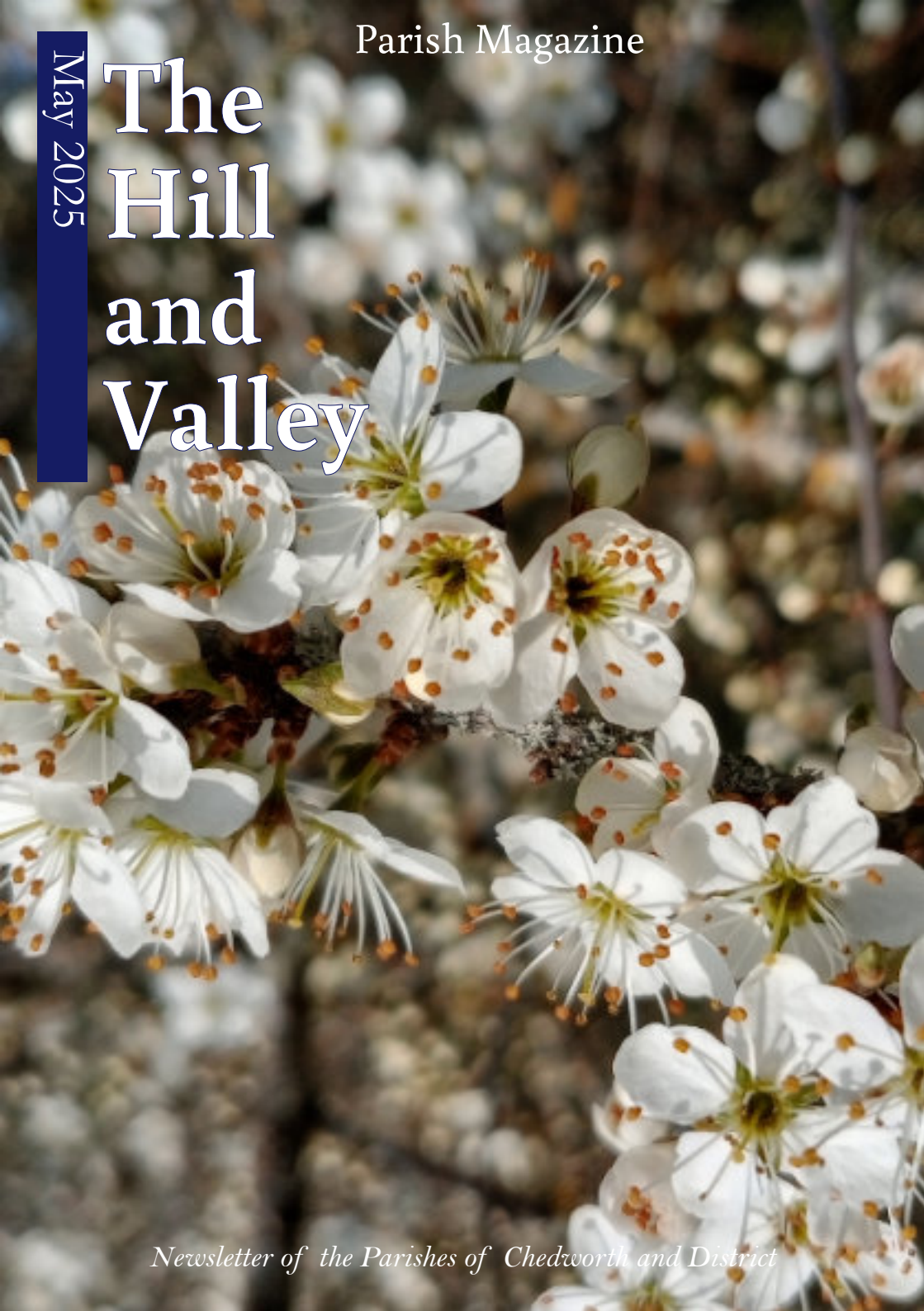
Parish Magazine

May 2025

The Hill and Valley



Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

The Benefice of Chedworth and District

Rector
Reverend Karen Hunter Kriwald
The Vicarage, Chedworth, Cheltenham, GL54 4AA
Tel: 01285 720392

Church Wardens

Chedworth
Sheila Bowley: 01285 720369

Coln Rogers & Coln St. Denys
Neil Irving: 01285 720403
Nellie Burrow: 01285 720653

Yanworth with Stowell
Alexander George: 01285 720247

Reader
Helen Oldham: 07719 977144

Local Ministry Team
Sheila Bowley: 01285 720369
Teresa Irving: 01285 720403
Helen Oldham: 07719 977144

Readers and Contributors

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

In order to assist the magazine coordinators we ask that articles are submitted online (not by email). For more information please go online to the Magazine Contributors area of **www.hillandvalley.co.uk** .

Business advertisers please contact Mark Lanyon - 01285 720430 or via the Advertisers form on **https://hillandvalley.co.uk/advertisers/**

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

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

Cover and contents page photos by Julie Young

The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Julie Young Coordinator for this edition

Karen's Letter

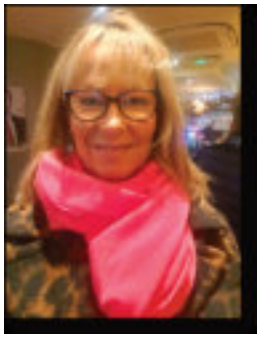
"To err is human, to forgive, divine." – so said the early 18th century poet Alexander Pope in his work An Essay on Criticism, the aim of which was to encourage forgiveness rather than criticism.

