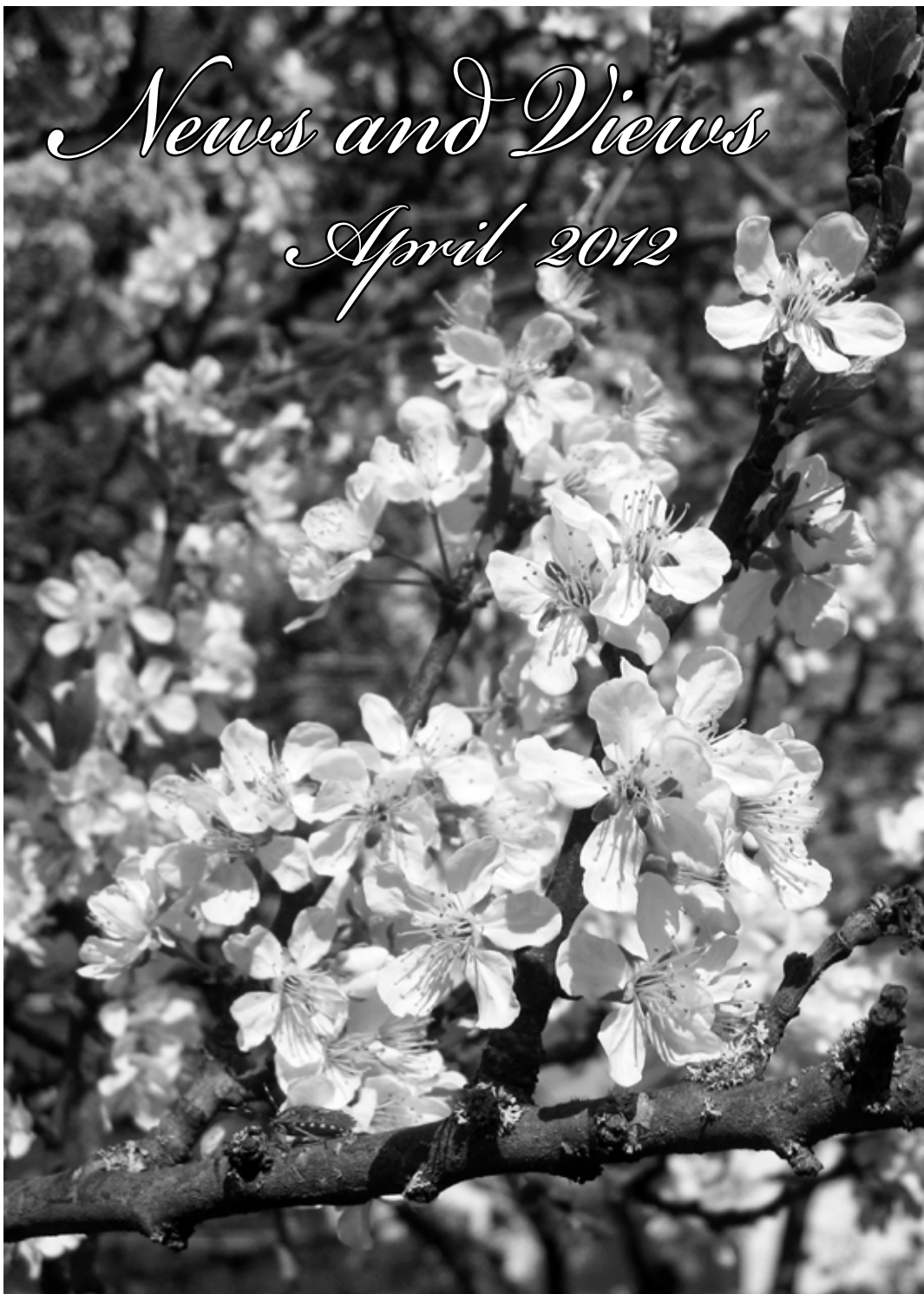


News and Views
April 2012



*Calendar of Services in the Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton
May 2012*

Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
6th May 5th of Easter	9.30 am Half Hour Service*	9.30 a.m. Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion	9.30 a.m. Communion by Extension	11.00 a.m. Matins (BCP)
13th May 6th of Easter	11.00 a.m. United Service At Trinity in the Community Hall	9.30 a.m. Parish Communion	11.00 a.m. United Service At Trinity in the Community Hall, ML	4.00 p.m. Rogation Service	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
20th May 7th of Easter	9.30 a.m. Parish Communion	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30 a.m. Matins (BCP)	11.00 a.m. Matins (BCP)	9.30 a.m. Welcome to Worship	11.00 a.m. Parish Communion (BCP)
27th May Pentecost	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30 a.m. Half Hour Service*		11.00 a.m. Parish Communion (BCP)	

Regular worship in our sister churches:
 9.00am St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Littleton Panell*
 10.30am Trinity Church in the Community Hall Market Lavington*
 11.00am & 6.00pm Ebenezer Baptist Church West Lavington.

* An asterisk indicates services where children's activities are provided.

VILLAGE CARE
West Lavington, Littleton Panell & Little Cheverell
TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 816826

Dear Friends,

The Government is currently holding a nationwide consultation on same sex marriage and in particular whether gay couples will be able to marry in the UK and have the same rights as married men and women.

This is of course a highly contentious subject on which opposing views are deeply held.

Many have come to welcome same sex civil partnerships as a public affirmation and recognition of the love and commitment between two people. Others go further and share the view of our own Bishop of Salisbury in support of same sex marriage.

