

BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

August 2017

# The Newsletter



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 13<sup>th</sup> August Charity breakfast - Bremhill
- 28<sup>th</sup> August Foxham Inn Annual Charity BBQ from 12:00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept Bremhill Show
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Foxham Horse Show
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Baroque Concert - Bremhill
- 25<sup>th</sup> Oct Village Hall AGM - Bremhill

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## TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL

### "Coffee & Cake"

'Coffee & Cake' in the Hall is proving a very popular meeting place for a chat each Friday morning, 10 am -11.30 am. All very welcome.



**Friday evening Bar open from 8pm:** Another popular time to drop in for a chat and a drink, and sometimes 'nibbles' too! All are very welcome.

Future events:

**Tytherton Village Hall AGM** will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 8 pm in the hall. All very welcome.

**The Big Breakfast:** A Sunday in November, date to be confirmed.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Tytherton Christmas Fair. If you are interested in having a stand, and for further details, please contact Viv (07891 340311) or Brenda (01249 740367)

For information, bookings and event enquiries call **07719 176753**  
or email [events@tythertonhall.co.uk](mailto:events@tythertonhall.co.uk)

**Look on the Tytherton Hall Facebook page for news and photos of recent events**

## EDITORIAL

We've just come back from Italy. One of the interesting things that struck me while abroad on holiday was that the need to communicate with the range of nationalities in hotels, attractions, cafés and restaurants has led to English becoming a type of 'lingua franca'. This, I must admit, I find a shame. I have spent the greater part of my professional and personal life closely involved with languages. Through speaking languages, even in some countries fairly basically, I have experienced so many positive aspects and friendliness and I champion the idea of learning foreign languages - it also, apparently, helps to keep the brain cells alive!

You may know John Le Carré as a writer of spy novels but may not be aware that he was also a teacher of German. He said very recently that learning a foreign language was an act of love, a reaching out of the hand of friendship. I absolutely agree with him and I do hope most strongly that the onset of Brexit will not affect a positive view here of other nationalities, especially across the Channel, since our futures are inevitably intertwined.

We are now also in the middle of the cricket season. The men's test team is a bit up-and-down, while the women are on a high! Perhaps that aspect of the British character of unflappability and our ability to fly into a great calm at times of stress, led to us inventing cricket. Or is it really just an excuse for sitting in the sun with a beer? George Bernard Shaw once said "The English are not a very spiritual people, so they invented cricket to give them some idea of eternity." Few people across the Channel can understand how a game can last for up to five days and then still end in a draw! But then, boules or cricket? I'd still go for cricket, even if Bath has a major boules competition and foreigners do view us at times with affectionate amusement!

So, before you get out your 'Learning to Speak ..... in Three Weeks' book, enjoy reading this month's issue of the Newsletter. Many thanks to all the contributors who help to make our publication both interesting and fun.

*Ewen Bird*

## **SPECIAL NOTICES**

### **THANK YOU**

Nancy, Mark and Carole wish to thank everyone who came to the Memorial Service to celebrate Derek's life and anyone who helped in any way to make the day a success.

Once again, thank you.

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### **ADVANCE NOTICE:**

#### **Rural Arts in Foxham**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> November there will be a performance of "The Girl that fell in love with the moon" in Foxham Reading Room. More details soon.

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### **JUST ONE FINAL NOTE**

#### **From Rev Ann**

As Dave and I prepare to leave in the next few days, we just want to thank those who came to our farewell service at Christ Church, Derry Hill and those who contributed to the marvellous buffet afterwards and, of course, for all the tremendous gifts and kind words sent our way. We are quite overwhelmed with the number attending the service and all the effort that went into the buffet. The gifts were sensitive and meaningful. Thank you so much. We will remember our farewell service with great affection.

We pray for God's blessings upon you in all that you do in the weeks, months and years ahead.

With love, Ann and Dave

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### **BRIDGE AFTERNOON**

#### **Advance notice**

A bridge afternoon, including a gorgeous tea, will be held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> November in the Foxham Reading Room, from 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm. Cost: £8 per person, all profits going to St John the Baptist Church, Foxham. For further information contact Val Minty (740219) or Jenny Wilton (740279).

## **RURAL ARTS TOURING**

### **"Opera Dudes"**

Bremhill Village Hall - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at 7.30 pm.

