

PARISH NEWS

OF THE UPPER WYLYE VALLEY

FEBRUARY 2026

“HOW DO I LOVE THEE?”



INSIDE

Turbo
page 4

Book Review
page 5

Thoughts from my garden
page 7

Village News
page 8



“LET ME COUNT THE WAYS.”



World Day of Prayer Service

Prepared by Christian Women of Nigeria

Upton Lovell Village Hall
Friday 6th March
6.00pm for Supper
Service at 7.00pm

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Kim Sutton 07867538985

SUTTON VENY VILLAGE HALL
Tuesday 3rd March
6.30 for 7.00pm

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More details can be obtained from Simon via pnadvertising@outlook.com

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Tuesday 24th March
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PARISH NEWS

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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

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

In 1967, in the film 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner', a young woman brings her fiancé home to meet her parents. She is white; he is black. At the time the film was made inter-racial marriage was still illegal in 17 States in America. The young woman's father, played by Spencer Tracy, despite his proud liberal credentials, found that some unattractive instincts were laid bare in his heart as he resisted the idea of the marriage. In part, the film tells the story of the father's struggle to face these uncomfortable truths about himself, and of the growth in character and largeness of spirit that even an elderly man can experience if he has the courage not to look away from what he finds within.

In the Gospel of Luke, Luke records no fewer than eight separate occasions when Jesus is invited, or invites himself, to dinner. These are challenging occasions for those around the table with him, exposing troubling character traits and prejudices in some; but always with the aim of leading them to greater self-knowledge, personal freedom, and richer relationships. Some are prepared not to

look away, and to make this uncomfortable journey; others are not.

The six weeks of Lent, which begins in the middle of this month and leads up to Easter, have, historically, been a time when Christians, as it were, sit down to dinner with Jesus, and take this look within. He remains ready to shed his light on what is to be found there, but always and only in order to lead us to this greater self-knowledge, personal freedom and richer relationships with others. Of course, it's perfectly possible to reflect on who we are and where we've got to in our lives without involving Jesus. It's just that life is so busy that often we seem never to get around to it. Lent might be a good time to give it a go.

This Lent the churches of the benefice are going to be running a course for a number of groups to look together at six of these occasions when Jesus came to dinner and explore what they may have to say to us today. If you would like to join one of these groups, or just to come along to the first session to see what you make of it, please put your name on the sheet which is at the back of each of the

churches; or, if you're not a church-goer, let me know by giving me a ring on 01985 512480.

Some people aren't so keen on groups; if that's you but you'd like to reflect on what went on at those dinners for yourself, you might like to use the weeks of Lent to read the book, 'A Meal with Jesus' by Tim Chester: six chapters for six weeks.

I hope that; however you use them, these coming weeks might be good ones for you, and perhaps even an exciting time of unexpected discoveries!

With my best wishes,
Tim

P.S. Lent groups will start before the March Parish News is printed. We plan to put details on the UWVT website <https://www.upperwyllyevalleyteam.com>

BISHOP'S LETTER

It is rare to have the Feast of Candlemas, February 2nd, so close to the start of Lent, Ash Wednesday 18th February. With Easter very early this year, it means that there are only fifteen days between the end of the Christmas cycle and the start of the season of reflection, abstinence and study. Not much time to change gear!

Or to use a liturgical description, only two Sundays of Ordinary Time. The name 'ordinary Time' comes not from the fact that some days are just plain 'ordinary' but that all time is ordered as part of the divine nature. Our telling and re-telling of the Christian Year is not merely a nostalgic rehearsal but the re-living of the truths that shape our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Seeing life, and in particular living a Christian life as an expression of sharing in the divine nature is therefore anything but ordinary. If we believe that we are all created in the image and likeness of God, then how we live our lives can only ever be extraordinary, regardless of what happens to us. If God sees us and our 'ordinary'

lives as a gift of himself, how are we to respond? I often wonder what God thinks of us when he sees what we do with this unbelievable gift.

The Christ-child was cared for by Mary and Joseph at his Presentation in the Temple (2nd Feb) cared for and carried. In Lent, we seek to care more for ourselves with a sacred sense of self-care. How different might this be if we see ourselves as uniquely held by God, whatever the world thinks of us, and, even as we try to better ourselves, see ourselves as a gift, created in the image of God. Yes, this means you.

