  
Saturday March 16th

# GAZ BROOKFIELD AND MISCHA

Gareth 'Gaz' Brookfield is an English folk and rock musician, who is based near Swindon, England. He is usually a solo artist, playing acoustic guitar.

**The Almost all Village Halls Tour**  
West Lavington Village Hall

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16th 7.30pm**

Tickets £12

**[gazbrookfield.com](http://gazbrookfield.com) for tickets**



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Friday 16th February 7.00pm  
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Proceeds to Julia House &  
Wiltshire Air Ambulance



BAR



## Edington Arts

### Bach's St John Passion

### Saturday March 23rd

### Edington Priory, 7pm

Edington Arts is celebrating the start of their tenth season on Saturday 23rd March with a two hour performance of Bach's St John Passion by the Oxford Bach Soloists and Orchestra under their conductor Tom Hammond-Davies. The great international tenor Mark Padmore will be singing the role of The Evangelist. The performance is being generously sponsored by Edington Station Yard Ltd, and by The Three Daggers.

Bach's account of the Passion from the Gospel according to St John is 'punchier' than that of the St Matthew, and the superb communication skills of both soloists and chorus will be used to most moving effect. The Oxford Bach Soloists have been performing the St John Passion on Good Friday in Oxford for many years, where it has become an iconic, essential ingredient of the preparations for Easter. This will be the first time they have performed the St John Passion during Lent outside Oxford, and we are delighted they have chosen Edington as their venue. Their recent London debut, with Bach's Christmas Oratorio, received a five-star review in The Guardian, whose reviewer said "This virile, collegiate approach to Bach is the most exciting I've heard in a very long time".

Booking is now open, and although tickets are selling fast there is still a great choice of seats. You can book online through [www.edingtonarts.org](http://www.edingtonarts.org) or by phone from **01380 831256**. Tickets **£12.50 - £30**.



### National Garden Scheme Open Garden

**Westcroft, Boscombe Village, Near Salisbury, SP4 0AB**

Open every Thursday to 7th March

Plus Sat 3rd, Sun 4th, Fri 9th, Sun 18th, Sat 24th  
and Sun 25th February 11am to 4pm

**Admission £4, children free**

In February the bones of this snowdrop lovers' garden on chalk are on show. Brick and flint walls, terraces, rustic arches, gates and a pond add character. Drifts of snowdrops carpet the floor whilst throughout is a growing collection of well over 400 named varieties. Many hellebores, pulmonarias, grasses and seedheads add interest.

Scrummy teas (or coffee) and cake/homemade biscuits, £2.50 per person, inside if wet or cold. At snowdrop time soup is served. Also plants for sale, and a loo! There is easy parking at Boscombe Social Club and disabled parking on the drive if space permits.

Contact telephone: **01980 610877/07787 852756**. Call to check latest times or cancellations.

Check website for latest information: [findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/22098/22098](http://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/22098/22098) or [westcrotfgarden.co.uk](http://westcrotfgarden.co.uk)

## Gaz Brookfield and Mischa

**Friday 16th February**

**West Lavington Village Hall 7 for 7.30pm**

*Why not treat your Valentine to supper and entertainment?*

West Lavington Village Hall Committee is thrilled that Wiltshire-based folk and rock musician Gaz Brookfield has chosen to perform here as part of his 'The Almost All Village Halls tour'.

Gaz is a fiercely independent musician with no record label, no manager and no agent, just a guitar and a van, and he has built a strong and loyal following since winning Acoustic Magazine's singer/songwriter of the year a few years ago. He's a storyteller, who has produced eight studio albums including 'Lockdown', with lyrics reflecting love, loss, war, the past and his own life including 'The Diabetes Blues'.

Supported by his good friend Mischa, who performed at the Devizes Street Festival last year, it looks to be a great evening. Mischa's socially charged lyrics reflect peace, love and unity so the two artists together have most things covered.

There will be a Bar with catering by Louise Trusler's Nag Box. Louise will have beef or bean chilli with rice available during the evening (cash only) and will be donating £2 per supper to the Village Hall funds.

Tickets are selling fast - buy yours online at [gazbrookfield.com](http://gazbrookfield.com) for £12 plus a £1.50 booking fee.

### VILLAGE LINK

**West Lavington, Littleton Panell & Little Cheverell**

**Tel: 07598 947180 - Change of contact number**

Please note that the Village Care and Link telephone number has changed to **07598 947180**.

**DRIVERS NEEDED!** The village Link Group is always seeking volunteer drivers to help drive residents to doctor or hospital appointments. If you can help, please contact **Michael Page** on **818510**.





## WEST LAVINGTON WI

We had a great turnout for our annual Resolutions meeting in January to discuss and choose the WI resolutions for the coming year. The shortlist was:

- Dental health matters
- Impacts of poor housing conditions
- Say 'no' to gambling advertising
- Improving outcomes for women in the criminal justice system

Our group enjoyed finding out more and discussing the issues and then voted overwhelmingly to support Improving Outcomes for Women in the Criminal Justice System. We are keen to support local Women's Centres and Refuges and recently donated toiletries to the Salisbury Women's Refuge, which was much appreciated.

WI campaigns tackle issues that matter to women in their communities. From equal pay to climate change, mental health and violence against women, over the past 100 years we have embraced a diverse set of challenges. The WI has brought about real change and continues to do so.

Our February meeting takes place on **Thursday 8th February at 2pm in the Giles Room at West Lavington Village Hall**, when we will enjoy a Sari Safari! Numbers are limited so if you are not a member and would like to join us please contact:

**Sue Bastone** our President, on [westlavpres@wiltshirewi.org.uk](mailto:westlavpres@wiltshirewi.org.uk)

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Major Roadworks in West Lavington

Major roadworks are scheduled for the A360 in West Lavington in February and into March. Those potholes might soon be gone!

#### 30th January to 12th February: traffic lights control

There will be a drainage investigation survey and associated works on the A360 along West Lavington High Street from the Dauntsey crossroads to Rickbarton. Multi-way traffic lights will control the flow of traffic.

#### 14th February to 8th March: road closure

The A360 along West Lavington High Street will be closed from Russell Mill Lane to Rutts Lane for carriageway resurfacing, road marking, adjustment of ironworks and associated works.

**Russell Mill Lane** and **Church Street** will be closed to traffic, except for residential access. Diversions will be in place via Market Lavington and further afield. It would be advisable to plan journeys on the assumption that you can't get through West Lavington.

You can more information on local roadworks at: <https://one.network/uk>

## Mothers' UNION

West Lavington Mothers' Union Branch marked its first meeting of 2024 with a momentous event - the handover by Janet Hodges, following upwards of three decades as Leader of the Branch, to Jackie Knipe.

Janet has not only been a mainstay of MU's life for these many years, but also a pillar of our village life, in partnership with her husband, Jim. Jim was a venerated member of Dauntsey's English Department, remembered fondly by so many of his former pupils on the cricket field, and as founder and Editor over the decades of News and Views.

