

April 2025

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.**

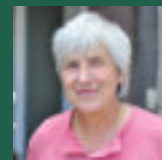
Cover page photo by Julie Young

The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Julie Young Coordinator for this edition



Spring is cast



The bashful snowdrop bows his head,

His role as prologue thus is read.

The crocus, pale and innocent

Appears, then hides, his colours spent.

A daub of red a splash of yellow,

The tulip plays an arrogant fellow.

The faithful daffodil stands proud

And, gently nodding, inspires the crowd

Anonymous



Karen's Letter

They say that if you don't learn to wait well you'll be frustrated all your life, because you are always waiting for something.

What are you waiting for? I know I am waiting on a few things. Am I doing it well though? Probably not.

I get impatient and restless. The longing for whatever it is, causes the urgency that makes me feel so uncomfortable. How do I change that? Is it possible to wait well? To be patient in hope?

I recall waiting for my trunk to arrive in boarding school. It got lost somewhere between Delhi and Dehradun. Every day I would go down to the School quadrangle, where deliveries were made, hoping to see it there. I think over a month went by. I had to borrow clothes from friends, and I could see their patience was wearing thin. Every day I prayed God would help someone find it and get it to me 8000ft up in the Himalayas. I have to say the day it

finally arrived I was absolutely overjoyed. What a relief!

I had been memorizing the Psalms at that time, having asked for a King James Bible for my 12th birthday (strange child...I know). The night before my trunk arrived my Psalm was Psalm 27 and verse 17 really stood out to me. It says, *"I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait patiently for the Lord."*

Whatever you are waiting for today – take heart - it's on its way.

Karen Hunter Krimwald



Church Briefing

Hill & Valley Benifice Church Services

Everyone Welcome

6th April

Holy Communion 10.30 - St Andrew's Coln Rogers

13th April - Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday breakfast 9.30am - at the Irvings
Palm Sunday service 10.30am - St James the Great, Coln St Denys

18th April - Good Friday

Good Friday Walk 10.00am - The Brew House, Chedworth
Good Friday Vigil 2.00pm - St Andrew's Coln Rogers

20th April - Easter Day

Easter sunrise informal service 7.00am - outside St Andrew's, Chedworth
BCP 9.00am - St Andrew's, Chedworth
Holy Communion 10.30am - St Andrew's, Chedworth.

27th April

Happyfull service 10.30am - St Andrew's, Chedworth

Thursday 3rd April Lent Lunch and reflection at 12.30 in St Andrew's Chedworth

Thursday 10th April Lent Lunch and reflection at 12.30 in St Andrew's Chedworth

Deaths:

Martin Jones – 13/08/1943 - 03/02/2025

Funeral in St James the Great, Coln St Denys on 10th March 2025

Weddings:

13th April – 1.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth – Simon Woodward & Alexandra Lovett

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
5 April	11:00-14:00	WI - Jumble Sale	Chedworth Village Hall
9 April	19:15	WI - Brian Barbour - "I worked for the CIA in Libya"	Chedworth Village Hall
11 April	19:30	Back Row Club - Flawless	Chedworth Village Hall
12 April	10:00	Church Spring Clean	St Andrews Church Chedworth
14 April	19:30	Chedworth Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
18 April	10:00	Good Friday Walk	The Brew House Chedworth
19 April	9:00-13:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
21 April	17:30	Fish & Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
29 April	19:00	Annual Church Meeting	St Andrews Church Chedworth
10 May	19:00	Chedworth Live	Chedworth Village Hall
12 May	19:30	Chedworth Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
14 May	19:15	WI - Resolutions	Chedworth Village Hall
15 May	18:30	RBL Talk by Justin Crump	Chedworth Village Hall
17 May	9:00-13:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
19 May	17:30	Fish & Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
23 & 24 May	18:30	Music in Country Churches	St Andrews Church Chedworth
9 June	19:30	Chedworth Parish Council Meeting	Chedworth Village Hall
10 June	16:30	Garden Club visit to Hyde Mill Meadow	



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	10	April
Thursday	24	April
Thursday	8	May
Thursday	22	May

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



Last month we celebrated World Book Day! The children dressed up as book characters or wore their pyjamas to celebrate and we did a number of activities to promote reading throughout the day.



Our children spent the afternoon reading together with their reading buddies in the sunshine!



Community litter pick

During Science week the whole school conducted a litter pick of the school grounds, the local roads and the village hall car park, field and tennis courts.



The children collected bags and bags of rubbish and were extremely vigilant and extremely competitive when it came to how much they found! A special thank you to Mr D Peake, Mrs Williams, Dr Alexander, Mrs Twinning-Poll and Ms Franklin for joining.



Science Week

Throughout Science week the children explored the theme of '**Change and Adapt**'. Pupils in Year 5 & 6 wrote newspaper reports about climate change and learnt about weather forecasting. During the week, they were visited by two meteorologists from the United States Airforce, who spoke to them about careers in the USAF, how they got into their jobs and what their jobs involved. We were really excited to hear that we have been invited to see the airbase and learn more about how they measure and record the weather.



EYFS and Key Stage 1 enjoyed learning more about animals and adaptations. They had Forest School sessions focusing on habitats and why animals are important in the world. All year groups have had an art competition linked to this year's Science week theme, all of which will be displayed in our art gallery at the end of term.

Thank you!

A huge thank you to the Pop Up Cafe for hosting our Year 5 and 6 pupils earlier this term, who were interviewing residents about living in Chedworth. We also wanted to say thank you to the Village Hall and Chedworth Entertainment Committee for supporting the PTA Movie night, a special thank you to Ian for being there to help technically.



