



BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

March 2015

The Newsletter

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- Pte J H Summers
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 - Police Report
 - Once in a Lifetime
 - Parish Council
 - Unpredictable Explorations
 - Local WI reports



Tytherton Ride

The Tytherton Ride is an annual event, held since 1986, to support local organisations. Each year the proceeds of the ride are divided between the Churches and village halls of Bremhill, Foxham, Tytherton Lucas & East Tytherton, Christian Malford Primary School and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance Appeal.

If you are able to assist on the day, we would be delighted to hear from you. For more information please contact:

Camilla Glass *Chief Steward* 07767 335 607

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12 April

www.tythertonride.org.uk





EDITORIAL

I've had a terrible few days recently! No, not the 'flu, not too much work, nor too much to drink! Worse! We've been a week without broadband! This experience brought home to me just how dependent we have become on our computers and the web. How did I managed to exist 30 years ago? I remember having to stop to use phone-boxes when driving and how once I had to thumb a lift to a village because my car had broken down in the middle of the plain and I couldn't contact anyone. Now, of course, I have my mobile and I fear I do like many and check it often!

The recent articles on broadband and fibre optics have been illuminating and useful, since, for example, I now know I live in a 'not-spot'! This does, however, underline the problems for us living in a rural area and needing access to up-to-date developments. Two other areas of concern have been highlighted this month by the Parish Council - the proposed housing development to the west of the Parish and the possible noise pollution in the Lyneham area. We hope to bring further news in the future!

Please, do keep your contributions coming in. We would like to include your stories, reminiscencies, recipes and favourite poems as regular items and would be grateful to receive your contributions to editor@bremhill.com before the 13th of each month. The editors would also like to thank very much those volunteers whose sterling work each month delivers us our Newsletter, whatever the weather.

I'm happy again now we have our broadband back, but I am even happier looking forward to the clocks going forward at midnight on 28/29 of this month as that always signals for me the end of winter and heralds the approach of spring!

*Ewen
Co-editor*





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 5th March Rural Arts - Seven Ages - Bremhill
- 14th March Bingo, Foxham
- 14th March Beetle Drive, Bremhill
- 18th/19th March Bobby Van Clothes sale
- 21st /22nd March Scarecrow Train, Christian Malford
- 27th March Knock-out Skittles, Foxham
- 4th April Bremhill Hall Band Night
- 10th - 18th April Unpredictable Explorations
- 12th April Tytherton Ride
- 12th April 1st Aid at work, Bremhill
- 6th June Clay Pigeon Shoot, Wroughton
- 5th Sept Village Show, Bremhill



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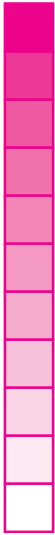
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SPECIAL NOTICES

KNOCK-OUT SKITTLES

Reading Room, Foxham: March 27th. In aid of St John the Baptist Church. Start 7.30 prompt in teams of 4 (all ages welcome). Prizes for the winning team.

Entry: £20 per team, supporters £4 per person which includes a Ploughman's supper. Soft drinks will be available. Bring your own alcohol. Pre-booking is essential by calling Chris Minty on 01249 740219 or Elizabeth Hannah on 01249 740619.



TYTHERTON RIDE - SUNDAY 12TH APRIL

We are looking forward to seeing many of you (with your horses!) on Sunday 12th April for the annual Tytherton Ride. We are again at Field Farm with start time from 10 am. As usual we hope to raise lots of money for local churches and village halls.

If you would like to join our enthusiastic team of volunteers, either on the field or out on the course, please contact Ride Chairman Ian James on 740226. More details about the ride are on the website www.tythertonride.org.uk



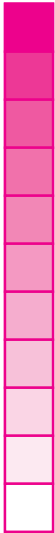
BREMILL VILLAGE HALL BAND NIGHT

Saturday 4th April 2015

Please put the date in your diary and be prepared for a fantastic night of music, food and socialising at the village hall. Music to be provided by '*Shot by Both Sides*' who play an eclectic variety of music that will appeal to all.

Please contact Roger on 07702224188, roger@bremhill.com or kit@bremhill.com to book tickets - £7.50 (including food)





BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL HOME PRODUCE AND GARDEN SHOW

Saturday 5th September 2015 - Make a note of the date!

- Now is the time to start planning what you are going to plant in your vegetable garden.
- Have you been making marmalade and liqueurs?
- The evenings are still cool so it could be a good time to start planning your handicrafts and other arts and crafts.
- Those of you who have bought goods at ethical or "green" shops may have taken your purchases away in a carrier bag made from a newspaper from India or wherever. Now can you create your own carrier bag.

The schedule can be downloaded by going to the Bremhill Village website, and following the links to the village hall and village show. Paper copies will be available in the village hall or in a folder in the porch of the village hall. Alternatively, ask Marilyn, Rosie or Jennifer.

P.S. To the men - start thinking about your tarts!!



FOXHAM FAMILY CHRISTMAS BINGO

Apologies for a very late "thank you" to everyone that came we had a great night and a filled Hall. We raised just under £400.00 and half of this money went to Macmillan.



