

December 2024/January 2025

The Hill and Valley

Parish Magazine



**Happy Christmas
and
New Year
to all our readers**

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 photo by Eckehard Jagdmann (pixabay) and contents page photo by Julie Young

The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

Contents

Karen's Letter	4
Hill & Valley Benifice Church Services	5
Dates for Your Diary	6
Recycling Dates	7
St. Andrew's C of E Primary & Preschool	8
Pop up Cafe	11
Chedworth Parish Council	12
Magic Show - Chedworth Village Hall	14
School Christmas Party	15
Chedworth WI	16
Robin Facts or Ficton?	18
Gardening Club - Autumn Seed Swap	20
Backrow Club at the Village Hall	21
Christmas Carols	22
Chedworth Oil Club News	23
Your Gardening Tips for Jan & Feb	24
Gold Day at Monmouth	25
War Child Charity Live Muisic	27
Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club	28
Wine Column	30
Chedworth Silver Band	31
Scrubditch Care Farm Christmas Fair	34
ChedEnt - An Evening of Old Radio	35
Walking Tennis	36
The Arts Society Cotswolds	38
Uncle Eustace	40

Julie Young Coordinator for this edition



Karen's Letter

I don't know about you, but I am weary of bad news, so here are a couple of good news stories from this last year for your encouragement. Healing is one sign that the Kingdom of God is among us, and here are a few from the Hill and Valley Benefice.

One person said, "Asking for healing at the communion rail in Church was an emotional release. When I was visited at home, the warm sensation through my back and chest when hands were placed round me, was calming and comforting. Strangely my body completely warmed through, like after a long session in a sauna. That experience helped me when I was in hospital and about to go into theatre. The feeling of trust stayed with me as I recovered."

Another wrote, "Being anointed with healing oil, was an entirely new experience for me during a bout of ill health earlier this year. Quiet words were prayed while my forehead was marked with oil. The experience was warm, moving, emotional, deeply spiritual and, perhaps best of all, highly personalised. It brought solace, comfort and reassurance."

Yet another told me, "I can only say that I felt a burden lifting from my shoulders and warmth somehow seeped into my soul. A burden lifted, strong arms to protect, knowledge that all will be well."

Then a very happy report, "I had incredibly high blood pressure, which came down drastically after receiving healing prayer in Church. Then there

were several visits at home where we prayed together for a cancer on my leg, before and after surgery. The medics are confounded, but I am quietly thankful to God for healing me."

And finally, "I came for prayer for someone in my family who had been suffering with mental health issues for some time. I asked for prayer for them two Sundays in a row. No one knew what I was asking for in prayer. The week after the second time of prayer, a family member called to tell me that the person in question had had a miraculous recovery. They too did not know that I had stood in proxy for this person, asking for healing of their mind."

I am thankful for the advancements in medical science that we all benefit from. But I am also grateful for the gift of healing prayer. As we enter Advent, it is a joy to see all these signs of the Prince of Peace ushering in His Kingdom.

Karen Hunter Krinvald



See page 32 for article concerning resignation of The Archbishop of Canterbury

Hill & Valley Benefice Church Services

Everyone Welcome

1st December

Holy Communion 10.30am - St Jame's the Great, Coln St Denys.
Advent Carol Service 6.00pm - St Andrew's, Coln Rogers

8th December

BCP Communion Service 9.00am - St Andrew's, Chedworth
10.30am - St Andrew's, Coln Rogers

15th December

Holy Communion 10.30am - St Michael's, Yanworth
Silver Band 3.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth.

19th December Thursday

Blue Christmas Service 6.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth

21st December Saturday

Christmas Carol Service 6.00pm - Coln St Denys.

22nd December

Happyfull Service 10.30am - St Andrew's Chedworth.
Christmas Carol Service 6.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth.

24th December Tuesday Christmas Eve

Cribb Service 3.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth.
Cribb Service 5.00pm - St Michael's, Yanworth.
Midnight Communion 11.30pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth

25th December Wednesday Christmas Day

BCP Communion Service 9.00am - St Leonard's, Stowell.
Holy Communion Service 10.30am - St Andrew's, Coln Rogers
Family Service 10.30am - St Andrew's, Chedworth

5th January

BCP communion Service 9.00am - St Andrew's, Chedworth
Holy Communion Service 10.30am - St James the Great, Coln St Denys

12th January

Holy Communion Service 10.30am - St Andrew's, Coln Rogers

19th January

Holy Communion Service 10.30am - St Michael's, Yanworth

26th January

Happyfull Service 10.30am - St Andrew's Chedworth

Funerals:

Revd George Mitchel - funeral 18/11/24 Ron Kelsey - funeral 28/10/24
Ian Orger - 22/11/24

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
1 Dec	15:00	Chedworth Ent Club -The Glass Slipper	Chedworth Village Hall
7 Dec	10:00	Christmas Fair	Scrubditch Care Farm North Cerney
9 Dec	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
11 Dec	19:15	WI - Christmas Flowers	Chedworth Village Hall
13 Dec	19:30	Backrow Club - Thelma	Chedworth Village Hall
14 Dec	19:00	War Child Charity Live Music - Flora Fiora & Poole Me Hearties	Chedworth Village Hall
15 Dec	11:30	School Christmas Party	Chedworth Village Hall
15 Dec	15:00	Chedworth Silver Band Christmas Concert	St Andrews Church Chedworth
16 Dec	17:30	Fish & Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
20 Dec	19:00	Christmas Carols with the Hill & Valley Singers	Pop-up-Pub Chedworth Village Hall
21 Dec	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
10 Jan	19:30	Backrow Club - The Critic	Chedworth Village Hall
19 Jan	9:00	Village Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
1 Feb	19:00	ChedEnt Club - An Evening of (very) Old Radio	Chedworth Village Hall
8 Feb	15:00	Children's Magic Show	Chedworth Village Hall
12 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, Coln St Dennis, Coln Rogers

Thursday	5	December
Thursday	19	December
Thursday	16	January
Thursday	30	January

Dates may change due to holidays

Turn your event into an occasion at

Chedworth Village Hall

Visit our website for full details including making booking enquiries

chedworthvillagehall.co.uk



Whole School Trip

At the beginning of October, we took the whole school to Gloucester to visit the Masjid-e-Noor Mosque and The Cathedral. One of our curriculum drivers is **diversity** and we therefore seek as many opportunities as possible to provide our pupils with experiences to enhance their understanding and tolerance of different religions, cultures and beliefs. The children had a brilliant time at the mosque, the Imam who hosted us was so generous with his time and really made the content accessible and relatable for the children.



