

News and Views

February 2017



Our New Rector

Rev. Marion Harrison

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Calendar of Services - February 2017 The Lavingtons, Cheverells & Easterton					
Date	Market Lavington	West Lavington	Easterton	Great Cheverell	Little Cheverell
5th February Presentation of Christ	10.30 am Benefice Worship Together All Saints' Church, West Lavington Sue Groom Archdeacon of Wiltshire				
8th February	7.00 pm at St Mary's Church, Market Lavington Licensing and Installation of Rev Marion Harrison as Priest in Charge of the Lavingtons, Cheverells and Easterton by the Bishop of Salisbury				
12th February	10.30 am at St Barnabas Church, Easterton Benefice Worship Together - including Trinity Church to welcome Rev Marion Harrison				
19th February	11.00 am Parish Communion	9.30 am Parish Communion		10.00 am Welcome to Worship ★	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)
26th February	9/9.30 am Breakfast Church ★ Old School, ML	9.30 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion	11.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)	
5th March	10.30 am Benefice Worship Together St Mary's Church, Market Lavington				

★ Suitable for all ages. Families welcome

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.

VILLAGE LINK

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

REFLECTION FROM REV MARION HARRISON

I wonder if like me you are in a state of what I call "holding my breath".

I find myself in this state every February and March. It's a time of watching and waiting. A time for hoping and looking forward expectantly for the signs of the Sun's return, the earth's awakening and the season of warmth and colour.

When I was a child, my father would tease me by asking if Spring had sprung yet. And I suppose the habit of looking for the signs of Spring are by now well and truly a part of who I am.

It starts with the lengthening of days. It is no longer dark when I get up in the mornings and the evenings are beginning to draw out. I know that, slowly, the Sun is moving back up from the southern hemisphere. There is no warmth in the light, the north wind still moves over the land and winter still lingers, threatening to hurl one last cold spell before giving up its hold.

I know Spring is coming. It comes every year. But for a second or two I wonder, will the cold never go, will winter last all year?
And then they appear, small and unobtrusive, but oh so welcome! At first just a few bravely pushing up through the soil and last year's leaf litter. Fresh, green and delicate, white heads bowed before the wind, the tiny Snowdrop lightens my heart. The promise of Spring is here, Winter's hold will be broken and the world of nature will awake.

And in my heart and soul I know the Son is coming and I rejoice.

News and Views is delighted to welcome Marion Harrison as Vicar of our Benefice and we wish her great happiness and fulfilment in her new role.

CHURCHWARDENS

All Saints, West Lavington:
St Peter's, Great Cheverell:
St Peter's, Little Cheverell:

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

ST PETER'S, LITTLE CHEVERELL

Our new vicar, The Revd Marion Harrison, will be taking her first service in St Peter's at 11 o'clock am. on Sunday 19th February. All parishioners will be particularly welcome to come along and help us to make Marion feel welcome and appreciated in our corner of the Benefice.

'OWL NIGHT'.

Please note that there will be no 'Owl Night' in February, BUT.....Back by popular demand (!!!) there will be a second QUIZ NIGHT, this time with a light supper of delicious local bread, cheeses, tomatoes and fruit, on Saturday 11th March at 7.00pm in Little Cheverell Village Hall.

As usual, please bring your own booze, plus glasses, plates and cutlery. There will be a £5 charge to cover the supper, and heating and light. For catering purposes, we need to know names and numbers by Wednesday 8th March, please.

Ann Walker. 812568. ann6andy7@btinternet.com
Louise Pye. lulupye@yahoo.com

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GREAT CHEVERELL VILLAGE HALL

Coffee Morning and Second Hand Book Sale

The first Coffee Morning and Book Sale proved popular and so we are repeating it in the New Year

On Saturday 11th February

in the Village Hall from 10 a.m until 12 Noon

We will be serving coffee and home made cake. On sale will be a wide variety of mainly paperback books, all in good condition. After Christmas if you thin out your book shelves we would hope you will donate them to help the Village Hall
Wendy Wilshin.

VILLAGE CAROL SINGING

The choir of West Lavington church was enlarged by the addition of several villagers who all passed the choir audition with flying colours! The princely sum of £65 was raised and this was made up to £100 with the addition of donations. Taking into account Gift Aid eligibility, the final total was £125 for Disasters Emergency Committee with special reference to Yemen. A tremendous effort by all concerned - thank you all so very much and our grateful thanks to The Haven , Dauntsey House and The Churchill for their hospitality.

Ann Walker.Little Cheverell

WEST LAVINGTON WEATHER 2016

Average Temperature for 2016	10.65C (51.17 F)
Average Temperature over 39 years	10.47C (50.84 F)
Total rainfall for 2016	772.5mm (30.4 ins)
Average rainfall over 39 years	913.0mm (35.9 ins)
Driest Month (July)	12.6mm (0.49ins)
Wettest Month (January)	114mm (4.48ins)
Wettest Day (November 21st)	29.6mm (1.16ins)
Lowest Overnight Temperature (January 20th)	-7.1C (19.2 F)
Highest Daytime Temperature (July 19th)	32.3C (90.1F)
Lowest Daytime Maximum Temperature (January 16th)	3.8C (38.8 F)
Highest Wind Speed (February 8th)	36 mph South Westerly
Lowest Barometric Pressure (March 27th)	970 mbs

To summarize – I guess each year comes with its own surprises as far the yearly weather figures are concerned.

For anyone who may keep these figures each year it will be noted that there is an overall similarity between 2015 and 2016 .

A long cool spring followed by a fairly cool summer with the odd exception .

Apart from the odd sleet shower early February and March no measurable snowfall has been recorded which will please some more than others !

Once more we have been very lucky in this area missing out on some of the very stormy weather that affects locations further North and West.

