

The Grapevine



Welcome to the only current Brexit-free publication.

Having survived Storm Erik, Freya and Gareth (at the time of writing Storm Hannah is yet to arrive) it looks like Spring is finally here! Gorgeous Spring flowers are popping up along the grassy verges throughout the village and gardens are starting to come back to life after their long winter siesta. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful little corner of England so to fully appreciate it why not join the Meadow Walk organised by the Parish Council on May 25th – what nicer way to spend some family time on a Saturday morning? However ladies, if you'd like a little 'me' time and prefer your walks to include hitting a ball into a tiny hole then why not come along to the Ladies Golf Open Day at Oaksey Park on April 13th - further details of both these events can be found here in your Grapevine.

Easter is of course around the corner, so let us wish you all a very Happy Easter and enjoy the Spring, whatever your plans.

Eds

CHARLTON & HANKERTON SPRING QUIZ

Baa...R



RAFFLE



Saturday 27 April 2019

7.30p.m @ Charlton Village Hall

Doors Open 7.00pm

Tickets: £8.00 (including Ploughman's Style Supper)

From: Anne Helen Jane John
 01666 823719 07778 529421 01666 311097 01666 575498

Come as a Team
(max. 8)
OR



Join a Team on the
night

Hankerton History Group

North Aisle, Holy Cross Church, Hankerton.
Thursday, April 11th 2019

Pam Debenham from the Cricklade Museum is coming to talk about the ancient town of Cricklade. During Roman times the Thames was navigable as far as Cricklade and the town continued to develop from then on.

Come along to hear about the long and varied history of the town illustrated on an impressive and extensive timeline.

7:30 pm start.

£4 to include refreshments. No tickets required.

Proceeds from the evening will go towards urgent projects at Charlton Recreational Centre – e.g. play area, heaters and a tractor
Charlton Recreational Centre (Registered Charity No. 0279819)

Deadline for news for the June newsletter: **May 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.

Parish Council update

At the meetings on 14 January and 4 March Hankerton Parish Council:

- Agreed that the playground committee should continue to consider the amenity area on Old Farm Close as a possible location for a playground
- Agreed to buy a defibrillator from the Community Heartbeat Trust for £1895; £1500 of the cost will be met by the Malmesbury League of Friends. This will be located in the phone box. No one had objected to the proposal to take the phone out of use. To supply electricity to the alternative proposal of the bus shelter would cost £5900-£6500, plus VAT. It will cost £1 to adopt the phone box from BT. Training will be provided
- External funding for a new gate on footpath no.9, opposite Common End Farm on Cloatley Road, has been agreed
- A Footpath Day will take place on Saturday 25 May, 10am
- An updated emergency plan was agreed
- John Thorne is the Parish Council's representative on the Charlton Village Hall committee
- Alan Jackson and his predecessor Dave Wood were thanked for securing the resurfacing of Church Lane

John Thorne

Markers Outside Homes

Following discussion at the November parish council meeting regarding the placement of solid markers on verges, Wiltshire council has advised the Parish Council that householders should ensure that they carry sufficient 3rd party personal liability insurance in case of injury to persons or property as a result of vehicles hitting any markers. Furthermore, they advise that placing these markers on the verges is not allowed if on the council's land (which it invariably is). A householder can apply for a free licence for plastic markers as long as third party insurance cover is in place. To apply for a licence email northernhighways@wiltshire.gov.uk. Failing which, Wiltshire council may request their removal, and if this is not done, charge the householder for their removal.

SECRET JOY

God speaks to us deep in our hearts as we pray – We who are His children, have this part to play
We need to thank Him for His treasures that with us He chooses to share – These gifts, which He desires to give us, are to show that He really cares

We must never forget that He gave to us the life of His Precious Son. – He died taking our sins away, though He rose again on the Third Day, for He is the Holy One.

“Child, tell Me what it is that you seek and I will do what I can - If you will not ask, then I cannot help, though I AM, the Son of Man.

Listen hard to hear what I say when you speak with Me in prayer – Though I may not grant you what you wish; try again, I AM always here

For you do not grasp that I know what is best, though you often think you do – You have to realise that I AM in charge, since I created you

If you ask Me in penitence to take your sins, this I will do, you know – But in return, what I ask of you is to take the Love, I bestow

This is My forgiveness and in wonder you will find you can cope – Look forward to each brand new day, as you seek out My Son; don't lose hope

My blessings will smile upon you whilst you're seeking out My Word. – I know that you are faithful, as your silent heart I have heard

For those of you who believe, Eternal Life is the key – That secret joy is My Spirit and He is helping you pray to Me.”

12.04.00.

(Romans 8: 16 - 27)

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Hello from Revd Tonya,

I feel like I've been waiting to come and join you for months and months and months! We are told to not wish our time away, but I have to say that I am struggling with this.

I am eager and excited about the prospect of being Rector to the Braydon Brook Benefice. It really cannot come fast enough. Roll on next month!

A little something about me – I am married to Mark and we will be moving into the Rectory with our cat, Captain Hastings. I grew up in Cornwall; a town called Camborne, Mark grew up in a small village in Lancashire.

