



News & Views, December 2013 / January 2014

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	Calendar of Services in the Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton December 2013				
Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
1st December Advent 1	9.30 am Half Hour Service	6.00 pm Advent Evensong	11.00 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Simple Celebration	11.00 am Matins (BCP)
8th December Advent 2	11.00 am United Service at Easterton	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am United Service	4.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
15th December Advent 3	6.00 pm Carol Service	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30 am Matins (BCP) 4.00 pm Christingle	11.00 am Matins (BCP)	10.00 am Welcome to Worship	6.00 pm Carol Service
22nd December Advent 4	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am JAM Club (Old School)	6.00 pm Carol Service	4.00 pm Carol Service	4.00 pm Carol Service	
Monday 23rd	Real Nativity 6.30 pm				
24th December Christmas Eve	4.00 pm Christingle 10.00 pm "Midnight" Communion	9.00 pm "Midnight" Communion	4.00 pm Christingle 11.30 pm Midnight Communion	11.30 pm Midnight Communion	4.00 pm Crib Service
25th December Christmas Day	10.00 am United Family Service	9.30 am Family Communion		11.00 am Family Service + Communion	9.30 am Christmas Communion
29th December 1st of Christmas		9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)	10.30 am Parish Communion		

	Calendar of Services in the Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton January 2014				
Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
5th January 2nd of Christmas	9.30 am Half Hour Service	9.30am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Simple Celebration Communion	11.00 am Matins (BCP)
12th January Baptism of Christ	11.00 am United Service at Trinity in Community Hall	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am United Service, ML	4.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
19th January 2nd of Epiphany	9.30 am Parish Communion	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30 am Matins (BCP)	11.00 am Matins (BCP)	10.00 am Welcome to Worship	11.am Parish Communion (BCP)
26th January 3rd of Epiphany	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am JAM Club (Old School)	9.30 am Half Hour Service		11.00 am 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* 17th and 24th February 11.00am & 6.00pm Ebenezer Baptist Church West Lavington.

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

Dear Friends,

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Most families have their own Christmas routines - particularly when there are children around. When I was a child ours where spent with my mother's parents in Somerset.

The day started with stockings; they were a serious business – so much so that my grandparents resorted to pillow cases in old age. After church and lunch, it was the Queen; only after that were we allowed to open our presents. My grandfather had a habit of making instant judgements about presents he was given, and of passing unwanted ones on immediately: sometimes, if you were alert, you could catch it as it flew through the air.

There is often a lot going on at Christmas; sometimes it is difficult to know what to hold on to and what to let go of. It's easy for our attention to be absorbed by the glittery packaging and self-indulgent trimmings of Christmas so that we miss the true gift, to forget what it's really all about.

We've all received gifts that have missed the mark - even if we don't resort to my grandfather's method of disposing of them. We may be moan the fact that Christmas has become associated with unwanted gifts. Yet the Bible says that God gave Jesus as a gift – and the people of the 1st Century didn't want the present. John 3:16 says, 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son...' but as John puts it, '...but his own did not receive him.' (John 1:11) They wanted someone who would kick out the Romans, not someone who loved the unlovely, healed the sick and spoke of loving your enemies.

Today, amidst financial challenges, family breakdown and all the stresses of modern life, many don't seem very interested in the gift that God has given us. Jesus can seem like an unwanted Christmas present. Yet God sent Jesus into our world so that through him we might be reconciled to God and become his friends. Jesus was and is God in human form; he only wants the very best for us because he loves us: surely a reason not to throw away the true gift of Christmas.

James Campbell

Rector: Revd Canon James Campbell

The Vicarage, Market Lavington e mail lavingtonrector@googlemail.com Tel. (01380) 816963 Office lavingtonchurch@btinternet.com



Celebrate Christmas with us this year

Sunday 15th December 4.00pm: CHRISTINGLE All Saints' West Lavington 6.00pm: CAROL SERVICE St Peter's Little Cheverell

Sunday 22nd December 4.00pm: CAROL SERVICE St Peter's Great Cheverell 6.00am: CAROL SERVICE All Saints' West Lavington

Monday 23rd December 6.30pm: **REAL NATIVITY** St Mary's & Trinity Market Lavington

Christmas Eve (Tuesday)

4.00pm: CRIB SERVICE St Peter's Little Cheverell 9.00pm: 'MIDNIGHT' All Saints' West Lavington 11.30pm: **MIDNIGHT** St Peter's Great Cheverell

Christmas Day (Wednesday)

9.30am: FAMILY COMMUNION All Saints' West Lavington 9.30am: CHRISTMAS COMMUNION St Peter's Little Cheverell 11.00am: FAMILY SERVICE St Peter's Great Cheverell (+Communion)

See Calendar of Services for all services



ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WEST LAVINGTON INVITE YOU TO A **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 22nd DECEMBER 2013 AT 6P.M.