Meantime have a good 2017 and see what we can report next year.

MARKET LAVINGTON BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Mums & Chums

Thursdays 9.30-11.30 a.m.

The Old School, Market Lavington
Join us every week

For playing, crafts, songs and a snack
£1.50 per child/£1 per
baby/£2 per family

Contact Claire Williams 07817 031858

Simone Wilmot 07771 611595

Or via our Facebook page

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL

If you are planning an event for the New Year, why not consider hiring our very much improved Village Hall. Now, with cosy heating, ambient lighting and affordable hire rates, please use your local facility and support our plans for further improvements.

Lynne Rayner
Secretary West Lavington Village Hall.

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE?

Restorative Justice is about victims and offenders communicating in a supported environment to discuss the harm that has been caused and how to find a way to repair that harm.

Restorative Justice can be used in a variety of situations from antisocial behaviour and neighbourhood disputes to the most serious of crimes.

For victims, meeting the person who has harmed them can be a huge step in moving forward and recovering from crime.

For offenders, the experience can be very challenging as it confronts them with the personal impact of their crime.

When can Restorative Justice happen?

There are three basic requirements that must be met before communication can take place:

1. The offender must accept responsibility for the crime
2. Both the victim and the offender must be willing to participate
3. It has to be safe for both the victim and the offender to be involved in the process.
4. If you would like to take part or find out more about Restorative Justice as a result of reading this please contact:

Email: restorativetgether@wiltshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

Phone: 01380 861280

Web: www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/

Information can also be found on West Lavington Parish

Council Web-site at www.westlavington.org.uk/

NEW ADVERTISER - SCAFFOLDING

My name is Pete Cadwgan, I live in Great Cheverell. I started a scaffolding company called ISCAFF Wilts Ltd in February 2016 with the aim to be a friendly and very professional scaffolding company. Having used a large amount of scaffolding in a previous business, I identified the need for a wholly professional, reliable and polite scaffolding service.

We have seen very good growth in our first year and looking forward to our second. Our office is on Hopton Industrial Estate and we work out of a yard local to Great Cheverell. If you are looking for scaffold access for any project, please do give us a call on 01380 726999.

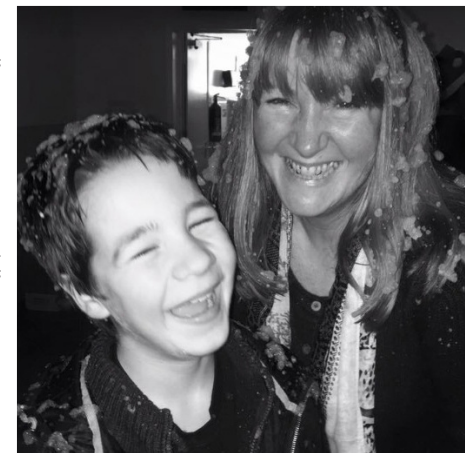
CHARITABLE CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FESTIVE CAROLLING IN AID OF ROBERT'S PLAYGROUND

What a wonderful start to Christmas!

Over 150 people gathered for an evening of carol singing in aid of Robert's Playground. Candles and fairy lights lit the hall, and everyone had a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours during the breaks from singing, while raising money for a really great local cause. To the delight of the children, there was even snow !!!

A really big "thank you" to everyone who baked cakes and biscuits, those who ran the BBQ and bar, and everyone who came and sang so enthusiastically!! A special mention too to DAPS's Mrs Kerr who expertly led the evenings proceedings. And thank you to David Hayden-Smith who did a wonderful reading of 'Twas the night before Christmas'.

Annie, Becky and Hilary



THE 'ANNUAL BOXING DAY CHARITY FOOTBALL AND AUCTION'

Football Game:

Teams were captained and organised this year by Pat McCabe, West Lavington, and Jake Flower, Market Lavington (stood in for John Gentry). The teams were a mix of locals from West and Market Lavington, Great Cheverell and surrounding areas. Some currently have played in local football and rugby teams and others are sporting fans. This year, the Charity was Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Auction:

The event continues in the afternoon at the Churchill Arms West Lavington for the auction (for years organised by Martin Hayward, West Lavington). This year the Churchill Arms picked up the baton) - and lots were donated by local Artist Adrian Hopkinson, Michelle Miles - cleaning service, Leon Hancox - decorating service, Nicki Douglas-Lee - canvas print, Rose and Crown Tilshead - meal for two, The Bear Hotel Devizes - afternoon tea and the Florists in Market Lavington - gift voucher.

THE LAVINGTONS HOME GROUP

Our new home group study for 2017 is from The Bible Society.

The course is an interactive journey through the whole Bible story and has 8 sessions of DVD's and small group discussion. There is a course manual (150 pages) packed with notes, quotes and visuals. (I've ordered 12 to start us off with!) The course follows the storyline of the bible from cover to cover (Genesis to Revelation). Along the way it shows how to interpret the Bible and apply its message to our lives today.

The course is suitable for seekers, new Christians and mature Christians. The material looks fascinating!

The intention is then to do a traditional bible study on Matthew - without a DVD.

Meetings will still be at Mark and Caroline's - 46 High Street, West Lavington. Start time is 7.30 for tea/coffee and biscuits before the DVD! These sessions will be run by Michael Challinor, Mark Spindlow, Anne Wilson and myself. Great to be able to share the leading out!!

1st February	15th March Study on Matthew begins
8th February (No meeting 15.2 - half term)	22nd March
22nd February	29th March
1st March	5th April
8th March - Final Bible Society session	Easter break.