The essence of an Opera Dude show is 'Expect the Unexpected!' A glorious combination of top quality singing and music-making sit alongside slapstick comedy, ridiculous impressions and audience participation.

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### **BOW TIES AND BELLES - A SUMMER SOIREE**

On 24<sup>th</sup> June an extraordinarily well-attired group assembled in a marquee on the village green in East Tytherton for the Bow Ties and Belles evening in Tytherton Village Hall. The variety of bow ties was remarkable with variations from very staid black ties to paw prints, stripes and even a home-produced version. What can I say about the belles that accompanied the gentlemen? Such an array of beautifully dressed ladies has not been seen in this part of Wiltshire for many a year!

The diners were provided with a range of delicious canapes and Prosecco in the marquee and entertained by three students from Abbeyfield School playing a range of light music. Such talent at such a young age! Luckily the weather was fair and the conversation animated before we moved into the hall for dinner. The hall had been transformed with tables covered in damask cloths and candles to provide illumination. The new chairs fitted perfectly into such elegant surroundings with six or eight diners at each table which were beautifully decorated with flowers and napkins.

There followed a sumptuous dinner with a variety of high quality cold meats and salads followed by a selection of diet-inducing desserts. All the food had been prepared by a band of talented chefs from the committee and others from the area. Following the meal there was a superb raffle with some wonderful prizes. And the wine and conversation flowed and flowed until the party broke up late into the evening.

It was an excellent event and the village hall committee are very grateful to everyone who helped including the chefs, the tent erection team and those who donated raffle prizes. It was a financial success too as we made over £400 profit to swell the village hall coffers. Perhaps we'll do it again next year?

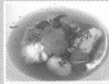


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## **GARDEN NOTES FOR AUGUST**

Prune summer flowering shrubs, Wisteria and climbing and rambling roses that do not repeat flower. Dead-head flowering plants such as Roses, Dahlias and Penstemons to prolong the display. Collect seed from plants ready to sow next year and take pink and carnation cuttings, or propagate by layering. Tubs will need regular watering as they do not get very wet even if it rains. Feed plants in containers and possibly some in borders. Towards the end of August, sow hardy annuals direct into the beds to overwinter and flower next year.

Plant out rooted Strawberry runners. Check tomato and potato plants for blight and if found, dispose of plants appropriately. Beware of carrot root fly - a bit of fleece over the plants will help to keep the fly off. Harvest vegetables regularly to enjoy at their best. This is the last chance to sow quick maturing salad crops. Enjoy the fruits of your labours. Wildlife still requires water and food! Look out for Mrs Tiggywinkle and her young. They will be around soon.

*The Gardening Guru*

## **RIDE AND STRIDE**

This year the annual Ride and Stride effort will take place on Sept 9<sup>th</sup>. The aim is to raise money for individual churches. Participants are asked to visit as many churches as they can on the day and get sponsorship for the number they visit. Half the sponsorship money goes to Salisbury and the other half goes to the participant's church. In the past this has resulted in our church receiving money raised by congregation members who have been brave enough to do the ride on bicycles. There is a list of churches open for the day, available to those taking part, some of which have refreshments and toilet facilities available.

I have sponsorship forms so if anyone in the parish feels they would like to have a go, then please contact me. Those wishing to take part should either walk or ride on horse or bicycle, so it is worth planning out a route first to find the best way to see as many churches as possible. Remember cycling is one of the good and healthy forms of exercise so, as well as raising money, it will do your health good as well! Our church of St. John the Baptist is there for all in the village to use and enjoy but to keep it going we do need money. Any sum raised will be put to very good use.

*Elizabeth Hannah, Church Warden. Tel. 740619.*

# *The Foxham Inn*

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## **What's on in 2017**

*Fish and Wine Dinner, Vegetarian and Vegan Dinner,  
FIGS Foxham Inn Golf Society, Darts, Charity BBQ*

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*Facebook - [the Foxham Inn](https://www.facebook.com/thefoxhaminn)*

## **Foxham Inn News - FIGS Event**

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The Next FIGS event will be on August 14<sup>th</sup> at Woodlands Golf Course, meeting at 9.30 for Coffee and Bacon Butties; Cost £20 payable to the editor by 6<sup>th</sup> August.

We are hosting a Charity BBQ on August Bank Holiday Monday 28<sup>th</sup> in memory of a local lady from Foxham. Ann Hay passed away from Alzheimers earlier this year and all the money raised will be going to Alzheimers research.

