

PARISH NEWS

OF THE UPPER WYLYE VALLEY

APRIL 2025

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR READERS, ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTORS.



Sandra Hares



Robin Culver



Jonathon Royds

Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Codford

Romy Wyeth



Inside

The Diary
page 2

Thoughts from my garden
page 4

A world-class mosaic
page 6

Down on the Farm
page 8

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.



UPPER WYLYE VALLEY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS

At the 3rd March breakfast Justin de Meo spoke about the background to and the work of the Monte San Martino Trust, a charity founded in 1989 to acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of the Italian country people who rescued many of the 50,000 Allied servicemen who escaped from the Italian PoW camps after the Armistice in September 1943. As well as providing grants and bursaries, the charity's archives and support staff provide a useful resource for those trying to research the wartime experiences of relatives from a generation that often did not talk about their experiences. Through Justin's talk to the breakfasters this little-known charity now has a higher profile and a donation of £135 to support its work.

The breakfast was also an opportunity to hear about the fundraising progress on the three two-man teams that, spurred on by the talk given at the February breakfast, will be joining a Pick Ups for Peace convoy to Lviv in Ukraine later this year. You can support their plans via their 'Breakfasters fundraising for 'Pickups for Peace' entry on their Just Giving webpage. In addition, those attending the next breakfast are encouraged to bring along old/unused mobile phones that can be repurposed as drone detection devices in Ukraine.

The next breakfast, on the 7th of April, will provide an opportunity to learn about the Quaker faith, or the Religious Society of Friends as they are also known. The speaker will be John Harris, a lifelong Quaker who lives near Bath and was until his retirement the Director of the Academic Registry at Bath University.

Breakfasts are held at The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill and start at 8.15am. The cost is £15, payable in cash at the door, of which £2 will go towards the charity of the speaker's choice - on this occasion Warminster Cornerstone.

Please note, this is not a club, but is open to all. Just contact the organisers via email (uwvmfb@gmail.com), before the preceding Friday at the latest, if you'd like to attend.



CODFORD ST PETER'S CHURCH ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN SATURDAY 12TH APRIL, FROM 10-12

This is a great opportunity to help get the Church ready for Easter as well as the Church yard. So if you have some time to spare, please come to St Peter's with gardening tools or cleaning equipment (dusters, polish etc) for cleaning inside or outside and lend a hand. We would love to see you, tea and coffee will be provided.

FILMS AT THE WOOLSTORE Wednesday 2 April at 19.30 GLADIATOR II (15) Action Epic

After his North African home is conquered by the tyrannical twin emperors who now lead Rome, Lucius (Paul Mescal) is forced to enter the Colosseum as a gladiator under the control of Macrinus (Denzel Washington). He must look to his past to find strength to return the glory of Rome to its people. Directed by Ridley Scott.

Tickets are £7, available online from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-woolstore-theatre>; tickets are also available on the 3rd Sunday of the month at the theatre lunchtime drinks 12-2pm, or from the theatre from 7-7.30pm when there is a production there.

THE BOYTON AND CORTON CHURCH FETE 2025 Sunday 15th June at 2.30pm School Field, Corton

Signposted FREE ENTRY AND PARKING
Lots of stalls and attractions
Fun dog show starts at 3.30pm
Register from 2.30 - £1per class
All proceeds to the church and Fane Hall

HEYTESBURY DUCK RACE RETURNS

Assuming the river conditions are favourable the Duck Race will be on Saturday 19th April starting in the Red Lion Pub at 12 noon.

ANZAC Commemorations in Codford

ANZAC Day will be commemorated in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Church Lane, at 6.30 am on Friday 25th April. Breakfast in Codford Village Hall afterwards; cost £12 - £15 tbc with tickets available from Budgens from about 1-18 April.

Queries please to Romy Wyeth via rosemarywyeth@btinternet.com

BRING & BUY SEEDLING & PLANT SALE

Outside
RED LION
Saturday 10th May
10.00 am to Midday

In aid of Heytesbury Knook and Tytherington Churches

STEWART PENNY SERVICES

GARDEN MACHINERY SALES, SERVICE & REPAIRS

MAYFLOWER FARM
NEW ROAD
CODFORD
BA12 0NS
TEL 07714 212806
stewartpennyservices@outlook.com

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

PARISH NEWS Editor

Chairman

Robin Culver
robinwculver@mac.com
David Shaw 850372
dandshaw@btinternet.com

ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL

The Parish News, which is not for profit, relies on and is very grateful to all advertisers without whom the magazine could not be produced. Prospective advertisers should contact Simon Guerri- Fear (see details below). However the Parish News does not endorse any of the products or services advertised and takes no responsibility for any disappointment, accident or injury, howsoever caused, resulting from purchase or involvement. We welcome contributions on any subject but reserve the right to edit to fit. Opinions expressed in material from contributors are for readers to appreciate and are not necessarily endorsed by the editorial team.

All editorial copy should be sent to the Editor
robinwculver@mac.com **by 10th of previous month.**
Advertising contact **Simon Guerri- Fear**
pnadvertising@outlook.com
Marketplace contact **Katherine Venning** 840283
katherine.venning@gmail.com

Printing by Footfall Direct

01225 706058



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,

I came across a poster the other day. It was one that certainly made me stop and think, especially as it was an 'antidote' to the way that Easter is viewed commercially.

The poster was very simple, portraying an egg with 3 crosses on top, aligned in the traditional Christian picture of the Crucifixion on Good Friday.

At first it may seem difficult to relate those images, but by taking the symbol of the crosses and the egg that we have come to associate with Easter, the picture portrays a very strong message. It tells us that we cannot have the eternal, or new life, which the egg is a symbol of, without the horror and death which the Cross brought to our Saviour. With such an image in mind, it does make the services of Holy Week and Easter much more important than many people first think.

