

December 2025 January 2026

The Hill and Valley

Parish Magazine

Happy Christmas
and
New Year
to all our readers

Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

The Benefice of Chedworth and District

Rector

Reverend Karen Hunter Kriwald

The Vicarage, Chedworth, Cheltenham, GL54 4AA

Tel: 01285 720392

Church Wardens

Chedworth

Sheila Bowley: 01285 720369

Reader

Helen Oldham: 07719 977144

Coln Rogers & Coln St. Denys

Neil Irving: 01285 720403

Nellie Burrow: 01285 720653

Local Ministry Team

Sheila Bowley: 01285 720369

Teresa Irving: 01285 720403

Helen Oldham: 07719 977144

Yanworth with Stowell

Alexander George: 01285 720247

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 - 07771 958380 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 Teresa Irving of Coln St Denys Church

The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Julie Young Coordinator for this edition



Karen's Letter



May I take this opportunity to thank many of you for your kindness and care through the difficult time I am going through. Life rarely works out like we expect and we need each other to comfort, encourage and enable us as we navigate the twists and turns of the journey.

One of you kindly sent me a link to Dr Jane Goodall's farewell speech. In it she speaks of hope, something I treasure. Psalm 29:18 says, "Without hope people perish", and Proverbs 13:12 says, "Hope deferred makes the heart sick." It is particularly in difficult times that we all need hope to keep going. Someone who is embodying this right now is Sarah Cox as she runs marathons to raise money for Children In Need. It has been lovely listening to Radio 2 and hearing her passion for sick or suffering children and the encouragement that many have given her to keep going and not give up.

I was moved by what Dr Jane Goodall said before she died, "Each and every

one of you has a role to play. You may not know it, but your life matters and you are here for a reason, and I hope that that reason becomes apparent as you go through your life. Your life does matter, and every single day you get to choose the difference that you will make. Don't lose hope. If you lose hope you will do nothing. Even small actions multiplied a million, a billion times will make a difference. I know there is life after death and that consciousness survives death. Your life on planet earth will make a difference in that kind of life you will find after you die. We are part of Mother Nature and we need to do everything in our power to make the world a better place. You have it in your power to make a difference. Don't give up. There is a future for you. Do your best while you are on planet earth."

I am truly grateful for those of you who have found it within your power to encourage me and make a difference in my life. What an amazing community! I love it!

Karen



Church Briefing

Hill & Valley Benefice Church Services

Everyone Welcome

7th December

BCP 9.00am – St Andrews, Chedworth.
Holy Communion 10.30am – St James the Great, Coln St Denys.

14th December

Holy Communion 10.30am – St Andrews, Coln Rogers.

20th December

Carol Service 6.00pm – St James the Great, Coln St Denys.

21st December

Holy Communion 10.30am – St Andrew's Chedworth.
Carol Service 6.00pm – St Andrew's Chedworth

24th December

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

25th December

Christmas Day Communion 9.00am – St Leonard's, Stowell.
Holy Communion 10.30am – St James the Great, Coln St Denys.
Family Service 10.30am – St Andrew's, Chedworth.

28th December NO SERVICE.

31st December

7.30pm – Open House at the Vicarage –
Bring and share and stay until the New Year!

Please email me if you want to know what to bring:

karen@kriwald.com

4th January

Holy Communion 10.30am – St James the Great, Coln St Denys.

11th January

BCP 9.00am – St Andrew's, Chedworth.
Holy Communion 10.30am – St Andrew's, Coln Rogers.

18th January

Holy Communion 10.30am – St Andrew's, Chedworth.

25th January

The Happyfull Service 10.30am – St Andrew's, Chedworth.

Dates for Your Diary

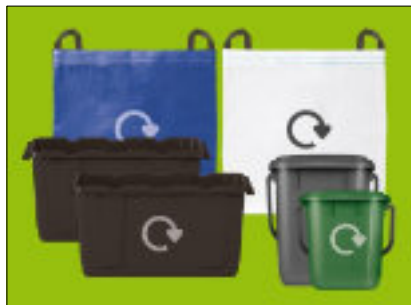
Date	Time	Event	Venue
6 Dec	19:30	Chedworth Entertainment Club - Moscow Drug Club	Chedworth Village Hall
10 Dec	19:15	WI - Rev Dr Nicholas Henderson "How to read an English Country Church Part II - Open Meeting 19:45	Chedworth Village hall
12 Dec	19:30	Backrow Club - A Man Called Otto	Chedworth Village Hall
14 Dec	15:30	Silver Band Carols in the church	St Andrew's Church Chedworth
15 Dec	17:30	Fish and Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
20 Dec	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
23 Dec	19:30	Meeting with Seven Tuns new owner	Chedworth Village Hall
26 Dec	12:00-12:30	Chedworth Silver Band	Outside Seven Tuns
9 Jan	19:30	Backrow Club - Richard Jewell	Chedworth Village Hall
15 Jan	19:00	National Theatre Live - The Fifth Step	Chedworth Village Hall
17 Jan	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	
14 Feb	15:00	Children's Magic Show	Chedworth Village Hall
21 Feb	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
21 March	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
18 April	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
16 May	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
20 June	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
18 July	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
11 Sept		Golf Day	



Recycling Dates

Domestic Waste & Recycling

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



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

Thursday	4	December
Thursday	18	December
Saturday	3 No garden waste	January
Thursday	15	January
Thursday	29	January

Dates may change due to holidays

*Turn your event into an occasion
at*

Chedworth Village Hall

Visit our website for full details including making
booking enquiries

chedworthvillagehall.co.uk



During November we hosted a 'Reverse Cafe' where we invited local community members to come and look at our school. I want to say a huge thank you to those of you who attended and gave up your time to come. The children loved having you look in their classes and spend time here.



We are really looking forward to hosting our Nativity and Christmas performance in the School Hall and are excited that local bell-ringers will be holding a quarter peal to celebrate. Please do listen out for their wonderful ringing! All are welcome to on **Tuesday 16th December at 16.30pm.**



We are also looking forward to a whole school trip to the pantomime at Cheltenham Everyman!





Community Consultation



We are currently in the process of applying for a 'Condition Improvement' bid with the hope to have some site security fencing installed. As a rural school, our site ingress and egress is less secure than others due to our beautiful (but impractical) stone walls and low fencing.

We are currently working with a consultancy with regards to this. The fencing would be on the inside of the perimeter and would consist of bow top railings at the front of school with green v-mesh around the remainder of the site. The v mesh fencing will blend with the existing hedges and foliage – of which we are retaining as much as possible.

