

The Grapevine



At the time of writing, we are sat here looking out at yet another gloomy, rainy day. The roads and fields are underwater, there's mud and waterfilled potholes everywhere and we haven't seen the sun in weeks! Christmas is a dim and distant memory and we're all on diets – we really need something to cheer us all up! Look no further then than your February edition of the Grapevine! As well as

our regular features such as this month's Nature Diary (this time on the magnificent Oak Tree), the latest news from the Doctors surgery, a beautiful prayer from Sheila Dalton, Church Services and updates from the Church Wardens, we have news on how to keep warm and safe this winter, updates from the recently closed Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds, details of a new initiative for buying nearly new designed clothes AND we've even squeezed in some jokes to put a smile on your face and pancake topping ideas for something warm and yummy in your tummy (and some are low-fat too!). So, make yourself a cuppa, sit back and forget about the weather for a while – Spring will soon be here and that is definitely something to look forward to. 😊

Deadline for news for the April Grapevine: March 10th 2023

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

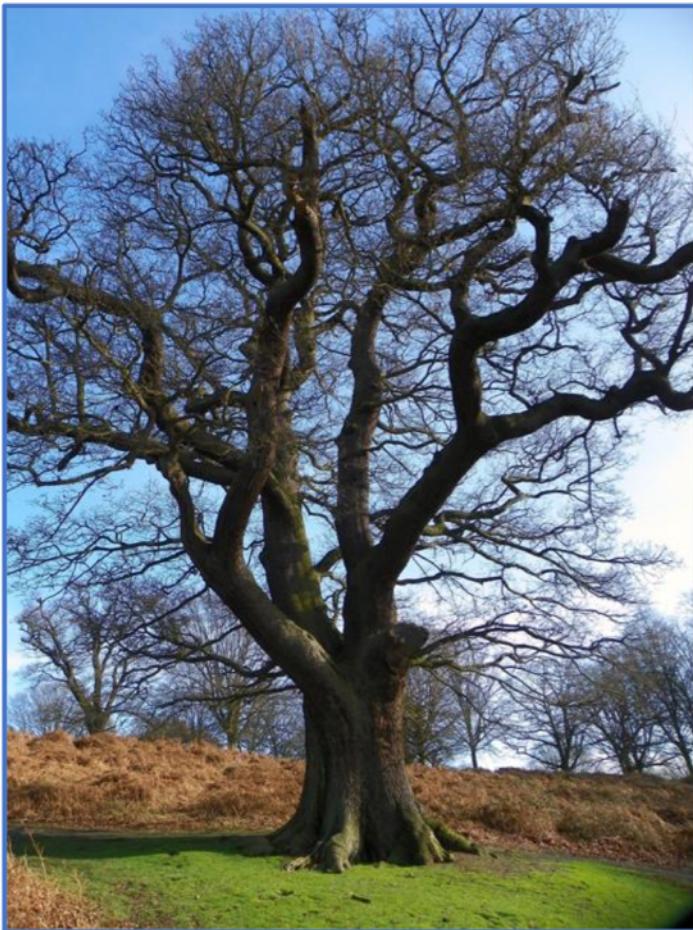
Or to 21 Follyfield, Hankerton. SN16 9LA

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.

Nature Diary – February 2023.



Winter is the best time for appreciating the architecture of our big deciduous trees. You can see the twists and turns the branches have taken over time and marvel at the sheer volume of the tree's canopy now that all has been revealed with the shedding of the leaves in Autumn. Stand below one of them and look upwards for a few minutes – we are all guilty of walking past them and not truly noticing their majesty.

