

April 2024

The Hill and Valley

Parish Magazine

Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

The Benefice of Chedworth and District

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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 Mark Lanyon - 01285 720430 or via the Advertisers form on <https://hillandvalley.co.uk/advertisers/>

The magazine coordinator for this edition was Julie Young (01285 720398) and for the next edition will also be Julie.

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

Cover and contents page photos by Julie Young

The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Julie Young Coordinator for this edition

Karen's Letter

As I am new here, and probably always will be, I've been thinking about the nature of friendship and how you go from making acquaintances to making real friendships. I've lived in many different places over the years, always praying that God would give me at least one good friend, and then I'd know I'd be ok.

A friend is such a precious thing – someone who has your back, who stands beside you, who understands and actually likes you just as you are. In Proverbs, the Biblical book of wise sayings, it says, "A person who has many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." (18:24). "A friend loves at all times." (17:17). "Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses." (27:6)

We need close friends. We need the intimacy of being known and accepted by at least one other. We are told in Old Testament book of Exodus and in the New Testament letter of James that both the ancient Biblical characters, Abraham and Moses, were friends of God. They were known and accepted and even liked by God and they reciprocated in kind. They had conversations. They were connected.

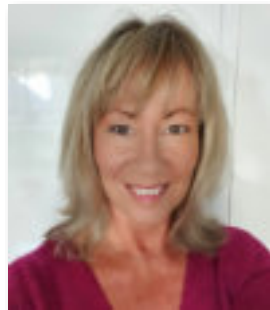
I wonder how the idea of friendship with God might strike you? I guess that depends on the ideas you may have of God to start with. Or if you don't believe there is a God, you might be wondering how you can even consider friendship with nothing? We all have a narrative that life has formed in us about the idea of God. Our parents,

our schooling, our family, our experiences will all have contributed to that narrative.

I remember a time in my life, when I found myself asking a close friend how they knew God was good, as I didn't know any more. I didn't want to know a God who seemed to stand by while terrible things happened. My friend said, "I keep returning to the Gospels to look at Jesus, because he said, 'If you've seen me, then you have seen the Father.'" So for about six months this friend read to me and I listened. Slowly a new picture began to emerge of what God might be like.

To become friends with someone, you have to dispense with any preconceived ideas you have of them and you have to get to know the real them. That can take time and effort. Have you ever read the Gospels? You might be pleasantly surprised by what you find there. You might even find yourself embarking on a new friendship.

Karen Hunter Krivald



Church Briefing

Hill & Valley Benifice Church Services April 2024

Everyone Welcome

Sunday 7th April - 2nd Sunday in Easter

10.30 - Holy Communion - Coln St Denys

Sunday 14th April - 3rd Sunday in Easter

9.00 - BCP HC - Chedworth

10.30 - Holy Communion - Coln Rogers

21st April - 4th Sunday in Easter

10.30 - Holy Communion - Chedworth

28th April - 5th Sunday in Easter

10.30 - Holy Communion - Chedworth



Regular worshippers were upgraded to first class

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
6 April	11:00	Chedworth WI Jumble Sale	Chedworth Village Hall
8 April	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
12 April	19:30	Backrow Club - And Come the Nightjars	Chedworth Village Hall
20 April	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
28 April	19:00	Chedworth Ent Club - Graffiti Classics	Chedworth Village Hall
3 May	18:30	RBL - 2 nd Glosters - D day and Beyond	Chedworth Village hall
13 May	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
14 May	14:00	Garden Club visit to Througham Court	
18 May	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
8 June		Coln Valley Open Mixed Doubles Tournament	Chedworth
10 June	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
15 June	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
26 June	10:30	Garden Club visit to Oxleaze Farm	
29 June	18:00	Family Picnic and Sea Shanty Group	Chedworth Playing Field
2 July	14:40	Garden Club visit to Rodmarton Manor and Gardens	
8 July	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
20 July	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
6 Aug	10:30	Garden Club visit to Daglingworth House	
12 Aug	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
17 Aug	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
9 Sept	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
13 Sept		Golf Day	



Recycling Dates

Domestic Waste & Recycling

Including glass, paper, mixed recycling, cardboard, garden waste, non-recyclable waste, food waste



Chedworth Area, Fossebridge, Yanworth

Tuesday	2	April
Tuesday	16	April
Tuesday	30	April
Tuesday	14	May

Dates may change due to holidays

Coln St Dennis, Coln Rogers

Friday	12	April
Friday	26	April
Friday	10	May
Friday	24	May

Dates may change due to holiday

Turn your event into an occasion at

Chedworth Village Hall

Visit our website for full details including making booking enquiries

chedworthvillagehall.co.uk



World Book Day



World Book Day is always a cause for celebration! This year, children listened to a range of stories and heard about the stories that influenced staff growing up. Pupils in Key Stage 2 researched the most influential authors they have read and created biographies about them. Our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils then shared stories with each other in the afternoon.

Science Week

During March we celebrated Science week. This year the theme was 'Time'. Our pupils spent the week engaging in different science experiments linked to their units of work; seasons, sound and forces. We learnt about important Scientific figures and explored how Science impacts our daily lives.

We have used this week to make links for the children to see how their learning relates to careers which they may be interested in the future. Churchill class had an exciting sound workshop with Music Works, where they rewrote and recorded their own song using sound engineer equipment.



EYFS have been enjoying their 'Welly Wednesdays' where they have been using our forest school area to explore the changes in nature.

Running club have been enjoying exploring the countryside during their club on a Tuesday- how lucky they are to be able to safely enjoy this lovely village.

We are incredibly grateful to the Hill & Valley tennis club, who are again supporting our pupils with weekly tennis lessons during the summer term. Our children and staff are looking forward to this expert coaching.



St Andrew's CE Primary School Chedworth
Learn • Trust • Respect • Forgive
SPACES AVAILABLE
For more information go to:
www.st-andrewsschool.co.uk Phone: 01285 720427




Girlguiding 2nd Chedworth Guides

Girls from 10 - 14 years old

Games, adventures, camping, climbing, campfires, cooking, badges, trips, crafts, first aid and lots of other activities

Make new friends, learn new skills, grow in confidence and most of all have fun!

Thursdays in term time

Chedworth Village Hall

Please get in touch to find out more or arrange a visit: email Alice at aj.george@btinternet.com or visit www.girlguiding.org.uk

Family Picnic with the "Poole Me Hearties" Sea Shanties group providing live music.