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR SUPPER AND MULLED WINE AFTER THE SERVICE PLEASE INFORM LAVENDER DAVY (813782) IF THERE IS A PARTICULAR CAROL YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE SUNG

Come and join us at



St Mary's Church, **Market Lavington** Monday 23rd December 6.30pm as we go on a journey to see some local folk in the

REAL NATIVITY! Sing Carols together & Listen to the **CHRISTMAS STORY...**

Please wear warm outdoor clothes & don't forget to bring a lantern or torch. Mulled wine, soft drinks & mince pies will be served in the Community Hall afterwards. To take part or for more details please contact James and Mary Campbell 816963 or lavingtonchurch@btinternet.com

Trinity Church and St Mary's Church, Market Lavington

DECEMBER AT TRINITY CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY HALL

1st December 10.30 am Mrs Janet Tanner Advent Sunday

8th December 11.00 am at St Barnabas Church, Easterton United Advent Service with collection of unwrapped toys and gifts, which will be distributed to families in need by the Salvation Army. 15th December 10.30 am Locally arranged

22nd December 10.30 am Rev Gary Gotham

29th December 10.30 am Miss Ruth Woodhouse

Tots@Ten meets on Wednesday 11th December at 10.00 am in the Furminger Room at the Community Hall. The theme will be The First Christmas.

Dressing up is optional. New Mums and preschool children always very welcome. No Movie this month - Watch out for info about January's film on Saturday 18th January, 7 for 7.30 pm at the Community Hall. Tickets £5 from the Post Office or at the door.

St.Arbucks Opening Hours

Monday 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm Tuesday 10 am - 4.30 pm Wednesday 10 am - 4.30 pm Thursday CLOSED Friday 10 am - 5 pm Saturday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

The best coffee in Market Lavington!

Seasonal Menu now includes Mug of Soup and a Bread Roll, Toasted Sandwiches, Mince Pies and a range of cupcakes to suit all tastes. Tables and chairs can easily be moved to accommodate push chairs and wheelchairs.

Loyalty Card Launched . Babyccino- Free with purchase of an adult hot drink. We wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas Time.

FRIENDS OF COURTYARD SURGERY **CHRISTMAS DRAW**

The Courtyard Surgery will hold its Christmas Draw in December, the date of which has yet to be decided. anything suitable, please drop it off at the surgery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pat and Terry Strowger would like to thank everyone who, during the past three years, has prayed for Kathryn and supported us. We would also like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy since Kathryn's death. We Donations of prizes will be most welcome have been strengthened by your prayers at the surgery from now on. If you have and support and know Kathryn was so grateful For those prayers during her long battle. Words cannot really express our gratitude.

Our love to you all

EDITOR'S NOTES

Readers (and even those who do not get beyond looking at the cover itself!) may be puzzled by the collage, produced by Bill Parish and taken from a series of sketches of gates and frontages in West Lavington drawn in past years by Marjorie Judkins. My best editorial wishes for Christmas and a Happy New Year to all and, at this point, my special thanks to all those who do the initial distribution of the magazine -Joy Thomas, Jan Durrant and Hilary Stone for West Lavington and Littleton Panell, Mike Brain for Little Cheverell, the Wilshins for Great Cheverell - and then to all those who then ensure that a copy arrives through your letter box each month. My thanks too to those who have recently retired from this labour, Charlotte Bell, Glyn Evans and Abi Spears. It has been much appreciated.

Jim Hodges



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HE FRIENDS of ERLESTOKE PRISON

are pleased to present 'DUE VOCI' Saturdav 14th DECEMBER 2013

At the Bake Barn, Great Ridge, nr Chicklade, Salisbury, SP3 5SY Please join us for an evening concert with 'Due Voci', the beautiful voices of Barbara Gompels and Paula Boyagis, accompanied by Dominic Irving, at the stunning 'Bake Barn', on the Fonthill Estate, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Margadale. Doors open at 7.00 p.m. and the performance will start at 7.30 p.m. The performance will have one interval, during which there will be a silent auction and a short talk about the work of the Friends of Erlestoke Prison.

Tickets are £20 per person and include your first drink and canapés. Please email: info@friendsoferlestokeprison.com to order your tickets.

Silent auction items will be listed on www.friendsoferlestokeprison.com from the 1st December with details of how to bid.

Please come, enjoy the music and support the Friends of Erlestoke Prison. We are a newly registered charity, established to support the rehabilitation and resettlement of prisoners at HMP Erlestoke. The charity works in partnership with the prison to reduce reoffending rates and funds/supports 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

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VILLAGE CARE AND LINK

We need volunteers to take phone call requests for transport and to link them to one of our volunteer drivers. These Phone Co-ordinators "man" the phone (which would be diverted calls to your own phone at home), for one or two months in the year, and allocate a driver for each request. You don't have to be "in" all the time. If you don't have an answer phone we can provide one. Please phone me on 01380 818510 if you are interested.