Peter, who denied Christ three times, wrote in 1 Peter 4:8, "*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."* Failing his friend and Lord in his greatest hour of need, and in such a public manner, weighed heavily on his mind over the days and weeks that followed. It's intriguing that Jesus predicted that Peter would do this. It indicates that he knew what Peter was like, even if Peter didn't, and irrespective, of this had chosen him as one of his inner circle.

After the resurrection they met on a beach and over breakfast Jesus asked him three times if he still loved him, giving him three restorative chances to counterbalance the denials he had previously made. As a direct result, Peter expressed in the passage above a profound understanding of the nature of the love he experienced from Christ. It "*covers the shame, removes the stain"*, as U2 phrased it in their song "Grace".

Perhaps like me, you may feel very grateful for those who, above all, love you just as you are; who accept your mistakes and failures with humour or an affectionate rolling of the eyes. How else do we know divine love?

Karen Hunter Kriwald



Church Briefing

Hill & Valley Benifice Church Services 2024

Everyone Welcome

4th May
Holy Communion — 10.30am - St James the Great, Coln St Denys.

11th May
BCP — 9.00am - St Andrew's, Chedworth
Holy Communion Service — 10.30am - St Andrew's, Coln Rogers

18th May
Holy Communion Service — 10.30am - St Andrew's Chedworth

25th May
Happyfull Service — 10.30am - St Andrew's, Chedworth

Events:

23rd & 25th May
Music in Country Churches Concerts
5.30pm - 8.00pm, St Andrew's Chedworth

8th May
VE Day Celebrations — 6.00pm - Yanworth social club.

Christenings – *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these."*

04/05/25 12.00 - Maximus George Wilkinson Clarke, St Andrew's, Chedworth.

Weddings – *"Love comes from God and everyone that loves is born of God and knows God."*

03/05/25 – 1.00pm - St Andrew's, Chedworth – Lucy Rebecca Worton & Jack William Jones.

Funerals – *"Nothing can separate us from the love of God"* – *"Love is stronger than death".*

09/05/25 - 1.30pm Funeral of John William Jewell, St Andrew's, Coln Rogers.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
3 May - 11 May		Litter Pick - see page 10 for details	Chedworth
8 May	18:00	VE Day Celebrations	Yanworth Social Club
9 May	19:30	Back Row Club	Chedworth Village Hall
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	
11 June		WI - Garden Party	
11 June		Coln Valley Tennis Tournament	Chedworth
16 June	17:30	Fish & Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
21 June	9:00-13:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
28 June	18:00	Evening Family Picnic with live music from Poole me Hearties	Chedworth Playing Field
1 July	14:30	Garden Cliub visit to Langford Downs Farm	
4 July	19:30	Swing from Paris	Chedworth Village Hall
9 July	19:15	WI - Emma Lowther “Chair Yoga”	Chedworth Village Hall

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	8	May
Thursday	22	May
Thursday	5	June
Thursday	19	June
Dates may change due to holidays		

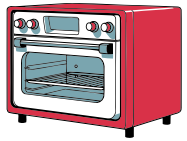
St Andrew's C of E School & Pre-school

March and April have been extremely busy months for us, we held a beautiful Mother's day brunch and afternoon tea; we sent a key stage 2 tag rugby team to a festival at Cirencester rugby club; our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils held a music recital where they performed their drumming and piano skills; we held our Easter service at St Andrew's Church; a PTA Easter quiz and Easter egg hunt and plenty of outdoor learning and playing!

An exciting step has also happened for the school as we converted to become an academy on the 1st April and joined a local multi-academy trust- **The North Cotswold Schools Trust** and we are already reaping the numerous benefits of this collaboration.

Community Involvement

Thank you to Graham and Adam in the village, for kindly donating money before Christmas. We have spent the money on two portable cooking ovens with hobs, which will enable our children to be able to access more hands on cooking more regularly.



A huge thank you to all of our parents and community members who came to support our gardening day in April. We achieved lots of jobs and the site is looking much better!

serve trust achieve respect self-confidence

We are so blessed with our beautiful outdoor setting. Key Stage 1 and EYFS have been making the most of the grounds during Forest School sessions.

We have spaces in all year groups and limited places available for pre-school in September. Please contact admin@st-andrews.gloucs.sch.uk if you'd like to book to have a look around.

We are having a small **VE Day** celebration on **Thursday 8th May**. You are warmly invited to celebrate with us. The children will be singing some songs and we will be hosting an afternoon street party from **14.30pm.**

Please also keep an eye out for details of our summer fete (**18th July 13.30pm**). We'd love to see as many of you there as possible!

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Chedworth Parish Council

The Chedworth Parish Litter Pick 2025

Saturday May 3rd -- Sunday May 11th
There is a modification to the annual litter pick this year. This is to give the volunteers flexibility as to when they do their 'picking' during the 8-day period. Those wishing to participate please contact Alan McLellan (07966141245) who will try his best to coordinate the coverage of the parish. Disposable gloves, rubbish bags & a limited supply of litter pickers & hi-vis will be available. If you have your own, please make use of them. Rubbish collected to be returned to the village hall car park by Sunday 11th for collection by CDC during the following week. Because of the much-appreciated efforts by the children (& helpers) of St Andrews School recently it is hoped that the amount of litter from the areas they covered will be minimal this year.