"Poole Me Hearties play traditional sea shanties and other seafaring songs in a unique style with a range of acoustic instruments including accordion, fiddle, flute and mandolin. Combined with an array of harmonies, Poole Me Hearties sound like no other shanty band."

Chedworth Playing Field

at

**6pm on Saturday 29th June -
Village Hall if wet!**



Donations in aid of FoStA
(Friends of St Andrews Church)



Farewell and Thanks to Sarah & Jenny

Many of us gathered at the village hall on 4th March to mark the end of Sarah Smith and Jenny Lowe's time at the village preschool. Mixed emotions dominated the event. Their utmost dedication to our children's education and the Preschool has been clear to us and we have been delighted to watch our children grow, nurtured by their care. To see them leaving has been the source of real sadness - and more than a few tears! Equally, how wonderful to have had their commitment to the Preschool for so long!

When our son started at the Preschool, I joined for a settling-in service. It was January, and I stood out in the pouring rain watching them give the children a wonderful time! Their stoicism was apparent straightaway, and well as a wonderful sense of fun. Later, I also came to appreciate their impressive scope of knowledge, and to see how our son thrived in their care.

Our son has a few Sarah-isms that we all enjoy - exclaiming "Goodness!" at any opportunity, carefully carrying the milk bottles in the morning, and an appetite for the second breakfasts that Sarah would provide. He delights in huge bear hugs, something that reflects his close relationship with Jenny, and whose day hasn't been brightened by the wonderful warmth of Jenny's greeting at drop off?

We have no doubt that they and their families will find new and rewarding adventures and look forward to seeing



Sarah Smith and Jenny Lowe

these evolve. I would say, though, that the bar has been set pretty high with their appetite for challenges: a wing walk, transforming School House and the incredible landscaping of the Preschool site by Sarah's father Tony.

So with sent them off with our very best wishes, sharing wonderful memories and the deepest of gratitude.

Sian Alexander, writing in a personal capacity as one of, and on behalf of, Chedworth Preschool parents

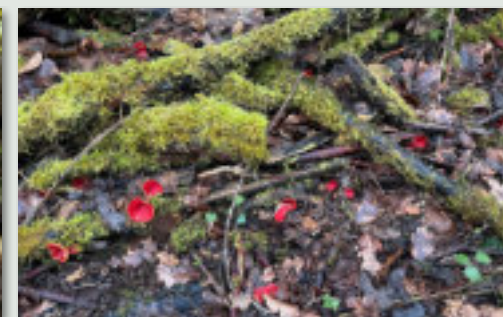
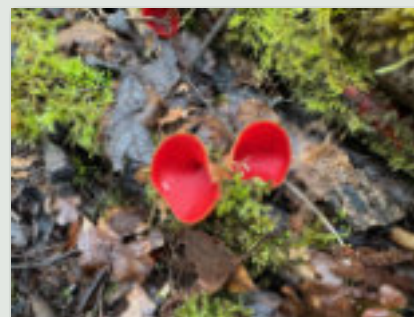
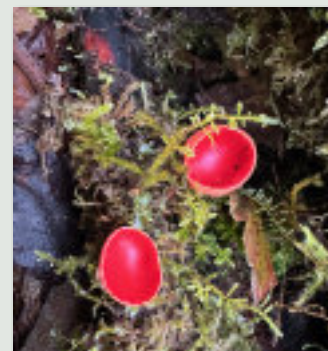
Both myself and Jenny would like to say a very heartfelt thank you to every single parent and member of the community of Chedworth! Your cards and kind, supportive words especially over the past couple of months; we are truly grateful.

Over the past 8 years, I have had a wonderful time caring for so many families and creating the beautiful, stimulating and nurturing environment that we achieved would

not have been possible without support from the village. We are both deeply saddened that we have had to walk away, but you can be certain that I am not saying goodbye just yet! Many thanks! **Sarah x**

I would like to thank the village for welcoming me so warmly and allowing me to become a part of the community for the last 6 years. I have

loved my time at Chedworth Pre-School and am truly heart broken to have had to walk away. I hope the legacy we worked hard to create, will continue into the future. Thank you so much to all the children and their families for the support they have show and the memories I have been lucky enough to create over the years. **Jenny x**



Scarlet Elf Cup. I've not seen this fungus before: *Sarcoscypha coccinea*. Spectacular. On the old railway line walk above the Roman Villa.

Mark Aveline

Chedworth Parish Council

Chedworth Parish Council needs you!

Andreas Cola has moved away, so this has left a vacancy on the Parish Council. The requirements are generally that you are on the electoral roll for Chedworth, but people who own land in Chedworth parish, work in Chedworth parish, or live within 3 miles are also eligible. Minimum age is 18 years. The vacancy, "A casual vacancy", is for the remaining period of the present term which ends in May 2027. The Council discussed what we are looking for in a councillor and a commitment to do the three years was the single common thread, no preference otherwise except someone to do their bit and help make the decisions which affect the Parish both in the short term and on occasions for decades to come.

Councillors

David Broad (Chairman)	01285 720313
Ian Morgan (Vice Chairman)	07778 168822
George Broad	07895 177961
Mike Dentith	07970 900373
Tony Kingsley	01285 720743
Alan McLellan	01285 720642

To contact the Council, email the clerk, Elizabeth Broad (chedworthpc@hotmail.co.uk), or call her on 720313, or get in touch with any of the councillors directly.

For more information check out our website chedworthpc.org.uk

Our Pub, Our Future, Your Voice Matters

The Seven Tuns Action Group (STAG) are preparing an online survey to gauge interest in options for supporting the re-opening of the Seven Tuns. At the time of writing, I don't have details but watch for it on social media, Facebook, Nextdoor etc. for details. A hard copy version is also being considered.

Flooding



Gloucestershire County Council has arranged a survey of the drainage down Tuns Hill for the week commencing 29th April. This will include the old culvert running from the stone trough on Queen Street under the Seven Tuns and towards the railway embankment, as well as the culvert under Queen Street towards Adam's Bothy. It may take 5 days to get the survey work completed which will require a road closure, but they will always maintain access for residents on Queen Street. Contractors will also be carrying out Tufa removal on the Waterfall and stone trough opposite the Seven Tuns at the same time.

