

NOVEMBER 2018

The
HILL & VALLEY
— P A R I S H M A G A Z I N E —



Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

The Benefice of Chedworth and District

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Readers and Contributors

The production of the Hill and Valley Magazine is made possible through a combination of the articles from our contributors, our advertisers, our printers, finance team and a group of coordinators creating the magazine 10 times each year.

In order to assist the magazine coordinators we ask that articles are submitted online (not by email).

For more information please go online to the Magazine Contributors area of **www.hillandvalley.co.uk**

Business advertisers please contact Sue Robertson - 01285 720683 or **sue@robertsonmail.co.uk**

The magazine coordinator for November is Holly Sanders-Cowell (01285 720114) and for December will be Sue & Iain Robertson (01285 720683)

Please submit all articles and adverts before midday on the 15th of the month using the online system.

The HILL & VALLEY

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Holly Sanders-Cowell. Coordinator for the November edition.
Many thanks to Ivan Tommasini for this beautiful image.

Stephen's Letter

Ad Astra

"Then we who are alive... will be caught up together... in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another."

1 Thessalonians 4v17

As well as the centenary of the end of World War 1, this year it is a hundred years since the Royal Air Force was formed. The formation of the RAF was not without its problems, with skepticism about the military use of plans, opposition from the Army and Navy, not to mention the humdrum technical difficulties of early flight.

But the RAF went on to play a vital part in the Second World War, with both the heroism of the fighter pilots and the unsung courage of the bomber crews. With hard work and perseverance, the RAF was victorious in the skies, and this year we rightly celebrate the achievements of our Air Force. In the above Bible verse, St Paul reminded the Thessalonian Christians that their destiny, too, was in the skies, and that Jesus Christ was the one who would take them there, if they chose to fly with him. The Thessalonians were struggling with the boring and painful necessities of life on the ground in this world, and they couldn't wait to get airborne, and to leave this world behind.

Paul assured them that the freedom of heaven would indeed be theirs, when the time was right.

The Thessalonians weren't wrong to be focused on heaven. As human beings, we are all searching for meaning and significance beyond ourselves; evolutionary biologists believe that a distinctive human trait is the capacity for self-transcendence. Our natural instinct is to reach out and seek what is unknown, profound and exciting. We are all sky pilots at heart. And the Christian hope of heaven provides an answer to our natural human instinct to reach for the stars. The first RAF flyers were courageous in their mission to victory in the skies - let us too be brave in faith, reaching for heaven and a different way of life, through trusting in Jesus and his kingdom. Because, if we can do that then the set-backs and obstacles at ground level in our lives will be put in their true perspective. And Jesus Christ can power us to the skies, through his ministry, death and resurrection for us! To re-engineer the RAF motto: Per Christum Ad Astra. Happy flying, my friends!

With best wishes,

Stephen



Church Briefing

Services for November 2018

Sunday 4th November – All Saints/All Souls

Holy Communion

10.30 am – Coln Rogers
Commemoratin on Service
6pm – Coln St Dennis

Sunday 11th November –
Remembrance Sunday

Service of Remembrance

10.45 am – Chedworth

Thankful Communion

4pm – Coln Rogers

Sunday 18th November – Second
Sunday before Advent

Holy Communion (BCP)

9 am - Stowell School Family Service
10.30 am – Chedworth
Evensong 6 pm – Coln St Dennis

Sunday 25th November – Christ the King

Family Communion

9 am - Yanworth

Holy Communion

10.30 am - Chedworth

Sunday 2nd December – Advent Sunday

Family Communion

10.30 am – Coln St Dennis Advent
Carol Service 6pm – Coln St Dennis

Remembrance Day – 11th November

The annual **Service of Remembrance** will take place on **Sunday 11th November** at **St Andrew's Church, Chedworth** at **10.45 am**. This is an important occasion in our civic and community life to remember those who have died in previous conflicts, to thank God for the peaceful and democratic society in which we live, and to pray for future world peace.

We will be joined by members of the **Chedworth & District Royal British**

Legion, and also **Chedworth Brownies and Guides**. Those planning to parade to church should form up at the Manor Gate at 10.35 am.

Some villages in Britain – called “Thankful Villages” - suffered no casualties during World War One, and all their people returned safely. Coln Rogers is one such village and so, on the centenary of the end of World War One, there will be a special celebration in Coln Rogers. On Remembrance Day – Sunday 11th November – there will be a **Thankful Communion** at **St Andrew's Church, Coln Rogers** at **4pm**, followed

Church Briefing

by an exhibition about the villagers who served in the war at the **Coln Valley Village Hall** at 5pm.