Perhaps one of the most intricate arrangement of branches and boughs is to be found in the English Oak (*Quercus robur*), and in very mature specimens that arrangement is both impressive and complicated. On a tree that has grown without much competition (perhaps in parkland) you will find that the boughs on the south side of the tree grow out quite close to the horizontal, whereas those on the north side angle upwards to

find the light. (Who needs a compass if you've got an old Oak tree to hand!) The English Oak is also known as the Common Oak, or the Pedunculate Oak. This last name refers to the tree's fruit, the acorn, being held on a long stalk or "peduncle". The leaves in contrast have very short stems. There is another very numerous (I shouldn't confuse everyone by using the term "common") species found in this country and that is the Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*) and in this species the leaves have long stalks and the acorn cups have very short ones.

Oaks grow to be very old, well over 500 years. There is a saying applied to Oaks and their longevity - "200 years to grow, 200 years to live and 200 years to die". The oldest Oak in the UK is the Bowthorpe Oak in Lincolnshire which is reported to be 1000 years old.

Oak trees have a special place in our minds, producing high quality hard wood that has long been used to build houses and furniture and historically our naval ships - one of Nelson's ships would reportedly have required the wood from 3,000 oaks to build.

Charles II hid from his parliamentary pursuers during the English Civil War in an Oak tree at Boscombe House in 1650, and it has since been known as the Royal Oak. "Royal Oak" is also the third most popular pub name in Britain – perhaps a reflection of the reverence with which the British people regard the monarchy? (I am not aware of the "Oliver Cromwell" being in the top two!).

Everyone will be familiar with the acorns produced by Oaks, nestling in a cup as they grow. They start off green in colour and turn brown as they ripen, eventually falling out of the cup to the ground. Acorns are a favourite food of many animals, such as squirrels, birds, badgers and rodents. Jays will collect large quantities of acorns to hide individually as a food store for the coming winter, and they have a phenomenal memory for locating the hidden acorns, but even they don't remember them all. It is these forgotten acorns that have the chance to germinate and grow into new trees having been removed from the ground in the shade of the parent tree and moved to a possibly more open site with plenty of sunlight. The jay is therefore the most important propagator of English Oaks. Squirrels in contrast tend to bite the tip of the acorn to stop it germinating when caching their stores, so are less important propagators.

In the New Forest there is a practice called pannage, where domestic pigs are put out to feed on the acorns which for them is a nutritious food, but for cows and horses an excess of acorns can be poisonous. So the pigs are also making the forest safer for the ponies.

It's not just the acorns that provide food for wildlife. Leaves are also consumed by herbivorous insects, and the Oak supports the highest number of species of any British plant. Many of these are caterpillars of various species of moth and butterfly, and Blue Tits and Great Tits synchronise the hatching of their eggs with the emergence of these caterpillars, such is the importance of the Oak. Oaks also provide shelter (e.g. in the fissured bark) for animals, and the Oak provides food and shelter for more species than any other UK tree – around 2,300 species are recorded.

Maybe the reverence in which we hold the English Oak is extremely well deserved, having considered the above. There are many fine specimens in and around our village, so do stop and have a really good, admiring look at them.

Steve Davies.



Pancake ideas

Pancake Day is Tuesday 21st Feb this year! If you've given up on your diet by then, we have some yummy Pancake topping ideas for you! Whether you prefer savoury or sweet, we've got the perfect toppings for you!

Firstly, everyone probably knows how to make pancakes but here is the basic recipe:-

Makes 12



Ingredients

100gm plain flour 2 large eggs 300 ml milk 1 tablespoon of sunflower oil Pinch of salt

Method

Combine all the above and whisk to a smooth batter. Set aside for 30 mins (if you have time or can wait that long!)

Wipe a medium sized non-stick frying pan with a piece of oiled kitchen towel. When the pan is hot, cook each pancake for 1 minute each side – toss them in the air if you're feeling brave.



OR just buy a packet mix like I do and follow the instructions on the back.

Toppings

You can't beat the traditional lemon juice and sugar but here are some other ideas -

Chocolate sauce (available in bottles, jars, etc – why make your own?)

Blackberry compote and lemon drizzle with vodka – a Rick Stein recipe that you can google although you probably shouldn't give this one to the children. Alternatively, make theirs with blackberry compote and lemon drizzle, serve the children and drink the vodka.

