

# Village News

in Swindon Village

*Your local Newsletter sponsored by the  
Parish Council and delivered by volunteers*

No. 457      September 2019

## *September*

- |                |           |  |
|----------------|-----------|--|
| Monday         | 2         | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm<br>Social evening   |
| Wednesday      | 4         | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm<br>Lorraine Parsloe - 15 years working as an extra on TV                      |
| <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall<br/>Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm</b>                           |
| Wednesday      | 18        | Swindon Village Society - Village Hall 7.30pm<br>Arthur Ball - The Wildlife of Dowdeswell Reservoir Nature Reserve |
| Saturday       | 28        | Churchyard Tidy-Up 9.30am  |

## *October*

- |                |          |  |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Wednesday      | 2        | Wednesday Club - Village Hall 8.00pm<br>Richard Burton - The Wandering Cook  |
| Sunday         | 6        | Harvest Festival at St. Lawrence's   |
| Monday         | 7        | Marle Hill W.I. - St. Nicolas' Hall 7.30pm<br>Mike Beacon - The Life of Richard Carr-Gromm, the Founder of Abbeyfield. Also Bring & Buy Sale |
| <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall<br/>Beginning with Public Session at 7.30pm</b>   |
| Wednesday      | 16       | Swindon Village Society - Village Hall 7.30pm<br>Barry Simon - The History of Aviation in Gloucestershire                                    |
| Saturday       | 19       | St. Lawrence's Church Quiz & Supper Evening<br>Village Hall - 7.00pm   |

*(Full minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available on the Parish website [www.swindonparish.org.uk](http://www.swindonparish.org.uk). They are also available on request from the Chairman.)*

Welcome back after our summer break. I hope you weren't holding your breath waiting for the next Village News; it was quite a long time. This first notice should ideally have been published in high summer, but that is when we give you time off from the Village News for good behaviour.

Complaints have again been received about bonfires on sunny days when people are out and about in their gardens or drying their washing. Please minimise the use of bonfires through recycling. If you have a bonfire, please consider your neighbours.

The Village Hall continues to thrive. The public areas have been painted which gives the place a big lift. Many thanks to the Village Hall committee for taking on this major project and ensuring the continued success of the hall. Volunteers have also ensured that the hall has been open to all on Friday nights for a sociable drink.

Many local walkers like to make use of the footpath from the "D" in Hyde Lane out across the fields parallel to the railway. The footpath has been closed due to the redevelopment of the old stables. The original notice closed the footpath until 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019. This was later extended to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 or "until the works are complete whichever is the earliest". A local resident expressed concern at the length of time the footpath had been closed, and also noted that the development work appears to have been completed. I (and others) have reported the matter to the County Council. We must ensure that access to this popular local footpath is restored in accordance with the law.

Reopening the footpath may require action from the County Council and it has been frustratingly difficult to get them to do anything in recent times. We bought a new noticeboard a year ago now and their promises to sort out installing it have proved to be worthless. We also met with them probably nine months ago and agreed some actions to investigate, and potentially reduce, speeding traffic in the area. Again, none of the actions they took on board have been done. The Parish Council tries to get things done in the area to the benefit of local residents, but Parish Councils have very limited powers. We are not in direct control of footpaths, dog bins, speed limits or planning matters. We can only get things done by persuading and co-operating with other bodies such as the County Council

and the Borough Council. I am not laying blame at the doors of our County and Borough Councillors. They do their best to make things happen.

As part of the protracted JCS process some of the land around Swindon Village was designated as Local Green Space. The Planning Inspector assessing the Cheltenham Local Plan seems minded to unilaterally reduce the size of the area and give more land to the developers. Our local Borough Councillors put a motion to the Borough Council in support of the Local Green Space. The motion was passed unanimously. We wait to see what will happen next.

We would also like to see something done about the problems of cars parking in close proximity to the school at dropping off and picking up time. The car park at the Seasons complex can be used courtesy of Cheltenham Town Football Club. Again, this is not a problem that the Parish Council can own and solve, but we are trying to engage with other bodies (the police, the school and the County Council) to make things better.

This September sees Cheltenham's first Wellbeing Festival. The festival is exploring all areas of physical and mental wellbeing, with mental health and loneliness being two topics that are a particular focus. There are classes, workshops and talks at venues around the town. See [www.cheltenhamwellbeingfestival.com](http://www.cheltenhamwellbeingfestival.com) for more information. The festival runs from 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September.