Travelling and Parking to 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**

School A Summary Guide for Parents

As edited following the April PC Meeting of 14/04/2025
By following this guide you will be helping to keep children safe and allow the school to focus on the education rather than have to get involved in parking matters.
Please park at the Village Hall and walk down School Hill.
Pedestrians and Children should use the pedestrian entrance not the school car park entrance
Do not park in the school car park. Only staff, those registered disabled, and the school taxi/buses are permitted to use the school car park.
Please try to avoid driving down School Hill at the main drop off/collection times, breakfast club and after school club times
Do not park on the yellow Zig-Zag lines, or by no parking signs or in gateways.
Do not park on the corners by the junctions at the bottom/top of School Hill.
Do not block people's driveways or their visibility in pulling off their drives.
Do not park dangerously or obstruct the highway network.
Do not contravene the Highway Code. Many of these actions constitute a traffic offence and the police may take action accordingly.
The Parish Council have no authority to enforce this note and St Andrews School have no enforcement authority outside of the school, but please listen politely to any advice offered by staff, Councillors or concerned residents, as they are only trying to ensure children's safety.

Addition Seating around the Village

There has been discussion regarding additional seating around the village. Councillors have looked into the issue and found at least 17 benches and that many of them are in a poor state of repair. The PC will be getting a quote to repair the 1935 Silver Jubilee seat at the top of Tuns Hill triangle which the PC appear to own, but many of the other seats have no owners, having been donated, installed and then simply neglected. Many need TLC, a thorough cleaning, while others more drastic attention. The PC is wary of upsetting residents so can we urge you to tidy up any seats you have an association with, as with so many benches it may be sensible to consider re locating some under used examples, as all are at present in the Upper Chedworth part of the village.

Playground behind the Village Hall

The Playground behind the Village Hall was, we believe, paid for by fund raising and placed on Village Hall land basically for use of pre-school with no real thought regarding maintenance. The tree in particular is causing issues with roots and shading so the grass cover is poor, yet many people would resist it being felled or even crowned. With Pre-school gone, some residents are thinking the equipment no longer matches needs and aspirations and have approached the Parish Council with a view to upgrading and or relocating the facilities. The field by the tennis courts, and on the playing field, adjacent to the adult play equipment are two possible locations, one somewhat distant from the hall, the other somewhat vulnerable if football returns. The solution is not obvious, the PC would welcome your views on where the equipment should be, and what extra facilities should be provided, if any. The views of the young people who use the facilities would be particularly welcome.

Exterior Lighting at the Village Hall

The Parish Council has agreed to fund exterior lighting for the Village Hall at a cost of some £6,500 + VAT. The old lighting was condemned as not being fit for purpose and the Village Hall Chairman impressed on the PC the urgency of the upgrade. The new lights have battery back-up and will still work during power outages, which is very useful.

Speed Signs on Fields Road

Once again, we promise new speed signs for Fields Road, they were supposed to be delivered in February but have been delayed due to the need to fit them with solar panels. Current hopes are that we may have two signs installed later this month. The PC is also looking into having the 40 MPH speed limit extended to the Hemplands corner and beyond.

David Broad

Lent Lunch & Palm Sunday Walk

Photos bt Teresa Irving and Simon Colbeck

CHEDWORTH WI

Wednesday 9th April was a beautiful sunshine filled evening and Sheila welcomed us all to our monthly meeting. The lists were out for our pub lunch club, the WI Bulb catalogue and our September 10th outing to Hampton Gardens (the gardens of Hampton Court Castle which has become a separate wedding venue). We will be going by coach, prices yet to be finalised, but friends and family will be very welcome.

Our subs of £35 are now due, this price is subsidised from our funds as we are now allowed to do by NFWI. Members were asked if at all possible to pay online as then we don't have to pay any bank charges! The Garden Meeting on the 11th June is to be at Newstead in Perrots Brook. The August meeting if we have one is the member's choice! So get thinking.

Mo Floyd was congratulated on her photo of the Calmsden road under snow being included in the 2026 GFWI Calendar for the month of January.

We then settled down to a rather different talk than many of the ones we listen to. This one was inspiring, but not always easy to listen to or to look at. Brian Barbour, a multi-disciplinary engineer, in other words someone who could turn his hand to anything electrical, chemical or mechanical, set up 25 local radio station in Liberia in the early 2000's. This was in the face of the Liberian President at the time, Charles Taylor, (subsequently convicted of war crimes, and still serving his sentence) saying that Brian could not leave the capital Monrovia and setting two secret policeman to watch him.

Monrovia may be the capital of Liberia but at that time it had no mains electrical supply, no sewerage system (you didn't go near the beach, even worse than Thames Water!) and no mains water. Liberia was also in the middle of a Civil War. President Taylor's idea was that you didn't kill your enemies, you just cut off their hands and or feet. One reason Taylor was convicted of war crimes.

Brian had amazing film footage of some of the Liberian amputee football team playing on their crutches – rather better than most of us could manage with both feet! The team is now ranked 5th in the African League of amputee teams.

Unfortunately the Civil War arrived in Monrovia and Brian and 27 other EU nationals ended up in the EU embassy, effectively under siege. They were rescued by French troops and flown by helicopter to a French Naval vessel, then it home to mum in Swindon for Brian. Who he had carefully told on the phone that there was nothing to worry about! Brian certainly didn't tell her about the Civil War's factions techniques of spraying bullets at total random –his photo of one whole street covered in spent bullet cases bore witness to this technique!