Sliced bananas with caramel sauce (again, see above for sauce recipe suggestion)

Berries (any) and melted white chocolate.

Orange butter sauce – orange juice mixed with icing sugar and melted butter.

Smoked salmon and cream cheese.

Mushrooms, fried in a little butter and mixed with Crème Fraiche and a teaspoon of Dijon Mustard

Enjoy!



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



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MALMESBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS & THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE SOUTH COTSWOLDS JOIN FORCES TO BUY ASTHMA MACHINE FOR MALMESBURY PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

Maltesbury League of Friends (MLOF) and the Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds (RCSC) have joined forces to purchase a special machine to treat asthma for patients at the Maltesbury Primary Care Centre (MPCC).

This followed a donation from RCSC, which closed earlier this year. It decided to make a donation of £4,000 from its charity fund and approached MLOF for advice on the best way to use this money.

MLOF trustees include two doctors at MPCC, who advised that the donation could be used to purchase a special machine to help manage asthma patients. The FeNO testing machine measures the level of nitrous oxide in the exhaled breath and provides an indication of inflammation in the lungs. There are approximately 1,200 asthma patients registered at MPCC.



L-R: Peter Wyman, RCSC, Dr James Hanslip, Practice Nurse Alison Cole, MLOF chairman David Hide with the special asthma testing machine

Dr James Hanslip, a MLOF trustee at MPCC said: "This machine will enable us to make much improved diagnosis and management of asthma. We are extremely grateful to RCSC for this very generous donation."

Peter Wyman from RCSC, said: "We were very sorry when the club had to close earlier this year after so long. But, in providing the funds from our charity account to purchase this machine, which will help so many patients, we are delighted that a part of our remaining funds has been put to such good use."

MLOF chairman David Hide commented: "Our primary objective is always to provide items of medical equipment for MPCC that can otherwise be difficult to access locally. So we were delighted to have worked with RCSC in this way."

More information from:

MPCC – Charlotte Gorman, Practice Manager – charlotte.gorman@nhs.net – Tel: 01666 825825

MLOF – David Hide – davidhide@hotmail.co.uk – Tel: 01666 824148

RCSC – Peter Wyman – peter.rcsc@gmail.com



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Matt Beesley
07921 266211
1 Hillwell, Hankerton
Email: mbplumbing983@gmail.com**

A little something to make you smile (or groan, depending on your sense of humour!)



- Where does a snowman get the weather report? The winternet.
- What did the icy road say to the car? Wanna to go for a spin?
- What did one snowman say to the other? Can you smell carrots?
- Why was the little snowman sad? Because he had a meltdown.
- Which is faster, hot or cold? Hot—you can catch cold pretty easily!
- What do you get when you cross a vampire with a snowman? Frostbite!
- What kind of maths do Snowy Owls do best? Owlgebra.
- How does a North Pole carpenter fix something broken? Igloos it together.
- What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Frosted Flakes.
- What do you call a prom in the North Pole? A snow ball.
- How do you get a snow monster to go away? Get into a heated argument.
- Why did Dad stop using his loyalty card to scrape ice from his windshield? He only got 10% off.
- What do you call an old snowman? Water.
- What do mountains wear to stay warm? Snowcaps.
- How does a snowman get to work? By icicle.



- "Knock, knock!" "Who's there?" "Ivan." "Ivan who?" "Ivan awful cold right now."
- "Knock, knock!" "Who's there?" "Icy." "Icy who?" "Icy you!"
- "Knock, knock!" "Who's there?" "Atch." "Atch who?" "Bless you!"
- "Knock, knock!" "Who's there?" "Freeze." "Freeze who?" "Freeze a jolly good fellow, freeze a jolly good fellow..."



minety community shop

Minety Village Hall Minety SN16 9QH
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New Into Your Shop:

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

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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

CHURCH MATTERS

Once again, one of the highlights of 2022 was the December Carols, attended by 80 people including a choir of 10. After the service, hot mulled wine and mince pies were consumed in the North Aisle, then people walked home past the splendidly lit Christmas tree, once again kindly donated by Nick Durnford, therefore at no cost to the church. Nick also installed another Christmas tree in the North Aisle, which was much enjoyed by the children who came to decorate it and those coming to Coffee and Chat on Saturday mornings. We thank Steve Davies for maintaining the north side of the churchyard, Peter Wyman for some further sound improvements and lots of people on the cleaning and flower rotas.



