

# Village News

in Swindon Village

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

No. 479

December and January 2021



## SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE AND GROUP

Please join Swindon Parish Council's Facebook page and group for local information and discussion. If you do not have access to the internet you could ask a friend or relative to join on your behalf and share highlights with you.

- **Swindon Parish Council Facebook Page.** A public page for local information and news from the Council:  
<https://www.facebook.com/swindonparish>
- **Swindon Parish Community Group.** A private group for discussion of local issues, sharing and requesting help:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/swindonparishcommunitygroup>
- **Swindon Parish Council website.** For full information from the Parish Council:  
<https://www.swindonparish.org.uk/>

If you receive this newsletter then you are living in Swindon Parish.

"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**".

# Christmas Tree Festival

## Hopes and Dreams

St. Lawrence's Church  
Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th  
December  
11am to 5pm

Trees decorated by local people  
Sales table including  
hand-made craft items  
Christmas Hamper Raffle  
Make a Christmas decoration  
Refreshments

### **Free admission**

Donations to St. Lawrence's Church  
will be gratefully accepted



## **SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT**

Firstly, an apology for the late arrival of the paper version of the Village News last month. We have it printed at Cotswold District Council in Cirencester and an outbreak of coronavirus meant that they could not produce it. Rather than simply dropping an issue, the Parish Council made the decision to go to another supplier, just for the November edition. You are reading the bumper, double Christmas edition, which I always think is a great opportunity to say a few “thank you”s, so let’s start with the Village News team. Thank you to the contributors, the editors, the advertisers, the collectors and the distributors. As a resident and reader I would also like to thank the Parish Council for continuing its financial support for this cherished publication.

The November edition was made available on the normal publication date on our website, though I know this doesn’t suit everybody.

Things have generally been quiet on the planning front, but there is a planning application to build a house next to “Kylance”, the house overlooking the park. The reference is 21/02354/FUL. I hope this edition goes out on time as the application closes to comments on 6<sup>th</sup> December. If you are interested you can view the application online or at the Borough Council offices in town.

I have received complaints about the state of some of our footpaths. At this time of the year fields are harvested and ploughed. Following ploughing the farmer is required to reinstate the footpath. However, simply flattening the ground along the line of the path is sufficient to discharge this obligation. When conditions are wet and muddy, passage may be difficult. Let’s look forward to summer and better ground conditions!

Another complaint related to a path that the walker considered to be narrower than the legal minimum. John, our footpaths officer, has taken a look and concluded that the reduction in width is due to the growth of the neighbouring vegetation rather than an incorrectly sited fence. John clears paths himself where he can but the growth this season has been prolific.

The Parish Council had hoped to get the war memorial spruced up before the remembrance commemorations. Sadly it took us a long time to get permission from the diocese for the work to proceed. By then we had missed our deadline and the stone conservator engaged to do the job had a full diary. Rest assured the work will be done in the new year.

Residents have reported to the Parish Council their concerns about the negative health impacts that bonfires can create. Thanks to coronavirus there are probably more people than ever with breathing issues. Neither the Parish Council nor the Borough Council have the power to stop people having a bonfire in their back garden unless (1) a nuisance is created, and (2) it is a regular occurrence. We can fix this simply by being considerate of our neighbours. Green waste can be collected by the Borough Council or taken to the recycling centre. Fires should not be lit when the weather is good and people want to enjoy their gardens or hang out their washing- and fires should never be left unattended.

This is the time of year when the Parish Council starts to consider its budget for next year (the year that runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023). The budget will be discussed at our next meeting which is on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

I started with some “thank you”s and will end the same way.

My thanks to John, our volunteer footpaths officer, who has provided me with sound advice on footpath matters throughout the year. John also does minor works on the paths himself.

Thanks also to Ian Brown, our allotments manager and another selfless volunteer.

Our Borough Councillors attend our meetings whenever they can and progress matters on our behalf. Thank you.

We have had folk with no previous experience of local government stepping up and joining the Parish Council. Thank you for contributing your time, ideas and energy.

Thanks to Neil for planting up the horse trough and keeping it looking interesting through the year and the weathers.

Finally, thank you for reading. Have a peaceful and wonderful festive season. Stay safe and warm!