FOXHAM FAMILY EASTER BINGO

Saturday 14th March in Foxham Village Hall / Reading Room. 5 pm for eyes down at 5.30 pm. Free entry. Light snacks and refreshments available.

Call 740413 or Text 07795 595878 or Email:
foxhamvillagehall@btinternet.com





EAST TYTHERTON NEW YEAR SUPPER.

On the 31st January over 60 people enjoyed the New Year's supper.

There was a selection of delicious casseroles including venison, chicken, chilli con carne, Aubergine and bean layer bake and a very popular Brazilian pork stew. These were followed by yummy puddings including bread and butter pudding, two apple crumbles with either blackberry or gooseberry and the ever popular pavlovas.

As if that was not enough, a superb cheese board arrived. Coffee or tea with chocolates completed a very good meal.

During the evening the 100 Club and The Grand Draw were pulled. The Tytherton Tigers did very well in the Grand Draw and we do appreciate their support.

Also presentations were made to Carol Lewis and Pat Holtham who have both stepped down from the Village Hall Committee after many years of supporting Tytherton Village Hall. Thanks to both Carol and Pat for all their hard work and commitment to the Hall.



MOVIOLA IN CALNE TOWN HALL.

Showing on Wednesday, 25th March. Doors open at 7.00 pm.

This will be 'The Imitation Game' (12a) starring Benedict Cumberbatch who has been nominated for an Oscar. The film is based on real life story of cryptanalyst Alan Turing and the nail biting race against time to break the German codes at Bletchley Park.

Refreshments available. Tickets £6.00 from the Information Office or on the door





TANZANIA OR BUST: CYCLING FOR WOMEN V CANCER

Rebecca's 350 km cycling challenge to raise money for Breast Cancer Care, Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust and Ovarian Cancer Action (The Newsletter, February)

Planned events include: **Beetle Drive** - Bremhill Village Hall on Saturday 14 March at 7.00. Cost £8 per head including light buffet. Bar. Family Fun. Raffle. Pay at the door. **Clay Pigeon Shoot** June 6th Barbury Shooting, Wroughton. 12.30 pm. £260 per group of 4 experienced shots. Full details to follow soon. Please call if interested.

Your support is gratefully appreciated.

Rebecca - 01249 740884

www.make-a-donation.org/fundraisers/rebecca-lund-torres



RURAL ARTS TOURING

Thursday 5th March 2015 - Bremhill Village Hall
Kepow! Theatre Company - Seven Ages

Do come along and be part of the fun. Doors and bar open 7 pm.

Tickets: Adults £7 Children £4.50 (suitable for ages 6+), available from Rosie 01249 813642 or Marilyn 01249 661369

This show was first performed at the Edinburgh Festival, where it received 5 star reviews. Since then it has been performed all over the U.K and in 10 other countries. It is essentially a comedy. The performance involves some improvised theatre so there is spontaneity in what is created.

"Humour also often arises as we: marvel at random things suddenly connecting unexpectedly; laugh at the human traits displayed in the characters the improvisers choose to represent, to which we can all relate (eg. pride, lust, neurosis, envy); and chuckle as the improvisers make mistakes, yet remain upbeat, as they carry on regardless."

Find out more at www.kepowtheatre.co.uk

Marilyn and Rosie





TYTHERTON MAY FAIR.

Sadly it has been decided not to go ahead after all, with the Tytherton May Fair this year, planned for 2nd May.



CHRISTIAN MALFORD SCARECROW TRAIL 2015

Christian Malford Scarecrow Trail will take place during the weekend of 21st/22nd March and the theme this year is Disney characters. The trail starts and ends at the recreation ground, where we also have hot and cold refreshments, homemade cakes and a grand raffle. For the little ones we have a face painter, children's fairground rides and children's games. We also have a half-way stop at the school where we are offering cream teas. The trail is open 10 am - 4 pm both days. A great fun day out for families of all ages.



IN MEMORIAM

HILDA (DILL) PITT.....

The Dumb Post Inn, together with the Church and the Village Hall (previously the Village School) are very much part of the life of the community in Bremhill and the surrounding villages. It is right that we should mark the passing of someone who for over 30 years was not only a warm and welcoming landlord's wife at the Dumb Post Inn, but also contributed in many ways to the life of the village itself.

A kindly, caring partner to Brian, Dill took an interest in the people who were their customers which went far beyond her obvious concerns as a partner in what they had built up to be a successful and popular hostelry (virtually from nothing). Many are the kindnesses that I remember and the pleasure that she took from being introduced to our latest grandchild (or puppy). She loved her family and her and Brian's grief at the death of their son Bob never left her, but even in retirement to Annie's Cottage on Ratford Hill, she remained welcoming and interested in what was going on in the village. We mourn her passing and our prayers are very much with Brian and his family.

Jim Scott





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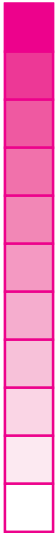
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Also, visit us at Calne Farmers Market, The Pippin, every 2nd Saturday of the month.

