



News and Views

March 2014

*Calendar of Services in the Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton
March 2014*

Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
2nd March Next before Lent	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)
5th March Ash Wednesday		6.00 pm Ash Wednesday Service			
9th March Lent 1	11.00 am United Service At St Barnabas', Easterton	9.30 am Parish Communion Preacher: Peter Harris	11.00 am United Service	4.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
16th March Lent 2	9.30 am Parish Communion Preacher : Rev Mark Jones	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30 am Matins (BCP)	11.00 am Matins (BCP)	10.00 am Welcome to Worship	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP) Preacher: Rev Mark Jones
23rd March Lent 3	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)	5.00 pm Short Evensong (BCP)+ Annual Parochial Church Meeting
30th March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	9.30 am Mothering Sunday Service	9.30 am Mothering Sunday Service		11.00 am Mothering Sunday Service	

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,

Sayeed Warsi, Baroness Warsi, was the first female Muslim cabinet minister in Britain. In a BBC Radio 4 interview, she spoke about how Christianity is at risk of extinction in some parts of the world due to growing persecution of minority communities.

Christians are in danger of being driven out of countries such as Syria and Iraq where the religion first took root, she added. Syria's terrible civil war and Iraq's continuing instability have seen many leave.

Lady Warsi told the BBC that in some cases Christians were being targeted for 'collective punishment' by majority groups in retaliation for what they perceive as the injustices committed by Western powers.

"I am concerned that the birthplace of Christianity – the parts of the world where Christianity first spread – is now seeing large sections of the Christian community leaving and those that remain are feeling persecuted. Tragically what's happening is that they are being seen as newcomers, being portrayed as the 'other' within that society, even though they have existed there for many, many centuries. We need to speak out and raise this with the countries where this is happening," she said.

Christians have faced persecution since the First Century. Today the persecution of Christians in varying degrees is a reality in 50 countries. Religious extremists are making life very, very difficult for those of a different religion. Many voices within the Christian community have expressed their concerns. However it is encouraging when moderate opinions are voiced - and especially from a Muslim public figure willing to stand up against Islamic persecution of Christians.

James Campbell

Rector: Revd Canon James Campbell
The Vicarage, Market Lavington
e mail lavingtonrector@googlemail.com
Tel. (01380) 816963
Office lavingtonchurch@btinternet.com

LENT BOOK 2014

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 5th March this year.

Why not break out of your comfort zone, take up a challenge and this year read the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2014 *Looking through the Cross* by Graham Tomlin (published by Bloomsbury)? Graham teaches in London and is the author of a number of popular, as well as academic, books.

The blurb on the back says, 'Everything looks different in this world when seen through the lens of the Cross...a perspective that sheds remarkable light on some familiar themes...a fresh and important meditation on the meaning of the Cross in a complex and turbulent world'. The nine Chapter headings include 'The Cross and ...Power, Identity, Suffering, Ambition, Failure and Reconciliation'.

Order your copy from the Benefice Office; the retail price is £9.99.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

30th March 2014

Special shorter non-communion services at

9.30am:Market Lavington with Easterton
9.30am:West Lavington
11.00am:Great Cheverell

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Women's World Day of Prayer - please join us for this years Service, prepared by the women of Egypt, on **Friday 7th March at St Joseph's RC Church, Littleton Panell at 2:00 p.m.** Refreshments after the Service.

LITTLE CHEVERELL'S SPRING WALK

Get fit for the Spring and beat the wind and rain. Join us on Sunday 23rd March, starting at 11.00 a.m. from the Village Hall in Little Cheverell. Return there after a good walk for hot food and drinks at approximately 1.00 p.m. Please bring your own wine and beer and we will provide the rest. Everyone is welcome (not just those from Little Cheverell) including children, and well behaved dogs on leads. All this for just £9 00 per adult and £4.50 for children 12 and under. Dogs are free. If the walk is too much then please join us for lunch only. To book your place please telephone Helena Warnock on 813487 or e-mail helenawarnock@btinternet.com. We can only fit so many into the Hall so please book early. Proceeds in aid of the Village Hall.

Village Hall Committee

Steeple Rocks!

