

DERRY HILL AND
STUDLEY MATTERS

inSPIRE



February 2025

The Parish Magazine of Christ Church Derry Hill



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The deadline for inclusion of material in **next** month's magazine is the **20th** of this month.

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Editorial

Here we are in the second and shortest month of the year – 28 days this year.

Valentine's Day features on 14th. St. Valentine was purported to be a Roman priest who married couples against the wishes of the authorities in the third century. He was arrested, flogged and beheaded. Some folk believe that the Valentine custom has its origins in the ancient festival of Lupercalia which was held on February 15th to celebrate the coming of spring and fertility. I notice that 18th is 'Flirting Day and 2nd is British Yorkshire Pudding Day, which co-incidentally happens to be a Sunday this year, when a lot of us are indulging in our Sunday roast!

Behind the scenes the team working on the Best Kept Village have been working hard (See the separate article on this). One of the items they have looked at is the huge number of clubs, organisations and events in our two villages - over fifty!

There certainly is a good 'feel' to the village, enhanced by the efforts of the Parish Council and the Community Committee. I was delighted to get an email from a lady, who has just moved into the village, saying how welcoming people were. Brilliant.

I could go on about the uncertainty of the world in terms of the new USA presidency, climate change et al, but instead let's celebrate that we have a lovely place to live in, with good neighbours, lovely countryside to walk in and lots of activities to take part in.

Advertising in inSPIRE

If you are an advertiser with our magazine, and we thank you for supporting us, you may have noticed that our rates have not gone up for years. Sadly, our printers have put the cost of a print run up by £100, having kindly kept their promise to keep their rates the same for the last three years. So as a result, we are reluctantly putting our advertising rates up slightly from April and hope this will keep us solvent.

So, from 1st April a whole page for a year will go up from £180 to £200, half page from £90 to £100 and a quarter page from £45 to £50.

Ed

Church Contacts CHRIST CHURCH - DERRY HILL

If you wish to discuss arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or would like a pastoral visit or meeting arranged or need to see a Vicar, then please contact the **Team Administrator**:

Mrs Ann Stiff Tel: 01249 816522

email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

Team Office: 30 Church Street, Calne, SN11 0HU

The office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am to 1pm

Church Wardens

Mr Peter Rigby 01225 704356

Mr Ian Liddle 01249 816229

PCC Treasurer (Tr) & Secretary (Sec)

Mr Peter Roycroft (Tr) 01249 660550

Mrs Lucinda Prater (Sec) 07882
469005

FLOODLIGHTING THE SPIRE

This is a lovely thing to do to remember loved ones and to celebrate special anniversaries and birthdays. The Spire is currently lit between 7pm and midnight, though this varies with the time of year. Floodlighting the Spire can be arranged through **Richard Ayles** – inspireditor@outlook.com **01249 814632**

A donation to the church for the cost of the lighting is welcome.

February 2025 Church Services

Time	Church	Service
Sunday 2nd Candlemas		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10.30am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	All Age Holy Communion
4pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	All Age plough Sunday
6pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Evensong
Wednesday 5th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 9th 4th before Lent		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10.45am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Morning Praise
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
6pm	St. Martin's, Bremhill	Holy Communion BCP
Wednesday 12th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th 3rd before Lent		
8am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
9.30am	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Holy Communion
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Family Service
11am	Christ Church, Derry Hill	Holy Communion
Wednesday 19th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd before Lent		
9.30am	St. Peter's, Blackland	Holy Communion BCP
10am	St Mary's, Calne	All Age Morning Praise
10am	St. Martin's, Bremhill	All age Holy Communion
10.45am	Holy Trinity, Quemerford	Holy Communion
6pm	St John the Baptist, Foxham	Holy Communion
Wednesday 26th		
10am	St Mary's, Calne	Holy Communion

Rev. Sarah's thoughts

Just like any other month, February contains a mixture of annual secular and religious landmarks. Usually, February brings Shrove Tuesday, with its ancient tradition of eating pancakes, and the more recent association of the French phrase 'Mardi Gras' with Gay Pride events. However, this year Shrove Tuesday is delayed until 4 March (the day before Ash Wednesday, see below). Maybe your focus will be on St Valentine's Day and its celebration of romantic love. Other annual commemorations which fall in February include: Groundhog Day in the USA; Waitangi Day in New Zealand; Chinese New Year; the Hindu Festival Vasant Panchami, which highlights the coming of spring; and Presidents' Day in the USA.

For Christian believers, February begins with the festival of Candlemas on 2 February, 40 days after Christmas Day. Luke recounts the story of Joseph and Mary taking the 40-day old baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem: they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") (Luke 2:22-23). It is this event which we remember and celebrate on 2 February, and it concludes our Advent/Christmas/Epiphany celebrations. Lots of churches keep their Crib on display until 2 February for this reason. According to the Church of England Calendar, the festival is called 'The Presentation of Christ in the Temple', which is a bit of a mouthful! Its shorter name is 'Candlemas' because traditionally all the candles which would be used in Church over the following year were blessed on this day.

So, in February, our attention turns away from God's glory as revealed in Jesus' birth and early ministry. Instead, our attention turns to God's glory as revealed in Jesus' temptations, suffering and resurrection. I remember on one occasion attending a Candlemas service where there was a manger placed at one end of the Church, and a cross at the other. During the service, there was a moment when we physically turned our focus away from the manger and towards the cross, as a physical reminder of this pivotal point in the Church's year. This year, Easter is quite late, so Lent doesn't begin during February as it usually does. (Ash Wednesday is on 5 March). Even so, we begin to look ahead to Lent and Easter from the beginning of February. As we do that, may each

one of us perceive more of God's glory, and so become better equipped to reflect his glory in the world.