Without the gift of Holy Communion which we commemorate on Maundy Thursday, and without our Lord's death on the Cross for us, which we remember particularly on Good Friday, we cannot

fully appreciate the celebrations of Easter Day with the wonder and joy of our Lord rising from the tomb to bring new life (portrayed in that poster by the egg) and reconciliation.

So, to share in this spiritual journey, which is our yearly reminder of what our Lord has undergone for us, do come and join in the services of Holy Week and Easter, details of which can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

I wish you God's blessing for a joyful Eastertide.

Jonathan Hiscox

PS Don't forget our Church Annual General Meetings which give us a chance to hear what's been going on over the past year and understand some of our hopes for the future.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

For what I [Paul] received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas [Peter] and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born....

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

(From Paul's first letter to the Christians in Corinth chapter 15 RH

Darren Ashley Gardening and Handyman

Grass cutting Lawn laying
Orchard and riverbank mowing
Fixing, repairing gates
and fencing
Hedge cutting and tree work
Free quotations Fully insured
no job too small

01985 300 225
07910 462 632

PROSTATE CANCER UK COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 8TH MAY
9.00-11.30AM
AT CODFORD VILLAGE HALL

COFFEE / TEA & CAKE RAFFLE AND CAKE STALL

One in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. It is now the most common cancer in men in the UK. There are around 12,000 prostate cancer deaths every year, that's 33 every day. Many of us will have personal experience of the disease or know someone who has. If caught early enough the prognosis can be good. Royalty and Celebrities have spoken of their own experience to increase awareness of Prostate Cancer. It is no longer a taboo subject to be whispered about or an embarrassment for sufferers. This coffee morning will raise much needed funding for research and awareness into Prostate Cancer. Unlike breast cancer, there is currently no national screening programme. If you are male, over 50 or have a family history of prostate cancer, or have concerns, you have the right to ask your GP for a PSA blood test. We know men are reluctant to visit their GP and it is useful for women to know the symptoms to look for, so they encourage their men folk to get tested. The Prostate Cancer UK website lists the symptoms you should be aware of. Please come along to the coffee morning to support this worthy cause.

For further details about this event or if you are willing to help or get involved contact Clifford Stride
cgstride@btinternet.com

ILES & VINCENT FUNERAL SERVICES

WARMINSTER'S ONLY INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTOR



24 hour funeral service
in Warminster and the
surrounding villages

The Cornmarket, Warminster
01985 220161
info@ilesandvincentfuneralservices.co.uk

THOUGHTS FROM MY GARDEN

I have recently returned from a visit to my son who lives in Dubai and enjoyed wonderful warm and sunny days, sitting in the garden and enjoying the sight of Frangipani and Bougainvillea. Frangipani, or Plumeria Rubra to give it its proper name, is a wonderful tree, with large oblong leaves and such a pretty highly scented flower that asks to be tucked behind the ear! The bark looks as though it's covered in barnacles and it grows really well in Dubai. Bougainvillea is native to Brazil, Argentina and Peru and thrives in Dubai in all its various colours, my favourite being red violet which doesn't really describe the colour but it's the best description I can find. One large bush had a busy sort of hummingbird, building the most delicate pouch-like nest. I hope it succeeds in bringing up a brood of chicks.

On our return home the first thing we did was to take a walk around the garden to find out what is growing and what is just beginning to peep through the soil. Snowdrops are carpeting so much of the bare soil and looking spectacular; a

few crocuses, aconites, hellebores and lungwort have also appeared and I have made a note of where to put more snowdrops when I divide and transplant them in a week or two.

Bumblebees are beginning to emerge from their over-wintering places and the queens can be heard with their rich deep buzzing around the garden looking for suitable nest sights. The buff-tailed bumble bee is the one I have noticed most, as I have rescued one or two by giving them sugar water and putting them in the sun. The queen has a thin orange stripe on her thorax, a slightly wider one on her abdomen and an off-white tail. The workers and males have white bums! Although the weather is rather wet it has been warm on some days and they come out and career round the garden looking a bit drunk. We have a dandelion on the lawn and wanted to take the head off until we noticed a bee taking the nectar, other plants with nectar are crocuses, grape hyacinths and hellebores, and later comfrey, lungwort, aquilegia and of course foxgloves.

Magnolias will be out soon and if you have one I hope it flowers without the threat of frost, they are so beautiful, but fleeting and ruined by frost. I hope the hedgehog emerges soon as I need him to have a go at the slugs and snails!

Ali Tebbs

ALBARÉ

People often ask us what they should do when they see a homeless person on the street. There isn't a simple answer, but here are some suggestions:

Approach with compassion

- Say hello and ask if they would like any help, avoiding assumptions about their situation, but listening to their story.
- Offer essentials like food, water or warm clothing, especially in cold weather.
- Retail vouchers or care packs with socks, gloves, and hygiene items are also thoughtful options.

Refer them to support partners

- Let them know about Alabaré. We have a drop-in service in Salisbury and our website, alabare.co.uk/need-help/ offers useful links.

- Encourage them to contact the Local Authority, Rough Sleeper or Homelessness Team or refer them to StreetLink.org.uk

- Call 999 if they are in immediate danger, need medical assistance, are vulnerable or appear to be under 18 years of age.

Other methods of support

- Donate to Alabaré and help ensure we can provide vital services and life-skills programmes.
- Volunteer with Alabaré and provide direct help. We have options and locations to suit everyone.

- Spread Awareness: Host a talk through your group or workplace by contacting supportercare@alabare.co.uk.

- Join one of our events such as the BIG Sleep at Salisbury Cathedral on 28th March.