Shaun Cullimore,  
Clerk to Swindon Parish Council



## Community Climate Action Meeting

In October, the Parish Council facilitated a meeting on community climate action. Our heartfelt thanks to all who attended and contributed their ideas – I for one feel pretty energised by some of the wonderful things we could start in the village. Many of the solutions to the climate crisis also help with other problems, and not least of these is the building and strengthening of communities – a feeling of belonging to a place or group. Learning from the experience of lockdowns during the pandemic where people came together to solve real and immediate problems, we can carry this forward to meet other challenges in our community. Many of the suggestions put forward at the meeting had an element of community building, as well as positive climate action.

We did not, deliberately, set any limits on what ideas could be written down during our meeting, which we organised under the themes: Energy; Getting Around; Community; Food and Growing; Our physical environment; and Waste. Some of these overlapped and the themes were intended to give people a starting point, not to be strictly enforced.

A few major themes emerged from the ideas and conversations. One is around education / information and knowledge sharing, for example around home retrofit, renewables, plant based diets, and growing food. The second is around sharing of things – either lending, giving or selling of tools, food, produce or other 'stuff'. There were also some good suggestions around how we might use our Local Green Space. The final theme is perhaps more aspirational – things that are not, unfortunately, within the gift of the Parish Council to deliver, but where we can of course put pressure on our local authorities to do so – for example around bus services, active travel infrastructure, and planning and development. The top, most repeated or upvoted ideas were:

- Information sharing – talks, articles, etc
- Library of things / sharing system – tools, kitchen equipment, lifts
- Give aways / sale of unwanted stuff
- Food sharing / community pantry
- Repair shop / skills share – gardening, cooking, nutrition
- Safe active travel routes – especially to town and the local shops
- Community green space - fruit trees, beehives, flower meadow, etc)

We have, thanks to all of your ideas and contributions, a starting point to take real meaningful action in our community to reduce our contribution to climate change. We would welcome further suggestions – we know not everyone who wanted to was able to make the meeting. If you would like



## The Editor(s)

As I reflect on our first year as Editors, I wonder if Katie and I knew quite what was in store for us?

Did we think our love of the written word would be enough or maybe the lure of setting a quiz once a month would provide great amusement? Maybe.

Had we realised that we'd have to learn new software, or become diplomats? Possibly not.

After the delays with the last edition, one of our regular contributors emailed "Well no one said the job would be easy"

To be honest, we were possibly a little naïve as to the time involvement each month, but going forward into 2022, with all that we know now, would we choose to do it again? Absolutely!

Wishing you all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Karren and Katie

### **CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTION BOXES**

The money has been banked with a total for this year of **£573.72**. A magnificent effort from those people who have contributed in their collecting boxes.

It has been a difficult year/18 months with the Covid Pandemic. Small change is not being used by us all and you wouldn't believe that we had over 2.5 stone (33lbs) in weight that we took to the bank! Thank you to everyone that filled the boxes with what change they did have and helped to make the grand total.