Jackie is fairly new to the village but is fast making her own mark - many of you will have already met and know her from her volunteering within the community. We are delighted she has offered to take on the leadership of our Mothers' Union Branch, encouraged and supported in transition by Janet.

And so, while also conducting AGM business, we entered the New Year, celebrating the past and welcoming the future. Revd Marion led a communion service and we finished our first 2024 meeting with cake and tea to commemorate the birthday of our longstanding MU member, Val.

Our Mothers' Union Branch Programme this year includes a Benefice Service led by Revd Marion in support of the central MU 'Rise up Challenge' to end domestic abuse; What being a Christian in Japan means with Anne Wilson, based on her son's experience; an afternoon of Meditation with Revd Caroline Spindlow; and the last stage of the Camino de Santiago with guest speaker Anji Scofield, who has undertaken it. It also includes a Farewell Tea for Revd Marion on her retirement.

If you are interested in joining the Mothers' Union or attending any of the above events, please get in touch with **Jackie Knipe** at [jack\\_knipe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jack_knipe@hotmail.co.uk).

## CHEVERELL'S GARDEN CLUB

### Photography - Lockdown Wiltshire wildlife

by **Eddy Lane** was our talk for January. Eddy is a highly respected photographer whose worldwide photographic adventures were curtailed by the pandemic, so he turned his lenses toward the wildlife in his garden and local areas.

He's lucky to live in an old mill and he has taken amazing pictures of the animals and birds visiting the river outside his window. Some judicious feeding ensured some outstanding shots showing

the behaviour and diet of the wide range of visiting wildlife.

The talk for February is titled **'Talking Tomatoes'** by **Nicola Hope**. If you need to know anything about cultivation, varieties or anything tomato then do come along!

It's at Great Cheverell Village Hall on Tuesday February 13th starting at 7.30pm. If you have any questions do contact me at: [helen.woodlands@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helen.woodlands@hotmail.co.uk)



## November events raise £16,500 for the Nestling Trust

November was a busy month for The Nestling Trust! Thank you to everyone who came to support us at two major events:

The hundred people attending the **Fashion Show** on Saturday 11th November in Market Lavington Community Hall were treated to a stunning array of winter fashion items by Travelling Trends. There were many bargains to be had from leading High Street stores and boutiques, all to be celebrated over teas, coffees and cakes! It was a fun afternoon and we would like to say a big thank you to those who volunteered as models- you all were brilliant.

We launched an appeal for those made homeless in the earthquake that happened on November 3rd and devastated villages in the Jarjakot and Rukum region of Western Nepal.

### The Nestling Trust’s Tenth Anniversary Fundraising Dinner held at The Owl Lodge, Lacock

This was a fantastic evening to remember! The amazing venue with a fire pit in the centre was transformed into what was reminiscent of a Himalayan Lodge, bedecked with prayer flags and poinsettias, a flower native to Nepal. Peter Vaughan and his team prepared the most delightful Nepalese-inspired menu and Peter also intrigued guests with tales and legends, transporting us away to the foothills of the Himalayas and giving tantalising descriptions of the dishes to be served. Music played by Andrew Hurst created just the right atmosphere - a very special and happy event.

Finally, from 28th November to 5th December it was the **BigGive** online match funding Christmas Challenge, where donations made to the Nestling Trust were doubled. Thank you so much to everyone who donated - we are most grateful.

The amount raised through the three events is approximately an incredible **£16,500**.

Proceeds will be used to help staff the **Baiteshwor Health & Birthing Centre** and make an emergency vehicle access road. It will also help support the **Sarangkot Nestling Children’s Home**, as well as helping survivors of the earthquake in Western Nepal.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and The Nestling Trust is very aware that our work in helping the needy and the most vulnerable, over the past ten years, has only been possible due to the generosity of our supporters. We have been overwhelmed by the level of support and trust placed upon us - thank you most sincerely for enabling us to do this work.

Sue Hamblin



## West Lavington Weather 2023

The annual weather summary from our local weather man, John Price

Average temperature for 2023	11.6°	C
Average temperature for the last 15 years	10.7°	C
Highest temperature (09 September)	32.1°	C
Lowest temperature (22 January)	-7.5°	C
Lowest 24 hour average temperature (17 January)	-3.6°	C
Highest 24 hour average temperature (07 September)	23.3°	C
Lowest maximum temperature (17 January)	0.2°	C
Highest minimum temperature (07 September)	17.9°	C
Total rain for 2023	1035.4	mms
Average rainfall for the last 15 years	709.6	mms
Wettest day (04 December)	29.1	mms
Wettest month (December)	158.4	mms
Driest month (February)	8.4	mms
Highest wind speed (04 August)	48.8	mph
Lowest barometric pressure (02 November)	945.6	mbs
New monthly records were set as follows:		
February - Least monthly rainfall	8.4	mms
March - Most daily rain (on day 22)	23.7	mms
March - Most monthly rainfall	136.2	mms
June - Highest average temperature	17.9°	C
September - Highest average temperature	17.1°	C
September - Highest temperature (on day 09)	32.1°	C
September - Most daily rain (on day 20)	24.3	mms
September - Most monthly rainfall	86.7	mms
December - Most monthly rainfall	158.4	mms

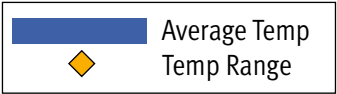
Temperatures in 2023 showed a continuation of the warming trend that started in 2020.

However, this was entirely within the normal range – so no need to panic!

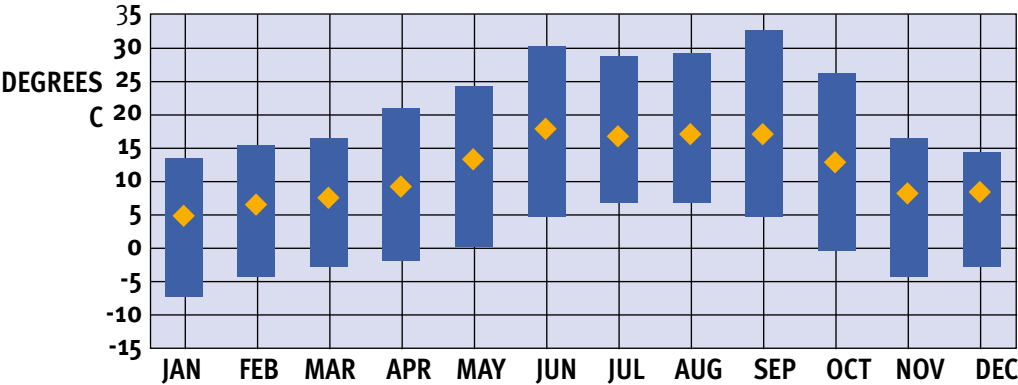
The monthly figures remind us that the summer months of July and August were disappointing.

They were preceded and followed by the unusually warm months of June and September.

December is still fresh in our minds as being really wet and windy. Indeed, it appears in the above lists as the wettest month in 2023, but was also the wettest December since records began and included the wettest day of the year.