Things we enjoy – rambling walks, real ale (Mark!), red wine (me!), reading, eating fish and chips to name only a few!

Cycling is one of my favourite past times. I am hoping to explore the delights of the area, whilst breathing in the Cotswold air!

Until next month,
Greetings,
Revd Tonya



Services in Hankerton April to June 2019

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
All youngsters welcome - speak to Sarah Wyman for more information 577159
2pm Service of Devotion Ashley
21st 6am Sunrise Service Crudwell
9:30 **EASTER DAY** Communion

May
5th 9:30 Holy Communion
12th 10am Benefice Communion Charlton
19th 11am Informal Service
30th 7:30pm Ascension Day Crudwell

June
2nd 9:30 Holy Communion
9th 10am Benefice Communion Hankerton
16th 11am Informal Service
30th 10am Benefice Communion Minety

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

From the church registers

3rd February - Burial of Joyce Lee's ashes
9th March - Burial of Adam Rose's ashes

Other News

Tonya Nixon will have been licensed as our new Rector on 18th March.
Alison Withers from Charlton will be our new administrator starting at the end of May.

Charlton Recreation Centre Committee (Anne Hodgkins)

Committee Membership: Due to personal commitments Bob Blanden has stepped down from the committee. We are pleased that John Thorne, from Hankerton, has agreed to join the group

Fundraising: Details of the Spring Quiz can be found elsewhere in the magazine. For information on all events please visit our Website (www.charltonvillagehall.co.uk), join our Village Hall Facebook group or look out for posters around the village.

Projects:

- **Tractor:** The tractor which we have had on loan for many years has been reclaimed by its owner. It is used to pull the gang mower and the committee is looking for a replacement, initially by seeing if we could borrow one. Failing that the most effective option is likely to be to purchase a second-hand one, which is expected to cost around £4,000.
- **Heaters:** The replacement of the heaters is another priority. The cost of like-for-like replacement is of the order of £6,000 and we have begun to explore obtaining grant funding for this work.

MEMORIES OF CHARLTON AND HANKERTON CALENDAR FUNDRAISER

As part of the continuing fund raising effort we are hoping to gather up enough interesting photos of Charlton and Hankerton to create a 2019 calendar which we will sell from September/October this year.

Do you have any photos of Charlton or Hankerton in the past which we could use? The originals will of course be returned to you when they have been copied.

Please call Jane on 01666 311097 if you have any.



OAKSEY PARK – LADIES GOLF

OPEN DAY – SATURDAY 13th APRIL

Open to all ladies, either new to golf or existing players.

Meet at 11am for Tea or Coffee and Chat.

11am – 11.45am Coaches available for advice – hit a few balls on the Driving Range or the Putting Green.

Clubs available to borrow.

12pm – Free (optional) game of 9 holes

Refreshments available

ALSO...

Oaksey Park are looking for more ladies to join a weekly roll up meeting – 9 holes every Tuesday 11am

Contact Sandra Lee 07785568558 or Kate Dickinson 07968767272 for more details on any of the above



Lifestyle Health & Beauty

Welcome to **Lifestyle Health and Beauty**. We are a hair and beauty salon based in the heart of Hankerton with plenty of free onsite parking.

Our fully qualified therapists welcomed hairdressing to the business in 2015, which includes women's and men's hair services.

Our opening hours are:

Monday 9am - 3pm,

Tuesday 9am – Late,

Wednesday 9am – Late,

Thursday 9am – Late,

Friday 9am – Late,

Saturday variable hours.

Regular offers can be found on our website:

info@lifestylehealthandbeauty.co.uk

So why struggle with town parking and give us a call on **01666 577636** and book an appointment today.

Patient Participation Group – Shayne Smith

Earlier in the year, the NHS has announced its plan for the next 10 years which is to include 'Social Prescribing'. This is intended to help patient's improve their health, wellbeing and social welfare by connecting them to community services which might be run by the council or a local charity. For example, signposting people who have been diagnosed with dementia to a local dementia support.

The Malmesbury practice is embracing this concept and has already included groups such as ART Lift and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Patients can be referred by their GP or contact the group direct themselves.

At the surgery 'Social Prescribing' is in part handled by Fatima Birkett. She is the Care Coordinator working with patients who are aged 75 and over. Her working days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week.

Fatima seeks to work with patients with multiple ailments to ensure they are well supported in their home or following a hospital discharge. The aim is to help reduce hospital admissions and support independent living. She is also able to signpost patients to various support groups in the community, medical staff and societies supporting illnesses like Parkinson's or Alzheimer's Support etc..

Fatima's contact details are on the Malmesbury surgery web site and as well as receiving GP referrals she can also be contacted direct.

February's edition of the Patients Participation Group newsletter covers subjects on:

NHS 10 year plan
Maternity services
Dementia roadmap
Care records
Help us to Help you - Pharmacy

The newsletter can be found on the following web site:

<http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk/news/newsletter#AWP>

If anyone would like to raise a question or provide feedback about the service they've received from the surgery I'll be very happy to take this forward for you. My telephone number is 07856202115.

