The Hill and Valley

Parish Magazine

November 2026









Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

The Benefice of Chedworth and District

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

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

Business advertisers please contact Mark Lanyon - 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 and contents page photos of Harvest Festival decorations of Chedworth Church by Virginia Stourton.

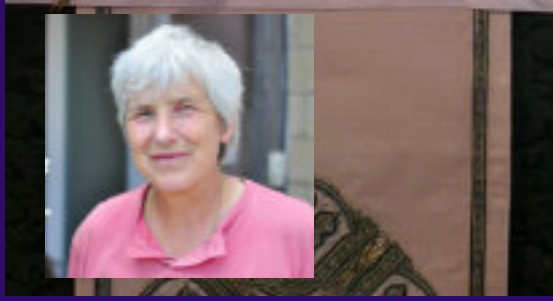
The HILL & VALLEY

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Julie Young Coordinator for this edition

Karen's Letter



Everyone has hopes and dreams. I wonder what yours are? Unique among all the positive emotions, hope requires some degree of dissonance, difficulty, negativity, or uncertainty to be ignited. If there isn't something awry, we don't call upon hope.

"Hope deferred makes the heart sick", is a famous saying from Proverbs 13. It's hard to pick oneself up and try again when it seems all hope has been lost. But recent studies in this field show an emerging pattern. People high in hope have sustainably better physical and mental well-being. They also tend to live longer and happier lives. High-hope people see, and respond to, the world differently, and they use their thoughts to focus on what they can control.

Our level of hope can have a big impact on our lives; high-hope people have passion and zest that fuels their energy. This passion is viable and dynamic because there is a degree of persistence and follow-through that accompanies it. They are optimistic about their future and believe in possibilities. They see challenges as opportunities to grow and learn, rather than as obstacles. This is key to the success of many high-hope people. They not only bounce back from setbacks—they seem to bounce forward and keep going despite the challenges. They believe in possibilities.

Advent, (which means arrival), is a time of spiritual preparation and waiting that leads up to Christmas, starting on the 29th November, when approx. 31% of the worlds' population prepares to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. It is also a time of looking forward to his promised return, the hope of the world. What a wonderful possibility. I wish you renewed hope in these darkening days.

Karen



Church Briefing

Hill & Valley Benefice Church Services

Everyone Welcome

1st November

Book of Common Prayer	9.00am – St Andrews, Chedworth.
Holy Communion	10.30am – St James the Great, Coln St Denys.
All Saints Day Family Tea Party	3.30pm – St Andrew's, Chedworth.

Please RSVP Karen at karen@thecorpractice.com, so we have an idea of numbers.Please bring a cut out pumpkin and your favorite savory and sweet foods for the bring and share tea. We will provide bubbly, beer and hot chocolate, as well as treat bags to take home.

8th November

Remembrance Sunday	10.30am – St Andrews, Chedworth

15th November

Holy Communion	10.30am – St Andrews, Chedworth.

22nd November

Happyfull	10.30am – St Andrews, Chedworth.

29th November

Holy Communion	10.30am – St Michaels, Yanworth.
Advent Carol Service	6.00 pm – Coln St Denys

Marriages:

Freddie Clarke married Annabel Moore on 24th October in St Andrews, Chedworth. *Please pray blessings on them as the they embark on their grand adventure.*

I don't want to go to church today!

A mother went to wake her son for church one Sunday morning. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going!" "Why not?" asked his mother. "I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me.Two, I don't like them." His mother replied,"I'll give you two good reasons why YOU WILL go to church. One, you're 47 years old.Two, you're the Vicar!"

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
1 Nov	15:30	All Saints Day Family Tea Party	St Andrew's Church Chedworth
8 Nov	12:30	Remembrance Sunday Curry Lunch	Chedworth Village Hall
11 Nov	11:00	Wreath Laying	Pancake Hill
11 Nov	19:15	WI - AGM and Supper	Chedworth Village Hall
13 Nov	19:30	Backrow Club - The Taste of Things	Chedworth Village Hall
16 Nov	17:30-19:30	Fish and Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
18 Nov	19:30	Chedworth Gardening Club AGM	Chedworth Village Hall Pop up Pub
19 Nov	19:00	NTLive - The Misanthrope	Chedworth Village Hall
21 Nov	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
2-5 Dec	19:00	A Christmas Carol	Chedworth Village Hall
9 Dec	19:15	WI - Kingstone Dairy "Cheese Tasting and Sale"	Chedworh Village Hall
19 Dec	9:00-12:00	Chedworth Produce Market	Chedworth Village Hall
21 Dec	17:30-19:30	Fish and Chip Van	Chedworth Village Hall
14 Jan		NTLive - Golden Boy	Chedworth Village Hall
26 Feb		Chedworth Ent Live - Bowjangles	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	5	November
Thursday	19	November
Thursday	3	December
Thursday	17	December
Thursday No Garden Waste	**31**	**December**
Dates may change due to holidays		



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

Last month we hosted our annual Mini Wimbledon tournament for Cold Aston, Swell, St James, Longborough and Andoversford. We were joined by over 100 pupils in years 4-6 and they took part in a number of activities during the day, earning points. The top scorers went through to the semi-final and then the final. The overall winner was Chedworth player, Hugh Lodwick. He performed amazingly in a very tense final!



This month, our pupils also went on a whole school outing to Chipping Campden, where all of the schools in the NCSF Trust met for the MAT blessing. Within the service, pupils also took part in a poetry recital. Pupils from across the schools learnt poems linked to Black History month and performed in class and school finals. We put through 3 finalists: Ellery, Iris and Ava, who all represented our school amazingly. The school finalists will hopefully be performing their poems at the Pop Up Cafe in the coming months so do keep your eye out for dates!



As always, we are very keen to hear from anyone who would like to support the school. This year we are looking for 'Mystery Readers', who will come in and read to our younger pupils termly as well as more regular volunteers who might like to:

- Read 1:1 with pupils
- Help enhance our Forest School spaces
- Help maintain and take responsibility for our allotment area
- Support with fundraising for our multi-use games area

Open Days 2026!



You are warmly invited to our drop in taster sessions. Come and **explore** and **experience** how pupils **flourish** with us at St Andrew's C of E School and Pre-School. All sessions are free and open to all children aged 3- 11 years old.



These are a great opportunity to get to know the school and staff before making decisions about school places (September 2027) and/ or pre-school places.