With prayers and best wishes,

Sarah Errington

(Team Vicar; email: sarah.errington@mardenvale.org.uk; tel: 01249 263430)

Christ Church Derry Hill Family Service

On the first Sunday of each month, an increasing number of families make their way to Christ Church for our Family Service. We have lots of fun worshipping God together, and learning about the Bible and prayer, through song, discussion, and lots of different activities, for everyone to join in.

The service follows a short, said Communion service, with the intention that there should be some interaction and overlap between the congregations of the two services. A few people come to both. This pattern has served well for the last few years, encouraging people of all ages to come along to Church in the aftermath of the Covid pandemic.

However, for the next three months, we're going to try something different. Instead of two services, we will hold one All-Age Communion service. It will still be fun and interactive, with something for (almost!) everyone. I hope that we will all enjoy worshipping together and that relationships between members of all ages in our Church Family will be strengthened and deepened. Please do come along to at least one of these services (**at 10.30 am on Sundays 2 February, 2 March and 6 April**), and please pray that we will honour God through our worship and encounter him through his Word and through the Sacrament of Communion, building up the Church together.

At the end of the trial period, we will spend some time considering what has worked well, and anything which has not been so good, so we can discern the way forward.

If you have any questions, please contact me and I will try to answer them.

Revd Sarah Errington

sarah.errington@mardenvale.org.uk

How to do CPR and use a Defib

It's really important we all know to do CPR and use a Defib. The session is:



how
next

7pm on Wed 26th March in the Lansdowne Hall

Its free and it's given by our own village paramedic Bruce.

At least 1 of our 6 defibs in Derry Hill and Studley is deployed every other month! Do you know how to use one to save somebodys life? Why not come along to our free session.

If you can't make it that night then scan this QR code to watch a YouTube video.



Julian

Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat
07769 970401 / julesoliver3@gmail.com

THE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION IS GETTING CLOSER.....



You're probably aware that your Community Committee has been persuaded to enter Derry Hill & Studley for the Best Kept Village (BKV) competition this year. Judging takes place in May and July and so we are now ramping up our planning and actions and wanted to let you know how you can contribute.

First, to remind you, BKV is a Wiltshire-wide competition run by the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) to:

- Foster and improve community spirit.
- Demonstrate attention to detail and inclusivity.
- Tidiness and presentation of the village.
- Protecting and enhancing our local environment.

It's NOT about the prettiest or most photogenic village. It's about us working together to improve Derry Hill & Studley's surroundings and its community feel and being able to demonstrate that. Find more details at <https://derryhillandstudley.org/best-kept-village>

DH&S has always been a Best Kept Village. Now we have three months to prove it to the judges. We would welcome your active engagement in this effort by:

- Checking inSPIRE, noticeboards and online and engaging in the many activities taking place already this year.
- Keeping up the good work in keeping the village tidy.
- Reporting highways issues etc to Wiltshire Council via the [MyWilts](#) app.
- Informing this committee of any issues you can see so we can address them.
- We have so many brilliant, regular, creative, innovative activities going on all the time in the village. Perhaps you could create a special BKV project in your group or collaborate with another and actively show how we enjoy coming together as a village.

The judges will be looking around the village and will hope to find it easy on the eye but equally they will be looking for evidence of community. They will be looking at noticeboards, magazines and The Hub for signs of life and so this is where you, in your groups, can play a

part by helping us to represent your activities as well as possible. Drop us a line with relevant information that we can add to The Hub. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, information or ideas to help us all to do the best we can to win Best Kept Village.

Martin Handyside

martin@handysidess.co.uk 07802 475018

BKV committee is Jane Clark, Jo Calder, Martin Handyside, Peter Prater, Philippa Todd, Sarah Collyer & Steve Calder.



Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

January has arrived and we have already enjoyed some snow! As the weather is getting colder, we are embarking on discovering new topics and seeing what adventures our learning will take us on.

We have started the term with Owl class stepping back in time to discover what went on through the decades; Fox Class found out about how the Mayans lived and just how important chocolate was to them; Rabbit Class made chariots and raced them along wonky Roman roads whilst Squirrel Class explored local historians.

Hedgehog Class are discovering what life was like in South Africa and Mole Class are exploring how mother owl gets around town. Whilst Dormouse Class leap into space!

We look forward to sharing all of the fantastic work the children have been creating with parents at our Open Classrooms sessions.

Mrs H Roberts



Derry Hill C of E (VA) Primary School

PIANO FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

We have a piano (full working order) going spare at school and was wondering if anyone had space for it. If you are interested, please contact the Admin Team. - admin@derryhill.wilts.sch.uk
It would need to be collected and transported from school by yourselves.