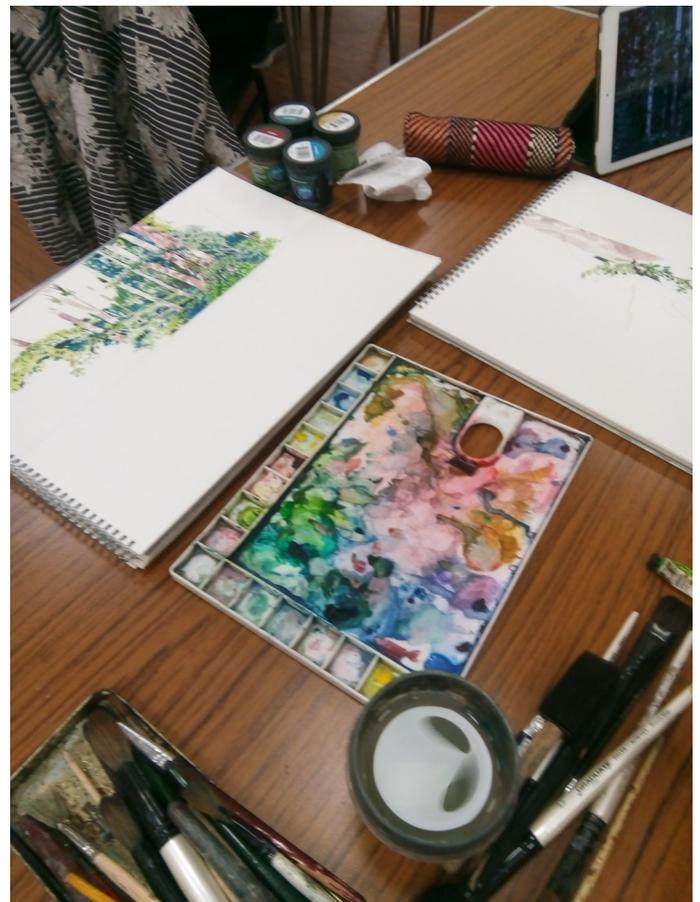
God Bless everyone. Derek & Helen

## Art and Craft Club

Like everyone else, we have been closed for what seems an age. But we are delighted to say we are back up and running!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our loyal members, and put it out there that we would also welcome new ones! We meet every Thursday 7.30 - 9.30. Refreshments are available, and lots of chatting which makes it a very sociable evening.

You can contact me on 07817581223 if you are interested. Helen.



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## Photography Competition

Last week, an impartial group sat down to judge the photos that had been submitted. The Parish Council generously offered a prize fund of £50 which we decided to split into two prizes. The entries were given a number to maintain anonymity and the judges were asked to vote for a first and second place.

With the votes counted, we had a unanimous winner, but two entries received equal votes for runner up. Thank you to all those who submitted photos and to the Parish Council for sponsoring the prize.

The winning entry was by Ann Emery who will receive a £30 Amazon voucher and the runners up are Graham Harrison and Elaine Holder who will each receive a £10 voucher. Congratulations! Their photos appear later in the magazine.

We will publish the rest over the next few months, but if you would like to see them in colour you can find them on the Village news section of the Parish Council website.



### A Time of Peace!

One Christmas, a man I was visiting showed me his large family Bible which once belonged to a clergyman in the family. As you often find with precious historical books, tucked inside its front cover were several yellowing clippings cut out of newspapers which must have seemed important to the owner at the time. One clipping was from a speech by the Rt Hon Winston Churchill. Churchill wrote:

‘Sunday is a divine and priceless institution. It is a necessary pause in the national life and activity; it is essentially the day of emancipation from the compulsion and strain of daily work. It is the birthright of every British subject.’

Strong words from a strong man. We approach a time of celebration and festivities. That is as it should be. However, it seems clear that what many people want is something quite simple: they want a rest! Churches know that Sundays these days cannot always be a time of rest, precious and free from ‘daily work’. Many, of course, have no choice about working on a Sunday. But churches also know the value of holidays – that is, going back to the origin of the word ‘holiday’, ‘holy days’, times of different focus and times of respite from the chaos often going on around them and of which they all too frequently feel a part. Christmas is, I hope, a holiday time for you and your family, a time of rest and respite for you this year. That’s why many of us are trying hard to create new times of ‘necessary pause’ and rest within the often seven-day working week. Vital down time where you can stop, rest and listen in the company of a family of friends who are seeking the same kind of oasis from daily work as you might be.

Part of the recent series of lockdowns has been the deliberate opening of churches for times of reflective prayer. Times when no one will bother you and times when you can be truly alone with your prayers and private thoughts. A distinguished French priest once described such silent times as being times when he looked at God and God looked at him, and they had a private conversation together. That seems such a pleasant, unassuming, unpressurised way of describing a sacred time that I am glad to say we can always offer at our North Cheltenham churches.

Your local church notice board or website can tell you more. If you’re interested, or if Sundays are free, why not give church a try – we try hard to give you a warm welcome and be places where everyone knows they are noticed, valued and cared for.

Revd Nick Bromfield

## Services and Events in December

1	Wednesday		No private prayer
5	Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Together @ Ten Thirty Holy Communion
7	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
8	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
11	Saturday	11.00am - 5.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival
12	Sunday	9.15am 11.00am - 5.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Christmas Tree Festival  Evensong
14	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
15	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
19	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Carol Service
21	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
22	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer

24	Friday	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	4.00pm	Crib Service
			11.30pm	The First Communion of Christmas (Midnight Mass)
25	Saturday	<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion
26	Sunday	<b>St. Stephen's Day</b>	9.15am	Holy Communion
				No evening service
28	Tuesday	No Chatterbox		
29	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon		Church open for private prayer