Chedworth Parish Council

Drainage Works in Queen Street

Gloucestershire County Council has taken up the Parish Council's offer of £5,000 to expedite drainage works in Queen Street by making the payment towards the projected £60,000 cost. If the works do not take place as promised there is a written agreement that the funds will be returned.

Seven Tuns

The Parish Council is continuing to support efforts to re-open the Seven Tuns, following a well-attended meeting held by STAG which an estimated 80 to 100 people attended and where the overwhelming majority supported the project to acquire the freehold. Several Councillors attended that meeting and at the March Parish Council meeting the Council agreed to pay £270 towards the Plunket Foundation membership and to grant STAG £2,000 towards the cost of surveys on the property. STAG was

advised that this is a very large portion of the funds the Parish Council can spend, as this will delay other village projects, they were urged to press ahead with their share issue, crowd funding and similar fundraising, rather than hope for more financial support from the Parish Council.

Trustee of Chedworth Community Lands Charity

The Parish Council appoints Trustees to two village charities each for a four-year term and as it is good practice to advertise the roles when the terms end.

This year one of the two Chedworth Community Lands Charity Trustees comes to the end of their term, so if anyone feels they have the skills and knowledge to be of use to those in need please email clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk with a brief resume.

Microphones

The Parish Council has been experimenting with microphones to use with the Village Hall P.A. system, as members of the public have been having difficulty hearing parts of the discussions, especially when the heater blowers are on. Many thanks are due to Martin Spooner has been lending his expertise and Cllr. Ian Morgan who has been assisting him.

Xbox Defibrillator

The Defibrillators are all back in action, we had an electrical failure at the Xbox and are grateful to Peacock Electrical for their swift assistance with changing an RCD and on off switch which were beyond the skills of our volunteers. Our Chairman previously had an unpleasant half hour lying on the

concrete floor half in and half out of the Xbox removing rusted in screws to expose the fault caused by condensation in the metal cabinet.

School Travel Plan

Parish Councillors met with our PCSO and School representatives earlier in the year and discussed traffic issues around the school. The problems experienced recently are covered by the extant Travel Plan dated 2016, but it needed to be brought up to date. After considering feedback, our Chairman has edited the 2016 version and it is now on our website www.chedworthpc.org.uk

chedworthpc.org.uk and we hope residents, parents and guardians will follow its guidelines, most of which are taken from the Highway Code.

David Broad



CHEDWORTH GARDENING CLUB

Private & Informal garden visits
10% discount on plants, bulbs & seeds at Burford Garden Centre
Discounted prices on compost & soil conditioners
50% off the cost of entry for up to 2 people to any RHS garden (Bridgewater, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Wisley)

All this and more. Come & join us!
Annual membership: £15 individual or £25 joint

Contact Chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com

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



The Seven Tuns Pub

Nearly a hundred people gathered at Chedworth Village Hall on Saturday, 8th March, to have their say about The Seven Tuns pub, which has been closed since late 2023. With strong local support, a community-led effort is now underway to buy the pub and secure its future.

The Seven Tuns has been closed three times over the last ten years, struggling with rising utility costs, the impact of COVID-19, and the pressures of the cost-of-living crisis. When the Tuns closed, we reinvigorated the Seven Tuns Action Group to get it re-opened. On the Group are Patricia Langley, Christopher Stainforth, Cate Thacker, Andrew Speak, Iain Robertson, and Councillors Mike Dentith and Tony Kinglsey. We have now formed a Community Benefit Society to buy the pub and run it as a community asset, ensuring it remains at the heart of village life. We are grateful to the Parish Council for their continued support.

The turnout at the meeting showed just how much this pub means to the village. Losing the Seven Tuns permanently would be a huge blow to our village, and we now have a real chance to save it. The next step will be to launch our community share offer so that everyone who wants to support the pub can get involved. Other fund raising efforts will also be taken forward. We believe that it can once more become a thriving centre of the village.

A Protected Asset

The pub has now been designated as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), so that if the pub is put on the open



market, the village would have six months to raise the necessary funds. We will undertake a community share offer, giving residents and supporters the opportunity to own shares in the pub.

The pub is more than just a place to have a drink; it's a meeting point, a hub for events, and an essential part of our village. We've lost it before, but this time, we're determined to bring it back for good.

How to Get Involved

The campaign team is now calling on villagers and supporters to register their interest in the share offer and stay updated on developments.

For more information, visit seventuns.co.uk.

Patricia Langley
Chair

**The Seven Tuns Chedworth
Community Benefit Society Limited**
Reg. No 9306



Sheila Bowley welcomed us all warmly on a slightly chilly evening, but at least the snow that had fallen in the morning had melted away and did not cause us to cancel!

The business of the meeting was rapidly and efficiently dealt with, the highlights being plans for the Jumble Sale to be held on Saturday 5th April, doors opening for Jumble at 9.00am. The actual sale will start at 11.00am and finish at 2.00pm to allow for tidying up and transport to the tip or charity shops! Coffee, tea and cakes will be served.

The next pub lunch will be on the 27th March at the Sherborne Arms in Aldsworth. The trip to Gloucestershire Waste at Javelin Park is on Wednesday 23rd April leaving from the village hall at 8.45am. The annual outing will be to Hampton Court Castle, Herefordshire (not the Palace) in September. Members were asked to sign up if they would like to come to the Barn Theatre to see the play 'Haywire' about The Archers. Chedworth WI funds were found to be healthy by our treasurer Chrissy. And the sales table through the year had raised a wonderful £300 for Martha's Trust.