As previously reported in the Grapevine, our rector, Tonya, left the Braydon Brook Benefice of 6 villages (Ashley, Charlton, Crudwell, Hankerton, Minety and Oaksey) in May 2022 to take up a new position near Bristol. In June we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a special service and on a sunny day in July, 55 people enjoyed a Strawberry Tea in the churchyard. In September, following the sad death of the Queen after 70 years of devoted service, there were 2 well attended special services of thanksgiving.

We are very grateful to Sarah, Richenda and various other clergy for the services that they have taken during the year. On Remembrance Sunday in November, there was a well supported service in the churchyard beside the War Grave.

We are still carrying out various repairs following the architectural inspection. Our finances are beginning to struggle due to lower attendances and fewer tax-efficient donations, but these are partly offset by income from some old legacies, which helps us to pay our running costs. These include about £7,000 per year sent to Bristol Diocese for various costs. Our newish digital piano, a Yamaha Clavinova kindly donated by the late Julia Meeres is excellently played by our regular organist, Heather Goodwin.

The year 2022 has been grim in many ways so let us hope for a more positive and optimistic 2023.

Philip Carter

Valerie Durnford

Churchwardens

Living through Lent

Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent, falls on the 22nd February this year. Traditionally it is followed by forty days of penitence and fasting before the great Festival of Easter.

Forty days at the end of winter – we are tired, we are fed up, many of us have had coughs, colds, flu or covid. Travel has been difficult and the weather has been grim. This is not what we might have expected from the twenty-first century!

Winter in earlier ages was tough. There was no central heating, no hot running water, no antibiotics, no vaccinations. People had to work with the rhythms of the seasons, and they had to depend on God's providence. They had to help each other in order to survive. Giving up eating meat for forty days early in the year gave animals the chance to breed and raise young, thereby ensuring future supply. We have been insulated from these rhythms and realities as our societies have become more sophisticated – but the last few years have peeled that away. What with lockdowns and loss, strikes and shortages, constant anxiety over climate change and so much else, many of us feel more vulnerable than we have done for decades.

Some of us are having to give things up – necessities as well as luxuries. This is not because of Lent, it is because of rising prices. Even those of us who are in a position to make a conscious choice however might do well to think a little differently this year. We could each consider if there is one small change we might be able to make to benefit our fellow human beings. It might be putting a can of something into the foodbank trolley or the community pantry in Crudwell church. It might be a visit or a phone call to someone who is lonely. It might even be smiling at anyone we meet while on our daily walk. We can try to build one random act of kindness into our day. If we keep this up for forty days, we may find by Easter we have built a helpful habit, one that will stand us in good stead for many more of the days ahead.

*Richenda Milton-Daws
Licensed Lay Minister*



Services across the Braydon Brook Benefice

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



Ashley St. James



Charlton
St. John the Baptist



All Saints
Crudwell



Hankerton
Holy Cross



Minety
St. Leonard



Oaksey
All Saints

Date	Services in Church	Services on Zoom
5 th February	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Hankerton 10am, Friends & Family @ Crudwell 11am, Holy Communion @ Oaksey 6pm, Evening Prayer @ Ashley	
12 th February	11am, Benefice Holy Communion @ Charlton With The Venerable Christopher Bryan, Archdeacon	
19 th February	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Charlton 11am, Holy Communion @ Minety 11am, Matins @ Oaksey 3pm, Tea Time Service (Songs of Praise) @ Hankerton	6pm Evening Prayer
26 th February	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Ashley 9.30am, Morning Praise @ Charlton 11am Morning Praise @ Minety 11am, Holy Communion @ Crudwell	

Mid-Week Services and Events

Monday	Every other week	10am	Bible Study via Zoom
Tuesday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Wednesday	8 th February Ash Wednesday 22 nd February	10.30am 6pm	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell Service for Ash Wednesday @ Ashley
Thursday	9 th 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.