Caroline Spindlow

FIREWORKS – EARLY WARNING

Dauntsey's school Chinese pupils will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Wednesday 1st February with the customary, albeit brief, firework display at 7.00 p.m. Apologies to those within earshot – human and canine

THE TUESDAY CLUB (Day Centre)

Market Lavington

Joint Organiser Part time

We are looking for someone who would like to be involved in helping our senior citizens enjoy their Club on Tuesdays. This is a paid position.

It involves organizing the day beforehand and assisting them on the day.

The Joint Organisers rotate the role between them on alternate months. If you are interested contact **Barbara Galloway** on 01380 699978 and spend a little time finding out what is involved.

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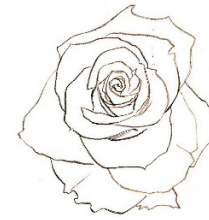
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THE LADIES' ROOM

West Lavington Village Hall,

Saturday 18 March, 7pm – 10pm.

Ladies - you are invited to come along to our 'Ladies' Room 2017' evening, a PoD (People of Dauntsey Academy Primary) event, to raise funds for our local school.

The Ladies' Room is a fun opportunity for Mums, Daughters, Friends and Girls of all ages (from 14 years), to come together for pampering and a little retail therapy ahead of Mothers' Day.

This year we have extended the range of therapists offering taster treatments for £5 a session, from Indian Head Massage and Bowen Technique, to Mini Manicures and Henna Tattoos, and Ear Candling to Reiki. Book your session early to avoid disappointment!

We also have some fantastic stall holders – Stella and Dot with a beautiful jewellery range; Jamerry for a special nail finish; Neal's Yard products; Cositas Bonitas and much more including a Gin Bar.... Browse and perhaps buy that special something for a loved one or maybe yourself!

Tickets £7.50 (to include a glass of fizz and nibbles) and to pre-book treatments contact Gaile Bishop on 01249 816665. Tickets also available on the door on the evening.

An event for a local school with local therapists and businesses promoting their skills and products. More therapists welcome, and donations for the raffle - please contact Gaile if you are able to help or with any queries.

We look forward to welcoming you at 'The Ladies' Room 2017'.

Thank you



Lavington Community Choir would like to thank everyone who came to its Festive Evening of Song and Entertainment on Thursday December 15th. The Market Lavington Community Hall was packed for a concert that included excerpts from Handel's Messiah, Silent Night and the Wexford carol as well as Peace White Dove, Sold

Down the River and 500 Miles. After a supper provided by choir members the second half comprised items performed by members of the choir, their families and friends. Next term began on Thursday 5th January at 8 p.m. for 8.15 and already we are making a start on music for our summer concert. West Side Story will be on the programme and musical director Paula is deciding which more classical music we shall be working on too. As usual it will be a mixed programme with something for everyone. So if you would like to add your voice on Thursdays at 8 for 8.15, please contact paula@paulaboyagis.plus.com or jimmdonovan70@gmail.com for more information. We are a community choir and everyone is welcome, there are no auditions, we look forward to welcoming you.

"SPIRITUS EQUIS"

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Our team consists of a number of professionals who are qualified in equine assisted learning and therapeutic approaches.

Many people comment that they have found working with the horses to be fun, helpful, mentally stimulating and curiously relaxing.

No horse riding, this all happens on your feet.

We can cater for children 9 years and above (Under 16's will need to be accompanied by an adult).

Spiritus Equis volunteers and sponsorship needed.

We are an organisation working with horses. We have a small family run yard and are looking for volunteers and sponsorship to enable us to develop and help more people.

Volunteering

We are looking for some help with our horses. This could suit a person who likes being active and out doors with practical common sense. Ideally some previous experience with horses an advantage but not essential, however loving animals is!!

Sponsorship

Would you or a group of people be able to sponsor a horse? This would enable us to offer more sessions to young people in the local community. We are looking to put on a free club for children that may find the transition from primary to secondary school difficult once a week.

Do you like organising fundraising events? If so we'd love to meet you!!

Our website is spiritusequis.uk please do take a look or find us on Facebook - Spiritus Equis and Instagram. We are based in Gt Cheverell.

phone Clare : 01380 812174 or email clare@spiritusequis.uk



EDINGTON ARTS' FIRST 2017 CONCERT

Edington Arts is launching its 2017 programme with their first concert by a string sextet, The Chamber Players of St John, on Saturday March

25th at 7.30pm in Edington Priory Church .

Principal players from the Orchestra of St John Smith Square, London will perform lovely, melodic chamber works by Richard Strauss, Borodin and Brahms.

The Chamber Players have performed at various Festivals in the UK, and have toured widely in Europe. Individually the players have performed with many leading orchestras including appearing in Dustin Hoffman's film 'Quartet'.

Tickets are £20/15/10 with a 10% discount for Edington Angels and 18 and under free, (add £2 on the door) by phone from Chrissy on 01380 831256 or by email from sue@edingtonarts.org. Full programme information, and the full list of 2017 events, can be found on the Edington Arts website, www.edingtonarts.org

NEW EDINGTON FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

The 62nd Edington Festival of Music (August 20th – 27th 2017) will have a new Director.

Richard Pinel is taking over from Benjamin Nicholas, who has directed the Festival for four years. Richard is Director of Music at Jesus College, Cambridge, moving from St George's Chapel, Windsor where he has been Assistant Director of Music for a number of years. He is well-known as a brilliant organist and choral director, and has invaluable experience as a church musician, having previously served at Magdalen College, Oxford, and at St Alban's College. Planning for the 2017 Festival, and beyond, is already well under way, with the theme already chosen: The Beatitudes.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!

ERLESTOKE HOUSE FARM SHOP HMP ERLESTOKE

Become a Volunteer working in this new and worthwhile enterprise! We are looking for volunteers to work in our Farm Shop, which is open 3 days a week for 3 hours per day, to allow for opening and closing up, minimum of one day per month/6weeks.