We are proposing that the bow top at the front of school be in Cotswold green to ensure it is in keeping with the surrounding area.

We will be consulting with the Parish Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Diocese of Gloucester Education Board and our community Police Officer.



We offer pre-school places to children from the term they turn 3 and they have full access to our sports coach, forest school and wonderful outdoor learning spaces. We accept government funding and have **no other hidden fees! Your funded hours truly are fully funded.** We are a teacher-led setting and our children benefit from incredible play-based learning experiences.

If you would like to come and visit our setting and learn what we do, please book an appointment by emailing:

admin@st-andrews.gloucs.sch.uk

Chedworth Parish Council

Road Closure

Fields Road is to be closed from Gallipot Cottage (near the old railway line) to the Fosse Way from 9.30am to 3.30pm on the 1st to the 4th of December for Openreach cabling works. This includes the stretch from the A429 to the Hemplands and will involve long detours. Please see the map on page 34.

Seven Tuns Defibrillator

The Parish Council has reluctantly had to take the Defibrillator at the Seven Tuns out of use. The power supply to the cabinet heater has been cut off following the ending of the lease and the present owners will not be having the supply reconnected as the pub freehold is currently for sale. Without cabinet heat the pads may freeze which will make the pads useless and defibrillator inoperable. The Cabinet is obsolete, and spares are unobtainable, so the Parish Council is looking in to

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

purchasing replacement units.

Loose Dogs

There have again been reports of dogs running loose on public footpaths. Even if the footpath passes through your property your dog should not be loose if it gives grounds for reasonable apprehension that it will injure any person, whether or not it actually does so. Aggressive behaviour towards a person will almost always be grounds for reasonable apprehension that it will cause injury to demonstrate that it is dangerously out of control. Further information is available on <https://www.cps.gov.uk/prosecution-guidance/dangerous-dog-offences>

Christmas Lights

A request for funding for Christmas lights was made at the November Parish Council meeting. The plan involving LED lights and deep cycle batteries instead of the D cell torch batteries previously used was welcomed enthusiastically by Councillors but at a ballpark cost of £1,700 was not something which could be agreed without more details.

Grit Bins

All the grit bins should have been topped up by County Council but as we have over 30 bins some may have been missed. If you see one in need of more salt grit the Parish Council has some bags in storage so please contact any parish councillor or clerk@chedworthpc.org.uk and we will get it topped up.

David Broad



Seasons greetings everybody!

The Pop-up cafe team would like to wish all our lovely friends & neighbours

A happy & peaceful holiday

We'd like to say a big thank you to all our hard working & loyal suppliers.....

Clare Booth
Sarah Godwin
Eddie Graves
Anne Baxter
Seb & Pippa (& their cows)

We literally couldn't do it without you.....

And of course we send huge thanks to you..... our customers.

Quite apart from the pleasure of your company on a Monday morning: because of your many visits & on-going support, the cafe in turn has been able to support some (mostly local) charities & causes.

This Christmas we have sent £1000 to the Trussel Trust Cirencester Food Bank.

So yes - we send warm Christmas & New Year wishes to each and every one of you, & look forward to meeting you again - next year

at the Pop-up Cafe

This month is our annual meeting with effectively two meetings in one to cover the business of the annual meeting, new appointments of officials and our November monthly meeting, followed by our, by now traditional delicious meal cooked by Clare Booth. For some inexplicable reason we generally manage to get through the business of both our meetings surprisingly rapidly this month.

This year it was a meetings with farewells and welcomes. Welcome to a new member Bee, welcome to our new treasurer Deborah and farewell to our long standing treasurer Chrissy. Chrissy has kept Chedworth WI on the straight and narrow financial path for nine years now, whilst she has been attending the births of grandchildren, travelling the world and enduring treatment for breast cancer – nothing has stopped her! She has done it all with cheerfulness and a calmness with the intricacies of the NFWI and Charity commission rules which we have all envied. Chrissy has also prepared our new treasurer very well, Deborah seems unphased by the task confronting her. We can only say thank you to Deborah for taking it on and a huge thank you to Chrissy for all she has done over the years.

Of course, we are not letting Chrissy go that easily she has been co-opted to continue on the committee together with Mick, to join Penny our secretary, Clare, Helen, Jean, Ann, Jo and one new committee member Janet. The committee do so much to keep our WI going, and all us members are so grateful to them.

I have saved the best news to the end, Sheila has agreed to stay on as President. To take meetings of committee and monthly meetings, to be bombarded by emails, ideas, minor objections and other problems and to deal with all of them with the grace and kindness that Sheila has always had, and to do it all whilst coping with her own bereavement is quite amazing. We are all so thankful to her, and full of appreciation for her. We know we are lucky to have you Sheila – thank you. And we can now look forward to another year with confidence!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 10th at Chedworth Village Hall, at 7.15pm, with the speaker being the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Henderson with 'How to read a an English Country Church Part 2'. We enjoyed Part 1 so much last year that we had to invite him back to continue. This is an open meeting to which everyone is very welcome. We only request that a donation is made towards the delicious tea (I know it will be!).

Emma Isaac



The Seven Tuns

Very soon, we'll be able to share the news we've all been waiting for about the Seven Tuns. In early December, if all goes according to plan, The Tuns will change hands and a new owner will be in place d.v. The sale remains commercial in confidence until then.

We at STAG are delighted that we persuaded the owners to put it on the market. It's taken many meetings, slowly convincing the owners that a sale as a pub was the best way forward, both for the village and for them.

The new owner would like to invite you to a meeting at the Village Hall on 23rd December at 7.30 p.m. to answer your

questions and hear your views. No menu suggestions please! You can email questions to me if you like, see below.

The Silver Band will, as ever, play outside the Tuns on Boxing Day from 12 midday to 12.30 p.m. after going around the village.

Do come for mulled wine and mince pies to celebrate the change of ownership.