Fortunately nothing seems to deter Brian and by September 2003 he was back in Liberia and successfully installing the new relatively high tech local radio stations, powered by solar panels and wind turbines, in buildings with steel doors and windows (more old car wrecks than planed wood available in Liberia).

The very best hour Brian spent in Liberia was with gorillas, he found a male silver back was much less aggressive than the Civil war fighters. We were delighted to know that this quite remarkably brave and resourceful man had some moments of peace and enjoyment in his many years devoted to helping others as an Aid Worker.

After this we wound down with a delicious tea and plenty of chat – we needed it!

Our next meeting is on May 14th , 7.15pm Chedworth Village Hall. We will be discussing the resolution for the Annual Meeting in June, but by way of light relief we will be practicing tying scarfs so search your cupboards and drawers for all those scarves you don't know what to do with and bring them along!

Emma Isaac

Chedworth Cricket Club

The sound of ball on willow returns!

After a few fallow seasons caused principally as a result of lockdown, cricket is returning to our ground.

Agreement has been reached with Charlton Kings Cricket Club to allow them the use of the ground. This means that the members of CKCC will look after the ground and clubhouse and they will be playing cricket there most weekends and some mid week evenings.

CKCC have a flourishing club with 4 teams playing in various of the Gloucestershire Leagues, but as they only have one pitch at their home ground, they have traditionally used various other grounds as and when needed. But because cricket has not been played in Chedworth for a couple of years now, they have been able to reach agreement for their 3rd and 4th teams to use our ground on a regular basis.

They are very keen that those in Chedworth who would like to play cricket here on a more frequent basis can have the chance to do so, and there will be some evening social games to further this aim.

Please do contact me if you would like to be involved in cricket at the ground. Hopefully we can start to rebuild Chedworth Cricket Club alongside its more regular use by Charlton Kings.

HOWZAT!

Tim Hamilton.
07834457963.
tim@tdhamilton.com

Charity Signpost

Are you, or is someone you know, in need of help?

Charity rules are quite complicated. It can be difficult to know whether one of your Chedworth Village Charities or other local charities or organisations can help. They may have limits on what they can do and will make decisions on a discretionary basis. This page is to give some basic information and to let you know that you can approach any of these charities in confidence.

If you do not know where to start, Myra Burridge (**myraburridge@hotmail.co.uk**) or 01285 720665, will be able to steer you appropriately. This may involve more than one charity or direction to possible state funding.

Chedworth Charities (registered with the Charity Commission **www.gov.uk/find-charity-information**)

- **Chedworth Community Lands Charity** – Provides broad help for young and old with medical educational or other needs. Contact: Robert Young (**robert@zings.co.uk** or 01285 720398).
- **Chedworth Allotment Charity** – A centuries old charity assisting individuals financially in emergencies or unexpected events with grants for seeking employment (travel, equipment and courses) and projects for the benefits of residents. Contact: Myra Burridge (**myraburridge@hotmail.co.uk** or 01285 720665).
- **The Chedworth Village Trust Limited** – supports the church, school, village hall, and individuals with grants to students and apprentices. Contact: Sarah Green (**sgreen11@btinternet.com** or 07966 388625).

Heating

Education

Apprenticeships

Mobility

Transport

Other sources of help available locally

- **Citizens Advice – (**known as "The CAB") – Advice on debt, benefits and other problems. Contact: 0808 800 0511 www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk .
- **Cotswold Friends** – combating loneliness and isolation by supporting the older and vulnerable with travel to medical appointments, befriending etc. Contact: 01608 651415 or **info@cotswoldfriends.org** .
- **The Churn Project** - supporting the community in Cirencester and surrounding villages by helping to reduce isolation and improving wellbeing, particularly for those who are lonely, at a point of transition or crisis in their lives or experiencing mental health issues. Contact: 01285 380038 or **info@thechurn.org.uk** .

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE!

I have lived in Chedworth for 40 years. I currently rent a cottage in the village where I have lived for 15 years. The owners have decided to sell. I am looking for a home to rent in Chedworth. It would be a long let and I would need either one or two bedrooms with a garden, just for myself and my cat.

I have until the New Year to find somewhere, so please, if you have a house you are thinking of letting, or if you are fed up with running your Airbnb, please contact me.

Landline: 01285 720408 Mobile: 07790309717

Email: suesharman50@hotmail.com

Many thanks, Sue

COLN VALLEY VILLAGE HALL

Ideal venue for small events/parties

Gigaclear Ultrafast internet connection

If you would like to hire the hall please see our website for availability and prices.

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

Rosé, Sun and Sweat

I was lucky to holiday in Spain this February. The warm weather was a driving factor and as part of a body recharge, fitness was also important. Bearing these two things in mind, Estepona in Southern Spain was the destination and accommodation near a super fitness centre filled these requirements.

Well, the gym in Spain was beyond my expectations. It was on two floors, one floor outside under three huge canopies, five padel courts, a cafe serving fresh orange juice and beautiful views of the sea.The place was buzzing. There was 11 different exercise classes a day – cross-fit (weights), functional training, spinning, glutes, yoga and pilates. For me it was exciting - I know you're thinking, lunch in the sun, by the sea, with a glass of cold glass of rosé is much more enjoyable.

The gym classes were in Spanish with the average age of 28, so slightly challenging, as my children are older than most of the members and my Spanish is limited to ordering food, beer, wine and asking for the toilet.

