

# The Grapevine



Well, here we are in April and despite losing the expertise of Craig as editor, plus the closing down of our regular printers, we have managed to cobble together yet another edition of The Grapevine for your reading pleasure. We are also happy to announce that Mike Goodwin has joined the editorial team to take on the role of treasurer. Thanks Mike!

Somebody said to me the other day that maybe we should just give up since nobody reads it anyway. That may well be true since despite constantly asking for contributions and even introducing a recipe and kids joke section and a competition to design a new Grapevine header, we still have only a handful of (very much appreciated) regular contributors. So, we're running a little experiment. Somewhere hidden in this edition is the name of a well-known and seasonal character. First person to spot it gets a little prize. You can either pop the answer and where you found it through the door of 21 Follyfield or e-mail to [grapevinesn16@aol.com](mailto:grapevinesn16@aol.com).

Here's hoping that we're inundated with answers!

## Parish Council News

The Annual Village Meeting is on Monday May 8th. Like last year this is open to everyone in the village to hear about local activities during the past year, with refreshments.

It was agreed to contribute £300 to Charlton Village Hall. The hall will now be available to Hankerton residents at a discounted rate

Content was finalised of a leaflet showing activities and events in Hankerton, which is distributed with this issue of The Grapevine

There is a new cabinet at the entrance to Follyfield that should improve Broadband access for all residents 'downstream' from there. It could go live once BT had made arrangements with all ISPs.

The parish council is to look into having new kissing gates in the village

Deadline for news for the June newsletter: May 10<sup>th</sup> 2017

The size and content of The Grapevine depends on the amount of copy we receive from individuals and groups, so please keep the news and events coming in!

All articles, adverts to be sent to: [grapevinesn16@aol.com](mailto:grapevinesn16@aol.com)

Or to 21 Follyfield, Hankerton. SN16 9LA

The opinions expressed are the responsibility of the authors.

We reserve the right to edit material.

The Grapevine is also published on-line - check out the Hankerton web-site: [hankertonvillage.com](http://hankertonvillage.com)

Thank you to all our advertisers for advertising with us - it helps the village to continue to have a newsletter. Thank you also to the Parish Council for continuing to support the Grapevine.

Please mention to advertisers that you saw their advert here first. Advertising space is sold in good faith and does not imply endorsement of the services offered.

Saturday 4th March was the Annual Village Litter Pick and a large turnout of 17 enthusiastic volunteers helped clean up our lanes making our village a nice place to live.

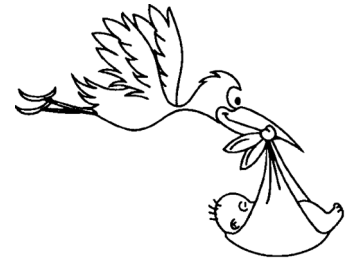
10 sacks of litter were collected up as well as 3 car tyres, a wheel hub and loads of old timber fencing. An endless task but carried out with a sense of purpose.

Hankerton Parish Council offers a vote of thanks to all that participated.

This year the pick coincided with WC "Great Spring Clean Up" and we have fed back our success to them so as to meet their press release deadline of Monday 6th March. We may well see our name mentioned in the press.



Thanks again,  
Dave Wood  
HPC



Your friends and neighbours in Hankerton would like to Congratulate Angharad and Antony on the arrival of baby Rupert, a little brother for Molly, Imogen and Ollie. We look forward to seeing him out and about with you soon!



***WHY DID SID THE SCARECROW WIN AN AWARD? BECAUSE HE WAS OUTSTANDING IN HIS FIELD!!!***

***Put the Date in your Diary NOW!***



***The 2017 Hankerton Street Fayre  
Bank Holiday Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2017***

***LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS OF AN EXCITING COMPETITION  
FOR THE UNDER 16's:-***

***GROW THE TALLEST SUNFLOWER!!!***

### **Village Fayre Planning Meeting**

**Last year we raised over £1000 for the North Aisle  
but we're appealing for more volunteers!**

**Come along to the meeting and hear about our plans  
whilst enjoying a glass of wine and nibbles!**

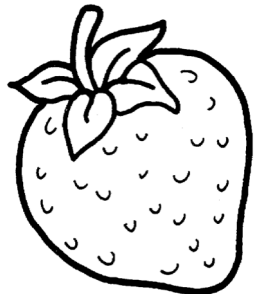
**North Aisle Tues 11<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm**