Details at <https://alabare.co.uk/events/big-sleep-at-salisbury-cathedral/>
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 but together we can all respond to the homelessness crisis. To find out more about our work please visit <https://alabare.co.uk>

Personal training with Cameron Ballam



Personal Training

Certified level 3 Personal Trainer and Level 1 Nutritional Coach

Do you struggle to lose or gain weight?
Confused where to start?
Unsure if what you're doing is even working?
Personal training may be right for you.

If you are interested in receiving personal training, contact me on any of the following

Email: cameronballam.pt@outlook.com
WhatsApp: 07763571971
Instagram: @cameronballampt



Offering a Prompt and Courteous Service

- Septic Tank Emptying • Temporary Toilet Hire
- Luxury Trailer Toilets and Showers
- Welfare Units • Refrigerated Trailer Units

01747 871464

www.robbeale.co.uk

www.temporaryfacilities.co.uk

admin@temporaryfacilities.co.uk



Sarsen Roofing

For all your roofing needs

Family business

No job too big
or too small

For free quotation contact

Sarsen Roofing

01980 742200

Sarsenroofing@gmail.com

TURBO'S DOG BLOG FOR SPRING

'Spring is sprung, the grass is riz;
I wonder where them birdies is?
They say them birds are on the wing, but
that's absurd.

I always thought the wing is on the
bird.' Anon (not, anyway, Ogden Nash nor
Spike Milligan but I rather wish it could
have been the latter who delighted my
Guvnor with his epitaph 'I told you I was
ill.')

Well, the first thing to say is that
game-birdies are not on the wing; rather,
they are resting on the laurels gained
from surviving the shooting season, or
evading poor shots, and sunbathing in this
warmer Spring weather while strutting
around waving two claws at country folk;
and, I have to say, at me as even I observe
the close season and leave them alone.
Well, everyone except the pair of par-
tridge that are nesting in the hedge at the
bottom of the garden and parade past my
French windows. Fair warning that if ever
their shenanigans coincide with my being
outside, I'll be after them - and then they
can demonstrate how quickly they can
'get on the wing'.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Victorian
Poet Laureate - and for good reason in my
opinion - and whose monument I have
chased rabbits around in Freshwater in
the Isle of Wight, penned in Locksley Hall:

'In the Spring a young man's fancy turns
to thoughts of love...' Well, mine did too
as Loopy, my cousin on the Guvnor and
Muvnor's son's side, came into season this
Spring season. Tennyson might have been
a whizz at poetry, but he knew little,
apparently, about when love might come
knocking at the French windows by
my bed. I am 84 in human years and,
although deprived by the Guvnor in one of
his more thoughtless moments of my most
prized assets, fell in love again and had a
number of sleepless nights during which
we had to sleep in separate bedrooms
until, like the BBC, 'normal service
resumed'. And while I think of it, and in
regard to the BBC, the Guvnor keeps
shouting at the television and the radio in
a rant that indicates 'normal service'
might never resume. Once revered in this
household, and even if the BBC has lost its
way, I remind the Guvnor that there are
four thousand other channels he could
tune into.

Finally, as Loopy and I settle down
again after our Spring romance, I have
learned one positive thing from the
Guvnor regarding relationships and it is
this: 'Happy wife, happy life'.

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



Forrester Sylvester Mackett
SOLICITORS
What matters to you matters to us

☎ Frome	01373 485485
☎ Trowbridge	01225 755621
☎ Warminster	01985 217464

www.fsmsolicitors.co.uk

WHAT IS THIS?



The answer to last month's intriguing
photograph by Roger Hammond, is..
A KNOT OF WOOD: THE POINT AT WHICH A
SMALL BRANCH GREW.

Above is this month's photograph from
Roger. Do you know what this is?
Please email your answer to the Editor -
robinwculver@mac.com

The correct answer will be printed
in next month's magazine together with
the next brain teaser.





**Brothers
Landscapers**
Experts in Hard Landscaping

07802 446927

www.brotherslandscapers.co.uk

Far MORE PEACE OF MIND

At Farnfields Solicitors we
always put your interests first,
that's why we have been in
business since 1936.

Conveyancing, Family, Commercial,
Business, Wills, Probate, Trusts,
and more

For more information T: 01985 214661
E: info@farnfields.com or
visit www.farnfields.com






WARMINSTER TOOL HIRE

www.warminstertoolhire.co.uk

Tool and Plant machinery available
to hire in the Wiltshire and
Somerset area!

- Trailers
- Excavators
- Cement Mixers
- Compactor Plates

and MORE!

Contact us now for a quote...

E: info@warminstertoolhire.co.uk
T: 07359 677184

DID YOU KNOW? Cat's Eyes

The story goes that the late Percy Shaw almost crashed while driving home from the pub on a foggy night in Yorkshire. He was saved when his headlights were reflected in the eyes of a cat, which was sitting on the side of the road, thus preventing him from veering off the road. This experience gave Percy a brilliant idea and he invented the reflective studs for the road and he called them 'cat's eyes'.

Percy Shaw patented his invention 1934. Sales were initially slow, but approval from the Ministry of Transport gave a huge boost to production. The business grew in size, with the road studs being exported all over the world. Shaw developed his invention by later adding and patenting a rainwater reservoir to the rubber shoe, which could be used to wash the glass eyes, when a car drove over the stud. He was awarded an OBE for services to exports in the birthday honours list in 1965. In 2006, Cat's eyes were voted one of Britain's top 10 design icons in the Great British Design Quest, organised by the BBC and the Design Museum. Others in the list included Concorde, The Mini, The Spitfire, The K2 telephone box, The World Wide Web and the AEC Route master bus. The traditional cat's eyes in the middle of the road are being replaced with new LED solar power lights. These new LED studs can be seen up to 1000 yards ahead, which

is ten times further than the traditional stud. Traditional cat's eyes rely on headlights beaming onto them for them to reflect.