Next meeting to be held on 8 April 2019.

Open Doors for Dementia

Where? Malmesbury Abbey
When? 17th May from 10.30 till 3pm
Why? To get together and hear some more about living with dementia—what will it mean if I get it? Or you? Or your partner? Mum? Dad? Find out the facts, don't rely on the hearsay! Gain support!!

Dementia Friends information session at 10.45

12.30 Living well with Dementia

Chat to: Carer Support, Pilgrims' Friend Society, Dementia Advisor, Health and Wellbeing Champion Advisor available for informal chats all day

Join us to enjoy free Tea and cake at 1.30

2.30 The importance of spiritual input in dementia

Pets As Therapy—Meet Pepper the PAT dog and her friends—they are with us all day!

12.00—come and take part....Music for the Mind

Forgetfulness or Dementia—when should I worry?

1.00

Messy Vintage — all day Crafts

Give it a try—Movement for the Mind at 2.00

Supported by

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Alzheimer's Society
United Against Dementia

For more details contact: Ellen on 07557 922020 or Kirstie on 07702 911804

Nature Diary – April 2019.

There are three native species of snake in the UK, one of which is the Grass Snake, or that is what it was known as until 2017, when its common name was changed to the Barred Grass Snake and its Latin name to *Natrix helvetica*, because DNA analysis showed it to be not a sub-species of the grass snake family, but a separate species.



Anyway, our grass snake is a very attractively marked snake, predominately olive green in colour with dark patches, paler scales on the underside of the body, and a very noticeable bright yellow mark behind the head on each side. This yellow mark is even more highlighted by the dark or black patch either side of it. Unlike the adder, the body narrows behind the head giving the appearance of the snake having a neck. Females are larger than males, and can be 1 metre or more in length, and rather surprisingly, their average lifespan is 15 – 25 years.

They prefer to live in damper areas, often close to water, as they feed mainly on amphibians, but will take other small prey. The structure of the skull and jaw is such that they are able to swallow prey items three times the size of their head! They are not venomous, nor do they constrict their prey, but backward pointing teeth in the mouth prevent their meal escaping forwards out of their mouth. They will hunt in water for amphibian prey or fish, and are capable swimmers, holding their head and front part of the body out of the water as they move along the surface.

Having spent the winter in hibernation they emerge in March or April, and reproduction is an early imperative. The mated females will lay 10 to 40 leathery eggs in rotting plant material, such as compost heaps or grass mounds, which hatch about 10 weeks later, and the small replicas of the adult emerge to become independent.

Later in the season the adults will moult their skin, the process is called ecdysis, and prior to moulting the skin colour becomes duller, and the eyes go milky, as the surface of the skin separates from the under tissues. The skin is usually shed in one piece, and inside out.

Grass Snakes have various techniques of avoiding predation. They can hiss but they don't bite, they can exude a foul smelling fluid from anal glands, and they can play dead, rolling on to their backs, with mouth wide open and keeping perfectly still. It is also said that they can exude blood from their nose and mouth to accentuate the "dead look". By playing dead the source of danger will hopefully lose interest and move away.

If you do come across one of these snakes don't be worried, but do keep still and quiet, because they are more afraid of you, and will quickly move off before you have a chance to observe them.

Steve Davies

Step Into Spring !



Hankerton Meadow Walk

Saturday 25th May Meet at Holy Cross Church
10.00am



Family Fun Walk for All Ages!

Refreshments after at the Church!

Hankerton Parish Council



Go Lucy Go!

Many of you in the village will know Lucy. She moved here at just five weeks old thirty-six years ago and she often "comes home" now with her own family.

She is training incredibly hard for this Marathon and is over half way to target for her sponsorship for Hospice UK.

As her Mum and Dad we are so very proud of Lucy in taking this on when we know her family life is so busy!

Family and friends will be gathering around the course on the 28th April in London to cheer her on and we wish her all the luck in the world in reaching her target and crossing the line at the finish where we will be waiting to give her a well-deserved hug!

Go Lucy Go!

Craig and Lorraine McCallum

A message from Lucy

I will be undertaking the London Marathon on Sunday 28th April to raise money for Hospice UK who provide much needed funding to support Hospices around the UK. My Mum (Lorraine McCallum) is a Nurse in a hospice so I see and hear first-hand, the care and support they provide to not only patients, but their families too. Without charitable donations, these organisations would not be able to function or even exist as we know it. Please visit my fundraising page for training updates and to make a donation <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lucyjolley6>

Any donation you can make will make a huge difference to hospices around the country so thank you!



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Special Offers:-

Monday night freshly battered cod and chips £7.50
5.30-7pm

Monday – Friday two course steak supper £12
5.30-8pm

Roast Sunday lunch with free dessert £12
12.00-2pm

Please Note – We are Closed All Day on Tuesdays



"Friendly staff and lovely food"

"Good food, old fashioned hospitality"

"Best roast potatoes I've ever eaten."

Quotes from Trip Advisor


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