

The Grapevine



Thank you to all who participated in our Easter edition hunt and congratulations to Linda and Steve who just pipped Edna to the prize! Also, thank you to everyone who has reassured us that they do read the Grapevine; don't forget, should you lose your copy it appears on the Hankerton website which will also keep you updated with news and events in between our bi-monthly editions.

Summer is about to start (an optimistic view as this is written as the rain pours down!) along with all the events in Hankerton and surrounding villages-a chance to get out and about, meet people and participate in traditional and not-so-traditional games and activities.

May the sun shine on them all!

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 11th
July at 6pm**

Hannah Ludlow Charity vacancy

The Hannah Ludlow charity is a local group that gives financial and other support to Hankerton residents who are in need. More information about the charity is on the Hankerton website; hankertonvillage.com. Funding decisions are made by the charity's trustees. Hankerton Parish Council has been asked to put forward a nominee to be a trustee. If you would like to be a trustee please contact the Parish Clerk, Michael Bromley Gardner, before the parish council's next meeting on 3 July; mrbg@cotswoldwireless.co.uk

Deadline for news for the August newsletter: July 10th 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

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

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.

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Winston Churchill, who liked golf, remarked, 'Golf is a game whose aim is to hit a very small ball, into a smaller hole with weapons singularly ill designed for the purpose'.

While Mark Twain, who did not like golf, said, 'Golf is a good walk spoiled'.

As Hankerton Golf Club approaches its 11th year it is well to reflect how it started.

Four friends Brian, David , Peter and Ted started doing things like out door museums, air shows and county shows, though we had to supply Ted with Marmite sandwiches, Then one day David said, 'Let's play golf'. Ted, who had a proper job, was unable to join us. Peter had to rush and buy a set of clubs from a junk shop for £15 to include 20 balls, while Brian had a set in his attic, then David was fixed up. Our first game was at Oaksey Park and we hacked around the 9 holes in about 100 shots each.

Hence the term Hankerton Hackers.

One of our first new members was Roth from Hillwell; he was so excited to be asked he bought a new set of club's and a new car!

600 games later we now number 14 members, including 4 lady players. We play totally for pleasure- no pressure at all- the objective is to have fun. We play every Friday at a different venue. The club has had toured in Spain, Portugal, South Wales, North Devon and recently Chepstow. Golf is 20% Mechanics the other 80% is philosophy, humour, tragedy, conversation and companionship as well demonstrated by the club members.

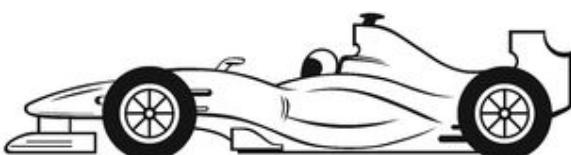
Finally,our newest member Terry, said last week, 'Playing with Hankerton Golf Club has given me a new lease on life !'

Come and join us.

Peter Jefferis



Village motor racing news - Edward now in 4th position with a podium 3rd



Edward Cooper is now running in fourth position in the Classic Hot Hatch Championship run by the 750 Motor Club. This is out of the 28 drivers registered for this year.

There have been four races so far two at Donnington

(Leicestershire) and two at Snetterton (Norfolk). The races at Donnington were marred by a very wet weekend and though Edward qualified well and had a good starting place on the grid. The first race was spoilt by a red flagged due to an incident and on the restart rain intervened and he dropped from third to fifth. On the second race all went well and he had a good fight to gain a fourth place at the finish.

Snetterton was better, it being dry and it enabled Edward to qualify fourth for the start grid. However this did not help in the first race as he outbraked himself soon after the start and slipped from second to twelfth. Hard driving was the order and he managed to get the eighth place at the finish. With better luck and more skill he came home third with the championship leaders in the second race, so earned a place on the podium. Congratulations

We now look forward to the next outing which is at Croft, a circuit which is way up country in Durham. More news next time.

Bunny

Braydon Brook Services June 2017

	4 June Pentecost	11 June Trinity Sunday	18 June Trinity 1	25 June Trinity 2
Ashley	Holy Communion (BCP) 8.30am	Group Communion 10am Evening Prayer 6pm	Morning Prayer 9.30am	Holy Communion 9.30am
Charlton	Family Service 9.30am	No Service	Holy Communion 9.30am	Patronal Evensong with Bristol Cathedral Choir 6pm
Crudwell	Morning Worship 11am	No Service	Holy Communion 9.30am	All Age Worship 11am
Hankerton	Holy Communion 9.30am	No Service	Informal Worship 11am	No Service
Minety	Holy Communion 11am	Service of the Word 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) 8.30am Service of the Word 10am	Service of the Word 10am
Oaksey	Matins 11am	No Service	Family Service (and baptism?) 11am	Holy Communion (and baptism?) 11am

Lord Denning once remarked that: "The House of Commons starts its proceedings with a prayer. The chaplain looks at the assembled members with their varied intelligence and then prays for the country."