We say everyday is an open day- you don't need to wait until the dates below- **book your personal tour today!**

We explore **We flourish** **We shine like stars!**

01285 720 427

admin@st-andrews.gloucs.sch.uk

Tennis
Friday 25th September
12.00-12.45
@ Hill & Valley tennis club

Story time and stay and play
- **2nd October**
9am- 10.30
- **27th November**
9.30-10.30

Forest School
Wednesday 4th November
10:45-12.00

Arts & Crafts
Thursday 3rd December
3.30-4.30pm

Open Morning
Wednesday 4th November
9.45- 10.30

Multi - Sports
Tuesday 20th October
9.30-10.15am

Chedworth Parish Council

Fireworks

We will be welcoming the GCIA – Gloucester Cheltenham Indians Association to celebrate Diwali with us with a firework display on the playing field on Saturday, 7 November. The Association will be celebrating with cultural performances and activities in the Village Hall, and the Parish Council has agreed they can use the playing field for free for the display. It will use low noise fireworks. The Council asks animal owners to take care over this period of Bonfire Night and Diwali when several displays will be held.

New Play Area

The Playground Working Group has identified the best of five quotations for play equipment for the new playground, and the Parish Council has accepted their recommendation which is for equipment from Sutcliffe Leisure with a cost of approximately £39,000 plus VAT. We can claim the VAT back so with donations and grants cost to the Parish Council should be around £5,000 or 12.5% of the gross cost. To expedite matters the refurbishment of the existing play equipment behind the Village Hall is being treated as a separate project with costs between £8,000 for essential repairs to around £40,000 for a new multi-unit and new rubber matting to replace the existing bark surface. It is envisaged that the Parish Council will contribute but leave management of the second scheme to the Village Hall Committee. The Council is very grateful to Mrs Dorrien Smith for her work liaising with potential suppliers and getting the quotes on the table ready for the two meetings.

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**

Football

Football has made a welcome return to the Playing Field with a team from Minety now holding regular matches on Saturday afternoons and a youth team from Charlton Kings keen to use the facility on Saturday mornings. The Council is wary of allowing excess use which might inconvenience nearby residents. New goal posts are being sourced, as the net supports are broken on the existing goals. The Council is grateful to Mr Cartwright who found a substantially lower price for top quality goals than the Council's usual suppliers could offer.

Glorious Grasslands

The fields near the playing field have now been harrowed and planted with wildflower seed as we seek to turn it into a wildflower meadow as part of the Cotswold National Landscape's (CNL's) Glorious Grassland Scheme.

Many thanks to Mr Iain Robertson for championing this project. The land will now have to be cut and grazed appropriately for optimal wildflower growth.

Signs

David Broad

One Interactive Speed Sign has now been fitted on Fields Road, but unfortunately not on the correct pole, facing the wrong direction, and it also only works intermittently. Accompanied Horse signs have also been purchased and installed following complaints of adverse interaction between vehicles and Horses in Lower Chedworth. Two of the four signs have since been relocated due to feedback from residents who felt the initial positioning was sub optimal.



The £20 and the £5

Two well-worn banknotes arrived at the Bank of England to be retired – a £20 and a £5. As they travelled down the conveyor belt, they struck up a conversation. The twenty reminisced about the interesting life he had, traveling all over the country. "I've been to the finest restaurants, West End shows and amusement parks," he said. "I even went on a Caribbean cruise once. Where have you been?"

"Oh," said the five pound note, "I've been to a Methodist church, an Episcopal church, a Baptist church, and a Lutheran church."

"What's a church?" asked the twenty.

Still waiting

A pious man, who had reached the age of 105, suddenly stopped going to church. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the minister went to see him.

He found him in excellent health, so the minister asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?"

The old man lowered his voice. "When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So, I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and now I don't want to remind Him!"

CHEDWORTH WI

With Autumn very definitely in the air it was back to the village hall and our normal meeting format. Fortunately Sheila's welcome was warm enough to remind us how nice it is to have a monthly meeting with friends, and particularly to welcome a new member – Penny, and a few visitors who had come to hear Robert Young speaking on the changes he has seen in the Cotswolds during his lifetime.

The business this month was delightfully brief, with requests for hostesses to sign up for the 2027 meetings and catching up with birthday posies being the highlights! (Remember that we shall have to do the much more formal business next month when we have our Annual meeting, nominations for officers and committee please!)

This left us plenty of time to enjoy Robert's fascinating and illuminating talk, with Julie on slides and Simon Colbeck on technical support (thank you both). Robert began with confirming his credentials as Cotswold born and bred – Moreton Cottage Hospital for birth, Naunton for upbringing and Chedworth for his own and Julie's (equally Cotswold born and bred) family life. Happily for Robert (he felt) he was a just post war baby born into the second Elizabethan Renaissance of the 1950s with the Coronation, first successful climbing of Everest and Festival of Britain to celebrate the times.

Normally I would now launch into a summation of the talk but I believe that there is a chance that Robert will repeat this talk for everyone via FoSTA so I will resist and only steal one of Robert's best lines to sum it up as from 'All Creatures Great and Small to Clarkson's Farm'! And assure you that it is a fascinating talk on a personal and general level, and really well worth hearing the personal memories and seeing the beautiful slides. I am hoping that Julie might slip one or two in here!

After this we could go further down our own personal memory lanes with chat and delicious tea!

As mentioned briefly above November's meeting is at the village hall is on the 11th at 7.15pm and will be for members only as it our AGM.

Emma Isaac







WALKING TENNIS

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, 2.30-4PM

Hill & Valley Tennis Club, Chedworth

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

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

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

We have tea and cake afterwards!

We look forward to seeing you!

For more info scan the QR code or follow this link
www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/WalkingTennis



Golf Day at Monmouth

Golf Day at Monmouth.

As promised herewith the total amount raised on this enjoyable day was £2385.00. Thank you to everyone who donated a raffle prize or sponsered this great day. This year the money will be given for the upgrading of the play area.

Once again thank you all.

Pete Heaps





Backrow Club at the Village Hall

13 November 7.30pm
Chedworth Village Hall.

Bar open 6.00
Half time choc ices as usual!



