

The Grapevine



Happy New Year to all our readers. Last year ended with a successful village activity, the carol singing. Thank you to everyone who joined in, it was nice to have some young voices keeping us in tune! As you will see our efforts and people's generosity produced excellent results. Thank you, Chris and Claudine, for organising this again.

May this year see many more successful village events.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted us to request that the hard copies of the Grapevine be continued and to the Parish Council for their support and generous grant which will pay for most of the printing in 2019.

Don't forget to look on the Hankerton website for news and views in between editions of the Grapevine.



HANKERTON STARS!



Food Bank

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed foods of Christmas cheer for the Food Bank Collection.

The Malmesbury Food Bank Centre are extremely grateful for this added support at Christmas time.

Chris Betts

Carol Singing

Our annual Carol singing raised £290!

This was divided between "Dedicate a Chair" for the new Rausing Building, Atherston Museum AND Malmesbury Area Community Trust which covers Hankerton.

Thank you to all the villagers who opened their doors and their purses to give so generously, if only just to send us on our way .

Happy 2019 to you lovely people and see you in December to do it all again.

Chris and Claudine

In December Esme Thorne, Church Lane, sold Xmas wreaths to raise money for a school trip to India this July. Esme raised a total of £202. She would like to thank everyone who contributed so generously.

Deadline for news for the April newsletter: **March 10th** 2019. 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.

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.

Footpath News.

Happy New Year to all Hankerton residents. We thought it might be helpful to start 2019 with a Footpath Update from the Parish Council because Hankerton is surrounded by beautiful countryside and a range of easily accessible footpaths which enable us to enjoy the natural world around us.

During the autumn of 2018, significant improvements have been made to our footpaths. New aluminium field gates have been installed throughout the Wiltshire Wildlife Reserve making access far easier and the fields and meadows stretching along Footpath 26 which crosses from Murcott to Hankerton Field Farm have been extensively cleared by the farmers making the path easy to walk – this work is much appreciated. Finally, the Parish Council has maintained our footpaths by clearing overgrown footpath bridges and overgrown gateways and a new stile has been reinstated at the entrance to The Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Reserve.

On a smaller scale, the Parish Council has been keen to publicise the village footpaths and with this in mind have posted two Footpath Maps – one in the village bus shelter and one in the church porch. In addition, excellent village walk guides have been posted on the village website. Copies of these five walks are also available in the Footpath Box in the church porch. Please feel free to take the paper copies and enjoy rambling and exploring.

Hankerton Village is rightly proud of the footpaths and the standard to which they have been maintained. Please help to support us by keeping them free of dog fouling, by keeping them free of litter and by trimming back your overhanging hedges. When out walking maybe take secateurs with you to clip back gates or bridges or entrances when spring growth starts to restrict access. Obviously, the Parish Council will ensure that this work is carried out but 'every little helps'!

Parish Council Footpath Warden

Details of Footpath Walks can be found on the village website: www.hankertonvillage.com

The Hannah Ludlow Charity.

The Chairman and trustees would like to make the many new members of our village aware of the existence of this charity, whose aim is to help anyone within Hankerton that may be experiencing a state of need, hardship or distress, and also to remind others of its continued presence.

It is a small charity, but hopefully the limited financial support available is appreciated even more by knowing that fellow members of our community care about each other.

The trustees of the charity try to remain aware of those that may be experiencing hardship or distress, but it may well be the case that they are sometimes unaware of such situations. It is perfectly acceptable for the affected person, or a friend, neighbour or relative to make a request for assistance directly to the charity, when that need arises. All applications will be dealt with in strictest confidence, and should be made to The Chairman, Hannah Ludlow Charity, 1 Cloatley Road, Hankerton, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9LA.

Hankerton Parish Council Meeting dates for 2019

Hankerton Parish Council is your council doing it's best to look after the community's interests. All the council meetings are open to the public and though it is a council meeting people do have a chance at the beginning of the meeting to speak. The Chairman can specifically ask a person to speak during this meeting if it clarifies a point.

Here are the dates for 2019:-

March 4, May 13(Annual Parish Meeting), May 20 (Annual Parish Council Meeting), July 1, September 2, November 4.

Come along and find out what actually happens!

Nature Diary – February.

It's still winter, but on the occasional warmer and sunnier days you may spot a large Bumble Bee buzzing around the garden. This will be a queen bee, looking for somewhere to start a nest. She and some other sister queens are the only survivors from last year's colony, the workers (females) and drones (males) will all have perished before the onset of winter.



She is looking for somewhere specific to nest, which is why she flies slowly just a few inches off the ground. As well as looking, she is trying to detect the scent of a mouse, because in her case it is an empty mouse-hole in the soil that she considers a desirable residence. Once found, she collects dry grass and moss to construct a hollow ball in the sub-terranean tunnel, and within this she fashions a cell from beeswax, into which she places some food and lays a few eggs. She also builds another cell which she fills with nectar, it's called a honey pot, and this is used to feed the newly hatched larvae if the weather prevents her leaving the nest to forage. Apart from leaving on feeding trips, she will sit atop this cell and incubate the eggs within.