The old Vibixa factory on the corner of Wymans Lane and Runnings Road is going to be demolished to make way for a new small industrial estate. The site is full of asbestos. The Parish Council is keeping an eye on the proposals to ensure that the local area is properly protected from asbestos "fall out". The site is being developed speculatively (i.e. without a specific customer in mind). Once the development is complete the units on the site will be marketed to prospective customers. The old Ultra Electronics site on Kingsditch Lane near the Tewkesbury Road roundabout was developed in this way. Only one unit is occupied at present so it is unclear how much appetite there is for more units in the area.

Please remember that the Parish Council website is regularly updated with local news (e.g. road closures, planning matters). The site is [www.swindonparish.org.uk](http://www.swindonparish.org.uk). We will also soon be launching a presence on Facebook. This is one of the benefits of having a Parish Councillor who is a child of the nineties rather than a child of the sixties!

We renewed the Parish Council's insurance recently. Amongst the volumes of paperwork was a statement of changes to the policy that the insurer had made. "Explosives cover" had been removed as it was deemed unnecessary for the sector, which is reassuring. Unlike our previous policy the new one includes "mysterious disappearance cover". That sounds intriguing. Best of all, Brexit is now covered. Amazing given that no-one even knows what it means.

**Shaun Cullimore**

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council

<https://swindonparish.org>

If you have concerns about anti-social behaviour do not hesitate to contact the police.

**Ring 101** (you may be charged for this call)  
**or email 101@gloucestershire.police.uk**

Get an incident number and let the parish council know about it.  
If the police are not made aware of a problem **THERE ISN'T A PROBLEM.**

Starting playgroup or school for the first time?  
Moving up to a new class?  
Moving on to a new school?  
Going off to university?  
Starting work or an apprenticeship?

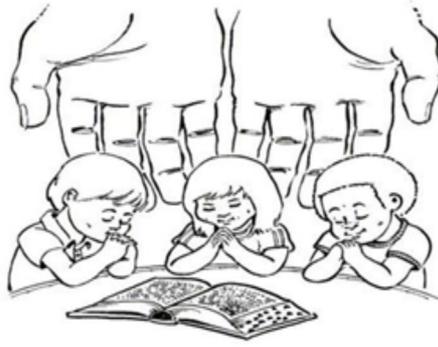
Are you the parent of a child going off on a new adventure?

**Best Wishes and Good Luck to you all!**

## Services and Events in September

1	Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @ Ten Thirty Holy Communion
3	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
8	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Evensong
10	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon 7.00pm	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In Holy Communion
15	Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @ The Table Evensong
17	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
22	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
24	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
28	Saturday	9.30am	Churchyard Tidy-Up
29	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Songs of Praise at Elmstone Hardwicke (No service at St. Lawrence)

## Our Father



For thine is the Kingdom....

A usual way to end primary school assemblies is to conclude them with the joining in of the Lord's Prayer. It's increasingly common nowadays to introduce the prayer by announcing that children are not required to recite the prayer if they do not want to, acknowledging that there are many children and families of differing faith as well as no faith at all.

An article in the Guardian published in July a year or two ago spoke about the Church of England's bid to open scores of free schools under the government's 'free school programme', to cement its place as the country's largest provider of education. If this were to be implemented it would be absolutely amazing for the future of our young people countrywide. With a Christian vision for education at the heart, a vision that does not necessitate being Christian as a pre-requisite for entry, these schools would continue, as Church of England schools have done, to focus on the values of Christian proclamation. The difference would be that, though funded by the government, they could be set up and run by parents, teachers, charities, businesses, trusts, universities and religious or voluntary groups.

This month, on the 21<sup>st</sup>, the Church celebrates the feast day of St Matthew, the apostle of Jesus and the writer of one of the Gospels. St Matthew, among many other things, embodies the idea of Christ's acceptance. The reference to the article above made me think about acceptance and the relationship between Jesus and Matthew. Jesus was becoming unpopular with every passing second in his day. With his radical ideas, his calling of Matthew the tax collector to be a disciple, it has to be said, was a pretty inflammatory move. Jesus wasn't in the business of popularity thankfully, and this meant he was able to exercise what was right and for right's sake alone. He opened doors wide and made them strain by their hinges. As Jesus explains in the Gospels of both Mark and Luke, he came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Accepting Matthew's invitation into his home and partaking in a meal was a sign of this. Of course this by

no means suggests that those who do not profess the faith are sinners in need of repentance but I think it is useful to view Jesus' sharing a meal with Matthew as representative of something very special indeed. It was an encounter that displayed the virtue of acceptance as an overarching theme certainly, but beneath this umbrella term it embraces important ideas about sharing, need, diversity, relationship and dependence; all the qualities you might expect to be the experiences in any school.