The general positive energy really inspired me to go most days to the classes and learn from the Trainers. The class I repeated the most was called Functional Training. Functional fitness training is a type of workout geared explicitly toward better function when performing everyday tasks. These tasks might include putting a heavy object on a high shelf, bending to pick up something off the floor, or walking up and down stairs. The training itself will consist of push ups, pull ups, squats, weights and even a bit of cardio. Mostly resistance to build or retain muscle mass.

As a trainer, functional training is one of the most important types of exercise we should add to our lifestyle. It doesn't matter what age you are (muscle mass starts decreasing at age 30), we can all do it and it doesn't take long to start seeing results.

You'll start to notice climbing the stairs is easy, the tennis serve is more powerful, picking up the dog over the stile is no problem, picking up the baby or grandchild is not an issue, you're more upright when you jog, even getting off the couch is with ease and grace. You become strong.

Getting stuck in is all it takes. Now, where is that glass of rosé?

Jamie Taylor
Personal Trainer
07540 991 578
jamie.pothiertaylor@gmail.com

I teach classes at Costa del Chedworth Village Hall. Just turn up. Bring a mat and if you have some dumbbells bring those too. Exercises have modifications and you're in charge of the pace. I also offer Personal Training that is tailored to your fitness needs or can help those recovering from injury or health a issue:

- *Tuesday evening 6:00 (Functional Training)*
- *Wednesday morning 9:00 (Resistance, Flexibility and Balance)*
- *Friday morning 9:00 (Functional Training)*

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

The Chedworth & District Branch
of the
Royal British Legion

Invites you to

'War and Peace inthe 21st Century; Lessons and Predictions'

a talk by

Justin Crump

CEO Sybilline, 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)
07444701884 /simoncolbeck@msn.co

Drinks & Nibbles
followed by the talk at 7.00p.m

The Royal British Legion Chedworth
Geopolitics and Intelligence/Current Affaires

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

Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

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

CLUB NEWS

The Tennis season is underway in earnest, with coaching and social sessions well supported and the Gloucestershire LTA Dunlop Summer League competitive league matches have started. Entries for The Coln Valley Tournament are building up promisingly and as ever a huge thank you to our private court owners who generously make their lovely facilities available for the day. Huge thanks to the volunteers, especially Graham Stock for working hard to keep the clubhouse and courts in good shape for the new season. The new tree planting on grass area below the courts will soon come to life, hopefully bearing blossom, colourful foliage and berries later in the season that everyone can enjoy. Do get in touch for a chat or a 'try out', there are lots of opportunities for everyone of all levels to enjoy the club.

Robert Baker, Chair hillandvalleyltc@gmail.com

WHAT'S ON

Coln Valley Tournament Saturday, June 14th

Our annual Open Mixed Doubles Tournament is a fundraiser for the club and also for the churches in the benefice. It is a fun day of social, competitive tennis played on wonderful, local private courts kindly loaned to us for the day. The semis and finals are played on the club courts, we invite you to come and watch with a glass of Pimms and cheer on the players. We are very grateful to our main sponsor Tanner's Solicitors. We need volunteers to help with the running of the day, please get in touch if you would like to be involved. There is a raffle with some excellent prizes! Spaces are filling up so please enter asap if you would like to play.

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

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

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

MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMPS

May 27th – 29th

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

Cotswold Landscapes-Guiting Power

Guiting Power is a small village, population approximately 320, situated in the Upper Windrush Valley about 7 miles west of Stow-on-the-Wold. It is rather a straggly village occupying the site of a late Anglo-Saxon settlement, called Gyting Broc. The village was the centre of a manor owned by King Edward the Confessor. The name Guiting is probably derived from the Anglo-Saxon word Getinge, meaning rushing, possibly a reference to the River Windrush. The name Power refers to the medieval lords of the manor called Le Poher. Guiting Grange belonged to the Abbey of Bruern in Oxfordshire and had a small deer park, the Grange was demolished in 1972 due to dry rot.

In the field to the north of the church is a bronze Age Barrow circa 2000BC. A Saxon-Norman Chapel was excavated and recorded in 1990. South of the church are the undulating earthworks of an abandoned medieval village and In Parson's Piece, there is an ongoing archaeological investigation of an abandoned medieval Manor complex. The Warden's Way path passes through the village

St Michael's Church is situated on the southern edge of the village and was probably founded in the early part of the C12th and owned by the Knights Templars and after them by the Knights Hospitallers. The tower was added in the C15th when the wool trade was at its height. David Verey in "Cotswold Churches" describes the church as A Distinctly mucked-about church-the interior is disappointing, with bad glass in the east lancets, very shiny tiles and scrapped walls" However, to put this into perspective we should take into account that by the end of the C19th the church was in a very poor state of repair and only the nave and transepts were used for services. The chancel was boarded off for 15 years. Fortunately, the curate in charge in the early C20th organised funds and a major restoration was carried out, including the rebuilding of the chancel. The church overlooks the Windrush Valley and is well worth a visit.

There are good examples of traditional Cotswold houses and cottages in the village, including the C16th Manor House north of the church. The Green in the centre of the village contains some fine buildings, including Tudor House, the War Memorial and the remnants of a preaching cross. Interestingly, David Verey considered that some buildings have been over-restored but this has to be viewed in the context of the previous dilapidated state of many properties. The North Cotswold Rural District Council after the Second World War built several council houses in Cotswold stone, a far sighted and worthy project.

What I find particularly interesting about Guiting, is its social history over the last 150 years. Like most Cotswold villages, Guiting was primarily an agricultural community with the majority of the population employed on farms and related trades. There have always been stone and slate quarries in the area, which have also provided employment.