Monthly Temperatures







## Happy New Conservation Year!

The BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) has reported that there have been changes to migrant bird patterns due to habitat loss and climate irregularities. So far this year there appear to be fewer winter migrants such as fieldfares, redwings and bramblings in the area. Conversely, there appears to be more migrational movement of blackbirds. Waxwings could appear should the weather harden in Scandinavia. They love rosehips, such as those on rosa Fellenberg. We haven't been alerted to local starling murmurations so far this winter - roosting areas do change, but this might be a sign of the decline of this hardy species.

Some folk have reported bumble bee activity even on cold days. These are such hardy bee species with yellow rears that visit nectar bearing flowering shrubs such as winter flowering honeysuckle, abelia and mahonia. Often bumble bees will fly into sheds and summerhouses when doors are open, and get trapped and die when such outbuildings are shut up, so please check for bumblebees first.

Seabirds especially are still suffering from avian 'flu, and our birds of gardens, fields and woods can be affected. Keep feeders clean and water in bird baths changed daily, and if you haven't cleaned out and checked bird boxes for damage and repair, please try to do so by the end of the month.

If you know hedgehogs are hibernating in your garden, ensure they are safe from domestic pets. We had a terrier particularly interested in our hedgehog boxes, so we had to fence them off with chicken wire, cutting a 15mm x 15mm (6" x 6") ground level opening for the sow and hoglets to use when born.

It is encouraging to read that more parishes are earmarking areas for nurturing nature in their local plans, e.g. planting copses, managing wild flower meadows, so essential for pollination for food production. Worldwide pollinators are threatened as more and more land is lost to development and erosion due to changing climate patterns.

Finally, a few words about the spectacular monogamous albatrosses, which lay a single egg every one or two years. Sadly an estimated 100,000 a year are killed by bycatch from high seas fishing fleets. Wherever there is fishing, there is bycatch - the incidental capture of non-target species such as dolphins, marine turtles and seabirds. The WWF says that it aims to reduce bycatch by working with fisheries and helping develop and promote new technologies and gear for more efficient operations. In many cases, these modifications are simple and inexpensive, and often come from fishers themselves.

It is up to us to stem these staggering declines in birds and mammals for the sake of our children and grandchildren.

Otis Tarda

## Wiltshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Wiltshire Council has been appointed by DEFRA as responsible for preparing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Wiltshire and Swindon, one of 48 local authorities so appointed, covering the whole of England.

Wiltshire and Swindon's LRNS will provide an agreed, coherent, and compelling approach to nature recovery, directing financial resources and organisational effort to where they are most needed. It will consist of a document containing biodiversity priorities and a habitat map which will inform and guide nature recovery across Wiltshire. By mapping where important habitats can be conserved, restored and connected, Wiltshire and Swindon's LNRS will allow effort and funding to be funnelled into the most important areas, supporting nature recovery across the landscape. It can also help to achieve the multiple environmental benefits that nature brings to people, such as clean air and water and reduced flood risk.

Wiltshire Council is developing their mapping system and will be user testing this with stakeholders in February 2024 to ensure the LRNS habitat map is designed with end users in mind. They are also drawing relevant information from existing strategies, such as neighbourhood plans and the green blue infrastructure strategy. These required significant engagement and can provide useful information about local priorities and enable relevant and connected options to be considered. If you have a strategy that you'd like the Council to link with the LNRS, email details to [localnaturerecoverystrategy@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:localnaturerecoverystrategy@wiltshire.gov.uk).

There are a range of different events planned between March and July 2024 to ensure a wide range of stakeholders can contribute to Wiltshire and Swindon's LRNS. In March an invitation and survey will go out to people who work in and around ecology, land management and nature recovery to help produce a longlist of habitats, species and wider benefits for consideration. During April and May, a select group of experts will then undertake the difficult task of reducing the longlist to a shortlist of priorities. From May to July, Wiltshire Council will be running a series of workshops across the county, open to all, to collect local knowledge and feedback about the shortlisted priorities.

Final reporting and mapping for the Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Recovery Strategy will take place in Winter 2024, with the democratic review process finishing in July 2025.

You can sign up to a newsletter to hear more about LRNS events and surveys by emailing: [localnaturerecoverystrategy@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:localnaturerecoverystrategy@wiltshire.gov.uk).

or find more information at:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/8288/Wiltshire-and-Swindon-Local-Nature-Recovery-Strategy>



## What are Local Nature Recovery Strategies?

Great Britain is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world with nearly one in six species threatened with extinction. A comprehensive report on UK wildlife, The State of Nature, showed that the species studied have, on average, declined by 19% in the UK since monitoring began in 1970. Much of this decline is due to the intensification of human land use. This has led to natural and semi-natural habitats being degraded and fragmented which, alongside climate change, is resulting in a loss of biodiversity.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are an England-wide system of map based strategies that will establish priorities and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits. All LNRSs will contain a local habitat map and a written 'statement of biodiversity priorities', which will summarise the current state of nature in the strategy area, set priorities for nature's recovery and identify the practical actions for achieving those priorities.

Although the central purpose of LNRSs is to restore and enhance nature, the strategies won't

just focus on nature in isolation. LNRSs recognise the fact that recovering nature has the power to address wider environmental issues, including climate change, flooding and poor water quality. These issues can be included as LNRS priorities, and the nature-based solutions for addressing them are expected to be proposed as practical actions in every strategy.

The real heart of each LNRS is the local habitat map. Each map will identify areas recognised for their existing importance for nature, and crucially, areas that could become important for nature recovery with the right actions. These potential areas for nature recovery will be identified based on their suitability for delivering the strategies' priorities; they will also be targeted as areas to expand or join-up existing areas of habitat so that they are more robust and better connected.

48 responsible authorities across England are now making progress on the preparation of their LNRS. There is no fixed legal deadline for these authorities to complete and publish their LNRS, but Government expects preparation to take 12-18 months, based on the experience of five LNRS pilots.

### COP28

COP28 was transformational in mentioning the intention to cut emissions. In a last minute change to the final statement, it declared a transitional move away from oil, coal and gas. However, there was no compulsion to take action, and no timescale. It remains to be seen if the biggest fossil fuel producers - China, Russia, India, the US, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the Gulf States - do start to do so. Will we be carbon neutral by 2030?

#### The countries at COP28 agreed to:

- Transition away from fossil fuels in energy production in a just, orderly, and equitable manner
- Accelerate low and zero emission technologies such as carbon capture and storage
- Commit to triple renewable and energy efficient processes by 2030
- Stronger carbon cutting plans to be submitted by each country by 2025

The positive take from this conference is that climate change is now fully recognised and change in behaviour accepted. However, there continues to be too many influential and powerful vested interests pushing back and defending the status quo—money talks!