*God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers and staff.  
Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

**Rev George Davis**

## From the registers



### **Baptisms**

*We welcomed in to the family of the church*

Kevin Phelps 28th July

Olivia Jane Phelps 28th July



### **Marriages**

*We celebrated the marriages of*

Patrick James Warren and Jody Keicher

10th August

Adam Davis and Sarai Elizabeth Blyghton

24th August

## **Enquiries about baptisms or weddings**

If you would like to enquire about baptism (also called christening) or would like to book a wedding in St Lawrence church, please visit the Team Surgery at St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane on any Saturday morning between 10.30am and 11.00am. (Enter through the main door and turn right.)

If this is not possible contact the Team Office, which is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12 noon. The office is based at St Nicolas' Church in Swindon Lane. Contact the Office on **244373** or **admin@northchelt.org.uk**

**You can contact the clergy by email:**

**Revd. George Davis (Team Vicar) fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com**

**Revd. Nick Bromfield (Team Rector) nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk**  
or via the office.

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

I'm sorry to mention the Christmas Tree Festival already but groups that meet monthly only have three meetings before the Festival!

Anybody is welcome to enter a tree, as a group or as an individual - the more, the merrier. I'll put more details in next month's magazine but if you'd like more information now please get in touch with me.

Meanwhile, make a note of the date...

**Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December**

and the theme...

**“Out Of This World”**

which, as usual, can be interpreted in any way you like!

I look forward to seeing you there!

**Karen Evans**

tel. 241678

## **The Chatterbox Special's running down the line. The Chatterbox Special's right on time.**

The train now leaving from Cheltenham Spa Racecourse station is the 10.55 am steam locomotive calling at Gotherington, Winchcombe and Toddington before its final destination at Broadway. Today's trip (August 7th) included 25 members of the Chatterbox group from St Lawrence's Church in their very own reserved carriage.

The train ambled it's way through the beautiful Cotswold countryside and we all took in the rolling hills and meadows that makes Gloucestershire such a special place to live. The windows were left open and the smell of the burning coal and the constant steam flashing by reminded us all of our youthful days gone by.

When the group arrived at Broadway some took a taxi/shuttle whilst the remainder took a short 15 minute walk to the town centre. A few of the group stayed on for the short trip back to Toddington to take in the engineering sheds and the Railway cafeteria for lunch. The main group spent a few hours wandering the shops, visiting the church and generally enjoying a relaxing time. Some went to lunch at the local hostelrys whilst others visited the lovely tea shops or the fish parlour for a snack.

After the shopping spree was over we all made our way back to the station where tea and cake was heartily eaten before boarding for our return trip to Cheltenham. Several of the party had the luxury of the First Class seating for the second part of the trip which was diesel operated.

A good time was had by all and special thanks go to Rachael Hunter for organising the day out..

For those of you who have not yet ventured to the Chatterbox coffee mornings at the church, we meet every Tuesday between 10.30 and 12.00 o'clock. There are no speaker-led discussions, we just enjoy a social chat about all things we are interested in. So why not come along ,we really are a friendly bunch. You would be made most welcome.

**John Holder**

## **The Children's Society Home Collecting Boxes**

It's time for the annual emptying of the home collecting boxes. I would be grateful if box holders could bring their boxes to my house, 41 Rivelands Road, or give them to a sidesperson at church who will forward them to me. Please don't leave boxes in the church unattended. Alternatively, phone me and I will arrange to collect your box from your house.

### New co-ordinator wanted

I have decided to give up as box co-ordinator now so this will be the last time I'll be collecting the boxes. I'm looking for someone to take over from me. I really hope someone will come forward as The Children's Society needs our continuing financial support.

The co-ordinator's work is concentrated into a few weeks a year, currently September/October but that could be changed to suit the new co-ordinator. The boxes have to be collected, the contents counted, recorded and paid in to a bank and then the boxes returned to the holders and paperwork sent to The Children's Society. If it's something you could consider doing please get in touch with me to find out more.

Thank you very much.

**Sylvia Hales**  
tel. 235933

### **Churchyard tidy-up Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am**

At the end of every summer we try to clear away some of the weeds and excess growth and leave the churchyard looking tidy for the winter.

Many hands make light work so please come and do what you can - every little helps. Please bring your own tools but rubbish bags and tea/coffee & biscuits will be provided.