British agriculture enjoyed a period of prosperity after the Napoleanonic Wars but this started to change from 1846, when Parliament, under pressure from the new manufacturing lobby, keen to reduce food costs for their employees repealed the Corn Laws which had protected farmers from imports. It took until the early 1870's for the agricultural depression to set in caused by a dramatic fall in grain prices due to cheap imports from the prairies of North America. There, huge areas of arable land were being opened up by settlers who utilised mechanical reaper harvesters (at a time when most corn in this country was cut with scythes) and the expanding railway networks. Transport costs from North America fell drastically with the introduction of steam ships.

The expansion of livestock farming in Australia and New Zealand in tandem with the introduction of refrigerated steam shipping undercut British meat and dairy products. Between 1871-75 and 1896-1900, the importation of wheat and flour increased by 90%, for meat it was 300% and for butter and cheese it was 110%. The downturn in agriculture was accentuated by several years of wet weather in the late 1870's and a series of droughts in the early 1890's. There was a considerable reduction in the area of land in arable and an increase in pasture land. Many farm workers lost their jobs and there was an increase in agricultural bankruptcies. The depression accelerated Britain's rural depopulation.

The impact on Guiting was severe. F L Griggs in "Highways and Byways in Oxford and the Cotswolds written in 1905 refers to the condition of the church and the village - *in 1902, the crumbling fabric of the church reflected only too faithfully the decayed condition of the village. For in recent years the population of Lower Guiting has diminished by nearly one-half and some thirty cottages now stand untenanted and in various stages of dilapidation.* The agricultural depression lasted until the Second World War, when at last the Government realised the strategic importance of agriculture and introduced measures to support farming.

In the 1930's, Moya Davidson a philanthropist bought twelve cottages in Guiting for renovation in an attempt to halt the decline of the village. However, the major change in the village's fortune was in 1958 when Raymond Cochrane purchased about half the village with the objective of agricultural research and the renovation and development of the properties. In 1976 he established the Guiting Manor Amenity Trust, a charity to own and manage the estate after his death.

The Trust owns 74 houses and

Cotswold Landscapes-Guiting Power

cottages, many of which have been renovated with the management objective-*of chosing tenants from local families and from people working in or near the village, and also giving priority to young married couples, has given the population balance and stability and happily renewed the trend initiated so courageously 's in the 1930's.*

The Trust also own 2,000 acres of farm land which is let to its subsidiary, Guiting Manor Farms Ltd and farmed with sustainable agriculture and the environment to the fore. The main farmstead is on the northern edge of the village, the roof of the newest building has a large array of solar panels.

For a small village, Guiting has a good range of community facilities including a village hall, The Old Post Office now a coffee shop and part time post office, The Cotswold Guy Farm Shop that also serves refreshments and two public houses, the Farmers Arms (a Donnington Brewery pub) and Hollow Bottom. When the village school closed, the building was purchased by the Trust and is now a Montessori pre-school for the resident's children.

Local employment includes agriculture, building, the stone and slate quarries, Nigel Twiston-Davies and Ben Pauling's race horse training stables and micro- businesses.

Guiting briefly featured in the national media in August 1962 when Colin Jordan, the leader of the British neo-Nazi organisation organised a summer camp neat the village. The publicity attracted a lot of attention and anger, resulting in band of about a 100 villagers and anti-fascist protesters led by the local publican attacking the camp. I can remember that local opinion at the time was that the press had rather inflamed the situation!

We visited Guiting on a bright early Spring Saturday morning, the village was absolutely buzzing with walkers, cyclists and horse riders, the coffee shops were very busy. In the background was the sound of builders re-roofing a house, new lambs and rooks. A vibrant rural community, the late Raymond Cockrane would have been very pleased.

Robert Young

Don't look back

The Sunday School teacher was telling the story of how when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom and Gomorrah, she turned into a pillar of salt. One youngster nodded in a knowing fashion. "My mummy looked back once while she was driving," he confided, "and she turned into a lamp post."

Decisions, decisions

Local politician to aide: "About their charge that I'm indecisive – do you think I should answer it, or let it go, or answer it in part, or what?"

Backrow Club at the Village Hall

Measuring success

After the local Churches Together meetings had concluded, the four ministers were discussing the results with one another.

The Methodist minister said, "What a success! We gained two new families."

The Baptist pastor said, "We did better - we gained three new families."

The URC minister said: "That's nothing – we gained five new families!"

And the Anglican vicar smiled gently. "We did best of all. We just said goodbye to our 10 biggest troublemakers."

Children's parties

The main benefit of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children out there who are more awful than your own.

Your Gardening Tips for May

This time last year we were bemoaning excessive rainfall. Well, we had that in the early part of the year but it sems that we may be heading into a rainless season, unless things change by the time you read this. It will be a pleasure to see the bees collecting pollen on lilacs and similar scented bushes again.