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Email: denabray10@gmail.com



Calne Neighbourhood Policing Update

Welcome to our latest Neighbourhood Policing update for Derry Hill and surrounding villages. If there is anything you wish for me to add to these updates, or concerns you may have, please do contact me using my Email address: mark.cook@wiltshire.police.uk

Crime and incident updates

- On 10/12/2024, unknown persons have gained access to outbuildings and removed several items and a small quad bike in Lowbridge, Bremhill.
- On 27/12/2024 at 17:30hrs, report of a two-vehicle collision in Sandy Lane. Thankfully no-one was seriously injured.
- On 16/01/2025 at 22:45hrs, two vehicle collision reported in Stanley Lane. 1 driver arrested on suspicion of drink driving, driving not in accordance with licence, no insurance. The other driver was arrested on for being found in possession of a bladed article and drink driving. Enquiries are ongoing regarding the matter.
- On 16/01/2025 at 23:09hrs, a vehicle collided with a deer causing a following vehicle behind to also hit the deer and cause the vehicle to flip onto its roof in old Derry Hill. The driver of the second vehicle was taken to hospital as a precaution.

Pro-active Patrols in our rural areas

In response to a slight increase we have seen in hare coursing and rural crime in our area, the team have been carrying out targeted patrols in our rural communities.

This is alongside similar work being done by the Rural Crime Team.

PCSO Cook has been patrolling farmland and villages in the areas of Yatesbury, Bremhill, Derry Hill, East Tytherton and Foxham.

Speeding and road safety operation

Between Thursday 9th and Sunday 12th January, PC Dorey from the Calne Neighbourhood Policing Team, with assistance from PC Swanborough and colleagues from the Chippenham Response Team, has been out across the county conducting speed checks.



This proactive effort was carried out during particularly hazardous weather conditions and highlights the importance of speed awareness to keep our roads safe for everyone.

Speed checks were conducted on the A4 Studley, East Tytherton, Compton Bassett. 9 tickets for speeding were issued.

Wiltshire Bobby Van seeking referrals for Ring doorbells

If you know of anyone who would benefit from a Ring Doorbell, in the Calne rural area please email on BobbyVan@wbvt.org

Bobby Van referral criteria:

18+ registered disabled, or over the age of 60 who would not normally be classed as vulnerable or disadvantaged.



Wiltshire's Police and Crime Commissioner is asking all residents to use their voice

Philip Wilkinson: PCC Wiltshire and Swindon annual Use Your Voice: Budget and Precept survey launched today and seeks the views of residents and stakeholders as the budget for policing and commissioned services for the next financial year (2025/6) is developed

#MakingWiltshireSafer. See the link below to complete our quick survey: [Use Your Voice: Police budget and precept consultation \(Page 1 of 3\)](#)

We are asking Wiltshire residents to fill out a questionnaire relating to burglary and home security

The purpose of this is to assess the knowledge residents across Wiltshire have about home security and burglary prevention. Any gaps in knowledge which are identified by the questionnaire data will be addressed in upcoming videos, which will be shared via official Wiltshire Police social media channels.

There are eight questions in total, and it should take less than five minutes to complete. The questionnaire is now live, and residents are encouraged to submit their responses before 9am on Friday 3 February. To fill out the questionnaire, [click here: https://orlo.uk/VR0Ts](https://orlo.uk/VR0Ts)

Mark Cook

Calne Neighbourhood Police Team mark.cook@wiltshire.police.uk

The Sky at Night

There will be a very unusual alignment of seven planets on 28 February when Mercury joins six other planets that are already visible in the night sky.

Six planets – Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune – are currently visible in the night sky. During just one night in late February, they will be joined by Mercury, a rare seven-planet alignment visible in the sky.

The eight major planets of our Solar System orbit the Sun in the same flat plane, and all at different speeds. Mercury, the closest planet to the Sun, completes an orbit – a year for the planet – in 88 days. Earth's year, of course, is 365 days, while at the upper end, Neptune takes a whopping 60,190 days, or about 165 Earth years, to complete a single revolution of our star.



The different speeds of the planets mean that, on occasion, several of them can be roughly lined up on the same side of the Sun. From Earth, if the orbits line up just right, we can see multiple planets in our night sky at the same time. In rare events, all the planets will line up such that they all appear in our night sky together along the ecliptic, the path traced by the Sun.

Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are all bright enough to be visible to the naked eye, while Uranus and Neptune require binoculars or a telescope to spot.

In January and February, we can witness this event taking place. The planets are not exactly lined up, so they will appear in an arc across the sky due to their orbital plane in the Solar System. During clear nights in January and February, all of the planets except Mercury will be visible – an event sometimes called a planetary parade. On 28 February, though – weather permitting – all seven planets will be visible, a great spectacle for observers on the ground.

Richard Aylen

The first Derry Hill and Studley Wassail

On Sunday 5th January, CWPC in partnership with Derry Hill & Studley Committee celebrated Wassail Night to give good health to the new orchard trees in Studley Gardens. It was a popular event with over 50 local residents attending and much fun was had by all.

Wassail Night is a Twelfth Night tradition with pagan roots and has been practiced in Britain for centuries. The idea is that people go out into the orchards, drink in hand, to sing to the good spirits of the apple trees hanging toast on them to encourage the guardian spirits whilst banging saucepans to scare away the bad spirits. Much revelry is to be expected.



Here we did things slightly differently - due to the poor weather and the inclusive hospitality of Rev. Sarah Errington - we celebrated in Christ Church in Derry Hill.

On arrival, children and adults alike decorated their hats with winter foliage and made crowns from coloured cardboard to wear during the festivities. They enjoyed a cup of tea and some homemade apple cake and zucchini bread made by local volunteers

while hard at work creating their masterpieces.

