

# The Grapevine



Thank you to everyone for their positive and complementary remarks on the Jubilee Grapevine. If you think anything was missed out you could write an article for the next Grapevine - the Amenity Area gets a mention in this edition!

People are out enjoying their gardens and having their windows open at this time of year so please read the reminder about bonfires and be considerate of others - smoke spreads far and wide and once it leaves your property it does start to affect others.

The spirit of Hankerton was evident in the Jubilee Street Party when everyone braved the cold while enjoying the delicious food.

Sadly, this will be another year without the August Street Fayre - this event raised money for the upkeep of the Community Area in the Church (North Aisle) so it is to be hoped it can be revived for 2023.

We hope everyone enjoys the remaining weeks of summer.

Eds. Mary and Susan

We would like to join with everyone else in welcoming Yelysei, Sacha, Inna and Stella to the village. We look forward to getting to know them and seeing them out and about around Hankerton!



Deadline for news for the **October** Grapevine: **September 10<sup>th</sup> 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](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.

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

## Nature Diary – August 2022

At the time of writing the weather is getting a lot warmer, and still the ground is crying out for some much needed rain. Hot weather would suit the subject of this month's diary, the Slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), but the extreme dryness makes finding food much more difficult.



The Slow-worm is a lizard, albeit a legless one, and if you are able to look closely at an individual, you will notice that it has eyelids, in contrast to all species of snakes which have a hard clear "spectacle" over their eyes and do not need to wash and wipe the eye surface through the action of eyelids. Being a reptile, it is reliant on sunshine for providing the heat to warm its body sufficiently for it to become active. That said, it is predominantly nocturnal, and usually spends the day under stones, boulders, discarded corrugated tin, which heat up during the day and transfer that heat to the Slow-worm underneath. It doesn't regularly bask in the sunshine like many snake species.

It is a creature of the wider countryside, large gardens and allotments. Its prey is usually slugs, snails, earthworms and numerous kinds of invertebrates, and so spends its time hunting in leaf litter and loose soil. It is said to be a bit "slow" seizing its prey when it finds it, seemingly spending quite a bit of time deciding what to do. Its partiality to slugs and snails make it a welcome guest for those keen on growing plants, rather than slug/snail food! In the garden, if present, they are most likely to be found around compost heaps, which provide abundant food opportunities.

Sadly, cats do like to predate them so the chances of them inhabiting our gardens are low if there are cats in the neighbourhood, and they are also preyed upon by foxes, toads, rats, snakes and birds of prey. Their only defence against predators (they are not venomous) is the ability to detach its tail if that is seized, so that the predator is distracted by a wriggling tail, while the Slow-worm hopefully makes its escape. This ability is called *caudal autotomy*, and perhaps is the influence for the creature's Latin name, which means "fragile snake". The tail will regrow but not to its former glory, just a functional stub.



Adults grow to be about 50 cms (20 inches) long. There is no obvious neck, and the body shape flows sleekly from nose to tail tip. They are thought to be one of the longest living lizards in the world, with ages up to 30 years for wild living individuals and the longest captive record was 54 years. Males tend to be paler than females, sometimes with blue spots on the back, and the females have dark sides and often a dark stripe down the back.



Mating takes place in the Spring, and the eggs are retained within the female until she gives birth in July or August, and the young break out of the very thin-shelled eggs immediately afterwards. They are known as being *Ovoviviparous*, in contrast to our common lizard, which is *Viviparous*, where live young are delivered not in a shell. The new-born Slow-worms are independent from birth, are about 7 – 10 cms long, and a female would give birth to around 8 young (on average).

I have never seen a live Slow-worm in the village, but sadly, have seen them dead on the roads having been run over by a passing vehicle. So they are in the village. If you want to encourage them in your own gardens there are things you can do.

Obviously a compost heap is a good idea (providing shelter and food), laying out a piece of old tin sheet or flat wooden board in a sunny spot may encourage them to shelter underneath (and provide an opportunity to see them), and leaving some areas of the garden in a rougher, less tidy state, with longer vegetation and maybe a small log pile. The latter attracts other species as well, so is always a good thing for those wanting to see a larger variety of species sharing their gardens. They are harmless, fascinating friends of the keen gardener, and deserve our support.



Steve Davies.

## Platinum Jubilee Street Party



We were on tenterhooks for most of the morning as to whether the weather would hold but we needn't have worried. Although not as warm as we would have liked it suited British stoicism to a tea, surely a good sign.