### Services and Events in January

2	Sunday	10.30am	Together @ Ten Thirty
		6.30pm	Holy Communion
4	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
		7.00pm	Holy Communion
5	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
9	Sunday	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		6.30pm	Evensong

***St. Lawrence's Church  
Christmas and New Year***

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

6.30pm Carol Service

followed by mince pies and mulled wine

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Crib service

Children are invited to come dressed up  
as a character from the Christmas story

11.30pm Midnight Mass

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day**

9.15am Holy Communion

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December – St. Stephen**

9.15am Holy Communion

(No evening service)

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January**

10.30am Together at Ten Thirty

6.30pm Holy Communion

***Everyone is welcome***

**St. Lawrence's Church**

# **Christmas Tree Festival**

**Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December**

## **Hopes and Dreams**

It's not too late to join in!

Everyone, as individuals, families or groups, is welcome to take part in our Christmas Tree Festival, by decorating a tree on the theme of Hopes and Dreams and letting us display it in the church for the weekend. If you've been to a Festival before, you'll know that you can be as imaginative as you like with your decorations.

It's good to be back for our 14th Festival, having missed last year. The Christmas Tree Festival makes a lovely start to the Christmas season and there's always a bit of magic in the air.

Please contact me if you'd like to know more about it or just turn up with your tree on the Friday evening between 4pm and 8pm!

**Karen Evans**

karen.j.evans@outlook.com / 01242 241678

### **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's church, please 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.**

## Services and Events in January cont'd

11	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
12	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
16	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
18	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
19	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
23	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong
25	Tuesday	10.30am - 12noon	Chatterbox Coffee Drop-In
26	Wednesday	10.00am - 12noon	Church open for private prayer
30	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong

## Quiz #10

Hello and (a slightly early) Merry Christmas!

All of the answers to this month's quiz are somehow (and sometimes tenuously) related to the festive season. As with the last edition, question 10 relies on you finding the link between the first 9 answers...

Good luck!

1. Which month was originally named as it was the tenth month in the Roman Calendar?
2. What is the surname of the famous Victorian novelist whose "festive" novella was released in 1843?
3. What plant, often found in Christmas displays, is indigenous to Central America?
4. What word can refer to both fresh snow and olive oil?
5. In Mary Poppins, what part of the house would you find Dick van Dyke's character cleaning?
6. What is the name of the "fruity" Irish band, famous for hits such as "Linger" and "Dreams"? (Ignore the "The" in the band's name).
7. What animal is well-known for being looked after by a charity based near Sidmouth in Devon?
8. Which city is situated on the West Bank in Palestine, around 10km south of Jerusalem? (Hint: You'll find it badly reviewed on Trip Advisor- due to the lack of hotel availability?)
9. What colour features in the name of a band fronted by Mick Hucknall, as well as the title of an album by Taylor Swift?
10. Once you've worked out the answers to the last 9 questions, their initials (in order) should match with the first letters of the names of those found in a group associated with Christmas Eve...(Hint- their names are often listed in this order in a rhyme to help you remember them)

Answers on page 26





Runners up: Graham Harrison (top) and Elaine Holder (bottom)

Given my obsession with Cheltenham's parks over the past year or so, our talk in October was most appropriate; Judie Hodsdon, Chair of The Friends of Pittville, told us the history of the park and surrounding area. It all started two hundred years ago when Joseph Pitt decided to become a property developer. He bought the land, which is now Pittville, but was then empty fields. He then created a master plan for housing, Pump Room, park and a lake. The idea was to sell plots for people to build their own houses, but they had to meet certain standards and fit in with the overall concept. Things got underway, but slowly, and when twenty years later Joseph died he was greatly in debt and less than a fifth of the plan had come to fulfilment. Much of the land was now held by banks and there was no central control. However, over the years since then individuals, small developers, the Town Council and others have gone a long way towards meeting the original concept, such that if you compare the outcome two hundred years later with Joseph's original plan I believe that he would nod approvingly- except when he looked at his bank balance. The addition of the western half of the park by the Borough Council has made it a really superb asset for the town. Whenever I am there, Rene Descarte's phrase 'The Age of Reason' comes to mind. (yes, I know this is an article for the Village News but I have to establish my place in Pseuds Corner somehow). The new tea room by the Pump Room that I mentioned in last month's news has done nothing to lessen the feeling.

