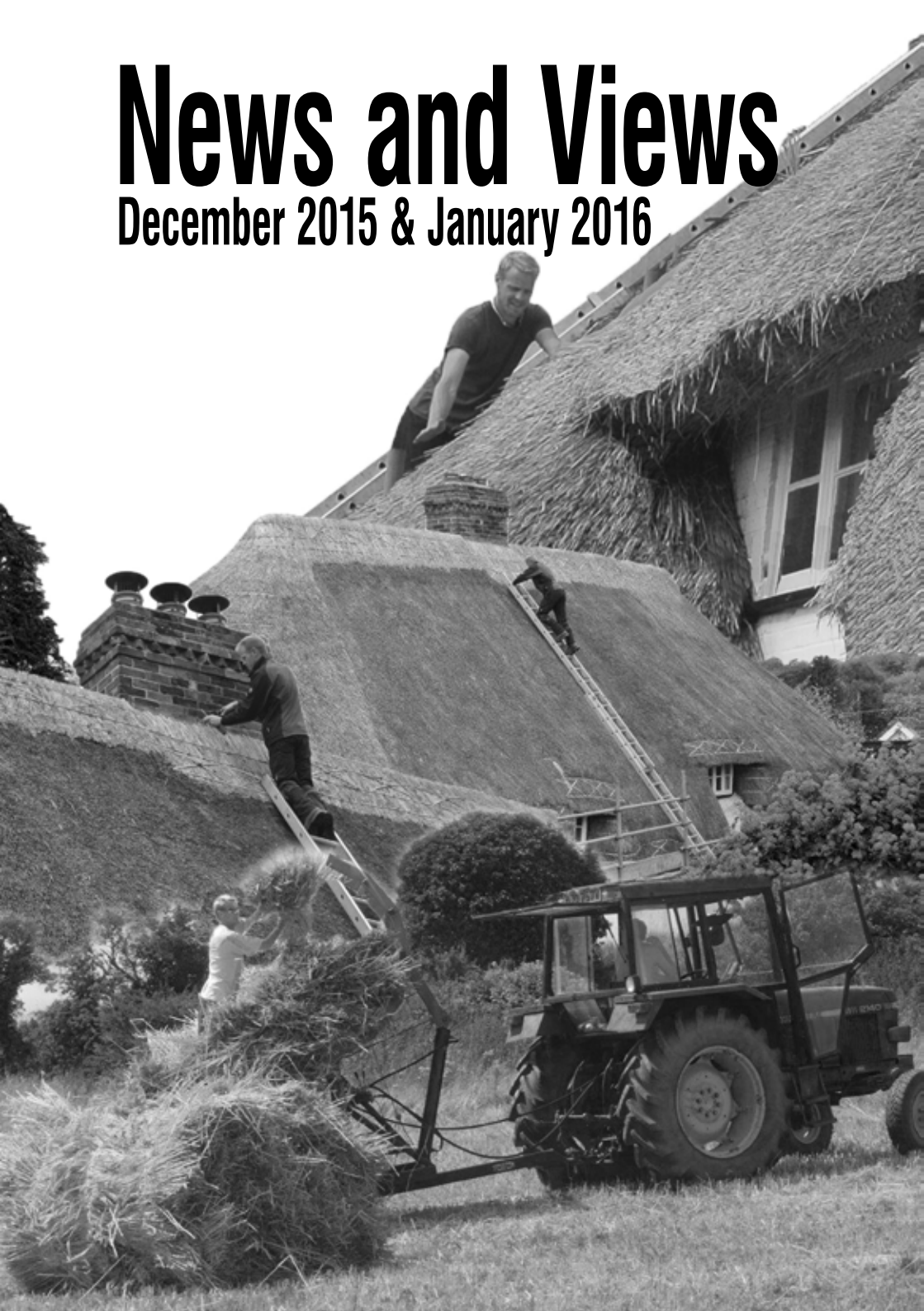


News and Views

December 2015 & January 2016



THE OLD STITCHING POST



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Calendar of Services - December 2015 The Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton					
Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
6th December Advent 2	<p>9.00 am Breakfast Church Easterton</p> <p>10.30 am Benefice Parish Communion St Barnabas, Easterton</p>				
13th December Advent 3	11.00 am United Service Easterton 6.00 pm Carol Service	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am Breakfast Church	11.00 am United Service		6.00 pm Carol Service
20th December Advent 4	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am Breakfast Church	6.00 pm Carol Service	4.00 pm Carol Service	4.00 pm Carol Service	
24th December Christmas Eve	4.00 pm Christingle 10.00 pm "Midnight"	9.30 am Parish Communion	9.00 – 10.30 am Breakfast Church	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
25th December Christmas Day	10.00 am Family Service	9.30 am Family Communion		11.00 am Family Service & Communion	9.30 am Christmas Communion
27th December 1st of Christmas	10.30 am Benefice Family Service and Communion Easterton				

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

Calendar of Services - January 2016 The Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton					
Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
3rd January 2nd of Christmas	<p>9.00 am Breakfast Church, Great Cheverell</p> <p>10.30 am Benefice Worship Together Simple Celebration Communion Great Cheverell</p>				
10th January Baptism of Christ	11.00 am United Covenant Service at Trinity in Comm.Hall	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am Breakfast Church	11.00 am United Service, ML	11.00 am Simple Celebration	
17th January 2nd of Epiphany	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am Breakfast Church, Old School	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion	10.00 am Welcome to Worship	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)
24th January 3rd of Epiphany	9.30 am Parish Communion	9.30 am Parish Communion (O1T)	9.00 Breakfast Church	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
31st January 4th of Epiphany	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00 am Breakfast Church, Old School	9.30 am Matins (BCP)	11.00 am Matins (BCP)	4.00 pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	
7th Feb 1st before Lent	<p>9.00 am Breakfast Church, Little Cheverell</p> <p>10.30 am Worship Together Parish Communion (BCP), Little Cheverell</p>				

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.

