

The Grapevine



Hopefully it's not too late to wish a belated Happy New Year to everyone! At the time of writing (January) it's wet, cold and gloomy but Spring is on its way and we're already seeing the first shoots peeping out through the soil ready to fill the grassy verges with colourful Spring flowers. We've got another packed edition of The Grapevine so without further ado, let's get started!



The Grapevine and the Queen's Jubilee

We are planning a special edition of the Grapevine to celebrate Her Majesty's long reign of 70 years. During this time there have been many changes in Hankerton and we would like to include as many personal memories as possible (Milk delivered in bottles?!) and photographs. If you can help with any of these please contact Susan or Mary on the Grapevine website - or when you see us out walking! Let's make this a bumper edition as a historical record of the past 70 years here in Hankerton.



Deadline for news for the **April** Grapevine: **March 10th 2022**

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.

Thank you to the Parish Council for continuing to support the Grapevine.



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

We are in the early stages of planning a street party in Follyfield on the afternoon of Sunday 5 June from 2 - 5pm. It will be in the same format

as for all previous Royal occasions since the 1990s and is open to all residents of Hankerton, including any family or friends that you would like to bring along. For anyone new to the village there are some archived photos on the village website from June 2016 (and on this page!).

There will be charge but we will try to keep costs to a minimum as we never intend to make a profit, although any proceeds will go to charity.

Expect to enjoy a variety of sandwiches, scones and cream, cake, lots of tea and a glass of Prosecco (Adults only!) for a Loyal toast.

As plans progress we shall inevitably be calling on members of the community for help in setting up tables etc so if anyone would like to volunteer in advance please do get in touch on 577946.



Christine, Lorraine, Susan & Claudine



HANKERTON HISTORY – DID YOU KNOW? #9

We are going inside the church this month. Have you ever looked at the memorials and plaques in the North Aisle?

Most striking is the memorial to Giles Earle of Eastcourt, a soldier and MP for Chippenham. Dated 1775, it was produced by the sculptor Joseph Nollekens, generally considered to be the finest British sculptor of the late 18th century. He enjoyed the patronage of King George III, became an associate of the Royal Academy in 1771 and a full academician the following year.

Quite unusual for a village church to house such a splendid monument which no doubt reflected the status of the Earle family.



On the north wall of the North Aisle are two charity boards. These record charities for the poor donated by an unknown benefactor and added to by Mary Panting in 1747, followed by Lady Winchcombe's charity and Hannah Ludlow's charity in 1848. These were amalgamated and administered jointly in 1979.

The charity's remit is to support "poor and needy" young and elderly parishioners. Support may take the form of cash or be given in kind, such as heating oil, or school support.

The charity owns a small parcel of grazing land within the parish, from which it derives a small rental income.

We have a record below dating from 1793 which shows that villagers were given both books and money in that year.

The account of 16 years Money Given to the poor of Hankerton and Cloutly the second day of Decr 1794 and the sum given from John white Missour last 1793 given as follows				Total sum
	Books	Money		Total sum
Mr white	244 Books	12 11		12 6 0
Mr Davis	3 Bibles	14 2		16 0 0
Wm. Morris Son.	1 Bible	14 2		16 0 0
John Blizard	books	28 7	6	12 6 0
John Howard Lewis	1071	11 2		