Wildflower Notices

Some Wildflowers "Do Not Cut" signs

have been made for us by Men in Sheds at Northleach. A few more are available from Robert Young 720398 if you wish to maintain "your" own verge as a Wildflower verge rather than have our contractor cut it.

Council reporting them.

To contact the Council please email clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk or 01285720313

David Broad

Potholes

The Parish Council keeps reporting Potholes, some of which get repaired, but it would be helpful if residents could report problems on "Fix My Street" the Gloucestershire County Council website. Multiple complaints from different people generally get better results than just the Parish



Coln Denys Church - Teresa Irving

Chedworth Gardening Club

Rose Pruning Masterclass in Chedworth

In February we held two Rose Pruning Masterclasses in Chedworth on Saturday mornings.



10 members came to my garden in Lower Chedworth to learn how to deal with climbing and rambling roses. Not only how to prune them, but to create rose art with them and to make their

own roses more productive.

We are running a few classes this year for our members to learn new skills. In April Allison Oldershaw is holding a Willow workshop at her garden in Chedworth. If you become a member of the Chedworth Gardening Club you will automatically be notified of these events as they are proving very popular and get booked up very quickly.

To become a member it only costs £15 for Individual Membership per year and £25 for Joint Membership and you will benefit from discount at Burford Garden Centre and very good deals on Composts from Shurdington Nurseries.

So don't delay join today contact:
chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com

Sue Bradbury



WALKING TENNIS FOR ALL

Would you like to improve your fitness and well being?

Do you have a health condition or injury that impacts on your mobility?

Come and give Walking Tennis a try!

This fun, gentler game of tennis is suitable for all ages and abilities including beginners. Rackets provided.



FRIDAYS, 2.30-4PM
CHEDWORTH, GL54 4NE
ALL WELCOME



www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/WalkingTennis

The members were greeted warmly by Sheila Bowley our President for the year, and Ann Deamer sitting in for Penny Taylor our secretary. Much of our business was taken up with asking for helpers and cake makers for the annual WI Jumble Sale at the Chedworth Village Hall to be held on Saturday 6th April from 11.00 – 2.00pm an event not to be missed.

Our local charity for 2024 was confirmed as Martha's Trust Hereford (<https://www.marthatrusthereford.co.uk/>) this wonderful organisation offers support and a care home for profoundly disabled adults and accepts residents from Gloucestershire (there are no homes in Gloucestershire for profoundly disabled adults). Chedworth WI has a very close connection as one of our member's daughters was a resident for many years.

We also discussed the great success of a new informal lunch club just for WI members to meet initially every two months and enjoy seeing friends.

Members were reminded that the new NFWI Learning Hub has been set up and endowed with some of the proceeds of the sale of Denman College. It can be found online at <https://learninghub.thewi.org.uk/> and offers an amazing range of courses free for all WI members and at a charge of £5 for each course to anyone else.

The collection of coins for friendship or as it otherwise known ACWW (<https://acww.org.uk/>) Associated Country Women of the World was taken and will be sent to assist their

rural projects around the world.

A plea was put out to members to find a new Treasurer for 2026 as Chrissy Mitchell will be standing down then. This gives her 2025 to train the new treasurer (when found) in the intricacies of WI finances!

All members sent their best wishes for a fast and full recovery to Chrissy who has just been diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer requiring an operation and radiotherapy – get your mammogram done now is her advice! And Pat Carmody who has had a fall and had to miss out on the meeting. (Possibly she was more cross about missing out on the Cheltenham Festival!)

After all this we were treated to a delightful talk on the history of the Teddy Bear from the success of the first Stief bear known as Maister Pieter but rapidly renamed Teddy in honour of the American President Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt to the most modern collectable bears. Most important though were all the teddies that members had brought with them, all the teddies showed the signs of wear that come from the hug ability of bears!



Following this there was the normal supper – the quality of which I won't comment on as I was one of the team of hostesses this month, but the other two hostesses are well known for their culinary abilities, so I don't think anyone went hungry!

Next month our talk is from Dorothy Cook and entitled 'Tales of a Midwife', so if you are a fan of 'Call the Midwife' why not come along and hear some more stories. The meeting is at 7.15pm at Chedworth Village Hall on Wednesday 10th April.

Emma Isaac

North Cerney Scamper!



North Cerney Memorial Village Hall presents the North Cerney Scamper, a 5k / 10k run (or walk!) to raise money for the Village Hall and Primary School. The event will take place on the morning of Saturday 18th May 2024 at 10am, and is open to anyone aged 15+. This is a great opportunity to explore the beautiful countryside, whatever your scampering ability, followed by home-made refreshments in the village hall.

The course consists of a 5k loop via North Cerney and Rendcomb villages, predominantly on local trails and farm tracks including the famous Monarch's Way. All times will be recorded professionally by LuSH Race Timing, with a finishers' memento for everyone and prizes for winners across various age categories.

This is a real grass roots community event, and we would be grateful for your support.

Good luck!

Tickets available via racentaion: <https://race-nation.co.uk/register/north-cerney-village-hall/north-cerney-scamper>

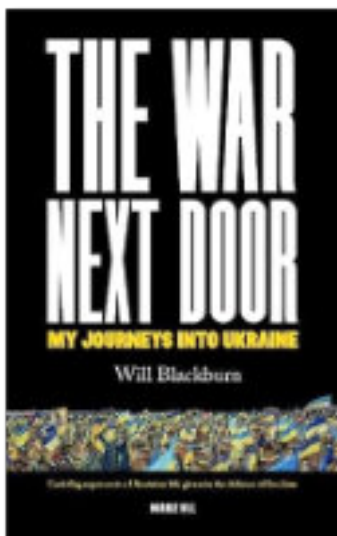
Village Hall website: <https://www.northcerneyvillagehall.com/fun-run>

Ukraine Donations

Ukraine donations –

You may recall that Will Blackburn organises humanitarian convoys to Ukraine. Will has informed me that he has written a book about his experiences and journeys into Ukraine and it is called 'The War next door'. Thew book was published in March 2024 and it is available to order from Amazon and Waterstones (please find links below) -

THE WAR NEXT DOOR: My Journeys Into Ukraine: Amazon. co.uk: Blackburn, Will: 9781738497003: Books



THE WAR NEXT DOOR by Will Blackburn | Waterstones

If you have any warm clothing, footwear (boots, wellingtons etc), old sleeping bags, dog food etc that you wish to donate to Will and his team so that they can take them to Ukraine in the near future please let me know via email david.john.peake1@gmail.com and I shall arrange to collect donations from you.