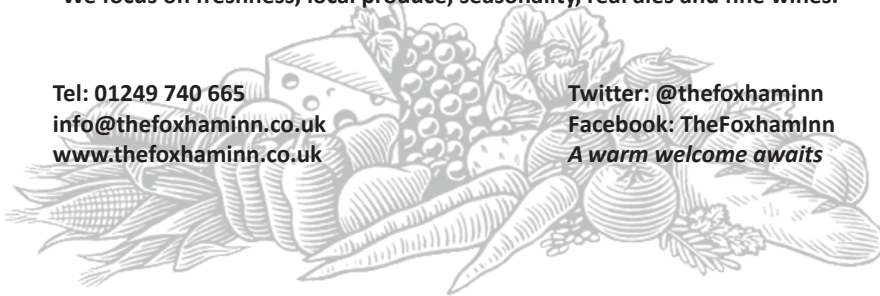


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A warm welcome awaits

What a great couple of months we have had! We were nominated for Wiltshire Life Pub of the Year and we came Third, which we think is a great achievement for your local pub. We have retained our AA four star rating and AA Rosette for the food.

We are in our 10th year at The Foxham Inn and we still love what we are doing and looking forward to many more years ahead.

This month we are holding a seven course Vegetarian dinner on the 26th March, a taste delight for Vegetarians and Meat eaters alike

Why not sign up for our Loyalty card which will give you a free bottle of House wine with Lunch or Dinner. After you have collected 10 stamps on your card, (Collect 1 stamp each time you dine with us). For an Application Form please Ask Sarah at the Bar



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THE DUMB POST

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In the evening food is served between 6:00 and 9:30.

Don't forget that we have a 2 course lunch for £8.95 every day from Monday to Saturday. Lots of lovely specials to choose from.

Our Sunday Roasts are proving popular too!

Book early for Mothers Day and give her a real treat.

Please also contact us for take away fish and chips £5.95

Our website will be up and ready soon so watch this space.
Contact us on 01249 813192 or email carolineandsteven@yahoo.co.uk



Please follow us on Facebook





FIBRE INTERNET UPDATE

Thank you to the many of you who have sent messages. Keep them coming, please?

We are trying to find answers to the many queries raised. Here is a summary of the information we have as of mid-February 2015:

Kellaways exchange (numbers starting 01249 740XXX): January came and went... February is almost over and BT Openreach is still digging. As of mid-February BT Openreach is making steady but slow progress according to Wiltshire Online. Continue checking <http://dslchecker.bt.com>. When an FTTC line appears in the output, you will be able to order FTTC from the ISP of your choice.

Bremhill: it appears that BT Openreach has enabled a number of additional cabinets connected to the Calne exchange. Some people around Bremhill are now showing as able to order Fibre Internet. Hence it is worth checking <http://dslchecker.bt.com>. If you can see an FTTC line, in the output, you can order FTTC from the ISP of your choice if you so wish.

Spirthill and Charlcutt: BT Openreach recently added cabinets to the Hilmarton exchange although these are still quite a distance from Spirthill and Charlcutt. John Harris is very kindly coordinating the collection of information for Spirthill.

Should you have questions that you would like help with, feel free to contact us either through www.bremhillparish.org or directly.

Jérôme Semichon
(jerome@auscult.co.uk)

Scott Walsh
(scottwalsh72@googlemail.com)

Richard Tucker,
(richard@rsjtucker.com)

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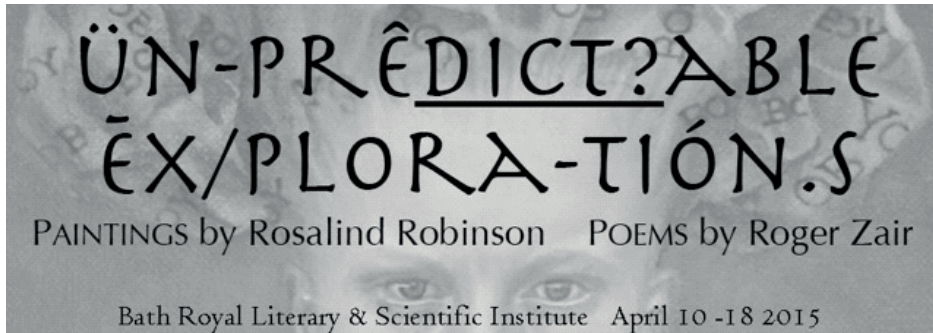
Please contact:
Colin Bray
tel: 01249 657567





LOCAL ARTIST EXHIBITS ...

Rosalind Robinson is a local artist with her studio and home in Tytherton Lucas.



About 18 months ago, the poet Roger Zair and I agreed to hold a joint exhibition of work at the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute in April 2015. Consequently, throughout 2014 I declined all social invitations and gave up the idea of holidays. Ignoring the cobwebs quietly misting over the corners of my house and the weeds colonising the garden, I locked myself away in my studio, to concentrate solely on developing paintings for the show.

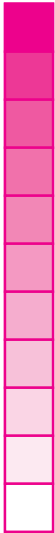
Roger and I made the deliberate decision not to collaborate on the works we were creating in order to discover whether images and words, brought together after being created independently, could interact with each other to create new insights into the dialogue between painting and poetry.

