

# T H E U P P E R W Y L Y E PARISH NEWS



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[upperwyllyevalleyteam.com](http://upperwyllyevalleyteam.com)

## WELCOME



The Bishop of Ramsbury has invited the Revd Trudy Hobson to be the Priest in Charge of the Upper Wyllye Valley Team, and she has enthusiastically accepted the offer. Trudy is currently the Curate in the United Benefice of Brigg, Wrawby, Cadney-cum-Howsham with Bonby and Worlaby in the Diocese of Lincoln. We hope that a date for the licensing service can be agreed around the end of June or early July.

We send Revd Trudy many congratulations on her appointment and our very best wishes for a happy and successful ministry here. Revd Trudy replied: "I am delighted to have been appointed as your Priest-in-Charge. I have made two visits already to the Upper Wyllye Valley and am looking forward very much to meeting everyone and to getting to know this lovely part of Wiltshire better. Thank you so much for your welcome and your good wishes. Blessings, Trudy Hobson."

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### STOP PRESS OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT THE REVD TRUDY HOBSON

New Appointment: Priest in Charge of Upper Wyllye Valley Team, Diocese of Salisbury

Present Appointment: Assistant Curate, Brigg, Wrawby, Cadney-Cum-Howsham with Bonby and Worlaby

Institution/Licensing: 29 July 2019, Heytesbury St Peter and St Paul, 7pm, Bishop of Salisbury

# THE DIARY

## FROM THE EDITOR

Please let Robin know of any Social Dates you have so they can be included in the diary. We deliver this magazine door to door to all our ten villages, and the editorial team would love to have a greater overview of what is going on in the villages.

T: 840790 robinwculver@mac.com  
Editorial Copy for the UWPN must be with the editor by the 10th of the previous month in which the article is to be published. The editor cannot accept any copy after this date.

## wylve valley



Saturday 18 - Monday 27 May 2019

Artworks will be exhibited at different venues in the Wylve Valley

### HEYTESBURY

Venue 83(a) in Church with 'Edge of the Plain Artisans' consisting of Marion Bevan: creative Patchwork; John Boyne-Aitken: Woodturning;

Jo Meggs : Silver Jewellery; Alison Potter: Ceramics and Jane Robinson: Paintings.

Venue 83(b) in Church is Sarah Buttenshaw: Photography

Venue 83(c) in Church is Jonathan Wansey: Watercolour Paintings

Venue 84 at 53 High St is David O'Connor: Landscape Paintings and Sculptures.

In CODFORD, Sally Thomson and Kate Hayne will be showing their paintings in the Woolstore Theatre foyer each day from 10.30 to 5.30.



### PRAYER GROUP

We meet weekly.

If you have any prayer requests, please call Anne on 840339.

### ECUMENICAL SERVICE

6PM

SUNDAY 19TH MAY

AT

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH,  
LITTLE LANGFORD.

## ST JOHN'S, HEYTESBURY

Coffee Morning Wednesday 8th at 11am.

We are raising funds for Heytesbury Primary School and Hedgehogs.

Friday 17th at 7pm U3A will be here for another musical evening.

We welcome all friends to attend this.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Women's Section Heytesbury Branch

Our next meeting will be held on 22nd May in the Residents' Hall at the Hospital of St John when our new Wiltshire Women's Section County Chairman, Mrs Cathy Smith, will talk about her life within the RBL(W.S). Visitors always welcome.

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and perhaps choose a hymn  


**THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AGM**

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 6pm at The Poplars, High Street, by kind permission of Colonel Mike Elcomb.

The Friends of St. Mary's is a registered charity set up to raise money to keep the building of our church in good repair. We meet once a year and any interested person will be most welcome to come. The meeting is usually short with a drink and nibbles.

## THANK YOU!

The Macmillan Coffee Morning raised **£512.60**

A great result, thanks to everyone.

*Gill Price.*

## FILMS AT THE WOOLSTORE

Wednesday 1st May 7.30 pm

**GREEN BOOK (12A)**

Biography/Comedy/Drama

**Winner of three Oscars including Best Movie.**

When Tony Lip (Viggo Mortensen), a bouncer from an Italian-American neighbourhood in the Bronx, is hired to drive Dr Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali), a world-class Black pianist, on a concert tour from Manhattan to the Deep South, they must rely on 'The Green Book' to guide them to the few establishments that were then safe for African-Americans. Confronted with racism, danger as well as unexpected humanity and humour - they are forced to set aside differences to survive and thrive on the journey of a lifetime.

  
**\*BIG BREAKFAST\***  
**Cafe Church**  
with LABYRINTH WALK  
and Treasure Hunt  
**DATE:** Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** Breakfast from 9.30 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Sutton Veny Village Hall

**QUIZ NIGHT**

with fish and chips  
Saturday 18th May  
7.00pm for 7.30pm in  
Sutton Veny Village Hall  
£10 per person  
Come as a team of six or form one on the night.  
BYO drinks and snacks  
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# MINISTRY LETTER

## MY BACKGROUND

I grew up in Birmingham and joined the Royal Air Force as a Musician (Trumpet) at the age of 18; I was posted to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire where I served for thirteen years, and where I have continued to live and worship in multi-parish benefices.