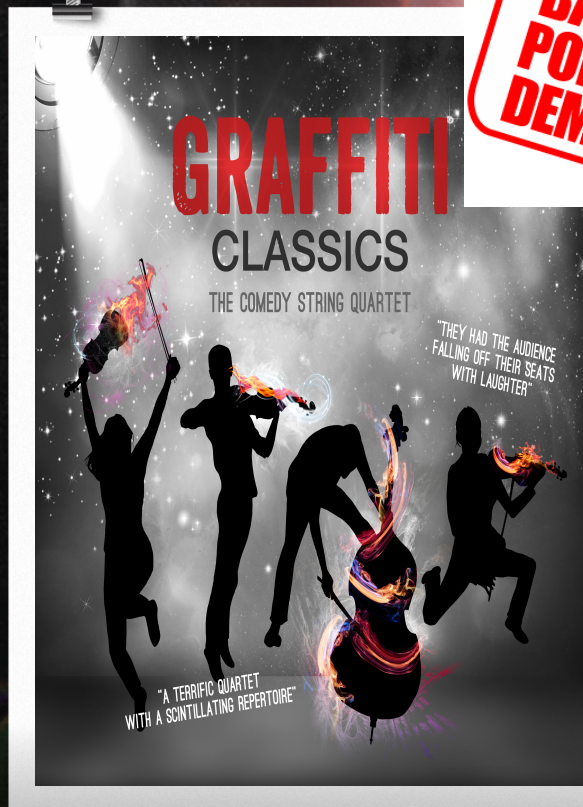
Many thanks.

*David J. Peake
Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser
Chedworth & District*



CE
Chedworth
Entertainment
Club
PRESENTS.

**BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND!**



APRIL 28

7.00PM TICKETS £12.50 £8.50 U16

VENUE: CHEDWORTH VILLAGE HALL
BOOK ONLINE AT

CHEDWORTHENTCLUB.CO.UK

Enjoy a great evening family show with Graffiti Classics, the comedy string quartet!

16 strings, eight dancing feet and four voices with one aim, make classical music wickedly funny and fantastically exhilarating. Graffiti Classics bursts the boundaries of the traditional String Quartet with its hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy cabaret show.

It's a classical concert, gypsy-folk romp, opera, stand-up comedy and a brilliant dance show all rolled into one! Graffiti Classics never fails to get audiences laughing, clapping and singing along. Kids and adults will love the uplifting and virtuosic variety of musical styles, all tied together with cheeky audience interaction.



**The Chedworth & District Branch
of the
Royal British Legion**

Will be hosting a talk on

“2nd Glosters – D day and Beyond”

by

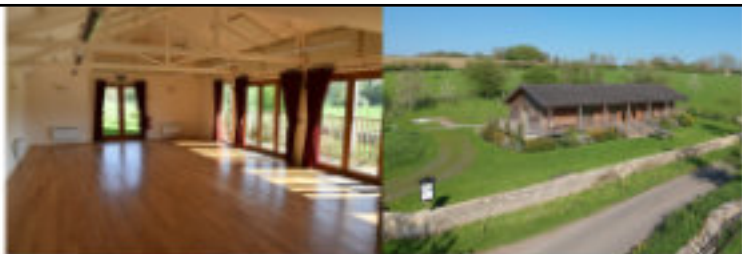
Dr Timothy Brain OBE, QPM

On Friday 3 May 2024

At Chedworth Village Hall, GL54 4NE

6.30pm

**Drinks
followed by the talk at 7.00 pm**



COLN VALLEY VILLAGE HALL

Ideal venue for small events/parties

Gigaclear Ultrafast internet connection

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availability and prices.**

www.coln-valley-village-hall.co.uk

Dr Timothy Brain OBE, QGM

After a career in policing, in which he served in several forces and was Chief Constable of Gloucestershire from 2001-10, Dr Timothy Brain has since been a prominent lecturer, broadcaster and author.

He graduated with first class honours in history from Aberystwyth University in 1975 and later gained a doctorate also in history. He is the author of many articles and of three major works on policing, *A History of Policing in England and Wales from 1974* (2010) *A Future for Policing* (2013), and *A History of Police Reform: 300 years of reforming the police* (2023), as well as a

contributory author to other major works on contemporary policing and police history. He has published many articles on policing, police history and related subjects. He has edited his late uncle's war memoirs, *The Gloucestershire Regiment in Europe 1944-45*.

He is a regular broadcaster and popular lecturer on subjects ranging from policing, history, military history, and music.

Dr Brain is chairman of Stroud Choral Society, the Friends of the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum and Eversfield Preparatory School, Solihull, and a trustee of Nature in Art at Twigworth.

Chedworth Women's Institute

Jumble Sale

on

Saturday April 6th 2024

at

Chedworth Village Hall

Open 11 am - 2pm

Refreshments available



Backrow Club at the Village Hall

Who?!

Seen in a West Country church:
Whenever I see a little church,
I always pay a visit.
So when at last I'm carried in,
the Lord won't ask 'Who is it?'

Heaven

Seen in a parish magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven - how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms.

Choir

Seen in a parish magazine: 'Next Sunday the choir will give a recital, after which the church will be closed for repairs.'



The Cotswolds - World War II

The Second World War lasted six years and was a landmark event, now relatively few people have direct experience of those years. The following article is based on conversations, the memories of some of the wartime generation and written records. Peter Juggins, who grew up in Chedworth can remember as a young boy being in Chedworth Church, when the Rector was handed a note to say that war had been declared against Germany. How unsettling for the congregation and the country as a whole, especially as it was only 20 years ago, since "the war to end all wars".

One of the major impacts of the war, was social. In country areas when many were employed in agriculture and country crafts, most people stayed "local". However, with conscription many men were called away to train and fight. Others moved to towns to work in the war time industries. Evacuees from the large towns were relocated to country areas. The construction of airfields and other installations saw an influx of workmen. By 1944 the RAF compliment at Chedworth Airfield was 672, which more or less doubled the village population. Later in the war large numbers of allied personnel were temporarily stationed in the Cotswolds, especially American troops prior to D Day. Peter told me that local pubs were very busy and that village hall dances were very crowded. The war gave a boost to the local economy, especially local bus companies and haulage contractors.