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## LAVINGTON & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

### Gardening Question Panel

**Another chance to benefit from the collective wisdom of our assembled panel of experts on a variety of gardening-related questions!**

Refreshments + cake available

Plus...the usual competition and extras

Existing and new members always welcome

**Wednesday 21st February 7:15pm**  
(for 7:30pm start)

**West Lavington Village Hall**  
**SN10 4HL**



Find us online at [LavingtonGC.co.uk](http://LavingtonGC.co.uk) or Facebook: Lavington & District Gardening Club



Little Cheverell Village Hall Presents  
**A Relaxing Afternoon of JAZZ**  
*Introducing H&H*

**SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 1-3pm**

Donations towards upkeep of the Hall

Soup, rolls, cakes and refreshments to buy  
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SPACE IS LIMITED  
to book seats or a table contact:  
**Barbara Phillips**  
b.featherstone65@gmail.com  
or message 07934 855404



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THE NESTLING TRUST

**QUIZ NIGHT**

**Friday 1st March - 7.00 for 7.30pm**

Market Lavington Community Hall

£20.00 per team of four (ish!)

Children free (and very welcome)

*Free glass of wine!*

**Tickets from:**

Sue Hamblin  
07973 414601

Mike Gaiger  
01380 818500

Elliot Gaiger  
07552 335640

St.Arbucks  
Market Lavington



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**DCS** Dauntsey's Choral Society  
**SPRING CONCERT**

**Dauntsey's Choral Society and Senior Choir**

*present* Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms  
and Mozart's Requiem

**Saturday March 9th 7.30pm**

Memorial Hall, Dauntsey's School

FREE ENTRY with donations on the door for Guide Dogs and DCS



## WEST LAVINGTON & LITTLETON PANELL BOOK CLUB



Our theme for January was a book published in 2023. Obviously there was a wide range to choose from and there were some interesting reads. However, not every book was recommended, so here are our highlights, those the reader really wanted to recommend.

### Fiction

**The Lost Bookshop by Evie Woods:** On a quiet street in Dublin, a lost bookshop is waiting to be found....set in 1921 and the present day, this is an unputdownable read about the power of books.

**Homecoming by Kate Morton:** Another set in two eras - 1959 and 2018 - this is a breathtaking mystery of love, lies and a cold case come back to life.

**Other Women by Emma Flint:** Set in 1924 when a generation of women had seemingly no place in the world, this is a devastating story of fantasy and obsession inspired by a murder that took place almost a hundred years ago.

**One Woman Show by Christine Coulson:** a stylish novel, remarkably told through museum wall labels, that imagines a privileged twentieth-century woman, Kitty Whitaker, as an artifact who transforms herself from a precious object into an unforgettable protagonist.

**Cuddy by Benjamin Myers:** winner of the Goldsmith Prize, a bold and experimental retelling of the story of the hermit St. Cuthbert, unofficial patron saint of the North of England. A novel like no other, Cuddy straddles historical eras from 689 to 2019.

Needing no introduction but highly recommended were **The Last Devil to Die by Richard Osman** and **A Death in the Parish by Rev. Richard Coles.**

### Non-Fiction

**The Emperor of Rome by Mary Beard:** an account of Roman history as it has never been presented before. Beard asks bigger questions: What power did emperors actually have? Was the Roman palace really so bloodstained?

**Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad: A Family Memoir of Miraculous Survival by Daniel Finkelstein:** a powerful memoir exploring his parents' devastating experiences of persecution, resistance and survival during the Second World War. A modern classic.

**The Plot: the Political Assassination of Boris Johnson by Nadine Dorries:** the fly-on-the-wall account of how the saviour of the Conservative Party became a pariah, revealing those who became the architects of a Prime Minister's downfall.

Something for everyone hopefully!

Sue Bastone

## USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency Ambulance/Police/Fire	999
Police Non-Emergency	101
NHS Direct	111

Courtyard Surgery	01380 813 300
Day Lewis Pharmacy, ML	01380 813 395
Salisbury District Hospital	01722 336 262
RUH Bath	01225 428 331
Great Western Hospital Swindon	01793 604 020
Minor Injury Unit Trowbridge	01225 711 329
Minor Injury Unit Chippenham	01249 447 100
Village Care and Link West Lavington	07598 947180
Village Care and Link Gt Cheverell	01380 721 775
Wiltshire Council	0300 456 0100
Your Wiltshire Councillor Dominic Muns	07585 394 178
West Lavington Parish Council (Parish Clerk)	07597 761 361
Cheverell Magna Parish Council (Parish Clerk)	07766 319252
Little Cheverell Parish Council littlecheverell.parishcouncil.org.uk	
Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner	01380 734 022
Wiltshire Highways	0300 456 0105
Wessex Water Plc	0345 600 4600
Open Reach (BT)	03301 233 7533
National Grid	0800 404 090

### CHARITIES

Alzheimers Support Wiltshire	01225 776 481
Carer Support Wiltshire (for carers)	0800 181 4118
Citizens Advice	0800 144 8848
Dorothy House Hospice 24 hr Advice Line	0345 0130 555

Julia's House Devizes	01380 562 525
Kennet Furniture Refurbiz	01380 720 722
SSAFA Wiltshire	0204 566 9131
Victim Support	0808 281 0113
Wiltshire Mind	01225 706 532
Wiltshire Sight	01380 723 682
Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital Animal Queries and Emergencies	01980 629 470 07850 778 752
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	01380 725 670

### NATIONAL HELPLINES

Childline	0800 11 11
Combat Stress Helpline for veterans	0800 138 1619
Crimestoppers to anonymously report a crime	0800 555 111
Highways Information Line	0300 123 5000
Macmillan Cancer Support	0808 808 0000
NSPCC Child Protection Helpline	0808 800 5000
National Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247
National Suicide Prevention Helpline	0800 689 5652
RSPCA National Call Centre	0300 1234 999
Samaritans	116 123
SSAFA Forcesline	0800 260 6767
Veterans Helpline	0808 1914 218
Victim Support Supportline	0808 1689 111

### LOCAL SCHOOLS

Lavington PreSchool	01380 812 551
SouthHills Old School Nursery	01380 812 418
DAPS	01380 813 373
Holy Trinity	01380 813 796
Lavington School	01380 812 352
Dauntsey's School	01380 814 500



## WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR THE LAVINGTONS



### A Message from Cllr Dominic Muns Wiltshire Councillor for The

You may contact me about this or any other matter by email:

To [dominic.muns@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:dominic.muns@wiltshire.gov.uk) or by phone on **07585 394 178**.

2024 started with a bang and sparked lots of ideas for change, including proposals in Highways and Planning which will be of interest to us all.

**Drain Clearing:** Poor funding from central government has led to less gully and drain clearances by Wiltshire Council. Likewise, there has been no incentive for landowners to reduce water run-off from fields, and clear ditches. Wiltshire Council is putting an extra £1million into drain and gully clearance, including a third vacuum machine, whilst DEFRA is looking at incentivising landowners. I am pushing for a long-term funding increase to acknowledge the fact that weather patterns are changing and we need to deal with more rain annually than we ever have before.

**Black Dog:** The closure of the spur road north of the junction is a step closer thanks to the support of local residents, Parish Councils and the Highways team. I anticipate this being implemented in the next few months once the legal paperwork is complete (the Department for Transport ensures this isn't a straightforward or quick process!).

**Solar Farm:** A proposal for a huge change to our local countryside and agriculture came last month in the form of a planning application for a 200-acre solar farm in Potterne, Easterton and Market Lavington. Opposition is strong with many, including myself, asking why we are losing good land in which we can grow crops in order to generate electricity we cannot use due to grid capacity.