THE SHOP HOURS are: Wednesday Thursday Friday 12 - 3.00

Reliable Volunteers are needed, with an outgoing friendly personality to assist customers purchasing and ordering goods from the shop. References required.

Erlestoke Farm Shop is situated on B3098 between Little Cheverell and Erlestoke

Erlestoke House Farm Shop is a registered Community Interest Company

Contact for further information:

Email: janinehodson1@gmail.com

Mobile: Janine: 07917 691034

NEPAL OR BUST!

The Long Walk For The Children of Nepal

Friends,

Don't all children deserve love, security, and a warm, safe place to sleep at night? In Nepal, that is often not the case. In Kathmandu, for example, children live in the city dump. There is no health care for these kids, and the route to survival is often through human trafficking, prostitution and crime, with drugs to dull the pain. Our friend of many years, Sue Hamblin, established a UK based charity in 2013 called the Nestling Trust. The Nestling Trust is building a home for 20 destitute kids in Nepal. This is going to be a real home with properly trained, loving staff. Our part to help these children is this: We are going to walk the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. Often called "The Way of Saint James, we are going to walk 466 miles/750 kilometres to raise money to help build the home in the village of Sarangkot, Nepal. Our goal is to raise \$1,500/£1000. Many of us often feel helpless; we feel as if we can't make a difference in the world. In this case there is something we can all do to make a BIG difference. Mark and I are donating 2 months to walk the distance. We will start at St. Jean Pied de Port, France, on April 7 and will finish by June 7, 2017, ending at Santiago de Compostela in Spain. We hope you will consider donating to this endeavor. Just think, as little as \$2 or £1.50 will buy a blanket to help furnish the home and keep a child warm at night, against the freezing Nepal winters.

For more information about the Nestling Trust, please go to www.Nestlingtrust.co.uk. Click on the "Fundraising" page for more information about our walk and how to donate. You can also look at our donation page at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/nancychristmanreilly1>

Every penny that you donate will be spent on the home and health care. Please consider helping these children. Nepal needs a break!

Love to all of you, Mark and Nancy Reilly

LAVINGTON AND DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB 2017



Location: DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL

SUNDAY 4.00pm to 5.00pm

TUESDAY 7.00pm to 8.30pm

SPRING TERM

Starts Tuesday 10th JAN 2017

Last Swim Thursday 21st MAR 2017

Half Term 10th February to 19th February

No swimming on 29th January as it is a School's Exeat Day

Membership fees £30 for Individuals

£60 for family, per term

Guests are welcome accompanied by a member for a fee of £3 for

Adults and £1.50 for Children. Taster Sessions Available

For further details about joining the Club please phone

Phil Richardson Membership Secretary Tel: 01380 813485 or email:

phil.0727@hotmail.co.uk or Anita Holness, Committee Secretary

email: anita@kholness.plus.com

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SCHOOL COMMUNITY GOVERNOR VACANCY

Although some schools struggle to appoint directors to the governing board, Lavington has always been fortunate in having sufficiently interested parents, guardians and members of the community that we have only had occasional vacancies on our board. However, some long serving governors have recently left and to keep the balance between parents and non-parents we are now seeking community members to join the Governing Board.

Governors are very much valued at Lavington, which as an academy enjoys a degree of autonomy which the Governors oversee, the role is interesting and rewarding and need not take too much of your time. Our governors tend to be busy people so we work hard to make meetings efficient and meaningful. There are about 6 full meetings per year, but much of the work takes place at small committee meetings (also termly) of around 3 or 4 governors with one member of the senior leadership team. Occasionally special interest groups are formed to oversee particular projects (e.g. 6th form or multi-academy trust).

Full meetings are generally at 6:30 pm and committee meeting vary to suit the individuals concerned, they typically last about 90 minutes.

You do not need experience and there is no qualification that makes a good governor, although you may happen to have some skills which we would put to good use in for example the law and young people, safeguarding or special educational needs. Enthusiasm and a willingness to listen, learn and contribute are more important than anything else.

Governors are expected to read around the subject, keeping themselves informed of Lavington school life, expectations of Governors and best practice. To help this at Lavington we subscribe to the National Governors Association and encourage Governors to take on training as required.

This is an important time for Lavington School and I would welcome the opportunity to speak to any member of the community who might like to be involved. Please call or email me if you would like to find out more. A formal application would then be sought followed by an interview.

Robert Lee, Chair of Lavington Governors
chair@lavington.wilts.sch.uk

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE HALL Hire Rates from 1st October 2016

Rates per hour Day – 8 am-6 pm Evening 6pm - midnight	Weekday (Mon-Fri)		Weekend (Sat & Sun)	
	Local & Charity	Other	Local & Charity	Other
Hall - Daytime	£7.00	£8.00	£8.00	£10.00
Hall - Evening	£9.00	£10.00	£10.00	£12.00
Giles Meeting Room - Day	£5.00	£5.50	£6.00	£6.50
Giles Meeting Room - Eve	£6.00	£7.50	£7.00	£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.

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TO HELP US COMPLETE OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN For West Lavington

We need volunteers with particular skills/experience and time to join our Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The Plan will help ensure the community gets the developments it wants and prevent those it doesn't want.

Last year the community determined its vision for housing development and a draft plan was produced.

For various reasons several key team members are now unable to continue - but there is much work still to do.

The Neighbourhood Plan is the biggest decision for this parish in many years and a great deal of effort and public money has so far enabled us to make substantial progress.

But without further volunteers to help complete the Plan there is a real danger the community's vision for development will remain unfulfilled.