The new studs with LEDs inside them will light up regardless. For lovers of cats the world over, it is not just their eyes that offer great appeal. It is said that cats can inspire us to see the world through a different lens, with their playful, enigmatic and complex personalities. Cats have been the subject of poetry throughout the years, often celebrating their charm and grace. Here is a list of just a few such poems:

1. 'The naming of cats' by T.S. Eliot.
2. 'The Owl and the Pussycat' by Edward Lear.
3. 'The Cat in the Hat' by Dr Seuss.
4. 'Macavity, The Mystery Cat' by T.S. Eliot.
5. 'Cat' by Eleanor Farjeon.
6. 'The cat that walked by himself' by Rudyard Kipling.

Percy Shaw may well have known many of these poems. He died in 1976, aged 86. The legacy of his invention of 'Cat's eyes' on our roads will be forever remembered. In 2005, he was listed as one of the 50 greatest Yorkshire people, in a book by Bernard Ingham. Well done Percy!

Jonathan Wansey



A WORLD-CLASS MOSAIC

The Pantocrator (Greek for 'the Almighty') in the cathedral at Cefalù (a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Sicily) is a breathtaking mosaic high above the high altar, dating from c.1150. It is an icon in the Byzantine tradition, created not as decoration but as an object of veneration, by mosaic workers from Constantinople. I studied this mosaic at university, and have visited Cefalù twice since then to see it. It's worth looking on-line for a close-up (1.2MB) view so that you can soak in the detail. IC and XC, the letters either side of the halo, are abbreviations for Jesus and Christ. The text in Christ's left hand is from St John's gospel "I am the light of the world". My photograph was taken in daylight, without flash. Modern phones are little miracles, and so is this amazing portrait of Christ, the light of the world.

Katherine Venning

FOOLED OR FOUND?

Somewhere in this month's magazine is an April Fool, did you find it or were you fooled?



**Confused about the BT
Switch Off? Apptel can help!**

Cloud Phone Systems
Super-Fast Broadband
Business Mobiles

"...thank goodness we came across Apptel."

Rachel Corbett - Apptel Customer
G & B Griffin Jewellers, Warminster

We are a local company specialising in business telecoms. We offer fair contracts, very competitive pricing, friendly customer support, plus straightforward & clear advice.

Give us a call to see how we can help you!

Contact Justin Fellowes

☎ **01985 620133**
✉ info@apptel.co.uk
🌐 www.apptel.co.uk



KC SERVICES

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
BLOCK PAVING
ASTRO TURF
DECKING
FENCING

FREE QUOTES ON REQUEST

07718 265 837

BURROW



Septic Tank Owners: register your interest in a fully-funded upgrade to a treatment plant.

Due to the Phosphate pollution in your local river catchment we are operating a septic tank replacement scheme using private funding.

We install wastewater treatment plants that remove almost all pollutants, with funding secured from planning applicants who need to create a positive impact on the environment.

Register on our website today.

burrow-environmental.com 01935 507 508

Cleaning products and human waste contain Phosphates which, unlike Nitrates, cannot be "broken down" into harmless compounds. Phosphate needs to be bound (biologically or chemically) with other compounds to make it inaccessible to river ecosystems where it causes excessive growth of algae that robs the water of essential oxygen. You have the power to make a difference.

ANGLING NOTES

We recently had the annual meeting of the Piscatorial Society in order to discuss the 2024 season. Two subjects stood out for me, the first was water levels and the second was grayling fishing.

Ever since I joined The Society in 1979 we have had problems of low flows in the late summer and autumn, abstraction has been our main concern. Suddenly we have experienced two summers of very high flows and it is apparent that this is likely to be the situation on many occasions in the future. This causes access problems for our keepers with their equipment and access problems for members with banks that are under water. Even getting to the car parks can be problematical. There is a need therefore to raise bank levels in places and a number of our foot bridges will need to be raised. Fortunately I think that those bridges which provide vehicular access are safe at the moment. It was alarming therefore on Monday morning of this week to hear on the news that Warminster and Salisbury were in a flood risk area and when I saw the Wylfe on Tuesday it was higher than I have ever previously seen it. With the trout fishing season only some 7 weeks away the question must be, how many of our fisheries will be safe and accessible for members when the season opens?

When I joined The Society all grayling were to be killed for the benefit of the trout, and almost no one fished for grayling. The angling world at large did not understand that trout and grayling live in different niches in the ecosystem and the two populations can live side by side with only limited competition. A group of grayling enthusiasts set up The Grayling Society to enhance the status of the grayling as a game fish and to prevent the needless killing of the fish, The Society stimulated and often funded research on the Lambourn and the Wylfe and the angling press have played a part. Together over a period of some 50 years there has been an improvement in understanding due to these joint efforts and now very few grayling are killed. I was very pleased therefore, at this meeting,



that our Director of Fisheries mentioned what a significant part the grayling fishing plays in the activities of our Society. Climate change and warmer winters have helped with this.

I have seen no Fieldfares this winter and Betty Lewis in her Sherrington notes has said the same. This would appear to be due to an absence of food in this area. The spring of 24 was so cold and wet that there were no pollinators around to pollinate the hawthorn in particular and the dog roses and so the Fieldfares passed on. This is a local effect as they are present in the Nadder valley.

Robin Mulholland

middletons

SOLICITORS

Middletons Solicitors have a reputation for excellence with more than 60 years' experience delivering comprehensive legal services including:

Residential and commercial property
Wills • Trust • Probate
Dispute resolution • Mediation

m 01985 214444
enquiries@middletonslegal.com
www.middletonslegal.com

Wylfe Valley Personal Trainer Your Local PT That Comes To You!