St Andrew's Day Ceilidh – 24th November

Join us for the **St Andrew's Day Ceilidh** on **Saturday 24th November** at **Chedworth Village Hall** - a whole-village family fun event to brighten up those dark winter nights!

Join us for an evening of superbly choreographed Scottish dancing (no previous experience necessary!) with ceilidh band, **Hetty Pegler's Tump**, as well as a delicious Scottish buffet! This event is jointly organised by **St Andrews Church** and **St Andrew's School PTA**.

Tickets available from:

Jon Francis 720974

Email: tiggershouse003@gmail.com,

Sheila Bowley 720369 or

St Andrew's School Office 720427.

Advent Messy Service

This year, our **Advent Messy Service** will take place at **St Andrew's Church, Chedworth** on **Sunday 10th December** at 4pm. All welcome! Refreshments served afterwards.

Advance Notice – Hot Desk!

Look out for the **Hot Desk!** somewhere in Chedworth at some time during the autumn. Free gift for the first adult (and child) to visit the desk....

Baptisms

The church has always understood that the baptism (christening) of a child is the beginning of a relationship with God – and with the church. Furthermore, the recent Diocese of Gloucester *Vision* consultation has found most unsolicited enquiries to local churches from people in the 30-44 age group (a group that is under-represented in the church) are baptism enquiries.

The Diocese has therefore asked parishes to consider how they can improve their procedures around baptism, and our ministry team has given this careful consideration. Unlike larger churches, we do not have the resources to do intensive training/preparation for families seeking baptism, but we would like to get to know families better.

Consequently, we would like to invite families who are resident in the Hill & Valley Parishes to attend a family-style service (Family Service, Tea Time Service or Family Communion) in the parishes, if they have not already done so, prior to the baptism. Please contact Stephen if you have any queries.

Chedworth Community Land Charity

The Chedworth Community Land Charity is a charity whose objective is to provide assistance to people in

Chedworth parish facing particular urgent health or welfare needs or financial hardship. The Trustees consist of the Rector and two parish council nominees. The Chedworth Community Land Charity has helped various parishioners over the last few years, and invites applications from individuals in Chedworth facing urgent need or hardship. To apply, please contact Rev'd Stephen Goundrey-Smith (720392) or Bryan Bowley (720369). All applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence.



Wreath Laying Pancake Hill - 11 November

Please note that Simon Colbeck will be laying the wreath at the Pancake Hill War Memorial at **10.00 am on 11 November**, not at 11.00 as usual, because of the Remembrance Service in Chedworth church on the same



Finding out more about God in creative ways.

For 4-11 year olds

Every 4th Sunday of the month

10.15-11.30 am

In Parish Room at The Vicarage, Chedworth

Phone Sally on 720285 to book a place

sally.smith237@yahoo.co.uk

Dates for your Diary

Day	Time	Event	Venue
02-Nov	19:30	Back Row Club "American Sniper"	Village Hall
05-Nov	18:30	Bonfire, Fireworks & BBQ	Yanworth Village Hall
06-Nov	14:00-17:00	Bridge with afternoon tea in aid of St Peter's Church, Rendcomb	Rendcomb Village Hall
09-Nov	19:00	RBL Remembrance Concert	Cirencester Parish Church
09-Nov	19:30	Back Row Club "The Mountain between Us"	Village Hall
10-Nov	19:30	Chedworth Remembers Concert	Village Hall
11-Nov	10:45	Remembrance Day Service	St Andrews Church
11-Nov	12:00	Remembrance Sunday Curry Lunch	Village Hall
12-Nov	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
14-Nov	19:15	WI - AGM and party	Village Hall
21-Nov	14:30-16:30	Elderberries - Willow Weaving by Allison Oldershaw	Village Hall
22-Nov		HortSoc AGM	
24-Nov	18:30	St Andrew's Day Ceilidh	Village Hall
27-Nov	10:15-11:45	Mobile Library	Village Hall car park
28-Nov	19:30	"Seasons Greetings" performed by Chedworth Drama Group	Village Hall
29-Nov	19:30	"Seasons Greetings" performed by Chedworth Drama Group	Village Hall
30-Nov	19:30	"Seasons Greetings" performed by Chedworth Drama Group	Village Hall
01-Dec	19:30	"Seasons Greetings" performed by Chedworth Drama Group	Village Hall
07-Dec	18:00	The Little Match Girl' performed by The Last Baguette	Village Hall
10-Dec	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
12-Dec	19:15	WI - talk on A Long Walk To Rome	Village Hall
14-Dec	19:30	Back Row Club "Florence Foster Jenkins"	Village Hall
19-Dec		Elderberries - Christmas Lunch at Dobbies	Village Hall
26-Jan	0.8125	Swingin at the Speakeasy with The After Hours Quintet	Village Hall
10-Feb	13:39	The Grahams concert (authentic Nashville sound)	Village Hall
30-Mar	14:00	WI Jumble Sale	Village Hall