Please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council as soon as possible at clerk@westlavington.org.uk

Volunteers are not paid
because they are worthless but
because they are priceless!
**YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS
YOU**

WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE

Familiarity with development plans and the granting of planning permissions is an asset. However, we need people who during the next one/two years can help with any individual parts of the process and pieces of specific work involving:

Planning

- Reading and understanding technical planning reports including specialist terminology
- Undertaking internet based research into planning related topics including legal requirements of the plan making process
- Working with maps and plans and understanding the types of information that can be plotted on them
- Reviewing the plan in light of representations

Communicating

- Understanding communication methods including social media
- Preparing summary leaflets for public consultation including writing text, agreeing layouts and liaising with printers
- Designing community surveys to obtain information and opinions and to process and collate representations made so that clear results can be obtained
- Preparing reports for the Steering Group and Parish Council

Liaising

- Liaising with Wiltshire Council technical officers and, if required, developers, in order to manage and advance the Plan process
- Project managing technical work by consultants to ensure that the brief is fulfilled and timescales and budgets are adhered to
- Ability to give public presentations

Money

- Applying for grant funding

If you yourself are unable to help but you know of someone who may be able to then please tell them or, if they agree, give our Clerk their details.

Thank you!

Sandra Gamble
Chair - West Lavington Parish Council, January 2017

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A MESSAGE FROM RICHARD GAMBLE

Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division

As you read this, I would ask you to spare a thought for all those who have made this magazine possible – the editor and the contributors, the compiler and the printer, the advertisers and the distributors. It's quite a team and, as far as I know, the work is more or less all done by unpaid volunteers. It is, and they are, a credit to the community. A parish magazine reporting a healthy mix of local events, services, facilities and people is rather reassuring when national media often portrays the world as increasingly uncertain.

Part of the pleasure for me is that the magazine is in print. A great part of my time is spent in front of a computer screen and most of the communications I receive come electronically in the form of emails or texts. Likewise, much of the information I need is obtained via the internet – and a wonderful resource it is. The scope is infinite and instant. When I entered "parish magazines" into Google (other search engines are available) I received 604,000 results in less than a second. Amazing!

Yet the digital world also seems ephemeral. I have recently been looking through old family albums and other archives that provide a tangible link to the past. I have found much to treasure. In contrast, the information and images that in times past would have been on paper are now stored on computer. If the computer fails (as mine did not long ago), what then? "Back-up!" you might say, but my attempts at that were only partly successful. My address book of 20 years ago has proved to be a more reliable source of contacts than my Contacts page on Outlook that went down with the computer.

About 15 years ago, I stored stuff on floppy discs, some of which I still have. I doubt if I will ever again get access to whatever is there. Indeed, I defy anyone to find their way through my computer records now. This piece, for example, is filed as "C:\Users\richard.gamble\Documents\A Message\2017\15-01-17". It doesn't exactly attract the eye (and nor should it, you may think!).

Like the real world, the digital world is ever changing so who knows what electronic gadgetry will store and transmit information in years to come. It will, I am sure, be wonderful – as long as the internet continues to be accessible. My instinct, however, is that if you want a permanent record, put it on paper - like this magazine.

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

Precept: The Parish Council has set the precept for its part of the Council Tax for 2017/18. The new annual rate is £64.21 for a Band D house (an increase of £1.26). The Parish Council supports community assets and amenities such as the Village Hall, the Youth Club, the BMX track and Robert's Playground. It maintains rights of way and enables new projects including the Neighbourhood Plan. The council also provides facilities for the elderly and pays for overheads such as the clerk's salary, insurance, waste collection and grass cutting. Contributions from Wiltshire Council will be Nil from 2017/18.

Neighbourhood Plan - volunteers: The consultation last year determined the community's vision for housing development in the parish. However, there is still work to be done to complete the processes required to take the Neighbourhood Plan to the referendum stage. The Parish Council is looking for new volunteers with particular skills and the time to join its Steering Group. If you think you can help or know of someone who might, please see further details of what's needed in this edition of News & Views.

Anti-Dog Fouling campaign: The anti dog-fouling campaign has been launched with posters around the villages and on footpaths and surrounding farmland. Dog owners are asked again to ensure that dog excrement is not left abandoned causing potential health risks to children and death to farm animals. Dogs being exercised on the playing fields are now required to be on a lead at all times.

Database: The Parish Council is in the early stages of creating a database of email addresses for residents who wish to receive information relating to parish council business. We will not replace any of the current means of communication but emails will allow us to bring information about issues and events such as public meetings and planning applications to your notice more quickly. Information of what's involved, how to sign up and our operating policy are available on the Parish Council website. Don't be left out!

The Great British Spring Clean - pride in our neighbourhood

West Lavington parish is gearing up for the 'Great British Spring Clean' on Saturday, March 4th. Like 'Clean for the Queen', this is a nation-wide project. But, at local level, the Parish Council intends to be out in force to get our local streets, signs, bus shelters and playing fields ready for spring. Your help is needed and very welcome. Please watch out for more information. We hope you can be there. After the Clean up, warm food will be available (not free of charge!) along with the Twinning Association who will be providing food for their members and friends in the Village Hall at that time.

CCTV at Village Hall: Following several months of vandalism to and around the Village Hall, the police have installed CCTV cameras at the Village Hall for a period of three months. The Parish Council is also considering potential requirements for longer term arrangements.

Sandra Gamble, Chairman

If you have ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT the Clerk to the Parish Council, Kaye Elston, on 07782 251464 or at clerk@westlavington.org.uk. The Parish Council website is at www.westlavington.org.uk.

CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

The Council has met twice since the last issue, in December and January. The key issues were:

- Following the vacancy caused by the resignation of Jane Andrew, formal Notices were published. As no parishioners called for an Election, the Council has co-opted Andy Alexander to the Council. Welcome, Andy ! He's already hard at work on Emergency Planning issues (see the point on First Aid training below).
- The new Community Policing model has been welcomed. This has resulted in an increased Police focus on rural areas like ours, with regular reporting of issues of concern, and a notable increase in speeding checks by uniformed officers (who have the power to hand out Fixed Penalty Notices). So please don't speed through our village – the risk of getting caught has significantly increased !
- The Council is arranging First Aid training for parishioners. This is only likely to take a couple of hours of your time, and will be free (although a formal Certificate can be issued for £35 if this would be useful, e.g. for employment purposes). Please indicate your interest to the Clerk, so we can work out how many sessions will be necessary

The issue that will be of most concern to parishioners relates to the 2017/18 Precept, which directly impacts on Council Tax bills. The Council is facing a number of financial pressures, such as increasing insurance costs, grounds maintenance work to keep our village looking neat, and Health & Safety work on the playground. Against that, savings are being made where possible, and the budget is tightly controlled. But an increase is inevitable. So the budget for 2017/18 has been set at £9,374, which is a 6.7% increase on last year (even though we're only spending another £400). However, this only represents an increase of £2.41 a year for the average household, which is less than a pint in The Bell or a good Sunday paper. So hopefully you won't be too annoyed.

Chris Hall, Parish Clerk

Phone: 01380 816983 Email: parishcouncil@greatcheverell.org

LITTLE CHEVERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on 11th January 2017 in little Cheverell Village Hall.

The following were the main items discussed.

- 1.Public Forum** – A member of the public reported that he had heard, through the 'Neighbourhood Watch alerts' scheme, that two sheds had been broken into in W Lavington. If any Little Cheverell resident would like to be included in the 'alerts' mailing please contact brainc@btinternet.com
- 2.Planning Applications**- There were no objections to an application from Manor Farm House regarding a porch extension and associated works.
- 3.The Parish Steward Scheme** – The parish steward had concentrated on drain clearance and maintenance on his December working day. He also dealt with repairs to chevrons near the village hall and to a reflector on a post along Low Road. Please contact Sue on 813439 or suevey3@aol.com to report any issues that you notice. The Parish Steward comes to Little Cheverell for one day every month.
- 4.Low Road 20 mph** – No update
- 5.Low Broadband speed** –No update
- 6.Defibrillator** – the Parish Council has agreed to the installation of a defibrillator in the telephone kiosk, to be leased from the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust. Included within the lease agreement is training, which the Parish Council considers to be vital. Julia Doel, Assistant Community Responder Officer of South Western Ambulance Service will give a presentation to village residents at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7 p.m., 15th March.



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NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Outstanding Results

We were delighted to receive a letter from the Regional Schools' Commissioner, Rebecca Clark, congratulating us on being one of the highest performing schools in the whole of the South West region! This is a great achievement for a little rural school in the heart of Wiltshire. Whilst this letter refers only to our outstanding academic results, we are always just as proud of our children's achievement in all areas – they are people of compassion, courage, aspiration and joy and they achieve extraordinarily well across the breadth of the curriculum. It is a delight to see how they care for each other, and how they accept responsibility as citizens of our little community and of the world. The Christian values and ethos of our school provide the foundation on which all excellence is built within a loving and supportive community.

This outcome is a tribute to our extraordinarily talented and inspirational staff, our amazing children, supportive governors and engaged parents who make such a great achievement possible.

Theme for this term

We are using as our theme this term "Take One Lion", from the Longleat Education programme. We shall learn a lot about real lions, their habitat and physiology, and also a lot about lions in art, poetry, heraldry and as emblems and symbols. There are photos on our Facebook page showing some of the art that has been done on the theme this term. Most of our children will also have a trip to Longleat to see lions in the safari park and lions in art works and on furniture in the house. These field trips provide great inspiration for their learning.

Demographic of our school

A recent analysis of the addresses of our children showed that only 38% of our children come from one of our four catchment villages (Great and Little Cheverell, Erlestoke and Coulston). All the other children come from other villages and towns locally. Our admissions policy gives first priority to those in our catchment area, then to those outside the catchment who have siblings in our school, then to those outside the catchment who can provide a Christian faith qualification and then to all others, with tie breaks being decided on distance from the school. We are very fortunate in having our classrooms full – this means that we can continue to fund our rich and exciting learning programme provided by experienced and talented staff, since funding is dependent on the number of children in the school.

Every day is an open day

If you think your child would enjoy being at our school, please make an appointment to come and visit us, have a look around and chat to the Headteacher. There is lots of information on our website www.holy-trinity.co.uk and our phone number is 01380 813796.



LAVINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

This term, at Lavington Pre-school, we are delighted to have 4 new starters, Samuel, James, Prathy and Frankie. We welcome them and their families to our Pre-school. Everyone has settled in well after the Christmas holiday and has come back refreshed and ready to have fun

This term the children's investigations have been centred on "Messy Making". As part of this we have been getting very busy and messy with junk modelling, marble painting, bubble paint blowing, hand printing and we've been making some shaving foam cakes! As always, if you feel you have something relevant that you would like to share with the children 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.

TOP TIP: Our Top Tip for this month is from the EYFS Expressive arts and design: 'Accept wholeheartedly young children's creations and help them to see them as something unique and valuable.'

CO-OP FUNDING: Every time Co-op members use their Co-op Membership card 1% of what they spend will go to their chosen local cause. If you have a Co-op membership card we would be very grateful if you would please select us as one of your local causes, thank you.

2 YEAR OLD FUNDING: You may eligible, if you have a child between 24 - 36 months old, for up to 15 hours funded childcare per week you 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



Saint-Pierre
d'Autils

WEST LAVINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

By the time you read this we will have held our Chinese New Year evening .