Thank you!

We wanted to say a huge thank you to the Chedworth Entertainment group, who supported our pupils with a kind donation to access some cooking sessions earlier in the term. The children had a wonderful time and we are so thankful for their donation.



Wanted!

We are in need of **foundation governors** to support the strategic direction of the school. Maintained Church of England Schools and academies are required to have a prescribed number of Foundation Governors or Trustees appointed to their governing board. Foundation Governors are expected to bring to the governing body an informed regard for the Christian character and foundation of the school, to ensure that this is preserved and developed, and that the religious worship reflects the tradition of the Church of England.



Cross Country Running

During October, we took a team of cross country runners to the cross country event at The Cotswold School. We were so impressed with their performance, stamina and attitude.



At the end of last term, both Sycamore and Rowan class conducted some Geographical fieldwork out in the community. Sycamore class visited the Roman Villa to speak to tourists about what attracts them to The Cotswolds and Chedworth. I was delighted to have received two emails praising the pupils on their manners and respect shown.

Rowan class visited the Pop up Cafe to speak to locals about why they chose to live here and gain their views on the most important features of Chedworth. Rowan class had a wonderful time talking to people and were very grateful to have received some delicious cake! This term, Oak and Ash class will be visiting the cafe to do some reading and arts and then the whole school will be going towards the end of term to sing some carols and songs!

We're really grateful to all who help run this lovely venture for hosting us!



Act of Remembrance

In November, we were joined by some parents for an act of remembrance, where we observed a 2 minute silence and children read some poetry.



St Andrew's CE Primary School Chedworth
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www.st-andrewsschool.co.uk Phone: 01285 720427

Staff had a busy half term swapping Oak class and the library area as we continue to create the best environment possible for our pupils to flourish. We now have a wonderful space for children and adults to enjoy a range of texts, and a useful additional learning space for small groups and music tuition.



History

We are really keen to develop our knowledge of the history of our school. If you are an ex-pupil/ staff member and feel you could give us any information, pictures, news cuttings etc. we would love to hear from you.

The children in Year 3 & 4 will be learning about how children's lives have changed and therefore we'd like to link this to local children over the years. If you have pictures or stories about what you used to do as a child, we would love to enhance our children's learning with some real life stories.



Christmas Concert

On Tuesday 17th December, we will be holding our Christmas concert at St Andrew's Church from 4.30pm. We are really excited to be joined by Flora Fiora - an ex pupil- who will be performing some songs.

The school is hoping to attend the Pop up Cafe on Monday 9th December to sing some of our Christmas songs while you enjoy tea and cake!



As the end of the year creeps closer, the Pop-up cafe is looking back

In a busy twelve months, we cafe volunteers have welcomed friends, neighbours - & strangers! through our doors every Monday morning.

Many cups of coffee have been downed, several sausage rolls & cakes have been scoffed; it's been hard work but fun!



From our beginnings, our idea was always to offer the best local food & produce, sourced from as near to Chedworth as possible; we're pleased that we've stuck to the plan. We've kept costs & prices low, although in spite of ourselves the cafe makes a small profit. We pass this on; over this year the cafe has supported DEC UK and the Cirencester Food Bank, all thanks to our customers constant & generous support.

So a big pat on the back all round.



We want to send seasons greetings and thanks to our suppliers, who have worked so hard for us over the year, and are definitely the icing on our cake, so to speak -

Claire Booth, Sarah Godwin, Eddy Graves, Anne Baxter, & Seb & Pippa (& baby Max♥️) at Manor Farm... we love you all!



Most especially, we'd like to extend our warmest best wishes to Lynn Mitchell. Lynn has been a stalwart at the cafe most Monday mornings since we started, over three years ago. Since then, through the sale of her plants and her sweet hand-made gifts, she has raised almost £3,500... All of this money has been donated by Lynn to the on-going relief fund for Ukraine, the charity of her choice. Lynn, we admire & thank you so much for all your hard work- you're an absolute star



And finally - we thank you, our friends, neighbours & customers - our raison d'être. The Pop-up team would like to wish all of you a very happy & peaceful Christmas, and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible - next year at the cafe!



Chedworth Parish Council

Christmas Lights

Christmas approaches at an ever-increasing pace and we are once again seeking volunteers to erect our Christmas Lights. Last year our volunteers were unable to get the cherry picker to the large tree at the Village Hall and instead created a tasteful display on the Millennium tree using a selection of long poles. This year we are again seeking volunteers to put up the lights. The existing lights are being refurbished and some new replacements have been sourced so we just need volunteers with a couple of hours to spare to drape them tastefully around the tree, contact any Councillor, the Clerk 01285 720313 or email clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk

Lower End Phone Box Defibrillator

We also need someone to do monthly checks on the Defibrillator in the

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
Bella Amory	07808 724972

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

XBox, the former telephone box at The Hemplands turning. The task is fairly simple, visual check that the Defibrillator is there and not beeping, pads are in date and unused, the green lights shows the electric is on (the box is heated) and then go on the Community Heartbeat Trust website and confirm the check has been done and it is serviceable, or if not, alert the Clerk or a Councillor who will instigate rectification. The Defibrillators are life savers if someone has a heart attack, so this is a very important task to check they are in full working order, contact 720313 or clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk

Parish Precept

Each year we ask for suggestions for our budget deliberations. We set our budget in January for the year commencing 1st April 2025. The Parish Council funds come from Chedworth Council Taxpayers and the amount is shown as a sub heading on your bill.