We then settled down to be royally entertained by our speaker Squadron Leader Andrew Wyatt. His talk was called "Flying the Queen", he covered his 45 years of flying experience. Starting with his time in the RAF flying first English Electric Lightnings (the film of the vertical ascent was awe inspiring!), followed by time as an instructor in Hawks, including the first

time he went up with a pupil and the glorious moment when he mentioned to the pupil on the low level flying course that he thought he was flying just a little too low – only to be told that the pupil thought that he as the instructor had been flying a little too low! From then on he was very particular to inform pupils when they had control! This was followed by three years with the Red Arrows display team – amazing formation and acrobatic flying sequences.

Then there was the 25 years with British Airways flying Jumbo jets and of course the Queen! Apparently the most difficult manoeuvre when flying her to Australia was the positioning of the Royal Standard on the plane! (It is only in place whilst static on the ground!).

Covid saw most commercial pilots furloughed but Squadron Leader Wyatt and a friend set up a commercial freight airline and employed about 80 of their commercial pilot friends. Transporting in a transport jumbo jet, such varied freights as PPE, vaccines, cows and Ferraris.

Following this delightful talk there was a delicious supper and much enjoyable catching up.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th April in Chedworth Village Hall at 7.15pm. Our speaker is Brian Barbour and his topic is "I worked for the CIA in Libya". We would love to see you there.

Emma Isaac

Temalla



Temella is a fungus and is parasitic on other fungi. This one is showing its small orange folded gelatinous fruiting bodies. Tremella fuciformis, another of the 100 varieties world-wide, has larger white basidiocarps; these are highly prized in Chinese cooking and herbal medicine. Known as white cloud ears, they are grown commercially.

Mark Aveline

Twitter - X

A man walked into a church and approached the minister. "I need help. I think I'm addicted to Twitter-X." The minister looked at him, and said gently, "I'm so sorry, I don't follow you."

Chedworth Gardening Club Visits

Chedworth Gardening Club garden visits

We have 3 delightful garden visits planned so far this summer; all within 40 minutes of Chedworth and at a cost of no more than £15 including refreshments.

Hyde Mill Meadow, Stow-on-the-Wold - £10



Our first visit is on **Tuesday, 10 June at 4.30pm** to a **Coronation Meadow** at Stow-on-the-Wold. This meadow has been created as part of his Royal Highness King Charles' Coronation Meadows Project and is the second Flagship Coronation Meadow in Gloucestershire after Highgrove. You can expect to enjoy a riot of colour and an abundance of wildlife in a setting that has remained largely unchanged since the Coronation.

Langford Downs Farm, Lechlade - £15

Our second visit on **Tuesday, 1 July at 2.30pm** is to Langford Downs Farm, Lechlade. A Cotswold house with a good sized garden created in 2009 with extensive tree planting and mixed tree, shrub and herbaceous borders. Traditional hedges comprising arches



and windows and crab apple espalier. It has an extensive cut flower and vegetable garden, an interesting courtyard with raised nursery beds and a Cotswold pond with a natural spring, bug hotels, magic garden and lots of quirky things to see and find!

Brockworth Court - £12



Brockworth Court, near Cheltenham is the venue for our next visit on **Tuesday, 15 July** (time to be confirmed). It has an intense yet informal tapestry style garden that beautifully complements the period manor house which it surrounds. It boasts a natural fish pond with Monet bridge leading to a small island with a thatched Fiji house. There is also a kitchen garden (for any vegetable growers reading this) once cultivated by monks.

If you would like to join us on these visits and aren't yet a member of Chedworth Gardening Club please get in touch chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com. Annual membership is only £15 for individuals or £25 for joint membership.

When you join the Gardening Club you can visit these lovely gardens and have an opportunity to meet fellow gardeners in an informal setting to chat about all things gardening. You can also take advantage of various discounts: 10% off plants, bulbs and seeds at Burford Garden Centre, discounted

compost sales at Shurdington Nurseries and 50% off the cost of entry for up to 2 people to any RHS garden (Bridgwater, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Wisley) except during RHS Flower Shows and RHS Glow events

Please contact Chedworth Gardening Club chedworthgardeningclub@gmail.com if you have any queries about these visits or membership.

*Ang MacNaught
Gardens Visits Organiser*

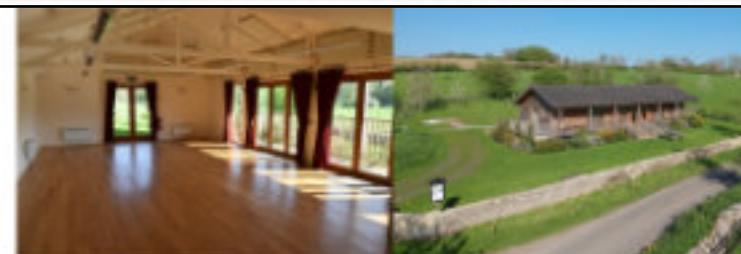
Good Friday

I was standing in line at the bank when there was a commotion at the counter. A woman was very distressed, exclaiming, "Where will I put my money?! I have all my money and my mortgage here!! What will happen to my mortgage?! You can't do this to us!"

It turned out that she had misunderstood a small sign on the counter. The sign read: WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY.

Wrong number?

Yesterday I dialled the Red Cross but got the HMRC in error. When the HMRC operator asked me what number I had meant to dial, I explained: "The Red Cross, you know, where they take people's blood." She said, "Well, you aren't too far off, are you?"



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

Music in Country Churches

Two Evenings of Exceptional Music: 23 and 24 May in St Andrew's, Chedworth

For more than 30 years, Music in Country Churches has been organising concerts of exceptional music in rural churches in England and Wales. The Charity has held concerts in many Gloucestershire churches, and will this year come to St Andrew's, Chedworth for the first time.

Music in Country Churches was set up in 1989 with the active support of the Prince of Wales who is now His Majesty The King and remains the Charity's Patron.