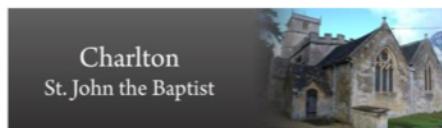


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Oaksey
All Saints

Date	Services in Church	Services on Zoom
5 th March	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Hankerton 10am, Friends & Family @ Crudwell 11am, Holy Communion @ Oaksey 6pm, Evening Prayer @ Ashley	
12 th March	11am, Benefice Holy Communion @ Crudwell	
19 th March Mothering Sunday	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Charlton 11am, Family Worship for Mothering Sunday @ Minety 11am, Family Service for Mothering Sunday @ Oaksey 3pm, Tea Time Service for Mothering Sunday (Songs of Praise) @ Hankerton	6pm Evening Prayer
26 th March	9.30am, Holy Communion @ Ashley 9.30am, Morning Praise @ Charlton 11am Morning Praise @ Minety 11am, Holy Communion @ Crudwell	

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Monday	Every other week	10am	Bible Study via Zoom
Tuesday	Weekly	9am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
Wednesday	8 th March 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th March	10.30am 6 – 6.30pm	Coffee & Chat @ Crudwell Lent Stillness & Peace @ Ashley
Thursday	9 th March	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.



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) £13.00: 12.30pm to 1.00pm
Order early to avoid disappointment!

Menu choices:

Teriyaki chicken with rice or chips (£11.25)

Moroccan vegetable Tagine with rice (£10)

Crispy breaded scampi with chips or salad (£11)

6oz Cheeseburger and bacon with chips (£10.25)

Cajun Chicken Caesar salad (£10.50)

Pan fried lambs liver on mash with onion gravy (£11.50)

Beer battered cod and chips (£11.25)

Chicken Madras Curry with rice and naan bread (£11)

Beef lasagna or vegetable Lasagna with chips (£11)

Lentil and carrot burger, salsa and chunky chips (£10)

Desserts (*to be heated at home)

From £4.00

Ginger sponge with custard*

Fruit Crumble with custard*

Butterscotch ice-cream sundae



Every Friday - 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 for updates



"I AM THE ONE"

Dear Lord, we need You every hour, every minute, every day
Through the thick and thin of life, we must remember You as we pray
"I AM THE ONE WHO SEES".

That often if we did but realise, You place people in our road
Waiting for us to ask for help in maybe lightening our load
"I AM THE ONE WHO HEARS".

You, who birthed us to Your world, have threaded the pattern of our lives
All the details of our being worked by You as we strive
"I AM THE ONE WHO HEALS".

Others want to give to you, feel blessings in their turn
Let someone help you, through Me, and through their aid, you will learn
"I AM THE ONE WHO KNOWS".

Not only can you be the one to do the decent thing
Folk want to be there for you, to show they too are willing
"I AM THE ONE WHO LOVES".

Ask of Me even the little things, the things you think too small
You don't receive, for you do not ask, do you think I can't hear you call?
"I AM THE ONE WHO GIVES"

Your families and friends care for you in the way most people do
Well, I AM Your Father, have faith in Me, and accept that I care for You.
"I AM THE ONE WHO IS: I AM".

(Matthew 7:7-8)

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Bag a Bargain.



*Wellington Barn on Manor Farm,
Calstone, Calne, SN11 8PY*

*28th February 2023, 4pm - 9pm, £6 entry
1st March 2023, 9am - 12pm, free entry*

*Bar will be open for tea, coffee & drinks
www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events*

Time to get walking again!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Wiltshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/wiltshire> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Wiltshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!