We then gathered together for a blessing of the Christmas Tree by the Rev. Sarah and everyone sang "O Christmas Tree" before the Master of Ceremonies,



Peter Prater, looking resplendent in cloak and ivy decorated top hat, enlightened us with the history of the apple in Great Britain - who knew the first orchards were implemented by the Romans? - as well as detailing the history for us locally and John Spencer, Head Gardener at Bowood, who planted so many apple trees in the area and is even present in one of the stained glass windows in the church.

This was followed by a Wassail song which we all joined in and sang before being treated to a dance by the Chippenham Morris Men, organised by Richard Ayles.

Finally, we put our pieces of toast out for the trees and banged our saucepans in earnest before singing again and enjoying the dancing by the Morris Men whilst supping on a welcome mug of Lamb's Wool, a beverage made from hot mulled cider, which we saluted in old Norse tradition, "Drink Hail!"



Sue Deedigan Cllr Calne Without PC

1st Derry Hill Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

All three sections meet at the village hall on a Monday at 6pm, we enjoy doing a variety of activities each week. We had great fun in the run up to Christmas with the guiding carol service in December and also a visit to the cinema as well as the all-important Christmas parties. The guides enjoyed their first camp weekend, luckily inside as it was a windy weekend!



Coming up we have World Thinking Day in February and also a visit to the Steam Museum in Swindon.

If you are interested in volunteering or if your daughter would like to join us, please do get in contact via the [Girlguiding website](#). We have an urgent need for adult helpers for the Rainbows to ensure they can continue to run.

Lucy, Emma, Erica, Emma and Jess

Calne Without Parish Council

What we've been doing in the last month

The Parish Council has continued to consider and respond to planning applications and requests for Highway improvement works.

Work on The Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan has continued at pace over the Christmas break. You may recall the consultations carried out earlier this year. The plan has now passed through Wiltshire Council and the process of examination. You may have recently received your poll card for a referendum being held on Thursday 27th February in relation to the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan. To find out more about the referendum and the reasons for it please visit www.calnecommunityplan.com/q-as

We continue on the countdown to the start of the **new 'Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council'** This means that next May 25 after the local elections Calne Without Parish Council, will become Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council. This is the biggest change to Parish council structures for many years and we are looking forward to the opportunities these changes can bring to the locality.

A parish council is the voice of the community, they advocate for the wishes of the community within Wiltshire Council and with other groups that they work with. They cannot do that without people standing to be Councillors. This is not as intimidating as it sounds and can be a really rewarding way to have an input into the community.

The **impending local elections** bring a period of reflection for everything that Calne Without Parish Councillors have achieved over the past 4 years, some of the highlights include.

- a huge amount of work a lobbying in relation to Road Safety within the parish. One of the biggest achievements being the reduction in speed limit through the Studley Crossroads.
- We have also hosted two successful Green energy days and a fabulous science workshop to help celebrate Joseph Priestley,
- Supported numerous local groups with grants to help them with their work, including providing funds to help improve two school libraries.
- A project to install additional defibrillators across the parish. 3 additional installed at the time of writing and three more in the installation/planning stage.

- We now have two speed indicator devices that are used throughout the parish. Lots of work continues on trying to improve road safety through the parish.
- Imminent installation of much requested play equipment on Petty Acre.

On 1st May 2025 the local elections in Wiltshire will be held and all seats in the new Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council will be up for election (11 in total) If you think you might be interested in becoming a parish councillor and helping continue all the good work listed above, I would encourage you to come along to a parish council meeting (all Parish council and committee meetings are held in public) to find out more about what parish councils do and how they make decisions. All the dates for Parish Council meetings can be found on our website. Further background info can be found at;
www.nalc.gov.uk/campaigns/becoming-a-councillor.html

If you would like to stand to be a parish councillor, nominations open on 12th March at 10am and close 2nd April at 4pm. There is a webinar being planned in February for those people interested in standing as councillors, keep an eye on www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-democracy for further information.

Reporting issues

Most months we have the Parish Steward visit us to carry out jobs as required, he can do small jobs associated with the highways. If you have an issue that you think he might be able to help with then please feel free to email me with photos and details of the concern and we can see if he is able to help.

We regularly receive reports of works required that we pass onto Wiltshire Council for their attention. Did you know that there is a quick and easy way to report items such as potholes and issues with street lighting straight to Wiltshire Council? Search 'my wilts' app and follow the instructions. Once you have set up an account reporting is quick and simple.

Next Full Council Meeting Dates

Full Council – Monday 10th February 2025 7.30pm

Monday 10th March 2025 7.30pm

All council meetings are held at the Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill.

Keeping in Touch

We have many ways that you can keep up to date with the work here at the Parish Council. Our website (www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk) is kept up to date with meeting dates and associated papers, we use our Facebook page (search Calne Without) for quick updates and news about our work and you can always get in touch directly with the clerk with any questions you may have.

If you need to get in touch with the Parish Council please contact the Parish Clerk clerk@calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk
07751802761

Katherine Checchia

Parish Clerk

www.calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk

Future dates and performers for the Jazz Club

Feb 25th: Dave Newton's piano trio

March 25th: The Jug Band

April 29th: Catherine Sykes

May 27th: Martin Kolarides (guitar) plus piano and double bass.

June 24th our 20th anniversary with Dave and Euan on 2 pianos...