A date for your diaries! The choir are planning concert in St Mary's Church, Steeple Ashton on Saturday 29th March. A few choir members work for a charity called Splitz Support Service. Splitz is a charity, who provide support to victims of Domestic Abuse, support young people who have witnessed Domestic Abuse and also run Perpetrator Programmes. Please take a look at their website www.splitz.org for more information. We have decided that all proceeds from the concert will go to this charity. We are delighted to announce that as part of the evening, Mr. Peter King, the organist from Bath Abbey will be playing, along with some young performers from the local area. Tickets will be £8.50 and will be on sale in the village shop, from choir members and Splitz office from the middle of February. Any enquiries regarding this event or matters relating to Steeple Rocks Choir, please contact Adrienne on 01380 871890. Adrienne Hale



Splitz office 01225 777724 admin@splitz.org or becky@splitz.org

Splitz Support Service, Oak House, Epsom Square ,White Horse Business Park Trowbridge BA140XG

FRIENDS OF COURTYARD SURGERY

Annual General Meeting MONDAY 28th APRIL

Please note the change in date. The original date (14th April) fell in the school holidays and, as a result, was not suitable. The new date is Monday 28th April. Timings (7 p.m.) and location (Courtyard Surgery) remain unchanged. All are welcome, and this is a chance to see some of the new equipment that has recently been bought using funds raised by the Friends of Courtyard Surgery. Come along; it won't last long and you will be able to talk to some of the staff about their plans for further improvements in patient care. Questions are always welcome!

Richard Matters

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL SPRING FAYRE

The West Lavington Village Hall building is run as a charity. It is managed by a small group of volunteers and receives no grants or external funding. Hire charges, which are kept to a minimum and are very competitive, pay for the day-to-day running but very little is left to go towards any improvements. In the last edition of News and Views we mentioned that the Village Hall Committee is holding a major event, a **Bumper Spring Fayre in the hall on Saturday April 5th** in order to raise funds for much needed improvements in such areas as heating, lighting etc. Please reserve this date in your diaries.

We intend to include a tabletop sale, teas and refreshments, a cake stall, Easter Egg hunt, a chocolate tombola, games and competitions and we need more volunteers to help with these activities. If you would like to help or would like to have a table at this event, please contact Mrs Lynne Rayner on 01380 812881 or e-mail lynne@movement4you.com. We hope we will have the support of the whole village to make this a great fun day for everyone, and one which will help us to make improvements to this essential village amenity.

EDITOR'S NOTES

The Editor has recently suffered from the effects of the weather in the form of a loss of telephone and therefore Broadband communication since the middle of February. The result may have been a loss of contact with contributors and he therefore sends his apology to anyone has been frustrated in the loss of communication and the absence of contributions that should have been included.

Jim Hodges

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

& ends Tuesday 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.



BUMPER SPRING FAYRE
West Lavington Village Hall
Saturday 5th April
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
In aid of the Village Hall Improvement Fund

Entrance: Adults £1.00 Children under 16 free !!

Teas / coffee and cakes, Table top sale, cake stall, gifts
Easter Egg Hunt
Chocolate Tombola, Giant Easter Egg Raffle
Competitions/prizes to be won
Fun for all the family!!!



At the heart of your community

THE CHURCHILL LUNCH PUB

West Lavington

All are welcome, whatever your age to the new monthly Pub Lunch Club

Tuesday, 25th March 12.30

Set meal with 2 choices of Main and Sweet

Please ring me for choices

Price £6.00-£7.00

Please book in advance by 21st March

Call Caroline on 07557 922027

If you are unable to come, please cancel with Caroline

Same time on Tues, 22nd April and 27th May

Supported by Wiltshire Good Neighbours

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THE BELL PUB LUNCH CLUB

Great Cheverell

If you haven't been yet, why not join us in March

All ages very welcome! Wednesday, 19th March £6.50

Phone Caroline on 07557 922027

Or devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk

Caroline Culley, Good Neighbour Co ordinator for Devizes villages on 07557 922027 or email devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENT – JUNE

Exhibition of Contemporary Sculpture

At West Lavington Manor

West Lavington Manor is hosting a major exhibition of contemporary sculpture in June. The organisers are looking to recruit additional volunteers who are happy to engage with the public, serve in our pop-up shop and preferably also have an interest in art. We are a friendly group and the work is interesting and fun! To find out more please visit our website www.friendsofthegarden or call Lesley on 01672 540180.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF DUCK STREET

17th-21st March

Wiltshire Council

Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Temporary Closure of: Duck Street, West Lavington

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic: Duck Street, West Lavington; from its junction with A360 to its junction with Stibb Hill.

To enable: Wiltshire Council to carry out drainage repairs and carriageway resurfacing.

Alternative Route: Via Stibb Hill – Rutts Lane – A360 and vice versa.

The closure will be clearly indicated by traffic signs throughout.

The Order will come into operation between **17th March 2014 to 31st March 2014 and 21st April to 23rd April 2014** (depending upon weather conditions). The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information regarding these works please contact Balfour Beatty Living Places on 01249 468582 (office hours) 07900 715776 (non office hours).