I went to the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield for my formation training, which instilled in me a rootedness in prayer which has been further nurtured in my curacy. It is my true belief that priesthood is underpinned by prayer for it is through prayer that we keep ourselves open to hear God, enabling us to discern His will for our lives, our churches and our communities. Over the last two years I have trained as a Spiritual Director which has further instilled in me the prayerful presence of ordained ministry and I hope that I will be able to contribute to the Diocese of Salisbury as a Spiritual Director in due course.

During my curacy, I have been blessed with a wonderful Training Incumbent who has enabled me to experience all that rural multi-benefice ministry has to offer. For me, one of the greatest privileges of parish life is being with people, walking alongside them as they journey through life, especially during main life events including Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. I thoroughly enjoy visiting our local Church of England Primary School on a weekly basis to lead Collective Worship and celebrating a

termly Eucharist service. The pupils feel comfortable with my Training Incumbent and me, and it has been a joy to be asked some of the biggest and deepest questions about life and faith that I have experienced in my curacy. I look forward to getting to know the staff and pupils in Heytesbury, Sutton Veny and Codford and hope I will be able to visit and try to answer some more of those 'big questions' that children always want to ask.

I recognise fully that my role in the Upper Wylde Valley Team will be very much a role in which 'leadership' is key. I believe that my previous career in the RAF has given me good grounding in various styles of leadership, which has been transferred and honed by my formation training at college and my full involvement with all areas of parish ministry throughout my curacy. I have been given many opportunities to develop my leadership skills including chairing various groups and teams of volunteers. I am also currently a Foundation School Governor, a Tutor Group Facilitator for the Lincoln School of Theology, a Street Pastor, a Spiritual Advisor for Lincolnshire Cursillo, and I have enjoyed being a link with the local Town Council on Civic Services and Events. I am an enthusiastic, energetic and optimistic young woman with a 'can do' attitude which I hope will also serve me well as I join you in the life and worship of your team of parishes.

When not 'on duty', so to speak, I enjoy watching and playing cricket, keeping myself fit, going running, partaking in mud obstacle races, and generally being outside. We live in a beautiful world that God created for us all to enjoy, and I hope to very much to be able to be 'out and about', meeting all of you who live, work, and visit this beautiful area.

The Diocese of Salisbury is a big move from the Diocese of Lincoln, yet I am certain that God has called me here, being rather direct and obvious through-

out my discerning this position. I fully trust God, knowing that He will provide me with all I need to serve His beloved children in this area, which I am already experiencing in all the support and encouragement I am receiving from you all and the Diocese of Salisbury.

Please do look out for me in the near future, and please do not hesitate to stop me for a chat, if you see me out and about, or maybe drop me an email or give me a ring (contact details will be available once I have moved into the area) so that we can get to know one another and build lasting friendships in Christ.

*Revd Trudy Hobson*

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew Chapter 28 verse 18f

*contributed by R H.*

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**CHERRY Blasdale-Holmes**

## AROUND THE APIARY

Here we go with the start of another season, yes, it's been a bit start and stop with the weather up to now, but most of the colonies I have looked at so far are very strong and in some cases, I have put the first super box on about five of the colonies on the first of April. I had to do this because they have stored so much pollen and nectar that the Queen was running out of space to lay her eggs. If you remember, her egg laying is now increasing on a weekly basis, so if I don't give her space to lay, the colony will not grow to its full size as the Queen may swarm with half of the worker bees: as a beekeeper, I want to keep as many workers as possible in the hive to make me lots of honey when

there's a nectar flow on.

Different plants produce pollen and nectar throughout the season and this is influenced by the longer days and the amount of sunshine we get, but some plants produce nothing for our pollinators as with so many of our modern garden flowers. So I hope that this spring, when you are planting up your borders, you will spare a thought for our pollinators by planting the right plants. We can all help them as the space for plants and wildlife continues to shrink. Yes, it is so easy to forget about nature because most of us are rubbish at sharing our planet with other species.

As our population grows, we just

keep building more houses and covering the countryside with concrete and tarmac, or chemicals, filling our oceans with plastic, and polluting the air with so many vehicles. I think if we carry on with this behaviour it will 'bite us on the bum' by which time it will be too late and there won't be a way back. We should all be thinking of our grandchildren; after all, in the end, it will be their mess. Science keeps looking for other planets with life when we can't even look after our own! Well, on that note, I'd better call it a day and apologise for my little rant but hope it gets some of you thinking about where our planet and our species will end up.

*Den Pictor, your local friendly beekeeper*

## DOWN ON THE FARM

Currently I am training for a 26-mile hike over the Jurassic Coastline raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support (sponsorship much appreciated). As a result, I have been forced out of my comfort zone of strolling with the dogs across the meadows, through villages and, on a good day, up one of the many by ways. I am now proud to say I have a good knowledge of the hills of Salisbury Plain and grateful for my hiking poles.

One advantage of covering this ground is standing (procrastination is how some would see it) and admiring the views of the spectacular surroundings; although a little bleak, the wilderness is breath-taking, but also highlights how fortunate we are to have a climate in this country, that allows the view to be colourful and that there is no shortage of grazing for sheep and cattle. Due to much of the Plain being MOD land, there are restrictions on many areas and what farmers can do. Some of it can only be grazed as ploughing is prohibited.