*Patricia Langley, Chair, Seven Tuns Action Group/Seven Tuns CBS Ltd
patricialangley@me.com*



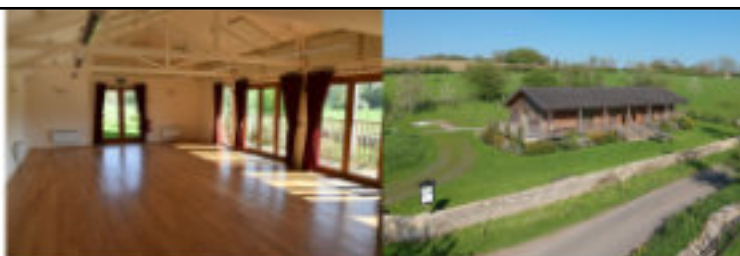
Support the Rev Karen

Support the Rev Karen

Karen was appointed by the Diocese of Gloucester as a House for Duty incumbent for the Hill and Valley Benefice on the basis that the Diocese supply the Vicarage and pays the council tax. She receives NO salary. During her ministry here she has worked tirelessly, enthusiastically and become a much loved and respected member of the community. We very much wish to support her and ensure that she can STAY as our vicar, which she is very keen to do. The Diocese are not able to assist financially without disrupting Karen's work and family commitments and increasing the Quota paid by these parishes towards the running of the Diocese.

Representatives of the local churches have met with Karen to review her financial position in the light of her sudden and changed circumstances, now that she is single and responsible for all her household and living expenses. The priority is to regularise the situation and meet known current expenses. The most urgent bills have been covered by the generosity of Chedworth Charities. Going forward for the next three months, the local churches will make a monthly contribution to Karen for her expenses necessary for her work as vicar and will then review the situation in January. It is likely that a Benefice giving scheme will be put in hand whereby, parishioners will be invited to make a small monthly payment towards her expenses. This will be eligible for Gift Aid, so that the church can reclaim the tax. Further information will be available in the early New Year.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to assist, please contact Jeannie Hamilton – jeannie@tdhamilton.com - 07708 591373.



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

FoStA- Guy Rooker's talk

FoStA- Guy Rooker's talk on Leonardo da Vinci and his depiction of "Hands"

Thursday 6th November

There was a very good turnout for Guy Rooker's excellent and well researched illustrated talk at Chedworth Village Hall. Comments from those who attended included –

"A truly tremendous evening"

"What an enthusiastic and knowledge speaker"

"Hugely interesting talk by one expert on another. Orthopaedic surgeon Guy Rooker on Leonardo da Vinci's hands a vital tool in both these experts work, Intriguing and well presented"

"We learnt so much about Leonardo and the breadth of his work, not least that he only painted about 20 pictures"

"His description of 'The Last Supper' was so interesting"

"The talk was beautifully pitched, I learnt so much"

"The hour passed so quickly, a very informative lecture"

The event raised over £1000 for church funds.

Thank you to Virginia Stourton for the photograph.



Robert Young

Chedworth Silver Band

**Christmas
Concert**

**Sunday 14th
December**

3.30 PM

St Andrews Church Chedworth

**Sponsored by the Unite the Union branch for
Safran Landing Systems (Gloucester)**

*Free
Admission*



Backrow Club at the Village Hall

**THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE OF £15 FOR 2026 IS DUE
CASH OR SUMUP ON THE NIGHT OR BACS TO :
SORT Code :77-65-94 ACCOUNT: 00066768 Ref BRC – Name
Name on the Account' Simon Colbeck'**

Well known pilot

At Sunday school, the younger children were drawing pictures to illustrate a biblical story. The teacher was startled to see one little boy was drawing an airplane. "This is the Flight into Egypt," the little boy explained. "See, here is Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. And this," he said, pointing to the figure in the front of the plane, "is Pontius. He's the Pilot."

KINDLY SPONSORED BY CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S MAGIC SHOW

SATURDAY
14 FEB AT 3 PM
CHEDWORTH VILLAGE
HALL

NO TICKETS
REQUIRED

FOSTA DONATIONS
WARMLY
WELCOMED

Corn Mills Part 2

In the parish of Coln St Dennis there were two water corn mills. A mill in Calcot was mentioned in 1327 and during the c17 was held as copyhold of the manor by members of the Howse family. It was freehold by 1798, but later references to it have not been found. The other mill recorded in 1798 was at Fossebridge, where a mill was marked on a map of 1824. Fossebridge Mill or Coln Mill remained in use as a corn mill at the end of the c19. The buildings, which are mainly of the c18 but include older parts, were afterwards converted into a private house.

At Winson, a mill was recorded in 1086 and was called Winson Mill by 1527. The buildings are mainly in the Parish of Coln St Dennis and may be of c17 but were remodelled and

enlarged to include a miller's house in the c19. It was worked as a corn-mill in 1836 by Richard Coles and then by his son William. It was in use in 1882 but abandoned and later converted as a house. The former mill and miller's house adjacent to the River Coln is Grade II Listed built of Cotswold stone under a stone slate roof. The mill machinery has been removed from the interior.

My Great Grandfather who also farmed, owned Naunton Mill on the River Windrush. The mill and adjoining house are believed to be mostly c17 and c18. This mill, like most mills



required work to the river in order to power the water wheel by creating a mill pond and mill leat. The mill ceased to be used in 1938, which is common to many Cotswold corn mills reflecting the growth and dominance of the major industrially powered corn mills which made small country mills uneconomic. In 1893, my Great Grandfather was summoned before Stow Magistrates for having placed a steam engine and threshing drum within 25 yards of the highway at the mill. The case was dismissed as it was the first of its kind to come before the Bench for many years. I understand that the logic of the 25yard buffer was to prevent horses being scared by steam engines.

Corn mills were an integral part of the rural economy and a source of employment and activity in rural communities. They relied on the skilled craftsmen who built, maintained and operated the mills and machinery, including those who altered the course of rivers to form mill ponds and leats. The prominence of corn mills is reflected in the many references to them in c19 literature, including George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*



(1860) and in Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1891)- the character Angel Clare in considering his future mused "*Next, he wished to see a little of the working of a flour mill -having an idea that he might combine the use of one with corn growing. The proprietor of a large water mill at Wellbridge once the property of an abbey- had offered an inspection of time- honoured mode of procedure, and a hand in operations for a few days*"-and in *The Trumpet Major* (1880)-based on Overcombe Mill, the home of Miller Loveday and

his two sons, who were both in love with Anne Garland, at the time of the Napoleon Wars.

The tradition of water powered corn milling in the Cotswolds continues at Stanway Mill near Winchcombe, which was restored in 2009 and produces flour from wheat grown on the Stanway Estate. The mill is open to the public as part of Stanway House and Tithe Barn.

Robert Young



7.30 PM SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH 2025

Chedworth Village Hall

www.moscowdrugclub.com

MOSCOW DRUG CLUB

1930s BERLIN CABARET, HOT CLUB DE FRANCE,
NUEVO TANGO & GYPSY CAMPYRE ...

"Stunning!"

"Liliently rendered crowd
pleasing to see!"

"Virtuosic
singing!"