July 29th: Medicine Creek

September 30th: Hendo's Washboard Kings

Bring your own refreshments for which there are some (24) little tables...Admission still only £10 Please pay at the door

Reservations please by phone to 07976 945055 and please specify where you would prefer to sit (front, mid or rear of rows 1 to 6, on the back wall or in the balcony).

Cheers,

James



HAVE YOUR SAY USE YOUR VOTE Referendum 27 February Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan



Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan 2
BLACKLAND | BROADS GREEN | CALNE | CALSTONE | DERRY HILL | HIGH PENN |
LOWER COMPTON | MILE ELM | RATFORD | SANDY LANE | STOCKLEY | STUDLEY

Neighbourhood Plans set out planning policies for an area and can:

- Protect local green spaces.
- Encourage better designed places.
- Shape new development to meet local needs.
- Bring more funding to the local area for additional facilities.

They are written by the local community and, once adopted (or “made”), have to be consulted as part of the planning process.

Our Neighbourhood Plan was “made” in 2018. As plans become older, the weight they hold in planning decisions reduces, so they have to be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

Calne Community’s Neighbourhood Plan has been revised by Calne Town Council, Calne Without Parish Council and community volunteers. It has been out to public consultation (thanks for all the feedback!).

To view the plan, visit www.calnecommunityplan.com or scan the QR code.



To become effective, the plan now needs to be passed by a Referendum.

- If you have a postal vote send it back in good time.
- If voting in person, remember to take valid photo ID.

Knitting, stitching & craft group.

A group meets weekly, on Fridays 2-4 pm in Christ Church Derry Hill. Bring your crochet, knitting or needlework, all abilities welcome. Share tips, chat and enjoy a tea or coffee, £3. Any queries contact Christine 817780, Liz 812138 or Marcia 820196



WI Walking Netball

Our Christmas Dinner was an excellent event! We had delicious food at the Lansdowne Arms. They made us very welcome. Allie had arranged a 'Secret Santa and this was great fun. The gifts were all original and caused a lot of laughter. Not sure if Christine actually put her ornaments on her tree! Knowing Christine, maybe she did.



We are back playing again after our break. If you would like to come and have a go it is £2 per session, Monday and Friday at 1.45-2.45 pm, term time only, on the outside multi-pitch next to Lansdowne Hall. An excellent way to socialise, have fun and keep fit.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from us all.

Tina

Mobile library visits to Derry Hill

Lansdowne Hall Derry Hill

14.30 – 15.45

Tuesday: 4th & 18th February 2025

Kingston House Derry Hill

10.10 – 10.30

10th February 2025





Kingston House

Care Home

Kingston House Activities & Lunch

Monday to Friday 10am - 2pm

Join our team and residents in our charming care home any weekday for a morning of company, fun and interaction, plus a nutritious and delicious lunch shared with friends.

Chair-based exercises, Painting, Singing, Bingo and quizzes, Word games and more.

Our Activities & Lunch mornings are open to anyone 65 and over. Cash donations to support our charitable fund are accepted on the day.

Call us on

01249 815 555

to book your place and do a quick safety pre-assessment.

We cannot wait to meet you!

Kingston House, Lansdowne Crescent, Calne SN11 9NP



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Lansdowne Hall
in Derry Hill, Calne

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Derry Hill & Studley Gardening Club

2025 Programme

Date	Speaker	Subject
4/2/25	Ray Broughton	Pests & Diseases
4/3/25	Caroline Sheldrick	A Year in the Cutting Garden
1/4/25	Nicola Hope	Talking Tomatoes
6/5/25	James Allison	The Secrets of Successful Water Gardening
3/6/25	Local Garden visit/Summer Social	TBC
1/7/25	Nick Morgan	Making the most of your Greenhouse
5/8/25	Robert Harvey	Creating a Downland Garden
2/9/25	Paul Green	Plants of the Season
7/10/25	Joff Elphick	Crayfish on the Lawn & other Gardening Stories
4/11/25	Timothy Walker	In the Not So Bleak Mid-Winter

Paula Wheatcroft

pdoel@live.co.uk 0783 3755232.

TOWN HALL MOVIOLA

Our next film showing on **Feb 19 will be 'Firebrand' (15)**

Katherine Parr the 6th and last wife of Henry 8th is named Regent while he is away fighting overseas. She promotes her radical Protestant beliefs, but when the aging King returns, he is furious and takes his revenge and Katherine finds herself fighting for survival'

Tickets £6 from the Info centre...preferably by card...or on the door (cash only).

Doors open at 7.0pm. Refreshments available.

Viv

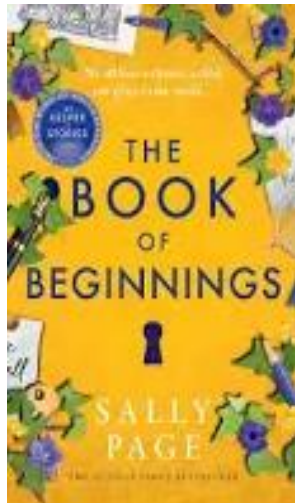


Book Club Review

The Book of Beginnings by Sally Page

Jo Sorsby is at a turning point; her heart has been broken and her life is a mess when she agrees to run her uncle's hardware/stationery shop. Whilst running the shop Jo meets Ruth, a runaway vicar, and Malcolm a would-be author.

The three protagonists form an unlikely friendship. They support each other, discover the power of friendship and learn that it's never too late to be yourself. As the book progresses, we learn more about their back stories and what brought them to the hardware/stationery shop. All three characters benefit from their time together and help each other to move forward with their lives.