See www.hillandvalley.co.uk for more dates of events

Recycling Dates

Domestic Waste & Recycling

**Chedworth Area,
Fossebridge,
Coln St Dennis,
Coln Rogers**

Yanworth



November 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Turn your event into an occasion at

Chedworth Village Hall

Visit our website for full details including making
booking enquiries

chedworthvillagehall.co.uk



St. Andrew's C of E Primary School



St Andrew's C of E Primary School
School Lane
Chedworth
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL54 4AJ

T: 01285 720427

E: head@st-andrews.gloucs.sch.uk

W: www.st-andrewsschool.co.uk

Head: Mrs A Fitch BA (Cantab), PGCE

Please join us at one of our upcoming

Open School Events

For reception intake in September 2019

We also have limited places in some other year groups
available if required

7 November 2018

St Andrew's School Open Morning
9.00 - 11.30am

8 November 2018

St Andrew's School Open Evening
5.30 - 7.30pm

Great adventures have taken place with the landing of a space station in Pre-School! Our little astronauts have been busy visiting other planets before flying back down to Earth!

Thank you very much to the kind family, who recently donated a large bag of dressing up clothes - they are wonderful and much appreciated and being enjoyed daily!



At Pre-School we encourage all children

For more information please take a look at our website

www.chedworthpreschool.co.uk

Contact Sarah 07840 370220 or email
chedworthpreschool@gmail.com

Remembering

Remembering the end of World War One

This year Remembrance Sunday (11th November) marks the centenary of the end of World War One. Of the 65 million men who were mobilised, 8.5 million were killed and a further 21 million wounded. Wilfred Owen wrote of those *'who die as cattle.'*

How should we celebrate this anniversary? In remembering the Armistice, our response should be to desire Micah's vision of universal peace in our world: *'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.'* (Micah 4:3).

However, why keep asking God for peace, when we continue to see such violence and unrest in our world? The Bible makes it clear that peace is not just the absence of war or being untroubled. It means being in a right relationship with God through Jesus

Christ, with other people and with wider society.

Of course, Micah's words are looking to end of time when God will make all things new in His universal kingdom. However, these promises also can speak to us now. The ministry of Jesus demonstrated the kingdom or reign of God breaking into the everyday, as He healed the sick and brought reconciliation and hope. When we pray for peace, we're rejecting the 'old order of things', of violence and war and asking God to make His kingdom real today. We're citizens of the new kingdom, reshaping the old.

The end of the centenary of World War 1 is a time to consider peace. Although the war did not bring a lasting peace to the world, for the Christian there's a deeper lesson: peace begins with the healing of hearts, the restoring of relationships and with a deep, costly commitment to justice.

Chedworth Brownies and Guides



It's been a busy term at Brownies and Guides!

Firstly thank you so much to all of you who supported our recent Entrees and Exits Fundraiser. We raised £230 which will go towards new programme materials and resources.

We were so proud of all the girls who made a wonderful array of starters and puddings and did a great job of serving them all on the night. The girls have also embraced community service by volunteering at both the Chedworth Games and the Chedworth Show to help both the church and the school.

Secondly a huge thank you to Pete Heaps for coming along and donating £2170 to the Brownies and Guides. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to this. The money will be put towards taking the girls on camping and residential trips to give them a range of new experiences – watch this space for more news!

The Brownies have been getting to grips with map reading and compass skills; they particularly enjoyed putting these into practice on a walk around the village! The girls have also learnt some cooking skills and had lots of fun making pinwheels for the fundraiser.

Guides continues to be very successful. We have enjoyed lots of cooking and eating this term! To prepare for our fundraiser we held our very own bake off competition where the girls were challenged to create a variety of puddings – lemon cheesecake, chocolate mousse, pavlova and berry crumbles. It was a very close competition

but the mousse proved a popular winner! We continued our cooking theme in a more healthy fashion by making energy balls. In preparation for Remembrance Sunday 2 of our older girls shared some stories from their recent trip to the World War 1 battlefields. We then joined with the Brownies to make Remembrance Rocks. In addition to this we have had the usual mix of games, chat and activities. Both Brownies and Guides particularly enjoyed taking hot chocolate outside in the dark and then recreating the October night sky constellations with glow sticks – it did look very pretty!

