

PARISH NEWS

OF THE UPPER WYLYE VALLEY

MAY 2024

We Wish You A
Merry Month of May



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Serving the villages of Boyton, Codford, Corton, Heytesbury, Knook, Norton Bavant, Sherrington, Sutton Veny, Tytherington and Upton Lovell since 1979, and delivered free to 1400 homes.

THE DIARY

FILMS AT THE WOOLSTORE

Wednesday 1st May
THE LESSON (15)

Starring Richard E. Grant, Julie Delpy and Daryl McCormack. An aspiring young novelist is hired to tutor the son of revered author J M Sinclair (Richard E Grant) and his art-dealer wife. However, he soon realises that Sinclair, his wife and their son all guard a dark past, one that threatens Liam's future as well as their own. As the lines between master and protégé blur, class, ambition, and betrayal become a dangerous combination in this taut noir thriller.

7.30pm - Tickets £6.00
(doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets available online through the website: www.thewoolstoretheatre.org.uk or at the Theatre Box Office (open during productions and on film nights).

In addition, we will be selling tickets at the Codford Community Cafe at the village hall on the second and fourth Thursdays, 10am to 12noon.

CORONATION FUNDS BARN DANCE
May 11th at 7.30pm
in Codford Village Hall

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS?

By the time you read this we will almost be there for another Coronation Fund Barn Dance!

If you haven't yet got your tickets, then the fab Codford Post Office team will still have some for you to buy. Are you bringing lots of friends or family and would like to sit together? then please reserve a table through squarrelle@gmail.com. No worries if you are on your own, there will be plenty of space for you!

Snacks will be provided, the bar will be open, all children welcome and under 16 free! The caller Robin Scard will lead us through the moves as Tim, Ben and friends play the music! We will finish around 10.30pm.

Let's hope the sun comes out to cheer us all up after this long wet winter and we can start summer with a bang! Look forward to seeing you all there with dancing shoes on!

Susanna Quarrelle and Sarah Dorrington
squarrelle@gmail.com

! When contacting advertisers please
tell them that you read about them
in the Parish News !

KNIT AND KNATTER



We meet at the
Ginger Piggery
every Thursday from
10.00- 12.00

We have recently presented the neonatal unit at Salisbury hospital with small blankets for mums and newborns. They are extremely grateful for our contribution and we enjoyed making simple blankets. At the moment we are knitting baby hats which we will also present to the neonatal unit.

We would love to see what else you might be knitting.

We will always welcome more knitters or just chatters and if you would like a lift just let me know.

Ali Tebbs 07799 418852

vintagenostalgiapestival.co.uk
31st May to 2nd June 2024
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VNF is a fun filled Nostalgic weekend of Live Music, dance, vintage & antique shopping, classic cars, automobilia, children's entertainment, and so much more!
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The Trustees of the Friends of Sutton Veny Church are pleased to announce:

**A TALK BY COLONEL
JOHN BLASHFORD-SNELL CBE**
Saturday 18th May 2024 at 11am
in the Church of St John
The Evangelist, Sutton Veny

Holder of almost all the top awards for exploration and three honours bestowed upon him by the HM Queen Elizabeth II, Colonel John Bashford-Snell is one of the most eminent and seasoned explorers. He has organised and led over 100 expeditions to far corners of the world.

Programme

1100hrs Talk begins with a ten-minute description of some of Colonel Blashford-Snell's Expeditions.

1115hrs A 20 minute film of the latest Expedition to MONGOLIA.

1140hrs (approximately). A Question and Answer session.

Midday. Complimentary Refreshments (soft drinks and eats) in the Church and an opportunity to meet the Colonel and his wife.

*Ticket for adults £10 a head.
Children free.*

*Booking form on Sutton Veny Website.
Proceeds and Donations will go towards the Upkeep of the Church and to The Scientific Exploration Society.
Books by the author will be on sale*



PRAYER GROUP

We pray daily.

If you have any prayer requests, please call Anne on 07432 205229

PARISH NEWS

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THE UPPER WYLYE VALLEY TEAM



Our vision is to be open, welcoming, growing and inclusive churches,
living within the love of God, and sharing God's love and life with others.

upperwyllyevalleyteam.com

MINISTRY LETTER

Dear Friends,

History tells us that it has never been easy to be a Christian. Joyful, yes, but never easy, and indeed no one said it would be. The Church Universal's task today is still to gaze out and take a closer look at the world.