Dear Friends,

In the immediate aftermath of the horrific series of attacks in Paris and the very real threat of more, many people are fearful; violence and bloodshed seems to have reached a new level – with younger, liberal westerners being targeted in the Bataclan Theatre.

Nearer to home, there seem to be a lot of people at the moment even in these five villages who are suffering from life-threatening illnesses – cancer in particular.

Add to this the increasingly frenetic December that many of us will be leading, and one is left with a growing longing that something better would emerge.

At the heart of the Christmas message is that ‘God so loved the world, that he sent his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life’ (John 3:16). God’s plan for the human race was to send someone to bring hope and purpose to individual lives in a broken and hurting world.

Jesus often spoke to his worried hearers by encouraging them ‘not be afraid’. Before he left his disciples, he consoled them, ‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid’ (John 14:27).

In uncertain times, when fear stalks, the baby in the manger who became the man who lived and died for each one of us so that we might be reconciled with the Father and know deep inner peace is an increasingly attractive prospect for many around the globe.

James Campbell

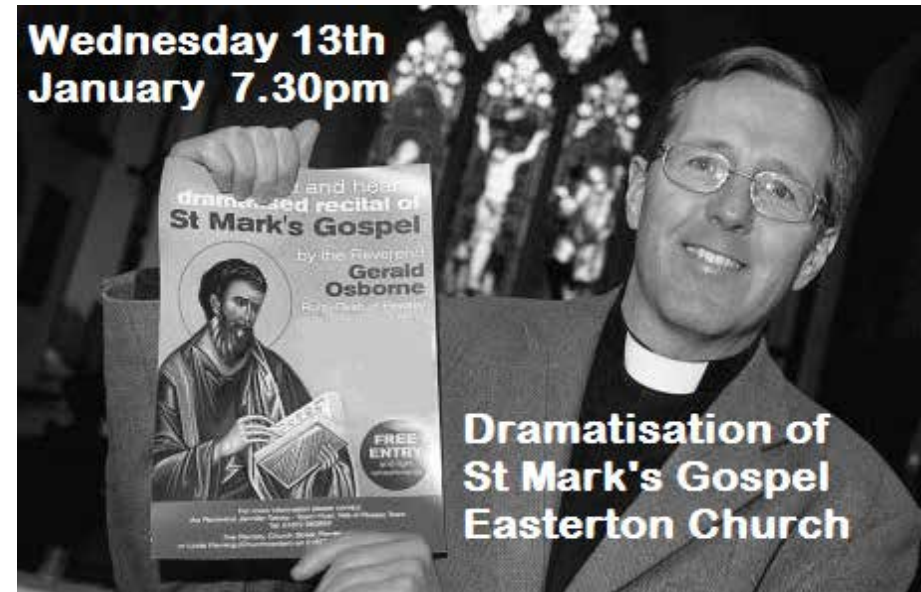
Rector: Revd Canon James Campbell
 Tel. (01380) 816963
 The Rectory, 14 Church Street,
 Market Lavington,
 Devizes, SN10 4DT.
 lavingtonrector@gmail.com
 Office email churchlavington@gmail.com

All Saints West Lavington Christmas Celebrations

Sunday 20th December at 6 p.m.
 Carol Service followed by Supper in the church

Monday 21st December at 7.30 p.m.
 Carols at The Bridge Inn. Do join us for a drink and singing.

Tuesday 22nd December - Carol Singing around the village.
 Meet at 6 p.m. outside The Haven, Littleton Panell, followed by a visit to Dauntsey House (6.45-ish), then finishing at 7.30 p.m. at Wyneshore House, Church Street, by invitation from Terry & Jeannie O’Flynn.
 We hope to raise funds towards a Swindon Radiotherapy Unit to treat local patients. Currently we have to travel to Oxford for treatment.



All Saints, West Lavington:
 Holy Trinity, Great Cheverell:
 Holy Trinity, Little Cheverell:

CHURCHWARDENS
 Robert Giles (813256) Bronwen Matters (816133)
 Ian Christie (813940)
 Peregrine Rawlins (816315)

BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

The total raised for this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in the Lavingtons, the Cheverells and Erlestoke was a staggering £3097.28. This will go towards the costs of welfare in the wider Forces community where it will be most welcome. Many thanks to all who donated and the small army of volunteers and businesses who gave up their time doing the hard work of collecting, often in the dark and the rain. The coins this year weighed 4 1/2 stone!

Richard Matters, Poppy Appeal Organiser

FREE ENTRY

**DAPS
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MARKET**

at Dauntsey Academy Primary School, West Lavington
Friday 11th December 2015
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and not forgetting...

FATHER CHRISTMAS!
(visits must be pre booked on 01380 813373)

EDITOR'S NOTES

If you are puzzled by the appearance of a collage of thatching operations on the cover of this issue, its only significance is that the editor's house has recently been thatched – an operation that occurs at 15-25 year intervals, to the increasing protection and benefit of his home and to the detriment of his bank balance.