O You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb. I give thanks to you that I was marvellously set apart. Your works are wonderful - I know that very well. Psalm 139.13-14

+Stephen, Bishop of Salisbury



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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

This is the message we have heard from him (Jesus) and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

John's first letter, chapter 1 v 5-10

RH

TURBO'S DOG BLOG FOR THE NEW YEAR

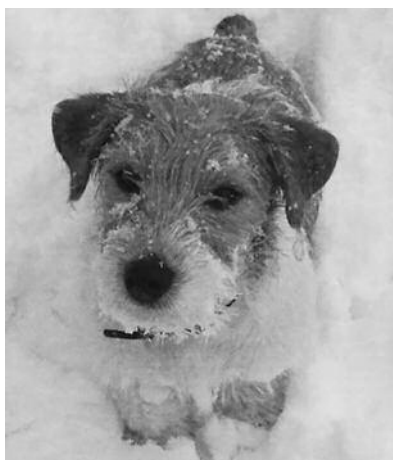
There is a saying that dogs take on the personality (and the looks) of their owners eventually - or is it the other way round? Whatever, its rubbish. For example, my Guvnor doesn't like January much at all because it is cold and dull and he always feels guilty about ducking the whole diet thing after Christmas gluttony. I, on the other hand, like it for all those reasons; I really don't mind the cold, although for preference I'd rather be lying prostrate under a roaring barbecue for its warmth but also because it is close to food preparation and the prospect of dropsies is unusually high. On the other hand, a frolic in the snow brings out the happy-child-bunking-off-school in me and at the age of 13, I can get away with such juvenile antics.

Where he and I are d'accord is over diet disciplines. He has no truck with 'Veganuary' and I agree; a vegetable only diet may suit human beings with their obsession for '5-or-more-a-day,' but I am mesmerised by French hens, turtle doves and a partridge in my dinner bowl please to supplement the daily hunter/gatherer stuff I can forage in the fields while out walking, such as dead pheasants and rabbits, with the occasional muntjak as a treat.

'Dry January' is another human failing in his opinion, not because of the

principle which is fine in a free country but for the shock to his body of such a sudden deprivation so he gently slows down a bit hoping said body doesn't notice. The medical profession is generally for the notion that 14 units a week is more than enough. My Guvnor likes the fact that Winston Churchill argued that 'he had taken more out of alcohol than alcohol had taken out of him.' Well, I thought, that was then - and there was a war on.

Finally, I want to contrast and compare our two lifestyles taking six dog years to each human year as a sensible yardstick and coming up with the fact that he and I are exactly the same age.



I can still chase a rabbit for a mile and return for a biscuit hardly panting whereas he gets to the top of the stairs and has to pause for a moment to catch his breath. I rest my case for no change in January.



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BOOK REVIEW

WINTERING by Katherine May

Discussions by the Heytesbury Readers are lively and fascinating. My companions are very well-read, and astute in their analysis of each book we read. There's no consensus of opinion on any book, and there was a real mixture of positive and negative views from those who had read 'Wintering' by Katherine May.

The book was chosen by Carolyn, thinking it would be a relevant topic for mid winter. The short dark days of winter leave her feeling low, but having read 'Wintering' she decided that she did not, after all, suffer from SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder). She had had an interesting conversation with her husband about the rotation of seasons. Climate is very relevant to their work on the farm. For her, winter is at the bottom of a circle, moving anticlockwise to reach summer at the top. Peter has the opposite view: winter is at the top, and the year moves clockwise, with summer at the bottom.

There were comments that the writing was repetitive and self-indulgent, and that the author would have been better using the material for magazine articles rather than stringing together various snippets into the loose shape of a memoir.

Mindfulness is all the fashion these days, and this was linked to the intention of the author. However, one of our readers suggested that it was a wander around a not-very-interesting mind, and another, a psychologist, thought that the author would benefit from professional help.

The audio version of the book was said to be sleep-inducing, but there was nothing sleep-inducing about our critique - our table in the snug resonated with laughter in a discussion which lasted well over an hour.



UPPER WYLYE VALLEY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS

On Monday 5th January Nicholas Walters was our in-house speaker, returning to talk about his grandfather, Sir Archibald McIndoe. Breakfasters learned (mercifully after they had eaten) about Sir Arthur's carpaccio skills with a scalpel and also his holistic approach to care that vastly improved the treatment and rehabilitation of badly burned aircrew during WW2, who formed the famous 'The Guinea Pig Club', which had membership of over 650 by the end of the war. Almost £190 was raised for Nicholas' nominated charity, the McIndoe Guinea Pigs Memorial Trust.