If you have a daughter between the ages of 7-10 (Brownies) or 10-14 (Guides) who would like to join us please register your interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk (Join Us) Younger girls are also invited to join the waiting list. For further details please contact Sally Smith (sally.smith237@yahoo.co.uk) or Sarah Fulford (slfulford@btinternet.com)

Remembrance Sunday

Curry Lunch - 11 November

Chedworth
Village Hall
12 noon

Sponsored by Chedworth
& District RBL

Curry and pudding provided by
Claire Booth

Tickets £10 per head,
and the bar will be open.

Payment for the meal will be taken on the door, but
to gauge numbers for catering, please book your
meal(s) with Simon Colbeck by 9th November

Email: simoncolbeck@msn.com
or Tel : 01285 720146

Chedworth Parish Council

Your chance to tell Thames what you think

If you are fed up with turning on the tap and no water coming out or with being told by Thames Water customer services that they are not aware of a problem despite knowing that your neighbours have also called them, then come along to our next meeting.

The company's Area Representative, Huw Thomas, is coming to answer questions and explain why they have so many problems keeping our water supply going.

Councillors can ask questions on your behalf but it will have far more impact if he has to face a crowd of villagers explaining how repeated interruptions in supply disrupt your lives.

Councillors

Ros Jess (Chairman)	720248
David Broad (Vice-Chairman)	720313
George Broad	720313
Matt Fulford	721134
Ian Morgan	720885
Clive Poulton	720690
Iain Robertson	720683

To contact the Council, email the clerk, Elizabeth Broad (clerk@chedworth-pc.org.uk), or call her on 720313, or get in touch with any of the councillors directly.

For more information check out our website <http://chedworthpc.org.uk>

The discussion will take place at 7.00pm on 12th November before our normal monthly meeting.

Verges benefit from first cut

The council has taken the first step towards restoring the village's verges and hopefully replacing nettles and brambles with grass and wild flowers.

Our contractor has carried a trial full width cut which has been broadly successful. The only hiccup being the unexpectedly large amount of cuttings which were produced.

Advice from the experts had been that these could be spread at the back of the verge but because there was so much this was not possible and instead they have been piled up and are to be removed. It is hoped that future cuts will not produce so much waste.

Restoring the verges is a long-term project but councillors agreed that even after just one cut the verges were already looking better.

Councillors act to help Drama Group

The council has agreed to help Chedworth Drama Group with its storage issues.

Following last month's meeting when we rejected a proposal for a metal storage container to be located on parish land near the mobile phone pole, we have

Chedworth Parish Council

given our support to the idea of a more agricultural type wooden building to house the group's scenery, props, etc.

A meeting will now take place between the drama group and councillors to move the proposal along.

Maybe they should be called 'Didn't Notice Boards!'

The large fallen branch from the Copper Beech at the top of Tuns Hill has sparked a debate about the future of noticeboards in the village!

The tree broke the Jubilee board when it fell and some councillors queried whether the boards we have around the village were necessary when so many events were publicised via social media.

In an effort to gauge how important villagers think the noticeboards are, the council put notices on the five boards around the village asking for anyone who valued them to get in touch – we had THREE responses!

Despite this, many councillors felt that the boards were an important part of the village and have agreed that the one at the top of Tuns Hill will be repaired and that others around the village will remain. It was also agreed that along with the one at the top of Tuns Hill, the boards at the Hemplands and the Village Hall would be retained in the long term.

In brief

The Lower End Chapel graveyard has been cut in line with our new management plan and is looking tidier than it has for many years.

The village's Emergency Planning document has been updated following last winter's bad weather and will soon be ready to be re-issued.

The grit bins paid for jointly by the parish and county councils are now filled and ready for what winter has to throw at us.

The parish council's contractor is due to be carrying out a cut of overgrown hedges around the village and we have also written to home owners whose vegetation is encroaching on the carriageway.

The council continues to oppose proposals to reroute footpaths at Hartshill.

The gate and slip rail onto the playing field are to be padlocked to prevent unauthorised vehicles from causing damage

Ros Jess

To contact the council, email the clerk, Elizabeth Broad (clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk), or call her on 720313. You can also contact any of the councillors direct.

The is no planet B

C of E warns: there is 'no Planet B'

The Church of England is continuing to voice its concern over climate change.

Following news that the summer of 2018 was the hottest on record in England, and the UK's joint warmest overall, The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, the Church of England's lead bishop for Environmental Affairs, said:

'It is becoming difficult for even the most resolute of deniers to ignore the devastating impact of climate change.