As I say, we are fortunate to have a climate that gives us what is needed to produce reasonable quality grazing and

crops, but a little help is required for a consistent and healthy production and we are now into fertilizer season. Yes, I am sure you have all taken in the glorious smells of the 'countryside' as muck spreaders take to the fields to spread well matured muck and slurry.

The beauty of having livestock is that they produce farmyard manure (FYM) that is very beneficial to the organic matter within the soil. FYM contains three key components, nitrogen (N), potassium (P) and phosphorus (K) and a number of other useful elements. FYM is analysed so that we know what the available nutrient content is. Every spring, we create a plan of what fertilizer each field will benefit from and achieve maximum output, we can then use FYM or bought in fertilizer to supply the crop with the nutrient it requires. We are fortunate that we rarely need to buy phosphate or potash as we have enough in our FYM to meet our needs.

With the muck spreaders and fertilizer spinners in full flow, we can now look ahead to the crops growing well for harvest later in the summer and prepare

for the silage grass to be cut within the next few weeks 'down on the farm'.

*Kit Pottow*

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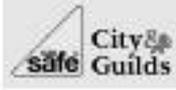
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## SPORT: FOOTBALL AND ANGLING

### Good Times at Heytesbury Football Club

After a good end to 2018 being top of the league at Christmas, the football club struggled for form in the New Year. Two league losses and losing in the quarter finals of the County cup and the A&B cup was a big disappointment.

Things improved in February. A 7-0 win against Warminster reserves in the league was followed by a 4-0 Knock Out Cup win against Warminster United. This game attracted the biggest crowd at the Park for many years with more than 80 people enjoying a very good match. Success in the Spring Cup at Trowbridge was followed by a League loss to Holt that ended any chances of winning the league but victory over Melksham Town 'A' meant we are guaranteed a top four finish which is very good for our first year back in the top Division. The Knock Out Cup semi-final at Hilperton proved to be a thriller. Heytesbury twice coming from behind to win 3-4 in extra time. It was the same opposition the following week in the Spring Cup, this time another good performance gave Heytesbury a 4-2 win.

We have a Spring Cup semi final v Melksham Town 'A' at the Park on 20th April 2.30 pm kick off and are looking forward to a Knock Out Cup final at Meadow Lane Westbury against Freshford

United on 23rd April 7.30pm kick off.

Thank you for your support it is much appreciated by all at the club.

### Football Lights

Heytesbury Football Club are happy to have purchased some portable floodlights. We have 6 lights run on rechargeable batteries so are fully portable and only take a few minutes to set up. We are grateful to the Parish Council, The Wiltshire Area Board and the Football Foundation (Premier League) for their help with the purchase. This allows the club to train at Heytesbury Park during the winter. The lights arrived in early February and have proved to be a big success. The weekly sessions have been popular and help to create a good atmosphere around the club.

### Angling Notes

The AGM of the Wiltshire Fishery Association is always interesting. As always, time was spent on weed cutting. The cost is shared between the EA and the WFA with the major cost being the provision of the booms at Quidhampton and Salisbury to take the weed out of the river and dispose of it. There was some wish for an additional cutting period, 4 rather than 3, but it seems that, for various reasons, the

cost of this would be prohibitive.

Our chairman, who in real life was an environmental scientist had been looking at the plans for the Stonehenge tunnel and was impressed by the quality of work which had been done. He was confident that interference with the rivers Till and Avon chalk aquifers would be minimal. This is very good news.

There was disappointment expressed that the EA would not provide any progress reports on investigations into farm or any other pollution incidents. This creates the impression with us, the general public, that nothing is being done which is usually not the case.

There was a general consensus that grayling stocks are in decline. This is not surprising. We are on the southern edge of the European Grayling's distribution and any rise in temperature, such as has already occurred, is bound to have an adverse effect on this cold water species

*Robin Mulholland*

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## MENTIONING THE UNMENTIONABLE

The day started so well. Bright sunshine, birds singing, and I was tying back my clematis when we noticed a trickle of water where it shouldn't have been. Uh-oh! The septic tank was overflowing. Not entirely surprising, as Mark's mother bought the house in 1945, and never had the tank emptied. Mark remembered a conversation he'd had with Johnnie (who had experienced a drain disaster), who knows Graham (now retired) who knows everything about drains. Well, that was a voyage of discovery. "Come and see my septic tank," he said, and Mark spent a happy hour inspecting both chambers, including the army of worms within. Nature is wonderful! Thousands of little worms get it all sorted; they munch their way through the unmentionable, forming a hard crust, repeating the process in the second tank, so that clear water can then

drain away. No smell, no pollution. Mark came home with a borrowed book (full of diagrams) called *Sewage Solutions: Answering the Call of Nature*, wondering what to do next.

He passed a van offering 'All Drainage Services'. They weren't busy, so they'd come right over. We'd often wondered how our septic tank kept going so efficiently, and, bit by bit, as the hole in the lawn got bigger and bigger, we discovered. Gordon said he'd never seen anything like it: not just two brick-lined chambers, but three, all separate (and all full). The man-hole cover in the flower-bed concealed the first chamber, and there were two round chambers hidden under the lawn (at right-angles to the first), each 5ft deep, with clinker at the bottom, leading to a soak-away, and crowned by a thick crust of worms "strong

enough to stand on". Vintage. They hadn't been disturbed for at least 80 years.