My still life and portrait paintings are intended to pose questions about time and place and suggest a narrative. Roger's poems are engaging and conversational, bringing out the surprise hidden in the commonplace. For both of us, the excitement of producing art is inextricably linked to the uncertainty of its progress.

If you are in Bath between April 10th and 18th, please visit our exhibition, 'Unpredictable Explorations' at BRLSI in Queens Square. Roger will be hosting a discussion, 'Responses to the Poetry', on Wednesday April 15th at 2.30pm. All are welcome. I will be giving an illustrated talk entitled 'The Painters Process' on April 16th at 7pm. Places are limited - for tickets please contact rosalind.robinson@me.com

www.rosalind-robinson.co.uk / www.brslsi.org/node/61679






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TYTHERTON WI

Here is our January report.

Our New Year meeting got us off in some style ! We had a Country and Western Party to celebrate the New Year, with a 'Wild West ' supper, and Blazing Saddles, a husband and wife duo, provided excellent entertainment, song and dance.

After supper a space was cleared and Debbie, effortlessly, had everyone on their feet joining in the Line Dancing and music. A warm , fun atmosphere was created and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Yes, the male guests joined in too ! Ya hoo!

Our next meeting will be a much more sober evening, but extremely worthwhile, when Mr Ian Chatterton returns for further advice on First Aid.

Joyce Gardner and Shelah Franklin.

the **WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN





COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

Once again, I am happy to report a reduction in crime on our rural area for the Months of December and January.

Overnight on 9/10 December a Massey Ferguson tractor was stolen from a farm at Hilmarton but was fortunately recovered in Lyneham on 12th. On 10th Dec a BMW was stolen from a driveway at Sandy Lane which has not, to date, been recovered. During December a shed was broken into at Heddington where chains saws and a steel cutter were taken. The items, found in a field at Hilmarton, have now been returned to the owner. At Ratford on 30th Dec, a house was broken into by offenders smashing the rear door glass to gain entry before they stole a large amount of property. Again at Ratford on 14th Jan, electric fencing was cut on farmland.

Although numbers of reported crimes are down, please remain vigilant and consider extra security measures wherever possible. Make life as difficult as possible for thieves, so that they don't want to return to our villages. Anything you see that you are not happy with - please call us.

On the evening of 30/01/2015 an elderly Calne resident was taken to a local cash machine where a large amount of cash was withdrawn, for, we believe, a very small amount of work at his property. Although an incident of this nature is extremely rare in Calne, it does happen, and we are urging anyone with elderly parents or relatives to be mindful of their home security and anyone approaching their properties offering to do work for them, or paying them any unwanted attention.

We are asking members of the Community to report anyone they see behaving in a suspicious nature on 101 or 999 if a crime is in progress. If you are able to note the vehicle registrations, number of persons and descriptions, this would be of great assistance to us.

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging: You can now get for free messages - by email, text or voicemail - about policing and crime matters relating to your area and interests by joining Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging. Wiltshire Police are committed to involving communities in the prevention and reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour. Working alongside Neighbourhood Watch, Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging aims to improve the flow of information between





communities and the police. Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging is currently available in neighbourhood policing areas across Swindon and Wiltshire. The neighbourhood policing team at CALNE has already started to use Community Messaging. To join Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging for free please visit the www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/ link and click on the 'Join' button.

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging is NOT monitored 24 hours a day. Always call 999 in an emergency or 101 in a non-emergency.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust (Registered charity 1153790)



The Trust provides a free Home Security Service for the over-60 or vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Wiltshire, who have become, or are at risk of becoming, victims of crime or domestic abuse. The Trust is an independently funded charity which works in partnership with Wiltshire Police and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue.

Once The Trust has been contacted, an appointment is made by the Bobby Van Administrator for an operator to visit homes and conduct a full security survey and fire risk assessment. With the agreement of the client, appropriate devices are installed to secure the property. Time is spent offering reassurance and advice on how to protect the house against crime and fire risks. Their operators drive Police-marked vehicles and dress as Police Support Staff. The Bobby Van Trust offers talks to community groups and clubs in a pro-active approach to securing homes for all over 60's or those vulnerable due to disability. If you know someone in your community who would benefit from a visit please call 01380 861155 or 101 and ask for the Bobby Van Trust to arrange a visit. The Trust also works closely with other support agencies such as Age UK.

If you wish to contact us for anything, please email myself or PCSO Andy Willox (andrew.willox@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk). We are always happy to help.

*WPC 319 Sonya Stockhill
Sonya.stockhill@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Community Beat Manager - Rural Calne NPT*



NOTHING TO WEAR?!



Come and join us at our

Annual Clothes Sale

in aid of

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Wednesday 18th March - 4 pm to 8 pm

Thursday 19th March - 10 am to 2 pm

Hazeland Mill, Bremhill, Calne, SN11 9LJ

For further details or to donate clothes
please email: jennie@hazelandmill.co.uk

Or call 01249 821998



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Visit our website www.acorns-preschool.org.uk,

Email us on acornspreschool.2009@googlemail.com or

Call us on **07816 280 810**.