Few people today escape insecurity. No areas of the globe are totally free from one threat or another. Christian faith may not be easy, but it is a solid anchor. We are reassured that our eternal destiny is safe in God's hands, enabling us to stand up in the world with courage. We can face today's challenges with Jesus, who spent most of His life championing the weak and disturbing the status quo.

In a materialistic society which encourages everyone to take care of themselves, there is the danger that we lose sight of what our Lord commands. He who calmed the storm and walked on water reminds us that we are not just to look at the 'here and now' but beyond.

This is not always easy to do, and it can feel like swimming against the tide. But it is what we as Christians are called to

do. And we do this in remembrance that we can rely on God's strength and the encouragement of our Christian brothers and sisters. In turn we can give them the same hope and encouragement, for this is the way that God so often works, practically and through those who are open to Him. That interaction is what helps us to really know the truth of His promises.

Every blessing, Jonathan Hiscox

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LOVING OUR NEIGHBOUR AS CHRIST LOVES US

Do you need some support? If you would like a chat, prayers, spiritual, pastoral or practical support and help, please do call someone from the numbers below

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upperwyllyevalleyteam@gmail.com

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Team Vicar Vacancy

Ordained Minister with Permission to Officiate

The Revd Jonathan Hiscox 840966

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Licensed Lay Minister

Katherine Venning LLM

840283

katherine.venning@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Boyton & Corton	Post vacant	
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Codford St Peter	Alasdair McGregor	850073
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Heytesbury:	Alison Tebbis	841192
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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts of the Apostles Chapter 2 v32ff

RH

ELTON JOHN ANYONE?

This year The Friends of Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington is putting on another great summer tribute concert. After the success of our Buddy Holly concert in 2022 and the tremendous Abba concert last year, people have asked for Elton John.

The Absolutely Elton tribute will be a really great evening for all the family, when you can sing and dance along to many of Elton's greatest hits including Crocodile Rock, Benny and the Jets, Rocket Man and many more.



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LIVE TRIBUTE

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or tel: 01985 840501**

In aid of Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington Churches Reg. charity no. 1083252

The Friends raises money for the fabric and property of our three ancient churches. You may not know that the Church of England does not give any financial support to local churches, all money to keep the churches open has to be raised by the parishioners.

Without your financial support our three churches are in danger of being closed permanently, so we would have nowhere to celebrate births, marriages, deaths, or events like the Produce Sale.

So why not buy your concert tickets now and not only enjoy a great evening but also support the churches!

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ANGLING NOTES

The heavy rain which we have had during the last few days of March have, I suspect, brought to an end any hope that we had of fishing in April.

It is interesting to speculate about what the fly life is likely to be when eventually we are able to fish. Will the hatches be late because of the high flows or will they have been early because of the high temperatures or will there be very poor hatches because most of the larvae have been washed down to the sea? I certainly fear for the mayfly because the larvae of *Ephemera danica* live in the silt in the river margins and that certainly will have been washed away.

We had the Piscatorial Society AGM recently by Zoom. There was a very good set of papers supplied to members on line and the meeting went very well. Water levels was one subject which provoked some discussion and the Board (committee) have undertaken to walk all of our fisheries before April 15th and indicate which stretches are fishable.

There was some feeling that the beavers on the Wylfe, present on the Nadder also, are the result of illegal releases. If this is the case it is ecological vandalism. Whilst there are permitted

releases going on and some so-called trials, it would surely be best to await the outcome of such before pre-empting any decisions. A member raised the question of how many fish there are in our two lakes. When the fishing is a little difficult, it is easy to conclude that the lakes have not been stocked recently and numbers are low. Our fishery manager explained that stocking is done on a little and often basis taking delivery charges into account, and that there are probably about 150 rainbows in each lake at any one time. There is also a small number of wild trout which creep in through the screens, a very small number of grayling and a population of rudd. Whilst a Zoom meeting is a very effective way of conducting an AGM, The Piscatorial Society sets out to be a society of friends and we do lose a social occasion by not having a live meeting. We can however claim to be politically correct by reducing driving!