Its aims are to support the arts, culture, and historical heritage of countryside communities. It has done so by holding concerts in more than 60 country churches and making donations of more than £600,000 to support the maintenance work needed on church buildings.

Two evenings of wonderful music are planned for the Chedworth visit. The concert on 23 May will be given by musicians from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama who will

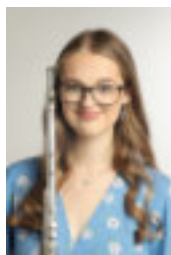


play music for flute, clarinet, and piano. Meg Davies (clarinet) and Katie Bartels (flute) are both exceptionally talented musicians, having won the most prestigious performance prizes at the Royal Welsh College, and are now pursuing careers as professional musicians. The exciting and varied programme of music that they have chosen will dazzle and show off their virtuosity!

The group performing on 24 May is Ensemble Molière. They are an exceptionally talented and highly-regarded group of musicians. Since being selected as the first ever BBC Radio 3 New Generation Baroque Ensemble in October 2021, they have quickly gained a reputation for their



Meg Davies



Katie Bartels



Ensemble Molière © Max Mausen

memorable, exciting, and creative programmes which draw on repertoire of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. You can read more about Ensemble Molière at ensemblemoliere.com

Both concerts start at 6.30pm and will finish around 8pm. Tickets can be bought from musicincountrychurches.org.uk and include several price bands,

as well as two-for-one parent/grandparent and child tickets, and two-concert discount tickets. On both evenings, drinks will be available before the concert and during the interval.

More information about Music in Country Churches can be found at musicincountrychurches.org.uk



Lovely evening light, farmhouse and deer by Mark Aveline

Hares

The brown hare is one of our most interesting and prominent mammals. They are known for their long black tipped ears, powerful back legs and fast running. They can reach speeds of 45mph and are Britain's fastest land mammals. They are herbivores, whose main diet is short grass and cereals. They prefer large open grass or arable fields, free of trees which could harbour birds of prey, especially buzzards. They nest in slight depressions called forms. The females have three or four litters of two to four young (leverets) each year, which can fend for themselves shortly after birth.

In the early spring hares can be seen racing around and boxing. This is believed to be competition between males to attain dominance for breeding. This exuberance is reflected in the old sayings of "as mad as a March hare" and "hare brained". The mad hare appears in the crazy tea party in Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. Andrew Young (1885-1971) in his poem "March Hares" captured the essence of hares, this is the second verse :-

*I watched them leap and run,
Their bodies hollowed by the sun
To thin transparency,
That I could clearly see
The shallow colour of their blood
Joyous in love's full flood.*



Hares were once regarded as an animal sacred to Aphrodite and Eros because of its libido. In Europe hares were traditionally regarded as symbols of sex and fertility.

Hares are thought to have been introduced to this country in Roman times (or possibly earlier). Their numbers have diminished considerably over the last century with changes in farming practices. Two or three adult hares can eat more than a single sheep. When their numbers were at a much higher level than to-day and they damaged extensive areas of crops, large scale hare shoots were carried out to keep their numbers under control. Their main predator are foxes and birds of prey. Sadly, many hares are killed or injured on road. They tend to run along the road until they find a gateway or a gap to escape into. Some motorists, unaware of this or who are impatient, press on and this can panic the hare so that it runs into the car.

Hunting of hares with hounds is now illegal. However, illegal hare coursing, often connected with gambling is a major problem, especially in East Anglia and the Cotswolds. A few years



ago, we found several dead hares, inquiries indicated that they had a disease akin to myxomatosis in rabbits. Fortunately, the hare population appears to have now recovered. We obtain much pleasure from watching hares in the field adjacent to our garden. Recently there have been large numbers of wood pigeons grazing on sanfoin, the hares run through the

pigeons quite unconcerned and vice-versa! In the summer hares often sleep in the long grass in the orchard, they blend so well with the vegetation that at times we almost stumble across them before they race away at high speed in a jinking run!

Robert Young

Rendcomb Surgery Support Group invite you to a

Coffee Morning

at

Daglingworth House

GL7 7AG

(by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. David Howard)

Tuesday, 29th April 2025

10:30-12noon

£10 to include coffee/tea & cake

Featuring:

mind song
music for dementia

(who, through music and song, support people living with dementia and their carers)

Your Gardening Tips for April

After the cold snap at the end of March the warmer weather should be encouraging us get growing again! As the last of the aconites and daffodils die back you may want to bring more cheery yellow colours into your garden and there are many plants that are highly scented too. If not already in your garden, consider adding mimosa, forsythia, japonica, jasmine or mahonia.



Tulips will be adding plenty of colours to your garden but are vulnerable to predation. To defend your tulips spray 'Grazer' over the plants. This can be obtained from any good garden centre or on line. Grazer is also a useful 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, and when to plant young seedlings. 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.
- 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 and celeriac 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*

Mr Bones

The orthopedic surgeon I work for was moving to a new office, and we, his staff, were helping transport many of the items. I sat the display skeleton in the front of my car, his boney arm across the back of my seat. I hadn't considered the drive across town. At one traffic light, the stares of the people in the car beside me became obvious, and I looked across and called, "I'm delivering him to my doctor's office."

The other driver leaned out of his window. "I hate to tell you, lady," he said, "but I think it's too late!"



Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

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

CLUB NEWS

With the clocks going forward it feels as if the Tennis season is finally underway in earnest. Coaching and social sessions are well supported and the competitive league matches are being arranged against other Gloucestershire clubs that come to us from all corners of the county. Our primary summer event, the Coln Valley Tournament is in planning stage; as ever a big thanks to our private court owners who generously make their lovely facilities available for the day. There are lots of opportunities for everyone of all levels to enjoy the club, do get in touch for a chat or a 'try out'.

