BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

May 2014

The Newsletter

In this issue: • Tytherton Fun Ride

- Church Crawl Mid Summer Party
- Small Thoughts New Housing Issues
- Chicken Yassa
 Wordsearch



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 1st May Ladies' Lunch with Rosalind Robinson
- 3rd May Garage Sale, Bremhill Village Hall
- 5th May Step by Step Foxham Inn
- 13th May Newsletter AGM
- 17th May Fundraising for Ollie
- 17th May Calne Business Fair
- 21st June East Tytherton Midsummer Party
- 3rd July One Man and His Cow Rural Arts Bremhill
- 6th September Bremhill Village Show

Front cover image:Tytherton Fun Ride, the checkpoint at Ratford where riders safety was monitored and refreshments were offered.

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Editorial

I have been pestered lately with a bout of the 'what if's...'. What if I were taller, would that make me feel more confident? What if I ate less, would that make me feel better? What if I went to bed earlier, would it help me to be livelier? What if I gave up red wine – absolutely no chance! However, all these I managed to resolve, but then I happened on one that I feel is important and affects us all.

What if there were no cultural or leisure activities in our community? A community with no culture is a barren one. Calne is a small country town, yet impresses with a number of cultural festivals, concerts and activities throughout the year and, similarly, our Parish reflects that. Looking back through past editions of the 'Newsletter' I am struck by the number of activities that take place; for example, St. Mary's School choir singing in Foxham, the Rural arts performances in Bremhill Village Hall and the recent excellent C.P.E. Bach concert in St. Martin's Church, together with a plethora of activites encouraging people to meet, talk and enjoy themselves. We should offer our grateful thanks to the many people who give of their time to organise these events and thank them for their hard work by supporting with our presence.

We are also a diverse community containing people of widely differing experiences and memories, all of which would make interesting contributions to the Newsletter. Short stories, articles about your work, past or present, memories of the parish in years gone by, can all add interest to the Newsletter (remembering the upper limit of 500 words!), so please get out your pen or open up your computer and send in your contributions. Consider, too, ways in which you can help the Newsletter, in particular to answer the plea made in last month's editorial for someone to help as an advertising coordinator. This is an essential post, as the revenue brought in by advertising finances its production.

Clocks have gone forward, winter banished and spring has arrived, bringing the thought of approaching summer and, of course, it is raining and windy at this moment of writing! Still, I now look forward to doing all those outside jobs I have been happily putting off! Enjoy this edition of your Newsletter. *Ewen Bird - Co-editor*

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SPECIAL NOTICES

FOXHAM VILLAGE HALL BINGO.

Easter Bingo was a great success with 80 seats filled and £276 raised for Foxham Reading Room/Village Hall. Well done to all those who won, better luck next time to all those who didn't and a big thank you to the kind people who donated a prize.

Last of all, thank you for your company and we look forward to the next bingo night at the end of November.

Cathy (On behalf of The Foxham Reading Room/Village Hall Committee)

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RURAL ARTS TOURING JULY EVENT

Date : Thursday 3rd July 2014 Place : Bremhill Village Hall

One Man and His Cow - A man. A cow. A whole shed load of trouble. This show has been written, and will be performed in rhyme and song, by a group from Somerset called Living Spit. Do not let the name put you off!

There will be a multitude of agricultural clichés and farmyard frolics. This is a brand new comedy that they have produced. It has been specially created to be performed in small areas - just like our village hall. They hope to be able to move around the hall and involve the audience.

They say "This irresistible pint-sized entertainment is music driven, full of fun and guaranteed to get everyone's toes tapping. Think of it as a Bovine King Lear, with bells on." I am not sure what that last bit means! But it is suitable for teens as well as adults.

Tickets: £7 (adults), £6 (concessions), £4 -50 (children). From Rosie (01249 813642) or Marilyn (01249 661369), also on line from:www.poundarts.org.uk (e mail address is box.office@pound.org.uk)

APRIL 100 CLUB WINNERS

Caro Steward won first prize of £38.27 and William Wyldbore-Smith won second prize of £22.96. The draw was conducted by WPC Sonya Stockhill, who is our Community Beat Officer, at the Friday Coffee Morning run by Hillary Harding.