Some rook nests came down in our local rookery in a recent storm and I would guess that other early nesting birds such as Blackbirds and Robins will have suffered some losses. I have been syphoning out water from my marsh garden in order to avoid it becoming a lake. RM

THOUGHTS FROM MY GARDEN

I do hope the weather has improved since I wrote this!

Weather watching is important to those of us keen to garden this month. Not only are we looking for dry spells to mow and hoe, but garden insects are now coming out in force. The RHS has recently suggested that we should love slugs and snails and give them a chance! Difficult I say! But let's think of those we love and find useful first.

Top of the list must be bees, so many different types from the honeybee to the big ground dwelling bumble bees that zoom around looking rather drunk. They, of course, are our top pollinators and we need to look after them. I love watching them dive into a flower, wiggling their bottoms and loading their back legs with pollen and hopefully spreading it to other flowers. Ladybirds come next for me, they can consume 50 aphids per day and their larvae eat even more blackfly and greenfly. They like pollen so it's a good idea to grow Calendula, Angelica and Fennel to encourage them. Lacewings also love blackfly so are particularly welcome in the veg plot, as are Hoverflies. Their larvae love aphids and they look so delicate and lovely to watch

when they're hovering like tiny helicopters over the flowers. Spiders are not my favourite beastie, except when I can see their lovely webs highlighted by frost, but love them or hate them they do help to maintain a good balance of insects. We have lots of fast-moving ground spiders in the gravel patrolling for bugs, so I try not to disturb them, which is almost inevitable when weeding the gravel paths. Centipedes (which are unlikely to have 100 legs in spite of their name!), are a very ancient creature and they hunt slugs and woodlice as well as other earth dwelling grubs. I always seem to have lots in my compost heap.

Which brings us back to slugs and snails. They love young Hostas and most of Mike's young vegetables, so a lot of young plants need to be protected from them. They are great composters and very happy munching rotting material, so could be considered a friend of recycling. Fortunately, they are an important food source for birds, beetles and frogs. Hedgehogs also like them but they prefer worms.

I love the idea of not just me, but lots of these little helpers in all their delightful forms all working away in the garden to make it look its best. But I will reserve judgement on slugs! Ali Tebbs



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DOWN ON THE FARM

We have a new game; well, the dogs and I do.

With the flood levels so high and the river merging in with the meadows for much of the winter and now spring we have a steady flow of debris collecting at one of our bridges. The dogs quickly discovered there was a regular supply of balls coming our way and we now have a dedicated box in the sitting room for the ample collection that has been gathered. We managed three on one morning, caused a bit of a kerfuffle as we have four dogs but one was content with a plastic bottle, we have collected a good stock of those as well!

I say we, as rather a lot of the ball and bottle collection seems to have involved me getting down on my hands and knees, precariously hanging through the rails of the bridge with my hiking pole manoeuvring the balls (and bottles) to a position safe enough for the dogs to collect. Can I also say we have retrieved a fine collection of flip flops, not a pair yet but I find it entertaining as I can imagine people going home from swimming with only one flip flop, if any?

The farm is still very wet, and it is looking highly unlikely the dairy herd will be out on the grass before May, not ideal but we must work with mother nature.

The barley was planted and earlier than last year, we had a few dry days, and we grabbed the opportunity to get it into the ground. Long days and nights but worth it for the peace of mind knowing it is at least in the ground.

The wind is as much a problem as the rain, especially for spraying and fertilizer as both jobs are reliant on accurate application or there can be dire consequences to crops (not just ours but our neighbours if that close and the wind is in their direction) but financially as well.

I am sure I have mentioned before how, my early morning alarm call is Robert cussing the latest weather forecast from the comfort of the bed; he can merrily look at a number of different forecasts, none of which ever say the same. I then get minute by minute updates until a decision is made. I joke, but it really is frustrating when your work is so reliant on what the weather is doing.

The solar panels are doing a grand job and recently we had our longest stint of power from them as they even powered the night milking for a brief period of time. There really are brighter days ahead of us and plenty to look forward to (we hope) 'down on the farm'.