Sustainable Transport Group, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

PLEASE NOTE : THE ROAD REPAIRS IN AND AROUND SHREWTON EXPECTED IN MARCH HAVE BEEN POSTPONED OWING TO THE PRESENT FLOODING SITUATION IN THAT AREA

WEST LAVINGTON RECREATION GROUND

The recent gales have not left us unscathed, with a number of trees blown down at the side of the Recreation Ground. These poplars have provided a lovely feature along Mill Lane for many years, and the sudden loss of so many is a great shame, but all part of nature's way.

The Parish Council is responsible for maintaining this space, and has already engaged contractors to make the site as safe as practicable for now. The ground is completely waterlogged and so heavy machinery cannot get near enough to complete the clearance work required.

In the meantime, the area has been cordoned off and signed as dangerous to enter – on item of play equipment has been slightly damaged in the fall; there remain a number of trees that may be showing signs of weakness, and a deep hole is left to the south side access steps. While advice is being sought we must keep the south side of the field out of bounds.

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE CORDON AND KEEP YOUR CHILDREN AWAY FROM THE EQUIPMENT AND THE FALLEN TREES.

If you have ANY QUERIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE Clerk to the Parish Council, Peter Baxter on 7734 483883 or clerkpc@sky.com

LEST WE FORGET

Every year the names of the men listed on our war memorial are read out, and with the best will in the world, we say we will remember them. But all we know about these men who sacrificed their lives nearly a hundred years ago is their names.

I felt they deserved more than that, and so, with help from Richard Matters and Terence O'Flynn, I have attempted to find out more about those men who died in the service of their country in the two World Wars.

By the time you read this, the results should be available in a book entitled Lest We Forget. It will cost £8.75, and the profits will be shared between the West Lavington Branch of the Royal British Legion, All Saints Church West Lavington, and West Lavington Youth Club.

If you would like to order a copy, please contact me on 01380 813943 or lyndadyson@yahoo.co.uk

Lyn Dyson

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL HIRE RATES

From 1st January 2014

Rates per hour Day – 8 am-6 pm Evening 6pm - 12	Weekday (Mon-Fri)		Weekend (Sat & Sun)	
	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

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.

WEST LAVINGTON PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN NOW IS Your Chance To Have Your Say

In January, you will have received a leaflet explaining the Parish Council's community-wide Neighbourhood Plan consultation and door-to-door survey regarding a number of key issues, including new housing, that will shape the future of the parish up to 2026.

Questionnaires are now being delivered to you. It is important that **everyone** living or involved in the parish has a chance to have **their say**.

The Questionnaire is in booklet form with tick-box answers to make it easier and quicker to complete. Information is provided along side each question and at the end of the Questionnaire to help inform your choices. There is also space to add other views.

Completed Questionnaires will be collected door-to-door from 7th March. Collection boxes are also located at Costcutters/NISA, Courtyard Surgery and The Churchill Arms.

If more copies of the Questionnaire are required, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Peter Baxter, on 01380 816183 or at clerkpc@sky.com.

The closing date for return of completed questionnaires is 10th March.

More information on neighbourhood planning and the consultation is available at the **Parish Council's Steering Group Exhibition at the Village Hall from 10am to 5pm on Saturday 1st March.** Please come along to talk to and ask any questions of the volunteers and parish councillors who have been working to bring the Plan forward.

The parish website, twitter, and newspaper articles will also allow you to obtain more information and express your views, and will help The Steering Group find out what you think - before drafting of the Plan starts.

EVERYONE'S views are important !

Please take a few minutes to answer and return the Questionnaire.

Thank you.

WEST LAVINGTON YOUTH CLUB

Welcome back come on down and join in the fun.

What a good time to be a member of the Youth Club! We have a number of trips organised. One of these will, I am sure, appeal to you!! How about Ice Skating? Could we see you at the next winter Olympics? Another popular trip is to Paintballing and the ever popular trip to Thorpe Park. You need to be quick to get on to these trips, so get yourself to the next Youth Club session and put your name on the list.

Funding our trips comes from the funding, generous donations, and Lyn Dyson's contribution from the publication from her local books. The Youth Club are also very grateful to Costcutters for their donation of £524 under their local charity scheme. This is, in part, due to the customers who use the shop, and in particular is based on the sale of special offer items which designate a certain amount to the charity fund. So we have to thank not only Costcutters specifically, but also the customers themselves.

Come on down and join in the fun.

Monday	7.00 – 9.00 p.m.	Seniors at West Lavington
Tuesday	6.00 - 7.30 p.m.	Young Members at West Lavington
Thursday	6.30 - 8.30 p.m.	DROP IN Seniors at West Lavington
Friday	7.00 – 9.00 p.m.	Seniors at Market Lavington

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

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.

A MESSAGE FROM RICHARD GAMBLE

Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

It's not just young people who seem to spend an inordinate amount of time in front of a computer these days. I do, and you may be the same.