One of first religious leaders to voice his opposition to any change in the law was the Archbishop of York, John Sentamu. He has spoken in defence of the traditional understanding of matrimony as a God-given 'relationship between a man and a woman.' In this he has had the support of many within the C.of E., the RC Church and beyond. Almost 450,000 have so far signed the 'Coalition for Marriage' Petition.

In an interview with Andrew Marr on BBC 1 on 9th December last year, the Archbishop quoted part of a letter he'd received from someone in a civil partnership. The end of the letter said, 'Having read what you said, I find myself agreeing with you. I believe that marriage is for a man and woman and I personally feel no desire to emulate it – I accept my relationship is different. As long as I don't suffer from any form of discrimination, legally, economically, socially – I am happy.' John Sentamu continued, "This is someone in a civil partnership; he is glad and he is worried that our changes may be different. So if in the end you are going to listen to all those different kinds of voices – for me it is not a question of equality but of justice. Once matters are just, you have to say to yourself – do you really need to do this?"

Some of us have grave reservations about these proposals; one concern is that clergy and churches who are unhappy conducting same sex marriages may in the future face prosecution under anti-discrimination legislation, despite current assurances from the Government to the contrary. There is a need to engage constructively with those holding opposing views, but fundamentally different interpretations of the Bible mean that this will remain a subject on which Christians will continue to disagree.

Rector: Revd Canon James Campbell
 The Vicarage, Market Lavington
 e mail lavingtonrector@googlemail.com
 Tel. (01380) 816963
 Office lavingtonchurch@btinternet.com
 Associate Priest:
 Rev'd Ann Cocking (01380) 812763

James Campbell

ST PETER'S CHURCH, GREAT CHEVERELL

In order to maintain the current worship pattern at St Peter's our Welcome to Worship Service, which is held on the third Sunday of each month, is to be Lay Led. From May 20th these services will be led by a small group of church members who have recently received training from James Campbell and Bob Young. The format of the service will remain largely unchanged and as usual the congregation is invited to stay for coffee afterwards.

Sunday 13th May Rogation Sunday

The annual Rogation Day Service at Great Cheverell will begin at St. Peter's Church at 4.00 p.m., continue down the High Street and into The Green, ending at Lower Green Farm for a short service, followed by refreshments at about 5.00 p.m.

All are very welcome.

'The Life of Christ', Wintershall

This open-air production takes place annually in the attractive grounds of an agricultural estate near Bramley, south of Guildford. The play follows St. Luke's account of Jesus' life. Nearly 300 actors take part of whom only Jesus is a professional. The play is watched each day by about 2,500 people of all ages; the action moves to different parts of the estate, assisted by a sophisticated PA system.

This year the production runs for six days from Tuesday 19th June. It is proposed to take a group from the villages on **Friday 22nd June.**

Before committing yourself, you may want to speak to someone who has been before and enjoyed it – amongst others: Sue Allen, Bob and Jeanette Giles, Caroline Morison, and Ann Walker. Or check it out on: www.wintershall-estate.com

Adult tickets are £15. The play is from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. so an early start is essential! For further details, please contact Mary or James Campbell (816963).

AN EVENING OF GYPSY JAZZ

By popular request Nicola Farnon will play again at Market Lavington Community Hall on the evening of Sunday 10th June 2012. Tickets £10 will soon be on sale. Contact Beth 818252, Lesley 812460 or Jackie 813233.

www.nicolafarnon.info

Market Lavington Community Hall Trust

CANCER RESEARCH UK ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL
Saturday 12th May from
10.30 a.m. to noon

Join us for coffee/tea, cake and look at a variety of stalls including plants, bric-a-brac, produce, books, crafts etc. There will also be a raffle.

I shall be grateful for toys, bric-a-brac, plants, produce, crafts etc. If you wish me to collect please phone 01380 813319 or deliver to Village Hall at 9 a.m. on 12th.

**All proceeds go to Cancer
Research UK**

Mary Diccox

FILMS AT MARKET LAVINGTON COMMUNITY HALL

Sat 19 May	Market Lavington	The Help	7.30pm
Sat 16 Jun	Market Lavington	The Artist	7.30pm
Sat 14 Jul	Market Lavington	War Horse	7.30pm

The next film selection from Trinity Church is now confirmed as shown; please can you give this as much prominence in the parish mags or village websites etc.

Tickets remain at £5.00 and are available from the Market Lavington Post Office

Beggars Opera

Saturday May 26th at
7.00 for 7.30pm

White Horse Opera at West
Lavington Village Hall

**Tickets £10 to include wine,
bread and cheese. Tickets from
Reading Matters in Devizes and
Costcutter in West Lavington.**

White Horse Opera will also be holding a Summer Ball (Black Tie) 7 for 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 6th July, at the Bear Hotel, Devizes. The Ball includes a three course meal and coffee with entertainment by members of the White Horse Opera, followed by dancing to Sound Company. Tickets £39.50 from the Bear Hotel

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

**COFFEE MORNING
for Christian Aid
on Friday May 11th
10 a.m. – 12 noon
at Wyneshore House, White
Street, West Lavington
Raffle, Bring and Buy
Entrance £2.50 to include
coffee and biscuits**

BLOOD DONING SESSION

At West Lavington Village Hall on
Thursday, 3rd May
Sessions from 1.45-3.45p.m.
& 4.45-7.15 p.m.