By and large Chedworth Parish Council funds can only be spent in Chedworth Parish. It maybe you wish a specific project to be funded, or existing expenditure curtailed, recently the Village Hall has received a significant proportion of Parish Council funds, previously the equipment shed was a significant expense, but the Council tries where possible to get third party funding to conserve our funds. For instance, we snapped up Speed Watch equipment at a very good price. Every year something unexpected crops up so we keep a reasonable reserve in hand as unlike most organisations it is extremely difficult for a Parish Council

to borrow money. Suggestions by email clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk

Seven Tuns

After the content of this page were agreed, Cotswold District Council added The Seven Tuns to its list of Assets of Community Value. This has implications for planning and for any sale of the freehold of the property and may secure the future of the Seven Tuns as a public house. This was our third attempt, and its success is really down to the hard work of STAG

(the Seven Tuns Action Group) and the very many supporters who submitted evidence and photographs to prove the Seven Tuns was the hub of our community and can be again. Many thanks to you all.

David Broad, Chairman



FoStA Christmas Cards



Sold in aid of
Friends of St Andrew's
Church Chedworth
(FoStA)



£5 per pack of 10

Available in the Church

or

Contact Sheila Bowley 01285 720369

2bowlees@gmail.com

What would you like for Christmas?

A little girl visited Father Christmas in the local garden centre grotto. He welcomed her with a smile and asked what she would like for Christmas. She gasped, and stared at him in horror. "Didn't you get my email?!"

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? Nothing. It was on the house.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 15th December

Chedworth Village Hall

11:30-2:00

Hosted by St Andrew's School PTA

All children welcome

Tickets on the door

£8 per child, £2 per adult

All proceeds to St Andrew's School PTA

*Christmas activities and party games

*Disco with guest DJ

*Visit from Father Christmas

*Children's lunch

*Refreshments for adults

Chedworth WI November/ Annual meeting 2024

Once again, we were treated to a delicious meal courtesy of Clare Booth and her team, this left us members free to concentrate on the business of the evening which is to review the year financially, appreciate all that we have done, and to elect our officers and committee members.

Our wonderful president Sheila Bowley and our amazing treasurer Chrissy Mitchel both of whom have had very difficult years have very bravely agreed to serve for one more year. As have our secretary Penny Taylor and our very hard-working committee. Finding officers and committee members is always tricky as all of us seem to be getting busier rather than otherwise. But as our President reminded us all, we only have three more years to go till Chedworth WI makes it to its centenary, so it will be worth the effort to keep going!



Chedworth WI Officers for 2025

Amazingly although our numbers have fluctuated, we are back up to 39. We have been treated this year to talks and activities ranging from covering and packing shoe boxes, making Christmas table centres, visits to Bee Brockman's Garden in Chedworth, North Cerney

house Garden and Kelmscott and amazing talks from Teddy Bears to high art and architecture! We now have book clubs, a lunch club and a walking group who all meet once a month and two exercise groups working out at High Peaks.

As a final treat to end the evening in front of every member appeared a little gold, silver or sparkly cardboard pyramid inside of each were some of our favourite chocolates – Clare Peterson had made the delightful surprise for each member.

Next month we will be making Christmas wreaths or Christmas table centres courtesy of our own Jo Todd, (who had also done some lovely table flowers which the birthday 'girls' got to take home!). This does mean that it will be limited to members – but we always welcome new members so this could be your chance to come and join us. Wednesday 11th December, 7.15pm at the village hall.

Emma Isaac



Two Successful Events at Village Hall

Two very contrasting and excellent events at the Village Hall on the 1st and 2nd November

FoStA- Talk by Lord Hoffmann on Human Rights

There was a very good attendance at Chedworth Village Hall on Friday evening 1st November for an excellent talk by Lord Hoffmann on Human Rights. He explained the development of human rights over the centuries under Common Law and this country's pivotal role in setting up the European Court of Human Rights in Strasburg after the Second World War. Following his talk, Lord Hoffmann took questions from the audience on a wide range of human rights issues.

Richard Isaac on behalf of FoStA

thanked Lord Hoffmann and mentioned how fortunate we are to have such a prominent former Law Lord in our community, who is Patron of FoStA and a keen supporter of the village.



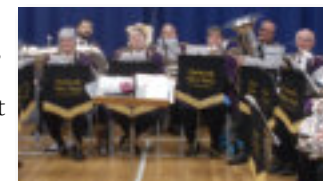
The event raised over £800 for church funds.

The next FoStA event is a Children's Magic Show at 3pm on Saturday 8th February at Chedworth Village Hall-see notice on page 14.

Concert by The Chedworth Silver Band supporting the Royal British Legion

The Chedworth Silver Band gave a very enjoyable concert in Chedworth Village Hall on Saturday evening 2nd November, playing a good selection of band tunes with several solo performances. In the second part, there was a very enthusiastic singalong including We Will Meet Again and A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square.

The band conductor, David Broad kept the audience well informed as to the history of the tunes, including some amusing anecdotes and emphasised the importance of supporting the RBL. David and Felicity Peake were on hand to collect donations for the RBL.



Robert Young



Robin Facts or Ficton?