We catered for 120 people which involved four different flavoured sandwiches, scones with jam and cream and a huge variety of cakes, numerous cups of tea and to finish, a glass of Prosecco for a Loyal Toast to the Queen and a slice of celebration fruit cake. We certainly couldn't have managed without a great deal of help as tables and chairs needed to be sourced, put up and laid, sandwiches, scones and cakes had to be made etc, etc.

It was a real community effort and thanks must go to the Church for the loan of tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, teapots etc and also to the villagers who provided tables and chairs, helped collect, erect, lay, set, clear up and provide the use of their dishwashers. We must not forget the ladies who baked and donated cakes, the ladies who made all the sandwiches and the folks that served and replenished cups of tea. There was also the music, of course, but if we have forgotten to mention anyone we are extremely sorry!



All of the feedback has been positive and so a very successful afternoon was had by all, even if towards the end it was beginning to get a bit chilly. It was great to see people getting together and enjoying themselves, a reminder of why we chose to live in a village community. Long may the spirit continue.

Message from the Eds - we thought that everyone would also like us to thank the ladies who made it all possible - Chris, Lorraine, Claudine and Susan! Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the village!

**Post Party Note!**

Due to the generosity of people in the village we made a profit, although our original intention was not to make one!

Consequently, we have sent a cheque to the value of £205.40 to THE GREAT WESTERN AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY. You may even have seen their big green helicopter land in the field behind Follyfield just a few weeks ago.

The Hankerton Jubilee Committee



Malmesbury Garden Centre is a locally run business supplying all your garden requirements. We are still open and have some gorgeous flowers and vegetable plants in, lots of seeds and gardening tools. The staff are very friendly and willing to help you with all your needs. The Cafe food is scrumptious too!

We are open:  
Monday to Saturday: 9:00am – 5:00pm  
Sunday: 10.00am – 4.00pm



## Bonfires

During the Covid shutdowns Wiltshire Council asked householders to not light bonfires because of people with respiratory problems. These conditions have not gone away and neither has Covid, so lighting bonfires can still cause problems.

Lighting a bonfire without consideration for those around you can cause them distress - whether it limits the enjoyment of their garden, causes smoke to enter houses through open windows or to have ash landing in the garden and on washing. Smoke travels a long way so be aware of wind direction.

It is suggested that, out of courtesy, you inform a neighbour that you wish to light a bonfire so they may close windows etc.



There are also safety considerations:

- Do not burn wet or green vegetation as this makes more smoke
- Do be aware of the position of a bonfire so it does not spread and set fire to adjacent fences or hedges.
- Do not leave a fire unattended and ensure it is completely extinguished when you have finished.

further information is available on: [Wiltshire.gov.uk](http://Wiltshire.gov.uk)

Susan Mockler



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# minety community shop

Minety Village Hall Minety SN16 9QH  
Tel: 01666 860013 [www.minetyshop.co.uk](http://www.minetyshop.co.uk)  
Weekdays: 8am - 6pm Weekends: 9am - 1pm

## *New Into Your Shop:*

Fresh Meat from Hiscocks our local butcher with special orders on request

Fresh Hobbs-House Bakery bread, pastries & cakes orders taken

Freshly made Bean-to-Cup Coffee and other hot drinks

Local Tracklements Condiments ideal for that special occasion

Local Beers & Mates Cider



## *Plus all of our usual products:*

Off Licence ● Convenience Goods ● Confectionery  
Fresh Produce & Frozen Produce  
including a range of local & Minety Made products  
● Newspapers & Magazines to order ●

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](mailto:minetyshop@gmail.com)**

# Rotary Club

It is with great sadness that we report that the local Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds closed with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Club was chartered in June 1967 and had as its first President Charles Nicholls, the popular manager of Lloyds Bank in Tetbury, who continued to be an active member of the Club until his death in December 2020 aged 96.

The Club was based on the two towns of Malmesbury and Tetbury, historically great local rivals! Initially the club met weekly with one week in Tetbury and the other week in Malmesbury. Over the years it has met in a number of locations including the Kings Arms in Malmesbury, the Horse Guards at Brokenborough, the Mayfield at Crudwell and finally at the Old Royal Ship at Luckington.

Throughout its 55 year history the Club has carried out numerous activities raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for both local and national charities. In addition to its fund-raising events, community service projects were carried out. A key one for Malmesbury was the annual Santa Sleigh – that toured streets in Malmesbury and in a number of the surrounding villages. The most notable for

Tetbury was the annual “Fireworks Spectacular” last held in November 2019. This provided a safe environment for people to enjoy a superb pyrotechnic display at an affordable cost (far cheaper and more spectacular than buying the usual family box of fireworks!) - and visited one year by a certain Mrs Diana Wales and her two sons from nearby Highgrove.