The BBQ is from Noon until the food runs out and there will also be a Bouncy Castle/assault course for the children.



## BREM HILL PLANT STALL



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## CHRISTIAN MALFORD & FOXHAM WI

A friend of a WI member opened her vast gardens in Kingston St Michael to our WI group and we had the chance to wander on three consecutive Fridays. Those who didn't make it missed a real treat, but you will get a second chance later in the year. Wow...you all 'came up trumps' with delicious cakes at the Christian Malford Fete in July and many managed to help to serve teas, make cakes, 'setup' and 'clear away'. The committee very much appreciated it. Thank you.

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Pink Box Boutique on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August. This meeting will feature an inspiring lady who started small and has achieved a dream now, with a shop in the Swindon outlet centre. Kerry Gover will be entertaining us with how and why she started up her Pink Box and then she experienced the blood, sweat and tears of opening their 'Barn' followed by two shops. WI Auction at Market Lavington on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August at Lavington School starts at 2.00 pm. Val's Walk will be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August at 10.00. Contact Val 01249 740219.

New members are always welcome and information is outside the Christian Malford village shop and on the village website. Contact Tina: 01249 720956



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### **TYTHERTON W.I.**

We take a break for August, meeting again in  
September when Dan Allen returns to give us a talk  
entitled "What Did You Do in the War, Granny?"

Before this meeting our WI has its usual Cakes and  
Produce Stall at Foxham Horse show on Saturday  
16<sup>th</sup> September.

Our meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, except August, at  
7.30 pm in Tytherton Village Hall. If you would like to come for a 'taster' evening  
you are very welcome - we are a very friendly bunch, with members from several  
of the local villages as well as Chippenham.

Come along or for further information ring our Secretary Rose on 07514 538551

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

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## **BROADBAND IN BREMHILL PARISH**

Gigabit broadband is coming to Bremhill Parish. Wiltshire Council have signed a contract with Gigaclear to provide Full Fibre in Bremhill Parish. You can go to <https://www.gigaclear.com/wiltshireonline> and check the status for your property. The building of their network will take place at some time between late 2017 and the end of 2019 and the roll-out schedule is expected to be published on the link just given by the end of July.

Gigaclear is a company targeting building Full Fibre networks in rural locations like ours. The company is located near Oxford and is growing rapidly, including a very large contract for parts of Devon and Somerset. Gigaclear provide Full Fibre connections, so your distance and location is not important. The connection speed you pay for is the speed you will get and, for most people, a 50Mb or 100Mb will be all they need, but if you really want the full 1000Mb speed, that is available too. This should be seen as a positive improvement to this locality by a growing company which has a good track record with very few complaints that I could find.

*Scott Walsh*  
[scottwalsh72@googlemail.com](mailto:scottwalsh72@googlemail.com) 01249 740462



**Fed up with your Broadband speed?**

**Green Grass Broadband Ltd. has been providing superfast broadband in Spirithill since March. Last month we installed more equipment and we are now beaming 30-45Mb/s speeds into Charlcutt and Foxham.**

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# Community Drinks

*At the Foxham Reading Room  
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## **ANNUAL VILLAGE SKITTLES**

Foxham Reading Room / Village Hall  
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## **CHARITY BREAKFAST**

### **Save the date**

This year we will again be hosting our charity breakfast in aid of Meningitis Research Foundation, at The Long Barn, Bremhill SN11 9LA on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017, between 9.30 am and 11.00 am.

On the menu will be bacon and sausage baps, tea, coffee and/or orange juice and would ask that in return, you make a donation to the charity.

For catering purposes, please could you let us know if you are able to join us by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2107 email - carolinesdutton@gmail.com or tel 07734887065.

Thank you for all your support in the past and we look forward to seeing you in August.

*Richard and Caroline Dutton*

## BREMHILL SHOW

### PIZZA with a homemade base - male competitors only

*Our occasional 'elderly' correspondent from Luddite Towers residential home clearly wishes to enter a section of the village show, but has expressed some reservations which may also have bothered other males intending to enter. (Ed)*

As a male I feel that all of us blokes must carefully consider all of the options open to us if we are really to show these ladies we can do it. This year the men's schedule just states, a Pizza with a homemade base. When I ask sensible male-like questions such as does the base need to be made with wheat flour or almond flour, I receive very strange and sad looks but no guidance.