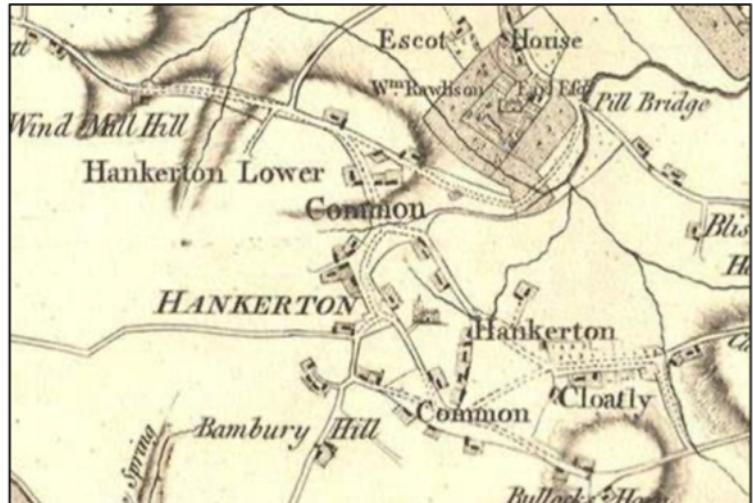
Finally there is a plaque to the Packer family. Edgar Packer retired as vicar of Hankerton in 1945. His daughter Margaret died in 1996 and left a considerable sum of money to be spent on the fabric of the church. The timing was very fortunate as it enabled the church tower to be repaired in the late 1990s and the fund remains important to the on-going maintenance of the church building.

Hankerton History group

We are hoping to re-launch the history group at an AGM on Tuesday April 5th 2022. We will be looking at and discussing the graffiti in the church.

We are also planning an exhibition at the end of April /beginning of May which will include maps, aerial photographs, artefacts and some items of interest found by the metal detecting group.

Look out for posters around the village!



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Pancake Day – Tuesday March 1st (Also known as Shrove Tuesday)

On the off-chance that you've never made them before, these American style pancakes are fluffy and delicious! Serve them with your favourite toppings (and if you're feeling really adventurous, how about adding a leek to celebrate it being St. David's Day too! On second thoughts, maybe just put a vase of daffodils on the table 😊)

Ingredients

250ml Sour Cream
7 tbsp Flour
2 tbsp Sugar
1 tsp Baking Soda
1/2 tsp Salt
2 whole Large Eggs
1/2 tsp Vanilla Extract
Butter, For Frying

Directions

In a small bowl, whisk together eggs and vanilla. Set aside.

In a separate small bowl, stir together flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt. Stir together the sour cream with the dry ingredients until just barely combined (don't overmix.) Whisk in the egg mixture until just combined. Heat a griddle over medium-low heat and melt some butter in the pan. Drop batter by 1/4 cup servings onto the griddle. Cook on the first side until bubbles start to form on the surface and edges are starting to brown. Flip to the other side and cook for another minute. (Pancakes will be a little on the soft side.)

Serve and enjoy!



Serves 2

Nature Diary – February 2022.

It's the new year, and the awakening of nature in spring approaches, and the first of our deciduous trees (i.e. those which shed their leaves for winter) to get going is the Hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

After the retreat of the ice-age it was, with the Birch, one of the first recolonisers of our island, and has been an important and useful plant for us since then. It is probably better referred to as a shrub rather than a tree, for it doesn't grow very tall (up to 6 metres) and when aged, rarely has a single stem at the base. This tendency to being multi-stemmed has been one reason for its usefulness, in that when cut down to ground level, it sends up many shoots which can be harvested at various stages of growth in a process called "Coppicing". The act of coppicing a Hazel (the base from which the shoots regrow is called a "stool") actually rejuvenates the plant and the stools can be coppiced, usually on an 8-year cycle, almost indefinitely.

The wood harvested in this way has very many uses. The wood of the Hazel is such that it can be split lengthways and then twisted and bent without breaking. This allows it to be used to make wattle which is an interwoven warp-and-weft latticework. This wattle was used to make wattle and daub walls and using thicker cut hazel in the same way produced hurdles to retain small farm stock. The malleability of the wood is the reason that Hazel is used to produce the pegs used to hold down thatch on roofs (they require a 180° bend). Hazel also supplies us with pea sticks, bean poles, and the thicker parts harvested could provide firewood or be used for charcoal making. Hazel was the species of choice for water diviners, where forked twigs are held out in front of the diviner and jerk when passing over underground water. Walking stick makers often bend over and bind the growing shoot in such a way as to produce the right shape for a handle when harvested a few years later.