One of the main fundraising events organised by the Club was the annual “fun run” in Badminton Park. This started in 1984 and was originally conceived as a team event - hence its original name “Horseless Team Event” (abbreviated to HTE) where teams ran over a 5



mile or 9 mile course which included some of the obstacles used in the Badminton Horse Trials. Over the years it raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for good causes including the local charity “Hope for Tomorrow”. It also provided useful activity for the Malmesbury and Tetbury ATCs to demonstrate their communications skills in providing radio cover throughout the park. Among the celebrities who opened the event was the Olympic Gold Medal runner

Sally Gunnell. For many years the event regularly attracted over a thousand entrants, but over time with the increased popularity of half marathons and park runs it became harder



to attract large numbers of entrants and, hence, raise large amounts of money for charity. In recent years the HTE was opened to a separate category of “canini-cross” runners where runners harness themselves to one or more dogs to help pull them round the course which proved increasingly popular and attracted entrants from as far away as Kent.



The Club has also through the wider Rotary movement engaged in International Activities. Old tools were collected for the “Tools for Self Reliance” project in Africa, computers were procured to be sent to South Africa and the Sight Savers initiative was strongly supported with millions of eye patches supplied. More locally, the club made significant contributions to the Brighter Futures project to provide radiotherapy facilities at the Great Western Hospital and to the Life Education Centre (LEC) mobile classroom that visits many of the primary schools in Malmesbury and the surrounding villages.

When the Club was originally Chartered most of the members were in their 40s but as with all organisations the members get older and unfortunately we were not able to attract new younger members in sufficient numbers to continue. Times, family priorities and work pressures have changed and the absence of a single geographical focus did not help.

However, we have had a good run and achieved a lot of good over the past 55 years through our enthusiasm, teamwork and capabilities – and lots of fun and fellowship.

Doug Hughes (Club Secretary) and Peter Wyman (Past President)

# Wheatsheaf Inn Crudwell

## Take away service

Please ring 01666 577739 or

Email [tobygregory@aol.com](mailto: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 with rice or chips

Moroccan vegetable Tagine with rice

Crispy breaded scampi with chips or salad

6oz Cheeseburger 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:

Pepperoni sourdough pizza – Pepperoni, pancetta and mascarpone

Margherita sourdough pizza – Tomato, mozzarella and Sicilian oregano

£10 each or 2 for £15



Cash or card payments

Local Deliveries by arrangement

See [www.wheatsheafcrudwell.co.uk](http://www.wheatsheafcrudwell.co.uk) for updates

## Update from Hankerton PC



The Hankerton Parish Council meets regularly and had its latest meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> July to discuss a number of areas affecting the village. They were pleased to note that a number of plans to develop the village had come to fruition including the installation of a Wild Flower verge (led by Cllr Dai Davies) and the new bench celebrating the Queens Platinum Jubilee in the Church yard (led by Cllr Robin Tjolle). Please feel free to sit and enjoy the views of our beautiful church. The Parish Council were also pleased to welcome their new member Cllr Kate Nurden and the election of Cllr Jacqui Erskin-Crum as the new deputy chair.

Ideas to further develop the village were also discussed including installing a flag pole by the bus shelter (so we can raise a relevant flag to celebrate upcoming anniversaries and other events) – views from residents on whether they would support this would be welcome in time for the next meeting. Also the PC would welcome suggestions on where to site further wild flower verges in the village. Plans are also underway to resurface the turning circle by the church and improve the path behind Hillwell. The PC also agreed to scale back on unnecessary verge cutting throughout the village.

The PC is keen to see how it can support events within the village post-pandemic to bring residents together on a more regular basis and again suggestions are welcome.

Finally, the PC also agreed a revised process for considering planning applications (following Wiltshire County Council's decision to remove the installation of green signs).

The Parish Council meetings are open to all and the decisions it makes affect all of us and our surroundings so it would be great to see all those who are interested come along - especially those with views on flagpoles, events and wild flowers! The next meeting is 5<sup>th</sup> September in the North Aisle at 7:30pm. We hope to see you then.