The Taste of Things is a French 1889 historical romantic drama directed by Trần Anh Hùng Peerless cook Eugenie (Juliette Binoche) has worked for the famous gourmet Dodin (Benoit Magimel) for the last 20 years. Bonding over a passion for gastronomy, their relationship develops into romance and gives rise to delicious dishes that impress even the world's most illustrious chefs. Eugine values her freedom and so resists Dodin's marriage proposal. Therefore he decided to do something he has never done before- cook for her. The film with its sumptuous visuals and meticulous cooking sequences is a stunningly beautiful romance that simmers with emotion. It is a lyrical, sensory feast worth savouring.
The film is in French with subtitles

Drummer Needed

DRUMMER NEEDED.

CHEDWORTH SILVER BAND

We are seeking a replacement for our drummer who has retired after many years service. Practice is every Tuesday evening in Chedworth with engagements taking place between April and December. We play a variety of music from traditional marches to more up to date pieces. If you are a drummer wanting experience with a group of musicians, or perhaps someone who hasn't played for while, why not give us a try, you would be made very welcome.



We would also welcome any brass players, instruments and a drum kit are available, if needed, for you to play.

If interested call David on 01285 720313

Remembrance Sunday Church Service

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE 8 NOVEMBER
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Although the memory of the First and Second World Wars may be dimming, it is important to remember the sacrifices made by Servicemen and Women during those wars and also in other later conflicts. The Legion is the UK's leading Armed Forces charity, providing practical, emotional and financial support to all members of the British Armed Forces, past and present, and their families. It also plays a vital campaigning role to improve their lives and to safeguard the Military Covenant between the nation and its Armed Forces. The Poppy Appeal, the Legion's major fundraising activity each year, will be launched soon. Please support the appeal generously.

The Legion is represented in the area by the Chedworth and District Branch and as well as carrying out the vital roles of welfare provision and fund raising it organises social evenings and other events. A Service connection is not necessary and membership is open to anyone, who supports the aims of the Legion. Details can be obtained from the Secretary, Simon Colbeck on Mob: 0744470184, or email : simoncolbeck@msn.com

The **Remembrance Sunday Service is being held on Sunday 8h November at 1045 am at St Andrew's Church.** All are welcome to this Service. This year for the first time there will be a short film for 10 minutes just before the beginning of the service showing the men from Chedworth who went to the First World War . After the Service there will be a short gathering for those who wish to.at the grave of Captain Ellis who died in the village from his wounds. There will be a curry lunch in the Village Hall afterwards. Details of which are in a separate notice in this magazine

WREATH LAYING PANCAKE HILL

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2026



Simon Colbeck will be laying a wreath on behalf of Chedworth & District RBL, at the Pancake Hill War Memorial at 11.00 am on Wednesday11 November. Everyone is welcome to attend this short dedication service.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY CURRY LUNCH



8 NOVEMBER 2026

Chedworth Village Hall

12.30 pm

Sponsored by Chedworth & District RBL
Curry and pudding provided by Claire Booth
(Vegetarian available)
Tickets £15 per head, and the bar will be open.
Everyone is welcome to join us for a curry

Payment for the meal can be taken on the door, by cheque (payable to Royal British Legion Chedworth) by bank transfer or Zeffry(see below) but to gauge numbers for catering, please book your meal(s) with Simon Colbeck by 5th November.

to: simoncolbeck@msn.com or Tel : 07444 701884

Bank details : Sort Code: 30-92-06 Account No: 00038677
Please use reference 'RBL Curry and your Surname'

Or link

https://www.hillandvalley.co.uk/rbl

Panic Not

Panic not!

Have you ever been caught on the loo
When the doorbell rings and there's just you?
The delivery driver won't wait.

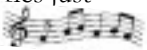
He might think that it's not the right gate
And before you've had time to adjust..
Your trousers and to the door rushed,
The messenger's vanished – just gone
With your precious parcel….not waited for one
….more…. second.

Have you ever been tracking a child
On a balance bike, carefree and wild?
You follow behind, try to cling
On to backpack or coat… anything!
The child just escapes – "*faster granny*"
As your muscle is pulled, it's uncanny

How you can no longer have speed
"*Stop that child*" you desperately plead.

Have you ever forgotten your phone
And think that you left it at home?
You go through the things that you've done
And realise that you have begun
A very long car trip to friends
Where you'll need it to do many sends.

And once your U-turn is complete
You find it has slipped down the seat.

Names and passwords – now don't even start!
Mobile numbers, song lyrics just depart

From your brain which has simply ceased
To function - or is it just creased?
You went to the freezer for bread
And stood there just scratching your head.
You took out a packet of peas
And under them, there were some keys!

Now wherever did I leave my car?
Was it level two or three – gone too far?
Not joking when I tell of this scare:

In London we parked in a square
And went off to see a West End play,
Returned and to our great dismay
The car had been nicked, full of stuff
From my flat! I swear it was tough.

Cos all that remained was one cushion.

Sheila Veuve



Award-winner Sandra Oh (Killing Eve) plays the title role in this razor-sharp reimagining of Molière's classic dark comedy. Telling the truth isn't always that simple. Alice, a brilliant novelist, despises the carefully constructed lies of modern society. But the more she challenges those around her, the fiercer the backlash becomes. Soon, she must confront the price of speaking her truth in a world that would rather silence her. Filmed live on stage at the National Theatre, Indhu Rubasingham directs Martin Crimp's (Cyrano de Bergerac) highly anticipated play.

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

Your Gardening Tips

We are again heading towards the end of an extraordinary year which began wet then gave us a long dry spell which had parched the lawns and provided variable results in the vegetable patch. We are now back on track and the welcome rain has freshened everything up, especially the grass!

- Hard winters seem to be a thing of the past but it is wise to take precautions. Vulnerable plants in outdoor containers need to be wrapped in fleece, hessian or bubble wrap.
- Clear composted leaf mold from the bin, spread onto the garden and replace with newly fallen leaves shredded through a mower
- Cover brassicas against pigeon attack but be ready to lift the netting if snow is forecast!
- If you are not clamp storing root vegetables for the winter, keep some in the ground as parsnips especially improve with frosting. Keep checking for slug or mice damage and a new threat from the muntjac!!
- If not already done, tie grease bands around trunks of fruit trees against winter moth damage. Leave windfall apples for the birds



- Prune roses to prevent wind-rock, and clear away fallen leaves to prevent black spot.
- Plant tulips when the temperature is no higher than





10c-13c to avoid the bulbs sprouting too soon. They should be planted 6-8 inches deep and 2-4 inches apart in a sunny location. Guard against muntjac predation!!

- This your last chance to plant winter bedding plants such as wallflowers, forget-me-nots, primulas and pansies.
- Keep weeds in check. Mulch with compost, and where space allows, cover the ground with a membrane to suppress weeds. Check for slug eggs.