Robert Baker, Chair

hillandvalleytc@gmail.com

CLUB SPRING CLEAN



The club has had a spring clean and tidy up and is now looking very smart for the new season ahead. Huge thanks to all those that gave up their time to help rake up leaves, clean out and paint the clubhouse, repair the fencing and plant trees. The new store shed is now in action, thank you again to Ian Taylor for constructing this. The courts have also been professionally cleaned.



WHAT'S ON

WALKING TENNIS

Sessions every Friday afternoon at 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 GROUP COACHING WITH TOM WYMAN

Saturday, April 26th

Monthly group coaching for all levels



AFTER SCHOOL JUNIOR COACHING

Running on Wednesdays, for ages 4-18yrs

A 7 week block open to non members, rackets provided

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



EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

April 15- 24th

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 Tuesday 4-6pm

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, June 14th

Coln Valley Open Mixed Doubles Tournament

Saturday, July 12th

American Mixed Doubles Tournament

Saturday, Sept 6th,

Allison Stock Day

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



Facebook.com/TennisChedworth

Instagram.com/hillandvalleytennisclub

Twitter.com/HillValleyTenn

RBL Talk by Justin Crump

JUSTIN CRUMP - RBL Speaker
Chedworth Village Hall 15 May
2025

Justin Crump is CEO and founder of Sibylline. Justin is a military veteran with 25 years of full and part time experience. With degrees from the University of Durham and King's College, London, he was initially a corporate finance analyst at JP Morgan Chase & Co before being called up for military service after 9/11. This started a security focused career that led to founding Sibylline. He continues to serve as a Challenger 2 Main Battle Tank commander with the Royal Wessex Yeomanry in the UK. His focus areas are global jihadism, the evolution of cyber and technical threats, and the creation of innovative and effective risk models. He is an acknowledged

authority on business intelligence, global risk analysis and governance, the Vice President of the Association of International Risk Intelligence Professionals (AIRIP); a member of the UK Risk and Security Management Forum; on the steering group of the International Security Foundation; and mentors next generation military professionals starting in business through Heropreneurs. He has on-the-ground experience in over 65 countries and is a regular print and broadcast media commentator, as well as the author of *Corporate Security Intelligence and Strategic Decision Making*, the first work dedicated to the topic.

He has been consulted on BBC radio many times



Early morning stream by Leila Lodwick



**The Chedworth & District Branch
of the
Royal British Legion**
Invites you to
Geopolitics and Intelligence/Current Affairs
a talk by
Justin Crump
CEO Sibylline, Global Intelligence Services
Thursday 15 May
At Chedworth Village Hall, GL54 4NE
6.00 o'clock

R.S.V.P
Simon Colbeck (on the attached form) **Drinks & Nibbles**
07444701884 /simoncolbeck@msn.co **followed by the talk at 7.00p.m**

The Royal British Legion Chedworth
Geopolitics and Intelligence/Current Affairs
a talk by **Justin Crump**
Please return this form to:
Maj Simon Colbeck
Ashcombe Edge, Chedworth, Cheltenham GL54 4AJ
07444701884 /simoncolbeck@msn.com

Name.....

Address.....

.....Telephone:.....

Email address:.....

I wish to attend and require.....tickets at a minimum donation of £15.00 per person and
enclose a cheque/cash for £.....(Payable to: *RBL Chedworth & District Branch*) or
I have paid £..... on line Bank : Sort Code 30-92-06 Account: 00038677
Ref: 'JustinCrump – Payee name'
I regret that I am unable to attend but enclose a donation for £..... in support of
the Royal British Legion

Signature.....Date.....

Tickets will not be sent out but attendance will be recorded on the door.

Registered Charity No 219279

Advertising - 01285 720 430

Backrow Club at the Village Hall

Miscellaneous observations on life:

In the 60s, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.

When a minister rehearses his sermon, is he practising what he preaches?

If walking/cycling is good for your health, our postmen will be immortal.

The fastest land mammal is a toddler who's been asked what's in their mouth.

WALKING TENNIS

On Fridays, 2.30-4pm in Chedworth

For All ages & Abilities

ALL WELCOME to come along for this gentler game of tennis. It is perfect if you have a health condition or injury that impacts your mobility or you're recovering from an operation or maybe it's a few years since you last played, it's suitable for beginners too!



It will help to get you going again and improve your fitness and wellbeing.

It is relaxed and fun, you go at your own pace. You only need a pair of trainers, we can provide a racket if you don't have one. Come and give it a try or you 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



Chedworth Live Entertainment Club

I wanted to say a huge thanks to all those who have supported Chedworth Live Entertainment so far this year. It has been quite the journey. We have been transported by classical-futuro piano, entranced by a new age fairytale and informed, educated and entertained by the BBC's beginnings. It is fitting we finish the season with a bang so have lined up a real treat for May 10th. 'Chedworth Live' has something for everyone, a family friendly event, best described as 'two bands and a pizza truck'. Chedworth's own indie-pop songbird 'Flora Fiora' will kick things off at 7. There will be a break to get food (Fabioni's pizza truck will be up at the hall) and drinks. Then at 8.30pm, 'Year of the Dog', a fun and funky brass-house-soul band will play for an hour. It won't finish too late so is perfect for families with older children, and even more so as under 16's go for £5. I hope lots of the village will be able to make it to this evening of music, pizza and maybe even some dancing to usher in the summer.

Isabella Dorrien Smith



Chedworth Live Entertainment Club

CHEDWORTH LIVE

YEAR OF THE DOG

WOOD FIRED PIZZA

Fabioni's

MUSIC. PIZZA. DANCING

MAY 10TH

SATURDAY | 7 PM

CHEDWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Flora Fiora

CE live

www.chedworthentclub.co.uk

AIRg

Wine Column

Hello Neighbour's,

April showers bring May flowers. Or for us, we hope grapes!