Gordon called in the tanker man to pump us out, so that we could see our way from one chamber to the next: it was worth it for the pleasure of meeting Andrew, who clearly enjoys his job (pumping sewage). So there they were, a trio of enthusiasts in the garden, admiring the engineering. Why had it overflowed? Not surprisingly, the old soak-away had reached the end of its working life, and a new one has to be excavated (by hand), 1.5m x 3m, and eventually 3m deep, on condition that the soil passed the 'perk test'. We got top marks. So, the big hole will get deeper, filled with soak-away crates (strong enough for an elephant to stand on), and grassed over. We await a happy out-flow.

KV

## ACROSS THE ANTARCTIC CIRCLE

I have recently returned from my second voyage to the wonderful Antarctic Peninsula, where our ship managed to cross the Antarctic Circle ... ticking off one of my ambitions. Many people have asked, "Why go to Antarctica?" Those of us fortunate to visit the Great White South will know that the amazing scenery; abundant wildlife; interesting history of the exploration of the continent and fascinating science being carried out at numerous multinational research bases are all sufficient to lure us into the cold and unpredictable seas.

Antarctica is larger than Australia and consists of a high mountainous plateau, 90% of which is the largest ice cap on our planet. The Antarctic Peninsula is also extremely mountainous with many unclimbed peaks which are the remnants of the South American Andes. All this ice makes up 70% of the planet's fresh water. Imagine what would happen if just a

fraction of this ice was to melt ... the level, and temperature, of the seas would rise causing some island nations to disappear under the water. Even coastal cities would suffer catastrophic flooding. Warmer seas would do vast damage to the eco systems that we all rely upon ... I didn't know until recently that the billions of minute phytoplanktons in the sea produce about 50% of the oxygen that we all breathe. They are susceptible to a rise in sea temperature, either from melting ice or excessive carbon dioxide and methane in the atmosphere.

I returned from this voyage to Antarctica more knowledgeable about Climate Change and even more determined to help preserve Planet Earth for future generations. What can we do as individuals? We need to reduce our carbon emissions by buying local products, thus reducing long distance delivery. Obviously, cut down on the amount of plastics that we all use ... some is recyclable but not all. Choose outlets that offer paper bags for their produce and not plastic. Why allow rubber balloons to float away so that they eventually fall to earth for some unfortunate bird or animal to eat ... and die? Why use helium balloons when helium is a rare earth gas that is mined underground and escapes into the atmosphere once released in a balloon? It is not a finite resource and one of its most important uses is to act as a coolant for the huge magnets in MRI scanners. What a waste to use this gas for such a frivolous, short lived pastime. Why exchange our mobile phones as soon as a

new model appears? Each smartphone contains at least 35 essential elements including carbon, hydrogen, lithium, cobalt and yttrium (a rare earth mineral) amongst others. Sadly, we are living in a throwaway society.

Antarctica is a wonderful place but its glaciers are warming and reducing; huge ice shelves are breaking off and forming massive icebergs which will eventually melt; Adelie and Gentoo penguins are leaving their traditional breeding places on the Antarctic Peninsula because they are too warm. They are moving further south where it is colder. If phytoplanktons diminish, then not only will levels of oxygen in the air be reduced but also the entire Antarctic food chain will be compromised. Penguins, seals and whales will become endangered. Please help preserve Planet Earth for our grandchildren and their descendants.

Sarah Buttenshaw

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## A SNAIL'S PACE PILGRIM

The title is in fact unkind to snails. It has taken me so long to finally complete my fits-and-starts pilgrimage from Sutton Veny to Canterbury that I reckon a snail crawling continuously could have done it in half the time. I did manage to get 'stuck at Farnham' (a metaphor for life, if ever there was one) for a couple of years and, if I discount that period, perhaps the race would have been on!

I was enthused by the idea of pilgrimage after a sailing trip to South Biscay in 2011. Early sightings of fresh pilgrims in Cap Breton pricked my interest and a later visit to Santiago de Compostela, where the pilgrims looked physically trail-weary, but in high spirits, left me in awe of them and curious about undertaking something similar back in UK.

With my dog for company for some of the way, early chunks were bitten off in stretches that left me sufficiently footsore the following day that I was grateful that I was not walking continuously. It is quite possible to walk the 22 miles from Sutton Veny to Salisbury in a day, but to be honest it becomes a bit of a route march and I know I should have taken longer over it to savour the countryside and to visit more of the churches along the route. Using public transport to return me to my starting point dictated that I repeated my mistake on the 26 mile long Clarendon Way from Salisbury to Winchester, which was also completed in a day. Alton was my intermediate stop on the two days that I spent walking St Swithun's Way, which connects Winchester and Farnham. From here, I was guided by my map of the North Downs Way, which runs to Dover via Rochester and offers a detour to Canterbury.

Major A-roads now mark the actual route that pilgrims might have taken, so I was happy to accept the rural alternative of long distance footpaths. I was also very pleasantly surprised to discover how attractive and peaceful my route was

despite the close proximity of the A31, the Hog's Back and then the M25. Walking along the scarp above the M25, the canopy of trees generally blocked both the view and the traffic noise, while offering occasional glimpses into the gardens of some very expensive houses.