Will Ford, our thatcher, was born in West Lavington and grew up here before doing a City and Guilds at Knuston Hall, almost the only place where the skills are taught. There is not space enough here to show the concern for detail that is involved but it was a satisfying experience to watch the care and thoroughness that was used. Part of the picture shows the straw being produced by the old-fashioned methods of the days of combine harvesters when the pace of life was slower – and the supply of straw was ample and cheap. No more, alas.

Editorial best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all readers and especially to contributors and distributors.

Jim Hodges

WHARF THEATRE, DEVIZES

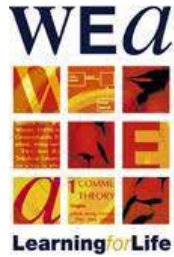
Friday 11th – Saturday 19th December at 7.30 p.m.
Matinees: 12th and 19th at 2.30pm
No performances 13th or 14th

Aladdin

a pantomime by Ben Crocker
directed by Craig Fisher

Set in Peking, where Aladdin lives with his mother, Widow Twankey, the adventure begins when Aladdin falls in love with the Emperor's daughter, the beautiful Princess Jasmine, whom he should not even look upon let alone fall in love with. With help from his magical friends, the Genies of the Lamp and the Ring, Aladdin sets off to win his Princess. As we all know, nothing is straightforward in panto and Aladdin must outwit his evil uncle, Abanazar, who will pull every mean trick in the book to get his hands on the wonderful Magic Lamp.

Tickets: Evenings £9, Matinees £7



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This will be a **six week Thursday morning course** running from 10.15am to 12.30pm held in the Conference Room at Urchfont Village Hall commencing Thursday 28th January running each consecutive Thursday (except for a half term break on 18th February) and ending on 10th March.

As always, no previous experience is needed . All are welcome

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ART & CRAFT STUDIO - Open

Surgery Raffles

The Friends Organisations at both Market Lavington and Courtyard Surgeries are organising Christmas Raffles to raise funds to buy equipment that isn't provided by the NHS. Both practices would appreciate the donation of prizes.

Tickets will be on sale from mid-November until Mid-December.

John and Lesley welcome you to the **CHURCHILL ARMS**.
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Advent Concert

Saturday 12th December at 7.30pm,
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WEST LAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

West Lavington Parish Council is holding a community-wide consultation on the first draft of its Neighbourhood Plan: **OUR PLACE: OUR PLAN**. It began on November 21st 2015 - with delivery of Consultation Leaflets door-to-door - and will run until January 16th 2016. An open public meeting took place on November 28th at the Village Hall.

The Consultation Leaflets contain questions on a range of proposals on **future development** in the parish **over the next 10 years**. These include numbers of new houses, site options and policies set out in detail in the Draft Plan itself.

They also invite your views on a legally required environmental assessment. A Scoping Report prepared by an independent environmental planning consultant engaged by the Parish Council aims to ensure that any proposals for development are appraised in the light of their potential for harming the environment and to minimise impacts on natural resources.

The first Draft Plan (with annexes including the Environmental Scoping Report) is a large document. It can be inspected in printed form in Devizes and Market Lavington Libraries, Courtyard Surgery, The Churchill Arms and The Bridge Inn. Online it can be downloaded from the Parish Council's recently relaunched website at our new website address: www.westlavington.org.uk.

Please make your **replies** to the Consultation Leaflet on the "**Have Your Say – Your Response Form**" inserted in the leaflet.

Completed Response Forms should be **left at the village drop-off points**: Costcutters, Courtyard Surgery, The Churchill Arms and The Bridge Inn in the response boxes provided.

The consultation closure date is January 16, 2016.

Your replies will provide guidance for proposals to be made in a Final Plan on which a formal local consultation and a referendum will ultimately take place organised by Wiltshire Council. If you say yes, with 51% or more in support, then the Plan will have statutory force.

The Parish Council would like to hear from you!
Sandra Gamble, Chairman

HELP KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER Visitors need your help - please be a Volunteer

Are you willing to join the Friends of Erlestoke Prison Driving Team?

We have a Rota of volunteer drivers who take visitors from Westbury Station to Erlestoke and back again afterwards.

A taxi costs nearly £40, a huge amount for most visitors who sometimes travel a very long way, but we only ask for a donation for the journey. Volunteers can claim back their expenses at an agreed rate.

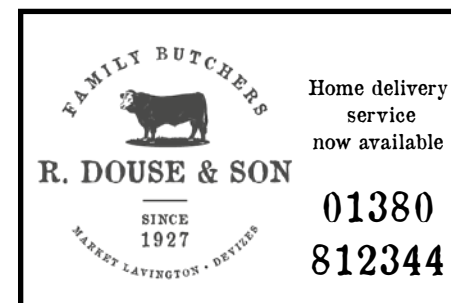
A typical journey might be in the morning, picking up a visitor (sometimes with children) from Westbury Station and taking them to the Prison Visitor Centre. Another journey might be taking a visitor from the Prison after a visit (usually around 4.00 pm) and taking them back to Westbury Station.

The more volunteers we have, the fewer journeys we need to make – so do get in touch if you can help – it is surprisingly rewarding helping families keep together in really difficult circumstances.

You only need to commit the time you can spare week by week - so you are in control!

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Please call 07721 932430 or email us at: friendstransportscheme@gmail.com

Thank you from the FRIENDS OF ERLESTOKE PRISON



ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

There were no local casualties in December 1915, In fact the different battalions of the Wiltshire Regiment were variously occupied. Whilst Division 5 were at Gallipoli, 7th Battalion were in Salonika and the 6th Battalion were working (without celebrating) in the trenches.