The poster features a large, stylized illustration of a woman's face with a voluminous black afro hairstyle decorated with small red flowers and musical instruments like a guitar and a violin. Below the illustration, five band members are standing: a man in a red velvet jacket, a man in a dark suit, a woman in a bright pink suit, a man in a dark suit with an orange shirt, and a man in a dark suit. The background is a vibrant red with yellow decorative swirls on the sides.

CE

Chedworth Entertainment Club

AIRg
LIVE MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT

Named after BB Gabor's song about an underground jazz club during the Cold War, these transcendent troubadours play a heady and waggish mix of 1930s Berlin cabaret, Hot Club de France, neo-tango, and gypsy swing. Combining their original material with songs by the likes of Jaques Brel, Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen & Eartha Kitt, **Moscow Drug Club** deliver an intoxicating and intimate musical experience you won't soon forget!

Tickets: £15 www.chedworthentclub.co.uk or on the door.



National
Theatre
Live

Jack LOWDEN

Martin FREEMAN

Step The Fifth

Written by DAVID IRELAND

Directed by FINN DEN HERTOEG

Chedworth Village Hall 7pm Thursday January 15th

Olivier Award-winner Jack Lowden (*Slow Horses*, *Dunkirk*) is joined by Emmy and BAFTA-winner Martin Freeman (*The Hobbit*, *The Responder*) in this critically acclaimed and subversively funny new play by David Ireland. After years in the 12-step programme of Alcoholics Anonymous, James becomes a sponsor to newcomer Luka. The pair bond over black coffee, trade stories and build a fragile friendship out of their shared experiences. But as Luka approaches step five – the moment of confession – dangerous truths emerge, threatening the trust on which both of their recoveries depend.

Tickets £15: www.chedworthentclub.co.uk or on the door.

CE

Chedworth Entertainment Club

Your Gardenig Tips for Dec & Jan

World leaders gathered in November to try and agree measures to stop the world warming up around us. Meanwhile, the people of the West Indies suffered devastating storm damage so we can hardly complain if it rains too much here in Chedworth. Nevertheless, it can be frustrating when the traditional cycle of gardening weather is disrupted by climate change, which usually means more rainy days. Still, it is important to keep up with tasks that need to be completed over the winter

- Prune open-grown apples and pears, acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding. Careful pruning will produce fewer but bigger fruits.
- Bare rooted deciduous trees and shrubs can be planted and transplanted in December and January, and it is the time to take hardwood cuttings. Ensure newly planted trees are well staked. Remember the rule not to put into a deep hole but a more shallow square pit to allow the roots to spread out.
- Remove weeds from around the base of young fruit trees. Check that stakes are secure, and a thick dry mulch will protect the roots from frost. Plant new raspberry canes making sure that the soil is well drained and fertile.
- This the time of year when if we are not lucky to have a good holly bush in our garden we cast an eye out into the



countryside for a well laden bush. There are, however many types of bush that are suited to our gardens and a quick look on the web should provide satisfaction.

- Gooseberry bushes can be pruned until late January. Remove branches that are scraping the ground and some of the older branches trying to achieve an open-centred goblet shape.
- Prune wisteria by cutting back side shoots to two or three buds.
- Keep deadheading winter bedding plants such as pansies, cyclamen and violas and fill gaps with more plants.
- Plant roses, in areas not previously inhabited by roses.
- Try sowing over wintering lettuce like Winter Gem and parsley, Mustard Greens The seeds will need to be started off inside or over a heated tray but should grow on in the greenhouse or south facing cold frame.
- Group and insulate vulnerable patio pots from frost with bubble-wrap or similar protective material.
- This is a good time to work bulky organic matter into heavy soil ready for the spring but remove

plant debris to avoid disease overwintering on the soil.

- Cover unused areas with thick mulch or membrane to suppress weeds and keep the soil warm ready for the spring.
- Root crops are sweetest after a frost but will need to be lifted and stored in sand before the ground gets too hard, if it ever does!!
- It is not too late to plant shallots ready for an early 2026 crop unless the weather turns really cold. Cover with fleece in the coldest weather. Boxing Day is apparently the day to plant onion seeds!
- Lift and divide established clumps of rhubarb. Start forcing rhubarb in January.
- Check autumn sown sweet peas for slug and mouse damage and take defensive action! Sow more sweet peas in January, if required.
- Check stored bulbs for sign of rot and remove affected bulbs.
- Insulate outdoor taps and drain water butts if a heavy frost is

forecast to avoid damaging the taps.

- Clean the greenhouse inside and out, and if it is being used for growing plants, insulate against frost with bubble wrap or similar. It is a good thing to ventilate the greenhouse occasionally during warmer days to reduce fungal infection.
- Brush off worm casts on your lawn.
- Keep an eye out for overwintering pests such as whitefly and red spider mite and treat accordingly. 
- Feed the birds and place the feeding station close to shrubs or trees to enable them to escape from predators. If you have bird boxes now is the time to clean them.

*Simon Colbeck
Chairman
Chedworth Gardening Club*

Thank You

The golf day this year raised £2,120.

The money is to go towards a recycled all weather plastic bench to be erected in the play area.

The promised tree has already been planted at the Village Hall.

I would once again like to thank all those involved both playing and donating prizes without you all it would not be possible.

Thank you



Pete Heaps.





Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

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

CLUB NEWS

Even with shorter days and dodgy weather at this time of year, it's surprising how much tennis can be played. The refreshed court surface along with floodlights enable action to take place in between inevitable winter interruptions.

As the year draws to the Christmas finale we reflect on what has been a busy and successful year for the club, new members have joined and many social and competitive events held. Much banter and laughter enjoyed. A very big 'Thank You' to our hard working committee and the many volunteers who bring along much joy - and make the club wheels go round!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and tennis filled New Year!

Robert Baker, Chair

GIFT VOUCHERS

If you would like to give a Gift Voucher as a present, please get in touch, it can be for any amount for coaching or membership.



We wish you a very Happy Christmas!

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

NEW SATURDAY JUNIOR COACHING

Open to non members, rackets provided for ages 4-18yrs

See website for more info and booking

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



NEW SATURDAY CARDIO TENNIS

Open to non members, rackets provided for ALL AGES

See website for more info and booking

AFTER SCHOOL JUNIOR COACHING

Running on Wednesdays, for ages 4-18yrs

Open to non members, rackets provided

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

HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMPS 2026

February 17th & 19th 2026

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

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

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



Wine Column

Hello Neighbour's,

I woke up and it was November. How did that happen? Holidays are here and it is time to start planning for holiday parties with friends, colleagues, family and neighbours. Here are some helpful hints for wherever you purchase your wine.