Kit Pottow



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TURBO'S DOG BLOG FOR EARLY SUMMER

and I have history here. The last one started badly; I tried my utmost to embarrass the Guvnor and his wife by having my morning constitutional in the churchyard on arrival - but he spotted it, bagged it and disposed of it later (considerate not to bring it in with him, I thought).

We began by singing:

'All things bright and beautiful,
(the Guvnor's wife, I thought);

All creatures great and small (me and me, I thought);

All things wise and wonderful (the Guvnor, he thought -huh?)

The Lord God made them (us) all'.

It is the Guvnor's favourite hymn and takes him directly back to his childhood when it was the sort of thing that made children homesick and most adults puke. He and I think it is fantastic, and we love it.

Anyway, I have composed a little ditty of my own in praise of the pet service concept to encourage pets to come (with well-behaved owners, of course):

There are services for funerals, for baptisms and re-union,
For weddings and the harvest, rogation and communion.

To consecrate all sorts of things to help make them all holy,
From the greatest and the good, to the naughtiest and the lowly.

So given the importance to man of the animal kingdom,

Large and small, wise and silly, the noisy and the dumb;

The beasts of burden, birds of the air and all the household pets,

We should love and honour all of them, so nobody forgets.

A Pet Service occasionally should really do that trick,

As long as its inclusive - for Tom, Harry, and of course for Dick.

For smooth-coated and hairy dogs, for hamsters and the rat,

The bantam and canary, and Granny's aged cat.

A couple of words of caution to organisers near and far,

Separate and spread them out to avoid an all-out war.

And just in case of mishap, wee or serious threat,

Ready the bucket and the mop - and do warn off the vet.

(PS: It's doggerel really, but it was written by a dog!)

In an idle moment looking round the last gathering, I thought the poor Rector's dog collar was a bit dull. It was plain white, it had no studs or Day-Glo sparkles, no buckles, no disc with the address of the Rectory on it and no invitation to 'Scan me'. I wondered what happens if they wander off?

It will be worth coming to this next one, if only because they are always unpredictable. Children are especially welcome, as well as other pets (no pheasants please) and variety makes it more fun and not just a fest for dog botherers.

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BIG SLEEP STARGAZING SLEEPOUT AT MESSUMS

BIG SLEEP STARGAZING SLEEPOUT AT MESSUMS

Friday 24th - Saturday 25th May

Alabaré would like to invite you to a very special stargazing sleepout at Messums at Tisbury, part of the International Dark Sky Reserve, to raise funds for Alabaré's work supporting the homeless.

Participants will sleep out in the courtyard alongside the barn, with the opportunity to join in with terrific activities during the evening which will add to the poignancy and atmosphere.

• Join actress Pippa Haywood for a moving Moonlit or Twilight Walk, during which we will remember those who are homeless through poetry, while celebrating the natural landscape around us.

• Learn from the fabulous Cranborne Chase National Landscape team, who will talk us through the wonders of the astronomical dark night sky above us.

• Be assisted by a team of astronomers who will allow us to look through telescopes where we (hopefully) can see the constellations for ourselves.

Alabaré has many years' experience in

delivering sleep out events in wonderful venues around the country. This event is suitable for individuals as well as families with children over the age of 8.

For details on how to register and fundraising targets please visit <https://alabare.co.uk/events/the-big-sleep-stargazing-sleepout/>

Local charity Alabaré provides support and accommodation for people who are vulnerable, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless across Wiltshire and the South West.

Helen Inglis h.inglis@alabare.co.uk

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DID YOU KNOW ? Pub names

The British local pub is a unique institution and can be found in every British city, town and in many villages. Sadly, due to economic factors, many pubs have closed in recent years, but the 'local pub' is still an important meeting place in our communities.

Many pubs are centuries old and were named at a time when most of their customers were illiterate but could recognise pub signs. The naming of pubs is said to originate from Roman times, when the 'tavernae' would hang vine leaves outside as a trading sign, in order to notify passers-by that wine was being sold within. It has been suggested that when the Romans invaded Britain, vine leaves were in short supply, so they hung bushes outside instead and this gave rise to many pubs being named The Bush, The Hollybush or The Bull and Bush.