The 100 Club has had a total of 154 entries, raising a total of £1848. The prize pot for the year is £924. A similar figure will help to pay for the considerable number of repairs needed to Bremhill Church.

David Stevens

PAINTING DAY – FOXHAM

Once again Foxham will be host to amateur artists who come to enjoy a day working under the watchful eye of artist John Harris (www.johnlharris.co.uk) who will provide help if required. This year we will be based for the day at Hillside View, home of Mary and Paul Kellond.

The date is July 26th and will cost £28 to include refreshments. The day is open to beginners and to more accomplished artists, including young people. Those attending can use any medium they wish. Profits from the day go to St. John the Baptist church, Foxham.

If you are interested please apply for more details from: Mary Kellond, tel. 01249 740633 or Elizabeth Hannah, tel. 01249 740619..



REMINDER - NEWSLETTER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We will be holding our inaugural AGM on **Tuesday 13th May** at **7.30pm at Tytherton Village Hall**. Bar will be open! Everyone is welcome. We are still looking for an Advertisement Coordinator and an Editor.



BREMHILL PLANT STALL

The plant stall at Bremhill village square is now open for the season. Perennials and shrubs are available now. Annuals area is coming soon. All of the proceeds will go to St Martin's Church Repair Fund.



MIRANDA SYKES AND REX PRESTON

We have had some really lovely comments about this last Rural Arts Touring event. It was a delightful evening with a talented and charming pair of musicians and we have been listening to their CD's ever since. One thing that we loved on the night was that Miranda and Rex decided not to use a microphone. The sound was so clear and brilliant in our small hall, without any distortion or electrical hum.

We would like to thank all those people who helped on the night (a number who have helped many times before) in the bar, making refreshments and many other tasks. The profit goes to the Village Hall funds which help with the running costs of the hall, repairs and new equipment.

We hope to see you at the next event, 'One man and his Cow'. It will be quite a contrast !!!

BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL HOME PRODUCE AND GARDEN SHOW

Saturday 6th September 2014

The schedule for the show was published just after Christmas on the Bremhill website. If you know of anyone who has not been able to print one off, then please can friends and neighbours help by printing one for them. The vegetables need to be planted. Have you got your onions in? And selected an unusual vegetable or fruit to grow? And has anyone cut their thumb stick so that it can season over the summer?

Nancy's plate is for a War Time Cake. This is a reminder of the shortages that were experienced during both the First and Second World Wars. We have asked villagers to try to find some recipes for these cakes and submit them to any one on the Hall committee. One will be selected in July and then everybody will be asked to make their cake to that recipe for the show.

Marilyn

REMINDER - CALNE BUSINESS FAIR

17th May 2014

Calne Business Fair will take place on 17 May 2014, promoting and celebrating the many diverse small and micro businesses of the SN11 area. Inspired by the successful 'Wiltshire Expo 2013', this will give the many local companies an opportunity to get the attention they deserve and to shine a spotlight on this business sector.

The Calne Business Fair is a free event and will take place in the historic Calne Town Hall and popular Marden House.

The annual Lions Duck Race will take place on the same day to raise money for the Calne Lions Club.

If you would like to book a space to exhibit, further information can be found on the Calne Town Council website

Jesssica Pillow May

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GREAT SOMERFORD GUIDES

The school hall was a buzz of activity for the last three weeks of term. The Guides were unusually quiet as they concentrated on making dresses for the charity 'Dress a girl around the world'. We were very grateful to members of the community who worked alongside the Guides, helping, teaching and sharing their sewing skills with them.

We are very proud of the effort and care that the girls put into the project and so far we have over 20 completed dresses. The girls themselves were also full of pride for what they had achieved. Many had never used a sewing machine, let alone made a dress! Our thanks go to Tricia Morris for helping us get the project off the ground and to all who came along to help the Guides.