New/returning donors are always
needed and welcome
Any queries, please contact Julia Ford
(812365) or
National Helpline (0845 711 711) for
further information

From the Rectory

What's On this month



**Start country house
CAR BOOT SALE**

Saturday, 19th May, 2012
Buyers – 08:30 hrs
Manor Farm, Stert, Devizes
(off the A342)
All pitches to be pre-
booked and pre-paid
www.devizescruk.org
07831 376688

**ANNUAL CHURCH FETE
23RD JUNE AT 2.00pm**

This year's fete is being organised
by Henrietta and Quentin Goggs
(813736) with Jeannette and Bob Giles
(813256).

Please be sure to put this date in your
diary.

Anyone interested in helping out at the
fete, who is not already booked for a
stall, please contact one of the above.
We have several regulars on holiday
and would greatly appreciate your
help.

**LAVINGTON & DISTRICT
GARDENING CLUB**

During May the Gardening Club will be
holding a Plant and Cake Stall on May
12th in Market Lavington, starting at 9
a.m. The midweek meeting which will
be held in West Lavington Village Hall at
7.15 p.m. on Wednesday May 16th will
be a Social Evening with a Plant Bring
and Buy.

**ACTION MEDICAL
RESEARCH
PLANT FAIR**
Sunday, 6th May
10.30 a.m.- 4.00 p.m.
Great Chalfield Manor,
Broughton Gifford
Specialist Nurseries and
Gardening Sundries
Refreshments and Teas
Grand Cake Stall

**ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING**

For the electors of
West Lavington and Littleton Panell
Friday, May 25th at 7.30 p.m.
In West Lavington Village Hall
Everyone welcome – hear what's
going on and have your say!

AND

The Stage Post site – a Housing
Association presentation
of proposals to clear the site
and build affordable housing
Or should the building be converted?
Come and hear the choices and
help shape the decisions needed

**COUNTRY AND WESTERN NIGHT - Saturday 19th May
IN SUPPORT OF THE FRIENDS OF ERLESTOKE PRISON CHARITY**

Calling all country and western fans! Nashville Skyline, the Kazoo Keepers and
special guests are appearing at the Police HQ Devizes on Saturday May 19th in
support of the Friends of Erlestoke Prison charity.

Nashville Skyline are a 5 piece featuring guitars, banjo, mandolin, bass and harmony
vocals who play country and foot stomping bluegrass and one or two surprises!

Doors open at 7.00 p.m. and the first act will be on stage at 7.30 p.m.. Fish and
chips will be on sale and a licensed bar available. Tickets are available in advance
from Devizes Books, Devizes and Sound Knowledge, Marlborough. Entrance is £5
per person.

Please come, enjoy the music and support the Friends of Erlestoke Prison. It's a new
charity, which has been established to support the rehabilitation and resettlement
of prisoners at HMP Erlestoke. The charity partner with the prison in their work to
reduce reoffending rates and will fund/support projects to assist prisoners in:

- Maintaining and building relationships with their partners and children
- Finding education and work opportunities
- Ensuring that they have somewhere to call home when they leave prison
- Preparing themselves for release and a return to life without offending

For further information, please email info@friendsoferlestokeyprison.com or visit
www.friendsoferlestokeyprison.com

**JUBILEE EVENT
4th JUNE 2012**

Village Care and Link in association with West Lavington Parish Council will be
holding a Jubilee event in West Lavington Village Hall on Monday 4th June and
surrounding area.

The event will highlight the range and variety of activities that regularly take place
in West Lavington. All the organisations approached have written to us confirming
that they will run a stall at the event.

Refreshments (tea and cakes) will be provided.

At 2.30 p.m. there will be a free Punch and Judy show in the Village Hall, open to
children of any age. There will be a second performance at 3.30.

This will be followed by a 40 minute "entertainment" provided by Ann Walker and
Friends.

We are also proposing a competition for children under 12 years, to design a Jubilee
Greetings card for Her Majesty The Queen. Entries will be judged by the Head
Master of Dauntsey's school and their Art Department. Entries must be submitted
by 19 May, either posted or delivered to: Mrs Julie Collins, 18 Lavington Lane, West
Lavington SN10 4EY, Phone 01380 816973. Please see flyer for full conditions. All
entries will be displayed at the Jubilee event.

Michael Page, Chairman

What's On this month

What's On this month

HELLO FROM EMILY AND JAMES AT THE BRIDGE INN

Six weeks in now, and we are loving being part of the community of West Lavington. There have been stressful moments; but all seems to have been worth it!

James and I have arrived from London, so a big change; but we feel at home already.

We'd like to say a thank you for the warm welcome we have received and the ongoing support from our customers.

We are now serving modern British cuisine, and by the time you read this, our website should be up and running to view some sample menus!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

We plan to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee with a themed 1950s dinner dance on Monday 4th June, followed by a traditional 1950s fete on Tuesday 5th. This will be held in the garden, and all profit from the various stalls, competitions and games will be donated to the West Lavington Youth Club. If anyone would like to volunteer their time to man a stall; it would be greatly appreciated!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Emily and James

WEST LAVINGTON LOGS FOR SALE

Good Quality Seasoned Hardwood Logs

Logs cut to size – now available
£130 a load (full trailer) – Half
Loads available -£78

Free local delivery (3 miles radius of West Lavington) or buyer collect
Please call 813113 or 07977 058 304

FERRET NO LONGER AT LARGE

Living in the country, we are always liable to be visited by creatures such as rabbits, foxes, badgers or deer, but it is less common to find, as we have in the last week of April, a ferret at large in our garden. Fortunately, to the relief of ourselves and possibly our dog and our chickens, we were able, with a neighbour's help, to trap it so that it is now in the care of an expert. If a ferret owner has lost one recently it can be reclaimed by calling Camilla Pountain (07542 534475).