COTSWOLD
NETWORKING

FEBRUARY 22ND 2023

7PM TO 9PM

THE KINGS HEAD HOTEL



CIRENCESTER NETWORKING LAUNCH

COTSWOLD NETWORKING
CONNECTING BUSINESS &
PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE

Cotswold Networking is a friendly, social business networking group which launched in Malmesbury in February 2022. We are now delighted to be launching in Cirencester in 2023.

Welcoming business owners and professionals from all sectors. Join us, be part of a vibrant community and develop trusted relationships to grow you and your business.



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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The BBC Radio Wiltshire Make a Difference Awards are back for 2023! Every day we hear stories of people doing wonderful things for each other and their communities. These awards are a way to say “Thank You” to those who are really going above and beyond.

Whether it's caring for someone in need, being a brilliant neighbour, or taking on an incredible fundraising challenge, if you know someone who is really making a difference to our lives then you can nominate them for an award.

Last year we saw eight amazing winners recognised at a fabulous ceremony at the Corn Exchange in Devizes.

This year there are 8 categories you can nominate in

- Volunteer
- Community Group
- Fundraiser
- Carer
- Great Neighbour
- Bravery
- Green Award
- Together award

You can nominate someone you know at bbc.co.uk/makeadifference where you can also see full Terms and our Privacy Notice. Nominations are now open and will close on Sunday 5th March 2023 at 11:00pm. The winners will be announced at our Make a Difference awards ceremony in September.

And follow #BBCMakeADifference on social media for more details.



Patients Participation Group Update



Surgery News

Doctors at Malmesbury Primary Care Centre (MPCC) carried out 9751 appointments up to September 2022, and pre covid in the same timescale in 2019 they carried out 6972 appointments. An increase of 2779 (28%) appointments. There will be a doctor, nurse and paramedic available on Saturdays. A pre appointment will be required. The reception staff have all undergone Care Navigation training to help them signpost patients to the correct area of expertise.

Surgery refurbishment

A new telephone system will be up and running by the end of January 2023. The new system will have unlimited lines, an option for a call back when you're number 1 in the queue, a function to check appointment times and record calls. Previously, MPCC applied for a grant from NHS England to install hard flooring for most areas in the building, which will help with infection control. This has now been laid.

Vaccines and Covid

MPCC carried out 1400 covid injections during the Saturday clinics. They also completed:

- 2,400 age under 65 flu injections
- 3,500 age over 65 flu injections
- 250 children's flu injections

All covid boosters have now been completed by the surgery. If anyone requires an autumn booster you can: book a COVID-19 vaccination appointment online for an appointment at a vaccination centre or pharmacy get vaccinated without needing an appointment go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/find-a-walk-in-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-site/>

Safe working

The European Union of General Practitioners and the BMA have recommended a safe level of patient contacts per day at no more than 25. At Your Service, published by the Policy Exchange and with a foreword by Sajid Javid MP, states that 28 patient contacts per day is safe. On certain days, some doctors at MPCC have in excess of 30 contacts in one duty session (morning or afternoon).

Staffing (shared across the five group practices Malmesbury, Purton, Sherston, New Court, Cricklade)

There are 14 clinical pharmacists across the group practice, who are able to prescribe medication, complete medication reviews, amend repeat prescriptions and manage prescribing in the care homes which frees up the doctor's time. Extra rooms were needed to accommodate the staff in order to carry out their telephone consultations etc. A room presently used to store patient's paper records will now be stored in a secure unit off site, freeing up valuable office space. Three living well team members will be responsible for social subscribing. These members of staff have a wide range of backgrounds and will be taking over some of the doctors social subscribing duties. Namely, providing support for those needing care at home or who need a shortterm transition into a care home. They are also the link between the Community and the Surgery. There are now 3 paramedics working out of MPCC carrying out home visits and attending minor illness.