Quality Home Fitness Training Guaranteed!

Servicing:

Boyton, Codford, Corton, Heytesbury, Knook,
Norton Bavant, Sherrington, Stockton,
Sutton Veny, The Langfords, Tytherington,
Upton Lovell, Wylfe

Mob: 07876461603

Email: steve@aimbodyfitness.com
www.aimbodyfitness.com

Jeremy Coltman Wealth Management



Our services include:

- ◆ Life assurance and critical illness
- ◆ Investment planning
- ◆ Protect your income if ill
- ◆ Retirement planning
- ◆ Inheritance tax planning
- via an Income Protection Plan

If you would like a no obligation initial consultation, please contact me.

07976 398194 jeremy.coltman@sjpp.co.uk
30a Manor Road, Upton Lovell,
Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 0JW
www.jeremycoltmanwm.co.uk

Associate Partner Practice

St James's Place

Jeremy Coltman Wealth Management is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website www.sjpp.co.uk/products. The 'St. James's Place Partnership' and the titles 'Partner' and 'Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place representatives.

GUTTER LEGENDS

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S LURKING IN YOUR GUTTERS?



Blocked gutters and downpipes can cause property issues such as damp.



Call Ben on 07879 618378



Find us on Facebook @gutterlegends



E.G. MARTIN LTD
WESTBURY (01373)
822784 / 864676

DOWN ON THE FARM

This year we celebrate 90 years as a family at East Farm, Knook. Robert's grandfather took the tenancy with Heytesbury Estate in 1935. Stanley had been brought up on the family Farm in Potterne, Devizes, with his younger brother George. He attended Dauntseys School before making the decision to go farming alone with a tenancy on a farm in Holt. For the first year at Knook he continued to run both farms, his herdsman Maurice Apline would cycle from Holt to Knook every day, having milked the herd in Holt first and then the Knook herd to then cycle back to Holt!

East Farm had a head of 30 cows being milked, the parlour was in the outbuildings by the farmhouse and we in fact had more land (with the tenancy) than we do now. The military changed the boundaries, and we never retrieved that land back.

Stanley had a strong workforce of men who all had specialised areas of work; there was a team to maintain the meadows, dairymen and there were sheep,

a few pigs and chickens and turkeys to be looked after. The pigs were used as guard animals to keep the fox away from the hens. Chickens were always a big part of the farm and we finally gave them up 16 years ago (much to Robert's sadness) to allow for space to increase the dairy unit and the market at the time was not good. Stanley married Maud (Mollie) Tucker, a girl from Hilperton, Trowbridge. Mollie's parents were market gardeners, and she adapted to farming life quickly with a particular fondness for the two shire horses that Stanley had taken with the tenancy.

Susanne was their first child followed by Michael in December 1941. During the war years Mollie housed Army Officers wives; they bunked up in the end bedrooms which in the early years of the house would have been storage for hay and straw. The woman would have either been working on the farm or working for the military.

Stanley continued to work the farm

and was a member of the Codford Home Guard. We still have a Pill Box in the paddock behind the house. Once redundant of its original use it has provided great entertainment to every generation of children in the family.

Michael came home to the farm after attending Lackham College, he had new ideas and Stanley was willing to listen, the Shorthorn herd was replaced from 1964 with Friesians, now Holsteins. Gem being the first black and white and we still have Gems in the herd that can be traced back to the original Gem.

Michael and Stanley became joint tenants in 1966, the year Michael married Elizabeth and Robert arrived in 1969. After Stanley suffered a heart attack and was advised to 'ease off', Michael and Elizabeth moved to the farmhouse in 1970 with a young Robert, and Richard on the way. Nicholas was to arrive in 1974, giving the Pottows a trio of future farmers and that is exactly what happened. Robert became tenant in 2009 and has worked with his brothers in partnership since they all finished university/college and gained experience elsewhere. Jamie, our son returned to the farm in 2022, having graduated from university and lived in Canada working.

The farm has seen huge change over the 90 years but is still a family farm, with the emphasis on family. Jamie has two younger cousins who both show an eagerness for the farm and, with a strong relationship with our landlords, the Pottows hope to see many more decades and continue to be as progressive as the family has always strived to be, from producing the best quality products with the highest animal welfare and up to date methods with a strong team of staff and family working together down on the farm.

Kit Pottow



Stanley Pottow stood at the top of Home field amongst the chicken and turkey with the pigs as guard animals.
Photograph September 1939

TO DISCUSS YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

- Home • Business • Tradesperson
- Motor • Farm • Bespoke Home

Call your local office in **Warminster**
on **01985 845116**
warminster@nfumutual.co.uk



THE HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN, HEYTESBURY



Charity No: 200669

THIS ALMSHOUSE
CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
ACCOMMODATION FOR THOSE IN NEED
IN EITHER SINGLE AND DOUBLE BEDROOM
FLATS OR BUNGALOWS.

Please contact the Administrator, Paul Budd,
on 01985 840441
or EMAIL: stjohnshospital2018@outlook.com
for further information
and to arrange an informal visit.

More information can be found on our
website at: www.st-johns-hospital.org.

VILLAGE NEWS

CODFORD VILLAGE HALL CODFORD COMMUNITY WEBSITE UPDATE

Visitors to our website seem to have been enjoying the quizzes based on feedback received and visitor numbers, so thank you for your continued support. For March we have a set of printable Mother's Day drawings to colour and give to mums. In April we're running an Easter themed quiz, so if you have any easter themed questions, please feel free to share them with us (codfordcommunity@gmail.com).

We're adding more historical photos to our gallery and creating a digital library that will be a valuable resource for us and future generations. If you have any old photos that you would be willing to share, please send them to us via our email address, with a brief description.