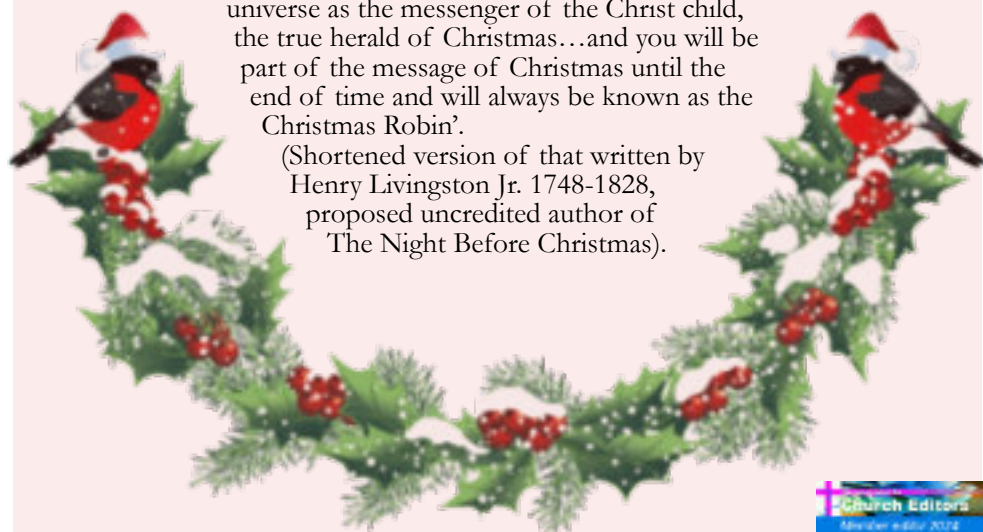
Everyone loves a robin, but why are they on the front of so many Christmas cards? It probably arises from the fact that postmen in Victorian Britain wore red jackets and were nicknamed 'Robins', so the robin featured on the Christmas card is an emblem of the postman delivering the card. In 1861 the postmen's uniform was changed to blue, but red has remained as the traditional colour of the Royal Mail, reflected in its vans and post boxes.

However, there are several legends that actually link the robin to the Christmas story.

One of these is that Mother Mary was worried baby Jesus would get cold as the embers were dying in the fire. The other animals didn't help but a plain, brown coloured robin assisted by flapping his wings so the embers glowed again. He then picked up some dry sticks and tossed them into the fire, however, as he did so a flame suddenly burst forth and burned the little bird's breast a bright red. Mary praised the robin for all he had done, saying 'From now on, let your red breast be a blessed reminder of your noble deed. You will be known throughout the

universe as the messenger of the Christ child, the true herald of Christmas...and you will be part of the message of Christmas until the end of time and will always be known as the Christmas Robin'.

(Shortened version of that written by Henry Livingston Jr. 1748-1828, proposed uncredited author of 'The Night Before Christmas').



Christmas carols

One night as Christmas approached, some friends decided to go carol singing. A man answered the door of one house, and gasped as they launched into the opening lines of the first carol. Within half a minute, he looked stricken. Soon tears were welling up in his eyes. The carollers sang and sang, and the man looked very moved by what he heard. One caroller ventured: "I understand - our singing reminds you of your happy childhood Christmases."

The man looked at her with misery in his eyes. "No," he whispered back. "It's just that I am a musician!"

DEMENTIA PEER GROUP

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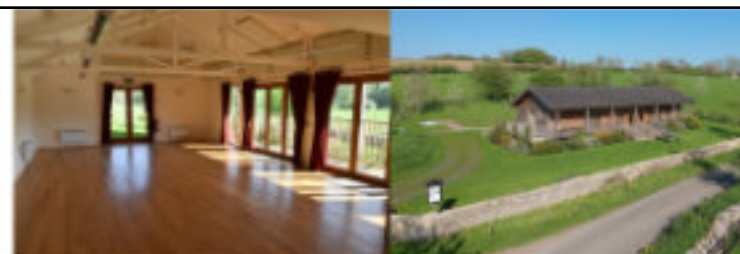


Meeting date: 29/1/25 at 3-4.30pm
Church Centre
Station Road, Andoversford, Nr.Cheltenham
GL54 4LA

Free refreshments including cake!

For further information email pkear@blueyonder.co.uk

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Gardening Club - Autumn Seed Swap

Chedworth Gardening Club – Autumn Seed Swap

The Gardening Club held an Autumn Seed Swap in the Social space of the Village Hall on 1 November. Expertly timed to be immediately before the Friday evening Pop Up Pub(!), enthusiastic members brought seeds hand collected since September, vegetable seeds that were surplus to requirements and seed packets that came free with gardening magazines and were just “not the right colour for my borders” but too nice to throw away.

As the hundreds of seed packets were spread out, members enjoyed discussing the flower seeds available, exchanging growing tips and filling handbags and pockets with seed packets to take home.

The award for the most beautiful seed packets goes to Heather Robson, who had hand painted the most delightful illustrations on her offerings.

Deemed a success, the Gardening Club hopes to hold another seed swap in the Spring.

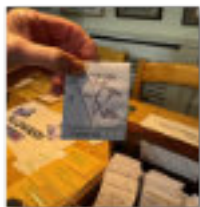
The Seed Swap adds to the Chedworth Gardening Club’s activities which

include:

- Club visits to impressive Cotswold gardens usually closed to the public
- Master classes in rose pruning, willow weaving and other horticultural topics
- Informal gatherings in members’ gardens to exchange plants and ideas
- Discounts on plants and seeds at Burford Garden Centre
- Discounts on compost and soil conditioners from Shurdington Nurseries
- And the chance to meet and engage with enthusiastic gardeners

If you would like to join Chedworth Gardening Club, please email chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com for details. Annual membership costs only £15 for an individual or £25 for joint membership.