**Tony Jilbert**  
tel. 693639

St. Lawrence's Church  
Annual Quiz and Supper

# QUIZZ NIGHT

Saturday 19th October  
Swindon Village Hall

Doors and bar open 7.00pm  
Supper at 7.30pm followed by Quiz



Jacket Potatoes  
Chilli Con Carne / Sausage Casserole /  
Chicken in White Sauce / Ratatouille  
Baked Beans / Cheese / Salad

Apple Sponge / Fruit Salad / Cream

Admission £9  
Book as a team (maximum 6 people)  
or make up a team on the night

**Booking essential - phone Karen Evans on 241678**

## Swindon Village Winemakers



In early June members of the Wine Club had a weekend away in Weymouth, organised by Mandy Jilbert. The weather was kind to us. Many thanks to Mandy for her hard work. The photograph shows everyone on the hotel steps.

Later in the month for our monthly meeting, the club hired a Marchants coach, driven by Rowan, and visited The Little Oak Vineyard (Chipping Campden). This again was a lovely summer evening. We sat in the garden tasting wines and listening to a talk given by Gemma, about when the vineyard first started and the different wines they now produce.



At the July meeting we had a most interesting talk given by Mr Mike Lovatt, telling us the history of The Stanway Watermill. The mill is well worth a visit; Mike is there on Thursday mornings from 10.00am.

This year the Wine Club has been going for forty years, so in September the club is hoping to celebrate with a meal at the Bell Inn, Frampton-on-Severn.

### Roy Harper

*Rowan the coach driver appears again in the next article.  
Popular chap!*

## Wednesday Club

Pam Slater was our guest at the July meeting of Wednesday Club. On this occasion, Pam told us the "Story Behind Tea" and it really was very interesting. Tea originated in China centuries ago when a leaf from a Camellia dropped into some water and was found to taste rather nice. Tea was then grown in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and exported to various countries and can now be grown even here in the U.K. Tea can only be called tea if Camellia is an ingredient; no Camellia, definitely not tea. We had a lovely evening and maybe Pam can come along again with another of her talks.

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July was the day for our coach trip around the Cotswolds. The weather was lovely and Rowan (our driver) took us on a very picturesque route to include Broadway, Chipping Campden, Stow and Bourton on the Water. We stopped at the Fosse Garden Centre and then again at Bourton, arriving home at about 5pm. The nice thing about coach travel is that you are high up in the vehicle and can see so much more. Looking forward to another trip next year!

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September and Lorraine Parsloe will be telling us about her 15 years as an extra on TV. Please do come along and join us, £3 per person for non-members, to include supper.

Look forward to seeing you then.

**Pauline Wright**

## Art & Crafts Club

Hope all had a good summer and all members are keen and ready to start another session. We start on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September, usual times 7.30 - 9.30 and we would be delighted to welcome new members, so give it some thought. My contact number 07817581223.

**Helen**

Our July meeting was very busy and well attended as we had invited representatives from the other WIs in our Group to join us for the evening. Quite a party! The pupils from the Helen Gill School of Dancing opened the evening with displays of their dancing – some very talented artistes amongst them. The speaker for the evening was Joanne Locke who told us of the work of the Medical Detection Dogs. Like many of the other ‘assistance’ dogs these candidates are donated and take 4-6 months to basically train and up to 2 years for specific training. The range of conditions they can detect is very wide. They include cancers, Parkinsons disease, malaria, type 1 diabetes, Addisons disease, bacterial infections and allergies. They can be used in early detection and non-invasive diagnosis of conditions and, also, as Alert Dogs in the cases of seizures or episodic incidents. The results of these can lead to an improved quality of life and independence, reduced hospital admissions and thus saving the NHS money. A delicious spread of food and a large raffle were much enjoyed afterwards.

The Centenary Village Show took place in the gardens of Cirencester Park on a glorious sunny day. A marquee of exhibits and the displays in the arena included dancing, police horses and falconry. The many stalls run by various county WIs proved a great attraction and we did well on our ‘Pick a Bottle’ stand. We were invited to explore the beautiful gardens including the enormous record-breaking yew hedge, an amazing sight!



*Marle Hill WI members at their “Pick a Bottle” stand*



*The famous yew hedge at Cirencester Park*

A visit to the Houses of Parliament, at the invitation of Cheltenham MP Alex Chalk, was well supported and ended with an interesting Question Time. An open evening at the John Lewis store in Cheltenham was attended by some 600 county members. Demonstrations, samples, drinks and canapés and, of course, buying (we all had a voucher to spend) made for an enjoyable event. We have been invited back for a special Christmas Evening! A talk about Queen Æthelflæd, the queen of Mercia, was very interesting and well attended. Why do we hear so much about Boudicca and not Æthelflæd, who was so influential during her lifetime? Our events in July ended with an enjoyable sunny tea-afternoon in Wendy's garden.