And lastly, our weekly Facebook events update seem to be well received. Share them with friends and visit codfordcommunity.co.uk (our website) for the latest happenings in Codford and surrounding areas. If anyone is interested in helping us with our weekly Facebook update, please do let us know. Thanks for your continued support, it's really appreciated.

CODFORD VILLAGE HALL RENOVATION

The Trustees of Codford Village Hall plan to "future proof" the building. Works have already commenced and a report will be printed at a later date.



CODFORD FIREWORKS CHARITY SUPPORTS LOCAL CAUSES

Last month we published a note of thanks for 'People who do...' and featured in it a report on the Codford Fireworks. At the end of February that team presented some of its profits set aside for charitable purposes, with benefactors including the Tennis Club, the School, the Caterpillars, Riding for the Disabled, the Village Hall and the Parish News. At the presentation ceremony, recipients voiced their appreciation, highlighting the difference the donations would make.

In addition, training of a puppy as a Guide Dog is being sponsored. Well done, the Fireworks Team and thank you.
DS



CODFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB APRIL TALK

The next talk at the April meeting of the Codford and District gardening club will be a talk titled "The Wardian case and Other Bright Ideas that Changed Gardening", with guest speaker Abigail Wills. Abigail is a writer and editor with an interest in gardening and the arts. This talk is based upon one of her books "The Remarkable case of Dr Ward and other Amazing Gardening Innovations" and "A rollicking potted history of horticulture from the Roman Empire to the inspired innovators of 19th Century Amateur Gardening."

CODFORD KEY COMMUNITY EVENTS DURING APRIL 2025

- 2nd Film night at the Woolstore.
This month's film is 'Gladiator II'.
 - 3rd - 5th The Woolstore presents the world premiere of 'Gazumped' the latest hilarious comedy by prolific playwrights Joe Laredo and Clare George. Tickets are £7, and are available online from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-woolstore-theatre>.
19:30 - The Woolstore theatre.
 - 6th Codford park run. Codford Village Hall grounds at 10am
 - 6th Codford Tea rooms hosts 'The Sylvertones', a 3 piece acoustic band, from 13.30 - 14.30.
 - 7th Men's fellowship breakfast at The George, Longbridge Deverill at 08:15.
 - 7th Codford Parish Council meeting - 19:30 at Codford Village Hall.
 - 10th Hearing aid clinic at Codford Village Hall from 10:00 - 12:00.
 - 11th The Woolstore AGM. 19:30 at the Woolstore theatre.
 - 12th Free drama workshops at the Woolstore theatre from 10:30 - 12:30.
 - 16th Codford and district gardening club meeting and talk titled 'The wardian case and other bright ideas that changed gardening' with guest speaker Abigail Wills. 19:30 Codford village hall.
 - 20th The Woolstore theatre monthly drinks. Woolstore theatre from 12:00 - 14:00.
 - 20th Ginny's monthly arts and crafts market. 10:00 - 14:00 - Gingery Piggery, Boyton.
 - 25th St Mary's ANZAC Cemetery: Commemoration Service at 6.30am open to all (Breakfast afterwards in Village Hall - pre-booked tickets from Budgens 1-18 April)
- Looking ahead: Sunday 4th May St Peter's: 80th anniversary of VE Day HC service at 11am

Gardens and Trees

Garden Maintenance
Planting
Landscaping
Tree Surgery/hedge trimming.

Peter Longbourne HND NCA
Ground Control (UK) Ltd
01985 840171 (Est 1989)
07900 174192
peterlongbourne@outlook.com

Garden Structures

Outdoor Carpentry
Fences and Landscaping
Paths, Paving and Walls
Full design and build service.

Alex Mackintosh
Garden Structures
01380 830348 (Bratton)
07802 543784
alexwmackintosh@gmail.com



Don't forget all services in the Team are listed in the Parish News p.11 and on the Team website
www.upperwylyealleyteam.com

ACTIVITIES EACH WEEK

Tue: Pilates & short mat bowls.
Wed: Pilates, Choir, Fit club.
Thurs: Community café, happy hearts, clubercise and Badminton.

VILLAGE NEWS

HEYTESBURY CHURCHYARD

A very rare spring flower called a 'liarp' has been spotted in Heytesbury churchyard. Like most spring flowers it has a yellow hue but with only three petals, each one known as a 'fule'. The flower is about two inches tall but lives only for a day. Elsewhere in the UK the earliest sighting has been recorded on or around the first day of April. See if you can spot the flower in the grass.

REPORTING A CRIME

A resident of Heytesbury, following an act of vandalism, phoned the Warminster Police Station number, but this was apparently the wrong number to phone. Lukasz Kolasinski, our local Police officer says this:

"To report a crime, members of the public are required to call on 999 when a crime is in progress, or 101 with a crime which require some slow time enquiries like in this instance.

Alternatively, please use our Wiltshire Police dedicated online portal (you will find it if you google 'Wiltshire Police') where you can report your crime by writing.

Lastly, when reporting I would strongly encourage to enclose as much evidence to this including pictures, cctv footage or other evidential materials which might help in further investigation to this crime."

KTV Systems

TV aerials, satellite TV and CCTV installations and repairs.

info@ktvsystems.co.uk

07825 812955 or 220247

SHERRINGTON

February seemed to last for a year but finally bowed out with good grace, gifting us some wonderful days of Spring. Snowdrops fade, primroses smile and there are daffodils. Suddenly afternoons lengthen, a reminder that in a few weeks the clocks will go forward.

Buds on trees are still tight, they cannot have relished the frosty mornings. The exceptions are the tough old elders now with leaves and I am sure they will be followed by willow trees at the end of the footbridge. The islands on the Cress Bed are so overgrown that they will probably deter the swans from nesting. However, news is that up at the Manor nest building has begun on an island in the lake. The family of last year has survived though I imagine now the young swans will be moved on by the adults.