Village Care and Link provides transport to mainly medical-related appointments for people who have no other means of getting to those appointments. The service is much appreciated and sometimes essential to those who use it but it relies entirely on volunteers in the West Lavington, Littleton Panell and Little Cheverell and we are urgently in need of more.

In our last financial year we made 50 journeys to surgeries an West Lavington and Market Lavington, 27 to Salisbury hospitals, 16 to Bath hospitals, 13 to Devizes hospitals and 11 to other destinations

Drivers, are all unpaid volunteers but can claim a mileage allowance of 40p per mile. There is no obligation to drive at particular times, if you are not available one day, the phone co-ordinator simply goes down the list of drivers until he/she finds someone.

Please phone me on 01380 818510 if you are interested in volunteering, either as a driver or a phone co-ordinator.

If you need transport call our central number 01380 816826

The service is available to residents of West Lavington, Littleton Panell and Little Cheverell.

Michael Page, Chairman, 818510

CHRISTMAS **COUNTRY FAIR**

A big thank you to everyone who came to The 2013 Royal British Legion Poppy our best total to date. Over the last two aid forms.

and former serving soldiers and their Appeal depends. families in times of need.

Sue Bonney

THE WEST LAVINGTON **RBL POPPY APPEAL**

and/or supported the Christmas Country Appeal within West Lavington, Littleton Fair in Market Lavington Community Panell, Erlestoke and the Cheverells Hall on November 2nd. I do hope you raised the splendid sum of £2556.91p. all enjoyed it and found some great The West Lavington Branch of the Royal things to buy. I thought you would like to British Legion Chairman and Committee know that the Fair raised a total of £670 would like to thank all collectors for their for ABF The Soldiers' Charity, which is work and all donors for their cash and gift

years, the Christmas and Spring Fairs Very many thanks from the undersigned have raised a total of over £2500 for the to the house-to-house collectors and Soldiers' Charity, which supports serving business collectors upon whom the

Steve Barr, Poppy Appeal Organiser

For more information, please visit: www.friendsoferlestokeprison.com

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GOOD NEIGHBOUR NEWS Stroke Support

This month my article is about services for stroke survivors and carers and also Christmas lunches for those who find

The Stroke Association can provide a At the heart of your community wide variety of support, including local clubs, telephone helplines and support

and information booklets for stroke survivors and carers. In Devizes, the Stroke Association runs a Communication Support Group for Stroke Survivors with communication needs, especially those with aphasia.

Caring for someone who has had a stroke can be exhausting and lonely. Help is available for you - talk to your GP, the Stroke Association or Carer Support Wiltshire.

If you, or any friends or neighbours, are going to be alone on Christmas Day and would like to join others for Christmas Lunch, do ring and talk to me. There are a number of local organisations providing lunch on Christmas Day who would be pleased to see you.

If you would like to talk to me about these things or anything else do ring or email me. Caroline Culley, Good Neighbour Co ordinator for Devizes villages on 07557 922027 or email devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk

Bell Pub Lunch Club. All welcome. Join us for our Christmas meal of Turkey and Christmas pudding Wednesday 18th December at 12.30 Price £7.50. Ring Caroline 07557922027 to book.

THE VILLAGE HALL West Lavington

As you visit the village hall you will, we hope, notice a gradual but significant improvement to the general appearance and condition of the building, particularly inside. Parallel to this, we are continuing to investigate and prepare plans for the overall upgrade of the building, although it is increasingly clear that finance will not be easy, and that work would have to be phased. At our last committee meeting, it was agreed that we have no option but to raise charges on January 1st, bearing in mind that although we amended rates this last September, it did not represent a rise in income. Apart from differentiating between local/charity and other users, we have also agreed a discount structure which will give all regular users of the Hall itself a benefit.

The committee have also said that there is a need to organise our own events, both to raise money and to involve the community, and are arranging to have a Spring Easter Fayre on April 5th. More details to follow, but we hope to involve many of our local users with stalls, activities, etc. Please note the date in your diaries, you may find that someone will contact you once Christmas is over."

5th BATTALION, WILTSHIRE REGIMENT

Do you know of anyone who served in the 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment in the Second World War?

Many of you will know that our village of West Lavington is twinned with St Pierre d'Autils, a village near Vernon in Normandy. In St Pierre there are the graves of three British airmen who were killed when their Fairey Battle plane was shot down in 1940. Earlie r this year the villagers presented our village with a model of a Fairey Battle plane. As a result of this we are producing a book about the three

airmen which hopefully will be available next year. The book will be sold to raise funds for the Twinning Association, and for a Forces charity, yet to be decided. It will also be translated into French.