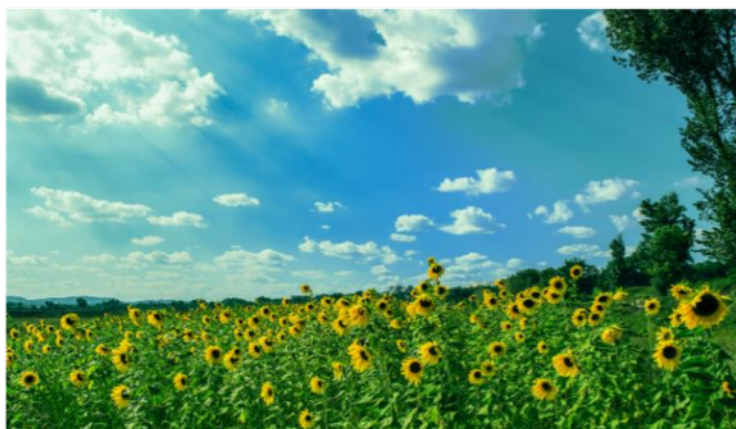




### **REJOICE**

Be full of Joy in the Lord. - Rejoice for He is good  
We trust in You for You are kind - But though our eyes are blind  
And You we cannot see - We know You're there for such as we  
Rejoice all generations - Let there be no cessation  
Joy fills us to the brim - Happiness is knowing Him.  
This feeling is Heaven sent - This is how we're made content  
Our Lord maintains His Love forever - His promise to us will never  
Fail, His Word is like fire - Makes our spirits soar much higher  
When reading of Christ's days - Spent in teaching of God's ways  
So, when we fail to understand - Life's pressures, hold out our hands  
And if we fail to grasp - Your words of Love, You'll clasp  
Our wrists and tightly hold us when things seem to slip away - And we are finding it so very  
hard to pray  
Faith teaches us to trust in You. - For temptation's easy to succumb to  
So, Hope keeps us on our guard - For to do right is often hard  
Be sure of God's promises, He keeps us safe - If we hold fast to our Faith.  
His Message we'll increase - To show that He will never cease  
Set our sights on Him and Trust. - Turn our old ways into dust  
We may struggle, we may wail - But be sure God will not fail  
Us as we slowly turn our minds - And learn that He is always kind  
Our eyes will see His Light - That He is Pure and ever Right.  
**Rejoice!** For God comes out on top! - I'm glad our wonder will not stop.

## Our churches in summertime



During August we take a breath and mark time differently. There is no school. Families with young children will be hoping to take holiday. Everything slows down – unless of course you are a farmer with a harvest to bring in. Living as we do in rural villages, there are plenty of people round here who will be working harder than ever over the next few weeks.

In the churches of the Braydon Brook Benefice we will be doing things a little differently throughout August too. There will be one service per Sunday in one of our group of churches.\* We hope that people will travel to the church where we are meeting and that they will bring visitors and friends. We could regard this as a negative – but how much more appropriate to see it as a special time when we can grow together, pray together, learn together and relax together too.

Of course the Church is not only there for you on Sundays. Our ministry team are available at other times too – for pastoral visiting, for funerals, weddings and baptisms, and many other activities. Our twice weekly morning prayer on Zoom is continuing, as is fortnightly Bible Study and the Thursday Communion Service in Minety at 9.45 on 11th August. Keep an eye on our Braydon Brook Churches Facebook page, or the website, or contact our administrator on [bbbbandgb@gmail.com](mailto:bbbbandgb@gmail.com) for the latest information.

We are here for you, for all of you. And we wish you a Summer full of blessings.

*Richenda Milton-Daws*

*Licensed Lay Minister: Braydon Brook Benefice*

\*10 am at Ashley on 31st July, at Hankerton on 7th August, at Crudwell on 14th, at Minety on 21st and at Charlton on 28th.






# Services across the Braydon Brook Benefice

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

During August we will be holding one service each Sunday within the Benefice and encourage everyone to come together. Our regular service pattern will return in September.



Date	Services in Church	Services on Zoom 
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10am, <b>Benefice Holy Communion @ Hankerton</b>	
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10am, <b>Benefice Holy Communion @ Crudwell</b>	
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	10am, <b>Benefice Holy Communion @ Minety</b>	
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10am, <b>Benefice Holy Communion @ Charlton</b>	