We were just in Portugal so thought I would share some information on this diverse, delicious and fast growing wine country.

Portugal: From beach towns, historic cities and world class wine growing regions – it has it all.

Lisbon is the capital and the oldest city in Western Europe with a vibrant food and wine scene. We flew into Lisbon and out of Porto.

Wine Regions:

The most popular wine regions are Porto/Douro Valley, Vinho Verde, Dao and Bairrado. Madeira has also become a popular destination to visit because of its tropical climate and rustic beauty.

Wines that Portugal are known for:

- **Vinho Verde** “green wine” which is a light, fresh white wine with lower alcohol and sometimes a tingle on the tongue
- **Touriga Nacional** – You can drink this as a still wine but mostly Port is made from this grape
- **White Port** - lighter than most Port and many add in ice and coke to make a cocktail
- **Vintage Tawny Port** - nuttier style of port and texture is not as thick
- **Ruby Port** – rich and robust
- **Madeira** – off the island with its namesake, oxidized wine turned to fresh gold



- **Moscatel de Setúbal** – white sweet wines

Portugal has at least 250 indigenous varieties, more than any other country and these are what make the wines so interesting, and sometimes difficult to pronounce. Also, sometimes hard to understand as some regions call the same grape something different, even though they could be just feet apart.

Some favorites:

Red wine:

- Cabeas do Reguengo Respiro Clarete - £26.25 GBP at Phoenix Wines in Cirencester

White wine:

- Azevedo Vinho Verde - £8.99 at Waitrose (light, crisp wine with

- fruity flavors)
- If you can find an alvarinho, same grape as albarino (Spain) – buy it! Fun white wine.

Port:

- Churchills Late Bottle Vintage
- Fonseca Bin 27
- Kopke White Colheita Port 2010 - “Molasses, tangerine, apricot and raisin flavours with a hint of spice.”
- Taylors 10 year Tawny Port

Vineyard Update and Tour the Vineyard:

March was a time to get things in order. We finished pruning, checked our frost protection system and went through what we would need for the year. The couple of weekends of sunshine in early March were just glorious and gave us some hope that we would see more of that this year.

We also spent some time on our bees and got them ready for a successful Spring and Summer – so honey soon to sell!

We’ve had a couple of neighbours and friends ask for a “tour” of the vineyard and it has been fun for us to do this. We have had quite a few 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

Northleach Historical Society

Westonbirt Gardens and the Holford Legacy

Westonbirt Arboretum is one of the best known and most extensive collections of trees in the country. But the other gardens in the grounds of Westonbirt School were created by the same landowner, Robert Stayner Holford, whose family inherited the Westonbirt estate in the eighteenth century.

Margie Hoffnung is the Gardens Trust’s Conservation Officer, and has also been the leading volunteer in the gardens at Westonbirt. She explains why Westonbirt Gardens were and still are a Victorian masterpiece.

The Westwoods Centre

Wednesday 2 April 2025 at 1930

Members Free, Visitors £3

Chedworth Village Hall

The Hall is established as a charity for the benefit of the community (Chedworth and surrounding parishes). The trustees' primary responsibility is to maintain the fabric of the Hall and protect it by ensuring it is run on a sound financial basis and is properly insured. The Committee is committed to running the charity in a transparent manner and to helping to maintain the excellent community we enjoy in Chedworth. There are many regular users as well as those who book one off events.

The Committee currently comprises 4 trustees and we would love to welcome new members and volunteers to support us ensure the Hall can continue to thrive in the years ahead and continue to be relevant to the residents of Chedworth. This article gives a flavour of some recent projects and some that are planned.

Solar panels

The Hall's electricity supplier has finally installed a new meter that will allow the Hall to benefit from excess solar production by selling units back to the grid. This completes the solar panel project which was supported by the Government's Rural England Prosperity Fund and the Chedworth Village Trust Limited. John Scott provided invaluable input throughout.

With the spring sunshine, the Hall is virtually self-sufficient on brighter days. The Committee continues to consider other energy efficiencies and has installed timers on the three immersion heaters that were previously running 24/7! If anyone has suggestions for

further improvements please contact the Committee.

Spring clean/clearance 24/25 May 2025

"One man's rubbish is another's treasure"

Over many years the Hall has accumulated lots of items (may be some treasures) which are secreted in various cupboards, the understage room and the attic space. Much of this may be beyond repair and needs dumping but we won't know until we get everything out inspected and tested as necessary.

We would like some volunteers to help us dig everything out and put it on display in the main hall. Once there, we will sort into keep/donate/dump piles rather like Stacy Solomon's "Sort Your Life Out". Any items in the donate category will be free to take.

Please contact Charles at Charles.hp64@gmail.com if you are able to offer some time over the weekend to help with the Spring clean.

Comments Book

In order to assist with the maintenance of the Hall, we have hung a comments book in the foyer. So, if you spot a leak, a faulty piece of equipment, or just have an idea about the Hall, please add your comment/thought in the book. The Committee will review and organise repair or consider your observations. If you would prefer to contact us directly, please email Charles Hutton-Potts.

Recent improvements

Solar panels and batteries.
Stage lighting. With thanks to the Parish Council and Chedworth Entertainment Group for their financial support and Iain Robertson for overseeing the project.
Rear of stage curtains with thanks to the Parish Council for its financial support.
Electrical rewiring to most recent safety standards.
New taps in washrooms and fixed leak in Ladies Toilet.