**Co-op Market Lavington:** Another proposed change in Market Lavington came from an application for houses and a larger Co-Op. This came as no surprise since a hundred or so residents attended a presentation back in 2022 when the idea was floated. Since that meeting, I have been regularly asked by excited locals when the new Co-Op will be built! I am told a larger Co-Op has been supported by three-quarters of locals who took part in a survey last year. However, there is a lot for residents, the Parish Council and Planners to consider because the proposal is a deviation from the Neighbourhood Plan (voted for by locals) which earmarked the site for housing. I expect some interesting debate will follow!

**Housing:** I have written about 5 Year Housing Land Supply before: a flawed target for building new homes. We have lost many Planning appeals because we have been kept from hitting the target through the manipulation of figures by unscrupulous developers. I am pleased to report our lobbying of Michael Gove has been a success and we now have a 4-year target (which we are exceeding). This should protect us from further overdevelopment in the Devizes area.

## CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

### Parish Council meetings

The Parish Council met on Monday 4th December with a full and varied agenda covering finance, grounds maintenance, emergency planning, the Pavilion lease and the play area. All agendas, minutes and information can be found on the website at <https://www.greatcheverell.org/>

Having set the budget and precept for 2024/25, the Council is looking forward to activities, events and improvements that it will undertake throughout the year. The budget includes funding for the play park, grounds maintenance, staffing, elections, the defibrillator and mandatory insurance. The Parish Council was mindful to keep any increase in the precept to a minimum.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is **Monday 5th February at 7.30pm** in the Pavilion and the agenda will be posted onto the website a week before. All welcome.

### Emergency Plan Development

The Parish Council held an Emergency Planning event on Saturday 20th January. Guest speakers from Wiltshire Council and Chilmark Parish Council gave very interesting talks which provided all the information that the village needs to create an Emergency Plan, how it works in practice and how to become more resilient when faced with difficult situations. Several volunteers have stepped forward from Great Cheverell, including Parish Councillors, to develop the plan and help during emergency events. Thank you to everyone who attended. Please get in touch with the Parish Clerk if you think you could assist in any way.

### Future events

Following the wonderful and well-attended Craft Fair on December 3rd, a further Fair will be taking place on Saturday 16th March from 10am - 2pm. Please pop in for a cuppa, chat and some lovely arts, crafts and produce. Contact Paul Stevens to book a table on **07727 139115**.

**Defibrillator training** is booked in the Pavilion on **21st March from 7pm to 8.30pm**. It is important that as many people as possible in the village understand how to use the equipment in the event of an emergency. Places must be booked via the Parish Clerk or see the link on the website.

The Parish Council is hosting another litter picking event as part of **'Keep Britain Tidy'**. This will be on **Sunday March 24th from 10am to 12 noon**. All equipment and a safety briefing will be provided. We were lucky with our last pick in October which saw a bright and sunny morning.

### Vacancies on Parish Council

There is a casual vacancy on the Parish Council. Please get in touch with us if you would like to join our friendly team! For further information, including how to apply, please contact the Clerk at [parishcouncil@greatcheverell.org](mailto:parishcouncil@greatcheverell.org)

A belated happy New Year to you all and we hope you have kept well, safe and warm over the last couple of months.

**What is a Council Precept?** This is a tax that Parish and Town Councils charge their local residents in order to cover spending on service delivery within the community. This includes services such as open spaces, cemeteries, playing fields, toilets, street furniture, and more. Fire, Police and Town/Parish precepts are in addition to the Wiltshire Council basic Council Tax. Last year the Parish Council did not request any increase, but this year the Parish Council has requested a rise of 2.5% in the amount of our precept request to Wiltshire Council.

**Overhanging Trees & Hedges:** The Council has been busy over the Christmas period dealing with fallen trees over footpaths and access on bridleways, localised surface water flooding and icy areas. Before the birds start nesting, the council would be grateful if residents and landowners could cut back overhanging hedges and trees from pavements, footpaths and the narrow village roads.

**Defibrillators:** The defibrillator in the Rutts Lane red telephone box has been unreliable in the cold weather. A nearby householder has kindly agreed to host this defibrillator temporarily on his house wall (The Old Bridge Inn) until we can get a reliable power supply to the telephone box in Rutts Lane. This is being pursued through Scottish & Southern Electric. A fourth defibrillator machine has been purchased and will soon be connected up in the red telephone box at the crossroads (A360/B3098), making a total of four machines available in the two villages: The Old Bridge Inn in Church Street, the Village Hall, crossroads A360/B3098, and the bus stop by 46 High Street in Littleton Panell. The Parish Council website has a map showing the exact locations.

The wooden gates which were stolen from the Remembrance Avenue are being replaced. These are in the process of being 'branded' and will be fitted shortly. Larger and more robust tree guards have also been purchased for the trees in the Avenue to help protect them from being nibbled by deer. A replacement slide for Robert's Playground has been ordered and will be put in place when it arrives.

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be on **Thursday 1st February**, starting at 7.00 pm in the Giles Room, Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Our monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday in the month and details are posted on the website [www.westlavington.org.uk](http://www.westlavington.org.uk) and in the noticeboard by the village shop.

**Julia Ford**, Chair, Parish Council

[jford@westlavington.org.uk](mailto:jford@westlavington.org.uk)

### Keep your dog under control near livestock

As we move towards the main lambing and calving periods, the Parish Council asks dog walkers and walkers to support your local farming community by respecting the Countryside Code. It is a sensible precaution to keep dogs on a lead when livestock are nearby. Almost half (46%) of dog owners in a recent NFU survey think that their dog would not attack or chase livestock until it happens, and by then it is too late. Livestock worrying is when a dog attacks or chases livestock on agricultural land, or is at large in a field with sheep or other livestock. This can result in significant injury or suffering and, in the worst cases, the death of the animals involved. This has devastating consequences for livestock keepers, causing personal distress as well as significant financial costs. Livestock worrying is a criminal offence and the dog owner could face prosecution and a fine of up to £1000, in the most serious case.

If you see a dog worrying or attacking livestock. please call 999 or report online at

<https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/ro/report/rwc/rural/report-rural-crime/>  
or call 101 after an occurrence.

### DID YOU KNOW? Have you used MyWilts?

Wiltshire Council has made it easy to report issues like potholes and fly tipping by creating a reporting portal called **MyWilts**, which has replaced the old 'MyWiltshire' app.

**MyWilts** will work on any device with an internet connection including laptops and smartphones. You can download the MyWilts app onto your Android or Apple device from the App Store (Apple) and Google Play (Android), or you can simply use an internet browser, such as Google Chrome, to access MyWilts and raise new cases. The app works on Android version 8 and above, and iOS version 10.

Through the online site and app, residents can tell the Council about any issues they come across. You can give information anonymously or register for free. If you do register, you can track reports and receive progress updates. You can use the camera on your phone to upload photos. You will also have access to view your historical cases and be able to access additional services, such as the Wiltshire Council Waste Forms.