Families and friends faced many



anxious times awaiting news of those on active duty and in towns subject to bombing. Some families suffered bereavement and others had to help and cope with those who returned with physical and mental scars. Four men from Chedworth died in the war including Ralph Durham of the Royal Engineers, who was evacuated from Dunkirk and died aged 36 years on 27th January 1941 of natural

cause. I wonder whether his health had been undermined by his war experiences? He is buried in the upper churchyard with a War Graves Commission headstone,



Peter can remember hearing the rifle volley as the coffin was lowered into the grave.

The war had a physical impact on the Cotswolds with the construction of the many airfields, including Moreton-in-Marsh, Chedworth, Windrush, Northleach etc. Little Rissington Airfield was opened in 1938. Later in the war several prison of war camps and 15 American hospitals were built in the Cotswolds, some were later used for Polish refugees. The prisoners of war provided a welcome boost to farm labour and for local builders. Some of the wartime structures are still visible, including parts of runways, control towers and pill boxes. During the war, road signs were taken down which put a premium on local knowledge!

Whilst the Cotswolds were relatively "safe" from enemy action, there was some bomb damage when German planes heading for airfields were chased by British fighter planes and unloaded their bombs. Several bombs fell near Chedworth, including on the 5th September 1940 when 10 cattle were killed at Listercombe Bottom. Nellie Burrow from Coln Rogers recalls several bombs being dropped between Coln Rogers and Coln St Dennis. A large bomb fell near to Harford farmhouse at Naunton, causing a deep crater, which was filled in using the labour of prisoners of war!

With the increased aircraft activity, including many training flights, there were inevitably crashes and casualties. On the 10th April 1944, a Douglas Dakota crashed at Chedworth and three of the four crew were killed. Most of the crashes were due to engine failure or pilot error, not helped by

poor weather conditions. Chedworth was one of the highest airfields in the country.

Another impact was the increased lorry traffic reflecting the major effort to increase manufacturing output and the transport of the armed forces. Railways, including the Chedworth line connecting Cheltenham to the south coast were very busy putting a strain on the infrastructure. As D Day approached, the main roads and the railways were subject to much increased traffic. Local traffic was curtailed to come extent by petrol rationing. Peter said that the police were very strict in enforcing regulations during the war. After the evacuation from Dunkirk, some troops were temporarily stationed at Stow, they were rather downcast and the community rallied round and arranged entertainments. The local bus operator offered to take the troops to the cinema at Moreton, the buses were full to the gunnels and on the return journey, the buses were stopped by the police and the bus company owner was charged with overcrowding. Fortunately, the local magistrates took a sympathetic view and only gave a gentle slap on the wrist!

There was much increased aircraft activity with all the local airfields. My Mother told us of two wartime farm memories of planes at Naunton. The first was of a Spitfire landing in a large level grass field where a hay crop had just been removed and the auxiliary pilot getting out and asking the way to Rissington Airfield. The second was of a fighter plane flying low down the valley and spooking the pony and trap that she and her brother were using to deliver milk. The pony bolted down the road and crashed into a wall at a bend.

The Cotswolds - World War II



Fortunately, the pony and siblings were only bruised and rather shaken but there were a lot of broken milk bottles!

The war saw new organisations, especially the Home Guard and Air Raid Precautions Scheme. The Chedworth Home Guard, part of the 3rd Gloucester (Cirencester) battalion comprised approximately 30 men and met on the old village hall on Wednesday evenings. The Air Raid Precaution volunteers met at the Manor. There was a Civil Defence committee, who arranged training for Fire Fighting Squads. Others in the community helped with providing lodgings for the forty evacuee children, who attended the village school. When the children returned home, some of the parents complained that their offspring had gained a Cotswold accent. The Women's Institute collected rose hips to make syrup when overseas supplies were curtailed.

The war, especially when the U boats threatened the country's food supplies, meant that agriculture again became a vital industry after the agricultural depression of the 1930's. This saw changes in the countryside with the ploughing of large areas of pasture to

boost corn production. The War Agriculture Committees oversaw the management of farms and the great increase in output. The area under cultivation increased by 1.7 million acres between 1939 and the spring of 1940. There was much increased mechanisation with the import of large numbers of American tractors.

The farm labour force was boosted by the Women's Land Army and the use of prisoners of war. Some years ago, the late Shelagh Lovett-Turner gave a fascinating talk to the Chedworth Society of her experiences as a young Land Girl arriving at Andoversford Station from London and being taken to an isolated cottage at Yanworth and the culture shock of working on a Cotswold farm. Shelagh initially had difficulty with understanding the local dialect but quickly adapted and by the end of the war was taking part in ploughing competitions.

Those in the countryside with large gardens and paddocks were reasonably self-sufficient in vegetables and reared pigs and poultry. In order to encourage efficient production and use of food, the Chedworth Food Production Club was set up and ran for most of the war. American troops very much valued butter, cream and eggs and were keen to barter these commodities for chocolate, cigarettes and nylons.

War was a time of innovation and better utilisation of resources including recycling. The iron railings around the market cross in Stow were removed and used in aircraft production. Broadway Tower, with its strategic

outlook, was used as an air observation post. Some of the wartime uses left long lasting impacts, tanks were parked on the cricket field at Stow prior to D Day and damaged the wicket, which had been very good, with the result that in long hot dry spells, the wicket became very unpredictable and dangerous. As a young teenager, batting against a fast bowler after hot weather, the first few balls shot along the ground but then a ball reared and the next thing that I remembered was regaining consciousness lying on a table in the pavilion with cold water being poured over me!

By the end of the war, the country was exhausted and its finances depleted. Some rationing continued for several years. Nonetheless, there was a determination that after all the efforts and sacrifices of the war, it was a time for rebuilding and putting the devastation of the war and the recession of the 1930's behind. There

was optimism that the introduction of the recommendations of the 1943 Beveridge Report and the National Health Service would improve social conditions. There was a major house building initiative. In country areas, the Rural District Councils embarked on the building of council housing such as the Hemplands in Chedworth and The Park in Stow-on-the-Wold. The houses in The Park were built of natural stone, which David Verery in "Gloucestershire: The Cotswolds" describes as a *considerable economic achievement*.

We owe a great deal to the wartime generation for their sacrifices, stoicism and hard work in defeating fascism and rebuilding the country.