What's wrong, I ask, with a vegetable base and should I marinate the topping or should I put a marinade on the topping? Can the topping be sweet? Will the judges accept a Bramble topping with sterilised cream or will they accept plain but boring Blackberries on ginger crumb? As I plea for better guidance, we really must stick together, chaps, on this one. We need to make just one Pizza, but properly. Or am I mixing pizzas up with those green BT boxes at the side of the road? And will they serve it in Bremhill Tower restaurant? See you at the show.

*Anon*



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## **JOHN L.HARRIS- DIP AD, MSIA**

Artist, Spirthill

When I paint an image of the land or the sea I am actually creating an experience of light and therein lies a paradox...light is invisible, but makes things visible. In the natural world, light creates the colour. In the making of a painting, colour creates the light. Through the seasons, natural daylight is infinitely changing and has an impact on the distance we see, the length and intensity of shadows that model the landscape and the amount of reflective light that gives an appearance of movement and sparkle in the ocean. This in turn denotes the range of colours, hues and tones that are observed to form an opinion on how atmospheric the scene is, and finally, whether you emotionally connect with it.

Natural light is a beacon for the human spirit!

Here lies the challenge for me as an artist who paints landscapes and seascapes. I explore this emotional potential in a moment in time that connects through the natural world of weather moods and light plays on the land and water. I have a fascination with the seasons and how they affect the land and with the sea, wind and tides.

My work is created predominately in watercolour or acrylics which have techniques very different to each other when creating the illusion of light in my paintings.



Watercolour requires a more planned approach as it is the luminosity of the white paper that is left unpainted to shine through and create highlights. I use acrylics in the same manner as opaque oil paint which means I build up the layers of colours from dark to light finally putting in the lightest colours or whites with thick impasto paint, a process which is virtually the reverse of watercolour. I get emotionally charged when I see an inky sky with a bright patch of light illuminating a field, the sea, or a tree contrasting against a dark horizon. I love the whole craft of the painting process from observation, to sketching, to the final statement.

I trained as a graphic designer and art director which involved artificial light effects in photography, TV filming and the direction of award ceremonies including The Booker Prize for Excellence. However, I have always painted and it is the continual connection to natural light that has spiritual resonance for me and keeps me painting - the way sunlight through the leaves on trees dapples the ground with patterned light, how it reflects in patches of light in a brook or the open sea and its power to create a mood and atmosphere in a dramatic sky that simply takes your breath away.

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## **BREMHILL HOME PRODUCE AND GARDEN SHOW**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017**

Bremhill show is nearly here, for the schedule, notes, entry form and recipes (for the cookery classes) can be found at [www.bremhill.com/show](http://www.bremhill.com/show). Please download what you need and give them to anyone who may not be able to download their own. Paper copies are also in the hall porch in a folder.

Take your entry form to June Hughes at 17a Bremhill, behind the area where plants are for sale in the centre of the village. Any problems call 01249 661369.

### **Derek's Cup**

Big announcement, hot off the press. Nancy Kyte is going to give a new cup to Bremhill village show in memory of her husband Derek, who recently passed away. Derek was an amazing gardener who was especially good at growing vegetables. The quality and size of his onions were even praised at his memorial service! Find out about what this cup will be awarded for, and who will be the first winner when you come along to the Show.

The school holidays start at the end of the month and it is great when children get involved by entering the show. They do not need to enter just the children's classes, they can enter any class. Last year we had some brilliant art work and also show-stopping cakes.

### **Time of events during the day**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 8 am to 10 am  | Bring entries to the hall. Make sure you have enough time (especially if you have any late entries).  |
| 10.00 am       | Doors are closed and judging takes place.   |
| 2.30 pm        | Doors open to view the entries. Tea, coffee and cakes. Afternoon activities.  |
| 4 pm - 4.30 pm | An announcement will be made to collect any entries to the show that entrants want to keep.   |
| Appr. 4.30 pm  | Presentation of cups and prizes.  |
| Appr. 5.00 pm  | Auction of vegetables , fruit, jams cakes etc. which were entered into the show. (Some great prize-winning items). Proceeds will go to Bremhill Village Hall. |



## SWISS ROLL RECIPE

(For Bremhill Produce Show maybe?)

This recipe has been taken from my school exercise book - I wrote it for my homework in about 1966! It is very detailed, and makes quite amusing reading. You will have to change the weights and oven temperature into metric if you wish!