Most of us are familiar with the flowers on Hazel trees seen between January and March, and commonly called Lamb's tails. These are in fact the male flowers and release large amounts of pollen into the air which attach to and fertilise the female flowers. So the Hazel relies on wind pollination rather than insect aided pollination. The female flower is much smaller and looks like a small bud

with a red fluffy top – some liken it to a sea anemone. Try and find one while you are out walking, the red colour is very strong, and they will be located along the stem of the branch rather than at the tip.

Of course, you can't talk about Hazel without mentioning Hazelnuts – another useful aspect of the plant. Initially the nuts appear white in their small groups but turn a lovely shade of brown as they ripen by September or October. These nuts were a revered food for our ancestors, and are still enjoyed today, and often referred to as cobnuts. I have been confused in the past by seeing nuts for sale called "Filberts", which looked like bigger cobnuts, but it would seem that filberts come from another hazel species, and often this is the one in cultivation.



Un ripened Hazelnuts

It is not only us that enjoy eating them. They are an important food for many wild creatures as well. Squirrels, mice and voles, and birds such as the Nuthatch all benefit from this harvest. Such is the importance that one of our native rodents is actually called the Hazel Dormouse. Squirrels not only eat those that they find but hide them away for later in the coming winter. There's no point in hiding away an empty nut case, and if you open it up to peek inside, the cached nut will quickly deteriorate. So, squirrels are able to assess whether a nutshell contains a properly formed nut just by handling. Is it the weight of the nutshell or can they smell the contents? Whichever, they are said to be very accurate in their assessment.



Ripe Hazelnut

Even the empty shells have a story to tell. If a squirrel eats a hazelnut then they are able to split the shell into halves and eat the contents. The small rodents have to nibble their way in, and the different species leave characteristic teeth marks, such that monitoring for the presence of the increasingly rare dormouse is often done by examining empty shells and the nibbled hole! An indoor job for a wet day I think.

Steve Davies.

Surgery News

Malmesbury Primary Care Centre (MPCC) has applied for a grant from NHS England to install hard flooring for most areas in the building, which will help with infection control. The work is expected to be completed in 2022/2023.

From 8 November 2021 there were more face to face appointments available, patients were also given a choice of a telephone call if preferred.

The doctors have increased their appointments each session by 2 in the morning and 2 in the afternoon.

The front door is now permanently open, but the reception staff are still having to remind people that they must wear a mask, which sometime causes friction with patients.

Staffing

A new GP Dr Swanborough has started at the practice.

The surgery at present is advertising for an additional GP but to date there have been no applicants.

One new pharmacist and an advanced practitioner have also been appointed.

There are six staff behind the scenes answering telephone calls and making appointments.

There are six more staff who work in the reception and administration area to help with the workload in that area.

New workstations have been installed behind the reception area and there has also been improvements to the telephone system to help with the management of between 1500 and 3200 calls per day the practice receives.

Calls regarding Covid take longer to process than normal calls, this takes up not only staffing time but the telephone lines as well.

MPCC has signed up to the Community Pharmacy Consultation Scheme. The aim of this service is to improve access to primary care by referring patients who need advice or treatment to a community pharmacist.

Covid

The surgery is not offering any further Covid vaccinations at present as they are planning to concentrate on the backlog of patient work during January – March 2022.

If anyone would like to raise a question or provide feedback about the service they've received from the MPCC I'll be very happy to take this forward for you. If you could let me have the details, my telephone number is 07856202115. The next meeting dates are on 7 February, 4 April and 6 June 2022.

Are you fed up with all the junk mail arriving through your letter box every day?

Did you know that you can opt out by sending off this Freepost form, found by this link:-



<https://www.royalmail.com/sites/default/files/D2D-Opt-Out-Application-Form-2015.pdf>

Thanks to Liz Jones for this suggestion!

We hope you are all keeping warm this winter. We've been contacted by a charity, working with Wiltshire Council, who have asked us to publish their contact details regarding grants for repairing or replacing heating systems for Wiltshire resident, particularly the elderly and vulnerable. For eligibility criteria and further details please see their website:

www.warmandsafewiltshire.org.uk

The scheme is due to end 31st June 2022.