Jo's love of stationery, in particular fountain pens, plays a central role in the story. It occurs to her that when people are trying pens, they tend to open up about what is on their minds. The tester papers are displayed in Jo's shop, and we follow some of their writer's stories - the policeman who wants to improve his handwriting and the lonely chess-playing schoolboy amongst others.

Malcolm the would-be author is researching the people behind the names on the gravestones in Highgate Cemetery for his ghost story in which the cemetery's residents come back to life for a short time at Christmas. This research forms an interesting extra dimension to the book as the three protagonists spend time in the cemetery and imagine the ghosts of two of the cemetery's residents meeting. After reading the book we all wanted to visit the cemetery as the descriptions of it and its residents were fascinating.

We all found the book to be an enjoyable, uplifting read which celebrated friendship although opinions on the ending of the book differed!

Sarah



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Theatre



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Friday 31st January 7:00pm

Saturday 1st February 2:00pm & 7:00pm

Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill

Box Office

Tel 07733231735

Adult £8 | Child £4 | Family £22

Doors open 30 minutes prior to performance



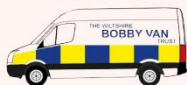
facebook.com/DerryHillTheatre



SCAN ME

Rags to Riches in a Purr-fect Panto!

IN AID OF

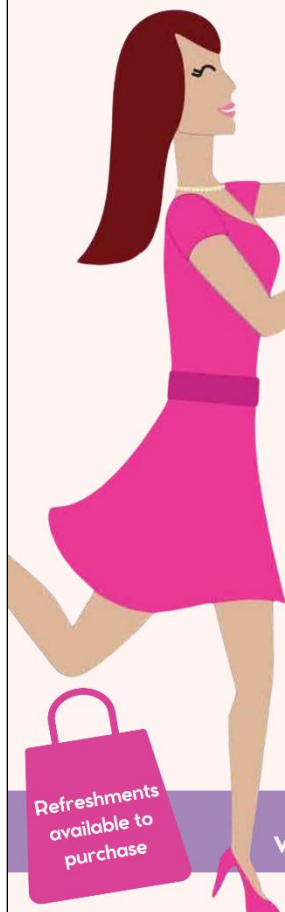


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accessories and fabulous jewellery

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available to
purchase

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wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/future-events

Rub a Dub Pre-School



We hope you've all had a wonderful Christmas and would like to wish you a Happy New Year!

Here is a date for your diary...our Easter Fayre is going to be held on Saturday 5th April at the Lansdowne Hall.

Come rain or shine, we will have lots of exciting things on offer at the fayre such as: local artisan stores selling their finest goods, second hand toy sale, bouncy castle, face painting, Easter trail around the village with prizes for all entrants, cake and coffee stand amongst other things.

If anyone wishes to have a stall at the fayre, we would love to hear from you. Equally, if any local companies would like to advertise their business at this event, as well as sponsor our Easter trail, we would hugely appreciate it. Please email: rubadubfundraising@gmail.com.

New Year Resolutions...

Last year I did some rotten things.

this year I will be better.

here are some resolutions

I will follow to the letter:

I won't make dumb excuses
when my homework isn't done,
when the truth is that I did
no work 'cause I was having fun

I won't fly paper aeroplanes
when the teacher isn't looking.
I won't sneak in the kitchen
just to taste what they are cooking

I will not twist the silverware
to see how far it bends.
I will not take the candy bars
from lunch bags of my friends.

I will not skateboard down the hall
or skateboard down the stairs.
I won't run over teachers,
and I won't crash into chairs.

I will not do these rotten things.
My heart is full of sorrow.
But I have got some brand-new tricks
to try in school tomorrow.

by Bruce Lansky

New to the area and looking for a pre-school?

If you are new to the area and interested in looking around our pre-school for your child, please email:

rubadubpreschoolenquiries@gmail.com where we will be happy to help.

Many thanks for reading.

Leah Ryan rubadubsecretary@gmail.com

Friends of Derry Hill School

We have had a busy time in the lead up to Christmas, the bonanza was a huge success raising £1600. We have also had our first cake bake of the year and looking forward the next.

Our next fundraising event is **Bags 2 School on Wednesday 5th February**, if you are having a

clear out, please do drop a bag in the bike shed either the afternoon before or first thing in the morning.

Details of what can be collected are detailed in the separate poster in this magazine.

Thanks for your support,

Lauren, Ffion and the committee



Classic tunes and afternoon tea mark special celebration of caring at Kingston House

Cream teas, treats and a concert warmed hearts at a multi-generational community event at Kingston House in Calne on Saturday 25 January.

As part of a special celebration of those who care for others, residents, family members and other visitors from the local community enjoyed a comforting cuppa and delicious scones and cream while they were entertained by a local musician from Mini Concerts.



The artist performed a range of music from the 40s, 50s and 60s as well as some well-known songs from musicals – and everyone joined in singing and dancing to the old-time favourites.

Led and hosted by Kingston House, the number 1 not-for-profit care home in Calne run by Greensleeves Care, the special day was part of

'Big Warm Up' – a nationwide initiative by the group to showcase the warmth and joy of caregiving.

It came as figures show that nearly 1 in 2 adults in England (47 per cent) increase the assistance they give older relatives during winter. The survey by Greensleeves Care also showed that many people feel unprepared when it comes to care, citing having enough information and agreement from family members as key factors in decision-making. Around a quarter (26%) report having had to make a difficult care decision at a point of crisis.