## Mid-Week Services and Events

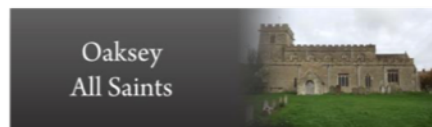
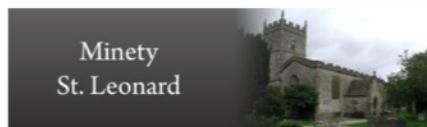
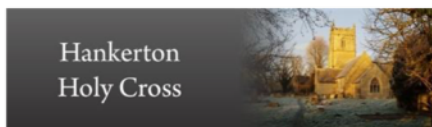
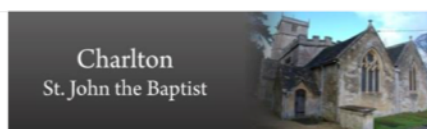
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Every other week</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Bible Study via Zoom</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer via Zoom</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Chat @ Crudwell</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>9.45am</b>	<b>BCP Communion Service @ Minety</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer via Zoom</b>


Please visit our website [www.braydonbrook.co.uk](http://www.braydonbrook.co.uk) and **Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page** to find out more.



# 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 
<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	9.30am <b>Friends and Family Service</b> @ Crudwell	
	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion &amp; Baptism</b> @ Hankerton	
	11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Oaksey	
	6pm, <b>Evening Prayer</b> @ Ashley	
<b>11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10am, <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> @ Oaksey	
<b>18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Charlton	<b>6pm Evening Prayer</b>
	11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Minety	
	11am, <b>Matins</b> @ Oaksey	
	3pm, <b>Tea Time Service</b> (Songs of Praise) @ Hankerton	
<b>25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	9.30am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Ashley	
	9.30am, <b>Harvest Thanksgiving</b> @ Charlton	
	11am <b>Harvest Thanksgiving</b> @ Minety	
	11am, <b>Holy Communion</b> @ Crudwell	

## Mid-Week Services and Events

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Every Monday</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>T @ 2.30pm @ Crudwell</b>
	Every other week	10am	Bible Study via Zoom
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer via Zoom</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Chat @ Crudwell</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>9.45am</b>	<b>BCP Communion Service @ Minety</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer via Zoom</b>

Please visit our website [www.braydonbrook.co.uk](http://www.braydonbrook.co.uk) and Braydon Brook Churches Facebook Page to find out more.







# Coffee & Chat

Join us every  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday**  
of the month  
Crudwell Church  
**10.30am – 12noon**

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## **Surgery News**

Dr Neil retired at the end of March and this coincided with the return of a Dr from maternity leave, therefore staff numbers had remained constant.

In January two new clinical practitioners joined with the targeted aim of seeing new patients.

Two Clinical pharmacists have joined the practise whose time is to be shared across the partnership group (five practices of Malmesbury, Purton, Sherston, Cricklade & Royal Wootton Bassett) with an emphasis on care home and care residence.

Two new paramedics are due to start in August and will deal with minor illness clinics, urgent visits and frailty clinics.

Drive to build “Living well” team of 4 or 5 staff, focusing on social prescribing and weight management.

Soon to be working across the network is a Mental Health Worker, but no start date has been set, who will be targeting extreme crisis patient care.

## **Premises**

A new phone provider has been chosen and has an expected start date on 1 September, which will introduce a new unlimited queuing system.

As from 1 October the surgery will be open later. The plan is for Malmesbury to be open on a Thursday evening until 8pm.

A decision has been made to make the wearing of masks within Malmesbury Primary Care Centre non mandatory for patients.

## **Health matters**

Recalls for Long Term conditions have now restarted, using a patient's month of birth as the trigger point. The aim is for a single appointment to cover all conditions of the patient.

NHS health checks are restarting, periodically every 5 years.

Health checks for Mental Health patients are to begin.

From 1 October, Flu/Covid jabs start being delivered.

NHS England South West Public Health Commissioning is starting to reduce the age for bowel screening. It will be managed in a phased approach over the next few years and invitation has been extended to those aged between 56 and 60 in Bath, Somerset & Wiltshire.

## **Patients Participation Group**

An invitation for new members will be advertised using social media.

The PPG Annual General Meeting will be held on 1 August 2022 at the MPCC, Priory Way, Malmesbury at 7pm. All patients of the MPCC are welcome to attend. For further information contact Margaret Perrin (secretary) on 01666577960 or e-mail [mperrin@btinternet.com](mailto:mperrin@btinternet.com)



Next meeting is on 1 August 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.

Shayne Smith



## Hankerton Amenity Area

The Amenity Area is at the entrance to Old Farm Close on the left-hand side as you go in. In the late 1980s the chicken farm (now Old Farm Close) was closed down due to the smell and proximity to homes.

The land was sold to a developer who agreed to provide the village with a play area as part of the planning application. The houses in Old Farm Close were then built, followed by the demolition of the managers bungalow in 1996, where one house was built.