Ceri Powell



Backrow Club at the Village Hall



Christmas Carols

*with the Hill & Valley Singers
in the Pop-up-Pub in the Village Hall
at 7-8pm on Friday 20th December*



*Come and join us for a sing-a-long of your favorite carols,
and listen to some Christmas songs from the Singers.*

*Sadly, this will be our last occasion to sing in a social event for,
as many of you will have heard, we have been unable to find a
conductor so we have no choice but to disband the Hill & Valley
Singers. We would like to thank all of our audiences who, over
the years, have generously shown their appreciation and supported
our various endeavours to entertain you.*

Chedworth Gardening Club



Private garden visits

10% discount on plants, bulbs & seeds at Burford Garden Centre

Discounted prices on compost & soil conditioners

Informal garden visits where you can meet other members in a sociable setting and share successes and failures, spread ideas, swap plants and give growing tips.

All this and more when you join Chedworth Gardening Club, so come & join us!

The cost of annual individual membership is only £15 and £25 for joint membership.

For more information, contact Chedworth Gardening Club
Chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com

Chedworth Oil Club News

The Future of Chedworth Oil Club

Further to our previous request for help with the administration of CHOC, we unfortunately had no one come forward. This left us with the unattractive option of closing CHOC with immediate effect.

However, we have now negotiated (subject to agreement of the final details) a new arrangement with Sweet, under which they will take responsibility for the vast majority of the administration, leaving us to organise the annual draw for free oil and to administer the funds given to us annually by Sweet for good causes in the village.

We have also agreed with them that they will increase their discount for CHOC members from 1p per litre to a higher amount (subject to agreement of the final details).

We would hope to finalise agreement with Sweet by the end of the year and



will communicate with members early in 2025.

What do I need to do now? Nothing until the new system is in place! Please continue to order with Sweet as before.

What do I need to do in the future? All current/future members will need to re-register with Sweet directly. Details will be provided on how this will work in future. We will also advise members on exactly how to ensure that they are getting the best price from Sweet, when ordering.

We are still looking for new committee members to join us, so please do contact us, if you are interested.

Many thanks

Steve Scott-Smith srscottsmith@gmail.com

Denis Moore zenden.moore@gmail.com

You can tell

You can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights



Your Gardening Tips for Jan & Feb

Whilst the world is warming up around us, here we finish the year with more cool wet than dry days, and finding the best time to mow the lawn has been frustrating. Now, however, seems more and more unlikely that we will see a winter scene like this.



- Prune open-grown apples and pears, and acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding. Careful pruning will produce fewer but bigger fruits.
- Bare rooted deciduous trees and shrubs can be planted and transplanted in December and January, and it is the time to take hardwood cuttings. Ensure newly planted trees are well staked. Remember the rule not to put into a deep hole but a more shallow square pit to allow the roots to spread out.
- Remove weeds from around the base of young fruit trees. Check that stakes are secure, and a thick dry mulch will protect the roots from frost.
- Plant new raspberry canes making sure that the soil is well drained and fertile.
- Gooseberry bushes can be pruned until late January.
- Prune wisteria by cutting back side shoots to two or three buds.
- Keep deadheading winter bedding plants such as pansies, cyclamen and violas and fill gaps with more plants.
- For late autumn and early winter colour few shrubs can match Mahonia x media 'Lionel Fortescue' as shown here. It

tolerates most types of soil in sun or shade.

- Plant roses, in areas not previously inhabited by roses.
- Try sowing over wintering lettuce like Winter Gem and parsley, Mustard Greens The seeds will need to be started off inside or over a heated tray but should grow on in the greenhouse or south facing cold frame.
- Group and insulate vulnerable patio pots from frost with bubble-wrap or similar protective material.
- This is a good time to work bulky organic matter into heavy soil ready for the spring but remove plant debris to avoid disease over-



wintering on the soil.

- Cover unused areas with thick mulch or membrane to suppress weeds and keep the soil warm ready for the spring.
- Root crops are sweetest after a frost but will need to be lifted and stored in sand before the ground gets too hard.
- It is not too late to plant shallots ready for an early 2025 crop unless the weather turns really cold. Cover with fleece in the coldest weather. Boxing Day is apparently the day to plant onion seeds!
- Lift and divide established clumps of rhubarb. Start forcing rhubarb in January.
- Check autumn sown sweet peas for slug and mouse damage and take defensive action! Sow more sweet peas in January, if required.
- Check stored bulbs for sign of rot

and remove affected bulbs.

- Insulate outdoor taps and drain water butts if a heavy frost is forecast to avoid damaging the taps.
- Clean the greenhouse inside and out, and if it is being used for growing plants, insulate against frost with bubble wrap or similar. It is a good thing to ventilate the greenhouse occasionally during warmer days to reduce fungal infection.
- Brush off worm casts on your lawn.
- Keep an eye out for overwintering pests such as whitefly and red spider mite and treat accordingly.

Simon Colbeck
Chairman
Chedworth Gardening Club

Gold Day at Monmouth



As promised herewith the amount raised from our Charity Golf Day which was a fantastic amount of £2,403.00 which will be equally divided between Chedworth Village Hall and Chedworth Junior Tennis Club.

Once again thank you to everyone who supports this great day I really do appreciate it.

Don't forget the date for next year is FRIDAY 12th September 2025.

Best wishes

Pete Heaps

Christmas play

The Sunday School Christmas play was in full swing when the teacher prompted: "And what was it that guided the Wise Men from the East?" Right on cue, the pre-schoolers turned their large white letters to face the audience. However, the last four children in the lineup had somehow reversed their sequence, and so the answer was: C H R I S T M A S R A T S.

Saturday 14th December



Flora Fiora in support of

WAR

child

With special guests:

Poole Me Hearties



At Chedworth Village Hall, GL54 4NE

Doors & bar: 6:30 Performances: 7:00pm

Tickets: £10 (Adults)

Early-bird discount: £8

Children: £5 (ages 10yrs or below)

Tickets: <https://bit.ly/3YUkOgY>

Scan for tickets



WAR
child

War Child Charity Live Muisic

WAR CHILD Charity Live Music
Performances

Chedworth's own, **Flora Fiora** and the fabulous shanty band "**Poole Me Hearties**", aka Rev. Karen, Rom, and friends are performing **live** at Chedworth Village Hall on the Saturday **14 December**. Doors and Bar open 6:30 pm.