Our next function is to offer a lunch of soup and sandwiches for ALL in the village hall at West Lavington on Saturday, March 4th (please see Parish Council article).

In May there will be a Spanish evening (details to follow). Our news from St Pierre is that the village of St Pierre has now been merged administratively with 2 adjacent villages. For those who write to friends in St Pierre the postal address is now slightly different. Please ask me for details.

Do send me an email if you would like to join us. I look forward to hearing from you!

Michael Page, Secretary (818510)

Lavington & District Gardening Club

Meetings held **3rd Wednesday of each month** at
West Lavington village hall at **7.15pm**.

Why not come and see how our club can help you make the most of your garden.

Gardening Tip

10 Spooky Plants for Halloween
Here's a few suggestions for spooky plants that will add a certain something to your Halloween party.
1.Chinese Lantern: 2.Buddha's Hand: 3.Black Iris:4. Chinese Black Batflowers: 5.Dracula Orchid: 6.Venus Fly Trap: 7.Pitcher Plant: 8.Dolls Eyes: 9.Corpse Plant.
10.Three-coloured Blushing Bromeliad

Next Meeting: Wed February 19th

Subject: No Dig Abundance

Guest Speaker: Charles Dowding

Monthly Competition: Vase
of Mixed Flowers

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Angel Tree Project: On 14th November our Branch Leader, Janet Hodges, very kindly hosted a delicious lunch which was enjoyed by all in attendance. Our main topic for discussion was the Angel Tree Project. This project was set up by Prison Fellowship with the aim of supporting prisoners in their family relationships by providing a way for them to give Christmas presents to their children and help to prevent prisoners from re-offending. Local volunteers help to raise money to purchase the gifts. Prison Fellowship has been supported by Mothers' Union since 2013 at Erlestoke Prison and 2014 at Guys Marsh Prison, Dorset.

Angel Tree was founded in 1982 in America by Mary Kay Beard, who was actually an ex-prisoner herself, having served part of a 22 year sentence for burglary, grand larceny and robbery. She had a Christian upbringing but later became involved in crime and was arrested by the FBI and sent to prison. It was during her time in prison that God changed her life. When she was released from prison she was invited in 1981 to apply for the position of Area Director for Prison Fellowship and one of her first assignments was to organise a Christmas project. She remembered the children that she had seen visiting their mothers in prison and she told the mothers that if they would give her the names and addresses of where the children lived she would do her best to bring Christmas to them. She received permission to erect Christmas trees in two shopping malls and decorated them with red angels for girls and green for boys. She then advertised for people to come and buy Christmas for an angel, mentioning that the children were victims of crime because they were not responsible for what their parent had done. This produced an amazing result and in less than a week she had to go back not only to her previous prison but to several others, requesting more names. At the end of that first Christmas 556 children received Angel Tree gifts. Angel Tree is currently running in over 80 prisons across England and Wales.

On 12th December our members met in the Village Hall, West Lavington, together with our Diocesan President, Rosie Stiven and other Mothers' Union members from the Diocese of Salisbury to wrap presents for the Angel Tree project, following a short Communion Service.

Annual General Meeting: The first meeting of 2017 took place on Monday, 9th January. It began with a short Communion Service led by our Deanery Chaplain, Revd Jennifer Haynes. This was followed by our Annual General Meeting. Janet Hodges welcomed members to the meeting, including a new member, Mrs Leslie Doyle-Davidson. Before the business of the meeting was discussed we spent a few moments reflecting on the life of our late member, Mary Davison, and Janet reminded us of the important contribution Mary had made to the work of our branch over the years. The programme for the year was outlined and a copy of the accounts distributed. Janet thanked members for their support during the year and in turn members expressed their sincere appreciation to Janet for all her hard work.

Next Meeting: Monday, 13th February, at 2.15pm when Sue Hamblin will be giving a talk on the Nestling Trust.

Val Noviss



Who would have thought that a talk about pests and diseases could be so entertaining. At our first meeting of 2017 Chris Bird, a Lecturer at Sparsholt College, held the audience in his thrall while imparting copious amounts of information about how to prevent pests and diseases

from invading our gardens. He constantly engaged the audience by asking questions and allocating points for correct answers. The evening seemed to pass very quickly and there was plenty of laughter. At the end of the evening there was a useful session that dealt with specific problems brought to our attention by individuals.

Despite the general levity of the occasion there was a lot of useful information. Topics covered included light levels, aspect, shelter, companion planting, creating micro environments and the use of nematodes. We were advised to take heed of the instructions on new purchases and to plant shade loving plants in shade and sun lovers in sunny patches. There was much embarrassed squirming when it was suggested that some of us might make an impulse buy and when we got home find that there was not a suitable gap in the garden for this new plant, and it then failed to flourish when we planted it somewhere unsuitable. Those who had collections of plants such as pelargoniums or dahlias were advised to establish a quarantine area where they could keep new purchases. Research has shown that 6 weeks in quarantine is sufficient to produce evidence of diseases or pests that could spread to your existing plants.

We learned that encouraging wildlife in the garden could lead to a balance whereby pests co-existed with predators and therefore damage to plants was minimised. We were encouraged to put a CD sized hole in solid fencing to allow free movement of hedgehogs, frogs and toads. Putting a flat stone somewhere for thrushes to use as an anvil could help keep the snail population in check. Habitat piles and bug houses provide homes for predators that keep pests under control.

One very useful tip was that if you used purchased nematodes to control pests for 3 years running it was very likely that your soil would develop a natural stock of that nematode and you would not need to make further purchases. We were advised that some plants were best avoided because of current national outbreaks of pests and diseases. For instance plant nurseries are now selling other hedging plants to replace box because of the prevalence of box blight. Heuchera plants, unless from a reliable source, often harbour vine weevil.