If you would like to know any more details about the scheme please contact Lisa Evans, Senior Project manager on **0800 038 5722**



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Support your local shop: Did you know if every household spent just £5.00 per week in the shop the future of the shop would be guaranteed. The Minety Shop is a "not for profit" organisation but needs to cover its running costs.

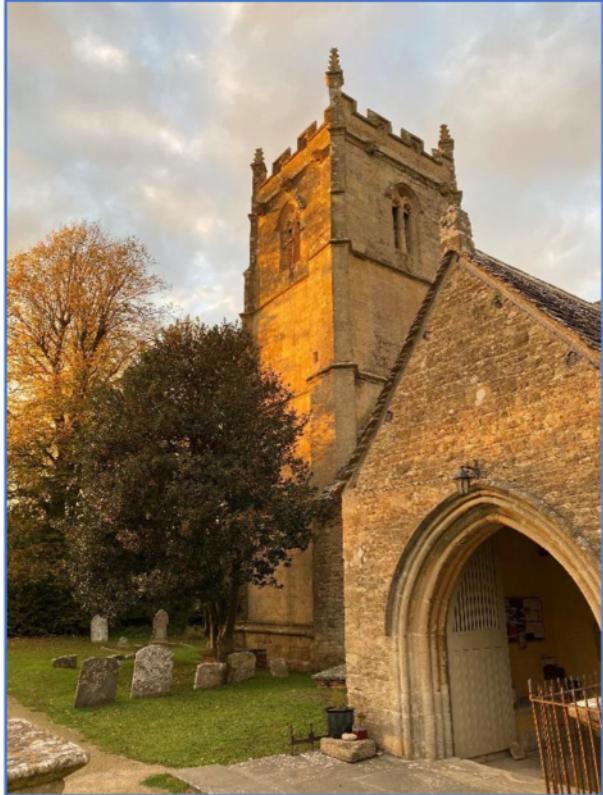
We are always looking for more volunteers to help in the shop or on the committee.

For more information call

Steve: 07802 3538325 or

Catherine: 07786522455

or email: minetyshop@gmail.com



CHURCH MATTERS

One of the highlights of 2021 was the December Carols, attended by 70 masked people including a superb choir of 15. After the service, hot mulled wine and mince pies were consumed outside, beside the splendidly lit Christmas tree, kindly donated by Nick Durnford. We were also warmed up by a couple of roaring fire pits. Nick also installed another Christmas tree in the North Aisle, which was much enjoyed by those coming to Coffee and Chat on Saturday mornings. We thank Steve Davies and others for maintaining the north side of the churchyard, Peter Wyman for a variety of light and sound improvements and lots of people on the cleaning and flower rotas.

Due to the pandemic, 2021 was another challenging year with restricted services in the church, supplemented by many zoom options from home. We must thank the clergy, Tonya, Sarah and Richenda for all the various services that they have taken. We had nearly 50 villagers on Remembrance Sunday in November, when we had a formal gathering in the churchyard beside the War Grave. Other services included funerals or thanksgiving services for long term village supporters Peter Robinson, Pam Ofield, John Lewin and Pat Mapplebeck.

We also had our quinquennial architectural inspection, which showed the church fabric to be fundamentally sound but various minor repairs required. In addition, there was the Archdeacon's triennial visitation, and this flagged up a few minor items to be actioned. Luckily, our finances are currently fairly robust, partly thanks to some old legacies, from which the income helps us to pay our running costs. This includes about £7,000 per year sent to Bristol Diocese, principally to cover our share of the rector's costs. We have also purchased a new digital piano, a Yamaha Clavinova. This was funded by the late Julia Meeres and we must also thank our current organist, Heather Goodwin, for playing it so well.

As we optimistically look forward to a healthier 2022, we would like to "raise a glass" to our magnificent Queen, whose long service and devotion are a perfect example to us all.

Philip Carter

Valerie Durnford Churchwardens

Wheatsheaf Inn Crudwell

Take away service

Please ring 01666 577739 or

Email tobygregory@aol.com

Available:

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays:

12.00pm to 1.30pm and 5.30pm until 7.00pm

Sunday (roasts only) £11.00: 12.30pm to 1.00pm

Order early to avoid disappointment!