In this election season, it's easy to joke about politics and politicians: it may even be quite a healthy thing to do. I like the saying from the USA that, 'The consensus after the election is that 100% of Americans think 50% of Americans have lost their minds'! The danger, of course, is that if this is the only way we think about politics, we can end up being cynical and apathetic about the whole thing.

So, how should Christians vote?

Well, our faith does not tell us which *party* to vote for, and there are Christians across the political spectrum. But our faith does give us some clues about the *way* in which we should engage in politics.

We should pray for those standing for office, and to continue to pray for those who are elected. We recognise the enormous responsibilities and the vast complexity of the issues that our political leaders face. We are constantly reminded of the personal costs and burdens carried by those in political life and by their families.

We should set aside apathy and cynicism and participate, and encourage others to do the same.

We should remember that we are called not only to live for ourselves, but to care for the weak, poor and marginalised, and to work for the common good.

At the same time, we need to move beyond a situation where politicians and commentators view religious faith as a dangerous eccentricity or a weakness in an opponent to be exploited. Churches and other faith communities make an immense contribution to the well-being of the nation in a thousand different ways.

Faith is personal, but it is not private. Jesus spoke and acted in the public and political realm. As we remember Jesus' call to lives of love and care for others, so we are called to renounce cynicism, to engage prayerfully with the candidates and issues in this election, and participate together fully in the life of our communities, for the common good.

-Rev'd Phil

HOLY CROSS CHURCH HANKERTON
CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT FOR 2016

The Church continues to be an important part of the village. Services on the first and third Sundays are supported by a small regular number, whilst the congregations for Easter, Carols and Christmas were higher than in recent years. There are also rotational group communion services with the other five churches in the Braydon Brook Group and an annual Thanksgiving service. There were two baptisms and one wedding. A short Morning Prayer service is held four days a week at one of the group churches. The numbers are modest but it is a tranquil and contemplative start to the day.

The rector, Phil Daniels, has now completed his first full year and he has brought an energetic approach to the church, introducing new services and a change of emphasis at other services. A wide range of skills is required to look after and grow six rural churches and he is managing this extremely well.

The number of villagers making regular bank payments has increased to 25, for which the church is very grateful. Income tax is recovered on these receipts, as it is on any sums put in the gift aid envelopes in each pew. The usual fund raising events were held throughout the year, including the Spring Supper in the North Aisle, Strawberry Tea in the churchyard and a Harvest Supper, which turned into a Ploughman's Lunch this year. We also had an Advent sale, including a food bank in the porch for charity. All these events were well supported by the village. The sponsored church bike ride, now called "Ride and Stride" was another success. The proceeds from the Lent Lunch were passed on to The Great Western Hospital for their radiotherapy appeal.

The Quinquennial Survey by the church architect identified various roof, stone and wood repairs and replacements, to be carried out in 2017. We have also had to remove the large chestnut tree by the gate. It was dying and some branches were found to be dangerously hollow. The "Living Churchyard" project, under Steve Davies' direction, continues with a good mix of wild flowers. The churchyard grass has been regularly cut, including extra trims ahead of special events such as the Street Fayre. Improved lighting has been installed throughout the church.

There has been continued use of the North Aisle by the History Group and the Parish Council. It is now used as a polling station by Wiltshire Council for all elections. We thank Chris Betts who coordinates the Saturday morning "Coffee and Chat" This is an important part of our community life and all ages are welcome. The North Aisle fund raising continues, with the main event being the Street Fayre in August, which involves many "community minded" villagers. On Tuesday mornings there is a new pre-school group, "Little Saints" run by Sarah Wyman and helpers.

In addition to Phil, we would like to thank Sarah Wyman and Richenda Daws for their spiritual guidance throughout the year. We thank all members of the PCC for their various efforts in 2016, also Heather Goodwin, Christopher Daws and Penny Hall as our main organists and others who have played throughout the year. We also thank those on the flower and cleaning rota for all their hard work in keeping the church looking lovely.