Thanks to Peter Juggins, Mike Tovey and David Hanks.

Robert Young



Don't forget St Georges Day on April 23rd.
St George the patron Saint of England.

Your Gardening Tips for April

As the snowdrops and aconites fade away the last of the daffodils and crocuses will carry us through to the time for tulips to provide colour and daphne and lily of the valley to provide scent for our gardens. To defend your tulips from predation by deer spray 'Grazer' over the plants. This can be obtained from any good garden centre or on line. Grazer is also a useful wild life deterrent for all your vulnerable plants including roses.



- The list of gardening jobs in April is as long as any month and with a changing climate more complex, especially when to plant seeds outside with the ground waterlogged. There is, however, one rule not to be forgotten and that is to protect plants from frost!
- Pinch off old flower heads from spring flowering bulbs that are going over but allow to die back before trimming or mowing so that the bulbs retain as much energy as possible.
- Tie in climbing and rambling roses and climbing plants such as clematis and honeysuckle. Climbing roses will flower better if trained to grow horizontally. The hormones are normally concentrated at the tip of the plant, but if spread equally along the stem, each bud will be

encouraged to grow a leaf and eventually a flower.

- Plants that benefit from regular clipping often with shears are box, yew, hebe, lonicera and pittosporum, which as well as restricting size can produce new colour in the foliage. Once Forsythia has finished flowering cut the stems back to a strong new leafy side shoot to ensure a good display next year and remove one

or two of the oldest stem at the base.

- Slightly tender plants such as penstemons and lavender can be pruned, cutting just above fresh new shoots.
- **Spring Flowering Shrubs.** These six will give your garden some spring contrast. Snowy Mespilus (white), Flowering Currant (white or pink), Guelder Rose (white), Physocarpus opulifolius 'Diablo' (pinky white flowers and deep burgundy foliage- see image), Spirea thumbergii (white) and of course, Hazel with its yellow catkins.



- Sweet peas can be sown outside when the ground has warmed up. Protect from mice!!
- Herbaceous perennials such as Geranium can be divided and planted outside in well prepared soil.
- Put supports in for perennials before they grow too large.
- Loosen any tree ties that are biting into the bark, and feed trees shrubs and hedges, with a balanced fertilizer, then mulch.
- Sow hardy annuals and herb seeds, and plant out plugs already started off under cover.
- Increase water to house plants, and if you have any citrus plants, now is the time to start giving them high nitrogen or proprietary summer feed.
- If not done in late March, rake out moss from lawns, sow grass seed over bare patches and apply lawn feed and weed control.
- Keep an eye out for aphids and remove by hand as soon as spotted.
- Keep weeds under control as they will want to be growing vigorously.
- There is still time to sow an annual wild-flower meadow or corner.
- Cover ground to be sown with a membrane to help warm up the

soil ready for sowing seeds, but also try sowing some quick maturing root crops such as radishes, spring onions and baby beetroot.

- Brassicas can be sown outside, but it may be better to start them off in the greenhouse.
- The decision whether or not to grow plants close together or more spaced out will depend on a number of things including soil quality and sunlight, and the desire to have a higher but smaller yield. Closely grown cabbages for example will provide a higher yield but smaller size. Carrots can be grown close together without too much loss in size, but beetroot quality declines with overcrowding. Calabrese will not develop properly if planted close together.
- Do forget to rotate your crops around the vegetable patch if you can. If not, make plans to sow green manure in the autumn.
- Use your compost straight away as if left in the bag for too long it will degrade as the microbes start to break down the organic material and consume the available nitrogen.

*Simon Colbeck
Chairman
Chedworth Gardening Club*

Who is he?

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. "He looks a tough customer," she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. "Ah, actually, he is the chaplain."



Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC>

CLUB NEWS

As we pass the Spring Equinox brighter days are stirring the spirits within tennis players! A great programme of coaching, group sessions and weekly social tennis is now underway; with the Glos League matches for Women's and Men's soon to begin. We look forward to welcome members, both new and existing, do come along and try out the club at our 'social mixed tennis' session on Saturday afternoons or have a chat about what we offer to one of our committee.

Robert Baker, Chair

hillandvalleylta@gmail.com

OPEN DAY

Over 40 people attended our open day on 2nd March, as the forecast was looking wet we decided to hold it in the village hall with Pickle ball and table tennis which proved to be very popular and was great fun! In the end we did manage to play on the courts. Thank you to all those that attended and welcome to our new members!



WHAT'S ON

WALKING TENNIS

Running every Friday afternoon 2.30-4pm

It is relaxed and fun, you can go at your own pace. Come along to give it a go! Open to non members

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/WalkingTennis>



ADULT & JUNIOR GROUP COACHING WITH THE ACEWAY

Saturday mornings starting April 6th

New Group coaching for all levels

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Coaching/THEACEWAY>

AFTER SCHOOL JUNIOR COACHING

Wednesdays in term time for ages 4-18yrs

Open to non members, rackets provided

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Coaching>



EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Tuesday, 2nd & Thursday, 4th April

5% discount for siblings & 15% discount for members.

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Coaching/Camps>

Juniors 4-13yrs

**Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am-12.30noon
or 1pm-4pm or 9.30am-4pm**

Book either a half day £22 (9.30-12.30 or 1-4)
or a full day £39 (9.30-4 Bring a packed lunch)

Teens 13-18yrs on Tuesdays 4-6pm



FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, June 8th

The Coln Valley Open Mixed Doubles Tournament

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Events>



Facebook.com/TennisChedworth

Instagram.com/hillandvalleytennisclub

Twitter.com/HillValleyTenn



Wine Column

Hi Neighbors,

Snowdrops are here and gone and the daffodils are peeking out and ready to welcome Spring!

Spring is the beginning of the cycle of seasons, where we start shedding layers of clothes and start thinking about the "layers" we need to shed from the long winter and the holidays of puddings and overindulgence. This is the perfect time to put away the big reds (Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon) and pull out the lighter, fresher flavours of Spring like Pinot Noir and Gamay.

We are particularly excited about the new seasons lamb given our area produces some of the very finest lamb that can be found anywhere in the world. This was kicked off with an impromptu long weekend in Morocco, where we found some interesting Syrah that paired brilliant with all of the Tagine, but will go equally well with our Spring lamb.