- **Peas and Beans** Although it is best to have already sown broad and Mange Tout peas by now, but the cold mornings may have made you reluctant to do so. There is still time to get a crop if planted soon. The same goes for French Beans. It is best to harvest peas using scissors as the stems are fragile, and the plants can be uprooted.
- **Pea Pest Problem.** If you have experienced pea moth problems in the past (the larvae overwinter in the soil) you may wish to take measures to control infestation by either spraying with a bug killer when flowering begins or covering the crop with an insect proof mesh.
- Put summer bedding plants into the ground at the end of the month.
- Continue to position plant supporters for herbaceous perennials
- Pick off dead leaves from plants to control the spread of disease.
- Keep weeding! Hoe out most annual and newly germinated weeds on a sunny day so that any left on the ground dry out and die, but perennial weeds such as ground elder, bindweed and dandelions, if not dug out should be left to develop leaf growth and then zapped with a good weed killer such as glyphosate, if you can get it!
- Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges. The nesting period is officially from February to August.
- Make bee and insect hotel/houses to help the pollinators.
- Lift and divide any overcrowding clumps of daffodils, once they have died back. Apply liquid fertilizer to encourage next year's growth.
- Watch out for and dispatch viburnum and lily beetle grubs as well as aphids and other pests.
- Sow winter bedding plants, and spring bedding plants such as wallflowers and pansies between now and July.
- **Damping Off.** Young seedlings can be damaged or killed off by soil -borne pathogens either before they have emerged or afterwards, particularly when humidity is high, air circulation is poor and seeds are sown too densely. To protect against this sow seeds thinly using commercial growing compost, in new or disinfected pots or trays, and use mains water as rainwater often contain leaves or other organic matter than can harbour pathogens. Keep seedlings well ventilated.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs such as Forsythia and Philadelphus
- Tie in the leading shoots of greenhouse crops such as tomatoes, peppers and aubergines as they grow, to avoid stems breaking or growing in undesired directions. Pinch out the side shoots of tomatoes, to strengthen the crop. Side shoots can be used to grow more tomato plants.
- Harden off plants raised from seed gradually exposing them to cooler conditions, but protect from frost. This especially applies to courgettes and squashes. Lettuces are hardier and can be planted out sequentially to keep a steady supply going.
- Put up shading in the greenhouse to limit inside temperatures to 77-81F
- Thin out direct sowings of vegetables, in stages to obtain good sized crops. Sow seeds such as lettuce and rocket in small numbers sequentially so avoid glut. Plan to keep space available for this. Cover carrots with insect mesh to defend against carrot fly.
- Tie in rambling roses as near to horizontal as possible to encourage side shoots to grow along the stems.
- Prune out dead or overcrowded stems of clematis Montana once it has finished flowering.
- To prevent aubretia becoming bare and leggy, prune hard after flowering down to ground level if possible
- Take softwood cuttings of deciduous shrubs
- Keep feeding your compost heap with plant material lawn clippings and horse manure if you can get it, as it will provide your garden with the nourishment it needs to thrive.

Simon Colbeck
Chairman
Chedworth Gardening Club

Calling all Book Lovers

Calling all book lovers…

Do you like reading? Would you like to join with like-minded people and expand your reading tastes?

I am hoping to set up a new book group in Chedworth as it appears that those which already exist have no room for new members.

So, if you would like to be involved, please contact me via chedworthbookclub@gmail.com

I would anticipate this being an evening group, so as to cater for people (like me) who work but I am open to ideas re borrowing or buying books etc. so we can plan that together…

If you are already part of a group and happy for people to join or perhaps share some contact details for others to find you, then please also get in touch.

I hope to gain some new reading friends soon!

Mandy

An evening of Parisian-flavoured music

Swing from Paris are an all-string quartet of violin, guitars and double bass, inspired by the music of the 1930s and '40s.

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Chedworth Open Gardens 2025

Chedworth Open Gardens 2025 – Saturday 7th June. 10am – 5pm

We are opening under the National Garden Scheme again this year focusing on Lower Chedworth gardens, with parking in the Dog Training field opposite the Hemplands. This means we don't have to rely on coaches to ferry people the length of the village.

There are 4 named gardens already on the NGS website and yellow book, but we will be announcing a couple of others just before the day. Also Pancakehill Flowers, will be selling plants and flowers.

Visitors can then drive to the village hall and take advantage of all day refreshments, light lunches and tea's supplied as usual by our very own Claire Booth Cooks.

However, we need volunteers to help with the Open Gardens; manning a garden for a couple of hours to give the garden owner 'a breather', selling Open Garden tickets in the Car Park or helping with car park duties at both the village hall playing field and dog training field. You will still have plenty of time to visit the gardens yourself.

Thank you to those who have already contacted me to volunteer it is much appreciated.

If you think you can help, please contact me. I am putting a rota together over the next few weeks and will be able to give you full details of how you can help to make the day a real success.

Thank you in anticipation.

Sue Bradbury
Open Gardens Organiser / Chedworth Gardening Club
bradburydesigns@aol.com

Sharing your faith at work

After his local church had done a week of outreach training, the local barber felt guilty. When had he last shared his faith with anyone? So, the next morning he prayed: "Lord, today I promise to witness to the first man that walks through my door."

Soon after he opened his shop the first man came in and said, "I want a haircut and a shave, please." The barber said nervously, "Sure, just sit in the seat and I'll be with you in a moment."

The barber rushed into the back of his shop and sent up a desperate prayer: "Dear God, give me the wisdom to know just the right thing to say to him. Amen." Then slowly the barber came back to his customer with his razor knife in one hand. He laid a shaking hand on the man's shoulder, stared at him in the mirror, and said: "I am glad you came to see me this morning…are you ready to die?"

Chedworth Silver Band

Chedworth Silver Band held its Annual General Meeting on 25th March in our bandroom, the Old Chapel in Cheap Street.

For those that don't know, the band was formed in 1905 and has existed in the village ever since. 120 years is quite something for a small country village. Admittedly members do come from outside the village as well, and without them things would be quite different.