Menu choices:

From £9.00

Teriyaki chicken skewers with rice or chips

Beef burrito- stir-fry spicy beef and vegetables with

rice, cheese, salsa, wrapped in a tortilla served with fries (£10)

Vegetable burrito with fries (£10)

Moroccan vegetable Tagine with rice

Crispy breaded scampi with chips or salad

6oz Cheese burger and bacon with chips (£10)

Cajun Chicken Caesar salad

Pan fried lambs liver on mash with onion gravy (£11)

Beer battered cod and chips (£10)

Chicken Madras Curry with rice and naan bread

Beef lasagna or vegetable Lasagna with chips

Desserts (*to be heated at home)

From £4.00

Ginger sponge with custard*

Fruit Crumble with custard*

Butterscotch ice-cream sundae



New for Fridays – Eat in or Takeaway:

Rustica sourdough pizza – Mushrooms, pancetta and mascarpone

Margherita sourdough pizza – Tomato, mozzarella and Sicilian oregano

£10 each or 2 for £15



Cash or card payments

Deliveries by arrangement

See www.wheatsheafcrudwell.co.uk for updates



Pat Mapplebeck - A Few Words from Guy

Mum and Dad were married very young in their early twenties, which was quite popular at the time and a year later, well let's be kind and call it nine months, they had their first child! From then on motherhood took over my mother's life as she had always wanted it to with a further 3 children to follow. Dad's career took him all over the world and Mum was his support mechanism, a kind caring and loving homebuilder who was very good at the practical needs of everyday life and this strength of purpose with bags of common sense and a lovely sense of humour made her a special person.

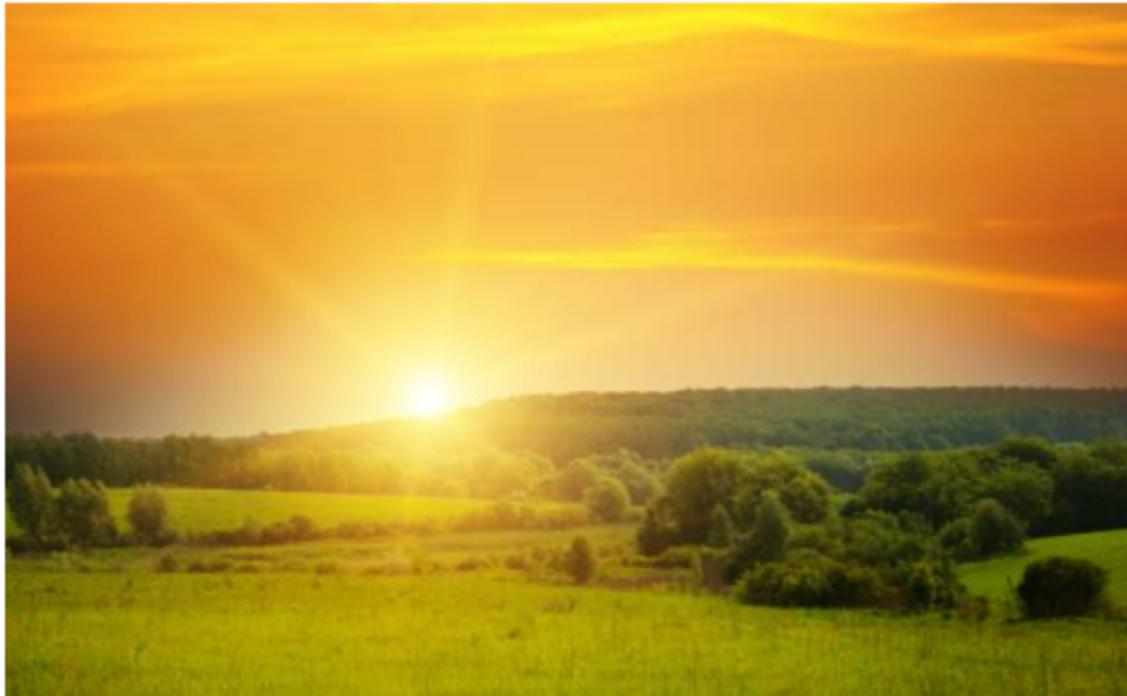
She had this ability to get the best out of people, something her headmaster recognised in her at a very early age, and made her head girl, never good with books because of her dyslexia which was not diagnosed until her mid-thirties. It was the little things in life that gave Mum the most pleasure, she loved her painting and cooking and bringing us boys up, but it was not until she came to Hankerton and the Priory that her skills in the garden shone and family settled down in the area that was to become the home they loved so very much. The people and friends they made here in the village and the area around, grounded them after all the hectic travelling they had done in the past and when Dad finally gave up the middle east, he was so happy to come back to his loving Pat and their friends and the new life they had built together here.