On Monday 2nd February, the speaker will be Dr Andrew Murrison, who last spoke at a breakfast in 2018. He returns in 2026 to provide some fresh insights and also during Q&A to field breakfasters' questions - still our long-serving local MP but with a somewhat dented majority and an altered perspective gained from the opposition benches. And for your diaries, the following month's breakfast on Monday 2nd March will provide an opportunity for the Revd Mike Duff, the Upper Wyllye Valley Team Rector, to share a few first 100 days impressions of his new role.

The breakfasts take place at The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill beginning at 8.15am. The cost is £15, of which £2 will go towards the charity of the speaker's choice. 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.

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DOWN ON THE FARM

Over the Christmas period the footfall of walkers through the farm is noticeably greater. The more the merrier we say, well, providing dogs are kept on leads, owners clean up after them and children kept safe especially as we are a working farm with large machinery and animals.

As we mingled during social events over the festive period it was reassuring how many locals do understand what we do and why and are quite happy to correct those who don't. Thank you for taking the time to listen to us and show interest, we can only be transparent if people are interested and care enough about how and where food is produced along side animal welfare, an area we pride ourselves in being excellent at and recognised for.

I have covered this subject before; it is one that raises so much incorrect information. The calf hutches.

Let me clearly mark out the facts. They are not veal crates (the most popular

perception), they were banned about 30 years ago. The calves thrive incredibly well during the 8 week period they are housed, having the care and individual attention throughout the day that each calf requires, colostrum is given to each newborn calf, ideally direct from their mother, then milk powder via teat feeders. Any illness can easily be detected and medication given, warm coats if needed and hay. They have clean straw beds, and the hutches have perfect ventilation helping to keep pneumonia at bay, a significant issue when they were housed in bigger groups. You will see they are housed in pairs, occasionally three if we have an odd number to allow socialisation, have space hoppers to play with and the hutches are dry and warm with plenty of space for natural growth and development.

After 8 weeks they are moved to larger groups in the barn, as calf/calves are moved the hutches are removed,

thoroughly cleaned and the area they sat in is cleared making sure there is little opportunity for contamination.

The calves are Holstein Friesians and will eventually be a part of the dairy herd, a few are Angus/Holsteins and sold to other farmers.

For us the public footpath is an opportunity to meet and greet, many people stop for a chat with whoever is working at the time and we welcome this as a positive and an opportunity for questions to be asked and answered, giving the correct information from those highly trained, knowledgeable and who care hugely about our work down on the farm.

Kit Pottow

ANGLING NOTES

When Karen Johnston asked me to write a piece for the Ashton Giffard Community News in 2013 her intention was to give her readers an accurate understanding of what we the anglers were doing in the running of our fishery. I saw it as an opportunity to demonstrate that The Piscatorial Society, as an owner of freehold property in the valley, was a part of the community, not just a group of strangers who came to fish and went away again.

I think that this has worked reasonably well and over time a number of our members have come to live here and even more come to fish and stay overnight.

The publication of my notes in the Upper Wylde Parish News and in the Piscatorial Society website gave an enormous boost to the readership and the reason why I have gone on writing them for so many years is because of the excellent feedback which I get from so

many people, both local and Society members. I hope that it has promoted the thought that both the anglers and the local people have a shared responsibility for the care and well being of our globally important chalk stream.

Alas time passes and old age and arthritis take their toll. This is the last Angling Note which I shall write and feelers are out for a successor. I leave the river in a sorry state, desperately low which the autumn rains have not eased. The consolation is that the chalk streams are very resilient and there are several bodies out there who are dedicated to their long term well being.

Just think what you flush down the loo and empty down the kitchen sink!

Robin Mulholland

(Are you a keen angler, would you like to write an article on the subject? Send an example of your work to the editor)

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DID YOU KNOW? 'The Road Not Taken' by Robert Frost.

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth:

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I...
I took the one less traveled by,
And that made all the difference.

I expect this wonderful poem is known to many of us.

Perhaps we studied it at school or maybe we have come across it in poetry books. It is one of the poems listed in the BBC 'The Nation's Favourite Poems' published in 1995.

Robert Frost, 1874-1963, was an American poet who was particularly known for his portrayal of rural life. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature thirty one times.