By the 12th century, the naming of inns and public houses was fairly common. Ale was the primary trade and therefore many public houses chose names which suggested the brewing of beer; for example, The Barley Mow, The Three Barrels or The Hop Pole. In 1393, during the reign of King Richard II, an act was passed which made it compulsory for pubs and inns to have a sign in order to identify them as official drinking houses.

Pub names offer a glimpse into the

past, sometimes when all other evidence has disappeared. Some pubs are named after animals, for example, The Ostrich Inn, The Packhorse, The Four Swans, The Olde Fighting Cocks and the Black Horse. Other pubs have names reflecting coats of arms, such as The Talbot Arms, The Eagle and Child, The Castle and very well known, The Red Lion. Names of pubs that start with the word 'Three', are often based on the arms of a London Livery company or trade guild, for example, The Three Horseshoes, The Three Tuns and The Three Wheatsheafs. Many landowners' coats of arms also appear on pub signs, for example, The Duke of Bedford, The Prince Albert, The Queen Victoria.

Many pub names also have trades and tools in their title, reflecting the occupations of local people; for example, The Glazier's Arms, The Blacksmith's Arms, The Carpenters Arms and The Drovers Inn. Myths and legends also feature on some pub signs, for example, The George and Dragon, The Green Man and Moonrakers.

By 1700 some pubs and inns had paired or combined names, such as The Boot and Shoe, The Plough and Sail and The Swan and Woolpack. Other hostelries were given personal names or titles, such as The Rupert Brooke, The Prince Leopold and The Shakespeare. The building itself

was sometimes the name of the pub, for example, The Hippodrome (a former cinema), and The Crooked House, which was recently illegally demolished and has been widely featured in the news.

Many pubs also have names which reflect the service which they offered, for example, The Coach and Horses, The Horse and Groom and The Farriers Arms. Beer and wine also feature in many titles, such as The Three Barrels, The Cock and Bottle and The Malt Shovel. Many pubs along the coast have names with a nautical inference, such as The Old Ferryboat, The Ship Inn and The Steam Packet Tavern. Hunting and blood sports have also given their names to many pubs, for example, The Dog and Duck, Bird in Hand and The Greyhound.

The institution of the British pub is inextricably interwoven into the social and economic history of our land. And finally, here is the list of the ten most popular pub names in Great Britain, published in 2019. (Pubs Galore site.)

- 1.The Red Lion (558); 2.The Crown (509); 3.The Royal Oak (432); 4.The White Heart (317); 5.The Swan (296); 6.The Plough (294); 7.The Railway (294); 8.The White Horse (286); 9.The Kings Arms (245); 10.The Ship (244)

Jonathan Wansey

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AN ART CHALLENGE

While looking online for ideas for themes for May, I discovered that the first Saturday of this month is World Naked Gardening Day. Not surprisingly, the idea started in the United States but is now recognised here with participants being encouraged in either their own private space or a public park! I can't imagine that many participants will be found along the Wylde valley.

However, on this theme, I attend a life drawing class most weeks which I really enjoy. Trying to capture the human figure in varying postures and from differing angles is a constant challenge and one that I love. We usually start with

quick poses, lasting one or two minutes, encouraging quick, broad strokes with no time to fuss. Sometimes we use our non-



dominant hand, another time a different pen/pencil in each hand or even draw just looking at the model all the time, without

looking at the paper. All great fun, often with unexpected results. You could try this with any subject.

Your challenge this month is to draw people in different postures. Try to capture them quite quickly. I have included two pictures as examples, one in pencil the other is charcoal... all clothed as I don't think the Parish News is quite ready for nudes! *Angela Rosenthal*

CHESS OR SCRABBLE ANYONE?