We practice every Tuesday evening and at the moment we are busy sorting our repertoire for the coming months.

We would welcome anyone interested in joining the band or enquiries regarding booking us.

Tel: 01285 720313

Email: chedworthsilverband@mail.com

Calling all Chedworth babies (and their parents)!

Lots of us are meeting up at the Pop-up cafe every Monday morning from 10am-1pm

While we make new friends, our Mums and Dads enjoy good coffee, cake & company. Everyone is welcome. So come and join us)!

PS... and don't forget to bring & buy, some cuttings for the garden while you're there

Garden produce

A toddler was found in the garden, chewing on a slug. After the initial surge of disgust his mother asked, "Well . . . what does it taste like?" "The worms over there," was the reply.

Chedworth Silver Band

Chedworth Silver Band is a friendly, non-contesting band based in the beautiful Cotswold village of Chedworth.

We are in the enviable position of owning our own bandroom, a former chapel.

We would welcome new players - brass players and a percussionist.

We do not contest but we do play at a number of events in our area throughout the year. We practice every Tuesday night, 7.30 – 9.30 p.m.

If you are looking for a band without the pressure of contesting, Chedworth Band might be the band for you. We all play for the enjoyment of making music and pleasing our audiences.

Perhaps you haven't played for a while but would like to get back into playing or maybe you know someone new to our area who would like to join a band. If so, please get in touch with us when we will be pleased to tell you a bit more about our organisation. We would also welcome anyone wishing to learn to play a brass instrument and we do have a number of instruments available.

For more information please call David on 01285 720313

Or email us: chedworthsilverband@mail.com

Why not call now, you have nothing to lose.

Wine Column

Hello Neighbour's,

With Easter behind us and those three weeks of sunshine in late March into April, we are hoping for more blue skies, sunshine and some heat.

This leads us to some important questions! What wines should I stock up on to ensure we are ready for the patio and those late afternoon glasses of wine in the sunshine?

Are you bored with buying the same wines all the time? Let me help you find something new to wake up your palate and get you safely into summer sipping.

White Wines perfect for the patio:

1. Vino Verde: From Portugal, lighter alcohol so you can have the extra glass
2. Pecorino or Gavi from Italy: easy to drink, peachy flavors and crisp finish
3. Sauvignon Blanc from Chile: great value, citrus fruits and zesty finish (but not grapefruity like New Zealand)
4. Albarino from Spain: nectarine and a salinity from being so close to the ocean
5. White Pinot Noir: some local English Wineries are making these quaffable wines – I love Freedom of the Press.
6. Gruner Veltliner: An Austrian favorite – perfect pairing with patios and sun
7. Assyrtiko: Greek white with stonefruit flavors and lovely finish

All of these wines are a great value (20 and under) and you are able to find them in your local wine shop or grocery store.

Rose: yes Rose is still proper to have at every meal, including breakfast (the bubbly kind) so stock up on those.

I always suggest Mirabeau Rose – not only because it is delicious and a relative of one of our own in Coln St Denis, but they are organic and focus on sustainability. They put in the extra mile to focus on the future and quality.

Looking for something fun to do when you have people in town or maybe just a Friday night out? Take a trip to Larkhill Vineyard in Tetbury on a Friday night. You can order a bottle or glass of wine, have a local pizza or other delicious local food truck favorite and be surrounded by vineyards. You can bring your dog, your kids and your family and friends. Starting soon.

Vineyard Update and Tour the Vineyard:

April was an exciting time in the vineyard. We had that three-week snap of gorgeous, sunny weather at the end of March into April and that brought budbreak for all of the vines. It was a scary time as frost was still happening at least 4 of the 7 mornings. Fingers crossed our frost protection investment will pull through and we will have a healthy crop this year.

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
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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

Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...

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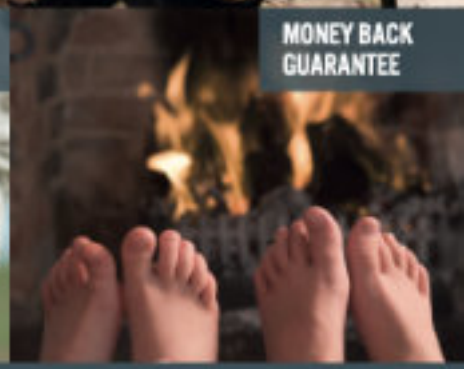

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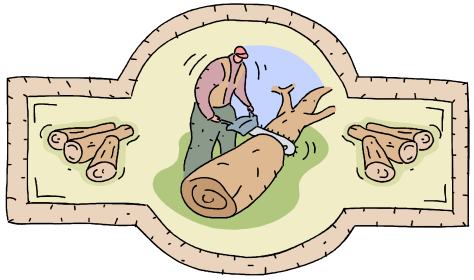

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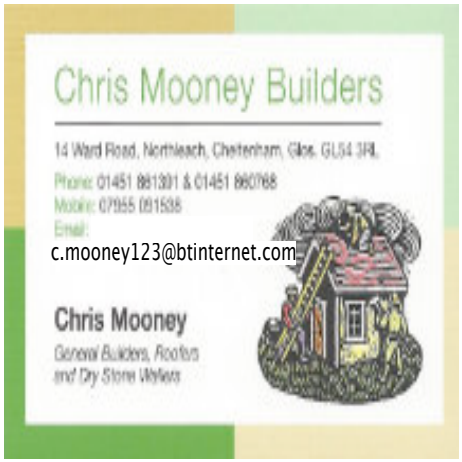
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