It is said that Frost wrote 'The Road Not Taken' as a joke for a friend, the poet Edward Thomas. The two poets would often walk together and Frost would say that Thomas was often indecisive about which road they should take.

The poem can of course be understood metaphorically, for as we all travel through life, we have to make decisions which may affect the way in which our lives transpire.

Frost wrote the poem in 1916, when Europe was engulfed in World War 1. The United States entered a year later and many men would have doubted that they would ever return to the life they had left behind.

In the last line of the poem, 'And that has made all the difference', it is not clear whether the road which was taken was successful or disappointing. However, what is clear is that the act of having to

make a choice is significant.

I hope you enjoyed reading this poem. Maybe the next time you are out on a country walk and you have to make a decision about the direction of your journey, or even making a decision in life, you will be reminded of this very special, enigmatic poem. *Jonathan Wansey*

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THOUGHTS FROM MY GARDEN

I'm getting a bit restless, wanting to be out there 'doing'! But before I do, I need to look back at last year's successes and failures. Our Salvia 'Hot Lips' were a huge success growing into big bushes and feeding all manner of bees and wasps right the way through to the first frosts. I need to cut them back this year as they are taking up too much space in the borders and dominate other plants that would like a chance to shine. I was given a small Morning Glory plant which I grew up a pyramid structure

by the summer house together with an evening scented honeysuckle. It is the most beautiful plant and a stunning colour, but amazingly the flowers close after midday; they are aptly named but glorious! I have saved masses of seeds and will be growing plants to give away to friends, so passing on the gift given to me. Failures have included my dahlias which I did not take out of the ground. They have been ok in previous years but we must have had a late frost which was too much for them. My potato crop was a mixed success with one bag only producing 3 spuds! I also have a Gertrude Jekyll rose given to me on a special birthday with a wonderful scent, which looks very ill and I'm not sure how to help it. Never mind, onwards and upwards and I'll try again.

I mulched all my flower beds in December and as a result they all look

very tidy. No weeds showing anywhere! Whilst mulching I noticed there were a lot of bulbs beginning to show, a bit worrying, I thought, and cause for comment with a lot of fellow gardeners,

but it's surprising how plants adapt and now we are seeing the benefit of all those wonderful bulbs. It's a real herald of spring to see the snowdrops appear followed by catkins on the trees and daffodils and crocuses adding more colour.

I look forward to those cold, clear sunny days

in preference to warm and dull and damp, as I'm sure we all do. They lift the spirits and encourage us to get out there and 'do'. The beginning of the gardening year is upon us; let's all get ready to work in the garden and remember to sit back later and enjoy the results of our labours!

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VILLAGE NEWS

CODFORD COMMUNITY KEY EVENTS FEBRUARY 2026

- 1st Live music at Codford Tea rooms - 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- 4th Film night at the Woolstore showing 'Downton Abbey grand finale' - 7.30pm
- 6th Fish and chips (pre booked) at Codford Tea rooms 5 - 7.30pm
- 7th St Mary's church annual ploughman's lunch at Codford village hall - 12 - 2pm
- 8th Codford park run at Codford village hall grounds - 10am
- 11th Phixius free antiques valuation service at Codford Tea rooms - 11am - 4pm
- 11th First session of The Occasional singers (new singing group) at Codford village hall - 2.30 - 3.30pm
- 12th Hearing aid clinic at Codford village hall (small hall) - 10am - 12pm.
- 13th & 14th Greek lover's night (Greek food) at Codford Tea rooms - 5pm - 9pm
- 14th Winter warmers (a delicious bowl of soup, a roll, a cup of tea and a biscuit) free event at Codford village hall - 12pm - 2pm
- 15th Monthly drinks at the Woolstore theatre - 12 - 2pm
- 15th Arts and crafts market at the Ginger Piggery, Boyton - 10am - 3pm
- 16th Parish Council monthly meeting at Codford village hall - 7pm
- 17th Codford local history society talk on 'The Beckfords and the Transatlantic trade' by Dr Amy Frost at Codford village hall - 7.30pm
- 18th Codford and District Gardening club talk, 'The White Garden' by Chris Bird at Codford village hall - 7.30pm
- 20th Over 50's after 5pm set menu at Codford Tea rooms - 5pm - 7.30pm
- 27th Live music evening at Codford Tea rooms - time tbc

NEW YEAR AND NEW FLAVOURS FROM YOUR VILLAGE TEA ROOMS!