- Banded snails which come in white lipped and dark lipped varieties are your friend as they eat weeds including buttercups, hogweed and ragwort so do not squish them!
- Lift and store pelargoniums, dahlias, cannas and tuberous bedding begonias.
- There is still time in early November, to sow broad beans, winter lettuce, garlic, onions and spinach for early cropping next

year. Plant winter lettuce in your used grow bags in the greenhouse.

- Plant bare rooted raspberry canes, either summer or autumn fruiting varieties, from now until February
- Divide rhubarb plants once dormant and cover with rotted horse manure for healthy growth next year.
- Prune apple and pear trees over the winter until February but leave plum trees until the summer to avoid silver leaf fungus attack.
- Deciduous hedging can be planted bare rooted throughout the winter, but best when the soil is not too hard. Guard against squirrels and deer gnawing the bark. When planting hedging or trees, do not dig them in too deep and allow plenty of space (preferably square) for the roots to extend out rather than curl into a ball as this will restrict development of the plant or tree.
- This is a good time to plant roses, avoiding areas where roses have previously grown.
- Shrubs normally pruned hard in the spring, such as Buddleja, Cornus and Lavateria, can be cut back by half, to prevent wind rock and neaten their appearance.
- If lawns need to mowed, set the cutter 1.5 inches above the ground to avoid stressing the grass. After the final mow, clean and dry the mower and drain the fuel because it will go sour. Service the mower!
- Clean out water butts, as they will soon fill up again, but be careful to drain any with taps if deep freezing weather is forecast, to avoid the tap joint cracking.
- Do not apply fertilizer in the garden as it will not be taken up by plants
- Cover temporarily unused ground with thick mulch or a membrane or black polythene to prevent nutrients being washed away and rogue seeds settling to germinate.
- If you are thinking of creating a wildlife pond, however big or small, now is the time to do so giving it time to settle over winter before the breeding season for many wildlife species.

Simon Colbeck
Chairman,
Chedworth Gardening Club

Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and they seemed to fascinate the youngster. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

Home alone?

The bishop needed to call one of his clergy about an urgent problem within the diocese. But when he rang the vicar's number, he was greeted with a child's whispered, "Hello?"

Feeling impatient, the bishop asked, "Is your Daddy home?"

"Yes," whispered the small voice.

"May I talk with him?" the bishop asked. To his surprise, the small voice whispered, "No."

"Well, is your Mummy there?" asked the bishop. The small voice said "Yes."

"May I talk with her?" Again, the small voice whispered, "No."

"Well, who else is in your house?" the bishop demanded.

"A policeman," whispered the child. Startled, the bishop asked to speak with him.

"No, he's busy," whispered the child. "He's talking to Daddy and Mommy and the search team."

"What is going on there? Who are they searching for?" demanded the bishop, now thoroughly alarmed.

Still whispering, the young voice replied, along with a muffled giggle: "Me."



CHEDWORTH
PRODUCE MARKET

Saturday 17th January 2026
Saturday 21st February 2026
Saturday 21st March 2026
Saturday 18th April 2026
Saturday 16th May 2026
Saturday 20th June 2026
Saturday 18th July 2026
Saturday 15th August 2026
Saturday 19th September 2026
Saturday 17th October 2026
Saturday 21st November 2026
Saturday 19th December 2026

Village Hall

9am - 12noon



Rendcomb Surgery

Welcome to November!

As the colder weather approaches and we move towards winter, November is another busy month here at Rendcomb Surgery.

Our team continues to work hard to provide the best possible care for our patients, while managing increasing demand for appointments, prescriptions and seasonal vaccinations.

We would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding, particularly during our busy vaccination clinics in October.

Flu & COVID Vaccinations – Have You Had Yours?

Our winter vaccination programme is well underway, but if you are eligible and have not yet received your vaccination, there is still time.

Flu and COVID-19 can cause serious illness, particularly in older adults and people with certain health conditions.

Please remember that eligibility for flu and COVID-19 vaccinations is different, and not everyone who qualifies for flu will qualify for COVID-19.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible, please contact the surgery or visit the NHS website for further information.

Protect yourself and those around you this winter.

Urgent or Routine – Helping Us Help You

We understand how worrying it can be when you or a family member feels unwell.

However, not every medical concern requires an urgent appointment.

Urgent appointments are intended for health problems that need clinical assessment on the same day because waiting could put your health at risk.

Routine appointments are more appropriate for ongoing conditions, medication queries, follow-ups and non-urgent health concerns.

Requests for GP advice are not automatically considered urgent and will be assessed according to clinical need.

Our reception team follows practice procedures to ensure patients are directed to the most appropriate care.

Please treat our staff with kindness and respect. They are doing their very best to help everyone.

Repeat Prescriptions – Please Plan Ahead

As we approach the festive period, we would like to remind patients that our dispensary requires **three working days** to process repeat prescriptions.

Please ensure you order your medication in good time, particularly if you are planning to travel or will need

additional supplies over the Christmas period.

We kindly ask patients not to contact the dispensary before the three-working-day turnaround has passed unless there is a genuine concern.

Thank you for helping our dispensary team work safely and efficiently.

November Is Diabetes Awareness Month

November is an important opportunity to raise awareness of diabetes, with World Diabetes Day on 14 November.

Type 2 diabetes can develop gradually, sometimes without noticeable symptoms.

Some symptoms to look out for include:

- Feeling unusually thirsty
- Passing urine more frequently
- Feeling increasingly tired
- Unexplained weight loss
- Blurred vision

If you are concerned about symptoms, please contact the surgery.

For patients already living with diabetes, attending your annual review is an important part of keeping healthy and reducing the risk of complications.

Winter Illness – Do You Need a GP?

Coughs, colds and sore throats are particularly common at this time of year.

Many minor illnesses can be managed at home with rest, fluids and advice from your local pharmacist.

Pharmacy First allows participating pharmacies to assess and treat certain common conditions without the need for a GP appointment.

Please consider using your local pharmacy where appropriate. This helps us keep GP appointments available for patients who need them most.

If symptoms are severe, worsening or you are concerned, please seek medical advice. For urgent help when the surgery is closed, contact NHS 111. Call 999 for a life-threatening emergency.

Your Views Matter – Rendcomb Surgery Support Group

We are always keen to hear from our patients about what we do well and where we could improve.