Next meeting

The next meetings are on 7 February 2023 and 4 April 2023. If anyone has any questions or points to raise then please let me know and I will be happy to take them forward.

My telephone number is **07856 202115**

Shayne Smith

Hankerton Parish Council update

As we enter the winter period, Hankerton Parish Council is keen to make sure residents have access to the wide variety of services available to support them through the rising cost of living and energy crisis.

To help with this, Wiltshire Council have created an online interactive community directory to help people find local warm spaces and community food providers - see www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living ([Council tax, benefits and financial support - Wiltshire Council](#)). The website has lots of information and links to find advice on benefits and financial support, including Council Tax, as well as energy saving tips and advice to improve your mental health.

The nearest food bank for Hankerton is based in Malmesbury Town Hall. Website address www.malmesburydistrict.foodbank.org.uk . Residents can also help themselves from a community fridge there which is stocked by local retailers with food near its sell-by date.

The Wiltshire Council community directory lists 3 public warm spaces in Malmesbury and this will be kept updated:

- at the Library – most days, varying times, closed Thursdays.
- in the United Reformed Church SN16 0BJ – Thursdays 9-1.30.
- in The Kings Church on Abbey Row SN16 0AG – Fridays 9.30-2.30

In addition, there is a coffee morning in Hankerton in the North Aisle every Saturday from 11- 12 which is open to all for a cup of coffee or tea and a friendly chat. From time to time there is also produce left in the Church porch that is available to residents should they need extra supplies.



Residents also have access to the Hannah Ludlow Trust – which can also provide some limited financial support to those in the village who are in particular need. Applications or enquiries should be made to the Chairman of the Trustees, Mr Nigel Durnford at 1 Cloatley Road, Hankerton email - nigel.durnford@foodandfarming.co.uk.

Most importantly, we in Hankerton are a kind and friendly community, so please if you are in difficulty and need some further advice or support – or if you have concerns that a neighbour may be struggling, contact any Cllr on the Parish Council or our Wiltshire County Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall 07778110936. They will do their best to signpost you to help while treating any request in confidence. Details below for our Cllrs. You can also call Wiltshire Council if you need advice about benefits and the support available 0300 456 0100

Cllr contact details

Robin Tjolle - robintjolle@aol.com – 07801 891429

Dai Davies - Dai_davies@hotmail.com - 07900580767

Jaqui Erskine-Crum – Dolmansfarm@aol.com – 07825580523

Richard Barrow - richard@voycepullin.co.uk – 07885298316

Kate Nurden - Katenurden75@gmail.com - 07377 156524

Piers Johansen - 07920 806247 - piersjohansen@ymail.com

National Grid – Priority Services Register

- Scottish & Southern Electricity are keen to make sure vulnerable residents are on the Priority Services Register should there be any power outages and it is important that these people should register now.
<https://www.energynetworks.org/customers/extrahelp-for-customers>
- To register go to <https://www.ssen.co.uk/power-cuts-emergencies/priority-services/>
 - Or telephone 0800 294 3259



Defibrillator Theft!

During a recent weekly check of the defibrillator, it was noticed that someone had taken the torch that comes as part of the kit. Apparently it's not the first time that this has happened either! The removal of the torch could cause a delay for someone who needs to use the defib urgently in order to save a life. The torch is essential in a village without any streetlights – heart problems don't only happen during daylight!

The theft was raised as an issue at the Parish Council Meeting on January 9th and subsequently, all of the volunteers who conduct the weekly checks were thanked for their diligence.

If you spot somebody in the phone-box please don't hesitate to challenge why they are there – they might be one of the rota of villagers carrying out the weekly defibrillator check BUT it might just be somebody up to no good!

The torch has now been replaced.

Malmesbury Community Wardrobe

Free, donated, clean, warm clothing for adults and children available on Tuesday mornings 9am – 11.30am at the Riverside Community Centre in Malmesbury (next to the big Co-op). To donate clothing, please take it bagged up to the Gloucester Road Co-op or the Town Hall.





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