- 2 eggs
- 2 oz self-raising flour
- 3 oz caster sugar
- If chocolate flavoured, replace  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce flour with cocoa

Put the oven on at Mark 6 (425F). Grease a Swiss roll tin and put in greaseproof paper, slit the paper for about 1 inch in the corners, so that the Swiss roll will have square corners. Brush the greaseproof paper - sides, corners and bottom - with lard or cooking fat (for best results).

Break the eggs into a bowl and whisk slightly. Add the sugar (caster sugar is used because it is finer than granulated, so it mixes better). Whisk, standing the bowl over a saucepan of hot water - it introduces air and so makes the sponge light. Carry on mixing until it goes thick and paler in colour (fresh eggs are best because they whisk well because they have a lot of egg white). Take the hot water away and whisk until cool. The whisking is important because it makes the sponge light. Sift the flour and fold it in a little at a time with a metal spoon (do this gently so as not to let too much air out). If making chocolate Swiss roll, the flour and the cocoa should be sifted together several times previously to mix them and get rid of any streaks. When the flour has been folded in, the mixture should be a pourable consistency. Pour it into the tin, tilt the tin to let the mixture spread evenly. Put in the oven to cook for about 8 minutes. If it is cooked for too long, it goes crisp and won't roll properly. Have a piece of greaseproof paper ready, sprinkled with caster sugar, so the Swiss roll won't stick. If filling with jam and buttercream, spread the jam on now, then roll it up with another piece of greaseproof paper on the inside. To help start rolling the Swiss roll (which should be pliable) make a slight indentation about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from the end. Roll from there. Make the butter icing and when quite cool, unroll the Swiss roll and spread it on.

*Rosie*

## **BREMHILL SHOW - PAPIER MACHÉ ITEM**

This can be made around a balloon of any shape. Or a plastic bowl can be used. Cover the bowl with cling film before putting on the papier maché.

Materials:

- Wallpaper paste and /or PVA white glue;
- Old ice cream tub or similar for the paste/glue mixture;
- Newspaper (or other absorbent paper) torn into squares approx. 5x5cm;
- Balloon or plastic bowl or plastic container from the supermarket which had fruit or vegetables sold in it or other similar object;
- Paint brush and paint.

Make up the wallpaper paste as instructed on the packet. It should be the consistency of double cream! Add one part of PVA glue to 6 parts of wallpaper paste. It should look cloudy; OR Just use PVA glue. 2 parts of glue to one part of water. Use the old ice-cream tub for the paste /glue. Then:

- Soak the squares of newspaper in the paste/glue;
- Put the balloon or bowl on a bucket so it is off the surface;
- Cover the object that you are using with the paste/glue squares;
- Smooth the paper. This bit is gloriously messy.
- Leave to dry for about a day and then put on another layer. In total you need at least three layers, maybe more.
- Leave to dry completely.
- Paint the paper and trim the edges.

Use your imagination and make it into some sort of arty item or you could go to Google and search for further ideas and instructions.

## **TALLEST WEED - PLEASE NOTE**

Some 'weed' plants are poisonous, others can cause rashes or blisters on the skin such as Giant Hog Weed (looks like large cow parsley). So when the children go out to look for a tall weed they should have an adult with them. Although the children will be selecting their weed adults will need to make sure they avoid dangerous plants - better to avoid plants you don't recognise.

## **NATURE MATTERS**

Press reports have highlighted the plight of bees, particularly bumble bees which have declined in numbers by 60% since 1970, with some species becoming extinct. Bees are critical for our well-being because of their importance in the pollination of fruit and crops, and therefore I give some suggestions of things people can do to encourage bees into their garden. This mainly involves providing the bees with food (nectar) and nesting sites.

To maximise food for bees, provide plants that flower at different times of the year providing nectar from mid-March to late-September. Grow good-sized patches of each plant as groups of flowers are a better attractant than individual plants. Try to incorporate traditional native wildflowers and cottage garden flowers. Trees and shrubs such as willow, cherry and Prunus species are excellent as they provide lots of early flowers, whilst buddleia is also great for insects including bees. Flowers that sway on longer stems attract a greater variety of pollinators than static blooms. Plants such as snapdragon, foxglove, bell-flower, aubretia, hollyhock and mullein are all good for bees, and lavender seems to be the perfect bee attractant. Herbs also provide an excellent food source for bees, so grow herbs such as fennel, chive, lemon balm, mint, rosemary, and thyme.