The fact is that many of us rely on computers and the internet to fulfil our daily duties and to communicate with others. The efficiency of the internet therefore is pretty important to our lives.

At present areas within Wiltshire have access to Broadband, with some areas experiencing slow speeds and poor service. If you are in one of those areas, you are sure to know it!

In fact 11% of premises cannot access even 2mb. Poor Broadband services are a major obstacle to economic growth and investment. Limited access to Broadband restricts communication, entertainment, shopping and paying bills.

Wiltshire is spending many millions of pounds to bring superfast Broadband over 24mb to 91% more premises in the next few years. Nobody will have less than 2mb.

The way that the improvements are made is to lay fibre optic cables from exchanges that already have a fibre link to those that don't. This involves surveying the conduits to ensure that they can accommodate the new cable. It is a huge task as some conduits are very old and in poor condition; others have been rerouted for some reason and the drawings have not been kept up to date, and some are simply not big enough. It's only when the surveys have been completed that the roll out can be started.

The good news is that the installations for our area are scheduled to start by the end of this year. You will be able to track what is happening on the Wiltshire Council website at www.wiltshireonline.org/index.php/broadband-rollout

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

WEST LAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire will now be with you, so please do take a few moments to fill it in. It is so important that we hear from everyone, whether householders or businesses, on your views for the future development of our community.

The Questionnaire will be collected from householders after March 7th. Please also remember the exhibition on 1st March at the Village Hall where you will have the opportunity to ask questions, meet other people and partake of a delicious brunch breakfast!

My plea this month is to keep our street frontages clear. There is so much debris around that people are finding difficulty walking the pavements and side roads. If you are able to sweep your frontage we would be very grateful.

Finally, you can now follow the Parish Council on Twitter- find us at www.twitter.com/westlavingtonpc and keep in touch.

Liz Evans, Chair 01380 813929 or email esevans1@hotmail.com .

WARMINSTER MOBILE LIBRARY

Timetable February-June 2014

March 4,18 June 10,24	April 1,15,29	May 13,27
Great Cheverell	Lay-by near school	9.45-10.00
Great Cheverell	The Old School	10.05-10.20
Littleton Panell	Lay-by in High Street	10.30-10.45
West Lavington	School	10.50-12.10

NOT WHAT IT WAS

It is very likely that the “map” in the centre spread of this issue will give rise to contrasting feelings – astonishment or nostalgia, depending on the number of years one has been resident in West Lavington, but the simple fact is that this was the state of affairs about twenty five years ago, circa 1987, when it was published by the Care Group as a guide for all inhabitants. A trawl through the West side of the High Street quickly shows the existence of a sort of restaurant (The Chocolate Poodle) a Butcher, a Baker (but no candlestick maker) and a Filling Station. All these have disappeared and even the survivors – the Doctor and the Primary School – have moved to a new home. The picture on the East is just as bleak, with the loss of Antiques and with the fate of the Wheatsheaf having lost first its name and then its existence. Where the Costcutter now stands, a Grocery, Post Office and Chemist existed – next door to Carter’s Dairy before that too closed. Wadman’s Garage, like the school and the doctor came to be housed elsewhere – and unquestionably benefited from modernization and development.

Perhaps the most significant casualty was the premises of our beloved Mr Mac, who dispensed national news daily in his car and village news to everyone who visited his shop. It was worth a visit, just for the conversation, as was the Dial House Gallery, where the warmth of the welcome from Betty Tremlett atoned for the somewhat less than adequate heating there.

Nevertheless, however much we may lament the changes, there have been compensations. The Antiques at a’Becketts became a greengrocers store but is now a major employer of staff for Elite Registrations. And what good fortune for the children away from the main road now, with a green setting also enjoyed by the pre-school.