Online: The Wine Society, Berry Bros, Hedonism for hard to find wines,

Independent Stores: Sheldon's Wine Cellar, Phoenix Wine, Talking Wines, Daylesford Wine Cellar

Large Stores: Waitrose, Aldi, Tesco, Majestic

Best Pairing for Holiday Appetizers and Small Bites

Sparkling Wine and Champagne: Salty snacks, one bite appetizers, smoked salmon blinis, Crisps...all perfect pairings with bubbles. Also, fatty foods like charcuterie, cheese and buttered anything totally work.

Wines to Try: English Sparkling, Cava, Champagne

SPLURGE: Pol Roger Blanc de Blanc 110 Value: Wiston English Sparkling 36

Best Pairings for Holiday Vegetable Dishes and Sides

Sweet potatoes, squash, roasted potatoes - **Chardonnay!** Chardonnay is one of the more versatile white grapes for pairing from sides to the centerpiece of Chicken or Turkey.

SPLURGE: Domaine Leflaive Montrachet 350 Value: Drouhin Cotes De Beaune 26

Beaujolais / Gamay... I love Beaujolais with sausage stuffing, salads, cranberries, and bacon-wrapped anything!

Domaine Jean Jacques Girard Beaujolais: 26

Best Pairings for Turkey or Ham

Pinot Noir is a light-bodied red wine that happens to be one of the most food-friendly varieties, as its red fruit flavors, earthy characters, low and soft tannins, and noticeable acidity make it a great match for almost anything. You can choose from France, New Zealand, California

Value: RESA Pinot Noir Sonoma: 52 Sylvain Pataille Marsannay 40

SPLURGE: Domaine Perrot-Minot Vosne Romanee 199

Best Pairings for Christmas or Boxing Day Dinner

Syrah with Beef Rib Roast or Venison: Rhone or Santa Barbara, CA

Cabernet Sauvignon with Beef Wellington: Bourdeaux or Napa Valley

SPLURGE: Staglin Family Vineyard Cabernet 295 Value: Jean Pierre Moueix Pomerol 27

Best Pairings for Desserts

Tawny Port is a fortified wine from Portugal that is underused. I love it with salted cashews. It is also a perfect match with sticky toffee pudding, Figgy Pudding, and even fruitcake.

Madeira is still my favorite after dinner drink that no one ever drinks anymore. It is rich but clean and lingers forever. Mince Pies and Madeira as 2025's awards for perfect pairing.

And don't forget mulled wine and eggnog!

Vineyard Update: the quietest month of the year for us. We've been watching the leaves change color and fall off. Thanks again to all that came to help. If anyone is interested in December/January pruning, please email me.

Are you interested in learning more about our vineyard? 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



True story

The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from 'house' to 'house' knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them.

As they continued to get 'no room' answers, a little voice called from the back of the church: "You should have booked!"

Don't eat

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? Tinselitus.

Chedworth Produce Market

Chedworth Produce Market celebrates its third anniversary this December. Run from Chedworth Village hall, every third Saturday of the month from 9am - 12noon, it has become a regular fixture in the village calendar since it was launched in December 2022. The market has gone from strength to strength attracting a growing number of regular producers and shoppers alike, providing residents from Chedworth, surrounding villages, and further afield, access to a range of quality local produce, all under one roof.

Staples such as bread, cheese, meat (beef and pork), cider, charcuterie, eggs and veg, provide the backbone of the market, complimented by a wealth of additional products provided by other local producers, all with a passion for producing quality produce and the opportunity to connect directly with their customers. Locally grown fresh flowers in season, plants, bagged and loose leafed teas, pies (including gluten-free), curry sauces and Indian snacks, sweet treats, organic skincare and wellbeing items, eco-friendly greeting cards and more come together each month, under one roof, to offer a one stop shopping experience.

Another regular and popular part of the market is **The Chedworth Pop Up Café** serving from the Village Hall social room. The café offers a welcoming space to stop while you shop and enjoy a drink and perhaps a slice of home-made cake or a delicious sausage roll.

Each month the market also runs a **charity raffle**, with a chance to win a selection of goodies from our



producers. To date we have supported over 20 Gloucestershire based charities, plus a few national charities, raising £4,000. If you have any ideas for local charities we can support, please contact us on the email address below.

You can also follow us on Instagram and Facebook -

@chedworthproducemarket - to keep up to date with what is on offer each month. If you would like any further information please contact chedworthproducemarket@gmail.com

If you have supported the market by visiting over the past three years, we would like to thank you for coming along. If you have yet to pay us a visit why not come along and see us at one of our future markets - a warm welcome awaits you!

The final market of the year will take place on **December 20th 2025 from 9am - 12 noon**, with the first three 2026 dates below, and every third Saturday of the month thereafter. The December market will provide an ideal opportunity to stock up for Christmas and purchase some gifts for loved ones.



2026 first quarter's dates: Saturday 17th January 2026, Saturday 21st February 2026, Saturday 21st March 2026

Charles Hutton-Potts

Wood Carving

Would you like to try some wood carving, would you, though?

We sat there rather stunned and answered Karen "No!"

This will not go well, we thought, as we sat and chewed the cud.

There'll be accidents and mishaps and of course a lot of blood!

She was not to be deterred and she ordered stuff on line

Some wood and tools and drills and bits – everything would be just fine!

She demonstrated patiently to all those who could follow

Her instructions how to sand and scoop and even how to hollow.

This all seemed very simple but it most definitely was not

Because the bits of wood escaped and 'cross the table shot.

We fitted into mini drills the teeny weeny tools

But some of us were ham-fisted and couldn't follow rules.

You had to get the sequence right and push the shiny button

To insert the right attachment which would fit the tiny bit on.

Eventually we (nearly) all had managed to start our drills

Now came the fun and larks and not to mention thrills

As we made some indentations on our elm and ash and alder.

We did some lines and even scrolled some letters (getting bolder).

'My drill keeps stopping' 'Mine won't start' 'I've lost my mini sander'

But ever-patient Karen would not let us just meander...

From the central goal of carving something beautiful and arty (Which we could show off to our friends when next we held a party).

She deftly drew a lovely lady on her block of wood

It boasted buttocks, boobs and curves as every woman should.

'This will become a figurine – a tiny thing to treasure.

You can make it any style you want and finish it at your leisure'.

Suffice to say that some of us were more adept than most.

They seemed to know just how to use the tools (but did not boast).

They sanded, carved and sculpted without need for advice

While a few of us could not make progress, even with a vice!