ACORNS REPORT

Over the past month the children have been very busy in the woods, making bird feeders and building habitats for mini beasts. To tie in with this, we have been reading the Gruffalo and making Gruffalo faces from natural materials. The children were most excited to go on a worm hunt and to utilize the new homemade wormery!

The children have also been exploring Light and Dark. They have played with twinkly lights and glow in the dark pictures and we then extended this play by setting up a dark tent and making a light box. To add a little magic to their imagination, the children also made their own fairies. We have had the use of an overhead projector to make shadows and tell stories.

Finally, we have transferred to a new way of recording the children's learning using Tapestry, an online Learning Journal. This resource will give parents/carers an option to view their children's learning at leisure and to have a greater input by uploading and posting their own observations.

The toddler group continues to run on a Friday morning in Christian Malford Village Hall, from 9.45 am to 11.45 am, all welcome.





Emergency First Aid At Work

Sunday 12th April 2015



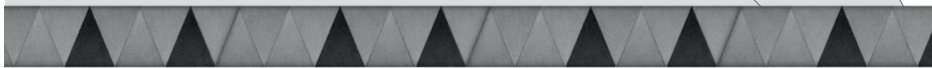
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- Treatment of an unconscious casualty
- Health and safety (first aid) regulation



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FRIENDS OF ST MARTIN'S REPORT

A fantastic evening at the Wine and Cheese Promises Auction was had by all at the Long Barn, Bremhill courtesy of Richard and Caroline Dutton.

About 60 attended and we raised a total of £4200, the promises being auctioned in grand style by Mr Tim Church. We thank him for his efforts. Thanks also to the ladies who supplied the food for the buffet.

Most of all we would like to thank anyone who put in a promise and those who purchased them.

At the end of the evening we presented a cheque for £600 for North Wiltshire holiday Club for children. This was received by Carol Kyte. We also presented a cheque for £2000 to the PCC to be put towards the church maintenance.

We can now look forward hopefully to a fine summer putting up the marquee.

Terry Satchell - Chairman



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ONCE IN A LIFETIME CHARITY -10 YEARS ON

Colin and Rosemarie Bray from Pewsham started a charity which has built schools and helped over 600 families in remote Sri Lankan villages since the devastating Tsunami.

This is their story...

On Boxing Day 2004 the Tsunami hit the East and South Coast of Sri Lanka. At the time, in the UK, we were having a coffee with two friends who had just returned from Colombo. Almost on a whim we decided to start a Charity to help the people who had been so devastated by the Tsunami and ONCE IN A LIFETIME was born. Within 3 months of setting it up we had witnessed the devastation first hand. The waves had travelled many miles inland causing great loss of life and damage.



The Charity was up and running and since that time, ten years ago, we have progressed a long way. We support by helping the very poor and needy in the rural areas where most of the families live in mud huts with no facilities. They have seasonal jobs, mainly working in the paddy fields.

We saw the effect of the War and made several trips to the East, where we observed many convoys of armoured cars and buses on their way to the Front. We were often subjected to interrogation, searches and vehicle checks. Leaving the roads was dangerous on occasions as there were land mines. However, we were more frightened of the erratic bus drivers chasing each other for fares. Thankfully the war is now over but the bus drivers are still there and their driving has not improved!

In ten years we have visited and supported many Orphanages, Children's Homes and Elders' Homes. We have built 5 schools and helped many others with, for example, new roofs, building materials and poultry stock. Over 600 families have been helped to improve their lives and we have sponsored children who were orphaned - the list of completed projects is extensive. All our work is very hands-on.

We have lost count of the number of times we have travelled to Sri Lanka - all at our own expense so that charitable funds can be used to maximum effect.





We know the country well and the number of miles covered must be approaching 30,000. The rains can be horrendous during the monsoon season and on a couple of occasions the roads were more like waterways. Driving around is slow with the maximum travel that we can achieve in one day about 80 miles. The tuc-tucs, old lorries, hand-carts, tractors, buses all cause congestion and in the countryside we are frequently slowed up by potholes and unmade tracks.

True, we have shed many tears but we have had many laughs too. We are proud of the fact that we have achieved and seen so much and have grown to love Sri Lanka and its people who manage a smile through all adversity. For further information please contact: colin@pewshamhouse.co.uk or have a look at our website www.oialcharity.org



CHRISTIAN MALFORD & FOXHAM WI

Our February meeting was a great evening with lively Susan Howe who entertained us on her topic of 'Animals in the Lives of their Famous Owners'. Florence Nightingale always carried an owl in her pocket, which she had rescued from being tortured. The Duke of Wellington rode his beloved horse throughout the Battle of Waterloo and designed a monument to him in St.Paul's. Oscar Wilde took his pet lobster for walks around Oxford. If you were there you would know if these were fact or fiction!



It was agreed to give £1000 from our share of the Christian Malford Bonfire profit to the 'Christian Malford Village Hall Rebuild Fund'.

On 19th March at 7.30 in the Christian Malford Village Hall we will welcome Sharon Howlett telling us about Nature's Gift.....Aloe'. It has been used in herbal medicine since the beginning of the first century and has many rejuvenating, healing, and soothing properties. Also during the evening we will have our AGM.