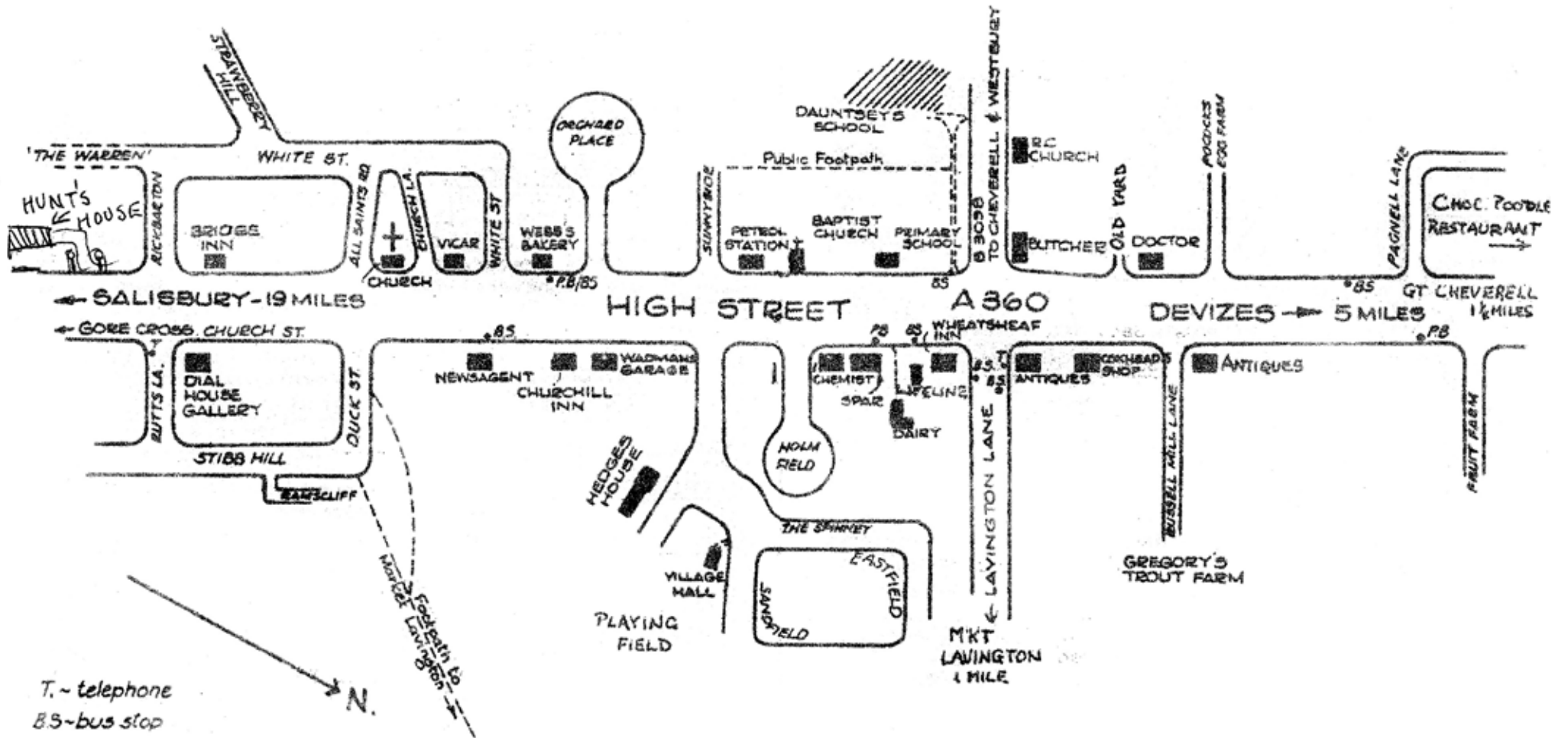
So who, in this world where we have to find someone to blame, were responsible? The answer is that we all are – responsible certainly but not necessarily blameworthy. When a way of life came along where so many our various needs and probably some special offers could largely be found in a supermarket, it is not surprising that most of us have resorted to that option. I remember at about that time there was such a heavy snowfall that we were cut off on all sides. Ted Webb, who ran the bakery and had a grocery too, said to me rather ruefully, “I have met several people in the last few days that I haven’t seen for a few years and when this snow has gone I shan’t see them again for a few more.”

But let us not forget that one business still survives. The Coxhead business was being carried on 60 years ago when I arrived and still, along with the Waitrose and Tesco vans doing their deliveries, you will see the Homestead Dairies, plying their way and delivering the basic necessities.

It is not easy to predict what changes will occur in the next 25 years but it is timely to remind ourselves that we need to take seriously the implications of the forthcoming Neighbourhood Plan and the effect it will have on our future, for good or ill – and probably the latter if we ignore it.

Jim Hodges

WEST LAVINGTON - Circa 1987



SIMPLIFIED PLAN OF ROADS & VILLAGE AMENITIES
(not to scale)



LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

What a fantastic start to 2014 we had here at Lavington Pre-school. The Children really enjoyed our 'Animals' topic. One of the highlights of our first term was our visit from the staff at Longleat; the children loved being able to feel and hold some of the animals, especially the guinea pigs, the Royal Python snakes called Hocus Pocus and Hermione and a Bearded Dragon called Thor!! We made animal masks, baked animal biscuits, made clay animals, talked about the different animals around the world and we went on a "sound" walk, listening out for the different animals and birds we could see or hear. Thank you to all the parents and children for all the enthusiasm we have received for this topic, your support is greatly appreciated.

This term the children have chosen to investigate 'Trees', we will be looking at the different types of trees that we are so lucky to be surrounded by, we will be listening to the trees and hopefully we may be able to see some buds and blossom as spring approaches. If you have anything of interest that you feel relates to this topic that you would like to share with us, then please let us know.