Tandem Syrah is a wine that combines two countries (France & Morocco) with two wine growing families. It is a joint venture between Alain Graillot (Northern Rhone, France) and the Ouled Thaleb winery, NE of Casablanca in Morocco. This pure Syrah is named 'Tandem' because Alain first met the owners whilst on a cycling



holiday. They became friendly and decided to join forces and make a wine together. They have a syrah and a rose – both tasty.

There is evidence of wine-making in the Meknes region of Morocco 2,000 years ago! The Ouled Thaleb cellar was built in 1923. Recently, French producers such as Alain Graillot and Bordeaux superstar, Bernard Magrez, have come in and focused on quality over quantity and put the Morocco wine region on the map. Morocco is the second largest wine producer in the Arab world (behind Algeria).

It is about £26 a bottle and a good value. The rose is only £14!

Some other wines to enjoy and try this Spring.

White

Gavi: Berry Brothers Really good value wine under £15 and goes with everything! Crisps, Tuesday afternoon lunch or simple supper.

Albarino: This grape is normally from the Rias Baixas region (right on the water) on the Portugal/Spain border. Known to be fantastic with seafood as it has a salinity to it, maybe from the salty sea air! Tesco makes a Tesco's finest for £11...clean and fresh. Great with Thai food or after a day in the garden pulling weeds.

While in New Zealand, I discovered so many lovely Albarinos as well. Try **Left Field Albarino** from Waitrose – only £9.99!

Red

Gamay: Dominique Piron Saint – Amour - £12.95 a bottle. Light and bright red wine perfect for a burger and chips, a bowl of chili on a Thursday night or a rerun of West Wing on Prime Video.

Pinot Noir: Domaine Nicolas Perrault, Maranges Premier Cru Clos des Loyeres from Burgundy. Pinot Noir with no rough edges. £28 a bottle and lovely with venison, lamb, salmon or by itself while reading the hill and valley magazine.

Our Vineyard Update: We are finished with winter pruning. We have

also put down over 30 tons of compost and we think about another 30 tons before we are finished with this project. By the time you read this, we should have the trellising done and then it is time to get the tutors clipped onto it. Soon it really will look like a proper vineyard! Then the waiting game for sunshine, warmer weather and buds to start pushing.

Reach out if you want to enjoy a glass together in the vineyard or if you have any topics that you want me to cover!

Amber at
cotswoldswineadventure@gmail.com



Sunset over Chedworth Church - Sue Bradbury



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Top pairs compete for the Speke Cup

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<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/CVTournament>

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Any response will be completely confidential.

If you are interested in discussing a possible private sale of your home to us, please contact Andrew on xyz998@hotmail.com

Northleach and District u3a

Our u3a strives to provide our members with a wide range of pleasurable pursuits and challenging activities.

For some time, we have had on offer some 15 groups and these are still thriving. However, we try not to rest on our laurels and fall into complacency, so we always welcome new ideas and suggestions for more variety.

Accordingly, we are pleased to be able to welcome some four new groups.

These hopefully will all be up and running by the time you read this or in the very near future.

The proposed new groups are:

AMBLERS which will cater for those who wish to undertake a 2 or 3 mile local walk once a month. Mary Hamilton will coordinate this group.

CINEMA VISITS which will be to the cinema in Witney. These will be organised by Pamela Leemeijer.

EXPLORING BY BUS which will involve monthly trips by public transport to local towns such as Oxford, Cheltenham, Burford, Witney and Cirencester.

Jean Cort will organise these.

MAHJONG which will be run by Mandy Hill who will help all who join to learn and maybe even master the ancient Chinese board-game.

As ever, we are indebted to those who lead our groups and make our u3a so vibrant and diverse.

David Flynn.



u3a
Northleach & District

No longer working full-time or raising a family? Now's the time to make the most of life. u3a gives you the chance to develop your interests, make new friends and enjoy yourself. We would love you to join one of our groups.

Cryptic Crossword, Drawing For All, Garden Group, Looking at Novels, Poetry, Bridge, Enjoying Music, Art Appreciation, History, Play Reading, Rummikub, Walking Groups, Scrabble, Table Tennis, Tai Chi.

Northleach District u3a
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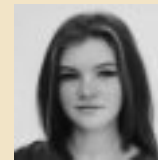
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EDUCATING RITA **APRIL 18-20**
7:30PM

Stroud Tickets £15
www.cotswoldwoldplayhouse.co.uk



The Following their award winning production of The Sound of Music, Bonzo Productions turns to the heart warming earthy comedy, EDUCATING RITA, made famous in the film version starring Michael Caine and Julie Walters.



I am delighted to be returning to Bonzo Productions this year in the role of Rita. This will be my second show with Bonzo after performing as Liesl in their production of 'The Sound of Music.'

Ross is the owner of Bonzo productions and has previously played Fagin and Doolittle on the Bristol stage as well as many parts on the Chedworth stage including Shylock in the Merchant of Venice and Bernard in Alan Ayckbourn's Seasons Greetings for which he was nominated for best actor at the Rosebowl awards.



"Having received generous plaudits and reviews following this production at Northleach last March I am very excited to put this show on at the Playhouse in Stroud where I spent 30 happy years as a solicitor."

"As good as any west end production"

"absolutety riveting from beginning to end"

"If I don't see Emma up in lights on the London Stage, I shall want to know why. A bravura performance"

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Uncle Eustace

On why a church should always
resist change

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I am not the least surprised you have got yourself into trouble; innovation is never to be encouraged. New ideas tend to cause revolutions. The move from incandescent lightbulbs to energy saving ones may ultimately change the Church of England.

Change is something everyone claims to be in favour of – provided it has no measurable effect on their own lives. I remember as a young curate once suggesting that at the Harvest Supper, tables might be enlarged so that eight people could sit together rather than the traditional six, thus helping more people get to know one another. The response would have been similar if I had suggested we travel to London to murder the Prime Minister. I was firmly told that tables for six had been perfectly adequate for parishioners in Queen Victoria's day. For the rest of my curacy, I was regarded as a revolutionary, to be watched carefully.

So, at your last visit to our church, to suggest that our 11am Mattins might be moved to 10.30am, in order to encourage those who wanted to have more of the day free to themselves, certainly lobbed a hand grenade among the post-Service coffee cups. The only person who was mildly in favour was Colonel Wainwright, who quickly realised that it would give him an extra



half-hour at the gin and tonics before lunch.