The 1st Battalion were stationed in the trenches, having to wait until the New Year to celebrate – which they duly did. Luckiest of all at that stage were the 2nd Battalion, resting at Auteuil. Their day began with Communion, then a Church Parade and finally a “sumptuous feast” of chicken, beef etc. It was followed by a Regimental concert, concluding with the National Anthem and three cheers.

* * * * *

“Pictures from a Bygone Era” is available at £6. This is old photographs of Market Lavington. And also “The Hangman Comes to Devizes” at £10 is a good read for anyone with a taste for the macabre. I have a few copies of each, or they are available at Devizes Books, or on Amazon.co.uk, or Ducks Newsagent in Devizes. All profits go to the youth club.

Lyn Dyson 01380 813943



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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The 1st Urchfont Scout Troop has been an active part of our community for over 70 years, with members from all over the local area. Scouts provides an invaluable opportunity for our youth to experience new adventures, to face new challenges, to gain confidence and to develop their skills.

We are currently looking for a **NEW LEADER** (this could also work as a shared role). If you feel that you could offer any help, and would enjoy the challenge of taking this successful and very active Scout troop forward, then we would love to hear from you.

This role will be well supported by both the Committee and the current leader, Peter Wheatley.

Please contact Peter Wheatley on 07754 938325
 email: wheatpk@dauntseys.wilts.sch.uk or one of the committee members below.

Dawn Hadlow (Chair) 01380 848515 cdljhadlow@gmail.com
 Julie Inglis (Secretary) 01380 848485 julie.inglis@gmail.com
 Frances Wood (Treasurer) 01380 848537 francesjwood@hotmail.com
 Abby Osborne 01380 848755 osbornefamily2@btinternet.com
 Claire Weyman mousie70@hotmail.com

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SPRING TERM Starts 10th JAN 2016

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For further details about joining the Club please
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Anita Holness, Committee Secretary
email: anita@kholness.plus.com

RUNNING WITH A PURPOSE

Below is Hilary's latest report on her progress and the purpose behind her enterprise. By February, when the next edition comes out we shall discover how successfully she has cast aside the indulgences of Christmas and the New Year - Ed

In the 4 weeks since I registered to run the Manchester Marathon, I have covered just over 66 miles, the furthest being a run of 10 miles. I try to go out three or four times a week but it's difficult sometimes fitting it in with a family. The plan is to increase mileage gradually, so by early February I should be up to doing another half marathon. The soles of my feet are starting to hurt now when I run- so off to buy new trainers!

Michael Loudwell, my dad, was a big man. 6 foot 3. A big sports fan- cricket, football (took me to my first match at Fulham, when I was 8) and was Life President of our village tennis club. We were all devastated when he was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. He died four years ago. The MND Association were so incredibly helpful and supportive to the whole family and that is why I am running the Manchester Marathon. My target is £500 and

I'd be so grateful for donations to this worthwhile cause. Either visit my Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/HillyStone>

or for those not on line contact Jim Hodges (812467)- or donations can be handed in at DAPS (where I work). Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Hilary Stone

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Formerly JLC General Building



For the third year we are sending Christmas presents to children of prisoners at Erlestoke and Guys Marsh prisons.

We are **REMEMBERING THE CHILDREN** and helping to keep family relationships alive while father is in prison, hoping and praying this will help alleviate re-offending.

Last year we sent 67 gifts, so this year on 2nd December we are having a fun time at Potterne Youth Centre wrapping this year's parcels.

We would like donations of £15 to buy, wrap and post each gift. (Any surplus money will be used next year).

If you would like to join with this worthwhile project, please send any donations to Mothers' Union Office, Crane Street, Salisbury SP1 2QB clearly stating 'Angel Tree Project' or give to Sandra Gamble / Ann Cowburn

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL HIRE RATES - From 1st October 2015

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	£6.00	£8.00	£7.00	£10.00
Hall - Evening	£8.00	£10.00	£9.00	£12.00
Giles Meeting Room - Day	£4.50	£5.50	£5.50	£6.50
Giles Meeting Room - Eve	£5.50	£7.50	£6.50	£8.50
Changing Rooms Are charged at Hall rate				

Use of cooker in the kitchen - £5.00 Use of Stage Lights - £10.00

- Telephone bookings to Lynne Rayner on 01380 812881.
- Email bookings to Lynne@movement4you.com.
- **Bookings must include event preparation and clear-up time**
- Local rates are for village clubs and societies, registered charities and local private hire only.
- Minimum charge is for 2 hours and 3 hours weekend. A non-refundable deposit or booking fee of £10 is required to secure a booking.
- On cancellation, the deposit will be forfeited unless we are able to rebook that date.
- **Heating is now included in the above rates.**
- The Playing Field (including pitches), for which there is no charge, must be booked even if the Changing Rooms are not used.

LITTLETON PANELL COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Update on speeding vehicles.

During the month of October the Littleton Panell Community Speed Watch team spent a total of 32 man hours checking the speed of vehicles through the village with the following result:

1. 60 vehicles were checked travelling between 36 and 40mph
2. 19 vehicles were checked travelling between 40 and 44mph
3. 5 vehicles were checked travelling over 45mph
4. 1 vehicle was checked travelling at 50 mph

Details of all these vehicles have been passed to the police for appropriate warning/enforcement action. If these drivers travel at these speeds even when they can clearly see a group of individuals wearing high visibility tabards then we can only wonder at how fast they go normally.