Gill Shaw

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MOVIOLA FILMS....CALNE TOWN HALL.

Weds 21st May at 7.30.pm. 'THE RAILWAY MAN' (15) *starring Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman.*

This tells the true story of Eric Lomax serving in the 2nd World War when he is captured by the Japanese. He is left traumatised and uncommunicative for years to come despite the best efforts of his wife.'

Many years later he resolves to track down one of his torturers hoping to let go of the hatred he has carried throughout his life. This is a very moving and thought provoking film and will touch many emotions.

Doors open 7.00.pm, Refreshments available (but no bar) and there is a lift. Tickets £6.00 available from the Information Centre or on the door.

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News from Christian Malford School

The last few weeks at school have been very busy. We dressed in mufti for Sports Relief Day and completed challenges set by the year 6 children, money raised from both of these going towards Sports Relief.

The Scarecrow trail, which took place at the end of March in glorious weather, was a resounding success. The scarecrows made by villagers were superb, and helped to swell the funds to over £3,700! Elm Class have been working on castles this term and Beech Class performed their play "Here Comes Danger" all about the Second World War which they had been learning about this term. Gardening Club starts after Easter, so if anyone has any seedlings, seeds, vegetables or flowers that they do not need, the Club will gladly take them off your hands! The Friends of School are hosting Wacky Races on 18th May starting at 11 am at the school, which promises to be great fun and you can enter as a family or business. There will be a "School Maintenance Day" on Sunday 8th June starting at 9.30 at the school, organized by FOS. We plan to make some great improvements and a general 'spruce up' but need your support in order to do this. If you can offer help in any way please let Phil Hines (720003) or the school know. Please continue to collect Sainsbury vouchers for us –a collecting box is in Reception. Finally, Sports Day is on 10th July and the Leavers and Joiners Service, held in Christian Malford Church on 22 July at 1.30 pm.



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FRONT COVER STORY - TYTHERTON RIDE

This year we welcomed Chesterton Humberts, the Chippenham branch of the estate agents, as our lead sponsor. Having their support has meant that there were new rosettes in their colours. We also greatly value our other local sponsors whose details can be found on the Tytherton Ride website.

This year we dodged the rain and on the Sunday of the ride it was dry for most of the day, although at 6.30am I was very concerned to see it pouring with rain. By 8.30am, however, it had stopped and the trailers and lorries rolled in. The overnight rain from Thursday and Saturday night made the ground soft and William Bailey was kept busy with his tractor most of the day.

Feedback from the riders was fantastic. Anyone wanting to see lots of smiling faces and jumping positions should go to the Ride Facebook Group page via the website. All the kind comments make the hard work worth it.

Yet again the team from Bremhill Parish came together to provide stewards, catering and entry officials on the day. Without their help on the day this Ride could never take place, so a big thank you from the Ride committee.

Our thanks go to all the landowners who were very helpful when we lost the long route through Foxham by generously providing a few extra miles to make up the shortfall. We hope their land will make a quick recovery after the rain made it soft in places. By all accounts this was the best ride ever.

All our efforts were rewarded with 300 riders having a wonderful day and helping to raise £6000 for our local churches, village halls, Christian Malford primary school and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Ian James



Another jump safely negotiated by Georgia Glass



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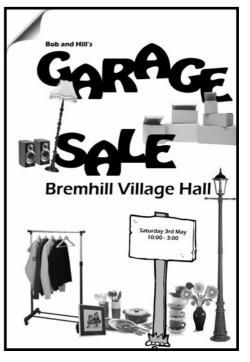
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And now for something a little different ...

WILTSHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Hidden in the word search are ten places of interest in Wiltshire. Can you find them? Careful – some have two words in their name. Reminder – up and down, across, diagonally, left to right, right to left!



Solution on page 20

Do you have something that might fit on a single page? It doesn't have to be 'original' - just interesting

NEW HOUSING IN THE CHIPPENHAM AREA Option to build 2000 houses at New Leaze Farm - Bremhill Parish

These are notes made at an informative site allocation meeting on Tuesday 8th April as well as a 20 min workshop to establish the processes in selecting the options to build an extra 4000 houses in and around Chippenham.