**\*\*Not actual event - level of fun  
experienced may differ.**

## Braydon Brook Services April 2017

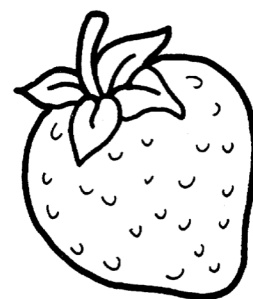
	<b>2 April</b> <i>Lent 5 (Passiontide)</i>	<b>9 April</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	<b>13 April</b> <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<b>14 April</b> <i>Good Friday</i>	<b>16 April</b> <i>Easter Day</i>	<b>23 April</b> <i>Easter 2</i>	<b>30 April</b> <i>Easter 3</i>
<b>Ashley</b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 8.30am	Evening Prayer 6pm			Holy Communion 9.30am	Holy Communion 9.30am and APCM	
<b>Charlton</b>	Family Service 9.30am	Group Communion for Palm Sunday 10am		The Last Hour 2pm	Holy Communion 9.30am	Holy Communion 9.30am	
<b>Crudwell</b>	Morning Worship		Passover Meal 7:30pm	Family Craft Activities 10:30am	Sunrise Service 6:00am Holy Communion 11am	All Age Worship 11am	
<b>Hankerton</b>	Holy Communion 9.30am			Family Craft Activities 10:30am	Holy Communion 9.30am		Group Communion Hankerton 10am
<b>Minety</b>	Holy Communion 11am	Service of the Word and Baptism 10am			Holy Communion 11am	Service of the Word 10am	
<b>Oaksey</b>	Matins 11am			Family Craft Activities 10:30am	Holy Communion 11am	Holy Communion 11am	



**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!**

**STRAWBERRY TEA!**

*The Strawberry Tea will be held on  
Sunday 16th July at 3pm in the  
Churchyard or in the Church, if wet.*



Easter Bunny



## Nature Diary – April.

April may not be the first month of this year that you will have glimpsed a Brimstone butterfly (*Gonepteryx rhamni*) as adult butterflies will have overwintered and emerge to fly on warmer days, but later in April the males will be trying to find mates to produce this year's new generation. The Brimstone is our most long-lived butterfly species, and the adults tend to overwinter in amongst the foliage of Ivy, (yet another species dependant on Ivy), where the pale green colour and shape of the folded wings matches the ivy leaves themselves, helping to conceal the butterfly from predatory birds.

The brighter coloured males have a butter yellow colour, and it is said that they were responsible for it and its insect cousins being given the name butterfly. The female is paler in colour tending towards white, but both sexes have a single orange spot in the centre of each wing.



The Brimstone has a long proboscis or feeding tube, so prefers to feed on flowers with long flower-tubes such as Teasel, Purple Loosetrife, Thistle and Buddleia. The eggs are laid on Alder Buckthorn and Purging Buckthorn, on which the caterpillars feed, and they can be found resting along the central midrib on the top of the leaf, despite their green camouflaging colour. The adults will die after the eggs have been laid. The buckthorns are common plants in the south of England and so this butterfly is commonly seen locally, and a male flying past you on a sunny day will not be mistaken for any other species – they are that yellow.

### Guided walks at Clattinger.

In the last Diary I offered to lead walks for small groups to see the varied flower species of Clattinger Farm. I propose the following dates and times so if you are interested please give me a ring (01666 577456), and I can make the booking and give you further details. I shall limit the numbers on each walk to be manageable, so booking is essential, but will try to fit in anyone that is interested. More dates could be added if required.

The dates are Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00 p.m., Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 10.00 a.m. and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 10.00 a.m.

Steve Davies.

## **Grittleton Plant & Food Fair**

**Date for your Diary Sunday 28 May 2017**

**Open from 11am – 3pm**

**Venue Grittleton House, Grittleton, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6AP**

**Entrance - £3 per person, Children under 12 years free**

**Website: <http://www.action.org.uk/grittleton>**

**All proceeds and donations will be going to support Action Medical Research**

Can you drive?

I love my car! Some of you will know that it has a name and whilst not always in pristine, polished condition, I love it! I've been driving on the road since my 17<sup>th</sup> birthday; driving around fields long before that too! I cannot imagine how I would feel if I lost that independence, but I know that at some stage, like very many people, I will have to stop driving. The feeling of complete and utter isolation must be horrific, and this is where the LINK schemes are absolutely fantastic. Most of our area is covered by a Link scheme and they are a real success story. Volunteers (like you?) give a few hours per month, either on a regular or ad hoc basis, to offer transport for isolated people to attend various appointments, often health related, but sometimes shopping or social events. The Link scheme gives a mileage allowance to its drivers for motoring costs. Is this something YOU could help with? It is not an onerous task and it's something which can be fitted in around our busy lives, but it makes such a huge difference to the users of the scheme.

Are you an organiser?

LINK schemes are all about putting people in touch with people. As such, a key LINK scheme role is that of the co-ordinator. Taking calls from people needing transport and putting them in touch with LINK scheme drivers is the main thing that's involved so if you like talking to people then this might be the ideal role for you. Could you support this role even for just a few hours per week or month?