Kingston House Manager, Catherine Beswick said: "Our Big Warm Up event was a wonderful way to warm up together over scones and cakes whilst listening to fabulous music from the past.

"Everybody had a great time, sung along to the 'golden oldie' tunes, nattered about pastimes and some made new friends.

“The start of a new year is the perfect opportunity for reflection and planning. For many, this may involve thinking about the additional care and support we or an older loved one might need in the coming months.

“Along with having great fun, events like Big Warm Up give people a chance to experience our warm and welcoming home, see our facilities first hand, and get what they need to make well-informed, family-oriented decisions - without the pressure of urgency.”

If you'd like more tips and advice on how to help older adults stay warm and well this winter and help accessing care, you can explore free resources at www.greensleeves.org.uk/WarmthOfCare, or contact the home to arrange a visit.

Kathy

Mothers' Union Prayer & Fellowship Group



We haven't met since December, so we are looking forward to getting back to some normality. However, not just yet, as our first meeting for 2025 is in Christ Church on Friday 7th February at 10.45am in readiness for our Wave of Prayer. This we will start at 10.50am, taking over from Calne MU, and we finish at 11.10, handing over to Royal Wootton Bassett MU. Please feel free to come along and join us for this short service.

Please note that in March we will be back to normal meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm in Christ Church.

Barbara M Parry

Children society boxes

It is that time of the year again to have your boxes emptied. Please take your box to church by **Mothering Sunday 30th of March**.



Since Covid people seem to have less small change to put in their boxes. There is less money to collect and sadly some box holders have passed away. Also, it is more difficult to pay the money into the bank. For these reasons I have decided that this is the last year I will be collecting the boxes. Thank you for your support.

Sarah Hooper. 01249 658285

Christ Church Electoral Roll

The Christ Church Electoral Roll has to be updated every 6 years so if you wish your name to be included in the new roll, please collect a form from church and return it by 15th February to Margaret Hogarth, 5 Redhill Close, Derry Hill, SN11 9NY. Thank you.

The Lansdowne Hall

The Lansdowne Hall needs fresh input to promote this exceptional village facility, so please consider joining the team.

The Hall has been open for approaching 25 years and is often very busy. An administrator deals with all enquiries, bookings and invoicing and a cleaner keeps everywhere spic and span.



If you can spare a little time on a voluntary basis to help us maintain our high Hallmark status, please contact:

Richard French 01249 816106.

The Lansdowne Hall Annual General Meeting

The Lansdowne Hall Management Committee and the Derry Hill and Studley Village Hall Trust will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday April 24th in the Lansdowne Hall commencing at 8.15 pm. Notice of the meeting will be sent to all regular users but other members of the local community are also invited to attend the AGM. It is hoped to serve light refreshments after the meeting and it would be helpful for making catering arrangements if the Hall's Administrator (administrator@lansdownehall.org) could be advised of your planned attendance.



Alan Rosekilly

Secretary to the Management Committee and Board of Trustees.

Derry Hill & District WI

The venue for our Christmas Dinner was La Flambe, Sutton Benger. We had amazing food and lots of fun. Everyone agreed that it was a great night. Thank you to Alex who, once again, organised a lovely evening.

Several members attended a 'Coffee and Chat' morning in January at the Pewsham.

It was good to catch up and share news after the Christmas holiday. This was so successful we are going again to the



Pewsham on Thursday February 6th.

Annie Church will be leading another 'Grave Talk' at Tina's house on Thursday 5th February at 7.30pm, back by popular request!

We have arranged a meal out at Wara Thai Café in Chippenham. It is always good to try new places so we have set the date for 12th February at 7pm. The start of the year is usually fairly quiet after all the festivities are over but not so in WI!!! We are always busy. What will we get up to next?

Our meeting in February is our Members Evening. This year we are having a quiz. Members have been studying ready to answer all questions correctly, or there again, maybe not!

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Lansdowne Hall, 7.30pm. If you are interested, please email our secretary, Liz, at derryhillsec@wiltshirewi.org

Tina

How to Tell If Your Older Relative Needs More Help

As we age, staying healthy, mobile and social can become harder for many of us. If you have an older loved one in your life, here is how to spot for signs that they may need extra support.



Has their appearance changed?

If personal hygiene or grooming appears neglected, it may mean daily tasks are becoming difficult. Watch for signs including weight loss or small burns, which can suggest struggles with cooking.

What's the house environment like? An untidy and cluttered home can suggest housework is a challenge. Notice too if they're using fewer areas of the house, perhaps due to fear of falling.

Are they taking their medication? Look for signs like excess stock of medication or blister packs with missing doses and consider encouraging a discussion with their GP or specialist.

What's their social life like? Ask about who they have spoken with recently. Reduced social contact might signal isolation.

Do they call more often? An increase in the frequency of their calls could mean your loved one is feeling anxious, forgetful, or lonely. Realising that your older loved one is struggling by themselves can be difficult. However, the sooner help is in place, the better. Remember to give yourself lots of grace and reach out to professionals for support.

And you are always welcome to give our team at Kingston House a call on 01249 471 516 for a no-obligation chat or visit.

Catherine Beswick

Home Manager at Kingston House care home



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The "Hidden Jewel" of Calne. You would be forgiven for thinking that St Mary's Calne Sports Club is not involved in its local community, but outside the classroom our doors are open to the public every day.