Distant views can both lift the spirits and also depress the weary walker. The first glimpse of Salisbury Cathedral's spire fits that bill. You see it a long way off but then it's always there and never seems to get closer. Canterbury on the other hand is tantalising. The final leg of the route from Charing to Canterbury through Kent woodland offers a fleeting glimpse of the cathedral's distinctive outline about 8 miles out, but then it remains hidden until well inside the city limits. That close up view is well worth the wait, and I suspect that the emotions of both relief and elation that it triggered in me were much the same as for the many thousands, who have made their own way, from differing directions, to Canterbury over the centuries.

I cannot admit to having any particularly deep or religious thoughts on my pilgrimage. I did find that badly remembered hymns provided a good cadence for my walking and I now realise that I am a better pilgrim than a

map-reader. The path is generally well worn, but often it is not the only path, and I sometimes suspected that the task of putting up the signs had been given to a youth trainee or someone with a sense of humour. Reassuringly, I found that, although trusting my own sense of direction sometimes led me astray, I generally found myself on a lane called The Pilgrim's Way.

My final day's walking into Canterbury was on a sunny day in February with temperatures more like May. Hot and sweaty with a rucksack and stick, it wasn't too much of a stretch for the lady at the cathedral's ticket booth to guess that I was a pilgrim and to waive my entrance fee. "Have you got your passport?" was not the question I was expecting to be asked. My blank look clearly answered her question and she revealed that I could have been collecting church stamps in a Pilgrim's Passport since Winchester. I have a Pilgrim's Passport now. It has one stamp in it - Canterbury Cathedral. And no, I'm not going back the other way to collect them.

*Richard Jackman*

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# TURBO'S DOG BLOG FOR EARLY SUMMER

Not so much telly now the evenings are lengthening and just as well, as I'm fed up with those links between BBC programmes that show dogs doing stuff. The most annoying one shows the mountain rescue dog with a little hi-viz jacket, surrounded by fit looking men and women and a Land Rover bristling with ladders, ropes and winches and weighed down by bars of Kendal Mint-cake. Although I admire what those dogs do, the shot always prompts the Guvnor to remark loudly enough to wake me up, "Look, Turbo; there's a 'useful' dog". I shrug and go back to sleep.

I do, sometimes, show more alertness when we see the group of orienteers emerging from a wood to stand consulting their maps before setting off on the next six miles of their run, and their dog jumps nimbly over some rocks to lead the way. I look up at the Guvnor and mouth, "Just look at them, Guvnor; they have risen early, donned their Lycra, trainers and anoraks and, after a breakfast of muesli

and granary toast with Marmite, have got off their backsides and taken some proper exercise." He looks away and pretends to read the paper, but he doesn't fool me.

Next, in the 'annoying' stakes, is the group of Dachshunds who are milling about on a beach. Dachshunds have had far too much publicity recently, in my view. Crufts was on last month and I was forced to watch hundreds of pampered pooches preening around the show ring or smiling for the cameras backstage surrounded by shampoo, brushes, pairs of scissors and hairspray and looking as if they had never seen muddy water or a wet cow field, let alone swum in the river or chased a rabbit or a fox through a hedge, emerging covered in burrs and ticks and blood.

Back to the Dachshund saga, the crisis kicked off with a chap called Purves saying they shouldn't jump up on sofas because it harmed their long backs and short legs. Well, the Guvnor always used to say that they were 'two and a half dogs

long and half a dog high' but then the RSPCA waded in too, complaining that breeders are over-doing it.

I have a view on this 'showmanship'. The point of having a dog is to make sure he is looked after, fed nourishing fare, provided lavishly with biscuits and treats, stroked incessantly, walked daily, allowed to sleep anywhere in the house in comfort and loved unconditionally. Oh, and a silver trophy to drink out of would be nice!

## IONA 2020

A Lenten Retreat, at The Bishops House, led by Rev'd Jacques Desrosiers and Rev'd Liz Smith. Little needs to be said about the island of Iona, known and loved across the world as one of the cradles of Western Christianity. The Bishop's house, looks over the Sound of Iona and nestles in the shadow of Iona Abbey, it is a privilege to be organising another retreat to this special island.

The total cost for seven nights will be £650 this covers everything, the full board on Iona all the transport, and the accommodation traveling up and returning home. If you are interested in this rare opportunity please telephone (01985) 214910 a.s.a.p by May 1st or email: sheilapom123@btinternet.com.

## BOOK REVIEW?

"The trouble with Book Clubs" said our neighbour, as we passed her in the pub, "is that you have to read such grim books." That wasn't true of 'The Lido', in which the story-teller, who bears a close resemblance to the author (one of our readers knows Libby Page), emerges from her chrysalis of loneliness and self-doubt as she fights to save the local Lido. One of our group declared it, "a bit unrestrained in its sentimentality at times - but I've forgiven that in the face of a feel-good ending!"

In the month between meetings, I had finished our last book, 'The Behaviour of Moths' by Poppy Adams, another first novel. Its publicity declares it to be 'a dark book, but an extremely funny one'. It certainly was a bit 'gothic' at times, with its crumbling mansion and idiosyncratic inhabitant, but once I dived in, I

was hooked. It is beautifully woven, with the past and the present cleverly juxtaposed (thereby heightening the tension of the intricate plot). 'Vivien has not set foot in the house since she left, 47 years ago; Ginny, the reclusive moth expert, has rarely ventured outside it,' says the cover. Its protagonists and their parents may be a bit strange, but not unlike some people I have met. And the title could so well have been, 'The Behaviour of Lepidopterists'; but moths do come into it too.