Editor

NEUROLOGICAL SURVEY

Please could you encourage all those you know in Swindon and Wiltshire affected by a neurological condition to complete the Neurological User Survey being run by the Swindon and Wiltshire Neurological Alliance. The survey will aid greater understanding for those affected and greater assistance for those affected and carers. The survey can be found at www.swna.org.uk

WEST LAVINGTON YOUTH CLUB

We have been working hard in preparation for **A CONCERT FOR GEORGE**. This will be a spectacular event which will be our memorial to George Baker MBE. It will take place in June at Lavington School and be performed by many stars of stage and screen. Please look at our separate insertion here today, which gives full details of the concert and how to get your tickets.

Do not forget the 7th July when we will be at the West Lavington Manor, courtesy of Ruth and Andrew Doman who have allowed us to be involved with the opening of their Manor Gardens.

Our AGM took place on Thursday 19th April and we have retained the committee that has done so much in the last few years, I am very pleased with this outcome and wish to thank them for their continued commitment.

We started our long awaited Junior Youth Club on Tuesday April 17th, with a roaring success! We have waited so long to achieve this.

There are a number of external events planned, including canoeing at South Cerney, so come and join in the fun.

We are open for you members:

- Monday: George Baker Youth Centre. members up to 14 years old.
- Tuesday: George Baker Youth Centre. members 7-11 years old.
- Wednesday: George Baker Youth Centre. members up to 17 years old.
- Friday: Market Lavington Old School. members up to 14 years old

Thank you for your continued support.
Eric Freeman – Chairman, The Management
Committee West Lavington Youth Club

DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL CHORAL SOCIETY

The Choral Society consists of a friendly group of about 60 adults with a love of singing, who all have some sort of connection to the school or the area. All our concerts are supported by pupils at the school and are a great showcase for their talents. At Christmas and in the Summer term concerts are held in local churches (we have recently been to Tilshead, Netheravon, Coulston to name a few) and all proceeds are given to the church funds.

Our next concert will be held on Tuesday 29th May at 7.30 p.m. in Edington Priory Church. It will be a choral *fest* with works by Sir Michael Tippett, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Bob Chilcott and others, performed by all the school choirs and the Choral Society.

A CONCERT FOR GEORGE

Sunday June 10th 4.30 p.m.
Lavington School

At the end of last year, at the funeral of George Baker, Michael Reed, the musical director of many West End shows, suggested that George's friends should put on a concert in memory of George.

Some of you will recall that we have had been lucky to host a few of these concerts before, and they have always been super events. It isn't often that a small village like ours can boast such star performers.

This time the line-up will include **Stephanie Cole**, currently appearing in Coronation Street and previously in Doc Martin and many other television and stage appearances; **Petronella Dittmer**, highly acclaimed violinist; **Paul Arden-Griffith**, a member of the original cast of Phantom of the Opera, with a wonderful voice; **Helen Habershon**, internationally renowned clarinetist and composer; **Peter Land**, Shakespearean actor, and West End and Broadway musical star; **Sarah Payne** who has appeared in many West End musicals, and was nominated for an Olivier prize; and **Simon Shepherd**, well known to many as Dr Will Preston in Peak Practice. The show will be directed by **Hugh Wooldridge** who has produced written directed and performed all over the world. Host for the afternoon will be DJ **Mike Read**.

Michael Reed will be on the piano, and is the musical director for the show.

Tickets for this will be £12.50 each, available from Reading Matters, Devizes Books, and various local village outlets. Or you can phone Mike May on 01380 812574. There will be a bar available from 3.30 p.m.

In the evening we have a very limited number of tickets for a four course cold supper with a cabaret. This will also take place at Lavington School from 7 p.m. Tickets for this will be £25. Some of you will remember the suppers we did at the Manor in the past. This will be a less formal setting, with a less formal dress code, but the food will be excellent and the entertainment something to remember, with a chance for you to meet the stars in this more intimate setting. Contact Mike May for tickets, and bring your friends!

Proceeds will be going to West Lavington Youth Club. Your support will be very much appreciated. Lyn Dyson, Treasurer, West Lavington Youth Club

MONTHLY LOCAL CRAFT AND PRODUCE MARKET

at The Green Dragon, Market Lavington
on second Saturday of every month
10:00am to 1:00pm

In aid of a different charity each month
Lots to buy, including

Paintings, Jewellery, Jams and Chutneys, Walking Sticks,
Handmade cards and decorations, Textiles

For more information, contact
Steve or Nicky Wragg on 813235

LAVINGTON AND DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB



Location: DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL

SUNDAY 5.15pm to 6.45pm,

TUESDAY 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Childrens' Fun with floats--Sunday 5.15pm to 6.00pm,

Lane swimming available every session

FEES: £55 PER TERM FOR A FAMILY (£2.75 per swim)

£27.50 PER TERM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL (£1.40 per swim)

Summer Term starts TUESDAY 24th April

& ends Sunday 8th July, 2012

(20 SWIMMING SESSIONS)

Half Term Closure:

Sun 3rd June and Tuesday 5th June

Guest Fees: ADULTS:- £3.00

CHILDREN:- £1.50 per session

For Further details:

Stephen Read, 22 Canada Rise, Market Lavington.

Tel: 01380 816280.

Email: indulge.two@googlemail.com

If you fancy a "taster" swim, please phone Stephen Read, Membership Secretary or Margaret Clarke, Committee Secretary tel 01380 818435, e-mail: mm.rclarke@btinternet.com for details about joining.