As we do not have an official meeting in August a visit was arranged to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. The outing had been suggested by members after an interesting talk we had had in March and, despite it being a showery day, there was plenty to do and see. Croquet and Bowls taster days were also on the agenda.

September activities include a theatre visit to the Everyman, Craft and Book Club meetings, a tea afternoon at Karen's and a day of archery. There is a large exhibition and events in the Cathedral in October celebrating the Gloucestershire Federation Centenary year. We are busy organising a table to represent our own WI to be displayed in the cloisters.

We have a talk on 2<sup>nd</sup> September by The Waterways Museum entitled 'Women and Canals'. We meet at 7.30pm at St Nicolas' Hall, Swindon Lane, and visitors are always welcome.

**Sara Jefferies**

The biggest news for the summer is the installation of our 14 solar panels. First, an explanation of how they work... Our solar panels work by absorbing photons in the form of daylight, generating Direct Current (DC - like the energy found in batteries) and running it through an inverter that converts the DC into alternating current (AC) so that it can supply our mains power; anything not used is fed back into the main grid. The solar panels themselves consist of layers of silicon cells surrounded by a metal frame and covered with 5mm of toughened glass (similar to windscreen glass) plus some wiring to connect the panels to each other and on to the Hall's electrical system. The panels consist of two layers of silicon which are positively and negatively charged through the addition of other elements (typically phosphorus and boron which have one more and one less electron per atom respectively than silicon does) and as the photons from the sun strike these layers, electrons are stripped away from the phosphorus side which are then attracted to the boron side. A conducting wire then allows these free electrons to flow and generate electricity. A mobile app allows us to see the amount of electricity being generated and whilst it is possible to purchase more advanced monitors that show how much solar is used by the building and how much is put back into the national grid, we decided not to purchase one of these as the cellar cooler uses more than we produce.

In the future, we could expand the system further and incorporate battery storage so that the hall could eventually become self-sufficient in terms of electricity usage - the battery would be charged during daylight hours and discharge when the electricity is needed. We were very fortunate to be supported by Target 2020 who administer European Union grants for environmentally conscious community projects such as ours - the grant amounted to 35% of the installation costs. In terms of costs, the total installation of our 4.2kWh from Ecocetera amounted to £6720 of which we paid £4352 after the grant was refunded. By my calculations, the return on investment should be 4 to 5 years depending on future electricity prices - most electricity companies charge per unit which is typically 1kWh (current price is approximately 12p per unit). As these solar systems become more widespread, the costs should reduce further but this gives an indication of what our installation cost in 2019. To date, we've produced 1mWh (1000kWh) of electricity in 54 days at an average of 20kWh per day (the highest is 33kWh and the lowest so far is 7kWh) and our peak generation is just over 3kWh which occurs between 10am and 3pm (this window will shrink as the seasons change and I'll update this over the winter when the days are shorter and the sun is lower in the sky). Hopefully some of that

was of interest to you; I've certainly learned a lot about how these things work and I'm more than happy to discuss it further (I can often be found in or behind the bar on Friday nights or contact us in any of the usual ways).

Other news this summer includes a redecoration of the hall by the National Citizen Service who are an organisation that run summer camps for 15- and 16-year-olds to develop their soft skills during the summer. The volunteers asked if they could redecorate various rooms (they almost repainted the entire hall in the end) and organised the decorating themselves - we donated some funds to buy the paint and they provided the rest through fundraising efforts and sweet talking local businesses. Any surplus funds were donated to various other local charities and we benefitted from a fresh look to the bar and main hall.

Our bookings continue to exceed our expectations and the Friday night bar continues to be well attended - Bob, Claire and Gemma have been our regular friendly bar volunteers and it's wonderful to see the nights so well attended; especially with an empty car park so for many it's a pleasant walk to the bar for some sociable drinks. New bar stock includes Dunkertons' recently launched Craft cider (which is a fresh, easier drinking version of their award winning cider), a new Negroni inspired Sibling Gin and Battledown Amber Ale. All local companies that produce great drinks - if anyone has any local brewers or distillers in mind then we'll gladly consider stocking them.