It's 30 for a reason

The difference of a few miles per hour can so easily mean the difference between life and death. The faster someone is driving, the less time they have to stop if something unexpected happens.

The risk of death is approximately 4 times higher when a pedestrian is hit at 40mph than at 30mph.

We have had a further 3 requests (1 from West Lavington) to become members of our Speed Watch team and I want to thank the existing members for all their dedication throughout the year.

**Anyone interested in becoming a member can contact me for further information.
Steve Coxhead, Littleton Panell Community Speed Watch (818497)**

WEST LAVINGTON YOUTH CLUB

There loads of things to enjoy at West Lavington Youth Club most evenings, and Fridays at Market Lavington so make sure that you do not miss out on the fun. Times of opening listed below.

Monday	7 – 9pm	Seniors at West Lavington
Tuesday	6 -7.30pm	Young Members at West Lavington
Thursday	6.30 - 8.30pm	DROP IN seniors at West Lavington
Friday	7 – 9pm	Seniors at Market Lavington

Eric Freeman - Chairman of The Management Committee West Lavington Youth Club

A MESSAGE FROM RICHARD GAMBLE

Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

Christmas is coming. It's the season of goodwill, and all that!

Except, as I write this, the mood is not exactly festive. The terrorist attacks in Paris have taken place and, for the time being, the f-word is fear, not fun. Dozens of families will have to get through the holiday season without their loved ones.

Such was the scale of the murderous outrage that I am sure it will still be in the front of our minds when you are reading this. Feelings of helplessness and impotence in the face of that malignancy may remain.

There are precedents to such events. 22 years ago the IRA exploded an enormous bomb in Bishopsgate, destroying a part of London where my wife and I had both worked until only a few months before. Life in London carried on and now there is peace, more or less, in Northern Ireland.

In the 1970s the Baader Meinhoff group and the Red Army Faction conducted a series of terrorist attacks in West Germany. Remember them?

In 1913, the suffragettes exploded a bomb that partially destroyed Lloyd George's house, yet now we look rather kindly on Mrs Pankhurst.

No one now has even heard of the Sheffield Outrages, a series of explosions and murders by a small group of trade unionist militants carried out in the 1860s. They had a just cause in objecting to conditions in the steel industry but took their actions a little too far.

None of this makes the current situation any happier but I hope history allows us to put current events into context. The wartime message resonates now: Keep Calm and Carry on.

I hope you have a safe and happy Christmas.

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

A Further Communication

WEBSITE RELAUNCH:

The Parish Council has a new website at: www.westlavington.org.uk. Please note too our Clerk's new email address: clerk@westlavington.org.uk. Technical difficulties encountered at the trial stage of the relaunch unfortunately made these changes necessary. However, thanks to Peter Baxter's re-creation of the site that he first set up when clerk to the council, we now have an exciting new website with more space and improved overall functionality.

PARKING: Parking in the Spinney (near its junction with Sandfield) has reportedly led recently to a paramedic's vehicle being unable to reach its destination. The Spinney, as with other roads in the immediate vicinity, is narrow and parking is indeed difficult. However, could all those using the street kindly seek to ensure, when parking their car, that enough space is left between their vehicle and any adjacently parked vehicle in order that other users of the road (especially emergency services vehicles such as Fire, Ambulance, Police and other large vehicles such as refuse lorries) can pass along it easily and without hindrance. Thank you.

COMMUNICATION: The Parish Council wants to communicate with you using the most effective means. One way is to make better use of e-communication which would enable more timely circulation of information across the parish. If you would like to receive information directly from the Parish Council by e-mail, please respond by e-mailing the Clerk at: clerk@westlavington.org.uk with the following information:

- Your title
- Full name
- Postcode
- E-mail address
- Any subjects of particular interest

Please note that in responding with the above personal details, you also confirm that:

1. You would like West Lavington Parish Council to inform you by email from time to time as it sees fit about matters such as planning and issues and news having local or potential local interest or effect. This service is free.
2. You are over 16 and consent to the holding and processing of your personal contact details, provided for the purpose of communication to you by the Parish Council as above only.
3. You live or work in the Parish of West Lavington or nearby and wish to be included in the Parish Council's circulation list. You understand that you can unsubscribe at any time by informing the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is registered with the Information Commissioner and will protect your details, and not share them with any third party.

**WE WISH ALL OF YOU A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

Sandra Gamble, Chairman

If you have ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT the Clerk to the Parish Council, Kaye Elston (07782 251464) clerk@westlavington.org.uk. Parish Council www.westlavington.org.uk.

CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Don't forget; a full set of minutes of the last year's Parish Council meetings are available on the village website or the most recent signed minutes are always on the two village noticeboards.

Parish Council contact details, Mrs Anita Whittle, Clerk to Cheverell Magna Council, 18 Southay, Bratton, Westbury, BA13 4RT. Tel 01380 830765 or email parishcouncil@greatcheverell.org

Don't forget to take a look at your village website www.greatcheverell.org.

Cheverell Magna Parish Council

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DAUNTSEY ACADEMY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Poppy Appeal

This year we raised £189.49 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Our year 6 children were responsible for collecting donations and did so proudly.

Children in Need

The Children at DAPS had a wonderful day on Friday 13th November raising money for Children in Need. We had a non-school uniform day, sold Pudsey and Blush wristbands and held a cake sale after school. We raised an amazing total of £468.90.