Planned works, projects and potential changes

We have an ongoing list of short, medium and long term projects in order to keep the Hall in good condition. Items on the list include:

Exterior lighting.
Kitchen renovation or replacement.
Installation of catering standard cooker.

Updated control panel for wood chip boiler.
Refresh decoration.
"Amazon" style lockers to reduce incidence of lost deliveries in the village and expand Tiny Farm Shop offering.
Relocation of table storage.
Library trolley in foyer.
Renovate/upgrade woodchip storage shed.

If you have any further thoughts, please contact the Committee.

Outside maintenance

David Peake continues to generously volunteer his time to oversee the grounds of the Hall. He has been assisted by Oscar who is giving his time as part of his DoE submission. David would love to hear from you if you can help with leaf clearance, planting, pruning, etc.

*Charles Hutton-Potts
Chair, Chedworth Village Hall*

Uncomprehending Pontius Pilate

Pilate: "Joseph, I don't understand. You're one of the richest men in the region, have spent a fortune on a tomb ready for yourself and your family, yet you want to give it to that man Jesus!"

Joseph: "It's only for the weekend"! See John 19:38

Submitted by Sally Churchus

Just been to the gym at work because they've got a new machine in. Only used it for half an hour as I started to feel sick. It's great, though. It does everything - KitKats, Mars bars, Snickers, crisps, the lot.

Mrs. Gladys Dunn was a pillar of her church. She visited the sick, she greeted newcomers, she served on every committee, and substituted for the organist when necessary.

After services one day, she noticed a stranger leaving the church. She went up to introduce herself. Extending her hand, she said, "I'm Gladys Dunn." The stranger replied, "Me, too! That was the longest sermon I've ever heard!"





Warm and welcoming!

The Cafe is open every
Monday morning 10am-1pm
at Chedworth Village Hall.

You'll find delicious things to eat and drink, and now a re-vamped **plant stall**, with cuttings for you to grow, and (eventually) surplus for all to share... Please feel free to come & browse & **join in**.

**** And this month we say hats off to Alice Baxter (aged 15) of Piccolo Farm. As part of her D of E Bronze (skills section), Alice made & sold through the cafe a variety of very tasty jams & preserves, all proceeds to charity.****

Well done & thank you Alice!

10 Easter one-liners

What do you need if your chocolate eggs mysteriously disappear? An eggsplanation

What kind of jewellery does the Easter Bunny wear? 14-carrot gold

What is the Easter Bunny's favourite kind of music? Hip hop

What do you call an Easter Bunny wearing a kilt? Hopscotch

What do you call a bunny with fleas? Bugs Bunny

What do you call a line of rabbits jumping backwards? A receding hare-line

How can you tell which rabbits are oldest in a group? Just look for the grey hares.

Why do people paint eggs for Easter? It's easier than trying to wallpaper them!

What do rabbits say before they eat? "Lettuce pray."

Where does Christmas come before Easter? The dictionary.

Northleach and District u3a

LEARN, LAUGH & LIVE (our motto)

Do come and join our thriving u3a. We currently have 130 members and offer 19 groups enjoying the following activities and pursuits :

ART, BRIDGE, BUS-TRIPS ,
CROSSWORDS, CURRENT
AFFAIRS, GARDENING,
HISTORY, MAHJONG,
MODERN NOVELS,
CLASSICAL-MUSIC, POP-MUSIC,
POETRY, RUMMIKUB, TABLE-
TENNIS(2) TAI CHI, UP-
WORDS, LONG & SHORT
WALKS(2).

If you are retired or no longer working and have time on your hands, then come and join us.

We will warmly welcome you and encourage you to LEARN, LAUGH and LIVE.

If you join soon , you will be able to partake in the following special events for this summer:

In May a trip to Bristol Aerospace, where you can get up close and personal with Concorde.

In July our annual Summer Lunch and in September a trip to the beautiful village of Lacock, where you can walk in the footsteps of Harry Potter and the casts of Downton, Wolf Hall and Pride and Prejudice, all of which were filmed in this exquisite location.

For further information see
<https://northleach.u3asite.uk/>

Chedworth Women's Institute

Jumble Sale

on

Saturday April 5th 2025

at

Chedworth Village Hall

Open 11am - 2pm

Refreshments available

In aid of Cotswold Friends
and
Helen & Douglas House



The Arts Society Cotswolds

Lecture on Wednesday 14th May
2025

Lecture: Sicilian Splendours

Today we will look at the rich art, architecture and history of Sicily - the largest island of the ancient Mediterranean and, in the ancient world, the wealthiest.

First we will see the Carthaginians, Hannibal's people and the first major invaders of Sicily, with their distinctive, enigmatic culture, still visible on the small island of Motya. Afterwards come the Greeks, with beautiful cities such as Agrigento, and Syracuse and Segesta, filled with theatres and temples to the gods.

Then we will see Roman Sicily, peaceful and prosperous, with cities such as Syracuse and Taormina, and the sumptuous 'mosaic villa' of Piazza Armerina. After Rome, and the new Rome of Constantinople, comes the invasion of the Arabs with their revolution in society and agriculture, and then Norman Sicily - an extraordinary artistic flourishing, culminating in the mosaics of the magnificent Norman basilicas.

Come and explore this gorgeous island!