Our new starters in January have all settled in brilliantly and this term we welcome Bella and Clio and their families to our Pre-school. We hope you enjoy your time here with us.

We are also delighted to announce that Gemma, our Deputy Manager, has been offered a place on an Early Years Foundation degree course from September. Well done Gemma.

SAINSBURYS VOUCHERS: Please think of us when you are doing your weekly shop; we are always collecting vouchers from supermarkets.

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 on (01380) 812551 or Email: lavingtonpreschool@gmail.com



DAUNTSEY ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL

It's been a month of school trips here at Dauntsey Academy Primary School!

Thames class enjoyed a trip to the STEAM museum in Swindon. They found out about Brunel's GWR and were able to experience what it was like to drive a steam train.

Orinoco class had a fascinating morning at Devizes Museum where, amongst many other things, they handled a real bone and tooth from a mammoth which once lived in this area! They also re-enacted a bronze age burial and explored the exhibits, including a reconstruction of a Stone Age home and Kennet Longbarrow.



Despite the cold and wet weather, Mississippi class went on a Stone Age adventure to Stonehenge. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about life in the Stone Age and exploring the history of Stonehenge.

Our school choir experienced the opportunity, for the second year running, of singing with 8,000 other primary school children at the O2 Arena on the 28th January. They practised for three months before setting off to London

for this occasion. The challenge was to learn many songs in a short space of time, some of which were familiar but many of which were unknown. The children sang with Stacey Solomon of *I'm A Celebrity* fame and danced with London-based *Urban Strides* as well as joining a world class composer who managed to bring together 8,000 voices so fantastically. Young Voices (the name of the Organisation) is the largest school choir in the world and currently organises over 14 capacity concerts a years in the UK and Ireland's leading arenas. Each year over 2,500 schools, 90,000 children, 6,000 teachers and 120,000 families and friends come together to enjoy music and celebrate singing. DAPS feel incredibly lucky to have been given a place for the last two years and hope to join the Young Voices team again in 2015.

Mandy Francis Admin. Asst.



NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Young Fundraisers

Every now and again, we have a charity afternoon in the school hall. To take part in this event, teams of children will present a plan for what they would like to do to raise funds for their particular favourite charity. This plan needs to be well thought out, clear and detailed, and, after their "pitch", if it looks like a workable plan, the team is given permission to go forward with their preparations for their stall or activity.

This year, on 31st January, we had 10 stalls (and more than 50 children involved) in our hall, with a great variety of activities on offer – including cake sales, spin the wheel, tombola, treasure maps, puzzle and colouring sheets, lucky dip, tattoos, target hitting, Guess the Name of the Teddy and Guess How Many Sweets in a Jar, a raffle and pin the flag. The charities that were supported included Dog's Trust, WWF, Water Aid, Children in Need, Dorothy House, Help for Heroes, Cancer Research, Oxfam, Hope Trust and Nestlings Trust.

It was really moving to see how beautifully the young stall holders worked with their customers (all the other children from our school), especially with the youngest customers who needed a lot of support. They made sure each child felt important and valuable and enjoyed their experience. The stalls had to be set up in half an hour and taken down in ten minutes – they managed this flawlessly. The planning and preparation had been meticulous, and the team work was outstanding. They have raised well over £200 in total – a remarkable achievement! We are very proud of our children and their commitment to supporting those in the community who are not as fortunate as we are.

PE at Holy Trinity

We have been making good use of the new government funding for PE to employ professional sports coaches for our children. Sport has always had a high profile at our school so we have all enjoyed the enrichment gained from this initiative and are pleased that the funding will be continued for at least another year or two.

Admissions to Holy Trinity

If you are interested in requesting admission to our outstanding school, please contact us on 01380 813 796 to arrange for an appointment to look around the school and chat to us. You can find out more about our school, with photos and news, on our website at www.holy-trinity.co.uk



At our February meeting we welcomed Janey Lawry-White who spoke to us about Gender Based Violence. Janey, a committed Christian, is passionate about genuine equality in all sections of society. Violence against women is the most common and least punished crime in the world. Janey went on to explain what gender based violence was, and defined as such by the UN in 1993 for the elimination of violence against women. She went on to give statistics of who are affected by it. In this country one in five adults are affected by abuse. Every single social group in society is affected by domestic violence, and sadly abusers are to be found in every single level in society. So what can we do? Actually quite a lot; with a link with local services www.wiltshire.gov.uk and by speaking out against gender based violence.

As you can imagine we had much discussion on this, and Janey was warmly thanked for her very informative talk.

Please note: Messy Church Day is on **February 27th, 1.00-4.30** at Christchurch, Warminster.