While in the UK this has meant an uncomfortably warm summer, elsewhere people are already dying, crops are threatened, marine and land ecosystems are dying out and climate change is affecting everyone, no country is escaping unscathed.

'We have a narrow window where it is not too late to do something about climate change, and to protect God's creation for generations to come.

But we must act decisively, and act now, as individuals, communities, countries and as a global family.

There is no Planet B.'



Chedworth Village Hall



Survey Results

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank all those who kindly took the time to complete the recent Village Hall Survey.

50 survey forms were completed, representing about 8% of the village's population.

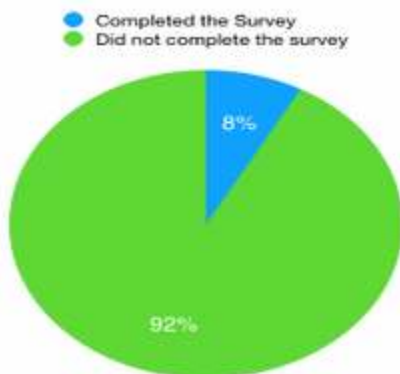
Some examples of the responses were:

Villagers have used the Village Hall for:

- Birthday party
- Brownies
- Chedworth Roman Trail
- Chedworth Show
- Classes
- Concerts
- Dance
- Drama Group
- Elderberries
- Film Show
- First aid
- Friends party
- Keep fit
- National Trust Meeting
- Parish Council Meeting
- Pre-school
- Probus
- Royal British Legion
- Tennis Tournaments
- Voting
- WI

Why is the Village Hall a valuable asset:

- Brings community together
- Centre of entertainment
- Community focus
- Essential dedicated building for meetings, Pre-school and social events
- Essential village resource
- Every community should have one good meeting place
- Important venue for village activities



Chedworth Remembers Concert



Saturday 10 November 2018

Chedworth Village Hall - 7.30pm

The concert marking the centenary of the end of WW1, will feature readings about local people and events, music played by the Chedworth Silver Band, a compendium of songs by children from St Andrews School and songs performed by the Chedworth Singers.

The doors and Bar will open at 6.30 and a meal which is included in the ticket price will be served at half time. Tickets will only be available in advance on first come first served basis, so book early to ensure that you have a meal.

Last orders 7 November

Tickets £15 each

Cheques payable to RBL Chedworth/ or on line to Bank
Sort: 30 92 06 / Account No . 00038677 an be obtained from:
Heather Brown 01285 720280 / heatherbrowndotcom@icloud.com
Or anyone selling tickets or her behalf.

*Profits will go to the
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal*



Your gardening tips

For November 2018

Now is the time to put the garden to bed for the winter. You will be wrapping up against the cold weather and so tender plants should be brought into the greenhouse or wrapped up to protect against frosts. Feed your garden birds

Continue to clear up fallen leaves regularly to make compost. Best shredded through the mower or blower/shredder to help break down the leaf structure and add manure!

Cover brassicas against pigeon attack

Insulate outdoor containers with fleece hessian or bubble wrap.

If not already done, tie grease bands around trunks of fruit trees against winter moth damage.

Prune roses to prevent wind-rock.

Plant tulips, and this your last chance to plant winter bedding plants such as wallflowers, forget-me-nots, primulas and pansies.

Keep weeds in check. Mulch with compost, and where space allows, cover the ground with a membrane to suppress weeds. Check for slug eggs.

Cut down faded herbaceous perennials and ornamental grasses. This still time to lift and divide overgrown clumps of herbaceous perennials.

Lift and store dahlias, cannas and tuberous bedding begonias, after the first frost.

Mature dahlias can be left to overwinter in the ground as long as temperatures do not fall too far below freezing point. Cut down to the base this month and protect well with a thick layer of mulch.

Still time in early November, to sow broad beans, winter lettuce, garlic, onions and spinach for early cropping next year

Deciduous hedging can be planted bare rooted, throughout the winter, but best when the soil is not too hard. Guard against squirrels and deer gnawing the bark.

This a good time to plant roses, avoiding areas where roses have previously grown.

Shrubs normally pruned hard in the spring, such as Buddleia, Cornus and Lavatera, can be cut back by half, to prevent wind rock and neaten their appearance.

If lawns need to be mowed, set the cutter 1.5 inches above the ground to avoid stressing the grass. After the final mow, clean and dry the mower and drain the fuel as it will not keep. Service the mower!