St Pierre was occupied by the Germans from 1940 until it was liberated on 25th August 1944, following the D Day landings. I have discovered that the 5th Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment played an important role in the liberation of the area around Vernon, which included St Pierre. The Battalion must have marched through St Pierre that weekend.

So having found a Wiltshire connection, I am now hoping we can find a connection

village who served in the 5th Battalion of

the Wiltshire Regiment? If you know of



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between our two villages from seventy Men of the 5th Wiltshires handing out food rations years ago. Was there anyone from the near Vernon August 1944. Photo ©IWM (BU210)

someone who did, or think you know someone who did, or indeed if you are a veteran of that Battalion, please contact me. It would be an amazing story!!!

Lyn Dyson 01380 813943 lyndadyson@yahoo.co.uk

INTERESTED IN WANTING TO HELP?

A new volunteer recruitment website has been launched, enabling local people considering volunteering in Wiltshire to find out more about what they can do. The website www.volunteercentrewiltshire.org.uk highlights the types of volunteering, local volunteer stories and ways to get involved.

The website comes in direct response to the challenges which charities face in finding volunteers across the county. It allows free volunteering opportunity advertising for all not-for-profit organisations, including charities, community groups and social enterprises. Any role can be added to Volunteer Centre Wiltshire's database and the website is free to use by anyone.

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WEST LAVINGTON YOUTH CLUB

Events seem to be overtaking the notes that we put in the parish news!! The Churchill meal has all changed, for something else that the members want! So the best thing to do is for you to go to the Youth Club, enjoy yourself at one of the sessions listed below .and find out 'what's happening' and you can also make your views known about what you want to do at the Youth Club and where you want to go on future events. Like the Paint-ball event, everyone enjoyed that, with a full turnout. We could do this again!

Tell your parents that we are looking for them to be more involved in the Youth Club and they might like to considered being proposed to join the committee. 'We need new blood' and there are positions available. If they would like to know more they can contact me or the other committee members. We need their input and support.

Have a really enjoyable Christmas and may all of your wishes come true. See you in the New Year!

Monday	7pm - 9pm	Seniors at West Lavington			
Tuesday	6pm -7.30	Young Members at West Lavington			
Thursday	6.30 - 8.30	DROP IN seniors at West Lavington			
Friday	7pm - 9pm	Seniors at Market Lavington			
	Eric Freeman - Chairman The Management				
	Committee West Lavington Youth Club				

EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE AT WEST LAVINGTON MANOR

June 5th to 21st, 2014 Thursdays to Saturdays 11am to 6pm Coffee, lunches and teas - all proceeds to West Lavington Youth Club A major exhibition of contemporary sculpture by leading artists from around the UK, with special attention on Wiltshire artists, will be held at West Lavington Manor over 12 days in June next year. There will also be an exhibition shop entitled "Moods of Summer 1914-2014", with up to 80 artists putting forward work for the shop. This is being organised by Friends of the Garden.(See website www.friendsofthegarden. org.uk)

Vital for our community is that the Youth Club will be participating in producing beautiful silk banners based on the theme of the First World War and that all proceeds from the selling of teas and light refreshments will go to the Youth Club. The Youth Club depends on funds raised through this type of activity to maintain the junior club, and two nights a week for senior club at West Lavington.

Providing refreshments throughout the day for 12 days is a mammoth task and the Youth Club, with support from the Mothers' Union, will be grateful for volunteers to help with cake baking and serving lunches and teas. If you can spare some time in June to help, or if you can bake a cake or two, please contact Sandra May (812574) or Lyn Dyson (813943). We are hoping that the whole village will get behind us and make this a real success.



WEST LAVINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Our two French conversation classes (for members only), are continuing in The Bridge every other Monday at 7 p.m. There will be one on 2nd December, then a break for Christmas. Why not join? Our membership fees are unchanged at £15 per household (£12 for seniors).

Our traditional Halloween party was a great success, fun games, jacket potatoes with weird fillings and green cheese and something unmentionable floating in the soup!

Watch out for our next fun fund-raising event in the New Year!

Next year's visit of the French to West Lavington will take place in June.

To join the West Lavington Twinning Association please email Malcolm Johnson on blocker38@hotmail.com or phone 01380818147.

Michael Page, Secretary (818510)

WEST LAVINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Another Chance To Have Your Say

Work continues steadily with the formulation of our Plan to guide future development in our villages. Neighbourhood planning is a community-led approach to deciding where land development might take place over the next several years. If there is no local Plan then there is no local control over the outcome.

A Steering Group of volunteers from across the parish, under the auspices of the Parish Council and supported by professional consultants funded by a Government scheme, has come together to help prepare a Neighbourhood Plan which will have statutory force if approved through referendum. The process must be community-led, so at key stages we have been asking the whole community for their opinions and ideas, finding out what people cherish about where and how we live now and to share aspirations and concerns for the future.