The real trouble with Book Clubs is that discussions (and we have lively discussions) have to be carefully controlled so as not to reveal the dénouement, in deference to those who have not yet finished the book. We haven't read 'Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine' as a group yet. Eleanor, in common with Ginny (the lepidopterist), has personality problems. The title alone gives an indication of that. She is not 'Completely Fine', she is profoundly lonely, but she doesn't know that there is any other way to live her life. I struggled with the first couple of chapters - how could I enjoy a book with such a strange and obsessive 'heroine'. But it won the Costa First Novel Award 2017 (with one million copies sold) - and my daughter had strongly recommended it - so I persisted. It is bizarre, heart-rendingly sad, funny, and totally unpredictable, and there's no way one can guess what is going to happen next. And whatever you do, don't read the last chapter first!

KV

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# VILLAGE NEWS

## HEYTESBURY

### Housing Needs Assessment - Dates for your Diary

The Parish Council would like to let local residents know of the timescales for the issue of the voluntary Housing Needs Assessment questionnaire. The questionnaire should reach you between 3rd and 10th May. Residents are asked to return the completed surveys by 3rd June.

There will be an opportunity to ask any questions on this survey at the Annual Parish Meeting which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 28th May 2019 at Heytesbury School. Start time 7-15pm. This meeting is for the electorate and all residents of the Parish are encouraged to attend and put forward any items for discussion in addition to the survey.

Councillor Vanessa Sturmeay, the expert on this project for the Parish, can be contacted for further information or to take your questions, by email: [vsturmeay@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:vsturmeay@hotmail.co.uk)

## NORTON BAVANT

All readers and their friends are invited to attend an open Garden Event on Thursday 13th June 2019. Two gardens will be open in Norton Bavant from 6pm until dusk to raise funds for the Upper Wylde Parish News. The gardens involved are numbers 7 and 13. Signs will direct visitors to the free car park and the gardens; the entrance fee is £3 for adults, and children are free.

Examine the June edition of the Upper Wylde Parish News, as it will contain a voucher for free admission for one adult accompanying a paying adult. Garden plant advice will be on hand and plants will be displayed for sale. Please support this event to help The Upper Wylde Parish news continue in paper format, in these difficult times when advertisers are being lost due to economic uncertainty.

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## NEW WEBSITE FOR THE ORCHARD PARTNERSHIP [www.theorchardpartnership.co.uk](http://www.theorchardpartnership.co.uk)

The Orchard Partnership is excited to announce the launch of their new website. In March, our new user and tech friendly website went live. The website has a wealth of local information and cleverly signposts patients to the services on offer at the surgery. We've even added an 'ask a receptionist a question' by completing a form which will be sent securely to us. It is so fancy that you can even chase up a referral that has been made for you, request a sick note, submit your health assessment e.g. asthma and much, much more. Please take a moment to look round the new website.

We, of course, always welcome and appreciate any feedback you have regarding the site once it goes live and you can do this via the 'ask a receptionist' section.

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Head of Heytesbury Brook and adjoining Church

## The Boyton & Corton Church Fete

**Saturday 8th June 2019, 2.30pm**

Cream Tea, 'Pasta' Bar, Children's 'Play - Board Game', Bouncy Castle, children's activities, Win the legendary 'Cotton Crane' in our raffle (over 70 bottles of champagne, wine and spirits), Plants & Produce, Home-made Cakes, Coconut Slog, Gifts, Books, Treasures of the World, Bottle Tossing, Trivia & Treasure, Worcester Brass Band

### & FUN DOG SHOW!



Dog Show starts at 3.30pm, (registrations from 2.30pm)  
£1 per entry. Classes: Prettiest Bitch, Most Handsome Dog, Best Rescue Dog, Waggiest Tail, Musical Sit, Dog Most Like its owner, Temptation Alley!

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## WILDLIFE IN WILTSHIRE CHURCHYARDS AND CEMETERIES

Wiltshire LCCP Seminar and Bishop's  
Award Presentation 2019  
Saturday 4th May 10.00 a.m - 3.30p.m  
at  
The Church of  
St John The Evangelist, Sutton Veny

### PROGRAMME

- Registration, Coffee and Introduction:  
Rosemary Macdonald
- The invertebrate wildlife of Pertwood Organic Farm: *Stuart Corbett*
  - The Wonders of Yew: *Peter Norton*
  - Walk around the churchyard  
**Lunch**
  - Transylvania: protecting nature and churches in a traditional landscape: *John Akeroyd*
  - Priest and Farmer Presentation of Bishop's Awards:  
*Canon Martin Shallcross*

A donation towards the day would be appreciated. Recommended £8 per person

(Lunch, Tea/Coffee provided)  
For further information contact Penny Sherlock at [pensherlock@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pensherlock@yahoo.co.uk) or Rosemary Macdonald 01747 870717

We/I.....  
.....  
shall attend the seminar on Saturday 4th May 2019  
We/I enclose a cheque for £..... as a donation  
Name.....  
Address.....  
.....