There are 5 options for development open for consultation which starts now, one of which is to build to the east of Chippenham in the Parish of Bremhill. It is no secret that the Bremhill Parish Neighbourhood Plan is being progressed, if complete by the end of 2014 then the Planning Inspector will have to take note of the wishes of the parish, although the plan cannot stop any development.

In order to build the 2000 houses in the parish of Bremhill, this land will have to annexed into Chippenham, and we will lose a chunk of the parish, There will also be the subsequent impact such a development will have on the rivers Marden and Avon. The loss of the farmland, and countryside are important issues for you to consider, as well as the visual impact from the high ground in the Parish. There is a need to protect the bio-diversity of the rivers and the wildlife. The extent of the development is likely to be within 800 metres of the edge of Tytherton Lucas.

The key area which I believe will need considering is the possibility of an increased risk of flooding, and as a result of my request at a recent Cabinet meeting it appears that a flood risk (level 2) assessment will be undertaken by the Council and the Environment Agency.

One of the key points of the development to the east is the promotion of a link road from the development in the north at Birds Marsh, across the railway, the river and then through the middle of the proposed development. The question has to be asked "Is there a real need for a link road to move traffic around Chippenham to the east and onto the A4, or is the link road put in place to service the development? If it is the latter, and if then there is no development at New Leaze Farm, there would then be no need for this road. The link road to the west is capable of being made a dual carriage-way and can carry traffic around Chippenham. The layout and traffic flow of that road needs some thought to make it flow better at peak times.

Consultation on the scope of the Chippenham Development Plan Document (DPD) requires comments by 5th May.

Consultation on the proposed modifications to the Core Strategy, comments by 27^{th} May.

Comments by email to spatialplanningpolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk, or write to that department.

I urge you to respond to Wiltshire Council.

lan James Chairman of the Neighbourhood Planning Group



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CHICKEN YASSA [GAMBIA]

Ingredients:

- 2 chickens (or 16 chicken thighs)
- 6 limes
- 6 large onions
- ground red pepper
- salt/ground black pepper
- 2 bay leaves
- Olive oil for frying
- 1 cup chicken stock..

Method:

- Cut chickens into eight pieces.
- Squeeze juice from the limes, and mix with salt, black & red peppers and bay leaves.
- Pour over the chicken pieces.
- Slice onions finely, spread over chicken and mix in well together with two spoons of oil.
- Leave for minimum two hours (or overnight) to marinade.

Later:

Drain chicken pieces and grill lightly, preferably over charcoal or wood. Heat the oil in a frying pan. Drain onions and sauté gently in the oil till soft.

Add the marinade and cook for five minutes.

Then add chicken pieces and a cup of stock.

Check seasoning. Cover and simmer for 45 minutes.

Serve with rice.

Dawn Straker-Cook



FOXHAM STANDING ITEMS

Foxham sub-post office

Foxham sub-post office is open each Thursday from 9am-12 noon. If you wish to contact the postmaster on 07973 251633.

Foxham Reading Room bookings

Cathy Hourihane is the caretaker of the Reading Room. She will take bookings on 01249 740413.

Foxham Free Library

We have a wide variety of books. Something for everyone! So come to the Foxham Reading Room and borrow a book (all we ask from you is to return or replace it). Book donations can be left in the Free Library, which will now be open all day Thursday 9am to 5pm. Any questions, contact Cathy on 01249 740413.

Tablecloths for hire in Foxham

The Foxham PCC has a set of floral tablecloths (approximately 44''/112 cm sq.) for hire at a fee of £2 for the set part set. To book please contact Daphne Glass on 01249 740288.

SMALL ADS

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Thursday 1st May

Enjoy a 2 course lunch with speaker Rosalind Robinson, an artist and specialist decorator and hear about her interesting projects throughout Europe.