Our Patient Participation Group (PPG), also known as the Rendcomb Surgery Support Group, provides an opportunity for patients to share their views and help shape the future of the practice.

If you have suggestions, ideas or would like to become involved, please speak to a member of our reception team.

Thank you for your continued support.

From all the team at Rendcomb Surgery

Wine Column

Hello Neighbour's,



The leaves are red, orange and yellow and have slowly made their way to the ground. The last of the fall tomatoes are picked and made into the sweetest sauce. The pears and apples have been stewed, baked, sliced and frozen for future crumbles. And our sloes have been picked and port and gin are on its way! Autumn is here neighbors.

Speaking of Harvest, we had ours here at Fossebridge Vineyard on October 1. Thanks to all our friends and neighbors for coming to help on a bluebird day with perfect weather. We are deeply grateful for the support and are so proud to be in such a tight night community.

As many of you know, we lost 80% of our buds this year due to frost so we had very little come off the vines, but what we did looked pretty good and we were able to get a full press in so we will make about 400 bottles of Sparkling wine from this vintage of 2026. We won't be enjoying a bottle until Spring of 2029 BUT we will release last years harvest either right before Christmas of 2027 or early Spring of 2028. SO stay tuned.

SO how did the rest of the world do on grape harvest 2026?

As many of you know, Bordeaux had an awful fire this year and before harvest. You hear some reports saying no damage but I have talked to some friends there that have said there is definite smoke damage. As for futures, I don't think I would take the chance.

Champagne had the earliest harvest of all time. The temperatures soared in all of Europe and Champagne really got hit hard. Champagne plants clones of grapes that are to make sparkling wine. Those are quite different than ones you would plant to make still wine so that is a problem. At our vineyard, we have planted both to navigate climate change. Being the earliest harvest, they still had riper grapes then normal. We surely will see the style change in Champagne with more ripeness and less acid.

That is why England has become a new hotspot for bubbles. Even though we didn't fare well this year, most had bumper crops and up 30-40%. England also had the earliest harvest on record.

France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany all had earlier harvests than normal because of the heat.

Napa Valley: we also started early there and finished harvest for the first time ever the last day of September. Quantities were down due to a late rain during flowering, but quality was high.

Some wines I have had recently that I have enjoyed:

Gerard Thomas Saint Aubin 1er Cru (Chardonnay) 20 a bottle at Waitrose and lovely with dinner.

Richness but still clean and fresh finish.

Zacharias Assyrtiko: Greek white wine that is zesty and bright. If you like Pinot Grigio or Sauvignon Blanc, this is good and very great value at Waitrose at 13 a bottle.

Domaine Sylvain Pataille, Marsannay Rouge (red)- The Wine Society: 38 a bottle

Domaine Sylvain Bourgogne Aligote Clos du Roy 2022 (white): Splurge but so worth it. 48 a bottle

Castello di Verduno Langhe Nebbiolo – The Wine Society (red): 17 a bottle and lovely with fall foods

Have a lovely November and soon the holidays will sneak up on us. Drink wine and be happy.

I have failed to write anything over the last couple of months as the vineyard work was intense and my travels for my "real" job were aplenty. But back next month after extensive "research" for my holiday picks of wine!

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



Can't scare me

My wife and I were watching the gorillas at the zoo when several of them charged at the enclosure fence, yelling terribly, rolling their eyes around, and clenching their fists. They looked quite terrifying. The crowd scattered except for one frail, elderly lady, who did not bat an eye. Later, my wife asked how she had kept her composure. "Oh, easy," she said cheerfully. "You see, I used to run the youth group at my local church."

The Lost Spoon

The Lost Spoon

Jeannette Kirkpatrick, Chedworth Roman Villa Site Guide

One of the most intriguing discoveries made during the 1864 excavation of Chedworth Roman Villa was a silver spoon.

We know about it thanks to James Farrar, who gave a detailed description of the find in an interview published in *The Builder* magazine in August 1865. According to Farrar, the spoon was unearthed behind the West Range, close to a brass steelyard and weight, both of which survive in the villa's antiquarian collection today.

Later that year, the site was visited by Augustus Wollaston Franks (1826-1897), one of Britain's leading experts on Romano-British artefacts. Franks, who would go on to become the first Keeper of British and Medieval Antiquities and Ethnography at the British Museum, believed the spoon dated from the Roman period, possibly the 3rd or 4th century.

The spoon appears again in a paper written by the Rev. Scarth and published in 1869. Curiously, however, it was omitted from Professor Buckman's museum catalogue when it was first published in 1872. Some have suggested that Franks took the spoon away for further examination, although no evidence has yet come to light to support this theory. Whatever happened, the spoon vanished from the historical record.

Although the original object has been lost, descriptions by Farrar and Scarth allow us to build up a picture of what it looked like. The spoon was about 100mm long, with a bowl approximately 64mm wide. It appears to have been a *cigma* spoon, a distinctive late Roman type with a large oval bowl and a short handle that curves elegantly upwards to form the head of a water bird, often a swan. These spoons are usually dated to the late 4th or 5th century.



Silver spoon from the London Gate Hoard, Canterbury

The spoon pictured above, discovered as part of a hoard near London Gate in Canterbury in 1962, provides a useful comparison. Its bowl carries a Chi-Rho symbol, one of the earliest Christian emblems. The cigma spoon held by the British Museum bears an inscription similar to the one described by Farrar.

Another comparable example comes from the famous Hoxne Hoard. Found by a metal detectorist in 1992, it is inscribed *PEREGRINVS VIVAT* ("Long live Peregrinus") and measures 97mm in length, remarkably close to the dimensions recorded for the Chedworth spoon.

Following the rediscovery of Farrar's interview in *The Builder*, Martin Papworth and Julie Reynolds contacted

British Museum curators in the hope that the missing spoon might still be hidden somewhere in the museum's collections. Unfortunately, their search proved unsuccessful.

Today, the whereabouts of the Chedworth spoon remain a mystery. Yet if it resembled the examples described above, it must have been a remarkable object and one of the most important Roman finds ever uncovered at the villa.

Cats and teenagers

For all of you who live with teenagers, you may want to know that they really have a lot in common with cats:

Cats and teenagers

Neither teenagers nor cats turn their heads when you call them by name.

No matter how much you do for them, it is never enough.

Cats rarely deign to walk with you when outside, and the same is true of teenagers.

No cat or teenager shares your taste in music.