Volunteers are wonderful and make the world go around. We all volunteer from time to time, so how about trying something new? Call me for a confidential chat to find out what it's all about. If you wish to take it further, I can put you in touch with your nearest Link Scheme – between us we can make a difference!

Meanwhile (after I have washed my car!), as ever, I am around for general help and support on a wide variety of issues including transport, mobility and safety around the home and reducing the feeling of loneliness. Give me a call on 07557 922020 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible. Or email me on [ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Ellen Blacker

Health and Wellbeing Champion

**Charlton Village Hall Hire available for parties, events, business hire, etc.**

Period of Hire	Residents of Charlton, Hankerton & Garsdon:	Others:
8am - 1pm	£50	£75
1pm - 6pm	£50	£75
6pm - midnight	£100	£150
8am - 6pm	£100	£150
8am - midnight	£200	£300

Prices for shorter periods or regular bookings are available on request.

A "Children's Party Rate" (for children up to and including 12 years of age) is available to Charlton, Hankerton & Garsdon residents of £25 for 2 hrs between 2 - 4 pm, 3 - 5 pm, etc.

**To enquire about booking the Village Hall (or Playing Field):**  
Contact Margaret Medland on 823461 or email us on [enquiries@charltonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@charltonvillagehall.co.uk)

See: [www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk/bookings/](http://www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk/bookings/) for details of the current bookings and a copy of the booking form and terms and conditions.

**Please note:** A deposit is required of £100.00 for a wedding reception or event which requires access to the Hall for more than 24 hours OR £50 for all other bookings. There is no deposit for a Children's Party, but we do ask for full payment at time of booking.

**Charlton Recreation Centre (Anne Hodgkins)**

**Repairs and Maintenance:** The urgent electrical work has been completed and a NICEIC installation certificate issued. Having painted the shed by the Hall last spring volunteers, mainly from Charlton Cricket Club, have this year set about repairing and repainting the equipment shed.

The committee have engaged Wicksteeds (who did the work on the swings) to repair the damaged Spring Toy. Attention has now turned towards raising funds to pay for the replacement of the slide.

As the weather improves work will re-commence on restoration of the memorial garden. The remaining shrubs will be removed and the rear part of the bed covered by a weed-suppressing membrane and mulched. The soil in the front part will be planted up with bulbs and small perennials. In due course shrubs will be re-introduced into the rear of the bed.

**Fund-Raising Events** The recreation centre management committee is planning to hold two fund raising events over the summer. The first will be a Village Fair to be held on 10 June. It is many years since a fete was held in Charlton and we hope that local people will support our plans to revive this activity. The second will be a variation on the Beer and Sausage events that have previously taken place. At time of going to press the details have not been finalised so look out for more information in the coming weeks.

## Our Village has a Racing Driver

Hankerton is an amazing place with its diversity of interests and expertise. A small group of us visited the huge annual motorsport show called 'Race Retro' at Stoneleigh Park agricultural centre in February. This is a preseason show featuring historic, vintage, and retro motorsport vehicles, it covers all the disciplines from Formula 1 to hill climbing, rallying.

No secret, our aim was to see the new car on the block, just completed by Edward Cooper who lives adjacent to the garage he runs and owns in Hankerton. Edward has competed for several years now in a National race series run by the 750 Motor Club. The Classic Stock Hatch Championship. This is for 80's Hot Hatches of up to 1600cc such as XR2, the 205GTI and Edwards which is a Nova.

In 2016 Edward was voted 'Driver's Driver of the year' by his fellow competitors and finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall (a number which of course he will

wear with pride for the 2017 season) out of a field of over 50 drivers. The car is absolutely to standard road specification, but of course it has been very carefully built to maximise its performance.

Edward started racing in 2005 with occasional races that he could afford but now with some small sponsorship, his experience and hopefully a reliable car he is aiming for a podium finish. This year the races will be at the classic UK circuits such as Brands Hatch, Silverstone and Cadwell Park. We wish him well and we hope to be able to report on his 2017 progress in future issues of the Grapevine.

Bunny



Edward showing his car at Race Retro in February.



### Hankerton History Group

April 25th. A presentation and inter-active meeting about Know Your Place and the on-line parish clerk. Come along to find out more about the village.

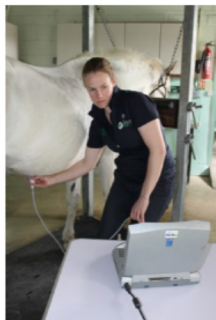
May 23rd. Look out for a notice about the meeting.

Everyone welcome. Meetings start at 7.30pm in the church.

Susan Mockler



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Roast Sunday lunch with free dessert £12  
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**"Good food, old fashioned hospitality"**

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