Please remember that we welcome any new ladies. Come and join us, and make new friends. All our information and club activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.

Contact Jenny - 01249 740950



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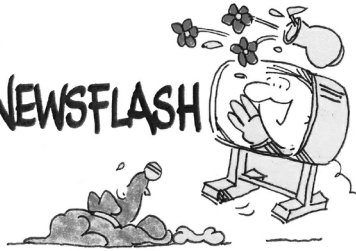
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NEWS FROM BREMHILL PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd of February, there were two issues in particular that evoked considerable debate and concern. One of which was the potential development in the West of the Parish to accommodate up to 2,600 new homes and employment land. Wiltshire Council will made their own intentions public on the 22nd Feb*. The other was the application by The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) to Discharge Condition 6 (noise mitigation for the rifle range) at Lyneham.

In her Blog of the 2nd of February 2015, Allison Bucknell, Wiltshire Councillor for Lyneham, wrote the following which explains this Discharge Application in some detail:

Discharge of conditions

A submission of a Discharge of Conditions application is not an application for development requiring planning permission. However, a grant of planning permission may be subject to conditions. Such conditions usually relate to a matter of fine detail since the key elements of the development are already approved. While it may be possible for the local planning authority to impose a condition making a very minor modification to the development permitted, a condition that modifies the development in such a way as to make it substantially different from that set out in the application should not be used.

The Wiltshire Council officer dealing with this planning application decided that as this is a matter of considerable local interest, he would share with local residents. This is NOT a new planning application and cannot be refused, but the matter of detail can be commented upon and adjustments made as necessary.

It was disappointing that despite much of our Parish bordering Lyneham, Bremhill Parish Council were not informed about this application. There are several key issues that have been brought to our attention by Parishioners in surrounding Parishes that are of particular concern to us:

- a. Testing was restricted to firing blank rounds from an SA-80 rifle. Earlier documents submitted by MoD referred to plans to use heavier weaponry such as machine guns and AK47 assault rifles on the range. The DIO should





therefore be asked either to confirm that only SA-80 rifles, firing blank rounds, are to be used, or, if it is still the intention to use other weapons on the range, that they intend to carry out full and proper of noise tests to cover these also.

- b. The DIO have not provided any data to show that firing blank rounds as used in their tests produces the same noise levels as live rounds and should be asked to do so if they wish to continue to rely on the test results.
- c. The DIO report is lengthy, detailed and highly technical and to an uninformed reader and for the layman, impossible to evaluate. This is particularly important in terms of the effectiveness of the mitigating measures proposed by DIO to limit noise. In the case of a similar MoD report, Wiltshire Council's Environmental Health Officer conducted and published an independent assessment. Unless this is done in the present case, there is no real possibility of a proper cross-check. Will the EHO be producing an assessment for us to see before any final decision is made?
- d. Level of noise, per se, is clearly not the only issue, since what may be acceptable during the working day may depend on frequency of usage and may in any case be wholly unacceptable overnight or at weekends. This in turn will affect the assessment of what mitigating measures are needed.

On the 7th January the Parish Council sent an email copying the application letter and full report to the Parishioners who had previously expressed concern about possible future excessive noise from the Technical Training College. Furthermore, an email was sent to the Wiltshire Council Officer dealing with this application expressing our disappointment at the lack of consultation.

Members of the Parish Council fully support the creation of the Technical Training College but we need to be properly informed by Wiltshire Council in a timely manner on such matters, and reassured that the questions posed above are answered.

Bremhill Parish Council

* There is a 6 week consultation period (from 22/2/15) referring to the development east of Chippenham, near Tytherton Lucas.
Details are on the Wiltshire Council website





MORE CHILDHOOD MEMORIES!

I loved reading about Judy's childhood memory. It made me remember my own memories of a childhood long since lived in a forgotten age. So here are a few of them.

My mother was brought up in a large country house in Dorset where there were at least a dozen staff below stairs and dozens more who worked on the estate. As children we would visit every Christmas. If you were under 12 you spent the day in the nursery upstairs overseen by uniformed Nannies. You were invited down to tea in your 'best' dress and sat at the children's round table in the corner of a vast dining-room. On occasion, after tea, you were allowed into the drawing room to sit quietly as my Grandfather's golden rule was that children may be seen but not heard! All other meals were taken with the staff in a room down two flights of stairs, deep in the basement. I remember the cooks in their tall chef's hats and the butlers in their best bib and tucker, not quite Downton-style but not far off it, with many maids answering bells that rang from all the different rooms upstairs!

Christmas was magical and it was a day spent 'upstairs' – stockings on our parents bed in the morning, church and then lunch and, at 2 pm exactly (dressed in your Sunday best), we trooped into Drawing Room No. 2. Everything in there appeared to be made of pure gold, everything shone and glittered and at the end of this vast room stood a Tree about 20ft tall complete with 'real' candles which my Grandmother would out before we started on the presents.