Behind the scenes, the committee and volunteers are working hard on many projects which will be revealed as they come to fruition. One idea is to revive the New Year's Eve party for local residents - we'll be canvassing for thoughts on this soon. If you have any ideas or want to be involved then please get in touch via our email ([swindonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:swindonvillagehall@gmail.com)), our website ([www.svhall.co.uk](http://www.svhall.co.uk)), our Facebook page, mobile phones or even in person!

**Ben Williams**  
Chair

In June we visited Pear Tree Cottage in Gotherington. The garden is not vast but does have many 'rooms'. The couple who live there have developed it their selves over many years – a long term labour of love. Now while my wife is a gardener I can't say that I am. I am more on the construction engineering side of gardening. I cut grass, I clean paving, I repair fencing, I trim the yew tree which once a year which means climbing a ladder leant against the tree with a long trimming device. It is an annual battle of man versus yew. So far the results are man 22- yew nil. However, I am aware that one day the yew will win. From this you can see my take on gardening. I am glad I do not own Pear Tree Cottage. It looks like a constant battle against nature and one day the master of the house will set off to the far end of his garden with clippers in hand and will not return. The bears will get him.

Having said which, it was all very enjoyable and with tea and cake at the end it made for a very pleasing visit.

Then to July when Dr Tim Brain told us about the many major battles fought in Gloucestershire. Indeed, Crickley Hill was the scene of one of the best attested early battles in England. The archaeology shows there to have been a very serious assault on the place with many arrows and other weapons found. While there were no doubt many other battles at the time, Crickley Hill provides the best proof of an all out assault. Dr Brain took us through several other battles including, of course, Tewkesbury. As an amateur in the field of history, it is always a treat to have a talk by someone who really knows the subject.

In September we will have a talk by Arthur Ball on the wildlife of Dowdeswell Nature Reserve. I remember taking one of my sons there a few years ago and on lifting one of the metal panels left on the ground we found a grass snake with three young and I had a son in raptures.

Finally, we had a gap in the programme for October. It has now been decided that, as a money saving device, I will give my talk on the History of Aviation in Gloucestershire. This was the first talk I ever gave to the Village Society about eighteen years ago. I still give the talk regularly to local groups and always point out that it is actually mistitled. The real title should be 'A History of Aviation quite close to Swindon Village'. As ever, visitors will be welcome for one pound.

**Barry Simon**

# Gloucester History Festival

## Power and The People

This year's Gloucester History Festival explores the theme of Power and the People as 2019 marks anniversaries including the Peterloo Massacre, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Velvet Revolution, the Tiananmen Square protests, the election of Nelson Mandela as President and of course the first man on the moon. We explore moments of protest and change, turning points where people have fought for their political rights, shifted the balance of power, taken a giant leap for mankind and made journeys of discovery into the unknown.

### **Tickets are on sale now**

You can book -

-online at [www.gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk](http://www.gloucesterhistoryfestival.co.uk)

-on the telephone 01452 396572

-in person at the Tourist Information Centre at the Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road, GL1 1HP (please note TIC's new address)

All details are accurate at time of printing – but always check online for more up-to-date details before booking and coming to an event.

There is an additional Blackfriars talk on Sun 22 Sept – Cerys Matthews, Where the Wild Cooks Go.