If anyone in the villages would like to play a regular game of chess and /or scrabble I would be happy to co-ordinate. Please ring me on 01985 841233 or email cbeharrell@yahoo.co.uk CB



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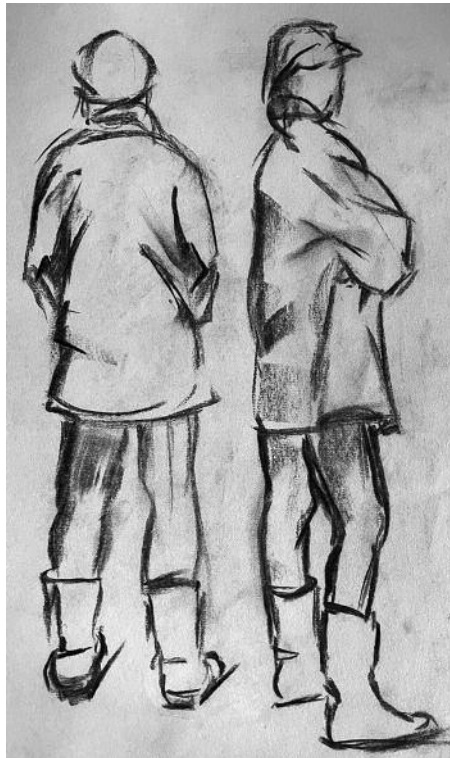
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VILLAGE NEWS

CODFORD POURS A WELCOME!

'Grateatude' Rises to Codford St Peter, from your new tea-loving writer, Lizzie Leigh

I credit this penning to the heavenly church bells accompanying rain the other Tuesday evening and the word 'thank you' ringing in my ears. Why? For 'serendipitea', 'generositea' and a love of the Wylve Valley conspiring to bring the little leaves and me to Codford St Peter, my new writing home. We love it.

Desperately looking for somewhere to park 'Lady M' (veteran caravan and my writer's retreat) last November, a kind stranger in a Tisbury tearoom offered space out of the grey. Where? Tucked away in an already water-logged bit of thicket near the A36, close to a place I'd never been before: 'Codford'. Wet, like the rest of the country, but perfect.

It got wetter. The challenge? How to clear and get 'Lady M' into position through ground so boggy little but an amphibious vehicle could cope? Family helping with strimming that morning, and friends who had moved the caravan down from Berkshire, shook their heads as if I were bonkers as I muttered darkly, 'She will be in her new home by the end of the day.' She had to be, there was nowhere else for her to go...

My late father's favourite Bible quote echoed reassuringly, 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart...' [Prov. 3: 5] There was nothing else to do. A visit to Codford Tearooms for a caffeine pick-me-up coincided with Gerry Poolman delivering logs. And in a matter of moments, he offered to meet me with a mini digger boasting caterpillar treads! 'Lady M' precariously wobbled her way into her current home, sharing it with birds of all kinds, squirrels and even a slow worm.

The tearooms - with its super-friendly team headed up by Kevin - became an unofficial 'home office'. And in the gap between writing and publishing, temporary work Front of House in the tearooms helped both our needs up to Christmas. Now it has turned into regularly serving behind the counter, usually on Wednesdays.

The residents of Codford St Peter and surrounding villages couldn't be more friendly. I'd love to say thank you to Kevin, Gerry and others and meet more of you. And it will be good to enter more fully into village life, although I'm somewhat reclusive.

Meanwhile, to express my gratitude, come and enjoy a complimentary cup of specially created 'Thank You Blend' Tea and a wee nibble of something sweet.

When? From 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm on Monday 13th May with 'thank you's' and demo of 'what tea you might be?' for one lucky guest at 6 pm.

Where? Codford Tearooms of course! Hope to see you there.

Naturally, copies of my just published book, 'Teas Like You - Distinguished Leaves Too' will be available to purchase and which I'd be happy to sign.

And from mid-May a little bird told me that you'll be able to enjoy the tearooms on a Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings - check their Facebook page or pop in to find out exactly when and what will be on offer! *Lizzie Leigh*

A BIG THANK YOU!

When my dear husband Raymond's funeral took place in St George's Church, Warminster on April 3rd, I knew there would be goodly number of relatives, old friends and church members; but I was quite overwhelmed by the loving support I felt when seeing so many from Codford.

We had lived here so contentedly for nearly twenty-eight years, and I said a prayer of thankfulness for a quirk of fate that brought us to a then unknown village and a yet to be built cottage where I still live, in the grounds of the Wool House, in this welcoming village. *Catherine Hayne*

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VILLAGE NEWS

HEYTESBURY

The wooden bench outside the west front of the church has provided a resting place for many villagers as well as walkers and cyclists passing through the churchyard. The bench was presented to the church by Gill Prior but after many years of use, the bench was in desperate need of repair. Thanks to the generosity of Trish Fellowes and Arthur Smith, the bench is once again in good condition. After the official reinstating of the bench on March 30th, two walkers enjoyed a relaxing picnic on the bench that afternoon.