If your lawn is showing small patches of yellowing drying grass which appear to be expanding, this may be evidence of a Fusarium patch or 'snow mould'. To prevent the fungus developing, avoid putting high doses of nitrogen on the lawn after late summer, but iron sulphite (moss-killer) will help. Ensure the lawn dries rapidly after heavy rain or dew by spiking. The only suitable fungicide available to amateur gardeners is trifloxystrobin (Bayer Garden Disease Control)

Clean out water butts, as they will soon fill up again, but be careful to drain any with taps if deep freezing weather is forecast, or the tap joint may crack.

Do not apply fertilizer in the garden as it will not be taken up by plants

Cover temporarily unused ground with a membrane or black polythene to prevent nutrients being washed away and rogue seeds settling to germinate.

Hopefully all those who wanted it have had enough 'HORTSOC' compost to last until the spring when another delivery will be ordered

Give yourself a spring treat.

This is a beautiful daffodil, hyacinth and *polyanthus* bulb mix. You'll need two different types of daffodil, one smaller variety such as 'Ice Follies' and one larger variety such as Narcissus 'Hawera'. Get a decent-sized container about 45 cm (18in) in diameter. Add drainage material at the bottom and fill with compost. Arrange five or so of your larger daffodils in the centre and encircle them with some of the smaller ones. Then dot your hyacinths and *Polyanthus* around the edges. Come spring, you'll have a beautiful yellow-themed display.

Simon Colbeck

*Chairman Chedworth & District
HORTSOC*

On October 10th, nearly a full house of WI members were entertained by an excellent speaker, The Rev Dr Nicholas Henderson.

His talk was titled 'Fortitude and Fancy' and he spoke of the lives of the two Tudor Queens, Catherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn. Nicholas showed slides of the Historical characters and events and interlaced them with slides of the talented actors that had played the two Queens and Henry VIII ie Keith Michel and Damian Lewis.

The talk included Tudor music and the Nursery Rhyme

*I had a little nut tree
Nothing would it bear,
But a silver nutmeg
And a golden pear.*

*The King of Spain's Daughter
Came to visit me
And all for the sake
Of my little Nut tree.*

The origin and meaning that it referred to Henry VIII's and Catherine of Aragon's problems of producing an heir.

Nicholas, cleverly put the music on and the words on the screen and we all sang tunelessly with a touch of amusement.

Everyone enjoyed the evening especially the few Guests and two new members were welcomed.

The next meeting is the Annual Dinner with a short AGM on Wednesday November 14th at 7.15pm.

Carol Bailey

Remembering Enid Blyton

Enid Blyton, one of the most successful children's writers of the 20th century, died 50 years ago this month, on 28th November 1968. She wrote more than 760 books.

She was born in 1897 and as a baby nearly died of whooping cough. Although best known for her *Noddy* books and the *Famous Five* series, she also wrote poetry and longer stories and articles of various kinds.

A trained teacher, she felt she had to provide readers with a strong moral framework, though her own family

relationships were not straightforward. She cut off contact with her parents and divorced her first husband, and one of her daughters wrote harshly of her as a mother.

Her work became controversial from the 1950s, being banned by some libraries and schools and the BBC because of a perceived lack of literary merit – as well as accusations of elitism, sexism and racism. But they continue to be best-sellers: Blyton herself said she was not interested in the views of any critics over the age of 12.

Backrow Club

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St Andrew's Day Ceilidh

Saturday 24th November
Chedworth Village Hall

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In aid of St Andrew's Church and School

Bonfire, Fireworks
and BBQ at Yanworth
Village Hall

Monday 5th November
2018
at 6.30 pm

A collection will be made in
aid of local charities

All who attend do so at their own risk.
Neither Stowell Park Estate nor
Yanworth Village Hall/Club take any
responsibility for accidents/damage to
property or persons.

The month of November

November was the ninth month of the ancient Roman calendar. November retained its name (from the Latin novem meaning “nine”) when January and February were added to the Roman calendar. November was referred to as Blotmonap “blood month” or “the month of sacrifice” by the Anglo-Saxons, referring to the slaughter of all farm animals except those to be fed over the winter.

November 1st is All Saints' Day, the Christian celebration of all saints and martyrs and is also the eve of All Souls' Day. Both days presented the opportunity to venerate one's ancestors and were a reminder of the communal identity of Church and family. In times past these days were considered good for weather prognostication : “On all hallows day cut a chip from the beech tree; /if it be dry the winter will prove warm”

November 5th is Gunpowder Treason Day better known as Guy Fawkes Day and Bonfire night. This commemorates the failed attempt by a major Catholic

conspiracy in 1606 to blow up Parliament and King James 1. Following this, Parliament passed an Act requiring attendance at church on the morning of 5th November for social prayers and a reading of the Act. The 5th November became a national holiday, which was abolished in 1859. Over the years, the political and religious significance of the day has somewhat evaporated and it has become a social occasion with bonfire parties and fireworks. In the West Country autumn is a popular time for carnivals, several of these are based on 5th November. On the Friday nearest the 5th Bridgewater has a two –hour carnival with many floats.