Please make cheques payable to Living Churchyard and Cemetery Project and send to Little Owl Barn, Wickham Heath, Newbury, RG20 8PN or bring on the day.

SHERRINGTON

British Summertime and on the 6th day of April, the air was particularly bracing! However, on this, the 7th day, we have reverted to spring, such are the vagaries of an English April. The robin with young in our nest box will be relieved, she must have thought she had made an error of judgement, as must the nuthatch sitting in another nest box.

On the cress bed, the female swan (yes, they have returned) is making rather half-hearted attempts at nest building, now saying, "Don't think so, not just yet!" However, regardless of the temperature, the village is a sunburst of yellow. Snowdrops are succeeded by primroses. They form a soft girdle round the east end of the church and spread their pale smiles under the beech trees at the west end. Elsewhere, spiky yellow forsythia blooms, golden kingcups stand at the water's edge and enamelled stars of celandine glow in spring sunshine or brighten dull days.

It must be the same pair of mallards that touch down in the garden at this time of year. They blow in every spring, check for nesting possibilities, (Tyto is something of a deterrent, I fear), spend the night beside the pond and then move on. Locking the church just before the clocks went forward, I counted in 12 little egrets gliding in to roost. They do not breed here and so will soon be moving to their nest sites.

Nigel saw some swallows in the Heytesbury water-meadows yesterday, welcome. I hope most fare better than a certain colony that have been nesting at a Tesco site. I read that the long arm of Health and Safety has stretched out and that the site is netted off. In an ideal world, I would have thought a board could have been placed as a temporary expedient or even move the trolley park for the summer, but we know that sadly the world is not ideal, netting is simpler and cheaper.

Flicking through a weekend supplement, my eye fell on the line up of guests at a smart party somewhere. One of the guests gave his occupation as an 'influencer', yes, really! I am obviously not up to speed on the career scene.

Welcome to newcomers in the village, Toby and Jane, who have come to Sherrington Manor. It is a lovely time to move here with the promise of summer ahead. BL

**FROM THE REGISTERS**

---

**Baptisms**  
*We welcome into the Christian Church*  
**Esme Joy Chadwick-Commons**  
 on 21st April at Boyton  
*May she grow in the Christian Faith*

**Funerals**  
*Our sympathy and love to those who mourn the passing of*  
**Robin Maslen**  
 on 18th March at Heytesbury  
*May he rest in the peace and light of Christ*  
*Please contact the Ministry Team to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation preparation or Service of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage.*  
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In 2018, the Bughunters planted potatoes in sacks in the spring with the idea of having the results roasted on a bonfire, but failed to follow this up. Did anyone successfully grow any potatoes? In the Easter holidays, twenty families went for an afternoon at Langford Lakes to see the birds, but the most excitement for the children was seeing the rats round the bird feeder! After this, perhaps because of the amazing summer weather, we failed to organise other events. If anyone has suggestions or would like to help, email: [verityeastman@gmail.com](mailto:verityeastman@gmail.com) or phone (840323)

It is important to point out our lovely Bug Hunters group and the previous huge success of our meet ups (including stream dipping, bug and nature hunts, leaf identification and printing, bumble bees etc) is entirely dependent on volunteers and their ideas and enthusiasm. MORE hands on deck and ideas are definitely needed for regular school holiday/occasional weekend activities so please, if you feel you are able or have ideas to share, do get involved! We also have a Facebook Group - Upper Wylve Valley Bug Hunters - please do LIKE and follow us - and we encourage people to use this as a forum to discuss their outdoor finds and nature questions.  
*Caro Barker Bennett, Liz Colvin, Verity Eastman, Roger Hammond*

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# UPPER WYLYE VALLEY TEAM

## CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY

|                      |                          |         |                                       |              |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 5th                  | Tytherington             | 8.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP)                  |              |
| 3rd Sunday of Easter | Codford St Mary          | 9.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP)                  |              |
|                      | Norton Bavant            | 9.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP)                  |              |
|                      | Sutton Veny Village Hall | 9.30am  | Big Breakfast followed by Café church |              |
|                      | Heytesbury               | 11.00am | Parish Communion                      |              |
|                      | Upton Lovell             | 11.00am | Morning Prayer on Sunday              | <i>Choir</i> |
|                      | Tytherington             | 6.00pm  | Taizé                                 |              |

### Christian Aid week 12th - 18th May

|                      |                  |         |                      |              |
|----------------------|------------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|
| 12th                 | Boyton           | 8.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP) |              |
| 4th Sunday of Easter | Sutton Veny      | 9.30am  | Parish Communion     |              |
|                      | Codford St Peter | 10.00am | Sunday Worship       |              |
|                      | Codford St Mary  | 11.00am | Parish Communion     | <i>Choir</i> |
|                      | Knook            | 11.00am | Parish Communion     |              |
|                      | Upton Lovell     | 6.00pm  | Evensong (BCP)       |              |