As Kevin (our Captain) shared a minute into 1st January, 'It's a New Year for all of us.' Yes.

But we don't want to put a line through the past or our history as we welcome in the new. Thanks to David Shaw, we now know that the premises - though not in its current form - goes back to 1609!

Taking a massive historical leap forward, 2025 saw long-awaited official confirmation that we are classed as a tearooms (which is what we believe we are through and through): Codford Tea Rooms. With a big nod to our roots as 'The George' we also created George's Room - boasting pub artifacts and a restored rosy-cheeked 'George' hanging on the wall. Come and be reacquainted.

Like the first tearooms in Glasgow, we're also licensed (they didn't last long being 'tea total'!) which makes for what we feel is a great 'marriage'. We hope you agree...

Of course, what matters is not names but how we serve Codford and surrounding villages best. Kevin's done a lot of musing and consulting. Here's a taste - also see events.

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'Fridays from Five' are our new monthly evenings to tempt you and cater for all tastes (no need to leave the village or get the car out!):

Popular First 'Fishy Fridays' continue, Second Fridays 'Surprise and Specials', Third Nostalgic Over Fifties Menu (with sympathetic set prices), and Friday Live Music on 4th Fridays.

P.S. Although no longer opening on unecological Saturday evenings - frequent Broadleaze Bar or see what's on at The Woolstore (!) - our Sunday 2 for 1 roast offer continues. While prices on our new menus have unavoidably gone up, we've added in some great budget-busters for those watching the pennies.

Thanks Editor, for giving us the space to update you all - see you all soon!

*Lizzie on behalf of Kevin
and the Tea Rooms Team*

CODFORD VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES EACH WEEK:

Tue: Pilates & short mat bowls.

Wed: Pilates, Choir, Fit club.

Thurs: Community café, Happy hearts, Clubercise and Badminton.

To find the Codford community website, type 'Codfordcommunity.co.uk' into your search bar to access the website. There, you will find various useful and informative content. A new quiz has also been added, which can be found on the home page.

Codford Parish Council minutes can be found on the Codford Parish Council website (codfordpc.org.uk) or you can find a link to them from our Codford community website.



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VILLAGE NEWS

HEYTESBURY HAPPENINGS

Belated New Year greetings to all residents. The daylight hours are gradually lengthening, and it feels 'downhill' to spring. However, winter is not over. Everyone is reminded that the grit bins are for use on the public roads and pavements only. Anyone may sprinkle the grit onto those slippery surfaces but please do not use the contents of the bins for your private driveways. Also, they are not litter bins. Chairman Dave Bond recently spent hours breaking up the hardened contents. He found rubbish and used dog poo bags lurking amongst the grit!

Sarah Vesey-Thompson has been appointed to the vacant Parish Clerk post. Sarah and her husband live in Heytesbury. We welcome her to the team. All the councillors wish to thank the excellent Locum Parish Clerk, Karungi Grant, who was asked to fill the role temporarily in 2024. She has been supporting the Parish Council ever since, in addition to her usual position in Codford.

An Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council, and a short Raymond Trust meeting were held in December. The appeal by the landowners against the Asset of Community Value on the parkland was rejected. The moratorium on the land being sold remains until early March. It was agreed to lodge an Intention of Interest. At present one plot of approximately 3 acres, and several of the small ¼ acre lots remain unsold.

The Raymond Trust meeting was open to the public and any potential plans for the unsold land by the Trust were debated. It was agreed to investigate the matter further. Any findings, and any decisions, will be submitted to the community for approval.

The Parish Council are also aware of a Planning Application for development of The Vicarage in Little London. This was on the agenda at the PC meeting on 13th January, with comments to Wilts Council by 23rd January.

At the November meeting of the PC, the new owner of the vacant land south of Park Street, adjoining Mantles Lane, attended and spoke publicly of her intentions. She will be applying for a Permission in Principle (PIP) which is a relatively recent, alternative way of obtaining planning permission for housing-led development. She wants to build between 6-9 houses on the land. The Parish Council will debate this issue when they receive the formal application.

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 24th February.

SB

HEYTESBURY OPEN PLACE

The HOP team are engaged with the Diocesan Advisory Committee to discuss the application for approval of our £1.5m project. In the meantime the team is approaching funders so that we can appoint in the first instance, an architect and quantity surveyor to prepare specifications. We will know more in the spring.