Need to get to the RUH?
Live in west Wiltshire?



**Book Connect2 for work,
appointments or visiting.**

To book call **08456 525255** option **2**

For information **01380 860100**

To contact us from the hospital dial **1444** from any hospital extension.

Connect at Erelstone or Great Cheverell to use this service.



Funded by
Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

NIPPED IN THE BUD

I suppose there are not many people reading this who will have been involved in the succession of Jubilee and Coronation events of the 1930s, as I was, to a degree which brought home to me the possibilities and frustrations that life would hold for me thereafter.

I was at the time at a local Primary School where it had been decided that, along with other schools in the town, a float should join the cavalcade proceeding through the town and representing a familiar nursery rhyme. As you can see in the accompanying picture our school had gone for one of the old favourites.

Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
How does your garden grow,
With silver bells and cockle shells
And pretty maids all in a row.



It is not easy to fit me into this image, even at the age of five or so. No female costume could have converted me into a "pretty maid", especially as I was in the process of losing my first set of teeth. However, the powers-that-were, decided that in the interests of sexual equality, a couple of gnomes would not be out of place in Mary's garden and so the choice fell upon myself and Paddy Lloyd, who lived at No.32. In the picture you will see him upstaging me, as I hover shyly in the background, and I would like you to notice that he had occupied the offside of the vehicle, leaving me on the nearside, a fact which was to have some significance as the day wore on. Not merely was he the stronger personality but he was also attracted by the girl who sat on his right, whereas my particular girl friend at the time,

bearing the succulent name of Grace Crisp, had not been selected, possibly owing to the close resemblance between her countenance and the back of the truck on which we were travelling.

I cannot remember much about the early part of the journey except that I sat, somewhat morosely, clutching my fishing net and reduced by sheer boredom to a convincing impression of petrification. However, as we neared the centre of the town, the pressure of the crowds grew to such intensity that stops became frequent. It was at one of these stops that an incident occurred which transformed my day, and ultimately my view of life. You will remember that I was on the side nearest the pavement with my fishing net dangling dangerously near the spectators; picture then my astonishment when someone sprang from the crowd and appeared to be reaching for my fishing net. I was about to withdraw it when I suddenly realised what was happening. *He was putting money in the net!* This charitable action sparked off a succession of donations, and suddenly I became aware of the vast possibilities

that lay before me. For the rest of the journey I was no longer a piece of stone; instead I occupied my time stabbing and prodding at passing spectators, hauling in catch after catch and glaring fiercely at those who had not the grace to make a contribution. By the time we got back to school I had amassed the sum of eight shillings and seven pence halfpenny *and Paddy Lloyd hadn't picked up a penny.* I cannot begin to tell you the treasures that I already had planned for putting that sum to profitable use, and I believe that I would from that day have become a financier of note but for the inevitable intrusion from the adult world. I was informed that the money, removed forcibly on my return, was not to be spent on such vital necessities as marbles, chocolate or comics, but was to be thrown away on needless presents for some wretched child malingering in hospital with some tiresome incurable disease. They even took away my fishing net.



Jim Hodges

A CENTURY MAKER

If you were living in West Lavington or Littleton Panell more than thirty years ago you may well have enjoyed the ministrations of Dr Arthur Hoffman who had been a much loved village doctor from the late 1940s. Arthur continued to live in West Lavington until his death in 2001, but his wife Peggy has survived him and, all being well, on May 18th she will be celebrating her 100th birthday. She now stays with one or other of her daughters and on the happy day she will be living with her younger daughter at 1 Kingston Cottages, Stoke Climsland, Callington, Cornwall PL27 8PQ

If any readers who knew her felt they would like to send her a card I know she would be delighted. When we recently visited her she was still bright, alert and happy, despite being not very mobile.

Jim Hodges

A MESSAGE FROM RICHARD GAMBLE Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

Governments often get criticised for making decisions without consultation but I have to report that my in-tray is groaning at present under the weight of large government consultation documents. Although they do not make light reading, in most cases the policies being proposed are welcome.

The clear trend is that central government is delegating powers of various kinds to local authorities. In Wiltshire, I think that can only be a good thing. I say that not just because Wiltshire is a good council but because, at last, Wiltshire has a chance of getting a fairer share of the national cake. For too long, government has taken our taxes and we have had precious little in return.

Take highways, for example. No major road schemes have been undertaken in the county since the Semington by-pass was opened in 2004. The cost of preparing a road scheme is very high but the development costs have to be spent before application can be made to government for inclusion in their funding programme. Such an application is a lottery where the other players are local authorities across the whole country. If government declines the scheme, the council has to write off a large sum of money with nothing to show for it. Wiltshire has rarely been at the top of the government's priority list.

Now, however, government is proposing to delegate decision making on major transport schemes to local authorities working in concert with Local Enterprise Partnerships. In our case, that is the Wiltshire and Swindon LEP. That means that after 2015, some money will be available each year for us to share with Swindon. It may not be enough to upgrade our entire network immediately, but at least we can be confident of doing something.

Similar ideas are being discussed about some local railway services (where the relevant powers may be transferred to groups of authorities) and about the administration of grants to bus operators.

Of course, none of these powers are worth anything if they are not accompanied by money and we all know that money is short. If I can return to the food analogy, we in Wiltshire may get crusts rather than cake but at least they will be our crusts and we would no longer be starving.