|                      |                      |         |                            |              |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 19th                 | Heytesbury           | 8.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP)       |              |
| 5th Sunday of Easter | Codford St Peter     | 9.30am  | Parish Communion           |              |
|                      | Norton Bavant        | 9.30am  | Parish Communion           | <i>Choir</i> |
|                      | Sutton Veny          | 11.00am | Matins                     |              |
|                      | Upton Lovell         | 11.00am | Patronal Festival          |              |
|                      | Codford Village Hall | 4.00pm  | Messy Church               |              |
|                      | Boyton               | 6.00pm  | Pimms & Hymns with trumpet |              |

|                                 |                  |         |                      |              |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|
| 26th                            | Sutton Veny      | 8.30am  | Holy Communion (BCP) |              |
| 6th Sunday of Easter (Rogation) | Codford St Peter | 9.30am  | Parish Communion     |              |
|                                 | Tytherington     | 10.00am | Rogation service     |              |
|                                 | Boyton           | 11.00am | Matins               | <i>Choir</i> |
|                                 | Heytesbury       | 6.00pm  | Evensong (BCP)       |              |

|                             |             |        |                       |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Thursday 30th Ascension Day | Sherrington | 6.00pm | Ascension Day service | <i>Choir</i> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------------|--------------|

### WEEKDAY SERVICES every week

We welcome you to share in prayers for the Church, the Nation, the World, the Sick, and for others as well as ourselves.

|            |                  |        |                |
|------------|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Tuesdays   | Heytesbury       | 8.30am | Morning Prayer |
| Wednesdays | Codford St Peter | 8.30am | Morning Prayer |
| Wednesdays | Codford St Peter | 9.00am | Holy Communion |
| Thursdays  | Sherrington      | 8.30am | Morning Prayer |
| Fridays    | Sutton Veny      | 8.30am | Morning Prayer |

### HOUSE GROUPS

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Mondays</b>   | 6.00 - 7.30 in Codford. Contact Clifford Stride 850941 |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Meet in Church House, Heytesbury (840522) fortnightly. |

### HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN, HEYTESBURY CHAPEL SERVICES

|            |                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Sundays    | 10.30am<br>Eucharist with hymns |
| Wednesdays | 10.00am<br>Holy Communion(1662) |

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Ordained Ministers with Permission to Officiate

**The Revd Diana Hammond** **841185**  
roger213hammond@btinternet.com

**The Revd Jane Shaw** **850141**  
shawjane2005@gmail.com

**The Revd Jayne Buckles** **851176**  
jaynebuckles@btinternet.com

**The Revd Robin Hungerford** **840522**  
rhungerford157@gmail.com

**The Revd Anne Bennett-Shaw** **840339**  
reannebennettshaw@btinternet.com

Licensed Lay Minister

**Katherine Venning LLM** **840283**  
venning.mk@hotmail.com

### CHURCHWARDENS

|                  |                      |        |
|------------------|----------------------|--------|
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| Codford St Mary  | Bridget Lorimer      | 850201 |
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|                  | Alasdair McGregor    | 850073 |
| Heytesbury       | Tina Sitwell         | 840556 |
| Knook            | Michael Pottow       | 850776 |
| Norton Bavant    | John Acworth         | 840134 |
|                  | Edward Moore         | 840420 |
| Sherrington      | Betty & Nigel Lewis  | 850496 |
| Sutton Veny      | Brian Long           | 840352 |
| Tytherington     | Caroline Lester-Card | 840022 |
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### PARISH NEWS

**Editor** **Robin Culver** 840790  
robinwculver@mac.com

**Chairman** **David Shaw** 850372  
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Heytesbury Hedgehogs

Annette Pulvertaft 840798

Wylve Coyotes Afterschool Club 851713

info@wylvecoyotes.com

or 07805 515863

### PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Codford, Wylve Valley

Head: Robert Barnes 850461

Heytesbury

Head: Carole Godfrey 840429

Sutton Veny

Head: Rachael Brotherton 840428

www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk

### VILLAGE HALLS

Codford www.codfordvhsc.co.uk

Secretary: Patricia Bettany 850055

Bookings: Karungi Grant 850523

Corton Fane Hall

Bookings: Tina Kerr 850373

Sutton Veny Chair: Richard Jackman 840899

Newsletter:

Bookings: Gay Woods 840057

Upton Lovell Bookings: Ros Coombs 851277

### WOOLSTORE THEATRE

Codford Post Office 850345

Chair: Brenda Mears 850658

Booking Theatre: Anne Twinn 850004

### CODFORD GARDENING CLUB

Karen Johnstone 850258

### CODFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sir William Mahon 850586

Sally Thomson 850339

### CODFORD LADIES CIRCLE

Evelyn Read 850831

### PARISH WEBSITES

Team www.upperwylvevalleyteam.com

Webmaster admin@newvalleywebdesign.com

Heytesbury www.heytesburyparish.co.uk

Norton Bavant www.nortonbavant.co.uk

Sutton Veny www.suttonveny.co.uk

### SPORTS CLUBS

Badminton (Codford)

Dominique Beagley 850952

Cricket (Heytesbury & Sutton Veny)

Chair: Justin Wagstaff 840782

Secretary: Robert Robson

Tennis (Codford)

Chair: Vincie Abbott 850239

Secretary: Philip Spicer 850577

### STARQUEST

Astronomy Club: Pete Lee 840093

### SUTTON VENY FLOWER SHOW

www.suttonvenyflowershow.co.uk

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Sutton Veny

President: Penny Carroll 841340



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