On February 28th I attended a meeting at Bromham Rectory to finalise details for Ann Howard's Spring Walk, which will take place on Friday, 27th March. On Friday, 21st March at Bromham Community Hall 3.30 p.m. there will be Table Top games and activities for Ann's Spring Walk.

Janet Hodges (812467)

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WEST LAVINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Our next event is 1st March when we are holding an English Breakfast and French produce stall in WL Village Hall from 9.30 to 12 midday. Do come.

After that we have a Fish and Chip Supper on 25th April. This is ticket entry (so that we know how many portions of F&C to buy). It will be combined with World Cup and Wimbledon sweepstake draw (members only) and a briefing meeting for the hosts (especially new ones) for our French visitors on 13th June.

Michael Page, Secretary (818510)

THE BRITISH AIRMEN AT ST PIERRE D'AUTILS

In the cemetery at St Pierre d'Autils, our twinned village, there is a grave where three British airmen are buried together. They were the crew of a Fairey Bomber plane, shot down on 11th June 1940.

Their names are remembered on the headstone, but little else was known about the men who lost their lives.

So Lyn Dyson set out to discover what she could about the men and the action they were involved in. She also learned a bit about what it was like to live in St Pierre during the war and occupation, and the part played by the Wiltshire Regiment in their liberation four years later.

The results are now in a book which is available from Lyn Dyson at a cost of £8.75. For each book sold there will be a donation of £1 to the RAF Benevolent Association, and the rest of the profits will go to the Twinning Association.

If you would like to order a copy, please contact Lyn on 01380 813943, or any other member of the Twinning committee.

You can join the WL Twinning Association by calling our chairman Malcom Johnson on 01380 818147 or myself. Michael Page (secretary) 01380 818510.



When Mike Angell started his job as horticultural instructor at Erlestoke prison he was not sure what to expect. Luckily his previous careers as a farmer, a traffic warden and a bus driver meant he had a variety of skills to bring to the role. In his talk *Growing vegetables in a Prison Setting* Mike gave an amusing and informative account of his work at HMP Erlestoke.

Needless to say the constraints when working in a prison environment are legion. Some of the students may have challenging characters. Security is paramount. Health and safety is a top priority. Procurement is centralised and so it can be a tortuous process to get equipment and supplies. And, as always, funding has to be a consideration.

But Mike is determined to give offenders the skills they will need to stay out of trouble when they leave prison. Having to turn up for work in the garden each day develops a work ethic in his students. Many of the students are from an urban environment and often it is the first time that they learn where food comes from. The food that they grow gets used in the prison kitchen. They get a sense of achievement in seeing the fruits of their labour on their dinner plates and can take pride in the fact that they are contributing to a reduction in the kitchen budget. They learn skills that will help them in the world of work and also skills that they can use to set up their own businesses. They get paid for their work.

They grow a wide variety of vegetables on approximately two acres. They have some 10 year old polytunnels and a carpentry workshop and a recycling area in their shared space. They grow things that they can produce in sufficient quantity, and quality, for the cooks to use in the kitchen. What they grow is also governed by how easily it can be prepared for cooking for large numbers.

They also produce plants from seed and cuttings to use in the prison ornamental gardens. Mike brought some surplus stock for sale to the garden club members. He also brought plant labels that the prisoners had made from offcuts from the carpentry workshop.

Judging by the large turnout and the number of questions from the audience it was obvious that there was a lot of curiosity about what happens behind the scenes in a prison. It was encouraging to hear about Mike's work and about the other education programmes that are taking place.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 11th March in Great Cheverell Village Hall, at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. Robert Harvey will be talking about *Mediterranean Wild Flowers in nature and the garden*. So why not come along and learn how you can introduce a few elements of the Mediterranean flora into you own garden. New members are always welcome. The charge for non-members is £2 per meeting.



WORTON AND CHEVERELL F.C.

'The Badgers'

Now running into many weeks of rain, matches are being postponed again with no reports of progress due to pitch conditions. This presents a challenge and frustration for all the teams in the Club.

Training for most teams continues during the week, with some fun football matches during the training sessions. For the younger age groups (9 and under) training takes place in the Lavington School in-door sports hall on Friday afternoons, whilst in older age groups training takes place on various evenings mid-week at the Astro pitches in Devizes Leisure centre. New players are always welcome to come along and join in the fun.

Again with the theme for this year being the World Cup, and no news to report due to current weather conditions, below are some further trivia questions to test you:

Trivia questions (answers on page 29):

1. What would have happened if the 1966 World Cup Final, England v Germany, had remained a 2-2 draw after extra time ?
2. Who did Miss McLoughlin marry in 2008 ?
3. Who was the youngest player to play in a World Cup Tournament squad for England ?