Of course a hundred years ago, the park and lake and Pump Room were not freely open to the public only to those who lived there. One could buy a subscription to enter or pay for daily entrance. In those days what is now the cafe on Central Cross Road was the ticket entrance. At least one member of the society remembers her father paying five pence for a ticket.

The November talk featured Peter Gill telling us about life in Cheltenham during World War 2. In many ways, it was like an extended COVID attack. At first there was major disruption and trepidation but then life started to settle down and when it was all over the survivors often remembered the time with some affection as a time when people showed real mettle and resilience. What can be said is that Cheltenham did its bit and in doing so was itself greatly changed.

We have now started on next year's programme. Only one thing is fixed and that is the AGM in January which, as ever, we hope to get through in ten minutes flat. This will then be followed by a half hour talk by our own Ann Carter entitled 'Working as a Magistrate'. Fortunately Ann's time on the bench was not in Cheltenham so there is little chance of her bringing up the previous misdemeanours of any current members.

Possible subjects for next year include 'Working on the Severn', 'Pilgrims in Gloucestershire' and maybe 'Stoke Orchard Airfield in WW2'. And there will always be a nature ramble, garden visit and a glass of tepid white wine in a light drizzle in our garden.

There is one other matter worth mentioning. Our son parked his dog with us for a day or so and I became a dog walker. In two nights of going out in the dark to the playing fields the dog tracked down three hedgehogs - pleasing confirmation that they are thriving in the local area.

The Society does not meet in December so the AGM and Ann's talk are our next event. Our annual subscription rates will be £10 for a single and £20 for a double or family membership. We would welcome new members. The more members we have the more 'they' listen if we wish to influence planning matters. You don't actually have to turn up at any meeting, it is your money and your name we are after. To join just come to a meeting and or put your offering through the door of No 3, Swindon Hall. If you let me know your e-mail you will be put on our list and get information and reminders. If you want to give us a trial just come to a meeting and pay the £2 entrance fee.

So 'cogito ergo sum' and come and join us. Pseuds Corner is now assured.

Barry Simon

## Village Hall

These winter nights are certainly getting darker but not chillier yet although the mercury is due to drop very shortly as an Azores high pressure area develops over the Atlantic, deflecting the jetstream to the north, deepening a Scandinavian low and inducing a chilly northerly air flow - or none of that happens and my weather reading skills need a polish! (Keep an eye on the synoptic weather charts for the areas of high and low pressure - in our hemisphere, with the wind on your back, the low pressure is always to your left) As the year draws to a close, so too does my tenure as Chair of Swindon Village Hall. My near three years of community service (not that kind as I've not been caught yet!) has been a source of immense pride in helping our Village Hall continue to improve and be a nicer facility for our users, groups and hirers whilst also reducing its impact on our environment and be a more cost effective building to operate.

In our time as a brand new committee, we've overseen the leap into the digital age with two websites ([svhall.co.uk](http://svhall.co.uk)), email ([swindonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:swindonvillagehall@gmail.com)) and an online booking and payment system. Behind the bar, card payments are now a regular feature (especially in these Covid conscious times), a nice Frame TV was fitted, our new fridges are keeping the bottles and cans at an optimal chill and our pumps have recently had an upgrade to a fancy all-chrome affair (thanks Terry!). The cellar has had an upgrade to its cooling system (which is about to pay dividends again as the temperatures drop); rather than using the compressor to cool the air and keep our kegs chilled, a small fan will draw in the cool outside air when it gets below 10°C saving both money and CO<sub>2</sub>. Continuing this theme, all the lights inside and out were switched from fluorescents to LEDs and some newly installed soffit LED spotlights mean the walkway and sign are now illuminated after dark. Another early project was the installation of 14 solar panels to form a 4.2kw array which has produced 11.11MWh since June 2019 - we're almost 1% of the way to powering a DeLorean-equipped time machine which famously needed 1.21GWh to get back to the future. Our peak daily production has been 32.98kWh whilst the lowest is a meagre 108Wh with an average of 12kWh each day throughout the years. The cost of renewables is dropping all the time and as the technology improves and new solar crystals are developed (Perovskites could be future game changers) then these figures should improve for your own solar panels should you decide to have some fitted.