### You can report issues with:

Abandoned vehicles • Benefits • Empty homes • Fraud • Car parks, including problems with car park ticket machines • Playgrounds • Roads, pavements and footpaths - including bus shelters, potholes, street lighting and traffic lights • Rubbish or recycling • Street scene - including dead animals, dog mess, fly tipping and public litter bins • Trading standards • Trees, hedges and grass • Unauthorised encampments • Unlicensed scrap metal collectors • Unlicensed waste collectors • Weather emergencies

You can find out more – and report issues – on the MyWilts website at:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>



## LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL



We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

We ended Term 2 with the children's Christmas party, with games and a visit from Father Christmas who gave all the children a present. One of our families won the fabulous hamper in our Lucky Numbers Draw. We would like to thank Mrs Martin-Hall our reception teacher at DAPS who drew the lucky numbers and all our families who helped us raise £69.00. Thank you!

We have begun Term 3 looking at 'Winter' and 'Health and Well-being'. The children have been busy exploring our outside area, searching for ice. We had ice tuff trays where the children used their large motor skills to break-up the ice with hammers to discover what was hidden in the ice. We have been talking about healthy foods and the children found some giant dirty teeth and practiced their teeth brushing skills. Dental care is very important and our children brush their teeth as part of our daily routine. The children had a Teddy Bears' picnic in January when they all bought in healthy fruit and vegetables to share. We have made bird feeders and hung them on the tree in our front garden and are also taking part in the Big British Bird Watch 2024.

We currently have vacancies for our afternoon sessions only for 2 year olds and 3-4 year olds, for any new families wishing to join us at Lavington pre-school. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me: [managerlavingtonpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:managerlavingtonpreschool@gmail.com)

**Julie Langlands**  
Manager Lavington Pre-school

### Carer Support Wiltshire Carer Cafes

Our cafes are a great way to make new friends and enjoy a cuppa, cake and a chat with others in relaxed, friendly surroundings. Come when you can and stay for as long, or as little as you like.

#### Devizes: 1st Wednesday of the month

**Venue:** The Bear Hotel, Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HS

**Time:** 10:30am – 12:00pm **Dates:** 7 February, 6 March

#### Salisbury District Hospital:

**Carer Café and Info Point** (please note this is not a CSW carer café)

**Venue:** Springs Restaurant, Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury, SP2 8BJ

**Time:** 2:30pm – 4:00pm **Dates:** Every Thursday

## SOUTH HILLS OLD SCHOOL NURSERY



We have had a busy start to the New Year, welcoming some new children and embracing the colder weather. Our children have been exploring ice by leaving various natural materials in water to see what happens overnight. We are preparing to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch by making bird feeders and creating look-out posts on our field where the children love to hide and watch out to see what kind of birds come to visit our field. We have a regular friendly Robin who often perches on our push-along cars.

We were so overwhelmed with the generous support from our families when we did a Reverse advent for Devizes and District Foodbank. We were able to donate 23.6kg of food that will really make a difference. The children were so keen to add food each day and really started to show compassion for those who need food.

We are very excited to be preparing for some eggs to put in our incubator. One of our farming families has kindly promised us some fertilised eggs. The children will be so excited to watch chicks hatch and learn about life cycles.

We would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

We offer a variety of sessions between 8am and 5pm on both term time and all year contracts. If you are interested in a place for your child from age 2, contact us on **01380 812418** or [oldschoolmanager@southhillsschool.com](mailto:oldschoolmanager@southhillsschool.com) to arrange a viewing.

### Bereavement Help Points

This is a community-based drop-in service where all people who are bereaved are welcome. It's a space to meet and talk with others who may be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings, in an informal and supportive setting.

#### DEVIZES VENUE

**Bear Hotel, 2-3 The Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HS**

**Time:** 10.30am - 12.00pm

**Dates:** 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month

This group is kindly funded by Devizes Town Council, Devizes Lions, Potterne Parish Council, Worton Parish Council. Run in partnership with Dorothy House Hospice.

**Creative Curriculum:** Every class has some field trips planned or completed - we aim to offer as many of these opportunities as possible to provide variety, breadth and enrichment to our creative curriculum. YR&Y1 visited Salisbury Cathedral as part of their exploration of materials, learning about stained glass and creating their own ceramic tiles. Y3/4 recently visited The Living Rainforest to explore this diverse habitat for creatures and plants plus relevant sustainability issues. Y4/5 will be visiting the Steam Museum linked to their WW2 project in history later this term.

**First Aid:** We were delighted to welcome the Wiltshire Air Ambulance team, delivering interactive lifesaving training skills to provide all children with the knowledge to confidently manage a medical emergency prior to the arrival of an ambulance.



We welcome parents into school at the end of some of the topics to share the final outcomes – perhaps a little performance to share our learning in French, music or drama, a museum set up by the children, or a restaurant or art galley run by the children. We also enjoy having parents come into our Sharing Assembly every Friday, where a few children from each class will share some of the work that was done in the class during that week.

**Adventure Play Trails:** Developing a passion for active play and sport as a child is key for an adult life that embraces fitness and activity. After an enormous amount of hard work scoping designs, quotes and planning, the Governors of Holy Trinity have committed to the upgrade of all the outdoor play trails during 2024. A superb design, with customised equipment to support learning and development, will give our children multipurpose structures for all age groups. Having the children's voice in the design process has been important - this is their school and this will be a legacy for future Holy Trinity children. If you would like to help us with fundraising for this project, or contribute anything to help us make the target, please do get in touch. We hope to have the structure completed before the start of the summer term!

**New Parents:** Parents who have put in applications for their children to start in our school in September should hear around the middle of April whether they have been successful. We will invite these new families to a welcome meeting in May for the parents, and then some induction afternoons in June for their children. This is an exciting time for the school as well as these families – we shall walk their journey with them for seven years and it is lovely to meet them for the first time.

If you would like to find out more about our school, or come and see the school, please contact us on **01380 813796**, or visit our webpage at [www.holy-trinity.co.uk](http://www.holy-trinity.co.uk)

**Anna Woodman Head Teacher**

## HIRE RATES FOR WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL

There is a new charge for those groups wishing to sell alcohol at their functions, avoiding the need to apply for their own special Temporary Events Notice and time-consuming paperwork.

ROOM	WEEKDAYS	WEEKEND & BANK HOLIDAYS
	Charge per hour	Charge per hour
Hall	£12.00	£14.00
Giles Room	£7.50	£9.00
Library	£5.00	£6.00

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Use of Oven	£5.00	Hall microphone & Speaker System	£10.00
Stage & Lights	£10.00	Alcohol-Sale Permisssion	£10.00
Projector & Screen	£10.00	Wi-Fi	Free

*Bookings must include event preparation and clear-up time (a condition of hire)  
Discounted rate for regular bookings (six months or more) at Trustees' discretion.*

**Playing Fields** - The Playing Fields are maintained by the Parish Council. No charge is made for the Football Pitches but they must be booked through the Village Hall Booking Admin, to avoid conflict of match dates. A charge is made for the Village Hall toilets, showers and changing rooms when they are used for sporting activity.