The church and churchyard are well maintained with the help of village volunteers. The North Aisle is an important facility for the community. Like many churches, our congregations are mostly small, so we must continue to try and find ways to draw in people of all ages, for communion in its broader sense. It is not only a peaceful place for worship but also to meet and talk with people of all views.

Philip Carter and Valerie Durnford, March 2017

Charlton Recreation Centre Committee Update (Anne Hodgkins)

Fund-Raising: We are actively exploring a range of fund raising options to enable us to make repairs and improvements to the recreation centre's facilities.

The first event is the Summer Fair on 10 June. More information about the day can be found on posters around the area. The committee continues to discuss holding a "Sausage Sizzle" later in the summer. Also, a couple of Hankerton residents have responded to the call for someone to organise a Quiz, which is likely to take place sometime in the autumn.

Play Area: Sadly the damaged Spring Toy has had to be removed. The cost of repair increased to such an extent that the committee decided that it would be better to scrap it and seek to raise the funds for a brand new toy instead.

Garden: The first phase of renovation is now complete. The rear part of the bed has been covered with a weed-suppressing membrane and mulched and some small perennials have been planted in the front part. In the autumn we will plan to introduce shrubs into the rear of the bed. If you are able to donate any shrubs or perennials, please contact Anne Hodgkins (825248).

Repairs and Maintenance: Repairs have been carried out to the water heater in the kitchen and volunteers have repainted the tractor shed. A group of volunteers have offered to refresh the paint work inside the hall during the summer. If you would like to help them, please contact Paul Chivers (823349).

CHARLTON SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY 10TH JUNE 2017 VILLAGE HALL 2 to 5pm

The Village Hall Committee are reviving the Charlton Summer Fair this year and all proceeds will be going towards the restoration of the Charlton Recreational Centre (registered charity no. 279819).

Licensed bar, tea/coffee and hot and cold food will be available for sale on the day and managed by The Horse & Groom Inn.

2PM - GRAND OPENING BY LORD SUFFOLK

DOG SHOW AND DOG AGILITY COURSE (Kindly run by Lynne and Henry Barber from Our Way Dog Training www.ourwaybehaviour.co.uk)

The Dog Agility Course will run all afternoon - enter on the day with prizes to all dogs who complete the course.

Dog Show. Enter on the Day. We have seven classes:-

1. Best Puppy (up to 12 months).
2. Prettiest Bitch.
3. Most Handsome Dog.
4. Best Trick.
5. Dog who looks most like its owner.
6. Scruffiest Dog.
7. Best Veteran.

BAKING COMPETITION (to be judged at 3pm by Lady Suffolk (Charlton's very own Mary Berry!)

Bring your produce to the hall by 2.15pm on the day. Entry is £1 on the day

1. Decorated Cup Cake (children up to 10)
2. Biscuits (any kind) (children up to 10)
3. Traditional Victoria Sponge
4. Other Cake (any kind)
5. Savoury Quiche (any filling)

There will be other traditional summer fun events and activities in the field and stands hosted by local tradespeople.

The fun will continue into the evening with live entertainment at the Horse & Groom Inn.

Your local Rotary Club is Fifty!

The local Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds reaches its 50th anniversary in June of this year – the club being originally chartered on 21st June 1967. And one of the founding members is still an active member of the club!

Rotary started in the Chicago area in the early part of the 20th Century – a group of business men with a community outlook started meeting together, the meeting place rotating around the members' houses – hence, "Rotary". The Rotary movement spread in the United States, but quickly spread to Great Britain and Ireland - and is now world-wide.

Nowadays, the Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds does not hold the Club meetings in people's houses, but in the Horse Guards pub in Brokenborough. The club serves Malmesbury, Tetbury and the surrounding villages.

It is often said that Rotary is about three "F"s – Fun, Fellowship and, yes, Fund Raising (many will have seen us outside the Co-op and Waitrose on Christmas Eve collecting for Rotary Charities). The Club meets on most Monday evenings for a meal together, followed by a speaker or a Club meeting. Being a group of like minded individuals we come together to try and make a difference to the community in which we live and work, whilst definitely having fun and enriching our lives.