The environment and our impact upon it were the main features of the recent COP26 conference in Glasgow which highlighted the plight that

humanity potentially finds itself in and attempted to find global solutions to our heating climate. To further reduce our own negative impacts, the insulation of the roof is on the verge of being fitted having been delayed from the summer due to supply issues - combined with the oft described destratification fans they should reduce our heating demand. My own view is that the gas-powered single pipe heating system in the hall is due an overhaul which could be replaced with underfloor heating powered by a hydrogen boiler or air-source heat pump - all long term and likely to be expensive but we've been successfully applying for grant to assist in funding many of our projects but this could result in the Village Hall being on the way to becoming net zero if the gas supply is removed and electricity is purely supplied by non-fossil fuels. Other projects under consideration could be a CCTV system, patio renovation, a new accessible toilet with baby changing facilities, a refreshed kitchen, electric car charging and more - the options are as limited as our imagination, energy and funds allow.

If any of that has piqued your interest and you wish to help continue to the sterling work of the committee then many hands make light work (a bit of déjà vu there as I think I said that in October, my list of catchphrases seems to have expired just in time!) then make yourself known as every little helps (another one courtesy of Tesco™). Hopefully as I've shown, your time on the committee doesn't have to be a life sentence and it's my view that a regular turnover of people keeps things fresh and injects new energy with each new recruit. Everyone has something to bring to the party (that includes you!).

This past year and a bit has seen tremendous changes to most aspects of our lives. My own working life takes me across the globe working for a well-known British airline - not that one, the red one with all the personality! :) When Covid-19 struck, rather than flying passengers to the states, Caribbean, South Africa and Asia, we switched to flying cargo (initially lots of medical equipment for the NHS) and conducting 26hr journeys to Shanghai, Hong Kong and Johannesburg and coming straight back without leaving the plane. During this time, colleagues were sadly being made redundant and the future of the aviation industry hung in the balance as airlines made tremendous losses and were in fights for their own survival. My experiences of different country's reactions to Covid-19 have ranged from testing both before and after the flight and enforced hotel room quarantines on pain of being imprisoned to no restrictions whatsoever. Which has been the correct response to take in the face of Covid-19 is a matter for future researchers but the precautionary principle seems to be a sensible path given the novel nature of this virus. My workplace set up and commissioned their own testing lab and, to date, I've had 78 tests there

and at home through a mixture of PCR and Lateral Flow. I've tried to spread as much knowledge as I have about developments as I learned them in these newsletters and on Facebook (@swindonvillagehall) and I hope you've found some of these musings at least interesting and hopefully informative. It's my view that hygiene, vaccines (including boosters as seem to be required) and therapeutics offer us the quickest way back to normality. We're very privileged to live in a time and a society where these treatments can be quickly developed and are readily available - others around the world aren't as fortunate. As this year, and my tenure as Chair, come to a close I reflect on times past and those sadly lost but try to look ahead to a brighter future where we can again be together and share in life ups and downs.

"Life is all about today. Don't get bogged down with the past but also don't look too far to the future as you may miss what's happening today and that's what life is all about." Sir Clive Woodward.

Take care,

Ben Williams.

## Wednesday Club

Our last meeting was on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and we had a delightful and entertaining evening with our speaker Paul Evans.

From poems, short stories and odes, he held our attention and made us laugh. We were also delighted to see two new village ladies visiting us and enjoying the evening.

Unfortunately, we still have not managed to get a committee for 2022 so the club will be closing after our AGM in February.