St Martin's Day, November 11th, also known as Martinmas, was the herald of winter. The 11th November is also Remembrance Day, which has especial resonance this year, which is the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War.

November 30th is St Andrew's Day, the patron saint of Chedworth Church.

November can be a month of high winds. On the 26th November 1703, the Great Storm hit England. It has been estimated that this catastrophe was equivalent to a Category 3 hurricane with winds gusting at 120 mph and waves breaking sixty feet high. Eight thousand people died,



including a tenth of the Royal Navy's servicemen. There was vast devastation: buildings were destroyed and church spires blown off; and windmills were set ablaze from the friction created as their sails spun around. The Eddystone lighthouse disappeared along with its crew.

November can seem a rather dreary month as there is little birdsong, all the

fruit has been picked and it often seems to be raining and the wind blowing. The nineteenth-century poet Thomas Hood summed this up very well in the

conclusion of his poem "No"

"No shade, no shine, no
butterflies, no bees, no fruits, no
flowers, no leaves, no birds -
November!"

That said, there can be fine days in November when after a bracing afternoon walk ,

there is the pleasure of a welcoming open fire and a good book to read and next seasons seed catalogues to study.

Elderberries

We were pleased that friends from Rendcomb were able to join with us and together we celebrated our annual Harvest Festival which was led by our fellow member Stephen Phillips. We enjoyed the service and it was particularly good to be able to sing some of the well known harvest hymns. We were grateful to Neil & Teresa Irvine and friends who provided the inspiring music. We were also grateful to everyone who contributed gifts to the harvest table and the proceeds raised were donated to Elderberries.

In October we were expecting Andy Dickson who was going to tell us all about the long charity walk he did from Land's End to John O'Groats; highlighting some of the things that happened along the way.

As always we offer a very warm welcome to anyone over the age of 60 to join us at the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month starting at 2.30pm. If you would like to know more please ring Helen Taylor on 720702 or Carol Shaftoe on 720074.

Maggie's Poem

Family and Friends

What is life without a family
Or a life without our friends
Always there to give a hand
Help us round those trouble bends

Were you one from a large family
Or from one that was very small
Can you remember your dear Grandfolk
And their names you can recall

Our parents play a large part
On the path our lives to tread
We try never to let them down
So do the best we can instead

Ours will be the next generation
Bring our family up the same
So if we walk the same right path
Will be no need to complain

Maggie Scrivens



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The Last Baguette presents...

London. Christmas Eve.

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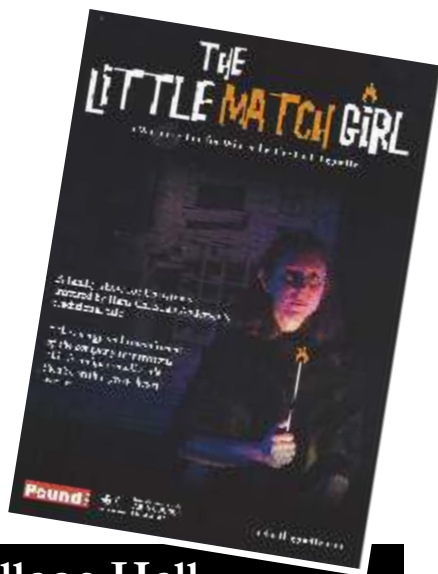
In an attempt to stay warm she strikes a match. The flames blaze to life, illuminating her fantastic Christmas visions. We enter the tumultuous world of her imagination, meeting talking turkeys, dancing rats, Queen Victoria, Prince Albert and their chattering Christmas tree.

Having delighted audiences in 2017 *The Last Baguette* return with this touching, madcap and heart-warming show. Written by T. A. Woodsmith, winner of the Sunday Times Playwriting Award, the show uses visual storytelling, live music and puppetry to shine a light on Hans Christian Andersen's classic winter tale.