In February next year we will be launching a wide-ranging consultation process with a questionnaire coming to every household. The questions will also be available on the parish website and through social media outlets. At the same time an exhibition will be held in the Village Hall, where there will be lots of information and where conversations can be held. Publicity will start in January, so look out for key dates and a further update in the February issue of this magazine.

If you would like to get involved in developing the Plan itself please call Sandra Gamble, Chair of the Steering Group, on 01380 812616 to see how you can help.

Please put these dates in your diary!

A MESSAGE FROM RICHARD GAMBLE

Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

Christmas is coming and some of you may know that I have already been on Santa's naughty list. Consequently, on 19th November, I was kidnapped by elves and held in Santa's Grotto until a satisfactory ransom was paid to *Action for Children* who run the Wiltshire Families First programme. *Action for Children* was founded in 1868. It supports and speaks out for the most vulnerable and neglected children and young people in our county Fortunately, many generous people rose to the occasion and I am free again (although, it must be said, I fear that some paid to keep me in!). You can still give to this excellent cause on www.virginmoneygiving. com/RichardGamble2. Thank you to all who helped, not only with my release!

Action for Children is just one of the many charities that need our money. I am always impressed by the work charities do and the generosity of those who support them. It's risky to name only some as I cannot mention all the charities that do such good work but the three hospices that serve our area (Prospect, Dorothy House and Naomi House) come to mind as especially deserving of support, as does the Air Ambulance. On another tack, Wiltshire Wildlife is an undoubtedly excellent local cause as are the Friends of Erlestoke Prison (who strive to help prisoners from offending again) and the Wiltshire Museum in Devizes. I'm thinking too of the PTAs, the sports clubs and the churches. And there are many more.

This is the season of goodwill, so I urge you to look on the bright side. There is so much that needs your support, so please give generously, if you can, and, if possible, join in the good work.

A Very Happy Christmas to you all!

You may contact me about this or any other matter by email to richard.gamble@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on 07762 018209.

Council

Wiltshire



WEST LAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A thank you to all the householders who have cleared Autumn debris from outside their homes and kept the pavements swept. Wet leaves are slippery and quite dangerous for older residents.

We are very pleased that owing to an old Section 106 agreement inherited by Wiltshire from Kennet Council we have, with help from Annie Whyman and the playground group, sourced and ordered some new equipment for Robert's Playground which, weather permitting, may well have been installed by the time you read this article. Let's hope the children can enjoy playing during the school holidays.

Hopefully, again weather permitting, the two crossing points along the A360, one at Fieldside to help pupils from DAPS cross safely and the other near White Street, will be in place with extra warning markings at the Pagnell Lane end of the village. It is hoped that these measures will alert drivers to slow down and drive with care through our village.

I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year and assure you that the Council will continue to work hard for the benefit of the village throughout the coming year.

Liz Evans, Chair 01380 813929 or email esevans1@hotmail.com . Don't forget the parish website www.westlavington.info – packed with useful local information, news, roadworks updates, what's on and other links, as well as more about the parish council.

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL HIRE RATES From 1st January 2014

Rates per hour	Weekday	Mon-Fri)	Weekend (Sat & Sun)	
Day – 8 am-6 pm Evening 6pm - 12	Local & Charity	Other	Local & Charity	Other
Hall - Daytime	£4.50	£7.00	£5.50	£8.00
Hall - Evening	£6.00	£9.00	£7.50	£11.00
Giles Room - Day	£3.00	£4.50	£3.50	£5.50
Giles Room - Eve	£4.00	£6.00	£5.00	£7.50
Small Meeting Room - Day	£2.50	£3.00	£3.00	£4.00
Small Meeting Room - Eve	£3.00	£4.00	£4.00	£6.00
Changing Rooms Per Day (Casual Users)		£25.00		£50.00

Telephone bookings to Lynne Rayner on 01380 812881

Or email: Lynne@movement4you.com

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Booking must include event preparation time/clear-up time.

Minimum charge is for up to 2 hours. Cancellation at least 48 hours notice

Please note - the above rates do not include heating

The Playing Field (including pitches), for which there is no charge, must be booked even if the Changing Rooms are not used.



DAUNTSEY ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 6 Residential Trip to Atlantic Court

Year 6 had an amazing time at Atlantic Court in Bude. They had the opportunity to take part in archery, body boarding, surfing, canoeing, abseiling, and lots, lots more!



Visit to Robert's Playground

Our Eco Warriors and Gardening Club visited Robert's Playground. They came up with lots of wonderful ideas to make it an Eco-friendly environment including: bird and bat boxes, a hedgehog house, a mini beast home, bird and bat feeders and a wildflower area to support butterflies and bees.