You may contact me about this or any other matter on

richard.gamble@wiltshire.gov.uk
or by phone on 07762 018209

WEST LAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

There is so much happening in the Parish at the moment it is difficult to know where to begin! By now you will have seen the roadworks along the A360, and already seen some of the improvements to footways taking shape. It is hoped the short-term inconvenience is not too much trouble. Rights of way are also in the news again, and again because of reports of dog fouling along footpaths. Just a few irresponsible owners are spoiling these spaces for everyone else – please “Bag it, Bin it, and Take it home!”.

Could I also ask horse owners not to travel on footpaths – Footpath 15 is again affected, and after many past warnings a more permanent solution will now be necessary. The council have also congratulated the Community Speedwatch team – initial training by the Police is now complete, and the first deployments are due very soon!

It's also time for the next Annual Parish Meeting – come along to West Lavington Village Hall on Friday 25th May at 7.30pm and have your say on things that matter to you across the parish. We will have reports from many village organisations on their activities over the last year and this year we are hearing from ‘Greensquare’ – a Housing Association that wants to re-develop the Stage Post pub site. I know we will all be concerned for the condition of the site now, but the council would like to hear your views on whether the pub and the land behind should be cleared to make way for affordable social housing, with a few units for sale too. But -the building has been regarded as a heritage asset to the community, and the Conservation Officer wants it retained, and converted. Your opinion is important too, so do come along and hear both sides of the story. Aster Homes will also be present, telling us of their plans to remove some garaging on the Sandfield estate, build some additional social housing on those infill sites, and work with their tenants to provide alternative parking and landscaping. They will be able to answer any questions that arise.

Residents of this parish will have seen another leaflet in the magazine this month telling of our latest work to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, using new powers available to this Council in the Localism Act, 2011. It tells you how you can get involved, and you can learn more at the Jubilee Village Awareness Day in the Village Hall on 4th June or at the Fete on 23rd June.

The parish council meets on the first Thursday of every month (except August) at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall Giles Room – do come along and meet us, and hear what's going on in your community.

Liz Evans, Chair (01380 813929) esevans@hotmail.com
West Lavington Website; The website is **www.westlavington.info**. The site is full of local news and links to many organizations, both local and County wide.

CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: This is to be held at 7.30pm on Thursday, 24th May, in the Pavilion, Witchcombe Close, Great Cheverell. We are delighted to have as our Guest Speaker, Carolyn Gibson, (Core Strategy Manager, Economy & Enterprise DNP, Wiltshire Council) who will be giving a presentation on Neighbourhood Planning. There will be an opportunity following her talk for any questions you may have and if you would like to become involved in helping to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for our village then the Parish Council would be delighted to hear from you.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION – Monday, 4th June: You are warmly invited to come along at 2 p.m. on Monday, 4th June to join in all the fun as we celebrate this special event with :

Tea Party and Entertainment, 1950's style.
Old Fashioned Games
Lots of food and delicious cakes
*Maypole Dancing**
Evening BBQ with music by "Purple Fish"

*If you fancy joining in with the dancers please phone Lynda Wearn on 01380 813911(and she will give you details of rehearsal dates.)

See you there!

Val Noviss, Parish Clerk (01380 813227)
cheverellmagna@hotmail.co.uk
Website:www.greatcheverell.org

THE CHEVERELLS GARDEN CLUB

We all know what is meant by 'Desert Island Discs' when a celebrity selects eight discs to take to a desert island, but had you heard of 'Desert Island Plants'!! Well, the Cheverells' Garden Club was treated to an amusing but thought provoking selection of plants made by Richard Cripps, in his *Gardener's Choice* eight plants that he could not manage without.

There were no slides to help Richard with his descriptions but we all had very clear pictures of his favourite plants from the mighty oak tree to the radish and were in no doubt as to why he had included the plant in his list.

Next month, on Tuesday May 8th, the topic will be *Growing from Seed* and our speaker is Lyn Miles who has a National Gardens Scheme garden.

The meeting begins at 7.15 p.m. for 7.30 and is held in Great Cheverell Village Hall. Visitors are very welcome for a charge of £2 for the evening; there is always a fund raising raffle.



GREAT CHEVERELL PRE-SCHOOL

Enquiries: Mrs Gill Tayler Pre-School: 01380 812121

Last term we were very busy making the Gruffalo and other characters from the story. Lovely communication, language, literacy and creative development went on from this child initiated activity.

We have been loaned some frogspawn which has given no end of amusement; we have designed our own frogspawn, tadpoles and frogs, watched the frogspawn develop into tadpoles and talked about growing and changing. During PE in the school hall we have moved in a range of ways such as swimming, wriggling and hopping.

We have planted potatoes and sunflower seeds and talked about growing and change over time. When the sunflowers have grown up we will measure them and see whose is the tallest! As the weather improves (it will improve, wont it?) we will be spending a lot more time outside and have a wide range of ideas of how to get wet. Ironic isn't it that throughout the winter we spend all our time trying to keep dry and the moment it is dry we do the opposite.

Great Cheverell Pre-School and Nursery is a charitable pre-school. Based in the grounds of Holy Trinity School and enjoying close links with the school and community. Reg. Charity No. 1037654

LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL



We begin Term 5 by welcoming seven new children and their families who join us this term, along with our newest member of staff, Kathryn, who has joined our team as bank staff.

We ended Term 4 with our Easter Trike Ride. Once again the sun shone for us and the children had a great time. Our raffle raised an amazing £112.00. And we announce the money raised through sponsorship next month. Thank you to all the families who supported this event.