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Dumb Post News

News from the top of the hill! Mother's Day was a wonderful one at the Dumb Post Inn - we were busy all day, with many who came to enjoy lunch on the patio taking in our amazing views. All our mums and families were full of praise and we felt very proud.

Future Dates:

Quiz night - last Wednesday of every month starting at 8.30 p.m. **Gourmet burger night** - every Thursday there is a choice of up to 6 different burgers, 8oz to 32oz and prices from £6.95!!

Food served Tuesday - Saturday 12-3 and 6-9 p.m.; Sunday 12-4 p.m. Open all day Friday - Sunday!! Come and join us - We look forward to seeing you soon!

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CHRISTIAN MALFORD AND FOXHAM WI

Many thanks go to Peter Biggs who gave us a very informative talk in April to help us transform our gardens. We should have surprises and interests around every corner now! Increasing organ donation is our topic for our resolutions night on May 15th. Three people die every day waiting for an organ transplant. We are hoping to have speakers to lead us on the evening. The discussion could prove to be controversial because many more people are willing to accept a donor organ than would donate. Do we need more campaigns to raise awareness for donors to register? Come and put your point of view forward.

The names are 'filling up' for an exciting and exhilarating 'Head hunter and laser' morning - a tactical outdoor combat game which, surely, is something you have never done before! Book your place for May 4th with Helen on 721411. Monday 19th May is our first popular four miler countryside walk of the year. Contact Val on 740219. New members are always welcome. All our information and club activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.



Contact Jenny: 01249 740950



CHURCH CRAWL

There's more to Upper Egypt than Luxor and the Valley of the Kings!

234 miles south of Cairo lies Asyut: It is an old city which was first settled in pharaonic times and called Syut: in the 1850s it still had the largest slave market in Egypt. Today, Asyut is the capital of the Upper Egypt governorate and has a large Christian community as well as the third largest university in Egypt.

One of Bob's tasks in the early 80s was to advise Egypt's universities and in the very first week of his assignment, had to brave the horrifying road along the banks of the Nile from Cairo to Asyut: I decided to tag along. Now, Sunday is a working day in many Egyptian institutions, and while he was ensconced with Deans and Heads of Department, I decided to attend Holy Mass. I crept into what I was certain was a Catholic church, but then lugubrious chanting commenced. There seemed to be no end to it and after about twenty minutes, I managed to creep back out again: this could only have been the Coptic rite. In similar fashion I "discovered" Greek Orthodox, Greek Catholic, Syrian, Maronite and Presbyterian churches, all vying for worshippers. Noon was approaching and I still had not reached my objective. "Just one more" I thought as I wearily trudged up a flight of steps to what looked to me like the presbytery attached to a multi-domed Christian edifice: it was firmly locked, so I hammered on the huge wooden door.

It was answered by a magnificent personage, with iron-grey hair and a long flowing beard who listened benevolently while I told him of my quest. He invited me in, led me through an outer chamber and into an inner room book-lined and dominated by a massive desk. Introducing himself as the Roman Catholic Bishop of Asyut, he bade me take a seat, but before sitting himself, he walked towards a row of bound volumes, and reaching behind brought out a bottle filled with amber liquid. "Fruit brandy" said he, with a twinkle in his eye, "would you like to try some?" I accepted a thimbleful of the delicious concoction and he then began to quiz me as to why I was in Asyut, what my husband did, and so on. The banter carried on for a good half hour and I was wondering how to extricate myself when he leaned forward in a conspiratorial manner and said, "Would you like to confess?" I politely declined, privately thinking"Would you?" and hastily took my leave.



Basilica of Our Lady, Heliopolis, Cairo (known affectionately as The Jelly Mould)

Dawn Straker-Cook



FOXHAM ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

At the meeting on Thursday 3rd April., members were appointed to various roles for the coming year. Churchwardens remained the same with Elizabeth Hannah and Mary Kellond continuing. Robert Pegler continues as Treasurer and he now joins Elizabeth Hannah as Deanery Synod representative.