We are working hard to complete funding for the installation of heating in the chancel. This includes paying for a three-phase electrical supply. It is regretted that we were unable to do this before Christmas, and we thank everyone for their patience and preparedness to wrap up warm!

Your prayerful and financial support is much appreciated.

RNH



We went home very pleased with our efforts; and being gluttons for punishment we hope to revisit Imber during 2026.

BELLRINGING ODYSSEY

Ten hardy travelling bellringers of the Upper Wylde Valley band drove to Imber on Salisbury Plain on 29th December to 'bag' the tower of St Giles Church. Hearing of our plans the MoD wisely decided to get out of the way for four days and let the public roam.

The ringers (Nick Claypoole, Tom Thornton, Stella Ball, Sarah and Kevin Dorrington, Sarah Harris, Caroline Wheatley-Hubbard, Duncan Parkinsin, Ethan Page and Anthony Bainbridge) enjoyed their first ring on these bells, which are very light and not easy to handle. We were glad of the exercise to keep ourselves warm on a chilly day in an unheated - but very crowded - church.

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VILLAGE NEWS

SHERRINGTON

Two things that I love, the silhouettes of winter trees and snowdrops.

However, please indulge me while I sing the praises of my dog who has been in Rectory Cottage for 10 years this month. We were not looking for another dog. Chester was the resident spaniel. He had come to us from a disturbed home but had settled and proved to be a good chap. This dog had come from Spain and on arrival was not compatible with his prospective owner. No one's fault, these things happen. This left him in need of a home and when I mentioned this to Nigel he said 'Alright let's give it a go'.

Tyto, as we named him, had

suffered a traumatic journey from Malaga in southern Spain, confined in a crate, in a van, with other dogs for 5 days. There were challenging times ahead as he was extremely nervous. We were not sure what we had taken on so when going out Tyto was confined to the kitchen. We returned to mayhem with things knocked off the windowsill, low hanging picture on the floor and contents of the waste bin scattered. We realised this was pure panic so next time gave him free range. On looking through the window, we saw Chester in one chair and Tyto in another.

He was a master of escape. Nigel went round the entire garden with chicken wire only to see Houdini off up the lane at speed. However, he would return and

though having an interest in field sports he did not chase livestock. We had some expert advice in those early days and that put us on the right track with basic commands. His recall was good and as we lived a quiet, calm life he finally settled. The years have passed and he has become a wonderful dog, still prone to bark at some people in the lane (and not everyone likes that) but gentle, good with other dogs and a delight on a walk. In the Great Ridge he is not on a lead, ranges off to the left and right but always returns to walk at heel. Dear Chester had been his mentor and when the spaniel's life ended he was dearly missed. We searched for another dog and finally found Little Dog aka Ona, a fantastic little character who is a story of her own.

Now we are alone and I am too old to take on another dog. I try to ensure Tyto has the best possible life though I know the house is quiet without the Master and noisy Little Dog. Walks are such a pleasure, he is such a companion. I only hope that our mutual requirement for exercise remains compatible. It would be awful if I was to be on a zimmer frame and Tyto was saying 'Goodness me, is that the best you can do!'. I don't think that will happen as he is infinitely kind and a gentleman, must have rubbed off from someone!

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UPTON LOVELL RAMBLINGS

One of the many things that are special about Upton Lovell, apart from its location, the fabulous local walks and some picturesque houses, are the people. We moved here in 2019 and were made so very welcome. The first time I went to Church I was asked briskly if I did flowers and when I said yes was immediately added to the rota! I met a neighbour who asked if we were carnivores as she had lamb for sale! Within a short time, I was involved with various Church duties, my husband asked to join the village hall committee and I was persuaded to become Trustee of both the Hospital of St John in Heytesbury and the Wessex MS centre in Warminster.

If anyone is ill or in trouble, we can call almost anyone and there would be assistance on the way. During the covid pandemic I was one of a number of people who shopped and collected prescriptions every week for people who had to shield and as a result met lots of people who I didn't know before. The Prince Leopold did takeaways and deliveries, we are very lucky to have a village pub and Harry Rambo's did a brisk trade when the pub

remained closed.

Having a large and boisterous dog has helped getting to know other locals; he does now behave much better but when we arrived many people met me flat on my face having been pulled over in his excitement of meeting someone new!