The need for 'ealth an' safety' was soon quite obvious

As we wielded mini sanders, drills and tools with so much fuss.

She made a short disclaimer "I am not responsible

For any punctured fingers causing a small dribble"

So far just two have left a trail of blood across the floor

But this might well increase each week to three or even four!

A patterned block, a sculpted lady or a scoopy spoon

Our art will be miraculous and surely make you swoon.

Sheila Vene

Nature Articles - Acorns

Another cycle of advantage and disadvantage in nature

Acorns are plentiful this year. The year began well with a long dry warm spring which enabled much flowering and pollination. Latterly, trees have been stressed by long periods of very dry hot weather. In response, leaves were shed early and fruit of all kinds produced in abundance. Their purpose is to minimise energy exposure and maximise the chance of the tree surviving and new trees seeding.

It has been a mast year for oaks, an occasional event when oaks act in concert to produce an abundance of acorns. Next year, acorn production is likely to be reduced as oaks recuperate. Grey squirrels love the acorns, which they store in tree crevices and little pits in the ground; red squirrels not so much. Some of the store will live on as seedlings.

Acorns are poisonous for cattle and horses. Farming custom has evolved a partial remedy. In, for example, the New Forest, the Verderers Court will have decided the date of the pannage,



an ancient right dating back to 1079, in which domestic pigs are turned loose into the forest to gorge on acorns and fatten up. This reduces the amount of acorns, which makes it safer for the cattle and wild ponies. Intriguingly, the pigs are said to return home spontaneously when they have had their fill.

In the Forest of Dean, a large population of feral pigs developed following the escape and release of domestics pigs in the late 1990's onwards. Wild pigs are endemic, damage the land and can be a danger to humans. Unchecked by predators, their numbers are hard to check.

Mark Aveline

Know what?

As we were putting out cookies for Father Christmas one Christmas Eve, I accidentally dropped one. I picked it up and dusted it off before placing it back on the plate. "You can't do that," argued my four-year-old. But I assured him that Father Christmas would never know.

He shot me a dubious look. "So, he knows if I've been bad or good all year, but he doesn't know if you dropped his cookie on the floor?"

Stronger

Statistics show we're getting stronger. 50 years ago, you needed an estate car to hold £50 worth of Christmas presents. 20 years ago, it took two people to carry £20 worth of groceries. Now a five-year-old can do it.

Mistletoe

In Britain most mistletoe is found in the south and west Midlands, with particularly good populations in Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Gwent and Somerset. There is mistletoe elsewhere, but it is only regionally abundant in that core area of the south-west midlands.

Change may be happening though – new evidence from the last 20 years suggests that mistletoe is spreading faster than it used to. This is particularly noticeable in eastern areas, where established but seemingly static mistletoe populations are now spreading. Is this change due to climate or to birds? It could be subtle hints of climate change – computer modelling does suggest that mistletoe will head east with climate change. Or it could be something else. One possibility is better spread of the seeds by Blackcaps, a bird that is particularly efficient at spreading mistletoe. British Blackcaps migrate for the winter so they do not usually affect mistletoe here, but recently continental Blackcaps have started overwintering in Britain, with many thousands now spending their winters here and feeding on mistletoe and then spreading it.



Kissing beneath the mistletoe is a very old tradition indeed and although part of Christmas revels, mistletoe is rarely allowed inside a church because of its strong pagan associations. It is well known as the most sacred plant of the Druids, the priestly clan of the Celts.

If you have a young fruit tree in your churchyard, garden or elsewhere, how about encouraging mistletoe by smearing some berries onto the bark after Christmas is over. The thin bark of a young trees is easier for the mistletoe to penetrate and establish.



The Wrong Gift

A young couple began to assemble a special Christmas gift they had bought for their children. They had bought a kit for a tree house, but it didn't make sense. Then they realised that the materials were for a sailboat, so they wrote to the company to complain. The company's reply was brief: "While we regret the inconvenience this mistake must have caused you, we are more concerned about the man who is out on a lake somewhere, trying to sail your tree house."

Let's play

Four-year-old to her two-year-old sister: "Let's play Christmas. I'll be Father Christmas, and you can be a present and I'll give you away."

Chedworth Silver Band

Chedworth Silver Band will be performing at a Christmas themed Concert at St Andrew's Church from 3.30 pm till 4.30 pm on Sunday the 14th of December. Entry is free but a retiring collection will be held. The event is being supported by the Unite the Union branch for Safran Landing Systems (Gloucester) so all proceeds will go to the Church. The concert will feature some popular carols to sing along to plus some popular Christmas songs from the shows and even some former number one Christmas hits.

The Band is performing at a similar concert at Purton Methodist Chapel the previous Tuesday but all tickets for that event are already sold out.

The Band held a Remembrance themed concert at Village Hall on November 1st with some sing along items which generated some spirited singing so we are looking forward to hearing you join in again on the 14th December.

This year there should be Mulled Wine courtesy of STAG at the Seven Tuns for the band's performance on Boxing Day. The band plays for a number of local residents in Upper Chedworth from 10.30am and aims to arrive at the Seven Tuns for 12 noon and play for around 30 minutes. The collection on this occasion will be for band funds.

David Broad



Santa's sleigh

Father Christmas nervously went for his sleigh-driving test. He came rushing back in a thunder of reindeer and pulled up in front of the toy factory. "At last!" he shouted, "No-el plates!"

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



The map displays a proposed route through the Chedworth area, marked by a thick blue line. The route starts at the top left, near 'Chedworth Leach', and proceeds generally southwards, then eastwards, and finally southwards again. Key locations and features include:

- Top Left:** 'Chedworth Leach' and 'Chedworth' are labeled. A yellow callout '10/07' points to a green circle '04'.
- Top Center:** A white callout 'Road From Foxley Cottages To Disused Airfield' points to a green circle '06'.
- Top Right:** A yellow callout '16/07' points to a green circle '06'. A yellow callout '10' points to a green circle '06'. A yellow callout '17/08' points to a green circle '06'.
- Center:** A white callout 'Fields Road' points to a green circle '06'. A yellow callout '01a/01' points to a green circle '06'. A white callout '3/100 Chedworth Turn To Rendcomb Junction' points to a green circle '06'.
- Bottom Center:** A white callout 'A429 Fosseway' points to a green circle '06'. A white callout '3/100 Downs Farm To Baunton Mill Road' points to a green circle '06'.
- Bottom Left:** A green circle '06' is near 'Baunton Mill Road'. A green circle '06' is near 'Welsh Way'. A green circle '06' is near 'Welsh Way'.
- Bottom Right:** A green circle '06' is near 'Welsh Way'. A green circle '06' is near 'Welsh Way'. A green circle '06' is near 'Welsh Way'.
- Other Labels:** 'Hedgley Bottom', 'Barnsley Wold', 'Fosseway', 'Welsh Way', 'Baunton Mill Road', 'A429 Fosseway', '3/100 Chedworth Turn To Rendcomb Junction', '3/100 Downs Farm To Baunton Mill Road', 'Fields Road', 'Road From Foxley Cottages To Disused Airfield', '10/07', '16/07', '10', '17/08', '01a/01', '04', '05', '06'.