War Child UK works to support children that are caught in the crossfire of war. They supply clothes, food and water. They work to reunite children with their parents. They fight for their rights to education, help to heal trauma and to exist in a free world.

About Flora Fiora – her music has an indie pop-vibe. She has had a busy 2024 performing at summer festivals including Wychwood and 'Festival', and is now beginning to break into the vibrant London live music scene. You may have heard her and her band practicing over the summer. She has

released 3 more songs and is on the way to two thirds of a million global streams.

About Poole Me Hearties – We met through our sailing club in Poole and began singing together in parks and peoples gardens during lockdown.

This year we have sung at many Shanty Festivals, including several in Holland and in Bristol.

We look forward to entertaining you!

For more about this event + buy a ticket and/or donate: <https://bit.ly/3YUkOgY>

The legal bit: All profits and donations from sales of tickets will be donated to War Child UK. War Child is a registered charity in the UK with the number 1071659.

Flora Fiora

Chedworth Silver Band

Christmas Concert

Sunday 15th December

3 PM

St Andrews Church Chedworth

Free Admission

Sponsored by the Unite the Union Branch from Safraim Landing Systems Gloucester



Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

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

CLUB NEWS

We have had a great year of tennis despite the weather challenges! The normal club and groups sessions will continue weather permitting all winter, our Mixed Winter and Ladies over 60's League matches are under way. Winter Membership runs until the end of February 2025, and you are welcome to come and try out any 3 sessions before joining, please get in touch. We would like to say a massive thank you to Pete Heaps and his friends for choosing our Club as one of the village organisations to support this year with funds raised at his annual golf day. *Robert Baker, Chair* hillandvalleylta@gmail.com

Walking Tennis

Our Walking Tennis has been very popular and we are most grateful to Hilary Swan for volunteering her time to run this. Last month a team of 9 players went to Oxtalls to join the Gloucestershire team to compete against Herefordshire & Worcestershire and Avon. Congratulations to Sophia Blackwell and Adrian Potter for being runners up!



WHAT'S ON

CLUB SESSIONS

Monday Pop Up & Play Mixed Social 9.30-11.30am

Monday Men's Night 6-9pm

Thursday Ladies Evening 5-6.30pm

Friday Mixed Social Up Pop Up Pub 5-7pm

Saturday Mixed Social 4-6pm

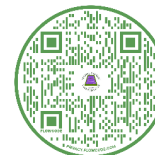


WALKING TENNIS

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>



XMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS

December 24th, 26th, 31st & January 2nd

Juniors 4-13yrs on Tuesdays & Thursdays

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

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

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

AFTER SCHOOL JUNIOR COACHING

Running until December 18th then will start again next year on February 26th 2025

Every Wednesday in term time for ages 4-18yrs

Open to non members, rackets provided

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



If you would like to give a Gift Voucher for coaching or membership please get in touch.

We wish you a very Happy Christmas!



Wine Column

Hello Neighbors,

I just got back from a month-long work road trip to 12 states...I am done traveling for the year except a quick trip in December to have a holiday party with the winery in Napa.

When you read this, we will be full force into the holidays and time for Christmas parties, NYE celebrations and raising a glass for the good lives we have here in the Cotswolds.

Champagne pairs with every event, every party and every food, so don't ever find it a wrong item to bring, or serve, at any party.

What is Grower Champagne?

The popularity of Grower Champagne is a new phenomenon over the last 5-8 years. Major Champagne houses, including Dom Perignon, Veuve Clicquot, and Bollinger, have always dominated the bubbly scene. These private houses (negociants) buy grapes from the owners of several vineyard to blend and make their "house style". Some of these grape growers decided to start making their own wines from their vineyards, wines that are more "terroir" or single vineyard, focusing on the soil and areas that the wine come from instead of blending to make the same flavor annually. These grower champagnes are also usually vintage dated, while the large houses are normally a blend from multiple years.

Grower Champagnes have been described as "artisanal winemaking" with terroir being at the forefront for each wine. Some growers will pull specific plots within the village,

especially if they own vineyards in one of Champagne's Grand crus. They are often released younger as it is expensive to long term age and so is storage. Most have a lower dosage or no dosage at all, meaning it is dry in style.

The French term for a grower is 'Récoltant-Manipulant' and Grower Champagnes can be identified by the initials 'RM' on their back labels. Although there are some 16,000 growers in Champagne, they account for a small proportion of the export market. The very best Grower Champagnes are rare and hard to find. Grower Champagnes are touted to be better value as you aren't paying for marketing dollars so a lower cost. They are a little harder to find, but I think they are well worth the time.

My faves:

- **Pierre Gimmonnet et Fils Blanc de Blancs Cuis 1er Cru NV – 42 a bottle**
- **Pierre Peters Cuvée de Réserve Blanc de Blancs NV – 52 a bottle**
- **Vilmart & Cie Grand Cellier NV – 50 a bottle**
- **Jacquesson Cuvée 747 NV – 82 a bottle**
- **Bereche et Fils, Réserve Brut - 72 a bottle**

Vineyard Update and Tour the Vineyard:

By the time you get this, the leaves on the vines will be changing colors and dropping for the year. This is a rare time where we won't have a ton of



work to do in the vineyard, but we will use this time to prep for next year, budget and plan out the schedule for next year. January is when pruning starts and the life cycle of the vine starts over.

We've had a couple of neighbors and friends ask for a "tour" of the vineyard and it has been fun for us to do this. We have had quite a visitors! Are you interested in learning more about the details of what is happening in the vineyard and our plans? Email us and we can have you come over and we will walk you through.

Until next month, cheers!