### Grandparents Tea

As a school, we fully appreciate the importance of grandparents to our children. Some are fortunate to live close by and visit school regularly for school events or pickups. However, many live a long drive away and don't get to experience that connection with their grandchildren's school. For this reason, every January, we host our Grandparents Tea and we welcome many of our DAPS Grandparents to school to spend time with their grandchildren in classrooms, followed by tea and cake in the hall while listening to our school choir. Our favourite thing to see is the faces of the children when their grandparents arrive. It makes their week and we are so grateful to those grandparents who travel such long distances (some more than three hours!) to experience this with us! We would like to thank everyone who was able to join us and those who helped by baking and manning the teapot!

### Equa Collaborative Music Concert

Our Year 6 pupils recently represented DAPS at the Equa Music concert at the Wiltshire Music Centre. All eight schools in Equa sent pupils to represent them and each school had a poem to read and song to sing. Our pupils sang 'Roar' beautifully and represented us in the best possible way. Well done Oak Class.

### POD PTA event planning

Our wonderful PTA group are busy organising new events for our children, their families and loved ones and the wider community. Following the huge success of our 'open to everyone' Wreath Making evening, we are adding three community events to our schedule this year, including our Easter Bingo, a Quiz night and an evening of Line Dancing! We are also organising a huge Picnic in the Park event in September to welcome all new families that join us in the new academic term. We very much appreciate the support the community gives us in our events and we look forward to announcing all these dates over the coming months.

### Volunteering in school and strengthening our Governor team

Subject to the necessary safety checks, we are always keen to welcome volunteers to help us within school through supporting events, listening to children read or helping us maintain our beautiful gardens and grounds! We are also keen to attract new Governors to join our committed and experienced team. We are particularly looking for people with a background in education, health or welfare matters to help support both the school and our staff. If you are interested in joining the friendly and supportive team of Governors at DAPS, please email **Chris Thorne** (Chair of Governors) at [cthorne@daps.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:cthorne@daps.wilts.sch.uk).

**Philippa Winbolt, Headteacher**

## OLD CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH UK

What's your outlook on beginning a New Year? Some people think making New Year's resolutions is foolish. And it's true that many are quickly forgotten or abandoned, but that doesn't mean the whole practice is a waste of time. It's a way of setting your course in the right direction for the coming months. If you don't make plans for improvement, the only alternative is to drift along doing the same things you've done before - whether or not they're fruitful.

As the old year transitions into the new, take some time to evaluate your life. Not just based on worldly accomplishments, but on a deeper spiritual level. In the last week of December, I always reflect to see how I've responded to the Lord's guidance, promises, or warnings throughout the year. The goal is not to judge my performance, but to check the condition of my heart and remind myself of the lessons I've learned.

Try asking yourself the following questions: What did I achieve last year? Have I done anything that will outlive me and have eternal significance? Did I spend my time, energy, and resources accomplishing what I wanted or what God desired? Have I grown in my relationship with Christ?

These questions relate to the most important aspect of your life—and the key to anything you hope to experience in the future.

Paul had one desire that superceded all others:

"Whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (Philippians 3:7-8).

That's a challenging standard, isn't it? Are career, family, financial, material, or social goals more important to you than gaining deeper knowledge of, and intimacy with, your Saviour? There's nothing wrong with pursuing other things, but they need to take second place to your relationship with the Lord. That means you have to make time to spend with Him, in His Word and prayer.

**Rev Fr David Knipe**

email: [frdavidknipe@liberalcatholics.co.uk](mailto:frdavidknipe@liberalcatholics.co.uk) (Prayer/Pastoral care/Bible Study)

website: [www.liberalcatholics.co.uk](http://www.liberalcatholics.co.uk)



OLD CATHOLIC  
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## EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

### A Just God

Mr Bates vs The Post Office movingly highlighted the plight of sub-postmasters and mistresses who were accused of theft and false accounting by the Post Office. It was the Horizon computer system, not the workers, which was at fault.

The programme provoked huge public outrage at the injustice faced by hundreds of innocent people. Government ministers were spurred into action. Wrongs will at last be righted and due compensation handed out. Justice at last. *We hope.*

In an episode of Inspector Morse Lewis asks his boss if he believes in God. The Chief Inspector replies that he sometimes wished he did, reflecting, 'A just God. A God dispensing justice. I'd like to believe in that.' Yet the justice of God is not often spoken about these days. It seems that the church is happy to trumpet God's love, but is all too often silent when it comes to proclaiming a just God.

That is a mistake. An unjust God who was indifferent to right and wrong would not be worth worshipping. 'The Lord loves justice' the psalmist assures us. And rightly so. Justice demands that all are equal before the law. Justice insists that the innocent are declared to be in the right and that the guilty are condemned. A good God must be just.

But 'a God dispensing justice' is an uncomfortable thought. After all, who of us can claim to have lived our lives according to the perfection demanded in God's law? When measured by that standard, the Bible admits, 'None is righteous, no, not one'. We will all therefore be held to account by a just God.

But isn't God forgiving? Yes, but not at the expense of justice. That is exactly why God sent his Son Jesus into the world. He came to fulfil the righteous demands of God's law on our behalf. Jesus suffered and died, bearing the penalty of our sin on the cross. It is on that basis that all who believe in Jesus are forgiven and put right with God.

The day will come when God will put the world to rights. He will overthrow evil and condemn unrighteousness. That day holds no fear for believers. They will stand before their Maker and Judge clothed in the perfect righteousness of Jesus. 'A just God. A God dispensing justice' is certainly worth believing in.

**Pastor: Guy Davies**  
**[www.pbc-ebc.org.uk](http://www.pbc-ebc.org.uk)**

You are welcome to join us for our Sunday services at 4.30pm. On the fourth Sunday of the month we have 'Time for Tea +', a traditional Sunday tea, followed by a short service.

## TRINITY CHURCH

We meet in the Community Hall, Market Lavington every Sunday morning at **10.30 am** unless stated otherwise.

Visitors to our informal style of worship in the United Reformed Church/Methodist tradition are always welcome. Do come along.

All services are accompanied by refreshments and we follow current regulations to help keep you safe.

### Services For February 2024

<b>Feb 4th</b>	Trinity Church Service Led by Jeannie MacMeekin
<b>Feb 11th</b>	United Service, Trinity's 40th Anniversary Led by Revd. Gary Gotham
<b>Feb 18th</b>	Trinity Church with Holy Communion at the Old School, Market Lavington Led by Revd. Gary Gotham
<b>Feb 25th</b>	Trinity Church Service Led by Joanne Williams

**Church Minister:** Revd Gary Gotham, 69 Queens Road, Devizes.  
**01380 724264 [gary.gotham@gmail.com](mailto:gary.gotham@gmail.com)**

**Trinity Church Secretary:** Les Charlton  
**079 624 22 624 [secretarytrinitychurchml@gmail.com](mailto:secretarytrinitychurchml@gmail.com)**

**Postal address:** Trinity Church Secretary, c/o St. Arbucks Cafe,  
1 Church St, Market Lavington SN10 4DT

### CAN YOU HELP NEWS & VIEWS REACH ITS READERS?



Could you spare an hour or two in the first week of every month to help us distribute News and Views to houses in the villages, in particular Littleton Panell?