However, my memories aren't all golden – the nights were a very different matter. The drawing room floor was adorned with large lion skins complete with scary open-jawed heads exposing a mouth full of razor sharp teeth and glass eyes that shone in the light. There were over a dozen suits of armour that stood on the stairs that led up to the Armoury. Inside, more armour and an array of ancient guns, swords, shields, assegais and tusks, brought back from the colonies, adorned the walls. There were stags heads that lined most of the downstairs corridors – all this was enough to make me jump into my bed from at least a couple of feet away as I imagined there might just be more lions lurking in the shadows beneath! It was the only place where I would sleep-walk and I often ended up at the end of someone else's bed! My






dreams (or rather nightmares!) also frequently included lions chasing me. I remember telling my mother years later how terrified I had been sleeping there; she was horrified and so sorry that she hadn't given it any thought – but of course, she had grown up in an age where it must have been like that in every country house across the land!

It was a bygone era but I look back and feel lucky to have these memories which provide a snapshot of what life was like both sides of the green baize door. These kind of memories are now consigned to the history books.

Julia King



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Royal Marine Private JAMES HENRY SUMMERS

Marine PO/16698

**Born: 16th August 1895 at Stanley - Died: 11th March 1915
at Sea aboard HMS Bayano**

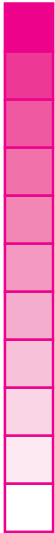
James was born at Stanley and joined the Royal Marines based at Portsmouth aged 16 years in July 1912 after a short time working as a farm labourer at Stanley with his father Joseph. He was one of a large family of 10 and many of his siblings' descendants still live locally. After the outbreak of war in October 1914 he was sent to join the Marines contingent aboard a newly-converted armed merchant cruiser. This was a requisitioned 6000 ton banana carrier, now named HMS Bayano, and fitted with 2.6 inch guns but very little other armament. Early in the morning of 11th March, 1915, HMS Bayano was nearly at her destination of Liverpool when U Boat U27 launched torpedoes at her without warning and with devastating results. Most of the crew and marines were trapped below decks when the lightly armed ship turned over and quickly sank. Only 26 crew survived and another 197 died, including James Summers, whose body was never found. A few of the bodies were recovered in Scotland and the Isle of Man, but most were never found.

James' grandfather, George Summers was a local Bremhill lad who became one of London's first policemen serving at Hoxton in "N" Division. James father (1872-1948) was born in London but moved back to Wiltshire with the family when his father left the police force.

The U27 continued sinking British ships until she herself was sunk by a British Q ship later in September 1915 by HMS Baralong, who was flying the USA flag at the time which led to a major diplomatic incident and gave the Germans unrestricted submarine warfare for the rest of the war.

NB: The research for this article indicates the difficulty of sorting through so many records which often conflict in their transcription. Getting details and dates correct is often challenging.





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SMALL THOUGHTS OF A LARGE CLERGYMAN

If you were to ask a scientist what laughter is, he/she might well give you a very scientific answer: "a laugh is an abrupt, strong expiration, followed by a series of expiratory-inspiratory microcycles, superimposed upon the larger expiratory movements; the mouth is opened, the teeth are bared, and there is a generalized tremor, sometimes amounting to a convulsion."

Sounds ridiculous doesn't it - but there was a time when no court of any king was complete without its clown, its buffoon. He could get away with anything, interrupt, poke fun, ridicule - and yet be rewarded, as long as he made his noble audience laugh. Nowadays, of course, we have their modern equivalent, the comedian. And on April 1st we have an All Fools Day too, for the puncturing of pomposity, the cutting down to size - showing another side of being human. Because men and women are not only animals who reflect and pray, but also the only animals who laugh.

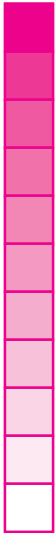
Within our rather sombre, often frightening world, comedians help to keep alive the spirit of carnival and fun. They serve us and society by feeding society's capacity to laugh at itself, the capacity to enjoy. Of course they will claim that they are very serious people and take their work seriously, but not too seriously I hope. And they can't if they claim the spirit of carnival, for that very word means the loosening of reins, indulgence, cocking a snook (although I'm not too sure what a snook is). Comedians, clowns, represent that other side of human nature, which has the capacity not only to laugh, but to laugh at itself

We should be grateful for those who help us to laugh. They remind us that among the brutalities and trivialities of the world, man is a creature who can laugh. We laugh because absurdity is the other side of dignity. And the dignity of man lies in the purpose God has for him. It's God's wish to share his life with us. He entered our lives in the person of Jesus. And in the person of Jesus he took the very stuff of our humanity and gave it a dignity above all else in creation. More than this, he gave us the capacity for joy - not the empty laughter of fools, but the deep joy which comes from the heart of God himself, in fact, for those prepared to be fools for the sake of Christ.

So - keep smiling ! God bless you all.

Jim Scott





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Just like any small church we are faced with ever rising costs for heating and repairs. We are a small congregation and so far have been able to pay our way. We have just received our new Quinquennial survey report which highlights a number of repair jobs which we are expected to complete in the first year. We are very grateful for the contribution made to our church by the organisers of the Tytherton Fun Ride. This, plus our giving and the social events we hold, helps to pay the bills.