About the speaker:

Dr Paul Roberts is Research Keeper in the Department of Antiquities at the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, Oxford University. Paul has been a lecturer with the Arts Society/NADFAS for over twenty years, has travelled extensively to societies across the UK, and has also



lectured on numerous cruises in and around the Mediterranean. He studied Classics at the University of Cambridge, and Classical Archaeology at the Universities of Sheffield and Oxford. He then lived in Italy for several years, teaching and researching. He has travelled throughout the former lands of the Roman Empire, from Britain to Syria, and has excavated in Britain, Greece, Libya, Turkey and particularly Italy, where he is currently working on a Roman Villa in the Molise region of the Central Apennines. His research focuses on the daily life of ordinary people in the Greek and Roman worlds, and he has written books and articles on Greek and Roman daily life, Pompeii and Herculaneum, Sicily, Roman Emperors, mummy portraits, and Greek and Roman ceramics and glass. He is now writing a history of Rome through its monuments and the Emperors who built them. From 1994 to 2015 he was Senior Roman Curator in the Greek and Roman Department at the British Museum, where he curated the exhibition *Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum* (2013). Arriving in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford in 2015, in 2019/20 he curated *Last Supper in Pompeii*, a tribute to the Roman love affair with food and wine.

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 (www.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](http://www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk)).

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

Where did your Easter egg come from?

Your Easter egg can be traced back to the early Church in Mesopotamia.



Since ancient times, people had been giving each other eggs at pagan Spring festivals, as eggs were a symbol of the new life and rebirth in nature all around them. Then came Jesus and His death and resurrection, which made Easter the ultimate time for Christians to celebrate new life and rebirth. After that, it was only a matter of time before eggs found their way into commemorating Easter.

This seems to have first happened with the very early church in Mesopotamia, where those early Christians began dyeing their eggs after Easter, to celebrate the new birth that Jesus had given to them. The practise of using eggs in Easter celebrations then spread to the Orthodox Churches, and from there to the Western Churches across Europe.



Easter chocolate dilemma

364 days of the year we tell our kids: "Do NOT eat anything you find on the ground, or anything from strangers!"

On Easter morning we tell them: "Why don't you go outside and search in the dirt for chocolates that a strange giant bunny has left for you?"



Uncle Eustace

On why you should never encourage your congregation

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

There are times when I indulge you too much; why I ever let you run your course 'Taking Responsibility for your Church' among our congregation, I am now unable to understand. I had hoped that it might encourage a few more people to volunteer for the flower rota, or to give occasional help mowing the churchyard. I even had a vague fantasy that someone might turn detective, and discover who had been eating the chocolate biscuits between Sundays, condemning the rest of us to munch on Rich Tea after Services.

Unfortunately, your course turned out to be inspirational, and it has fired up our members to take on all sorts of new initiatives. Enthusiasm in a congregation can be a very dangerous thing, especially if people start making decisions on their own.

Those who formed a welcoming group are admittedly well-meaning – although it was more than a little traumatic for those coming through the door the next Sunday to be greeted with frenzied handshakes, big toothy smiles, and even hymnbooks. That is unheard of in this church – we always ignore people and leave them to find hymnbooks – if they can.

Naturally, all those offering to take the prayers, produce new Orders of



Service and even to give the occasional sermon have been booked on the appropriate training courses. By the time they have been completed, I can only hope they will have gone off the idea.

But it was the group which decided to "beautify" the church who have proved the most tiresome. Hanging the Christmas tree lights round the altar made it look as if I was standing behind a fairground stall, waiting to invite people to throw hoops round teddy bears – although I would have rather enjoyed making winners sit for the rest of the Service holding a polythene bag containing a goldfish.

Our pulpit has also been given a makeover, with the various panels painted in contrasting colours; I am sure the sixteenth century Flemish woodcarvers would be delighted with the result, although the next time any medieval historians come to view it, I shall take the day off – probably travelling abroad.

My dear Darren, your course took the stopper out of the bottle; would you please run another to put it back?

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



"I'm really not sure about this trend for clergy dressing down, dear."



...between you and me, it's the only way I can remember my PIN number!

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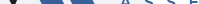
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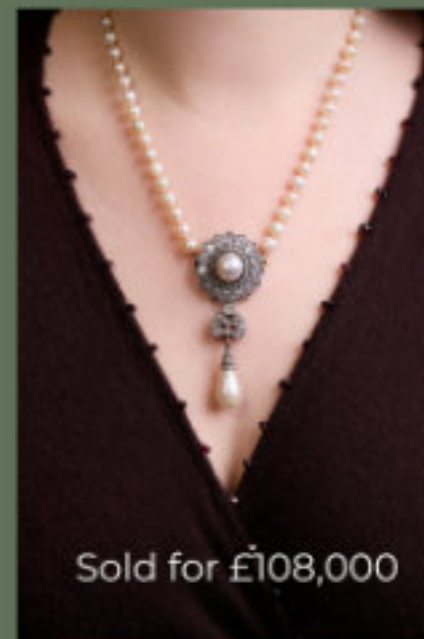
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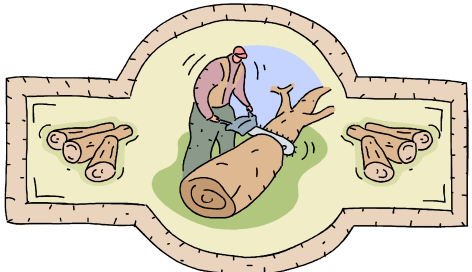
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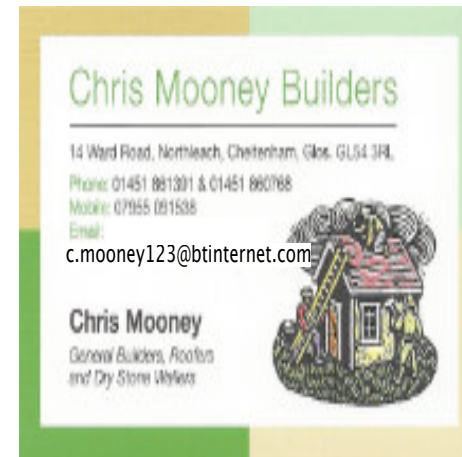
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