It will soon be time to welcome the summer migrants (avian) I read that offshore wind farms are to be painted black to deter bird strikes. That must surely be a bad idea as migrants often fly at night. A more positive development is the discovery of an effective antidote to the destructive Varroa mite, a parasite attacks honey bees leading to reduced yields and the eventual collapse of

colonies. Not only does this cost the British bee-keeping industry some £27 million a year but results in the destruction of crucial pollinators and that is a threat to the wider food chain. The new pesticide RNA interference is the most effective answer so far.

When William Cobbett embarked on his Rural Rides in the 19th century he rode through Warminster and pronounced it a prosperous town. One looks at the High Street now and wonders what went wrong. The flail has been very busy working the hedgerows. There is a useful track leading down to The Dairy and beyond to the Old Chalk Pit. The amount of detritus left behind makes it pretty hazardous to someone like me who staggers along and can trip over a feather. I have moved the smaller branches but I am defeated by anything larger.

The unfairness of the world is beyond belief. What about Sherrington hiring a minibus and going to voice our disapproval of the forthcoming visit! Any day now I shall go to the garage and prepare my banner. It will be short and to the point and the last word will be 'off!'. On a joyful note, enjoy the bird-song. Lucky us.

Betty Lewis

HELP THE HRGT SAVE THE HEYTESBURY PARKLAND

The Heytesbury Recreation Ground Trust need to raise **£330,000 by the end of April** to preserve this historic part of Heytesbury history.

All donations gratefully received!

email: mcjhutchings@hrctrust.co.uk



www.heytesbury-plumbing.co.uk

Mobile - 07925719972

Telephone - 01985 840891

E-mail - info@heytesbury-plumbing.co.uk



For all your gas, oil and general plumbing needs.

Simple PC Help
technology problems, fixed.



- Apple & PC computer support
- Tablet & Smart phone set up
- Independent purchasing advice
- Printers & Internet issues fixed
- Help protect your identity online
- One-to-One training
- Smart home device set up
- Competitive hardware repairs

01985 330073 & 07979 252573
info@simplepchehelp.co.uk
www.simplepchehelp.co.uk

WORSHIP in the UPPER WYLYE VALLEY APRIL 2025

6 APRIL 5th Sunday of Lent	Sutton Veny Codford St Peter Heytesbury Upton Lovell	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Morning Prayer on Sunday Sunday Worship Evensong (BCP)	choir
13 April PALM SUNDAY	Tytherington Upton Lovell Heytesbury Codford St Mary	8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Sunday Worship Evensong (BCP)	choir
Monday 14th Tuesday 15th Wednesday 16th	Sutton Veny Tytherington Sherrington	6.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm	Compline Compline Compline	
Maundy Thursday 17th	Codford St Peter Norton Bavant	6.00pm 6.00pm	Last Supper with hymns Maundy Thursday Communion	choir
Good Friday 18th	Codford St Mary Norton Bavant Upton Lovell	12.00noon 2.00pm 2.00pm	Hour Before the Cross The Last Hour The Last Hour	
20 April EASTER DAY	Tytherington Sutton Veny Codford St Mary Upton Lovell Boyton Sherrington Heytesbury Norton Bavant Knook	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion (BCP) Easter Communion Easter Communion Easter Communion Easter Communion Easter Communion Easter Communion Evensong (BCP)	
25 April	Codford St Mary	6.30am	Anzac service	
27 April	Codford St Mary Knook Sutton Veny Heytesbury	9.30am 11.00am 3.00pm 6.00pm	Morning Prayer Parish Communion with Archdeacon Alan Jeans Anzac Service Evensong (BCP)	choir

UWVT WEEKDAY SERVICES

Fridays Sutton Veny 8.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

TWO IMPORTANT SERVICES ON THE SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

The Venerable Alan Jeans, our Archdeacon, is retiring this summer. He is making a special visit to celebrate Parish Communion at Knook at 11 a.m. on Sunday 27 April. Kit Pottow has promised cake after the service.

The Venerable Stephen Robbins will lead the ANZAC service at Sutton Veny at 3 p.m. on 27 April.

ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

31 Boreham Road, Warminster BA12 9JP

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Anthony Paris

ATTACHED PRIESTS

Fr Jonathan Creer Fr Saji Mathew

01985 212329

HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN, HEYTESBURY

CHAPEL SERVICES

Wednesdays Morning Prayer at 10.00
3rd Sunday of the month
Holy Communion at 10.30

General Manager Paul Budd

01985 840441



Ear wax removal carried out by experienced, insured, registered nurses

Clinics in Frome and Warminster (home visits at additional cost)

Over 100 5 star google reviews

Book online: www.earclear.co.uk

Phone: 01985 298008

OLD FRIENDS REMEMBERED

Our sympathy and love go to all those who mourn the passing of

Glenda Kemp

(originally from Heytesbury)

Gerry Good of Codford.

May they rest in the peace

LENT EVENTS

HEYTESBURY :

Tuesday 8 April, 12.30-1.30

Lent Lunch in the Residents' lounge of Heytesbury of St John with funds raised going to charity.

SUTTON VENY : Saturday 12th April

The Lent walk (meet at SV Village Hall) will move off at 11.00 and aim to be back at the hall by about 1215. All are welcome (including children and well behaved dogs) will be followed by Lent Lunch (soup, bread, cheese & apple) in Sutton Veny Village Hall at 12.30 with funds raised going to charity.



PRAYER GROUP

We pray daily.