### **Kim Kenny**

For the Record Project Officer

Gloucestershire Archives

01452 426056

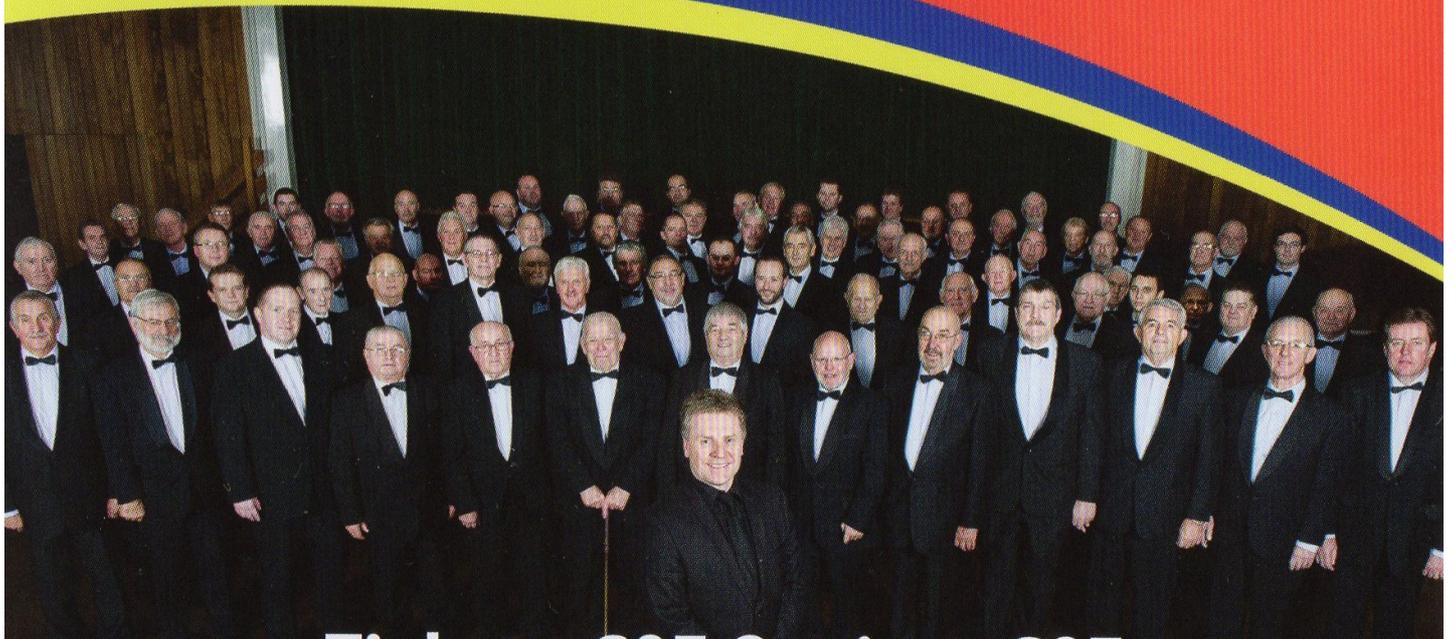
[Kim.kenny2@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Kim.kenny2@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

# Treorchy Male Choir

7.30pm Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019

CHELTENHAM TOWN HALL

Guest Soprano Susan Black



**Tickets £25 Seniors £23**

**Box Office 0844 576 2210**

**acorns**

*Care for the child,  
support for the family*

Registered charity no. 700859

**IN AID OF ACORNS CHILDREN'S HOSPICE  
AND LIONS CLUB CHARITIES**





PCC Martin Surl and Chief Constable Rod Hansen welcome you to the

# OPEN DAY



Gloucestershire Constabulary HQ

No1 Waterwells, Waterwells Drive,  
Quedgeley, Gloucester, GL2 2AN



**OPCC**  
Office of the Police &  
Crime Commissioner  
for Gloucestershire

**SATURDAY**

**14 SEPTEMBER**

**GATES OPEN**

**10AM - 3PM**



Our popular Open Day is set to be bigger and better than ever before, with new attractions and demonstrations to inform and entertain you.

**Entry is free.**

Look out for more details on our website. [www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)

# Intimidated by digital technology?



...then join in our **FREE** small, friendly workshops  
for older people and learn more about digital devices!

- Using the device
- Online safety and security
- Using Your Circle website
- Getting online
- What's happening in your area

**Fridays 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1 - 4pm and 9<sup>th</sup> August 9.30 - 11.30am**

or

**Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 9.30 - 11.30am**

at

**Adult Education 4 - 6 Commercial Road Gloucester GL1 2EA**

Bring your own laptop, tablet or smartphone,  
or borrow one of ours on the day!



\*There may be a cost for people in work

To sign up, or further information,  
please contact **Amanda Cooper**  
tel **01452 583837**  
or email **learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk**

*faster*shire



## Computer Workshops

A series of FREE one-off workshops. These workshops have been designed to help you make the most of the internet, improve your online skills and increase your confidence.

Using Your Computer	Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	1-3pm
Online Basics	Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	1-3pm
Online Safety	Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	1-3pm
Internet Skills	Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	1-3pm
Email Skills	Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	1-3pm
Public Services Online	Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	1-3pm

**Hesters Way Neighbourhood Project  
Hesters Way Community Resource Centre,  
Cassin Drive, Cheltenham, GL51 7SU**

To book a place, or for more information contact:

**Adult Education on 0800 542 1655 email:**

**[learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

**[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/aeig](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/aeig)**

**funded by FasterShire, a partnership between Herefordshire Council and Gloucestershire County Council to bring faster broadband to the two counties**



# Do you use your conservatory all year round?

Does your conservatory get too hot in the summer, too cold in the winter and too noisy in bad weather?

You're not alone, we have found that thousands of people with polycarbonate or glass conservatory roofs suffer with these year round problems.