BACK TO SCHOOL DISCO – we are having a disco on Saturday 12th May starting at 8.00 p.m. and finishing at midnight at Lavington Community Hall (optional fancy dress). Tickets are £8.00 and are available from Lavington Pre-school, Market Lavington Post office, Cindy on 0794 659012 or Debbie on 07793 634 543.

For any further information, please contact Vici Knott, Pre-school Supervisor on: (07730) 285998.



HOLY TRINITY CE PRIMARY ACADEMY

All our Key Stage 2 children (aged 7 – 11 years old, in Sarum, Avebury and Silbury classes) are offered the opportunity to have a residential trip during the Spring term. Activities such as archery, climbing, canoeing and caving are organised, and the children learn more about team work, independence and resilience. Year 3 and Year 4 children have been to Oxenwood for one night each and the Year 5 and Year 6 children have been to the Forest of Dean for two nights. These trips are among the highlights of the children's year and we are very grateful to our teachers and teaching assistants who are prepared to take on the responsibility of organising and accompanying the trips. We are also lucky that we have dedicated volunteers who come along to support the groups so effectively.

We like to invite our parents into school to see the work that their children are doing and over the past term, we have had parents come in to see the World War II Museum that was prepared and hosted by the 8 – 10 year olds in Avebury class. They had presentations and interactive exhibits on rationing, children's evacuation out of London, propaganda and bomb shelters. We also had parents come in to try out cakes made by 5 – 7 year olds in White Horse class – these cakes are thought to be the same as those baked in Pudding Lane that ultimately caused the Great Fire of London when they burnt. This was a lovely afternoon, with the children sitting outside with their parents, eating cakes and sharing their diaries on the events of the Great Fire.

Children in Silbury class, aged 9 – 11 years, have been finding out what it was like on the Titanic and had a trip to Southampton where they took part in a tour of places relevant to the Titanic's departure. They also had a boat ride around the bay which was wonderful. One afternoon in school they had a cards, quoits and cream tea event (they baked scones for this earlier in the day) just as people might have done on the Titanic. And children in Stonehenge class (aged 4 – 6 years) had a trip to Avebury Manor to support their work on the theme of "Giants".

By using exciting themes for learning, the children are engaged and enthusiastic about their learning and have fun at school. Happy learners are good learners!

To see some photos and read more about our school, do have a look at our website on www.holy-trinity.co.uk.



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Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

We had no meeting in May – but we had been asked to discuss and consider prayerfully the questionnaire from Mary Sumner House on the M.U. response to the UK Government's consultation on

equal civil marriage, which we shall be doing on 25th April. For our May meeting on Monday, 14th May we shall be delighted to welcome Caroline Spinlow who will be talking on *Bringing Christianity to the Classroom*. The meeting will be in the Giles Room, West Lavington Village Hall at 2.15 p.m. It is with great joy that we shall be enrolling Anne Janes as a member.

Janet Hodges

BOOKMARK

On 28th March our members met in the village hall for this year's 'Crime Night'. An interesting range of 'who dunnits' were dissected, from Agatha Christie's 'off scene' murders to the more graphic writings of Mo Hayder's latest publication, *Gone*.



Those who had chosen to read *Snowdrops* by A.D. Miller agreed the storyline of scam and corruption left a bad after-taste. Alternatively, *The Fear Index*, a financial thriller by Robert Harris, was enjoyed; as were the Kate Atkinson's novels, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* and *Started Early Took My Dog*.

Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black* was compared to both the stage play and recent screen release and *The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher*, the murder at Road Hill House, as told by Kate Summerscale enjoyed a second airing. Finally, the wild card, Patrick de Witt's *The Sisters Brothers* was recommended for its novelty factor by those who took up this western challenge and we all took delight in an intriguing evening of misdemeanour.

Our next reading group session will be on Wednesday 2nd May, not 2nd April as inadvertently advertised. We shall be reviewing Linda Grant's novel *We Had it so Good* and Penelope Mortimer's *The Pumpkin Eater*, with DVD viewing.

Hild Marrow



WORTON AND CHEVERELL F.C.

'The Badgers'

London Olympics 2012:

It is a privilege for the Club to announce that Paul Sperring (Club Secretary), has been nominated for a Making A Difference award, and will be one of the many torchbearers around the country in the run-up to the Olympics. Paul will be carrying the 'Flame' on 12th July, in Ludwell (nr Shaftesbury) – please come along on the day to support. In early 1993, Paul volunteered to help organise football training at the local Primary School on Friday evenings, which led to the formation of the Club with just a couple of teams. Over the years the Club has grown to having over 200 members and teams in all age groups. In addition Paul was one of the founding members in the local band Get This. Well done Paul !

Annual Fun and Presentation Day – amended date: Please note, this will now take place on Saturday 16th June at the Great Cheverell Pavilion.

Cup updates:

U11: A great semi-final 2-1 win after extra time, in the local derby against Devizes, secured a place in the Final against Melksham United to take place on Saturday 12th May (KO 2.30 pm) at Chippenham Town football club. Please come along and give your support.

Meanwhile the U12, unfortunately, lost 6-1 to Trowbridge, whilst the U17 had a very tight game against Bradford, narrowly losing 2-0. The U17 has some clear chances in the first half with the score being 0-0, only for Bradford to secure their place in the Final with 2 goals in the second half. The two teams met again in the League the following week, and it resulted in a 2-2 draw, the first time all season Bradford had not won a game.