Cats and teenagers can suddenly get 'hissy', without any known cause.



Cats and teenagers can lie on the living-room sofa for hours on end without moving, barely breathing.



Cats have nine lives. Teenagers live as if they did.



Cats and teenagers yawn in exactly the same manner, communicating that ultimate human ecstasy - utter boredom.

Cats and teenagers do not improve anyone's furniture.

Cats and teenagers are known to creep home at all hours of the night. Neither will tell you where they've been.

So, if you must raise teenagers, it is a good idea to follow instructions as for cats:

Just put food out at regular intervals and do not make any sudden moves in their direction. When they make up their minds, they will finally come to you for some affection and comfort, and it will be a triumphant moment for all concerned.

What bishops do

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, 'Does anyone know what the bishop does?'

There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "Isn't he the one who moves diagonally?"

The Arts Society Cotswolds

Lecture on Wednesday 11th November 2026

Lecture: Charles Rennie Mackintosh

Scottish architect, designer and artist Charles Rennie Mackintosh is now a well-known name and a major draw for the tourist industry in Glasgow, with several of his buildings still existing, as well as his designs for Tea Rooms. However, his work was not always so well received and, following some early success, which included his architectural masterpiece, the Glasgow School of Art, his prospects floundered. In this lecture we track him from that early success in his native Glasgow, through the more difficult years, ultimately to the South of France where he enjoyed the last few years of his life travelling with his wife and collaborator Margaret and reinvented himself as a water colourist. There is a wonderful array of beautifully designed buildings, furniture and interiors to enjoy along the way as we explore his extraordinary career.

About the speaker:

Rosalynd Whyte has a BA and MA from Goldsmith's College, and an MA (distinction) from Birkbeck College. She is an experienced guide at Tate Britain, Tate Modern, the Royal Academy and Greenwich. Rosalind



lectures at Tate, to independent art societies and on cruises.

This hybrid lecture will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 11am and via Zoom. Please be seated by 10.50 for notices of upcoming events. Booking is recommended: to reserve a place book online (www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk) or contact Lisa Etheridge on 07918 180895 for a booking form. Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £10.

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

Or contact
Alison Morgans on 07771 817050



Bats

Bats that aren't in the Belfry!

Bats have been found in churchyards for a very long time, often roosting in trees or buildings. A bat roost may be nearly as old as the building with around 60% of pre-16th century churches containing bat roosts. There are seventeen species of bat native to the UK: eight of these use churches or chapels for roosting, including some of the less common species such as the Natterer's bat and the Serotine bat. Some of the remaining nine species roost in large trees.

Bats do not roost in the belfry … too much noise! They usually use different roosts through the seasons. Bats need nursery roosts for the young, winter roosts to hibernate and also temporary roosts to digest their food and to sleep in during the daytime. They like to roost in clean, draught free, quiet crevices where the temperature is constant. Within churches or chapels bats are found in the eaves, porch, under roof tiles, in old timber joints, behind ceilings, hangings and commemorative plaques. They also roost within chest tombs, in holes or cracks within a wall, behind ivy or in lychgates. When roosting in trees they use holes, crevices, flaking bark and gaps behind ivy. Veteran trees are full of possible roosting places.

Churchyards tend to have a mixture of large trees, grassland, flowers, areas of long or tussocky grass, compost heaps, log piles and stonework. They are generally relatively free of chemicals, tend to have some areas which are not too tidy and may have been there a long time. All of this leads to a good population of insects which is food for the hungry bats.

Why not have a quiet sit in the churchyard at the end of the day, look to see if any swifts are swirling around the churchyard and then wait to see if any bats appear. Bats can fly long distances to forage for food so, even if you don't have roosting bats in your churchyard they may well come visiting.

The Bats in Churches project ran from 2019 to the end of October 2023 and their website batsinchurches.org.uk still holds a plethora of information and resources. Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the partnership comprised Natural England, Church of England (Cathedral and Church Buildings Division), Historic England, Bat Conservation Trust and Churches Conservation Trust.



Brown long eared bat Wetherden Church
© Chris Damant

Hill & Valley Lawn Tennis Club

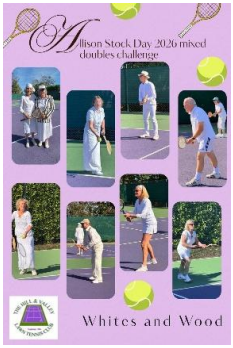
https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC

CLUB NEWS

I congratulate our hardy tennis players who defy the seasonal conditions and carry on their tennis! Fortunately, our high and dense hedges, well maintained by Joe Musgrave and his Corinium Arb team, keep off the wind - and the court surface drains quickly allowing play to continue all the year round. Whatever your ability and experience, we welcome those new to the sport, 'rusty returners' and those more experienced to the club; please get in touch.

The club's social supper and AGM takes place on Friday 20th November and we very much look forward to celebrating the club's achievements over the last year together.

ALLISON STOCK DAY There was a great turnout for the annual Allison Stock Day on September 26th. Participants took up the challenge of playing with old style wooden rackets and were suitably clad in a range of traditional whites from across the ages! The sun shone, there was lots of fun and laughter along the way as well as some more serious play and we celebrated the day with a splendid afternoon tea. A special thanks to Hilary Swan for organising the format for the day and thanks to all the players for entering into the spirit of the day, to everyone who contributed to providing the tea and a particular well done to the various winners - it was a fitting way to celebrate Allison's legacy and her love of tennis.





WHAT'S ON

WALKING TENNS

Every Friday from 2.30-4, open to non members
https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/WalkingTennis

COACHING With Sam Edwards www.setacademy.co.uk

Book Here

Wednesdays

Junior Red/Blue for 4-8yrs at 4-5pm
Junior Orange/Green for 8-11yrs at 5-6pm
Ladies/Mens Team Training for Team players at 6.30-8pm

Saturdays

Sam Edwards and Tom Wyman will alternate each week
Adult Beginners/Improvers 9-10am
Junior Fun Orange/Green for 8-11yrs at 10-11am
Mini Fun Red/Blue for 4-8ys at 11-12
Adult Base for Improvers and Intermediates players at 12-1
alternating every other week with
Adult Ace for Intermediates and Advanced players at 12-1