Children in Need

We raised a fantastic £203 for Children in Need. The children came to school dressed as someone that inspires them; we had teachers, soldiers, mums, dads, footballers, authors, pop stars and cyclists.

DAPS PTA Christmas Fair

Everyone is welcome to come and join us for our PTA Christmas Fair on Friday 13th December, 3.30 p.m. in the school hall. There will be a raffle, tombola, refreshments, craft stalls, children's games and more!



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Mandy Francis Admin. Asst.



NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Outstanding results

We are delighted that our children have once again achieved outstanding results in the government's external assessments.

The "Value Added" measure for our Key Stage 2 SATS puts our school in the top 2% of the country - a tremendous result. The attainment of our children is also significantly higher than national levels. We are very proud of the academic achievements of the children in this school, but we are just as proud of all the other areas in which they excel, and particularly the kind of people they are when they leave our school in Year 6. They are kind, compassionate, aspirational and courageous – well on their way to becoming fulfilled and happy adults. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful children and supportive, engaged families who help us to ensure that our children are given the best possible education.

Christmas

This is one of the children's most exciting terms – we have the Christmas plays, concerts, parties, a pantomime and church services, all of which create a wonderful buzz in the school at this time. We produce two Christmas plays each year, one for the KS1 children and one for those in KS2. As a church school, we ensure that the Christmas message is always central to the plays and, indeed, to all the Christmas activities that we offer. Our excellent PFA members work very hard to ensure that the children have a great time at these celebrations – we are always very grateful to them for all they do for our school.

Eisteddfod

We are very proud of our Eisteddfod choir who won one of the categories in which they sang on 15th November at the Devizes Eisteddfod! Our thanks to Ms Sharman who prepared and rehearsed the children for this event – it is no easy matter to get children to such a stage of excellence in only a few weeks, and they did remarkably well.

Drive Safely

The Great Cheverell parish council very kindly donated book tokens as prizes for a school competition, where children submitted posters promoting road safety in our village. The new 20mph limit is part of a strategy to keep our children safe on and around the roads in the village.

We wish everyone in our community a very merry and blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

Lots more news and photos can be found on our website at www.holy-trinity.co.uk

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LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

Here at Lavington Pre-school we have started our new term with the topic of 'Festivals', with particular emphasis on Christmas! We will also look at other festivals throughout the term including Diwali and Hanukkah. It promises to be a term with lots of sparkle! At the start of term we talked about Remembrance and the children made a lovely, giant, poppy. On Remembrance Day we managed to observe a whole 2 minutes of silence, quite an achievement! Now we are all busy getting in the Christmas mood and practising the songs for our Nativity performance at the end of this term.

On Friday 15th November all the children got dressed up for Children in Need; we made some Pudsey bear-shaped salt dough, we painted balloons and we did some face painting too. Thank you to everyone who made a donation to Children in Need. We all enjoyed a fantastic day, thank you.

Unfortunately, at the end of last term our Manager, Vici Knott, resigned from her position at the Pre-school. I think everyone will agree that both the grown-ups and the children will all miss her very much, and we wish her well for the future. If you would like to donate towards a leaving gift for Vici and sign her card, I am sure it would be most appreciated. Please hand in your donations to any member of the team. If you are unable to make it in to Pre-school to sign Vici's card, but you would like to sign it, please send us your message via email and we will add it to the card on your behalf. We are now in the process of recruiting a new manager but in the mean time, we are delighted to announce that Gemma has been promoted to Deputy Manager on a permanent basis. This is in recognition of her continued hard work and dedication and increased responsibilities.

COMMITTEE AGM 26th NOVEMBER 2013 POSTPONED: As we are currently recruiting for a new manager, the Pre-school AGM has been postponed until the end of January 2014 - date to be confirmed. This will enable the newly appointed post holder to be involved in the AGM. Thank you to all those who have already expressed an interest in joining the committee, it is very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING/CRAFT EVENING: Our Fundraising Committee are organising a Christmas Craft Fair at the West Lavington Village hall on Wednesday 4th December at 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. Entry will include mulled wine and a mince pie and the opportunity to watch some great craft demonstrations. Don't forget to make a date in your diary for this fun filled evening.

FREE NURSERY ENTITLEMENT FUNDING FOR 2 YEAR OLDS: As an OFSTED rated 'outstanding' Pre-school, we are able to offer funded sessions for 2 year olds for up to 15 hours per week. If you are interested please visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk for more information on eligibility for free nursery entitlement funding for 2 year olds.