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

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

PARISH OFFICE

upperwylyevalleyteam@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAM

Team Rector Vacancy

Team Vicar Vacancy

Ordained Minister with Permission to Officiate

The Revd Jonathan Hiscox 840966

jonathan.hiscox@btinternet.com

Licensed Lay Ministers

Katherine Venning LLM 840283

katherine.venning@gmail.com

Barbara Luscombe LLM

barbara_luscombe@hotmail.com 840830

CONTACTS FOR OUR CHURCHES

Boyton & Corton Susanna Maitland 851191
Codford St Mary David Shaw 850372
87899 906371

Codford St Peter Alasdair McGregor 850073

Heytesbury Tina Sitwell 840556

Knook Robert Pottow 850285

Norton Bavant John Acworth 840134

Edward Moore 840420

Sherrington Richard Morris 07555425110

Sutton Veny Richard Jackman 840899

Sandy Barton 07769 781392

/841157

Tytherington Caroline Lester-Card 07787556505

Upton Lovell Gilly Cumming 850834

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

Codford Henry Collins 850193

Sutton Veny Richard Jackman 840899

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Kim Sutton

suttonkimh@gmail.com

BELL RINGERS Nick Claypoole 850724

PARISH CHOIR Katherine Venning 840283

Gloriousfood.uk

Glorious Food

Home-made food for all occasions

Dinners, lunches, funeral teas
Canapé parties

Please email or ring if you'd like to discuss a forthcoming event

Melanie Lee

07790 082162

melcooking@hotmail.com

find me on Instagram - melsgloriousfood

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS Please telephone 840283 for any changes.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Dr Andrew Murrison MP 01225 358584
CORNERSTONE 01985 220657
 cornerstone-warminster.org

NATIONAL DEBT LINE 0800 8084000
AGE UK 0300 3031234

SIMPLE ENERGY ADVICE LINE 0800 444202

CRIME STOPPERS 0808 1689111

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE 0800 953 0110

ENERGY SAVING TRUST

energysavingtrust.org.uk
WILTSHIRE COUNCIL 0300 456 0100
 customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk for help with

council tax, financial support, welfare provision,
 free school meals and childcare, help in a crisis.

WILTSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Andrew Davis 217431
 Christopher Newbury 01373 822508
 Bill Parks 07484 826540

POLICE: Warminster Neighbourhood Team

Warminster Police Station 01722 547175
 PC 2342 Helen Daveridge
 PCSO 70901 Lukasz Kolasinski 07471029004
 lukasz.kolasinski@wiltshire.police.uk
 Warminster Rural Beat

Community Police (non-emergency) 101

PARISH COUNCILS

Boyton/Corton

Chair: Caroline Wheatley-Hubbard 850208

Codford Chair: Tom Thornton 850560

Clerk: Karungi Grant 850523

clerk@codfordpc.org.uk

Heytesbury Chair: Nicholas Williams 07799 300778

Clerk: John Cap 01985 217144

Sutton Veny Chair: Kate Phillips 07970 104595

Clerk: Tekla Hicks 07427 406943

Upton Lovell Chair: Steve Boxall 851171

Clerk: Nicola Duke 01373 864127

clerk@uptonlovell.org.uk

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Codford and District Branch:
 Col Nick Quarrelle 851149

HEYTESBURY, HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN

Administrator 840441

DOCTORS' SURGERY CODFORD 850298

CODFORD POST OFFICE (Budgens) 850345

HEYTESBURY POST OFFICE 840914

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Codford Mike Davidson 850549

Corton John Rigby 850303

Heytesbury Peter Andrews 840517

Norton Bavant John Acworth 840134

Sherrington Nigel Lewis 850496

Sutton Veny Peter Strangeways 840403

PRE-SCHOOL AND CHILDCARE GROUPS

Codford Caterpillars

Kim West 851030

Heytesbury Hedgehogs

Annette Pulvertaft 840798

Wylle Coyotes Afterschool Club 851713

info@wyllecoyotes.com

or 07805 515863

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Codford, Wylle Valley

Head: Robert Barnes 850461

Heytesbury

Head: Ms Laura Williamson 840429

Sutton Veny

Head: Adam Lewis 840428

www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk

VILLAGE HALLS

Codford Secretary: Karungi Grant 850523

secretary.cvh@codfordvillage.org.uk

Bookings:

Janine Clarke

bookings.cvh@codfordvillage.org.uk

Corton Fane Hall

Bookings: Niki Gerring 07816 874503

Sutton Veny Chair: Alan Russell 840 883

Newsletter: Richard Jackman 840899

svvhnewsletter@gmail.com

Bookings: Gay Woods 840057

svvhbookings808@gmail.com

Upton Lovell Bookings: Ros Coombs 851277

WOOLSTORE THEATRE

Bookings: Angus Bramwell 01722 743459

angus.bramwell@googlemail.com

Codford Post Office 850345

CODFORD & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

J Claypoole 850724

CODFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sir William Mahon 850586

Sally Thomson 850339

CODFORD LADIES CIRCLE

Jenny Hunt 850280

PARISH WEBSITES

Team www.upperwyllevalleyteam.com

Webmaster admin@newvalleywebdesign.com

Codford www.codfordcommunity.co.uk

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

Football Club (Heytesbury and Codford)

Martyn Spratt 07790 728197

Tennis (*Codford*)

Chair: Vincie Abbott 850239

Secretary: Jeremy Coltman 07976 398194

STARQUEST

Astronomy Club: Pete Lee 840093

SUTTON VENY FLOWER SHOW

www.suttonvenyflowershow.co.uk

SUTTON VENY NURSING HOME 840224

Area code 01985 unless otherwise stated.



CEFALÙ MOSAIC

The mosaic was begun in 1145, and is an integral part of the original cathedral. Cefalù is a fantastic place to visit. See more on page 6.