If you have a bit of land to spare you could leave an area of grass/lawn un-mown to provide flowers, especially clover, during the summer. You could maintain an area of permanently taller grass alongside a hedge where there is a good chance that voles/mice may nest as old holes provide the perfect sites for bees to nest in. You can provide starter nests by putting a tennis ball-size lump of dry moss (or any natural plant fibre) at edge of a hedge or under flower pots which have been propped up to allow bees to get in. You can buy bee nesting boxes which you can hang up on fences. Alternatively you could make your own by taking an old piece of timber and drilling lots of holes (5-8mm diameter), angled slightly upwards to prevent water from collecting in them, and then dig the post into the ground or attach it to a fence post in a sunny position. The more potential nest sites the better the chance that bees will use them.

Bee nesting boxes can be purchased from many websites (just put bee nest box into Google) or try websites such as RSPB or NHBS.

*Stephen Dangerfield, Ecologist  
(sfdangerfield@btinternet.com)*

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## **MY 'MOTHER IN LAW'**

I first met my Mother-in-Law in about 2007. She is about 80 years old, 4 foot tall and skinny as a rake. She lived in a mud hut on the side of the Habarana/ Polonnaruwa Road, North Eastern Sri Lanka.

Her husband was killed by an elephant and more recently she lost her son in a tragic road accident outside her house. We witnessed the funeral. When we met her she was trying to earn a few rupees by selling sticks collected in the jungle for cooking firewood. She is very poor and lives alone. Over the years we have tried to help her. We have built a tiny shop and stocked it with dried fish, some chickens, clothing and food packs and rebuilt her house. She had poor eyesight so we paid for two cataract operations and medicine. She suffers from asthma and about one year ago she had a very severe attack. We thought we were going to lose her but we put her in a tuc-tuc and got her to hospital in time.

She is now sponsored by us and receives an allowance towards her basic needs. I am very fond of my Mother in law and our twice-a-year meeting is a pleasure. We have a cuddle and I take her gifts of rice etc. into her hut. The Sri Lankans found this amusing and gave her the title 'Mother in Law'.

*Colin and Rosemarie Bray. [www.oialchrrity.org](http://www.oialchrrity.org)*



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## THE SKY AT NIGHT - JUNE 2017

The month of August has so many celestial treats I don't know where to start!

On the 7<sup>th</sup> August the moon will be located on the opposite side of the earth to the sun, and it's fully illuminated face will put on a dazzling full moon, also known as the full grain moon. Towards the end of the month we will have a new moon on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of August we will witness what is without doubt the best meteor shower of the year. At its peak, The Perseids Meteor shower can produce up to 60 meteors an hour. The best way to catch one of these beauties blazing across the sky is to find a dark location just after midnight, let your eyes adjust and look towards the North. These meteors radiate from the constellation Perseus, but can be spotted anywhere in the night sky.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> August a 'once in a life time' event occurs known as a total solar eclipse. Unfortunately this rare phenomenon can't be seen from our villages, but I am sure the news will be full of images of the moon completely blocking out the sun. When this happens the Sun's beautiful outer atmosphere, known as the Corona, will appear as a blazing ring in the sky.

Another celestial phenomenon which can be seen by us is known as 'noctilucent' clouds. Now these are not any ordinary clouds, but occur in a layer of the Earth's atmosphere known as the mesosphere. These are icy clouds that are so high up they are still illuminated by the sun long after it has set. Noctilucent means 'night shining' and they put on a display similar to the Northern Lights. The best time to catch one of these shining clouds is to look low down and close to the northwest horizon 90-120 minutes after sunset and a similar time before sunrise. They can take many different forms but will generally appear as electric blue or bright white waves across the sky, and the month of August is the best time to view this night-time light show.