"Expert physical comedy and storytelling from The Last Baguette. The live music and song was a real treat too. Stunning costumes, men

playing women, puppets, songs about poo, bags of humour for young and old." Gemma Alldred, Programme Manager, Bridport Arts Centre

"Once again The Last Baguette have captured audiences' imaginations with their original storytelling. Humorous and moving, The Little Match Girl delighted our family audience at Christmas." Sophie Moysey, Programmer, Pound Arts, Corsham



Showing at the Village Hall

6pm Friday 7th December

Tickets £8 Adults £3 Children

Buy online chedworthvillage.co.uk/booking
or contact Iain on 01285 720683



AT THE TIME of going to press, the new electric heating system is on track to be up and running by the end of October. It is reassuring to know that we will have an efficient and reliable heating system in place before the winter. The old oil fired heating system had served us well for many years but even before the major irreparable leak, had become cumbersome and expensive to run. We are very grateful to Matt Fulford for designing and overseeing the project in such an efficient and cheerful manner—even when there were the inevitable snags!

We were fortunate to have good local contractors carrying out the work- CP Jefferies, Hill and Valley Builders and See Electrics Ltd. Thames Water are due to connect mains water from Church Row to the service pipe that has been laid from the verge to the church back door.

A condition of the Faculty granted by the Diocese for the scheme was that an archaeologist should be present when the trench was dug across the churchyard.

This was carried out by Chiz Harward of Urban Archaeology Stroud, who worked closely with the team digging the trench, to ensure that work proceeded without undue delay. Facing page are Chiz's summary report of his findings.

Update - church heating system

St Andrew's church

As part of the work to install heating in the church, a trench was dug to connect a new electricity cable and a water pipe. As this trench runs through the churchyard, and risked disturbing burials, the Diocese required an archaeological watching brief on the work.

The gravestones and tombs we can see in a churchyard represent only a fraction of the graves in the ground. With a Norman church like Chedworth there have been burials for nearly a thousand years, and if we consider that there may have been several deaths each year in the parish you can see how a parish churchyard may have had several thousand burials over that time. Later burials would have disturbed earlier burials, cutting through and mixing up the bones and coffin fittings into the soil, but many will still survive.

We commonly think of being buried 'six foot under', but anyone who has tried digging a hole in limestone or brash will understand that often graves were a lot more shallow, and can be as little as a foot down. So there was a serious risk that the new trench, which needed to be over two feet deep, might disturb graves.

Luckily some of the trench had been previously dug out, and we managed to thread the trench between gravestones and along the side of the buried remains of two eighteenth century tombs

without disturbing any skeletons, although we did recover over 500 fragments of human bones mixed in with the soil; these have all been reinterred on site.

As might be expected we found coffin handles and fragments of embossed tinplate coffin decorations, probably of the later 18th century, fragments of a limestone grave surround and a large sandstone block that had been used as a sharpening stone, perhaps for scything down the grass in the churchyard?

Other finds included Roman pottery and tile, adding to the finds from Chedworth village, and supporting the theory that there was a Roman settlement exploiting the sheltered valley and water supply. Medieval pottery was also found, and a farthing of Charles II. The farthing is probably a forgery, the design dates from between 1672 to 1684 and has Britannia on the reverse. It may seem odd that someone would forge farthings, then the smallest legal currency, but there was a good profit in forging coppers, and it was not made a criminal offence until 1742!

Chiz Harward
Urban Archaeology

Spider time of day!

Are you afraid of the big spiders that come into your house each autumn? Then avoid wandering around your house at about 7.35pm each evening.

It seems that that is the peak time for creepy crawlies to scuttle around your house, looking for a mate. An entomologist at the University of Gloucestershire adds:

‘We think that while people are more likely to be sat down and able to view spiders at 7.30pm, the pattern of sightings in rooms other than living rooms suggests that it is not just people

driving the pattern - so we think it probably does reflect some spider ecology too.’

No one is sure why spiders feel frisky at 7.30pm, but the good news is that the vast majority of UK spiders are harmless to people, and excellent pest controllers.

‘So we should really celebrate the spider season.’ As long as the spider is NOT running around on the couch with you.

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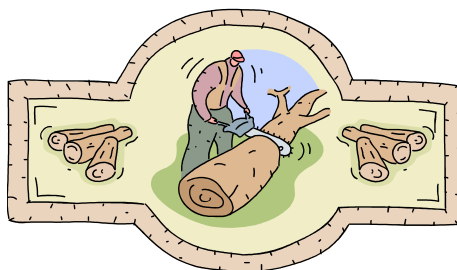
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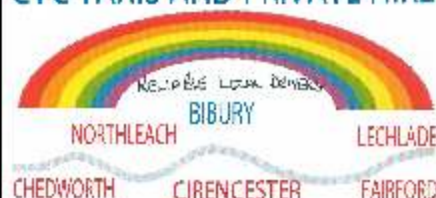
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