Amber

cotswoldswineadventure@gmail.com

Follow our vineyard on Instagram or facebook @cotswoldswineadventure

Chedworth Silver Band

Chedworth Silver Band will be performing at St Andrews Church on Sunday 15th December from 3pm for a Christmas themed concert with sing a long Carols etc. Scheduled to be over just after 4pm so we can leave before it gets dark.

We will also be playing at Upper Chedworth (within a Kilometre of Chedworth Church according to Street Collection License) from 10.30am on Boxing Day, 26th December. We should be playing outside The Seven Tuns around noon, whether it is trading or not.

Other performances include a rather

longer Christmas Concert at Purton Methodist Chapel on Thursday 12th December, however all tickets for this Concert have been sold.

We also hope to play around some pubs and restaurants, but details have yet to be finalised.

Contact details, phone 01285 720313, email chedworthsilverband@mail.com or follow our Chedworth Silver Band Facebook page for updates.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

David Broad - Bandmaster

Christmas gifts

Grandfather was talking to his grand-daughter, "When I was a child all we got for Christmas was an apple and an orange." The little girl clapped her hands in joy. "Brilliant! I'd love a new computer and a mobile!"

The Resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury

The Resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury

To be subject to profound and repeated physical abuse at a vulnerable age is among the worst things to befall anyone. Those who have had the courage to come forward and detail their experiences at the hands of a distorted individual over a period of decades must be at the very centre of the church's care and concern.

While the individual responsible was not an employee of the Church of England, and the channels through which he worked were not under the authority of the Church of England, it was nonetheless right that the Archbishop of Canterbury commissioned Keith Makin to investigate whether there was anything the church could have done to have prevented these terrible crimes and what lessons could be learned. After five years, the Makin Review has concluded that the church could have done much better, and has pointed the finger at certain individuals in particular. The central issue is that the information came to light in 2013, but between then and his death at his own hand in 2018, the perpetrator abused several dozen more people – and it's not clear how this was permitted to happen.

Over recent decades the church, along with many organisations, has undergone a radical reappraisal of its procedures around safeguarding children and adults at risk of harm. This has been a huge institutional culture change. The simple principles of vigilance, reporting and safeguarding being everyone's responsibility have made the church a much safer place. One result of that is that failures stand out painfully; and failure in relation to a case as grievous as this is something neither church nor society is able to countenance. The church has failed many individuals whose lives have been impacted beyond description. It puts in question the significant progress that has been made. And it undermines the church's credibility all over again.

It is this that has led to the news today of the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as a result of the words in the Makin Report that suggest that he, along with others, could have acted differently – and that if they had, many could have been saved from an unspeakable experience of harm. Leadership can be lonely; in today's culture, when there is a very great wrong, there is a corresponding tide of demand that a leader visibly pay the price for an institution's failings. It is tragic that a primacy bringing such profound good in so many areas, conducted by a person of singular faith, courage, humility and integrity, should end like this. But it seems the Archbishop has concluded that the unheard pleas of survivors, the degree of institutional failure, and the fact that his own role in the case was not impeccable, have together made it impossible for him to continue. His dignity and selflessness are an example to all of us.

These are very sad matters. No one is glad about this course of events. It is a time for sitting in silence together and realising our fragility; and for listening to and upholding those who've been through profound trauma. If these events have stirred up memories and emotions that are difficult and painful, please be in touch. My colleagues and I are here to listen. It is the centre of our calling.

Rev Dr Samn Wells

contributed by Karen Hunter Krivald

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effortless
a writer
as he is a
performer"
The Stage



Paul Kerensa adopts the BBC's mission statement, to 'inform, educate and entertain', in his 'stand-up history' show coming to Chedworth on February 1st. The story starts in the ashes of the Great War and roars into the 20s. He introduces us to the innovators and pioneers who created the nascent radio technology, the personalities behind the first broadcasts and the masterminds who envisioned what the BBC could become. It is a very British tale: of genius and eccentricity, told with humour, insight and some smashing props.

Tickets & Info: chedworthentclub.co.uk

SAT 1st FEB

7- 8.30PM

Chedworth Village Hall
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It will help to get you going again and improve your fitness and wellbeing. It is relaxed and fun, you can go at your own pace. You only need a pair of trainers, we can provide a racket if you don't have one plus the balls.

Come and give it a try or you can just come and watch, it is open to non members and friends and family.

We have tea and cake afterwards!

We look forward to seeing you!



For more info scan the QR code or follow this link

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



The Arts Society Cotswolds

**Lecture on Wednesday 11th
December 2024**

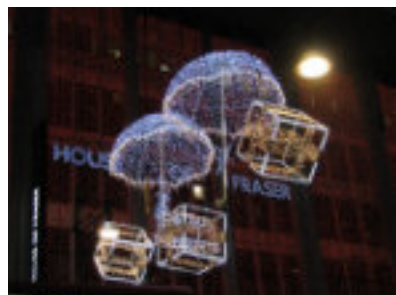
Lecture: The Goose is Getting Fat: A History of Christmas Traditions

What's behind the Wassail and why do we kiss under mistletoe and let loose women into York at Christmas? Every family hones its own traditions, but mainly they are based on a central theme: filling our houses with greenery and bling, sending cards, eating too much, wearing a silly hat, singing songs and playing games that we don't bother with for the rest of the year. How has all this come about? Some are based on pagan festivities that either honoured spirits or simply helped to break up the winter. Others, such as advent calendars and crackers, are much more recent.

This lecture cannot possibly cover all of our traditions, but it gives a glimpse behind the scenes to see our ancestors preparing for the day, stirring-up puddings and dragging Yule logs into the house on Christmas Eve and the rituals that went with it. We see Lords of Misrule lording it over rowdy parties, how pantomime developed and how a few carollers sent out a coded message.