U11 Football Tournament

On a wet and windy Wednesday our U11 Football Team participated in a tournament at Devizes School. The team showed great enthusiasm and were fantastic ambassadors of the school.

We were against tough opposition and although we dominated the matches at times, the elements of the weather were not in our favour.

We played 3 matches, drew the first two and lost by a single goal in the final match. I must add that fantastic sportsmanship and a real team ethos was shown throughout the afternoon. I look forward to our next tournament and with the hard work and dedication shown at Football Club I am sure next time we will progress further in the competition.

Mrs Webb.

Message from Mrs Stone, POD Chairman

POD (People of DAPS) is the newly formed PTA at Dauntsey Academy Primary School. Our first major fundraising event is an outside Christmas Market, at the school, on Friday December 11th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. We would love villagers to come and join us in the evening! We have asked our parents to park responsibly; however we apologise in advance for any issues regarding parking in and around Sandfield on that evening.

Mrs Mandy Francis, Admin. Asst.

LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL



At Lavington Pre-school, at the end of last term we were visited by Ofsted and we are delighted to report that we were found to be **OUTSTANDING** in all areas. We would like to say 'Thank you' to everyone who has supported us, past and present; we are all very pleased with this fantastic result. The report is now available online at:

<http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/145918>

We ended last term with a Halloween Party where the children had their faces painted, danced and played games. Thank you to everyone who helped make the party possible and we managed to raise a brilliant £185.

This term the children's investigations have been centred on "Leaves, tress and changing seasons". As part of this we have been enjoying the changing colours around us, making various mixed media displays using the different textures in our autumn environment and looking at how the weather has changed. If you feel you have something relevant that you would like to share, please let us know; it is always lovely for the children to have local visitors!

We have also been regularly visited by ACTIVE Trowbridge this term and the children have loved this opportunity to learn new games and explore new equipment. We have also been very busy practising for our Nativity performance on the 3rd December in the School Hall at 10 a.m. We will be ending this term on Friday the 18th December with our Christmas Party. This year we will be visited by a Magician and a certain fellow in red!

Here at Lavington Pre-school we would like to wish everyone a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas!

TOP TIP: Our Top Tip for this month is from Physical Development: Moving and Handling EYFS, 22-36 months. "Talk to children about their movements and help them to explore new ways of moving, such as squirming, slithering and twisting along the ground like a snake, and moving quickly, slowly or on tiptoe."

2 YEAR OLD FUNDING: In April 2014 the Government broadened the criteria for 2 year old funding for up to 15 hours per week and you may now find that you fall into the eligibility criteria if you have a child between 24 - 36 months old. If you think you might be eligible, you will need to complete a funding form: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/early-years-better-2gether-funding.pdf>

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 our Manager, Becky Gray, on

(01380) 812551 or Email: info@lavingtonpreschool.org.uk

NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY



Our outstanding school

The government has sent us a letter of congratulations for being in the top 2% for the Phonics screening check – a tremendous achievement for our younger children! Our children have also achieved incredibly well in the statutory tests at Key Stage 2 and in the Key Stage 1 assessments – with

attainment in all subjects and overall being significantly better than the national averages. Our average point score was higher than we achieved in our already exceptional performance last year. We are tremendously proud of our children – their aspirational attitude and tremendous work ethic has resulted in another outstanding year!

As we always remark, although the academic achievements of our children are immense, we are just as proud of the kind of people they are – compassionate, courageous, aspirational and joyful. These aspects of their lives are just as important as their academic outcomes and are certainly more likely to help them to live fulfilled and happy lives. We ensure that every child feels valued and valuable, whatever their particular gifts and talents, and that they are given the chance to learn across a broad and balanced curriculum, including arts, sports, humanities, citizenship and much more. A happy learner is a good learner and our children tell us that they enjoy school because of our creative and exciting curriculum. Our thanks go to our extraordinary staff, governors and families who all work together to give our children the very best possible education.

Music making at Holy Trinity

We set a high priority on music making at Holy Trinity, and our Eisteddfod choir has performed very successfully in the Devizes Eisteddfod for several years under our wonderful choir mistress, Liz Sharman, and talented accompanist, Ruth Edwards. This year, we have once again won the Carol competition at the Eisteddfod. We have various other choral events through the year, as well as recorder concerts, guitar and keyboard performances, ukulele and brass events, handbell and orchestra concerts and our very popular summer music concert. We love to sing, as a school, and the children are expert in singing rounds and simple harmonies. There is something wonderful about 150 children singing together!

It's Christmas!

Our Christmas plays are in production and we look forward to the fun and excitement of the performances in the last week of term. All our children take part in these performances, which help them to understand the importance of Christmas to Christians and to others. With the Christmas fair, Christmas music concert, Christmas party, carol service and an exciting visit to the pantomime in Salisbury, as well as all sorts of other amazing events, this is a wonderful term for our children.

Visits to our school

We do not hold Open Days at Holy Trinity, because we would rather meet each family individually and show them around our school, giving them the opportunity to ask questions of the headteacher and others in the school. If you would like to look around Holy Trinity as you consider which school is best for your child, please phone us to make an appointment on 01380 813 796, or email us at admin@holytrinity.wilts.sch.uk.

Please see our website for news, photos and our consultation on admissions policy 2017-18!

We would like to wish everyone in our community a joyful and blessed Christmas and a happy new year!