There is not much room in this first cell for all the larvae when they hatch, nor a lot of food, so the first adult workers of the season tend to be smaller. Once they are able to collect food as well as the queen, then subsequent new bees will be normal sized, and the colony will collect more pollen and nectar and steadily grow in numbers during the summer. Depending on the species of bumble bee, a colony may number between 20 and 200.

When the bumble bees visit flowers they collect nectar and pollen. The pollen tends to drop from the flower stamens and cover the hairy bee in a fine dust. They comb this pollen off their bodies and collect it on the long hairs on their back legs, where it increases in bulk to become what is referred to as a pollen basket. You can see these baskets and they tend to be orange or yellow in colour. This pollen covering their bodies, and when transported from flower to flower (of the same species), sticks to the female part of the flower (stigma) and fertilises the flower. In fact, bumble bees are more important pollinators of our food plants than honey bees.

The largest queen bumble bee that you will see flying around is the Buff-tailed bumble bee (*Bombus terrestris*), but there are other species that have off-white tails, so accurate identification can be difficult – they never keep still for long enough! But never mind, not knowing the true identity doesn't reduce the pleasure of observing the behaviour of one of the 17 species of bumble bees living in the UK, and with a bit of luck she'll find that deserted mousehole in your garden, and you'll be privy to the comings and goings of this year's new colony.

Steve Davies.

Patient Participation Group – Shayne Smith

Rebecca Saunders will replace Dr. Winwood who, although having left, will be returning to do some locum work for the surgery.

The number and hours available from the Health Care Assistants at the surgery has increased.

The surgery is now using texts or SMS for messages although you will still be able to receive letters if you'd prefer. You will need to update them on your communication preferences.

Eligible children will be invited to the surgery or school for a flu jab. If you're not an eligible patient and want a flu jab you will need to find a source that does offer 'Private' jabs. Malmesbury surgery doesn't offer this service. District nurses are available to administer a flu jab but only if you're registered at the surgery and have asked for a visit.

A reminder of the monthly 'drop in' sessions (2-4 pm every first Wednesday of the month) which is run by Ellen Blacker and Ollie Phipps. This is a One stop shop for free information, guidance and advice.

CHURCH MATTERS

It was great to see so many villagers (80 including lots of children) attend the Carol service on 16th December. This was followed by the usual hot mulled wine and mince pies in the North Aisle, beside the splendid Christmas tree that Nick Durnford had once again kindly donated. There was another good congregation (54) on Christmas Day. We should like to thank Heather Goodwin for playing the organ at the Carol service (and throughout the year) and Penny Hall on Christmas Day. Philip would also like to thank Valerie for being the leading light in making the church look so lovely and decorated throughout the festive season.



The next date for your diary is Saturday, 16th March for the annual Supper Party in the North Aisle. Tickets held at £10 can be obtained from Philip Carter at The Old School House or on a Saturday morning in the North Aisle. There will be a raffle and a bar.

Lastly, we look forward to welcoming our new rector, Tonya Nixon, and the induction service will be at Crudwell church on 18th March at 7pm. All are welcome.

Philip Carter and Valerie Durnford, Churchwardens

Services in Hankerton

January

20th 11am Informal worship

February

3rd 9:30 Holy Communion

10th 10am Benefice Communion Charlton

17th 11am Informal worship

March

3rd 9:30 Holy Communion

6th 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Crudwell

10th 10am Benefice Communion

17th 11am Informal worship

24th 10am Benefice 1st Communion for Tonya Nixon at

Minety

31st 4pm Mothering service

April

7th 9:30 Holy Communion

14th 10am Benefice Communion Palm Sunday Oaksey

18th 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Agape meal

19th Good Friday

10:30am Family Craft Activities

2pm Service of Devotion Ashley

21st 6am Sunrise Service Crudwell

9:30 EASTER DAY Communion

The Church is open every Saturday, 10:30-12, unless specified, for tea, coffee and chat; all are welcome.

16th March Church Supper Party in the North Aisle, 7pm - tickets £10 from Philip Carter.

23rd March Lent Lunch in the North Aisle midday to 1:30pm

News from the Church

We are delighted that the Reverend Tonya Nixon will be moving from Somerset to become our new rector here in Braydon Brook. Tonya will be Inducted on March 18th 7:00pm at Crudwell church.

Parish Administrator: The Gauzebrook and Braydon Brook Groups

The Gauzebrook and Braydon Brook Groups of Churches in North Wiltshire are looking to appoint a new Administrator working 20 hours a week based in the parish office in Malmesbury.