Set in the idyllic grounds of St Mary's Calne, the modern contemporary building houses a cutting edge gymnasium and swimming pool facilities as well as the recent Sports Complex development. We now have a County sized sports hall, multi-purpose room, larger dance studio, additional changing facilities and disabled access.

MORE INFO



t: 01249 857335

w: www.smcsports.co.uk

e: sportsclub@stmaryscalne.org

63 Curzon Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0DF

FOLLOW US



February 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 5 Find(6)
- 6 Perspire(5)
- 9 Uninteresting(4)
- 11 Hives(9)
- 13 Courageous(4)
- 14 Hawthorn(3)
- 16 Convent(7)
- 17 Thicket(5)
- 19 Noon(6)

DOWN

- 1 Under(7)
- 2 Death notice(8)
- 3 Eye part(6)
- 4 Golfer's assistant(5)
- 7 Woes(8)
- 8 Strong fire(5)
- 10 Oak fruit(5)
- 12 Canopy(6)
- 13 Male rabbit(4)
- 15 Accumulate(5)
- 18 Couch(4)

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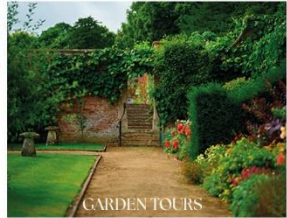


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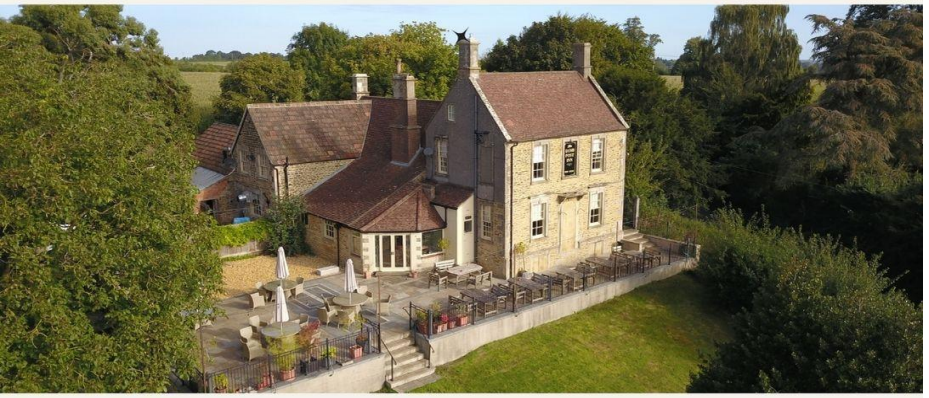



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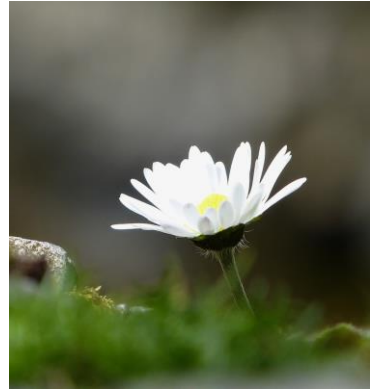


Wellbeing notes

Season of hope

These weeks, right now, when winter is sliding muddily into early spring... there's no time quite like it. It's not the most beautiful of seasons. And yet, with its sprinkling of snowdrops and ever lighter skies, there lies, embedded in our local landscape, the hope of warmer days.

As the heroine of *Anne of Green Gables* says, "Tomorrow is always fresh, with no mistakes in it yet." And since we are only in February, there are plenty of tomorrows left in the year.



A pessimistic friend of mine is skilled at pointing out the many problems in the world. But perhaps when things look most dire, that's when we have the greatest need for hope. Or, to put it another way, in places of darkness, the light of hope may appear to shine more brightly and become most meaningful to others. To nurture hope is a valuable survival skill. Hope brings no guarantee of success, or peace, or happiness – but it does say that these things are possible.

I love the words of the author Barbara Kingsolver, in her novel, *Animal Dreams*. 'The very least you can do in your life is figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof.'

May we all be safe, and well, and happy in our houses of hope this year.

Suzanne Askham



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December 2024 / January 2025 Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Wise Man's gift(4)
- 3 Santa's helpers(5)
- 7 Information store(8)
- 8 Famous birthplace(9)
- 9 Central part(4)
- 10 New Year pyrotechnics(9)
- 11 Tree decoration(6)

DOWN

- 12 New year's last two digits(6-4)
- 13 First month(7)
- 2 Fate(7)
- 4 Santa's transport(6)
- 5 Christmas song(5)
- 6 New year promise(10)



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Dance Fit!

A dance-fitness class created by the Strictly Professionals

Classes Every Monday
9.30-10.25 (FIRST CLASS FREE)

The Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill, Calne

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ANNA

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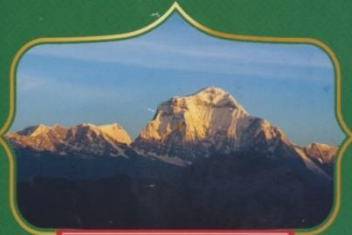
Fitsteps is a dance fitness class created by the Strictly professional dancers and is based on the Latin and Ballroom dances. Suitable for all ages and abilities. No partner required.

Wear clothing and trainers suitable for a fitness class.



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