We said goodbye and thank you to Adrian Whitbread who had been a Council member for many years. He had been a very active Church Warden, overseeing the re-roofing of the church and also being instrumental in getting the church consecrated as a church in its own right instead of being a Chapel of Rest. We also said goodbye and thank you to Jenny Wilton as she leaves the post of secretary to the PCC. She has held this role for so long, and has been a conscientious and reliable secretary. We will miss her, a hard act to follow!!! Currently this leaves us without a secretary and we are looking for someone to take on the role.

Thanks were also given to all the people who help to maintain the church in so many ways: giving money by covenant; those who help keep the church and churchyard tidy; those who help with the flowers, cleaning and repairing faults and doing all the many tasks needed to keep our church looking cared for, both inside and outside. All the help is so willingly given and is really appreciated both by your PCC, village residents and the visitors who attend, as is shown by their remarks written in the visitors' book.

Elizabeth Hannah and Mary Kellond, Church wardens.

Neighbourhood Police Team

Since PC Alan Blake's 60th Birthday celebrations, coupled with his well deserved retirement after 22 years as a Wiltshire Police Officer, I have been lucky enough to take over from Alan on the beautiful Rural area of Calne.

There have been several changes at Calne Police station in the last few months, but I am pleased to say that PC Stuart WELCH and myself are now settled in and getting to know the community. Stuart covers the Calne Town beat, but you are likely to see him sneaking over the border into the lovely villages too.

Some of you already know PCSO Nicole Yates, who, with myself, covers the Rural area. It has been a pleasure so far to meet some of you at the Friday coffee mornings and I look forward to meeting more of you on my patrols.

On a personal note, I have been an Officer with Wiltshire Police for over 24 years, starting my service in Chippenham in 1989, when the lady Officers always wore skirts and carried truncheons that were half the size of a male Officer's issue truncheon. How times have changed !

I hope to keep you updated each month. Feel free to drop anything into out post box at the Village Hall, which we will regularly check. I look forward to meeting with many of you in the near future. Myself and Nicole are always happy to be contacted or meet up, if you wish to discuss any issues. Please contact us on tel: 101 or email us direct – we are always happy to help. Sonya.stockhill@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk Nicole.yates@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

> WPC 319 Sonya Stockhill Neighbourhood Police Team Calne Rural

HELP 3-YEAR OLD OLLIE WALK

Contributions needed to help fund an operation

A charity Coffee Morning/Bring and Buy event is being held in aid of "Step by Step Ollie" which is a local charity trying to raise £40,000 for Oliver Baker, a 3 year old boy who lives in Lyneham and who was born with cerebral palsy. He needs an operation and physiotherapy to enable him to walk (but the NHS will not fund it).



Our fundraising event will be held on Saturday 17th May,10am - 2.00pm in the Foxham Reading Room. Any unwanted items such as books, toys, plants, clothes, unwanted gifts, cakes would be gratefully accepted.

If you have any suitable items, please contact:

Dianne Burrows, Pine lodge, West End, Foxham 01249 740694 or Jackie Harris 01249 760404



FOXHAM INN NEWS

May Day Bank Holiday Monday 5th May, Bill and Elsbeth Norman are holding a BBQ at The Foxham Inn, in aid of " Step by Step Ollie" which is a charity trying to raise £40,000 for Oliver Baker, a 3 year old boy who lives in Lyneham and was born with cerebral palsy. He needs an operation to enable him to walk. We will also be raffling a Basket of Easter Eggs on Easter Sunday evening, tickets are available from the bar, We do hope that you are able support both of these events.

Spring is here, we now have Wild Garlic on the menu, Morel Mushrooms with Dorset Duck Egg and Wye Valley Asparagus.

We have just had our Italian dinner and to look forward to in the next couple of months are:-

- Spring into Summer Dinner (5 Course Dinner) May 22nd.
- Tapas Night June 26th.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Neil and Sarah Cooper

PARISH MIDSUMMER PARTY - EAST TYTHERTON Afternoon Fete and Evening Barn Dance

Saturday 21st June - with the Bremhill Marquee in the centre of East Tytherton

Everyone in the Parish is welcome.