Other news:

- The U11 consolidated their 2nd position in the League following a 3-2 win against Trowbridge Wanderers, with goals from James, Adam, Franky. The team are
- continuing their fund-raising to support their participation in a tournament in East Sussex 1-4 June.
- Various teams are now seeking new members for the following season – please see website for contact details
- As the season draws to a close, please note there are several Village Cricket teams : Erlestoke, Urchfont, Potterne.

<http://www.wortonandcheverellfc.co.uk>
Steve Dagnall 01380-727976

WEST LAVINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION



We are still busy planning for the next visit of our friends from St Pierre and this will take place on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th June. The main event on the Saturday evening will be a Scottish Ceilidh. We have so many visitors this time, 30 in all, that tickets for the ceilidh will only be available to members, so if you like Scottish dancing, why not join the Twinning Association? Membership is open to residents of West Lavington and surrounding villages, simply contact Malcolm Johnson on 01380 818147 or email blocker38@hotmail.com

Michael Page, Secretary



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WEST LAVINGTON WI

'What the Dickens' was held at the White Horse Country Park in Westbury on March 23rd to commemorate Charles Dickens' 200th anniversary. It was an inspiring day in which costumed readings were given by the Bristol Charles Dickens Society founded in 1902. Inspiring pieces of writing were brought to life and speaker, Dr. Tony Williams, gave a clear insight into the author's life and works. We also saw a short documentary and enjoyed a buffet lunch where no-one needed to ask for more! The event ended with a good old sing-song from the musical *Oliver* where we 'considered ourselves at home'. Nobody tried to be lah-di-dah or upperty and we all managed to raise an 'oom-pah-pah, oom-pah-pah' for West Lavington!

We had a good turn out for our open meeting in April when Bill Moore, dressed in Tudor splendour, gave a stimulating talk on The Mary Rose; past, present and future. In his younger days Bill was one of the divers on site helping to record and rescue relics from the ship. Today he enthusiastically fund raises with slide talks, accompanied by many splendid replicas of 16th century maritime artefacts; true copies which he has made himself. At the end of the evening we all felt motivated to visit the Portsmouth museum.

Pauline Hawkins will be here on May 10th to cover 'The Eden Project, Lost Gardens of Heligan and a Devizes Balloon flight'. Tea and cakes will be served in the Giles Room on 24th May for the Ladies of Broadchalke and Bowerchalke. And 7th June will be the Federation Jubilee Garden Party at Rowdeford School, near Devizes. The event runs from 2-5 p.m. and will be packed with things to do.

Hild Marrow



FUNERALS

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have recently been bereaved.

Joseph William DAVIS of Easterton, died on 20th February 2012, aged 91 years. His funeral and burial took place at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington on 5th March 2012.

Joseph George MARCHANT of Market Lavington, died on 25th February, aged 67 years. His funeral at Semington Crematorium was on 8th March 2012.

Alan Kenneth (Ken) HALL of Market Lavington, died on 29th February, aged 84 years. His funeral at Semington Crematorium was on 20th March 2012.

James HARRIS of Market Lavington died on 10th March 2012, aged 78 years. His funeral on 26th March was at Semington Crematorium.

Ronald John THOMAS of Frieth, died on 29th March 2012, aged 78 years. His funeral at St Barnabas Church, Easterton was followed by burial at Drove Lane Cemetery on 12th April.

BAPTISMS

Arabella Sophie Marian HULTON was baptised by Rev James Campbell at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington on Saturday 24th March 2012.

WEDDINGS

Caroline MATTHEWS and **Timothy William WILTSHIRE** were married at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington by Rev James Campbell on Saturday 14th April 2012.

BENEFICE 200 CLUB

It's happened this time for the first time in six years. My own name came out of the box as this month's winner of the £40 prize. The draw was done by Gordon Blagborough of Easterton; and was entirely independent. He confirmed he was happy to let the result stand. The second prize was won by Catherine Nosworthy of Great Cheverell who will be receiving the cheque for £20.

Quentin Goggs,
Administrator of the 200 Club

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

A Christian Country?

There has been quite a bit of discussion lately on whether Britain is a 'Christian country'. Atheists like Richard Dawkins insist that ours is a largely secular country and that faith-based values have little or no place in public life. Meanwhile the Prime Minister has been urging church leaders to stand up for what they believe on the basis that our nation has a strong Christian heritage.

It is undeniable that the Christian faith has had a powerful impact on this land. Many of the social reforms that we now take for granted were championed by Christian believers. That is why children are sent to school rather than up chimneys, and why factories are subject to health and safety rules rather than being unregulated death traps.

But there is a difference between a nation that has benefitted from Christian influence and a so-called 'Christian country'. Being a citizen of the United Kingdom Ireland Great Britain and Northern Ireland brings with it many privileges. But being a UK citizen does not make a person a Christian. A Christian is someone who has a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins so that all who believe in him might be forgiven and put right with God. He rose again from the dead so that all who hope in him may have eternal life.

Jesus calls on those who follow him to live a lives of love and kindness that will benefit others in the community. That is why the Christian faith has been such a force for good in our land. But we must not confuse the positive benefits of Christianity with what the faith is really all about: knowing God through Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Guy Davies Tel: 01373 826727
 E-mail: pastor.davies@blueyonder.co.uk
 Website: <http://www.providence-ebenezer.org.uk/>

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL		HIRE RATES FROM 1st JUNE 2011			
Booking Clerk Steve Cox tel 01380 812143		RATE 1 (A)		RATE 2 (B)	
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B) All others, commercial & private	Evenings (6pm - midnight)	£20.00	£12.00	£30.00	£18.00

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