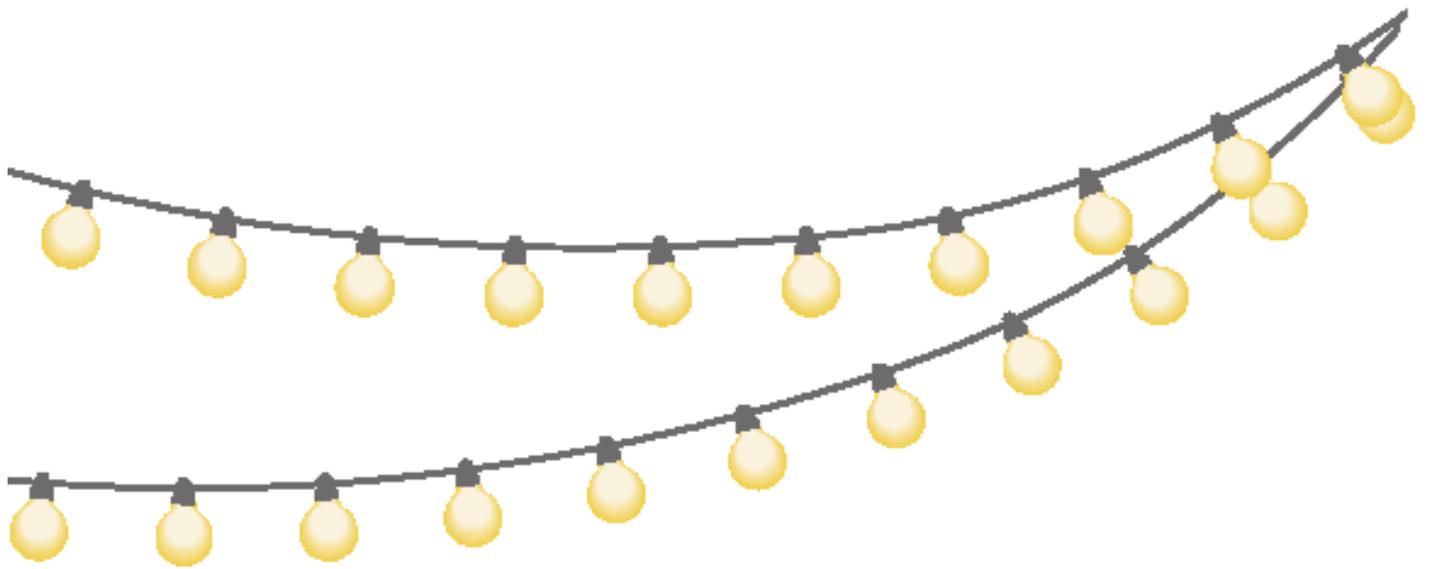
The next meeting is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December and it will be our Christmas supper. There may be music! Please come along at 7.45pm.

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January we will have our Christmas lunch at Gupshill Manor. Please be there for 12 noon ready to be served at 12.30.

The AGM will be on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and we will decide which charities our surplus funds will be donated to. Please do come to this meeting as it will be a club decision.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Shirley Ruxton



**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
SWINDON VILLAGE  
HALL  
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**