It will be a fun event very much like the Jubilee celebrations a few years ago. Remember that? Thousands of local groups across the country got together in celebration and our villages were no exception! This year we can all celebrate together with a midsummer party in East Tytherton - the geographic centre of the parish - but reinforced with the Bremhill Marquee, and hopefully with strong attendance and participation from across the parish. There will be two parts: an afternoon fete and an evening barn dance.

Afternoon Fete - free entrance

- Community games from sack and three-legged races to egg-throwing and tug-of-war - organise a team in advance or get roped in on the day!

- Cream teas, bar, ice creams
- Stalls from any local group wanting to organise one

Evening Barn Dance, from 7pm

- Dance out the longest day in the Bremhill Marquee
- Feast on a Foxham Ploughman's

- £15 (£10 for children or without food; under 5s free) - with proceeds towards building a replacement Tytherton Village Hall.

Save the date and look forward to a superb neighbourhood celebration!

SMALL THOUGHTS OF A LARGE CLERGYMAN

Holidays ! Lovely thought ! And it's a fact that from Easter onwards many of us are able to take some time away from our day to day tasks and get away. Hopefully for a relaxing and enjoyable time, whether it's to Benidorm or Bournemouth you are heading.

HOLIDAY - " a period of recreation away from work " my dictionary describes it. How we need it, how we long for it !

The word "holiday" comes of course from the two words "holy day" and at one time the feasts of the church were about the only "periods of recreation away from work" that most people had, although not much in the way of relaxation could have resulted because attendance at church was more or less mandatory. We fare much better now, with, in fact, the holidays ("holy days") of the church treated as a bonus. Just a few days extra holiday, with no special significance ! However, no-one would begrudge anyone a holiday after a hard year's labour !

It did occur to me though, that, as Christians, we might consider how we could turn the whole thing about-face, turn our holidays into "holy days". But don't get me wrong, I don't mean a fortnight away on a silent retreat, or even an organised tour of the great churches of Europe (although this would make a nice alternative at some time, perhaps!) No, what I had in mind was much simpler, much less demanding. Just using some of that precious time to collect our thoughts - using a few of those precious moments of freedom from the everyday to examine our faith, examine our relationship with God our Father - to recharge our spiritual batteries. Even worshipping in a different church, where only God knows us, can, in my own, oft repeated experience, concentrate the mind wonderfully ! Try it.

All this, and more you may do already - or it may well be the case that your family holiday, especially with young children, leaves you with less time, less energy than is the case during the rest of the year! I remember those days very well! But perhaps - just perhaps because I am sure that God knows that we need our holidays, how wonderful it would be if we could use just part of it to get to know God ! - God bless you, at home or away.

Jim Scott

LOCAL CHURCH INFORMATION

ST NICHOLAS, TYTHERTON LUCAS

Sunday 4th MayMorning Service 10am (MG)Sunday 11th MayHoly Communion 8.30am (JS)Sunday 18th MayMattins 10am (ES)Sunday 25th MayHoly Communion 8.30am (DC)Sunday 1st JuneMorning Service 10am (MG)

MORAVIAN CHURCH, EAST TYTHERTON

Morning worship is every Sunday at 10.30am with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month. ALL WELCOME

St Mary's, Chippenham

Saturdays 6pm Sundays 9.30am and 6.30pm Station Hill, Chippenham Canon Desmond Millett www.stmaryschippenham.co.uk

ST EDMUND'S, CALNE

Saturdays 6pm Sundays 10am Oxford Road, Calne Father Michael d'Arcy Walsh www.saintedmundsparish.org.uk

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CHURCH OFFICERS	Foxнам	BREMHILL
Church Wardens	Elizabeth Hannah 740619	William Wyldbore-Smith 814969
	Mary Kellond 740633	Nancy Kyte 815073
Treasurer	Robert Pegler 740253	David Stevens 815337
Secretary	Jenny Wilton 740279	Vacant Post