If so, please will you contact Anji Scofield on **[anji@dauntseycourt.plus.com](mailto:anji@dauntseycourt.plus.com)**.

It doesn't take long - take the dog and enjoy the walk!



## WHAT'S ON WHEN - A CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 2024

<b>Jan 29th to Feb 3rd:</b>	The Importance of Being Earnest, Wharf Theatre, Devizes. Tickets £10 - £14. Box office <b>0333 666 3366</b> . <a href="http://www.wharftheatre.co.uk">www.wharftheatre.co.uk</a>
<b>Thurs 1st:</b>	West Lavington Parish Council meeting, Giles Room, WL Village Hall, 7pm
<b>Mon 5th:</b>	Cheverell Magna Parish Council meeting, The Pavilion, 7.30pm
<b>Thurs 8th:</b>	West Lavington WI meeting, Sari Safari. Giles Room, WL Village Hall, 2pm
<b>Sat 10th:</b>	Great Cheverell Film Night, The Pavilion, GC. Doors open 7pm. Free for members, £5 guests Music for Meningitis, Seend Community Centre, 7.30pm Tickets £10. <a href="http://www.seendcommunitycentre.com/box-office">www.seendcommunitycentre.com/box-office</a> Winter Warmer, reflection and discussion, Green Dragon, ML. 3-5pm
<b>Mon 12th - Fri 16th:</b>	Half term week
<b>Tues 13th:</b>	Cheverell Garden Club meeting Talking Tomatoes with Nicola Hope. GC Village Hall, 7.30pm
<b>Tues 13th - Sat 17th:</b>	Potterne Panto Robin Hood
<b>Wed 14th:</b>	West Lavington Friendship Club, Baptist Church Hall, 2.30pm
<b>Fri 16th:</b>	Gaz Brookfield The Almost All Village Halls tour. WL Village Hall 7.30pm. <a href="http://www.gazbrookfield.com">www.gazbrookfield.com</a>
<b>Fri 16th/ Sat 17th:</b>	Frozen Jr, The Wharf Theatre, Devizes. Tickets £13-£15. 7.30pm. Matinee 17th, 2.30pm
<b>Fri 16th/ Sat 17th:</b>	Great Cheverell Panto: Fairy Tales with a Twist. The Pavilion, GC. Doors open 6.30pm, show starts 7pm. Tickets £10 from Gt Cheverell Shop.
<b>Sat 17th:</b>	Devizes Festival of Winter Ales, Corn Exchange. Early Session 11am-5pm, Late Session 5.30pm-11pm. Tickets £13
<b>Wed 21st:</b>	Knitting Club, Baptist Church Hall, WL, 10am Lavington and District Gardening Club: Gardening Question Panel. WL Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm
<b>Sun 25th:</b>	Afternoon of Jazz, Little Cheverell Village Hall, 1-3pm. Tickets from <a href="mailto:b.featherstone65@gmail.com">b.featherstone65@gmail.com</a> or message <b>07934 855404</b>
<b>Wed 28th:</b>	West Lavington Friendship Club, Baptist Church Hall, 2.30pm

## WHAT'S ON WHEN - A CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS

### MARCH 2024

<b>Fri 1st:</b>	Nestling Trust Quiz Night, ML Community Hall, 7 for 7.30pm. £20 per team of four. Children free
<b>Sat 9th:</b>	Dauntsey's Choral Society Spring Concert, 7.30pm. Memorial Hall, Dauntsey's School
<b>Sat 16th:</b>	Craft Fair, Great Cheverell Pavilion, 10am - 2pm Great Cheverell Pavilion Trust Film Night, The Pavilion, GC. Doors open 7pm. Members free, guests £5
<b>Thurs 21st:</b>	Cheverell Magna Parish Council Defibrillator Training, The Pavilion, GC, 7 - 8.30pm. Places must be booked via the Parish Clerk, or see website.
<b>Sat 23rd:</b>	Edington Arts. Bach's St John Passion, Edington Priory, 7pm. Tickets £12.50 - £30. <a href="http://www.edingtonarts.org">www.edingtonarts.org</a> or call <b>01380 831256</b>
<b>Sun 24th:</b>	Litter picking, Great Cheverell. 10am to 12 noon
<b>Fri 29th - Mon 1 April:</b>	Easter weekend

### The Green Dragon - Market Lavington

## WINTER WARMER

**10th February 2024 3.00pm - 5.00pm**

Are you feeling a bit low after Christmas and the New Year?

**Why not join us for an enjoyable, free afternoon of reflection and hope.**

*Come on your own or bring a friend.*

Discussion will be themed around the Chinese New Year and refreshments will be provided.

**Book early as places are limited.**

All ages welcome.

Contact: **Jeannie 07927 303473**

**Barbara 07884 162559**

**or drop into St. Arbucks**



## REGULAR MEETINGS OF VILLAGE GROUPS

**Art Group:** Thursday mornings, Giles Room, WL Village Hall, 9.30am - midday.

**Cafe Scientifique:** first Monday of the month, 7.30pm, The Bell Inn, Great Cheverell

**Cheverells Garden Club:** second Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, GC Village Hall

**Dauntsey's Choral Society:** Monday evenings, term time, Old Hall, Dauntsey's School 7.30-9.30pm

**Friendly Fridays,** Old School, Market Lavington 10am to 1pm, all ages

**Gt Cheverell Book Club:** last Tuesday of the month, 2pm

**Gt Cheverell Friends and Neighbours:** first Wednesday in the month, GC Village Hall 3pm.

**Home Group:** Tuesdays in term time, 46 High Street, West Lavington, 6.30 - 8pm

**Kenet Quilters:** second Monday in month, ML Community Hall, 1.30 - 4.30pm.

**Knitting Club:** Baptist Church hall on third Wednesday of the month at 10am.

**Lavington Community Choir:** Thursdays, ML Community Hall, 8pm for 8.15pm.

**Lavington and District Swimming Club:** Sundays 4-5.30pm, Tuesdays 7.15-8.15pm, Thursdays 6.30am-7.30 am, Dauntsey's School Pool.

**Lavington and District Garden Club:** third Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm, WL Village Hall, £2 per meeting, £15 per year

**Mothers' Union:** second Monday of the Month, 2.15pm at 54 High Street, West Lavington, unless otherwise advised.

**Tuesday Club:** for 60+, Tuesdays, ML Community Hall 10am - 2pm

**West Lavington Friendship Club:** second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, Baptist Church Hall at 2.30pm, unless otherwise advertised.

**West Lavington WI:** second Thursday of the month, Giles Room WLVH, November to March 2pm.

**West Lavington Youth Club:** Tuesdays for Years 8+, Wednesdays Years 4-6, Thursdays Year 7, WL Village Hall. 6 - 8pm

**Whist Drive:** Every Friday, Great Cheverell Village Hall 2pm

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Great Cheverell Community Page



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