What 3 Words
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To
slack.wedding

**WORKS AREA TO BE AIR
AND PATROLLED FOR PEE
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Note

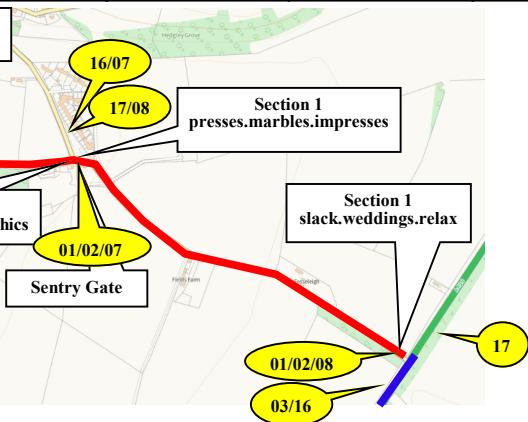
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2. All signs to be in accordance with TSRGD 2016 and to minimum class retroreflective.
3. Minimum height of lettering to be 60mm and sign boards to be 1000mm (750mm where appropriate).

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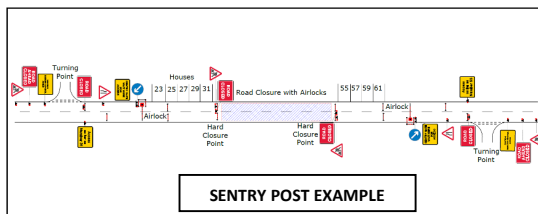
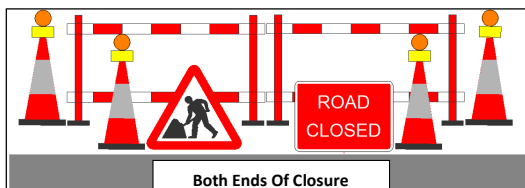


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LOCKED
PEDESTRIANS



16
**ROAD
AHEAD
CLOSED**



17
**ROAD
AHEAD
CLOSED**



20
**CYCLISTS
AND PEDESTRIANS
WAIT HERE
TO BE
ESCORTED**

RADIOS REQUIRED
TM to Provide
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With Radio.

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lamps required each end of
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DIVERSION



CLOCKWISE DIVERSION



ANTI-CLOCKWISE DIVERSION



ROAD CLOSURE SIGN

ROAD CLOSURE LENGTH (APPROX)
ROAD CLOSURE WIDTH (APPROX)

1160 M
5.3 M

Contract Number 213-S017846

Rendcomb Surgery Newsletter

Newsletter December 2025

Christmas Opening Times

The surgery will be closed on the following dates:

Thursday 25th December

Friday 26th December

Thursday 1st January

We will be open as normal on all other days over the festive period.

Medication orders over the holiday season

Please order your medications by **Friday 12th December** for collection before Christmas.

and by **Monday 22nd December** for collection before New Year.

Please don't let your lack of planning become our emergency.

Will you be joining the Dry January Campaign?

The Dry January® challenge supports people across the country to change their relationship with alcohol through stopping drinking for one month using Alcohol Change UK's tools and resources. You can use Dry January® resources to encourage people in your community to become healthier and happier.

Tips for a successful Dry January

A month may seem like a long time, but most people can be successful. Still,

you may need assistance to stay dry in January. Here are some tips:

- **Find a substitute non-alcoholic drink.** For social situations, or when you crave a cocktail after a long day, reach for alcohol-free beverages like sparkling water, soda, or mocktails (non-alcoholic cocktails.)
Non-alcoholic beer or wine also is an option, but some brands still contain up to 0.5% alcohol by volume, so check the label.
- **Avoid temptations.** Keep alcohol out of your house. When you are invited to someone's home, bring your non-alcoholic drinks with you.
- **Create a support group.** Let friends and family know about your intentions and encourage them to keep you accountable. Better yet, enlist someone to do the challenge with you.
- **Use the 'Try Dry' or 'NHS Drink Free Days' apps.** These free app help you track your drinking, set personal goals, and offer motivational information like calories and money saved from not drinking. It's aimed at cutting back on or cutting out alcohol, depending on your choices.
- **Don't give up.** If you slip up, don't feel guilty. Just begin again the next day.
- Small changes can lead to big results. Start your journey today!

Get your free resources from <https://alcoholchange.org.uk/>

North Cotswold Foodbank

Come and join us, says North Cotswold Foodbank

Do you have a few hours to spare and would like to volunteer for the North Cotswold Foodbank?

The charity is looking for two people to lead its outlets in Chipping Campden and Stow-on-the-Wold.

Each role would mean volunteering for a few hours per week (but not necessarily every week).

Food bank Manager Kevin Carden said: "There are no special qualifications required – we just want friendly people who have lots of common sense, good organisational skills, and are comfortable using a computer.

"If you want to join a charity which makes a real difference in our area, this could be a real opportunity."

North Cotswold Foodbank provides more than 1,700 food parcels every year for more than 4,000 people from its seven outlets in the Cotswolds, and is almost entirely run by volunteers.

The Stow outlet is open on Wednesdays, 10am-12. The Chipping Campden outlet is open on Fridays, 12-1.30pm.