Here, at Green Space UK we can give you a conservatory that you can actually use all year round. We offer a bespoke, aluminium replacement conservatory roof that we can install in less than 1 day. It contains 75mm of high density insulation which is designed to:

- ✓ Reduce heat build up in the summer
- ✓ Retain the heat in the winter
- ✓ Reduce loud noise
- ✓ Reduce glare
- ✓ Reduce your energy bills
- ✓ Stop fading furniture
- ✓ Keep clean
- ✓ And much more...

## Customer Reviews:

“Very pleased with the result. The new roof has made the conservatory a pleasanter more temperate place to be no matter what the weather”.

*Mr and Mrs Ingram*

“I have only good things to say about Green Space, from my first contact with them they have been on the ball. A good product with a good back-up team. Everything you need”.

*Mr and Mrs Richards*

**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

Unit 8 Crow Arch Lane Industrial Estate, Crow Arch Lane, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 1PD

## Contact Us:

**Phone:** 07748587922

**Email:** ellen.wentworth@gogreenspace.co.uk

**Website:** www.greenspaceconservatories.co.uk

Quote:  
SWIDN0919



# **The Window Surgeons**

**Problems with your Double Glazing?**

We can...

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Replace Broken Handles/Hinges

Fix Conservatory Roofs

**Call Martin on 07879 696289**

30 years experience in the window industry

We also install new windows, doors and conservatories

Advertise your business in  
Village News

**Monthly rates**

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Half page £18

Quarter page £9

Contact the Editors

Village News is delivered to  
900 homes in Swindon Village



# ALEXANDER BURN FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Email: [sjb\\_carpentry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sjb_carpentry@yahoo.co.uk)  
Website: [www.sjbcarpentryjoinery.co.uk](http://www.sjbcarpentryjoinery.co.uk)

## Get Active Fitness

### Mellow Moves

**St Nicolas Hall 10.30 am  
Thursdays**

*Gentle exercise to music  
to improve balance,  
posture and flexibility.  
All equipment provided.  
Pay as you come*

Fran Nichols 01242 523363

[www.getactivefitness.co.uk](http://www.getactivefitness.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/  
GetActiveCheltenham](http://www.facebook.com/GetActiveCheltenham)

## VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Footpaths	John Heathcott	527753
Acting Scout Leader & GSL	Stephen Smith (Sos)	693107
Cub Scout Leader	Rachel Smith (Chil)	693107
Beaver Leader	Hugh Stanford	svbeavers@gmail.com 706020
Rainbow Guider	Jackie Bailey	07871 169308
Village Hall Chair	Ben Williams	07971 608177 swindonvillagehall@gmail.com
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Jana Bridger	www.svhall.co.uk 07514 594351
Wednesday Club	Pauline Wright	693112
Play Group	(Playgroup hours)	690479
Winemakers' Secretary	Roy Harper	662861
School Headteacher	Geraint Mills	690016
Friends of the School	Jodie Courts	chairfosvps@gmail.com
Art & Crafts Club	Lynne	07515 461876
Swindon Village Society	Barry Simon	521723
Mary Godwin Under 5s	(Playgroup hours)	263746
Marle Hill W.I.	Sara Jefferies	692500
Save The Countryside	Helen Wells	07770 986078

Please inform the editors of any changes to the contact details for village organisations.

Deadline for the next issue of the Village News is the 16th of this month.  
Please send contributions to the editors via  
Karen Evans at 5 Manor Road  
or e-mail [village-news@swindonparish.org.uk](mailto:village-news@swindonparish.org.uk)

## SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Cllr. Peter Allen	692933
Vice Chairman	Cllr. John Conmee	572060
	Cllr. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
	Cllr. Yvonne Pirso	515095
	Cllr. James Cornish	07950 196709
	Vacancy	
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435 parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. Flo Clucas Cllr. Bernard Fisher	255844 07523 421012
County Councillor	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07523 421012
Allotments Manager	Ian Brown	528683

Swindon Parish and Community Website: <https://swindonparish.org.uk>

## ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Team Rector	Revd. Nick Bromfield	nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk
Team Vicar	Revd. George Davis	fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com 702890
Reader	Ralph Griffin	510533
Churchwardens	Tony Jilbert	693639
	May Shurmer	241033
Tower Captain	Hugh Evans	241678
Organist	John Collins	511950
North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, Cheltenham GL50 4PA		244373 admin@northchelt.org.uk

The office is open on Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon. Outside these hours please leave a message on the answer phone.

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors or the Parish Council