The Administrator occupies a key role in the life of our parishes by

- Providing a first point of contact for enquiries about weddings, funerals and baptisms
- Liaising between the parishes and the wider church organization
- Relieving the clergy of a number of administrative tasks to enable them to focus on other areas of ministry
- Providing administrative support to other PCC officers where appropriate
- Enabling and enhancing effective communication within the parishes

Pay: £9.54 per hour

Leave: statutory bank holidays plus 25 working days per year pro rata

Closing date for applications: 15th Feb 2019

For more information or for an application form, please contact Rev'd Christopher Bryan on 01666

837522 or

email Christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com

Presidential Handover at the local Rotary Club

This January, Alan Shepherd of Minety passed on the presidency of the Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds to Peter Wyman of Hankerton. At the same time Peter passed the Senior Vice President role on to Chris Tuite of Great Somerford – Chris will take on the presidential role in 2020.

The photo shows (from left to right) Chris Tuite (Vice President), Peter Wyman (President) and Alan Shepherd (Immediate Past President).



The Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds covers Malmesbury, Tetbury and the surrounding villages and has been running for over 50 years, organising community events such as the annual Tetbury Fireworks Display and the Santa Sleigh in Malmesbury and some of the larger local villages. The Rotary Club also provides financial grants to local worthy causes. 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.

Anyone interested in joining can talk to one of the existing members (if you know one) and/or view the Rotary Club's website at www.rcsc.co.uk – contact with us can be made through the website or via Email to info@rcsc.co.uk

Sometimes the name of a month brings an automatic thought to mind. When I mentioned to 'im indoors that I was writing for the February magazines I was, frankly, surprised when he said "February – Valentines Day!", should I prepare for an extravagant gesture this year?? I guess when we think of Valentines Day we think of flowers and chocolates and cards with cute pictures on them. In actual fact, it's about caring and sharing. With this in mind, 'im indoors isn't so very off the wall when he suggested writing about this for the magazines. We all have neighbours, sometimes they are close and others can be across a couple of fields. The question is:

Would you notice if the bins weren't put out?

When did you last see them?

What did you say?

What is their name?

Would you give them a lift?

Would you water their plants when they're away?

It's about knowing someone to say hello to and maybe to have a cup of tea with, knowing that someone is looking out for you and most of all including everyone, especially those people who can sometimes find life a bit tricky. Go on, it's easy to simply say "Hello". It's only a word but could mean the world to someone who is feeling lonely.

If you need help and support call me on 07557 922020 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Ellen Blacker



LOST UMBRELLA

Did you get home from the Church Carol Service and realise that you had picked up the wrong umbrella? A purple and green one was taken by mistake at the end of the service, leaving another one at the back to the church. If you have it but don't know who to return it to could you let Chris Betts know on 577123. Thanks!

Could you volunteer
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Children's Parties: 4 hours access to the Hall.

Friday and Saturday Evenings: Access to the Hall from 6.00pm to midnight.

All other event and party bookings are chargeable by the hour. The hirer should request a booking that covers their total occupancy of the Hall (i.e. including setting and clearing up).

Event Type	Deposit	Charge (Local*)	Charge (Other)
Special Event	£100	£450	£550
Children's Party	£50	£35	£55
Friday or Saturday Evening	£100	£100	£150
Other Events	£50	£10 per hour	£15 per hour

The Local rate is available to residents of Charlton, Hankerton & Garsdon

To enquire about using the Village Hall or Playing Field, whether for a one-off event or regular booking: Contact Margaret Medland on 823461 or email us on enquiries@charltonvillagehall.co.uk

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

Charlton Recreation Centre Committee (Anne Hodgkins)

Annual General Meeting: The Recreation Centre AGM took place on 22 November 2018. The meeting confirmed the members and officers of the management committee as: Helen Sunderland (Chairman), Anne Hodgkins (Secretary and Vice Chairman), Jane Tsabet (Treasurer), Bob Blanden, Paul Chivers, Anne Holland, Margaret Medland, Sarah Offord, Farid Tsabet and Jennifer Walker. Jane presented a summary of the accounts, as reported in the last issue of this magazine and Helen provided an outlined the committee's priorities for the coming year:

- **Community Involvement:** We are keen to increase involvement of the local community, whether by taking part in events or volunteering their skills and time. If you are interested in being involved, please speak to any member of the committee.
- **Fundraising:** This year the committee will focus on smaller more frequent fundraising events with a view to appealing to a wider audience of local people. Plans are underway for a Spring Quiz night, Local History Talk and Summer Family Event. Keep an eye out for more details on the Website (www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk), the Village Hall Facebook group and Posters.
- **Outside space:** We will also look at ways to increase the income from its use, this will be done in close co-operation with its principal user Charlton Cricket Club.
- **Projects:** The replacement of the heaters is the highest priority. The cost of like-for-like replacement is around £6,000. This is a lot of money to raise and we have decided to investigate whether alternative heating systems would be more economical to install and operate.



Charlton Village Hall are planning to hold football coaching sessions on the Rec at weekends and during school holidays

They're for kids of all abilities

If you're interested contact Helen@mrmcgregors.com

Helen Sunderland



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