For more information about the Volunteer Lead roles in Stow and Chipping Campden, please go to the website www.northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk

About North Cotswold Foodbank



- The North Cotswold Foodbank is a registered charity, based at Unit 2, Glebe Farm Buildings, Guiting Power, Gloucestershire GL54 5TZ
- Its food bank centres are at Winchcombe, Bishop's Cleeve, Chipping Campden, Moreton-in-Marsh, Bourton-on-the-Water and Stow-on-the-Wold
- It was set up in 2011 and is run almost entirely by volunteers
- Food bank clients have a variety of backgrounds, and are not simply the homeless. They are typically low-income working families who hit an unexpected crisis, reduced earnings, redundancy or benefit delays. In general, our clients are working families struggling to make ends meet in the face of higher out-of-town living costs.
- North Cotswold Foodbank is part of the Trussell community which provides more than 3 million food parcels per year across the UK
- North Cotswold Foodbank distributes more than 1,700 food parcels per year which provide food for more than 4,000 people in distress.
- <https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk>
- Contact: 07879 375562
info@northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk
- **Media contact:** Anita Syvret,
anita@northcotswoldfoodbank.org.uk
[uk 07718 152153](tel:07718152153)

The Arts Sociert Cotswolds

Lecture on Wednesday 10th December 2025

Lecture: The Music of Epiphany: Gifts and Stars



Epiphany is a feast of abundance and transformations, set in the very dead of winter. As well as focusing on the visit of the Wise Men and the extravagant gifts they bring, the season also considers Jesus' Baptism and his first miracle at the Wedding at Cana. T. S. Eliot's beloved poem *The Journey of the Magi* leads us to considerations of the dreams and journeys that also feature in Matthew's gospel account. There is much wonderful music to illustrate this, and Patrick will also plunder the worlds of art and poetry to portray this rich array of stars, camels and gold. Featuring music by Palestrina, Byrd, Mendelssohn and Britten.

Lecture on Wednesday 14th January 2026

Lecture: Garden Hunting in China

While many English gardeners have visited China to "collect" plants, few have gone to look for gardens. The Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship Scheme funded this six-week trip to visit gardens and meet

gardeners, with a view to building bridges between Chinese & English horticulture. In addition to examining gardens and gardening, this talk looks at some of the wider cultural aspects of a country full of contradictions, and some wonderful food, and the very welcoming people.



These hybrid lectures will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 11am and via Zoom. Please be seated by 10.50 for notices of upcoming events. Numbers are no longer restricted but booking is recommended to reserve a place (www.heartssocietycotswolds.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.heartssocietycotswolds.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.heartssocietycotswolds.org.uk

*Or contact Alison Morgans on 07771
817050*

Uncle Eustace

Your first parish

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

And so, the old year draws to a close, and you are packing to move to your own first parish in January. Let me give you some final words of advice.

Curates, you will have noticed, are forgiven everything. I hope you have appreciated this period of grace, because come 1st January, all that will change. You will then become responsible for everything that goes wrong in your church. You must be able to mend leaking taps, shovel snow, arrange flowers, mow the churchyard and run jumble sales. You will be expected to know the moment someone falls ill – preferably the day before. In addition, they will expect you to preach profound sermons - in seven minutes flat, and to lead a life of prayerful solitude while being the life and soul of the parish. From the day your predecessor left, he will have turned into a saint. You will be their new disappointment. Be assured that whatever you do, you will always disappoint someone.

Be prepared for phone calls at 3am telling you that someone has left a light on in church, and shouldn't you go turn and it off? You will be asked about car parking arrangements for the October Harvest Service by mid-January, while hymns for the 9 Lessons and Carols will be required by early summer. I suggest you buy in extra pullovers,



overcoats and scarves for life in your vicarage. A good number of mousetraps may well come in useful too.

Welcome to your new life of an incumbent.

Expect that each Sunday morning, as you prepare for the service, there will be a straggling queue of people who want to tell you an astonishing variety of things: there is a large cobweb 30 feet up over the pulpit, they don't like the second hymn on the board, the flowers look rough this week, there may be a bat in the vestry, some child has left a shoe in the back porch, and the car park has broken glass in it.

You may find this a distraction as you prepare for a worship service. But remember that at least they have bothered to come to church at all. In my experience, congregations are always irritating, but at least they do take up a lot of space, and that looks good in the pews. The church would look empty without them.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



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doesn't need to leave the
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group walks
> Do call/message me 07989828641 or email
fg.walldogs@gmail.com to chat about your dog, and
we can arrange a visit for me to meet your 4 legged
friend
This is a picture of my beloved border Terrier

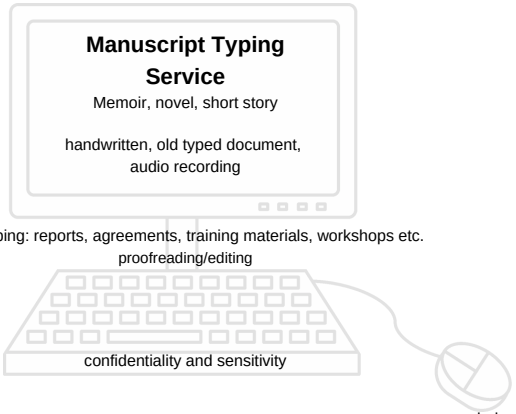


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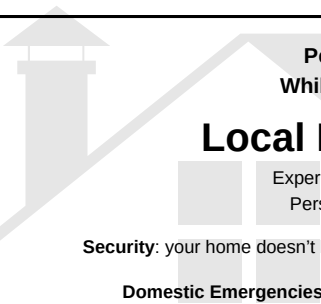
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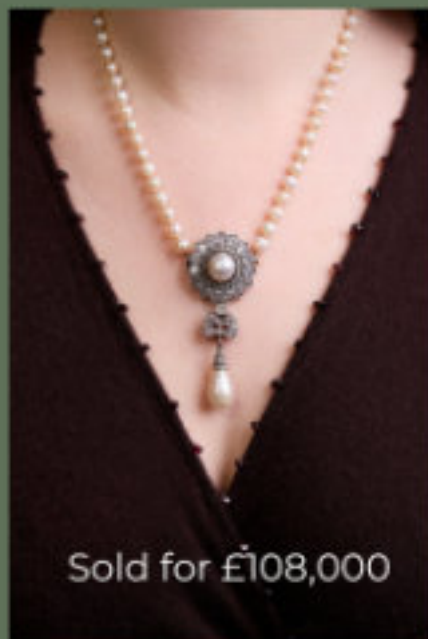
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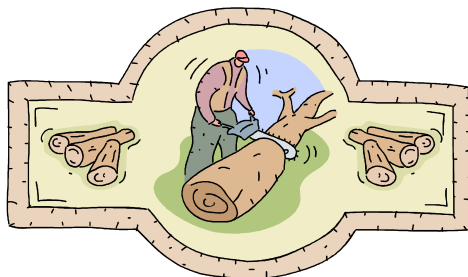
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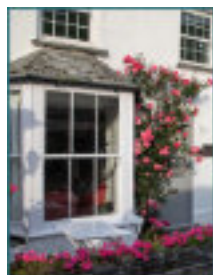
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