With the help of Lloyds that funded their final years Mum and Dad had a very quiet and peaceful existence here in Follyfield with fantastic neighbours and a house that Dad so rudely called a shoe box, it does have great views which they both came to appreciate so much. For them it was their last journey and their love for each other undaunting and complete. Death has not separated them but joined them in eternal love. Let's hope!

I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who sent letters and cards of condolence, it was very much appreciated by the whole family.

Wishing you all the very best for 2022.

Guy



REST IN ME

Sometimes I cannot sleep at night and worry
until morn – Crashing to my slumbers at the
beginning of Your dawn
And thus I miss the chorus of Your creatures
when they wake – The birdsong that is beautiful
as they welcome Your daybreak
Now I am trying to turn again to the hours You
displayed - And sleep when night is with us so I
may not be dismayed
By missing the joy of welcoming the dark turn
into Light – Each day dawns understanding as I
recognise Your Might.
It is You who separate the hours of the night and
of the day – You want us to have our proper rest,
to do just as You say
Praise You Lord.
I thank You for Your timeless plan – Allotted us
through day, through night, during our life's span
You desire us to lie down in the way that others
do – If we cannot sleep then that is the time to
spend these hours with You.

16.02.98.

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Greetings from Revd Tonya

I have a question:

Without light, where would we be?

Answer:

In the dark!

For many years artificial light came from flames of one sort or another. Eventually along came electricity and the electric light bulb. How this changed life. Now, we are surrounded by all kinds of lighting. In our homes, we have overhead lights, wall lights, table lamps, night-lights and even portable lights. Some may shine more brightly than others but all have a part to play in bringing light into the darkness.

Once a month at All Saints Church, Crudwell, we hold 'Stillness & Peace'. 30 minutes of quiet in a candle lit church, no words, no sermon, no singing, rather a moment to be, to look upon the light and to allow our thoughts to roam and perhaps ponder on God's love for us. (The next will be on Monday 7th February 6pm).

On Sunday 6th February, the church will be celebrating 'Candlemas' - when Jesus was just an infant, he was presented in the Temple, an old man, Simeon, sings a song of praise. In this song he declared that Jesus has come to be a light. Jesus talks of himself being the Light and he says as well, to his followers, 'You are the light of the world', with the instruction to, 'let your light so shine before others'.

This has made me think about what kind of light I am. A table lamp perhaps, a night-light or maybe a small torch? However, it really does not matter what kind of light I am or you are. What matters is that each of us can shine with the light of God's love in our own way. Every pinprick of light makes a difference. Therefore, each of us makes a difference when we let our lights shine!

As Cardinal Newman prays:

Stay with me, and then I shall begin to shine as You shine;

As a light to others.

Blessings
Revd Tonya

Come and be part of the ((

Pancake Party

Tuesday 1st March

3.20pm – 4.30pm

Yummy Pancakes!
Games
Pancake
Races



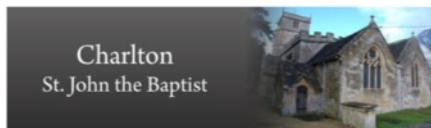
Crudwell Church

Particularly designed for
children at Primary School but open to all.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. If you can't stay for the whole session then come for as long as you can, we'd love to see you. For more info. contact Rev'd Tonya, 01666 575216.