WEST LAVINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION



BURNS NIGHT

The next event open to non-members is Burns Night on Saturday 23rd of January 2016 at WL Village Hall including the Selkirk Grace and Ode to the Haggis. Tickets £12.50 to include welcoming glass of wine. Scottish dress optional but a touch of tartan welcome! Please put the date in your diary and ask your friends and neighbours to come!

The next visit of our friends from St Pierre d'Autils is on the weekend of June 17th to 20th .

Membership of West Lavington Twinning Association is open to residents of West Lavington and nearby villages. To join just email me michaelpage007@btinternet.com or our Chairman Malcolm Johnson blocker38@hotmail.com and ask for a membership form. Membership fees are under £20 per year for a household. We hold many events throughout the year to raise money for the bi-annual visit of our French friends but mostly to have fun!

Michael Page, Secretary (818510)

BOOKMARK

Our meeting in October was centred on reading either a classic or a biography and produced a wide range of books. These included *The Two of Us* by Sheila Hancock to *Daughter of the Desert* by Georgina Howell to *Do No Harm* by Henry Marsh. These three in turn gave a picture of life with John Thaw who was revealed as a very difficult man, to the life of Gertrude Bell who in the early 20th century was as influential as D.H.Lawrence, if not more so, and finally the problems faced in brain surgery. These three provoked prolonged and lively discussion ranging over alcoholism, the problems in the Middle East and life threatening treatment. The discussion would have been even longer if Hild had been with us! Other books discussed were *A Passage to India*, *Hitler* by A.N Wilson, *Lustrum* by Robert Harris and *Shackleton* by Michael Smith. The talk on these covered the British in India, Hitler's life story, Ancient Rome and Shackleton, a heroic figure with flaws but a fascinating character who was admired by Amundsen for his achievements. Our December meeting will be a Christmas gathering and the readings will be either a childhood favourite or a seasonal reading accompanied by mulled wine, so the talk may go on even longer than normal!

Wendy Wilshin



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Jon Goddard from Erlestoke Prison, who works there under the "umbrella" of Barnardos', gave us a fascinating insight into the various programmes designed to make Prisoners learn more social skills, and

parenting responsibility, as well as learning to live in the community. These courses are voluntary. It has been recognised that if prisoners have a desire to improve their social skills it is better to want to do it, than be pushed into it. Jon and his team also organise Family Days, encouraging Fathers to interact with their children. These courses are very successful. Erlestoke Prison works very hard at their rehab work, encouraging prisoners to become good citizens.

We have no meeting in December in Lavington. We have been invited to Urchfont on Tuesday, 15th December at 2.30 p.m. for tea, carols, prayers, and displays of flowers. December 1st: Service at Salisbury Cathedral for Activism against Gender Violence At NOON

December 2nd: wrapping presents at Potterne Youth Club for the children of prisoners.

December 9th: Deanery Advent Service at 2.00 p.m. at St. John's Devizes.

We welcome everyone to our Meetings and if you want to know more please contact me. Janet Hodges on 812467

For our Meeting on January 11th 2016 we will be giving a lunch for our friends in the village at the home of Ann Janes, by her kind invitation.

Janet Hodges



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If you were wondering what to give to your gardening friends for Christmas it seems that tomato ketchup, malt vinegar, and barley straw would prove to be practical gifts. At our November meeting, Ray Broughton shared with us some 'Topical tips and new ideas'. He proved to be a very

accomplished and engaging speaker.

We learned that tomato ketchup when smeared over secateurs or other cutting implements serves to clean, sharpen, lubricate and sterilise. So if you happen to be visiting the Cheverells and glimpse what appears to be the aftermath of a massacre in someone's garden shed, please do not be alarmed!

Soaking poppy seeds in malt vinegar helps to break their dormancy and improve germination. You can sow potatoes shallowly in flat ground and then heap a ridge of barley straw over them. The potatoes are easy to pick by hand out of the straw mound.

Herewith in brief a few more things that we learned: it is the dying flowers of tagetes that produce the chemical that keeps whitefly off your vegetables and so you should not dead head them; some ladybirds can kill 120 aphids a day and you can buy ladybird eggs to scatter in May; white flowered varieties of runner bean are wind pollinated and therefore more reliable at producing a good crop than the more decorative but insect pollinated and thus weather dependent red flowered varieties; snipping the stigma out of your tulip flowers makes the flower display last longer; hosepipes when they get warm can give off a chemical which damages seedlings; there is a way to make pong free nettle or comfrey fertiliser involving fleece, aquatic stone and vermiculite; greenhouse plants can get a bit leggy in spring if they need carbon dioxide and a big dollop of horse manure wrapped in cling film with six puncture holes will provide a steady and smell free supply.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 December. A short time will be devoted to an annual review. After that we will have a bit of a party, with food, quizzes and camaraderie, to get us in the mood for Christmas. Meet at Great Cheverell Village Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start.

Our first meeting in 2016 is on Tuesday 12 January. Ruth Gaddum, an RHS accredited Garden Designer, will give a talk entitled 'A pot full of garden design'.



WORTON AND CHEVERELL F.C. 'The Badgers'

Teams are always looking for new parents to get involved with the running of teams in some age groups, but also stepping forward to help develop the skills of the children. Get involved; it's fun, and you get some exercise along the way! Please contact the coaches, who are always looking for a helping hand.

With the Christmas holidays fast approaching, some of the teams are involved in various Cup competitions: The Under 15 passed Pewsey Vale to reach the last 16 of the Wiltshire Cup, whilst the Under 13 will play Wootton Bassett in the 2nd round.

U13: despite being 3rd in the League, they suffered their second defeat of the season losing away to 2nd placed team Bradford 4-2 recently.