The Church is beautiful and always open with fresh flowers arranged by the people on the rota and on special occasions, like Harvest, Easter and Christmas is bursting with fabulous arrangements and packed with adults and children. The carol service this year had 94 adults and 17 children in a space with a maximum capacity of 85. We also have an annual carol group made up of villagers and their children who sing for neighbours and this year thanks to their generosity and a group of well-oiled shooters in the pub we raised £280 for Alabare.

Like many villages, we quietly get on with things, keeping an eye on each other, helping out with each other's dogs, chickens, sheep and horses. We feel very lucky to have found Upton Lovell and to have been made Upton Lovlies.

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FEBRUARY 1 CANDLEMAS	Sutton Veny Codford St Peter Heytesbury Upton Lovell	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Candlemas celebration Candlemas celebration Evensong (BCP)	Choir
February 8 2nd Sunday before Lent	Tytherington Upton Lovell Heytesbury Codford St Mary	8.30am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Parish Communion Evensong (BCP)	Choir
February 15 Sunday next before Lent	Boyton Codford St Peter Norton Bavant	8.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Sunday Worship	Choir
February 18 Ash Wednesday	Codford St Peter Heytesbury	10.00am 6.00pm	Communion at the beginning of Lent Beginning of Lent Service	Choir
February 22 Lent 1	Sutton Veny Codford St Mary Knook Heytesbury	8.30am 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Prayer on Sunday Parish Communion Evensong (BCP)	Choir

UWVT WEEKDAY SERVICES

Fridays Sutton Veny 8.30 am Morning Prayer (BCP)

FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERALS

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

Diana Hammond

on 25th November at Heytesbury

Phyllis May Morgan

on 11th December

at Salisbury crematorium

Jonathan Neville

on 17th December

at Salisbury Crematorium

May they rest in the peace and light of Christ

contact the Ministry Team to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation preparation or Service of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage. The clergy will officiate at any crematorium service.

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PARISH OFFICE

upperwylyevalleyteam@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAM

Team Rector The Revd Michael Duff 640098

(day off Friday)

teamrector.uwvt@gmail.com

NB email is the surer means of communication

Team Vicar The Revd Timothy Ling 512480

(on duty Sunday to Tuesday)

teamvicar.uwvt@gmail.com

Associate Priest

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 Robin Grist 850596

Codford St Mary David Shaw 850372

07899 906371

Codford St Peter Alasdair McGregor 07803246480

Heytesbury Tina Sitwell 840556

Knook Robert Pottow 850285

Norton Bavant John Acworth 840134

Edward Moore 840420

Sherrington Richard Morris 07555425110

Sutton Veny Richard Jackman 07968 164256

Tytherington Caroline Lester-Card 07787556505

Upton Lovell Gilly Cumming 850834

LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

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PARISH PRIEST

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Parish Deacon in Residence:

Reverend Terry Aspell

07847 209715 terry.aspell@cliftondiocese.com

MASS: Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m.

Sunday 9.00 a.m.

**Reconciliation: Immediately prior to
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**Weekday Masses: check Bulletin on
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PC 2342 Helen Daveridge

PCSO 70901 Lukasz Kolasinski 07471029004

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Warminster Rural Beat

Community Police (non-emergency) 101

PARISH COUNCILS

Boytan/Corton

Chair: Jill Adams 850822
 jilldeborah@me.com

Codford

Chair: Tom Thornton 850560
 Clerk: Karungi Grant 850523
 clerk@codfordpc.org.uk

Heytesbury/Knook

Chair: David Bond 07766 397107

Clerk: Sarah Vesey-Thompson

clerk@heytesburyparish.co.uk

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

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CODFORD POST OFFICE (Budgens) 850345

HEYTESBURY POST OFFICE 840914

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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Heytesbury Peter Andrews 840517

Norton Bavant John Acworth 840134

Sutton Veny Peter Strangeways 840403

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Codford Caterpillars

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Heytesbury Hedgehogs

Annette Pulvertaft 840798

Wyllye Coyotes Afterschool Club 851713

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PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Codford, Wyllye Valley

Head: Robert Barnes 850461

Heytesbury

Head: Mrs Lindsey Hermon 840429

Sutton Veny

Head: Adam Lewis 840428

www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk

VILLAGE HALLS

Codford Secretary: Nicky Cornock 850803
 nicky.cornock.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

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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.upperwyllyealleyteam.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

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