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH. Foxham

4 th May 3 rd Sunday Easter	9.30am Holy Communion	D. Wilton Acts 2: 14a 36-41
11 th May 4 th Sunday Easter	9.30am Family Service	A. Glass Acts 2: 42-end
18 th May 5 th Sunday Easter	9.30am Holy Communion	E. Hannah Acts 7: 55-end
25 th May 6 th Sunday Easter	6pm Evensong	M. Kellond Acts 17: 22-31 John 14: 15-21
1 st June 7 th Sunday Easter	NO SERVICE 11am United Benefice Derry Hill (All Welcome)	
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	lips and the meditations of	•

S acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."



CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

In Church you will see a Church Cleaning Rota. If you can find an hour of two to help clean the Church or polish the Brass, please put your name down as a volunteer. It will be much appreciated. Please bring your own cleaning materials, but there is a fine vacuum cleaner at the back of the Church.

If you have any items of Bremhill Church news for the JUNE 2014 edition of this Newsletter, please give them to either Derek Kyte (815073) or Jane Jordan (812083) in time for the 8th May 2014 deadline. Thank you.

For local Church information, please contact Rev Ann Massey 817926 ea.massey@btinternet.com. You can contact the Rev Jim Scott on: 813114

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

	Service	Sidesmen	Readers
4 th May 3 rd Sunday of Easter	8am Holy Communion 6pm Evensong	M Kyte P Rawlings & J Hughes	Acts 2: 14,36-41 Mr Nicol Jordan Luke 24: 13-35 Mrs Jane Jordan
11 th May 4 th Sunday of Easter	11 am Holy Communion	A Woods & D Kyte	Epistle Acts2: 42-end Mr Derek Kyte Gospel John 10. 1-10
18 th May 5 th Sunday of Easter	6 pm Evensong		Acts 7: 55-end Mrs Nancy Kyte John 14: 1-14 Mr Keith Blackmore
25 th May 6 th Sunday of Easter	9.30 Rogation Sunday	A Jones & L Jones	ТВА
1 st June 7 th Sunday of Easter	11 am United Service at Derry Hill with The Bishop of Salisbury		



DEVIZES MOBILE LIBRARY

The Devizes Mobile Library calls at Naish House Farm, Spirthill, on every other Monday afternoon at 2 pm - 2.30 pm but owing to two Bank Holidays the next visit will be 19th May.

There is also a library in St Martin's Church, just put 20p in the Fabric Collection Box and the book is yours. The books are all in two bookcases and in alphabetical order!

THE ROMANTIC POETS - GEORGE GORDON BYRON (1788-1824)

Byron's most famous poem is "She Walks in Beauty" (1815), which apparently was inspired by Byron's meeting with a woman at a Ball. She was in mourning following the recent death of her husband, and was wearing a black dress with spangles. Byron was struck by her natural beauty and the next morning he wrote the poem.

She walks in beauty, like the night Of cloudless climes and starry skies; And all that's best of dark and bright Meet in her aspect and in her eyes; Thus mellowed to that tender light Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less Had half impaired the nameless grace, Which waves in every raven tress Or softly lightens o`er her face; Where thoughts serenely sweet express How pure, how dear their dwelling place.

And on that cheek, and o`er that brow, So soft, so calm, so eloquent, The smiles that win, the tints that glow, But tell of days in goodness spent, A mind at peace with all below, A heart whose love is innocent.

Byron is regarded as one of the greatest British poets, and has been described as the most flamboyant and notorious of the Romantic poets. He was a man of aristocratic excesses, huge debts, numerous love affairs with both men and women, and the subject of rumours of a scandalous incestuous relationship with his half-sister, all of which resulted in his self-imposed exile.

He travelled Europe, especially Italy where he lived for 7 years, following which he joined the Greek War of Independence fighting the Ottoman Empire and he is treated as a national hero. He died aged 36 from a fever he contracted whilst living in Greece.

Stephen Cook

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