**31ST DECEMBER 7PM - 1AM**

**DISCO**

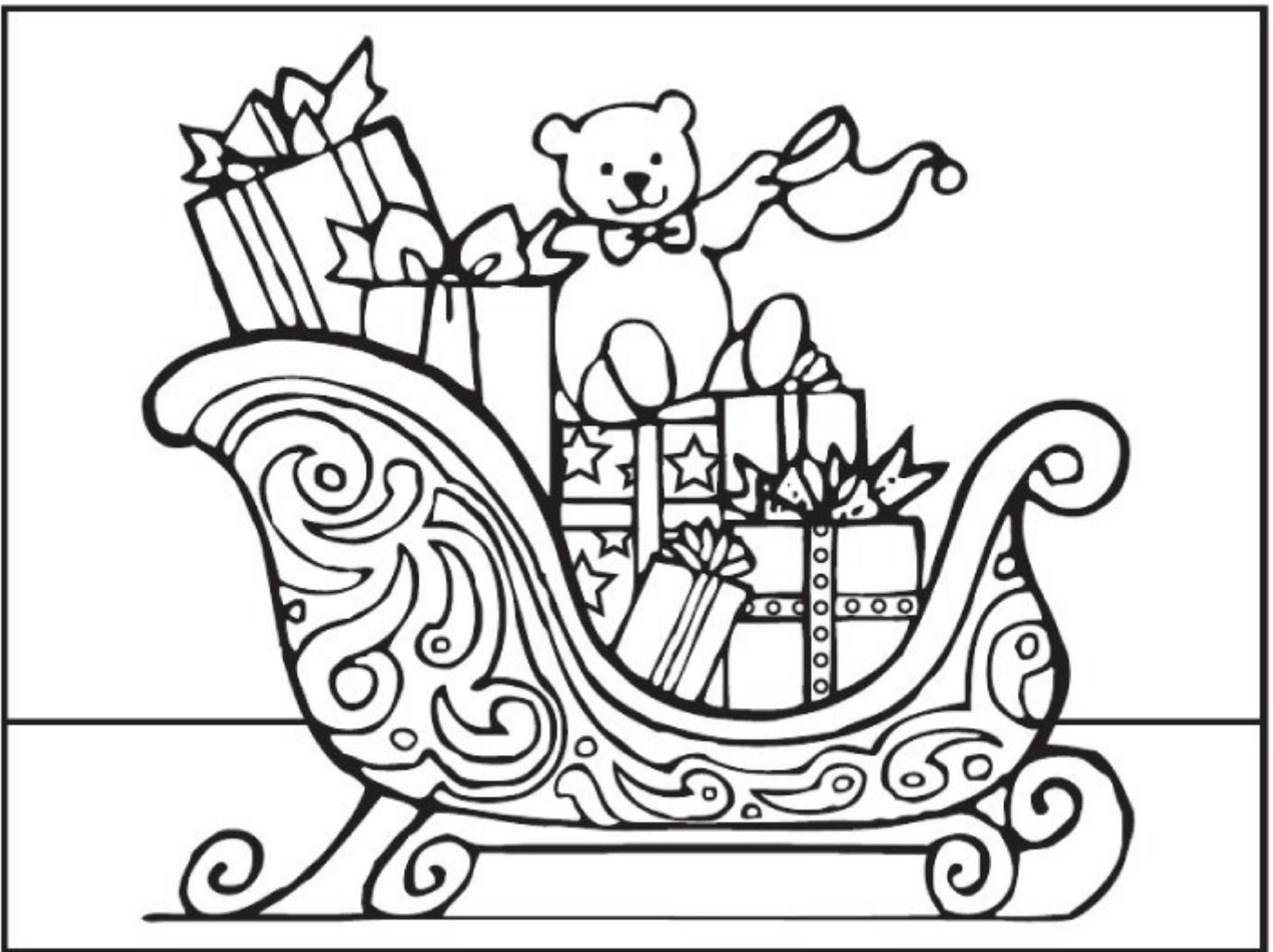
**BAR OPEN, BYO FOOD (CUTLERY & PLATES PROVIDED)**

**TICKETS £5.00 PER ADULT / CHILDREN FREE**

**TABLES UP TO SIX**

**PLEASE EMAIL US FOR TICKETS:**

**SWINDONVILLAGEHALL@GMAIL.COM**



## ANSWERS

1. December
2. Dickens
3. Poinsettia
4. Virgin
5. Chimney
6. (The) Cranberries
7. Donkey
8. Bethlehem
9. Red

The initials above are those of Father Christmas' reindeer!

Advertise your business in  
Village News

### **Monthly rates**

Whole page £36

Half page £18

Quarter page £9

Contact the Editors

Village News is delivered to  
900 homes in Swindon Village

## VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Footpaths	John Heathcott	527753
Scouts, Cubs, Beavers		<a href="mailto:info@1sv-scouts.co.uk">info@1sv-scouts.co.uk</a>
Rainbow Guider	Hannah Butler	07464 784155
Village Hall Chair	Ben Williams	07971 608177
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Jana Bridger	<a href="mailto:swindonvillagehall@gmail.com">swindonvillagehall@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.svhall.co.uk">www.svhall.co.uk</a> 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	Caroline Williams Sarah Martin	<a href="mailto:chairfosvps@gmail.com">chairfosvps@gmail.com</a>
Art & Crafts Club	Lynne	07515 461876
Swindon Village Society	Barry Simon	521723
Mary Godwin Under 5s	(Playgroup hours)	<a href="mailto:mgu5@hotmail.co.uk">mgu5@hotmail.co.uk</a> 07477894639
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 January 2022 (!)  
Please send contributions to the editors via  
Karren Parsons at 29 Dark Lane  
or e-mail [village-news@swindonparish.org.uk](mailto:village-news@swindonparish.org.uk)

## SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Cllr. Peter Allen	692933
	Cllr. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
	Cllr. James Cornish	07950 196709
	Cllr. Lisa Whitaker	07715 470842
	Cllr. Sharon Collicutt	07884 184423
	Cllr. Yolande Booyse	07969 103957
	Cllr. Natalie Blankley	07725 948935
	Cllr. Stuart Deakin	07973 387053
	Vacancy	
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435 parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. Flo Clucas	255844
	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	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'S 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
Churchwardens	Hugh Evans	241678
	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