We currently have spaces available at our Outstanding Pre-school, if you would like to find out more information about us you can visit our website www.lavingtonpreschool.org.uk or contact us at Tel: (01380) 812551 Email: lavingtonpreschool@gmail.com

Creect Cheverell Pre-school "Nurturing children"

GREAT CHEVERELL PRE-SCHOOL

October – we explored puddles to popcorn (popcorn cooked over a bonfire)

We started this term finding out about the celebration of Diwali

and linked this with artwork inspired by fireworks. We

watched a DVD about children celebrating Diwali with their family and at nursery; this led us to making clay divas, rangoli mats and listening to stories about Rama and Sita. The children quickly made links to celebrations they have experienced and the home corner become a place for parties. As we explored fireworks and festivals the children showed a great interest in light (torches, candles...) and the dark so this is what we are following up next with the help of the story 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. Plop the owl will help us find out about fires, stars, nocturnal animals and Santa.

'**Toddler Tuesday'** – parents/carers with children under 5 are invited to our 'stay and play session' on Tuesdays 1.00- 2.30 p.m. Just drop in.

(£1.50 per family inc. drink) we look forward to seeing you.

Karen Dwyer (01380 812121 or email: greatcheverellpreschool@outlook.com)



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News & Views, December 2013 / January 2014

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beautiful visual Remembrance Day Service, followed by Communion. The

service ended with a song about Child Soldiers, which was very powerful. We went on to discuss our programme for 2014. We have tried to get a mixture of the spiritual and the practical while remembering the Mothers' Union aims and objects.

Our next meeting is on December 9th at 11.45 a.m. at West Lavington Hall where we shall have a light lunch with soup and cheese, followed by a demonstration from Sally Bullock on how to make Christmas decorations...

On January 13th we shall have our AGM and Communion Service. This will be held at the home of John and Ann Cowburn at 2.15 p.m.

Janet Hodges (812467)

Boy meets girl. They fall in love and decide to marry. So far it is a conventional story. But then the girl, a keen heverells gardener, decided that the wedding venue should be the garden of the erstwhile bachelor pad of the, not yet a gardener, boy. And it was now May and the wedding

was to be in October. Millie Carmichael's talk, entitled From Weeds to a Wedding, was an informative and hilarious account of how the transformation from a scrap and weed-filled jungle to a garden fit for a wedding was achieved. We were shown photos of before, during and after. We saw how family, friends and neighbours rallied around to help. And we marvelled at how much was achieved in a very short time through pruning, digging, mowing and strimming. And we admired how things found in the undergrowth were recycled as planters, paving etc. The weed-filled garden was transformed and, as an added bonus, the new husband had become a keen gardener too!

On Tuesday 10th December we will hold our Christmas party, 7.15 for 7.30 at Great Cheverell Village Hall. Why not come along and join us for food, carols, quizzes and camaraderie. It will also be an opportunity to renew your subscription and collect your programme detailing the events planned for 2014. New members are always welcome.



WORTON AND CHEVERELL F.C. 'The Badgers'

The Badgers first team (Adults) has now started to play their matches at the Lye in Seend. The first games saw them victorious in the county cup against Sarum. All the players and coaching staff are really looking forward to enjoying the rest of the season and future at Seend. All the fixtures for the teams playing at Seend can be found on the club website www.

wortonandcheverellfc.co.uk

The Club this season are fielding teams in the following age groups: Adults x 2 teams, Under 17, U15, U13, U12, U11 (x2), U10, U9, U8, U7 and Under 6s, with the encouragement for development of soccer for youngsters in all age groups. Some *V* of the teams are still seeking new members, so if interested please contact one of the coaching contacts on our website.

The Under 6s had their first taste of playing against another team when Melksham Town F.C. made the journey to Five Lanes School in Worton recently. With over 20 players from both sides available (and eager to play), plus numerous parents/ •

grandparents in support on the touchline, two separate matches at seven a side with substitutions were played. The word 'Ants' around a football springs to mind at this stage of the development of the players, however, with our excellent coaching staff the players will develop their skills over time. Great day for all, well done !

Steve Dagnall 01380-72797

LAVINGTON AND DISTRICT **SWIMMING CLUB - Spring 2014** Location: DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL SUNDAY 5.00pm to 6.30pm, TUESDAY 7.00pm to 8.30pm Childrens' Fun with floats-Sunday 5.00pm to 5:45pm, Lane swimming available every session FEES: £55 PER TERM FOR A FAMILY (£2.75 per swim) £27.50 PER TERM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL (£1.38per swim) **Annual Discounted Membership Fee Available** Spring Term starts SUNDAY 12th January & endsTuesday 25th March, 2014 Half Term Closure: No Swim Sun 16th Feb; Tues 18th Feb 2014 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.