What happened next...

After many discussions in the village as the Amenity Area was not being used, in 1997 a grant was applied for and the area planted with bulbs and trees. The land was poor and full of builder's rubbish so a team of people cleared as much as they could before replacing it with topsoil in preparation for planting.



A seat was erected by David Pynn, an area of brambles etc left as a wild-life refuge and all the bulbs were donated by Anne and Walter Brown with the shrubs and trees purchased from Nick Durnford who helped to clear the area. People responded to the challenge of sorting out the area - you may well recognise some of the hard-working labourers!







Refreshments and encouragement were supplied by the Newman family in Old Farm Close. In order to keep the area neat and tidy over the years, volunteers pruned, chopped down and cut the grass in the area. Some of you may well remember Brian Dalton speeding along the lane on his mower to regularly cut the grass (over many years!) and the sound of chain saws as the trees in the area were cut back.

The Amenity Area is still there but a feasibility study found that it is really too small to be used as a playground and, once more, is reverting to a wildlife area. If anyone has any ideas about how to use this area – please let the Parish Council know as it does need a plan! Anyone up for turning it into a village orchard?

Susan Mockler – Hankerton History Group



## **Have you visited your local library recently? Did you know it's free to join?**

If you're new to libraries or haven't used them for a while, here's a reminder of what Wiltshire Libraries offer:

- Latest bestselling fiction by your favourite authors
- A wide range of books for children and young people
- Free eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines via the Libby app
- Free Wi-Fi, computer and scanner access, plus printing for a small charge
- Staff who can provide basic help and support when using the library computers or your own device
- Bookable digital support sessions to help you learn more about using your smartphone, tablet, laptop or the library computers
- Information books to support hobbies, days out, job seeking and study
- Study spaces
- Free access to Ancestry and British Newspaper Archive on the library computers
- Free access to TheoryTestPro to practise driving theory and hazard tests
- Large print books for people who need a bigger font
- A mobile library service with regular stops
- A Home Library Service taking books to people in their homes who are unable to visit the library themselves
- Seating throughout for you to enjoy a book or read the newspaper



Here at Malmesbury Library we've returned to pre-pandemic opening hours and host many events and community groups throughout the week. Rhyme times for babies and toddlers take place on Tuesdays and Fridays, and our reading group meets on the third Wednesday of the month. Tuesday's Public Living Room is an opportunity to pop in and share a cup of tea and a chat, and on the third Saturday of the month menders from Repair Café Malmesbury are here to fix your household items. Fruitful Malmesbury's community fruit and veg planters are located at the front of the library and in the courtyard for everyone to enjoy. Please ask at the library for more information.

The Summer Reading Challenge for 4-11 year-olds takes place in all libraries from 16 July – 10 September.

The Solus app is available to help you search for, renew, and reserve books from across the county. Children's titles can be reserved for free and adult stock for a small charge.

If you're not already a member, you can join online or in the library and, if you've already signed up online, don't forget to come in and collect your card.

For more information please visit our website at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries) or follow Malmesbury Library on Facebook.



## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

LINK is a charity that many of you may have heard of or used. It is run by local volunteers and offers transport to hospitals, doctor's surgeries, dentists and other health related appointments for anyone living in the Malmesbury district.

We have a friendly team of drivers who are all DBS checked and use their own cars for transport. A mileage allowance is paid to cover their expenses which is funded by the donations made by our clients.

Due to the increase in medical appointments being made and lifts required, we are urgently looking for more volunteers to help drive our many clients on a flexible and ad hoc basis to suit you.

If you would like to get involved but don't want to drive, help is always appreciated to coordinate the service and answering the phone which is done from your home for approximately one morning per fortnight by arrangement.

So, if you need transport to an appointment or would like to find out more about flexible volunteering with LINK, please contact us on the telephone number or email address provided.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

**Tel: 01666 840861. Email: [coordinators@malmesburylink.co.uk](mailto:coordinators@malmesburylink.co.uk)**



### **Hot off the Press!**

**Good News! Good News! Good News!**

### **Baby Durnford**

We'd like to congratulate Nick and Zenetta on the arrival of their second beautiful baby boy, born on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July much to Zenetta's relief!

Those of us who felt uncomfortable in that heat last week can only begin to imagine what it must have been like for her! At time of writing the baby

has not been officially named but according to his grandparents he will most likely be a George.

Many congratulations to all the Durnford family and we welcome baby 'George' to the village!





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