HOLIDAY TENNIS AND MULTI SPORT CAMPS

Half & full day options full details and to book via QR or www.setacademy.co.uk

Holiday Camps

We are now offering both Tennis and Multi Sports at our Junior holiday camps with Sam Edwards for children aged 5 - 13 yrs. They are all about fun, friendship and developing tennis skills in an exciting and supportive environment. Whether your child is completely new to tennis or already playing regularly, our camps offers something for everyone.
Open to non members, rackets provided

NOVEMBER DIARY DATE

Friday, November 20th Club Supper & AGM at The Wheatsheaf Inn, Northleach @ 6.30pm for all members and partners, spaces limited
https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Admin/EventsV2



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Details of our events can be found here too, such as our **Christmas Fair** and **Wreath Making Evening!**

Flowers of the meadow part II

- Time to Make Hay

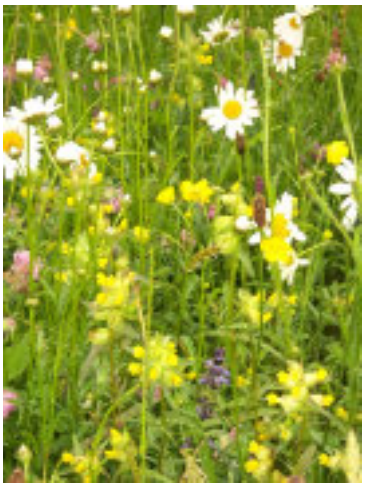
For those of us who love wildflowers, painful decisions are needed in July and August as this is the time to cut our wildflower meadows, whether in the churchyard or elsewhere. Meadows are left to grow long for 3 to 4 months during the spring and summer and then cut with scythe or strimmer and raked up. The difficulty arises in that there are always lovely flowers still there when the cut comes, and it is hard to cut them down.

To help with this dilemma, remember that we are copying traditional hay-making, which takes place when grass is still green, vigorous and full of nutrients for stock to eat, but also when the weather is likely to be dry enough to make hay successfully.

But what about the seeds, dropping to the ground for next year's flowers? If we cut down flowers, maybe there won't be seeds? Actually, most species within a traditional meadow are perennial, so they continue to grow from year to year regardless of seeding. This explains why the wildflowers persist in short mown grass in churchyards, providing the grass cuttings are removed so the soil doesn't become too rich for them.

An exception to this is Yellow Rattle which is an annual so grows each year anew from seed. This flowers early and drops its seed in June or early July so won't be lost from the sward by cutting from mid-July onwards.

If you can't bear to cut down late flowering species such as scabious, then leave these patches for later, but do aim to have other meadow areas cut, raked and ready for the autumn fungi by mid-August if you can.



Flower-rich churchyard grassland

Part 1 was in the June 2026 edition of the magazine



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Lest We Forget

Lest We Forget

'In Flanders' fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our place: and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.'

This is the first verse of John McCrae's poem, first published in Punch magazine in 1915. It soon came to symbolise the sacrifice of all who died in World War One. Today, the poppy remains an important symbol of all those who have sacrificed their lives in conflicts over the years. But why do we remember them?

'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.' (Micah 4:3). Writing 700 years before Christ, Micah spoke at the time when Samaria was captured due to the invasion of Assyria. However, he prophesied a future of hope, a world where nations would come together in peace rather than war. His words are fulfilled in the kingdom of God established by Jesus.

Our understanding of *peace* is more than simply the absence of conflict. It is about building relationships between people, communities and nations, founded on love and justice for all. As we remember those who have died in war, we should look practically at how we can build such relationships, beginning with our own families, colleagues and neighbours. *'We will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.'* (Micah 4:5). Let us ask God's Spirit to make us people of peace, justice and compassion for today's world.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'



Uncle Eustace

On working with young people



The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

It is quite natural for you curates to enjoy working with young people in your parishes; church youth clubs were created in order to keep the newly ordained off the streets in the evenings. But be assured you will grow out of it. I consent to baptise babies and prepare teenagers for confirmation, but beyond that my contact with this alien life form is kept to an absolute minimum.

Dear Miss Thrush runs our weekly Pram Service - whose sole purpose seems to be to give young mothers an opportunity to discuss the ever-changing liaisons within the village, while their offspring shred hymn books and destroy the flower arrangements. I drop in from time to time in order to check that the more mobile haven't found where we hide the matches. An infant equipped with that knowledge can so easily become a teenage pyromaniac.

I can give you little advice on your youth group. When I was a curate, the major activity seemed to be to teach them how to wear gas masks, although today I imagine there is more concern about protecting them from other sorts of exotic chemicals. Also, I suspect you are kept busy keeping the young out of the darker corners of the churchyard as they develop their anatomical knowledge – a past-time still enthusiastically pursued by each new generation.

You clearly find your monthly Youth Service a deeply enriching experience. As far as I am concerned, if such a liturgy had been necessary, then Cranmer would have provided us with one. Endlessly repeated choruses accompanied by a guitar would make me warm to the Quakers. I am sure St Paul's services would have been much enriched with Hymns Ancient and Modern. The disciples in hiding in Jerusalem were not even able to sing accompanied by an organ, which must have greatly dispirited them. I also feel that our Verger would be unable to cope with organising the strobe lighting and dry ice effects. It takes him all his time to remember to light the candles on the altar.

On this matter we must differ. You must worship God in your way, and I in His.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace


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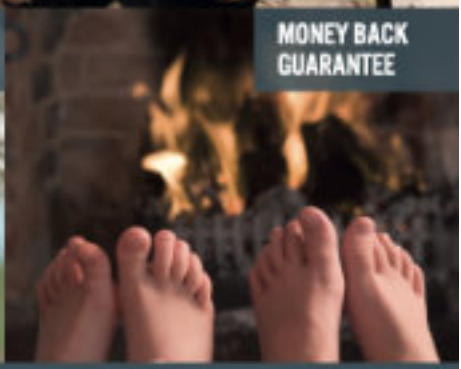
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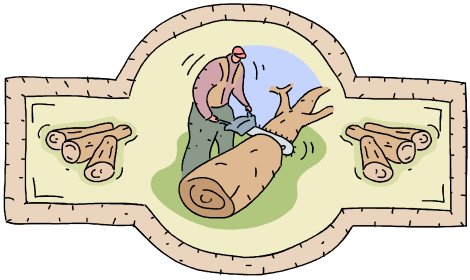
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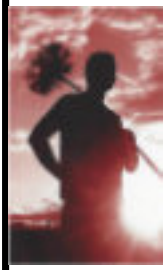
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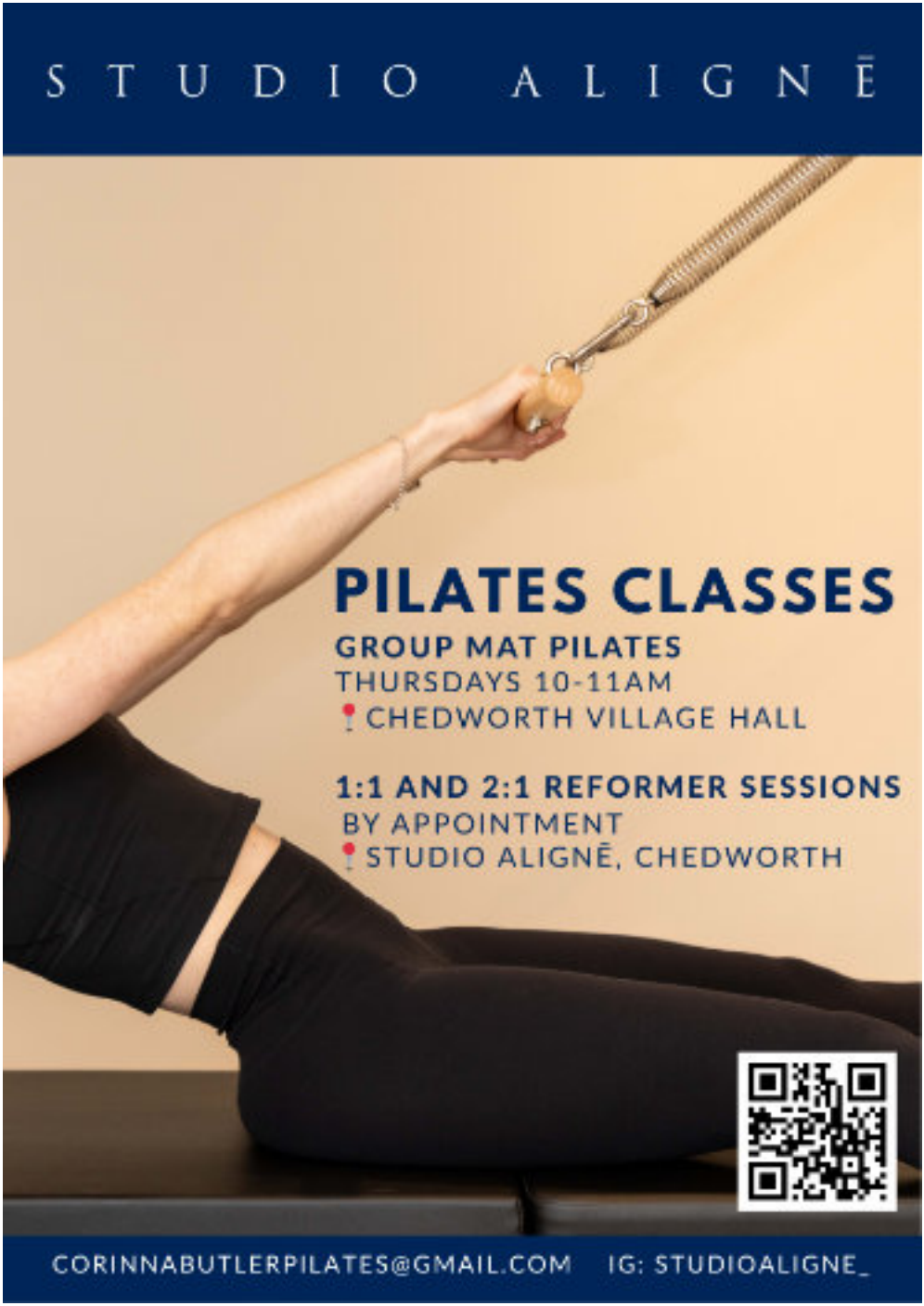
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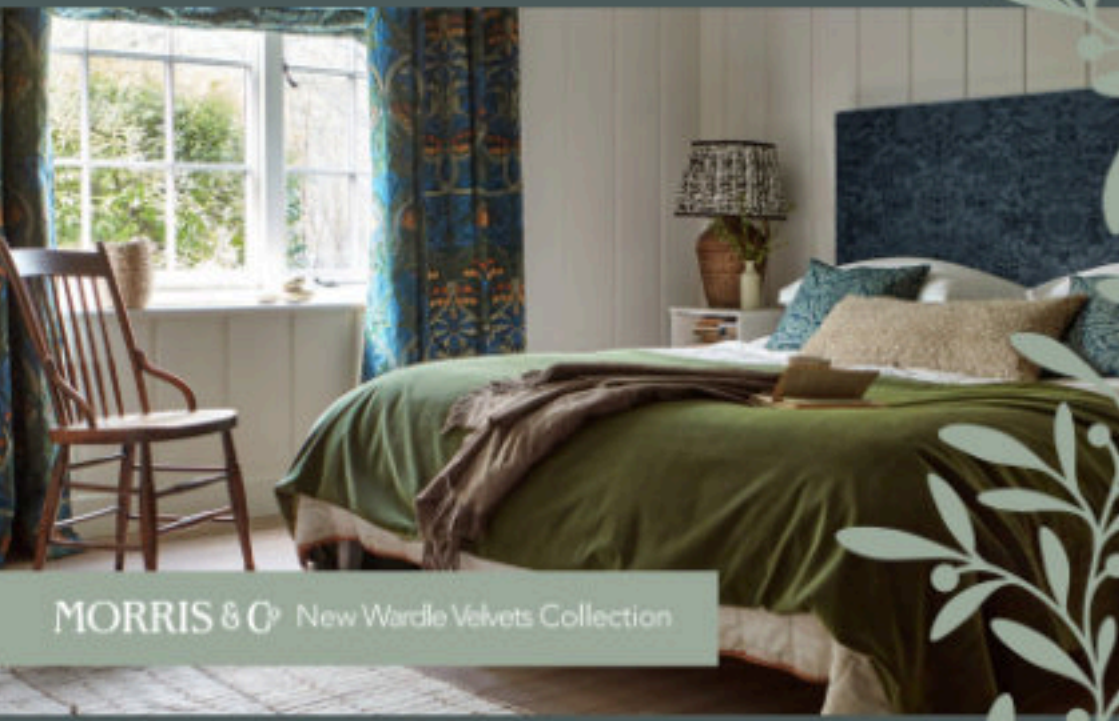


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