U12: are joint leaders with 10 points (at the time of writing this article), but have played more matches. Recent win 3-1 against Amesbury, but losing a vital home match to local rivals Devizes.

Other teams in the lower age groups continue to develop their skills and play various matches in the respective 'friendly' leagues – where results cannot be published.

Happy Christmas to all our readers.

Steve Dagnall (Everton Supporter) 01380-72796
<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/wortonandcheverellfc/>

Team contact details:

Reception Year (tasters) + Under 6 & 8's: Mark – 01380-813160/07974-723008.
Under 7 and 10/11 – Jason 07734-627449. Under 9s - Dave 07843-678781 U- 12: Stuart 07756-540864 ; U-13: Jake 07741-306303; U-15: Neil 01380-818193

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DECEMBER AT TRINITY CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY HALL

Market Lavington

6th 10.30 am Family Worship Rev Simon Edwards
 13th 11.00 am United Service at St Barnabas, Easterton
 20th 10.30 am Family Worship Rev Gary Gotham
 27th 10.30 am Family Worship DIY Christmas Celebration

Tuesday 22nd December "Beer and Carols" in the Green Dragon.

St. Arbucks

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Tots on Tuesdays – if you care for a baby, new-born to 18 months, drop into St.Arbucks on any Tuesday morning to meet others for a friendly chat and cup of coffee.

The Food Cave for 13 – 17 year olds

Open every Tuesday 4.30 – 6.30 pm for young people to socialise and hang out. Prices will be subsidized. Run for and by local young people. Free WIFI available.



Wedding

Holly Anne LAUHLAN and **Jamie STEBBINGS** were married by Rev James Campbell at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington on Saturday 26th September 2015.

Baptisms

Theodora Tempest AUSTIN was baptised by Rev James Campbell at St Peter's Church, Little Cheverell on 24th October 2015.

Lucy Anne REYWARD was baptised by Rev James Campbell at St Peter's Church, Great Cheverell on 14th November 2015.

Funerals

Julie Maud Lillian WELLS of Market Lavington died on 3rd August 2015 aged 96 years. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life was held at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington on 17th September and her ashes were buried in the churchyard.

Josephine Pearl KING of Market Lavington died on 8th October aged 82 years. Her funeral and burial at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington took place on 22nd October 2015.

Lucy Margaret BELDERSON of West Lavington died aged 95 years on 8th October 2015. Her funeral at West Wilts Crematorium was on 26th October 2015.

Gladys Jean PEARCE of Market Lavington died on 31st July 2015, aged 94 years. Her ashes were buried at St Mary's Churchyard on 26th October 2015.

BENEFICE 200 CLUB

The winner of the first prize of £40 was Margaret Maddeford of West Lavington, and the winner of the second prize of £20 was Andrew Walker of Little Cheverell. The draw was done by Hazel Jennings of West Lavington.

Please note that having run the Club for ten years now I am handing it over to Bonnie Matters of Littleton Panell who will organise it for 2016 onwards.

Good luck to her, and thank you from me to all those kind enough to subscribe.

Quentin Goggs, Benefice Treasurer



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EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

"I wish it could be Christmas everyday" Really?

Yes, it's that time of year again. There are pressies to buy, cards to write and decorations to retrieve from the loft. Then there's the tree; do you go for a real one, or the thing you bought from Woolies years ago? Better not forget to order a turkey for the Big Day. Wonder what's going to be on telly? A Doctor Who special, I guess and other seasonal treats. And then there's the music. Stuff about sleigh bells, snow and Santa. "'Tis the season to be jolly", and we invest a huge amount of time, energy and dosh into making sure that Christmas is the time happiest of all.

"I wish it could be Christmas everyday" hollers the old Wizard hit. But who apart from wide-eyed little kids really thinks that? Once a year is quite enough, thanks. Anything else would drive us crackers. Yes, it's fun while it lasts. Family gatherings, giving and receiving gifts, and a slap up Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. What's not to like? But doing it all again everyday? "Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow..." in July? Maybe not.

In any case, even with all we throw at it, the joys of Christmas fizzle out all too soon. Perhaps that's because we've forgotten the "reason for the season". We all know that Jesus wasn't in fact born on 25th December, but that's the date on which we traditionally celebrate his coming into the world. His birth was announced by the angel of the Lord to some unsuspecting shepherds. They were rather startled at the sight of the angelic being, but he reassured them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord."

The birth of Jesus was an occasion of great joy because he had come as the Saviour. There is a direct line between Christmas and Easter. The Son of God came into the world as a human being in order to die on the cross for our sins and rise again so that we may be put right with God. The gifts we give and receive at Christmas time are a pale reflection of the greatest Gift God has given to the world, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." For those who receive God's gift of Jesus, the joy of Christmas is not just for everyday, but for eternity. Really.

Season's Greetings!

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

Christmas Services

20th December:

Morning Worship with Carols, 11.00am

"Time for Tea Plus" Christmas Special. Seasonal Sunday Tea at 4.30pm, followed by Carol Service.

25th December: Christmas Morning Service, 10.30am

MAGAZINE DATES

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

Copy for FEBRUAR 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

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Mon 10-11am Wyvern Club

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The scheme is run by local communities' charity Community First.
For more information about the Wheels to Work scheme please visit www.communityfirst.org.uk/Wheels-to-work.htm or call (01380) 722475 and ask for Liam Tatton-Bennett or Sheila Martin.

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