As it approaches its 50th anniversary the Club is still active. Events it regularly organises include a choral concert in Malmesbury Abbey (the next is a performance by the Stuart Singers on 10th June), a fun run in the grounds of Badminton House (the Horseless Team Event), the fireworks display in Tetbury and a Santa Sleigh that tours Malmesbury and several of the surrounding villages. Wider Rotary activities such as the Young Musician Competition, Schools Technology Tournament and International Youth Exchanges are supported along with the Kids Out event at Longleat when selected groups of children are taken from the junior schools of Malmesbury and Tetbury to join hundreds of other children for a day of fun! The Club also provides volunteer drivers for the monthly shopping trip from Grovers Court to Chippenham

The Club focuses its community support primarily on to local charities and good causes. For its Golden Anniversary Year the Club has provided substantial grants to the Malmesbury Athelstan Museum project to bring the Moravian Church into use and to the Tetbury Goods Shed project which provides an arts and entertainment centre for the area. It also makes one-off grants to support local people in need or to allow them to seize an opportunity that they would not otherwise be able to take up.

In addition members of the Club get involved in Rotary activities such as inter-club petanque (boules), skittles, golf and quiz competitions as well as enjoying a number of key social functions each year.

The Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds welcomes both men and women as members. The best way to find out about Rotary is to talk to one of the existing members (if you know one) or to contact us through our web site at <http://www.rcsc.co.uk>

The 2017 Hankerton Street Fayre

Bank Holiday Monday 28th August 2017

***AND DON'T FORGET OUR
COMPETITION FOR THE UNDER 16's:-***

GROW THE TALLEST SUNFLOWER!!!

***(Seeds available in church porch - get
planting!)***



Nature Diary – June.

The white blossom of the hawthorn is starting to go over, but is now replaced in the hedgerow by the large, creamy-white inflorescences of the Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), with their associated heady perfume. These large heads are made up of hundreds of tiny flowers, and are an important food source for a wide range of insects. They also can form part of our own diet, with the flowers being made into wine or cordials, and can also be used to produce elderflower fritters, (never tried them personally, but they are well spoken of).

Whereas the flowers have a pleasant perfume, the same cannot be said of the leaves when crushed, nor the stems. In fact the plant is one of the few to be refused by rabbits, so that they are often the dominant plant growing around rabbit warrens, and can indicate the presence of a warren. It is said that farmers used to put a headband of elder leaves around the top of the head of a draught cow or horse to repel flies – that's how unpleasant its odour!

The elder is not quite big enough to be called a tree, but is a common species in our hedgerows, having grown from seeds deposited in the faeces of birds. In the autumn the fertilised flowers have turned into elderberries, small and dark purple in colour, they hang in large heads on claret coloured stems, (this being a suitable wine reference as the berries can make very good wine), and the birds find them a very attractive food source thereby spreading the elder far and wide.

The opinion of its suitability as a hedging plant has changed over the years from being recommended in the mid-eighteenth century to now being regarded as useless. The top growth is quite weak, and the centre of the stems is filled with a soft fibrous pith which can be easily removed from a cut length of stem. This latter fact explains why children would use the stems to make penny whistles and pea-shooters, and using ripe elderberries as the “peas” was sure to cause even greater upset to the target! Despite the fragility of the top growth the root and heart wood are said to be as hard as ebony.

It is a plant of contrasts; soft top wood but very hard at the bottom, pleasant smelling flowers but very unpleasant leaves, burning the wood was said to attract the Devil but growing it close to the front door kept the Devil away. Whatever, it makes a pleasing sight in the early summer sunshine with a glorious perfume on a warm day.

Steve Davies



Malmesbury and District U3A

Malmesbury and District U3A now has over 400 members and 30 different interest groups including a book group, gardening, history, petanque, dancing, lunch groups and theatre trips. If you are retired or semi-retired why not join us and try new activities or use your experience to set up a new group.

Monthly meetings are held on the 4 th. Thursday of the month between 10 am and 12 in Malmesbury Town Hall. Meet for a coffee and a chat before listening to one of the varied speakers.

Details on: www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk



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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.*

FEAR NOT

**“Do not let your heart be troubled with worry or with
gloom - Believe in Me and you will find that there is
always room**

For Me to take your sorrow, bear your load

As you follow Me and take My road

I offer you Faith in Me. - Freedom from anxiety

Worrying is pointless for it cannot fill your need -

**Fretting is foolishness, pray to Me, I've sown the seed
Of Love of Me within you, do not give up and let things
go - Trust in Me, for I who made you, love you and I tell
you so**

**As you pray to Me, You will find that you can make a
start - In replacing worry in you with a smile and
steadfast heart”.**

03.02.97.

(Luke 12:24)

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Wheatsheaf Inn - Crudwell

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“Friendly staff and lovely food”

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“Best roast potatoes I've ever eaten.”

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