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BOOKMARK

Two very different novels were chewed over in November and both were enjoyed in their own way. Originally described as 'Robin Hood meets Jamie Oliver', *John Saturnall's Feast* by Lawrence Norfolk was considered more 'Merlin meets Heston Blumenthal'. Praised for its originality and novelty factor; ignored for its scraps of unfeasibility, this book scored



7 out of 10. All members agreed that the wonderful, but wordy A.N. Wilson's new novel, *The Potter's Hand* would benefit from a little light editing (over 800 pages). However, this was considered an incredibly revealing read which began with the gruesome amputation of Josiah Wedgewood's right leg! The author obviously had a huge canvas across which to tell his story and just about anyone of any significance in the late 18th century played a part; Darwin, Pitt, George 111, Wilberforce, Watt, Stubbs, Catherine the Great The only implausible factor of this hugely enjoyable tale was thought to be the Cherokee squaw who eventually crossed the pond to work at Wedgewood's potteries; therefore scoring 9 out of 10 (that's the book, not Blue Squirrel!).

Our Christmas session is to be held at Hild Marrow's home (66, The Green) at 7.30 p.m. Mulled wine will be provided; please bring a small plate of finger food and a festive reading or childhood favourite to share with the group.

Bookmark will meet again on Wednesday January 8th at 7.30 p.m. Great Cheverell's village hall in the High Street; visitors or new members welcome. We will be discussing *Black Orchids* by Gillian Slovo & Deborah Moggach's *Tulip Fever* (film production due to commence in 2014). Meanwhile we would like to wish everyone a contented Christmas and hale and hearty New Year.

Hild Marrow (812399) hildward@tiscali.co.uk

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

This year's Christmas quiz will be on sale from the end of November. It has a slightly different look this year, still at a modest £2 a copy. It will be available at the Post Offices in Market Lavington and Great Cheverell. Please do buy a copy, support our Churches, and have some family fun over Christmas.

As usual, there will be prizes for the two best entries returned by January 6th.

Henrietta Goggs



FUNERALS

Elsie Mary Kathleen BUTLER died on 5th October, aged 89 years. Her funeral and burial at St Peter's Church Little Cheverell took place on 17th October 2013.

Oliver John SPANSWICK died on 17th October, aged 94 years. His funeral was at West Wiltshire Crematorium on 25th October 2013.

Commander John Druce SAYER OBE, of Easterton died on 27th October, two days short of his 94th birthday. A Service of Thanksgiving was held at St Barnabas Church Easterton on 5th November 2013.

Christopher Thomas RIDLEY of Littleton Panell died on 22nd October, aged 82 years. His funeral was at West Wiltshire Crematorium on 5th November 2013. Harold Douglas JUDKINS of West Lavington died on 27th October, aged 93 years. His funeral was held at All Saints' Church, West Lavington on 11th November 2013.

Jeremy ALEXANDER RN of West Lavington died on 28th October, aged 39 years. A service was held at All Saints' Church, West Lavington on 14th November 2013.

BAPTISMS

Oliver Shane RITCHIE and Paige Euphemia Brooke RITCHIE were baptized by Rev James Campbell at All Saints' Church, West Lavington on 3rd November 2013.

News

BENEFICE 200 CLUB

The winner of the £40 prize is Derek Bailey of Great Cheverell; and the winner of the £20 prize is Phillip Bullock of Easterton. The draw was done by Hilary Carr of Great Cheverell. Quentin Goggs, Benefice Treasurer

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH The Gift that Keeps on Giving

Let's face it, some Christmas gifts may have novelty value, but they aren't really of much use out of season. Gentlemen, would you wear that musical reindeer tie to work in the middle of July? Thought not. Ladies, what about those Christmas tree earrings? I don't suppose they see the light of day anytime outside of December. Don't even get me started on the pointless stuff that emerges from Christmas crackers. If I get another bag of marbles this year I'm going to lose my, er, well, you know.

At Christmas time we traditionally celebrate God's greatest gift to humankind, the gift of Jesus,

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). Those who accept the gift of Jesus by faith receive the Gift that keeps on giving. All year round and for eternity.

Seasons Greetings, Pastor: Guy Davies www.providence-ebenezer.org.uk

Events for Christmas and the New Year:

Carol Service at Hedges House, 1 December, 3.30pm Coffee Morning, 7 December, 10am-12 noon. Morning Service with Carols, 22 December, 11am Evening Carol Service, 22 December, 6pm, followed by refreshments Christmas Morning Service, 25th December, 10.30am.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY MORNING (All children in School Years 1 – 6 are welcome to attend) SATURDAYS: 14 December & 11 January, 11.00am – 12.30pm GAMES, STORIES & CRAFTS. Voluntary donation of 50p per child per session Further details from Kate Andrews (tel 01225 767229). All staff are CRB cleared

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PLEASE NOTE - DATE FOR HANDING IN COPY IS ALWAYS THE 20TH Copy for FEBRUARY to reach Jim Hodges by JANUARY 20th at Cliffe Farm Cottage, 23 Stibb Hill, West Lavington SN10 4LQ Copy by e-mail should be sent to: hjhodges2011@btinternet.com