With fundraising in mind, we have organized a skittles evening in Tytherton Village Hall on Saturday 21st March, starting at 7pm. We will have prizes for the highest scoring man and woman, plus a booby prize for the lowest score of the evening. A ploughman's supper will be served half-way and, of course, the bar will be open. Tickets are £5.00 each, obtainable from Sheila (01249 740687) or Elizabeth (01249 660235). If you fancy polishing up your skills with skittles, come and join us for a fun evening.

Sheila Laurence





ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH. Foxham

1 March	9.30 am	E. Hannah
2 nd Sunday of Lent	Holy Communion	Romans 4: 13-end
8 March	9.30 am	M. Kellond
3 rd Sunday of Lent	Family Service	Exodus 20: 1-17
15 March	9.30 am	D. Milligan
4 th Sunday of Lent	Family Service	Exodus 2: 1-10
22 March	6 pm	R. Pegler
5 th Sunday of Lent	Evensong	Jeremiah 31: 31-34
MOTHERING SUNDAY		John 12:20-33
29 March	9.30 am	D. Scott
PALM SUNDAY	Family Service	Mark 11: 1-11
(A donkey will be visiting the Service)		
5 April	9.30 am	D. Wilton
EASTER DAY	Family Communion	Acts 10: 34-43

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For any information (Weddings, Funerals, Christenings and Special services)
 Contact: Rev. Ann Massey 01249 817926 ea.massey@btinternet.com
 Rev. Jim Scott 01249 813114 jim@bremhill.com





ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

	Service	Sidesmen	Readers
1 st Mar Lent 2	8 am Holy Communion 4 pm Evensong	N Jordan A Woods & D Kyte	Genesis 17:1-7 & 15-16 Mark Kyte Mark 8: 31- end Judy Scott
8 th Mar Lent 3	11 am Holy Communion	B & P Rawlings	1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 Francis Pearson
15 th Mar Lent 4	4 pm Evensong Mothering Sunday	A Jones & L Jones	Luke 2: 33-35 A Mother
22 nd Mar Lent 5	9.30 am Family Service	Children	John 12: 20-23 A young person
29 th Mar Palm Sunday	11 am Liturgy of The Passion	D Stevens & K Blackmore	Readers to be announced
3 rd April Good Friday	2-3 pm Good Friday	Meditation	
5 th April Easter Sunday	Holy Communion 2-3 pm Good Friday	Meditation	

ST NICHOLAS, TYTHERTON LUCAS

Sunday 1 March	Morning Service	10 am	MG
Sunday 8 March	Eucharist	8.30 am	JS
Sunday 15 March	Mattins	10 am	BP
Sunday 22 March	Evening Prayer	6.30 pm	RK
Sunday 29 March	Eucharist	8.30 am	RK
Sunday 5 April	Eucharist	8.30 am	JS





ST MARTIN'S NOTICES

The next PCC Meeting is on 25th March 2015 at The Manor, Bremhill and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on 15th April 2015 in St Martin's Church, both at 7.30 pm

Help with Churchyard mowing. If you have an hour or two spare and would be prepared to do a bit of grass cutting or strimming, please contact Nicol Jordan on 01249 812083. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Church Cleaning Rota. If you can find an hour or two to help clean the Church or polish the Brass, please put your name down as a volunteer. It will be much appreciated. Please bring your own cleaning materials, but there is a fine vacuum cleaner at the back of the Church

Devizes Mobile Library calls at Naish House Farm, Spirthill, on every other Monday afternoon at 2 pm - 2.30 pm - 9th March 2015. There is also a library in Church, of course - just put 20p in the Fabric Collection Box and the book is yours. The books are all in two bookcases and in author alphabetical order!

If you have any items of local Church or Village News for the April 2015 edition of this Newsletter, please give them to either Derek Kyte (815073) or to Jane Jordan (812083) in time for the 8th March 2015 deadline. Thank you.



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A poem learnt at school can often become a friend for life. Here is one.

THE LISTENERS

By Walter de La Mare

'Is anybody there?' said the Traveller,
Knocking on the moonlit door;
And his horse in the silence champed the grasses
Of the forest's ferny floor:
And a bird flew up out of the turret,
Above the Traveller's head:
And he smote upon the door a second time;
'Is there anybody there?' he said.
But no one descended to the Traveller;
No head from the leaf-fringed sill
Leaned over and looked into his grey eyes,
Where he stood perplexed and still.
But only a host of phantom listeners
That dwelt in the lone house then
Stood listening in the quiet of the moonlight
To that voice from the world of men:
Stood thronging the faint moonbeams on the dark stair,
That goes down to the empty hall,
Harkening in an air stirred and shaken
By the lonely Traveller's call.
And he felt in his heart their strangeness,
Their stillness answering his cry,
While his horse moved, cropping the dark turf,
'Neath the starred and leafy sky;
For he suddenly smote the door, even
Louder, and lifted his head: -
'Tell them I came, and no one answered,
That I kept my word,' he said.
Never the least stir made the listeners,
Though every word he spake
Fell echoing through the shadowiness of the still house
From the one man left awake:
Ay, they heard his foot upon the stirrup,
And the sound of iron on stone,
And how the silence surged softly backward,
When the plunging hoofs were gone.

Jane Jordan





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