Unfortunately, we had to postpone the famous Heytesbury Duck race this year due to the height and flow of the river. However, a Duck Hunt was arranged for the children. Five hundred ducks were hidden in the churchyard, the garden of the Red Lion Pub and along Mill Street. In a matter of minutes, children descended on the unsuspecting ducks, collecting all but four which may eventually be discovered. In addition, a Duck Shy tested the skills of the older children and adults as they aimed tennis balls at a row of ducks. The four winners of both events were justly rewarded for their efforts and each participating child received a chocolate egg. Karen's market and the church's cake stalls did a roaring trade on the day.

During the Easter break, the Heytesbury School children took part in the Easter Experience in the church. Six different scenes from the Easter story provided the backdrop to the retelling of Christ's final days by volunteers with the children participating in each story. The cross was erected in the churchyard on Maundy Thursday, and a garden tomb arranged to the side of the south porch. The crosses were made by children participating in the Easter Experience. Thanks to everyone.

Tina Sitwell

SHERRINGTON NEWS

Written for May but still April at the time of writing, even the name April conjures up a vision of freshness. Green. First buds and Primroses, colour in the village is largely yellow and white. In the churchyard primroses advance to other areas, this year they have begun to girdle the wall. We had a neighbour who is buried here and for some time I have put primrose plants along the plot. This year I am delighted to see that they are settling in. On the bank outside the village they have spread, too obviously suited by the pretty continuous rain!

Daffodils heralded Easter. Someone, I thought it was Julie but she says not, remembered the little church and put a vase in a window for Easter Sunday. Violets are out. In the Great Ridge I looked for wood anemones but a bit too early, leaves indicate bluebells sometime soon. In one area intense forestry has violated an area of bluebells and fox

gloves. However Nature is resilient and when the detritus is gone they will reappear.

In the village the two willows at the end of the footbridge are always the first to green and now there are kingcups, handsome yellow flags and starry celandines. Hedgerows are drifted with the snow of blackthorn.

Sherrington is favoured with a stunning display of cherry blossom, I think the white flowers particularly beautiful. Bit of a stand off on the cress bed at the moment with swans and Canada geese both checking out nest sites. However, this morning when taking Little Dog for her "special", the female Canada goose is on a nest on the small island while the swans are building in a reedbed! One hopes they are charitable to each other's young, not always the case.

Of course, the epitome of Spring is the sight of sooty black lambs bouncing about in the paddock!

Wonderful volunteers spent a Sunday afternoon of major clearing and the huge brambles on the bank were conquered. Afraid, Tyto and I headed off to the Great Ridge. In my defence, as I move more and more like Jones in Dad's Army; my contribution would have been minimal!

We live in the age of disposables, among which count battery hens, short lives spent in intense production and then they are binned. Brilliant then when a friend came to the door with a box of handsome eggs! They were an offering from their little flock of "rescues" now plump, fully feathered and enjoying the freedom of their little orchard and delights of the muck heap, chicken heaven and as a thank you they produce wonderful eggs

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5 MAY 6th Sunday of Easter	Heytesbury	9.30am	Sunday Worship	
	Sutton Veny	9.30am	Sunday Worship for Rogation	
	Codford St Peter	11.00am	Parish Communion	choir
	Upton Lovell	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	
Ascension Day Thursday 9th	Sherrington	6.00pm	Evensong for Ascension Day	choir
12 May Sunday after Ascension Day	Tytherington	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
	Upton Lovell	9.30am	Celtic Morning Prayer	
	Heytesbury	11.00am	Parish Communion	choir
	Codford St Mary	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	
19 May PENTECOST	Boyton	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
	Codford St Peter	9.30am	Morning Prayer on Sunday	choir
	Norton Bavant	11.00am	Parish Communion	
26 May TRINITY SUNDAY	Sutton Veny	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	
	Codford St Mary	9.30am	Parish Communion	
	Knook	11.00am	Matins	choir
	Heytesbury	6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	

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