Services across the Braydon Brook Benefice

All are welcome to attend any of the services taking place across the Benefice



Date	Services in Church	Services on Zoom
6 th February 2022	9.30am Friends and Family @ Crudwell 9.30am, Holy Communion @ Hankerton 11am, Holy Communion @ Oaksey 6pm, Evening Prayer @ Ashley	10am Morning Praise
13 th February	10am Benefice Holy Communion @ Minety	
20 th February	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Charlton 11am, Holy Communion @ Minety 11am, Matins @ Oaksey 3pm, Tea Time Service (Songs of Praise)	6pm Evening Prayer
27 th February	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Ashley 9.30am, Morning Praise @ Charlton 9.30am Morning Praise @ Minety 11am, Holy Communion @ Crudwell	

Mid-Week Services and Events

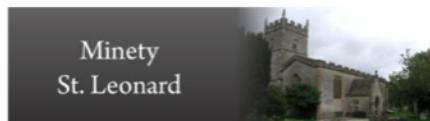
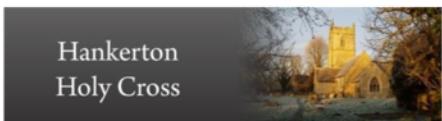
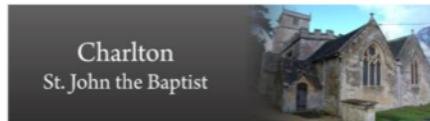
Monday	14th & 28th February	10am	Bible Study via Zoom
	7th February 6pm @ Crudwell	6pm	Stillness and Peace @ Crudwell
Tuesday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
	8th February	10.30am	Coffee & Quiz via Zoom
Wednesday	9th February	10.30 – 12.00	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell
Thursday	10th February	9.45am	BCP Communion Service @ Minety
Friday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom

Please visit our website www.braydonbrook.co.uk and Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page to find out more.



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	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Hankerton	
	11am, Holy Communion @ Oaksey	
	6pm, Evening Prayer @ Ashley	
13th March	10am Benefice Holy Communion @ Ashley	
20th March	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Charlton	6pm Evening Prayer
	11am, Holy Communion @ Minety	
	11am, Matins @ Oaksey	
	3pm, Tea Time Service (Songs of Praise) Mothering Sunday theme @ Hankerton	
27th March Mothering Sunday	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Ashley	
	9.30am, Morning Praise @ Charlton	
	9.30am Morning Praise @ Minety	
	11am, Holy Communion @ Crudwell	
	11am, Mothering Sunday Service @ Oaksey	

Mid-Week Services and Events

Monday	14th & 28th March	10am	Bible Study via Zoom
	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March	6pm	Lent Stillness and Peace @ Crudwell
Tuesday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
	8th March	10.30am	Coffee & Quiz via Zoom
	1st March	3.20-4.30pm	Pancake Party @ Crudwell
Wednesday	9th March	10.30 – 12.00	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell
	2nd March	6pm	Ash Wednesday Service @ Ashley
Thursday	10th March	9.45am	BCP Communion Service @ Minety
	10th, 17th, 24th, 31st March (7th April)	11.15am – 12noon	Zoom Lent Course
Friday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom

Please visit our website www.braydonbrook.co.uk and Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page to find out more.





We were sorry to hear the news about Julie Turner of Follyfield, who passed away just before Christmas.

We send our condolences to Tim and the family – our thoughts are with you at this very sad time.



HELP!!

Can you help?
Saturday morning coffees held in the North Aisle of the church, every Saturday morning 10.30-

12.00. A great time to meet up with old friends and make new ones!
And.. have coffee, tea and cake.

Help is needed to run these mornings - set up, make the coffee, clear up (there is a dishwasher!) - instructions given, or try it out with someone who (thinks) they know what they are doing!

Contact Lindy Hendy on lmhendy@gmail.com or Tel; 577938

Also, Help with Church cleaning - volunteers are needed to help with cleaning the church.

Please contact Lindy for details.



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