Should you ever feel that people lack imagination, you should watch them in action when they find reasons for resisting an unwelcome suggestion. One said that the time couldn't be moved, since it would then be too early for the local bus – omitting to mention that none of our congregation travel to church by bus and that the service doesn't run on Sundays anyway. Another pointed out that it would confuse those who didn't attend church – not explaining why if they never attended, it mattered what time the Service was. A third, rather touchingly mentioned that it wouldn't give the rector time to enjoy his breakfast after the rigours of the 8am Service.

Your suggestion did, however, serve one useful purpose; it brought our congregation together in united opposition. They may not necessarily always know what they are for, but they certainly know what they are against. For that, I thank you.

Your loving uncle
Eustace

The Arts Society Cotswolds

Lecture on Wednesday 10th April

The Hidden World of Canal Architecture

In this talk Roger examines the unique buildings and structures associated with the UK's canal network, with a vast array of distinctive designs, landmark features and unusual artefacts. Only the National Trust and the Church of England have more listed structures



than our canals. Look out for lock flights and lighthouses; cottages and clock towers; warehouses and lots of whimsical architecture - our canals delight the eye and refresh the spirit.

About our speaker:

Roger Butler is a landscape architect and an experienced writer, photographer and lecturer. He has a particular interest in the unique history, architecture and traditions of our canal network and has worked on some of the UK's major canal restoration projects. He has also acted as a consultant to bodies such as Waterways Ireland, Natural England and the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. Roger regularly contributes to waterway and heritage magazines and writes and provides images for a range of countryside and outdoor titles. Roger is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society and a Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute.

This hybrid lecture will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 11am and via Zoom.

Please be seated by 10.50 for notices of upcoming events. Numbers are no longer restricted but booking is recommended to reserve a place via our website (see below) Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £10.

Special Interest Day on Wednesday 24th April

The History of Collecting and Why We Do It

Marc Allum's special interest day is an eclectic but cohesive look at why we collect and the history of collecting, spanning from ancient times to the 20th century. It explores our sense of mortality through our desire to acquire and sets the scene for how the search for knowledge and identity moulded national collections, fashion and taste. Each talk is supplemented with objects from Marc's own collection including antiquities, unusual items from the natural world and Grand Tour souvenirs. This culminates in an informed insight into the marketplace told through Marc's decades of experience working as an auctioneer and buying and selling in the world of art and antiques.

The titles of the three sessions are:

Collecting the Grand Tour: The Enlightenment of the English Gentleman
The Anatomy of Collecting: The History of Collecting and Great Collectors through History
Auctioneer's Tales: 25 Years in the Art Market



About our speaker:

Marc Allum is a freelance art and antiques journalist, writer and broadcaster based in Wiltshire. He is shortly to begin his 23rd year as a specialist on the BBC Antiques Roadshow and has appeared on numerous television and radio programmes. Marc regularly writes for mainstream magazines and is an author, antiques consultant and lecturer. He also runs a fine art valuation and consultancy service. Marc has his own unique style with interests ranging from pre-history to modern design and is a self-confessed collectaholic. He has a passion and reputation for divining the unusual through 'a desire to connect with history through the interpretation and pursuit of objects and their origins'. Marc has lectured widely for many years to a number of different organisations in both the public and charity sector, including travel

companies, The National Trust, The WI and many literary festivals including Cheltenham, Bath, Wells and Petworth. Marc is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

The Special Interest Day consists of three sessions, two in the morning, followed by lunch and then another session in the afternoon. It is a smaller event and an opportunity to get to know other attendees over lunch. This day will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 10.45am, finishing at 3.00pm. Doors open at 10.15am, with coffee being served. Numbers are restricted so booking is essential to reserve a place via the website (see below) or contact programme@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk or call Lisa Etheridge on 01285 711805 for a booking form. Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £40.

To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds and to see what lectures, Special Interest Days and other activities are planned, please log into the website www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk

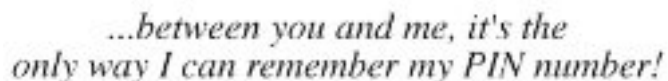
Or contact *Alison Morgans* on 01993 822296

Worry

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

Do it

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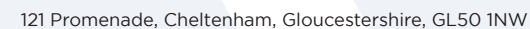
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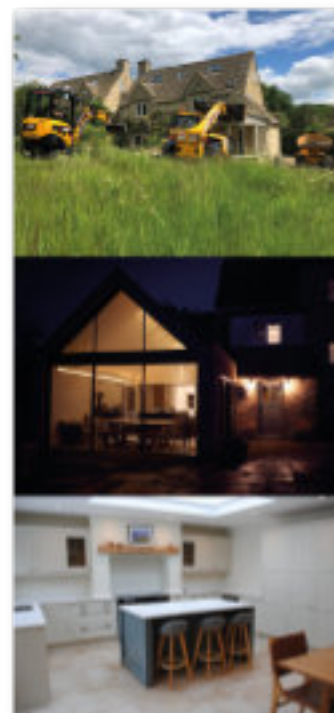
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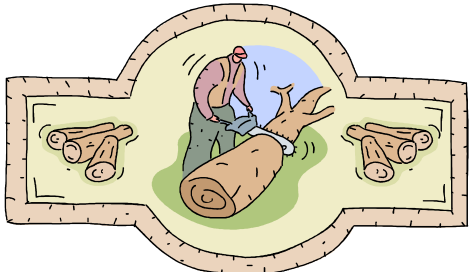
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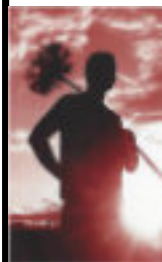
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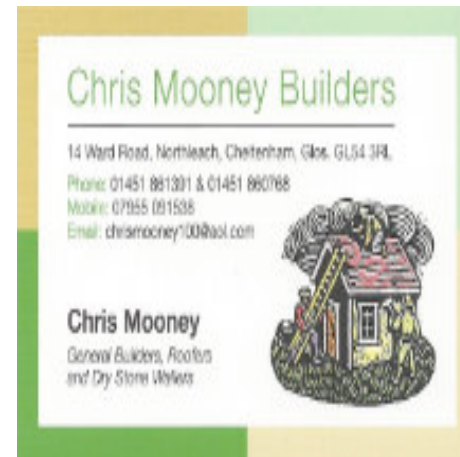
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