For our February meeting we are pleased to welcome back the ever popular Millie Carmichael. Her talk about permaculture will explain that we can learn from nature how to have maximum abundance with minimum effort. Meet at Great Cheverell Village Hall on Tuesday 14 February at 7.15pm for a 7.30 start. There will be a charge of £2 for non members.

Rupert Wade appealed for anyone pruning willow to save the prunings to use at the March meeting where there will be a willow weaving demonstration. There will also be the opportunity for 'having a go' at making obelisks and other structures.



WORTON AND CHEVERELL F.C.

We were visited by head of Wilts FA Football Development Officer and Chair of Wilts FA to present our Charter Standard plaque for which we will find a suitable location to display.

As we continue to help to grow the teams and age groups concerned, we are looking for people who wish to enter coaching for youth football, so interested – even if you don't have children in our teams

then please get in touch with our Secretary Vicky Goddard. The club will handle all governance documentation etc. Head or assistant coach trainees welcome!

Not many games have been played since last report, but highlight of the month has been the Under 14's in the top Mid-Wilts league.

Sunday 8th saw the U14 team deliver a very encouraging performance against arch rivals Devizes Town. A close encounter, particularly in the first half was eventually won by Worton & Cheverell 5-1 after a tremendous second half performance. The team now sit 3rd in their first season in this division.

Team updates:

Our younger age groups are still looking for more players to join in and have fun whilst learning and developing skills, so please get in touch if your child (boys and girls) would be interested.

- U5's/6's Training will resume in March when it warms up a little!
- U7's and U8's training on Friday evenings at Northbrook starting at 5:30pm.
- U9's training on Friday evenings at Northbrook starting at 6:00pm
- U10 numbers growing all the time and wins still keep coming. Training will continue on Friday evenings at 7.00pm.
- U11 training on Friday evenings at Northbrook starting 5:30pm. The team are enjoying the muddy start to this year so far J
- U13 continue to do well in U13 Green league.
- U14 maintaining a 3rd position in U14 Blue league.

We have spaces in the following teams and would welcome any new joiners (boys and girls) who are interested in learning, developing and playing football. Please contact managers.

U5/6 – Mark Goddard – 01380 813160

U7 and U8 – Sharon Black 01380 818193

U11 – Neil Black – 01380 818193

U13 – Stewart Swann - 01380 812329

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

FEBRUAT AT TRINITY CHURCH

in the Community Hall, Market Lavington

Sunday 4th 10.30 am Family Communion Rev Gary Gotham
Followed by lunch at the Green Dragon and special presentation to Mrs Pat Hale.

Sunday 12th 10.30 am join with our Anglican friends to welcome Rev Marion Harrison
at St Barnabas Church, Easterton

Sunday 19th 10.30 am Mrs Janet Tanner
Sunday 26th 10.30 am Local arrangement

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Casual Cuppa – Friday 2nd December 10.30 am to noon. Drop- in for coffee and company.

Bob and Ash 's Bacon Breakfast – Saturday 10th December 9.00 – 2.00 pm.

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 in term time 4.30 – 6.30 pm for young people to socialize and hang out. Prices are subsidized. Run for and by local young people. Free WIFI available.



Nothing Recieved this Month

BENEFICE 200 CLUB


Welcome to the first draw of 2017. Anyone holding a ticket has the chance of 24 wins so let us hope you are lucky this year. The first draw of 017 was done by Father Hawthorne from Devizes who pulled out Bridget Green's ticket for first prize of £40 from Littleton Panell and and Stephen Westley's ticket of Great Cheverell for £20 second prize. Not bad for a first month costing you £1.00 for January with 22 other chances still to go. It is not too late to buy a ticket costing £11 now since the first draw has taken place. If you are interested in joining this scheme please ring Bonnie Matters for a ticket. 01380 816133.

Good luck next month.



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EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Thoughts from La La Land

I don't like to boast, but just recently I did something that might be considered beyond the call of husbandly duty. I took my wife to see the all singing, all dancing chick flick, La La Land. I probably owed her one for taking her to watch Silence some weeks before. Let's just say Silence, devoted to exploring the themes of faith and suffering wasn't exactly your average rom-com. No boy meets girl. No fulfilling of dreams. Definitely no dancing. My kind of film.

But hey, what can you do? It's not all about me, so we went to La La Land. She liked it. I suppose it was enjoyable enough. If you like that kind of thing. One line in particular hit home. Mia (Emma Stone) encourages Seb (Ryan Gosling) to pursue his dream of setting up a jazz club. She says to him, 'People love what other people are passionate about.'

There's something in that. Enthusiasm is infectious. If someone is fired up about something it makes you want to listen to what they have to say. Whether it's about the exploits of a favourite sports team, a hobby, or whatever.

La La Land is full of beautiful people for whom good things happen. It's a nice piece of romantic escapism. Silence is more gritty and real, forcing us to face up to human cruelty and suffering. There's a line in that film too that gives us pause for thought. The priest Rodrigues remarks that Jesus 'did not die for the good and beautiful, but for the miserable and corrupt.' He laid down his life so that broken sinners may be forgiven and put right with God.

Knowing Jesus transforms the lives of those who follow him. The apostle Paul could say, 'I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me' and 'for me to live is Christ'. It's worth being passionate about Jesus.

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

Time for Tea Plus

Sunday 26 February, 4.30pm

Join us at the Chapel for Sunday Tea, followed by a half hour service.

All welcome!

MAGAZINE DATES

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

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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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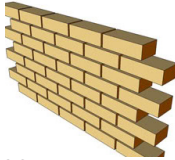
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