Steve Dagnall 01380-72797

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BOOKMARK

For our February session we got together with copies of *Songs of the Willow* by Jamie Ford, and Monique Raffey's *Archipelago* tucked under our arms. The first novel, set in Seattle during the Depression, told the tale of a Chinese-American boy and his actress mother, whose worlds are rocked by tradition and morality within the prejudice of an unforgiving society. This was considered a bleak but interesting read, but one which would benefit from editing. It scored 7 out of 10 as it was felt to fall significantly short of Ford's debut novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, a club favourite.

Our second read was set in the Caribbean in modern times – and how topical did this turn out to be! When horrendous floods destroy his world, Gavin flees from Trinidad to the Galapagos Islands with his young daughter and elderly dog. They embark on a voyage to battle the waves and their grief, a journey of redemption, healing and hope in the wake of a devastating loss. When the tissues were disposed of and shouts of "Oh why did they take the dog?" had died down, this novel scored 9 out of 10 for its strong descriptions and clever revelations. Although a slow starter, the emotional journey was likened to that of Harold Fry (if he'd found his sea legs) and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We had a fun gathering with much laughter and interest in Hild's Malapropisms, Janet's unexpected letter and Lynda's new modeling career.

Our next meeting will be on March 19th; our crime session when we choose our own author and "Whodunit" to share with the group. Meanwhile members are reminded that dates for the Bath Literature Festival are Friday, 28th February-Sunday 9th March.

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

GREAT CHEVERELL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

We are looking to set up a Photography Club for keen photographers in and around Great Cheverell. We are enthusiastic amateurs and our aim will be to provide a forum for like-minded people to share their experiences and photographs, and to learn from each other. We are lucky to have living in the village a Professor of Photography in John Hannavy. John has said he will be delighted to lead sessions for us. We intend this club to be fun and full of learning and we do not want to end up taking ourselves too seriously. If you are interested please contact: Lynda. wearn@gmail.com or telephone 01380 813911. We aim to have our first meeting on 4th March, in The Pavilion at 7.30 p.m. Everyone welcome, the only entry requirement being that you own a camera.



FUNERALS

Doris Irene May MURRAY of Easterton, died on 12th January, aged 78 years. Her funeral at West Wiltshire Crematorium was held on 24th January 2014.

Doreen ELLIOTT of Great Cheverell, died on 30th January, aged 88 years. A service on 10th February 2014, at Great Cheverell Church, was followed by cremation.

BENEFICE 200 CLUB

The winner of the £40 prize was Pat Stacpoole now of Littleton Panell. The winner of the £20 prize was Stephen Brown of Easterton. The draw was done by Wendy Brewer of West Lavington.

Quentin Goggs, Benefice Treasurer

The Badgers Trivia answers

1. The World Cup champion would have been decided by the flip of a coin (no penalties)
2. Wayne Rooney
3. Theo Walcott in the 2006 Finals, aged 17 years and 87 days

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Drenched

Our area hasn't been affected by the overwhelmingly endless rainfall as badly as some parts of the country. But there's no getting away from the fact that it has been rather damp outside of late. For weeks the top news has been featuring some politician or other trying to look as though they are in control as they visit affected towns and villages. Who's to blame? Some point to global warmin, others to poor planning decisions that allowed building on flood plains. Experts argue about whether or nor dredging rivers have made a difference. I don't know.

The winter storms raise question concerning some of our deeply held assumptions. We expect the government to be able to sort out many of the problems we face as a society. But recent events have Exposed the limits of State power/ As King Canute could not turn the tide at his command, so government ministers cannot order the Thames, Parrett or Severn to return to the limits of their banks.. "An Englishman's home is his castle," we say. But rising waters are no respecters of the sanctity of property. People's houses that once seemed to stand so firm and secure have been invaded by murky torrents that ruin everything in their wake.

Human power at its most organized is no match for the force of nature. Our achievements, writ large in property and possessions can be swept away in a moment. Faith teaches us to "fix our eyes now on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." Where are you setting your sights?

Pastor: Guy Davies www.providence-ebenezer.org.uk

Events:

Ladies meet for Knit and Chat on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2.30 p.m. We knit (or crochet) hats, mitts, scarves, blankets and hand puppets as gifts for disadvantaged children and adults. Can't knit? We'd love to show you. Join us for a cup of tea with friends. All welcome.

Coffee morning. Join us for a cuppa and a chat. 1st March, 10 a.m.-12 noon.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY MORNING (All children in School Years 1 – 6 are welcome to attend)

SATURDAYS: 8 March, 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

MAGAZINE DATES

PLEASE NOTE - DATE FOR HANDING IN COPY IS
ALWAYS THE 20TH

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