About our speaker:

Imogen, after nearly 20 years in the British army, went to the University of Kent to study Anglo-Saxon & Medieval History and Art, graduating with 1st class honours, followed by an MPhil from the University of Birmingham. She works as a freelance lecturer across Britain and Europe as well as lecturing



on small cruise ships and running study tours and courses on land. She is the author of *Stone on Stone: the Men Who Built the Cathedrals*, published 2019. A Freeman of the City of London, and a Member of the Company of Communicators.

**Lecture on Wednesday 8th
January 2025**

Charles I: King and Collector

This lecture celebrates the 400th Anniversary of Charles I's accession to the throne in 1625. Charles I's obsession for collecting works of art began when as a 22-year-old prince he travelled to Spain and saw the magnificent collection of the Spanish king, Philip IV. On becoming King in 1625 Charles purchased the fabulous collection of the Gonzaga Dukes of Mantua which included works by Titian, Raphael and Andrea Mantegna's astonishing series of paintings "The Triumphs of Caesar".

About the speaker:

Barbara Askew is an historian and London Blue Badge Guide since 1988. Lecturer, Examiner and Course Director on Blue Badge Guide Training Courses and an acknowledged expert



on Royalty and Windsor Castle. The only Blue Badge Guide accredited to guide the Albert Memorial. Offers guided visits and walking tours linked to her lectures.

These hybrid lectures 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 (www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk).

(theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk). Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £10.

Further information will be circulated via the newsletter and bookings can be made via the website (www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk) or please contact Lisa Etheridge on 07918 180895 for a booking form.

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

Or contact Alison Morgans on 07771 817050

Or Carolyn Walton on 01993 822296



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Uncle Eustace

On why Carol Services are so dangerous

The Rectory
St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are excited about being invited to plan your first Carol Service. The dangers involved are only slightly less than being invited to judge the best cake made by the Ladies' Group. You seem to have no idea of the lifelong offence you will inevitably cause. In decades to come when you will either be a seasoned old clergyman – or more likely a double glazing salesman – you will be remembered as “the Curate who offended Mrs Smith.”

First, you have to decide which groups are going to be represented to give the readings. If the Brownies were asked last year, then it has to be the Cubs this time. But don't forget that every third year, the Boys' Brigade must be asked, or they will take their revenge and get their flag tangled in the nave chandelier come Remembrance Sunday. If someone represents the choir, then over a four year period, all four voice parts must be called on – and if the organist isn't asked on the fifth year, then all hymns subsequently will be played at double speed and with one verse missing. Should one person have been invited to read for two successive years, then their annual appearance thereafter will be taken as an inalienable right for the rest of their lifetime – and probably longer than that. To drop them may well invoke legal proceedings,

Then there is the batting order to be considered. Someone from the church

council will take it as a deliberate slight if they are placed lower in the order than a representative of the Men's Fellowship and no self-respecting bell ringer would voluntarily follow a brass cleaner.

If you do not specify where they should read from and how the readings should end, then a form of ecclesiastical inflation will happen. If the first reader speaks from the chancel step, the next one will go to the lectern; after the sanctuary and pulpit have been utilised, the final reader will probably ask you to move so he can take your place. The variations on “Here endeth”, “This is the Word of the Lord”, and “Thanks be to God”, are endless and will increase in length as the Service progresses. The final reader will probably end with a lengthy exegesis on what he thinks the passage means, correcting whatever you said in your sermon.

I once made the mistake of not telling all readers which Bible translation to use. One, an Old Testament expert, therefore decided to read in Hebrew. Not to be outdone, another read her Gospel passage in Greek – apologising beforehand that it may not be a perfect rendering, as she was spontaneously translating it from the English. And some say Christians are not competitive.

You have two alternatives: either repeat last year's Service without any alteration, saying that it could not be improved, or design your own – and then take Christmas off.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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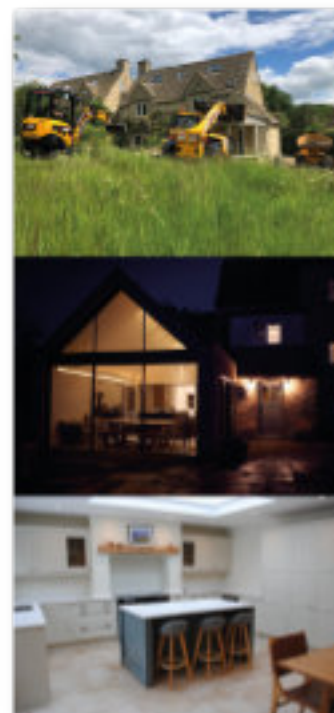
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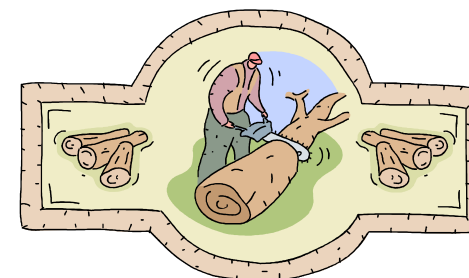
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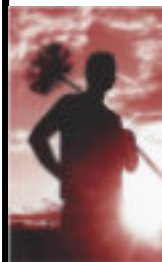
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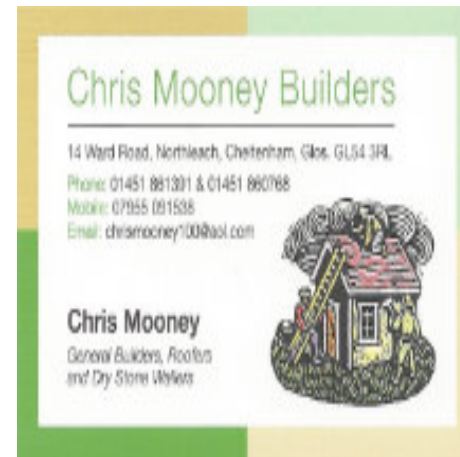


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