*Angela Protheroe*



## **MARATHON RUNNING IN FOXHAM**

My name is Sally Dickens and I have lived in West End, Foxham since 2008 with my family. In October I am running the Bournemouth Marathon to raise funds for Julia's House, a charity in Wiltshire and Dorset which provides support and care for terminally ill children and their families. They offer care and provide practical and emotional support for families caring for a child with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

There are currently two hospices in Poole, Dorset and a new one which has recently opened in Devizes, Wiltshire. Julia's House also provides respite care within the home for families with children too ill to travel, offers days out to families who need additional support, fundraising events and bereavement counselling. You can find out more about the charity on this link :  
<https://www.juliashouse.org>

I ran the Bath Half-marathon ten years ago and this year started running again. I always wanted to challenge myself, but never quite had the courage to enter! However, two months ago I decided to enter the Chippenham Half and a week or so later I watched 'Mind Over Marathon', a BBC TV programme where 10 people with mental health problems were encouraged and supported to run the London Marathon for the charity Heads Together. Many of them had never run before and to watch their struggles, with not only the gruelling training programme but their mental illnesses to contend with, was truly inspiring. As I watched the programme I thought "Well if they can do it, why can't I?" as I am luckily a healthy individual with no related health issues. Therefore I have signed up and gained a place at Bournemouth on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, advertised as "fast, flat and good for first time runners...."

I need to raise a minimum of £500 for the charity and therefore I will also be running a Charity Auction on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September in Foxham Reading Rooms. Tickets will be £5 per head with a bread and cheese supper, a pay bar, a raffle and of course the all important Auction too. I already have received several kind donations including a four-ball at The Manor at Castle Combe, a meal for four prepared for you and served to you in your home, a manicure, a facial or massage, vouchers for karting, a meal and many more prizes all of which will hopefully entice attendees to bid!

So please save the date and if you have a business where you may be able to donate a prize, or a hobby where you could donate your time, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Also If you would like to attend the night, please do email me on [sally.dickens1@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.dickens1@btinternet.com) or 01249 740867. I look forward to hearing from you and, with your help, I can raise valuable funds for a worthwhile charity.



**AUCTION**



**CHARITY AUCTION**

**IN AID OF JULIA'S HOUSE**

**AUCTION**



Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017  
Foxham Reading Rooms From 7pm

**AUCTION, RAFFLE AND BREAD & CHEESE SUPPER**

Pay bar (please no BYO)

£5 per head - bring your friends!

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WILTSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE, RIDING FOR THE DISABLED, HOUNDS FOR HEROS, JULIAS HOUSE, DOROTHY HOUSE & RABI

## A Date For Your Diary

**28th August**



**ANNUAL CHARITY BBQ**

**The Foxham Inn**

**Bank Holiday Monday**

**From 12 noon**

In addition to the BBQ  
there will be a selection of delightful DESSERTS.

There will also be a RAFFLE  
and, for the "children" a BOUNCY CASTLE.

All are welcome.

This year the proceeds of the day will go to  
Alzheimer's Research  
in memory of Ann Hay of West End, Foxham.

## **BREMHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

July 2017

### **Rights of Way**

The Wiltshire Highways Authority Northern Rights of Way Officer, Stephen Leonard, gave an excellent presentation followed by a very useful discussion on the division of responsibility regarding rights of way in the Parish between his department, landowners and the Parish Council.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

There will be a further 14 days public consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan so that it can be commented on in the light of the adoption of the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan and some policy modifications made prior to it being submitted to the Independent Examiner.

### **Community Emergency Plan**

The Community Emergency Plan is being revised to ensure the Parish is able to provide the best possible support to our residents and to the emergency services in the event of an emergency situation arising.

### **Donations**

The Citizens Advice Bureau provides essential support to many people at various times in their lives. The Parish Council will make a donation of £50 as it has done in previous years.

### **Highways**

The Foxham West End Metrocount survey was carried out between 02/05/2017 and 12/05/2017. A total of 6,042 vehicles were checked. The average speed was 30.2mph. Consequently the Road Safety Department at Wiltshire Council will not sanction a Speedwatch initiative. An 18 ton weight limit had been placed on the road from Draycott's Straight to Lyneham which will undoubtedly cause problems for local businesses and farmers. It is anticipated that many more HGVs will be using Parish roads as a consequence.

### **Next Meeting**

This will be on 4<sup>th</sup> September at Bremhill Village Hall. It is hoped the Neighbourhood Policing Team will give a presentation followed by discussion.

*Elsbeth Norman - Clerk*

## **SMALL THOUGHTS OF A LARGE CLERGYMAN**

As a small boy I was given to complaining a lot - so I've been told! And my beloved grandmother noticed! "Count your blessings!" she would say. This from a lady who had never been in receipt of many of the "blessings" that we take for granted today. A countrywoman, wife of an agricultural worker, her life was pretty hard, grandfather's wages didn't stretch too much in the way of luxuries. But grandmother worked hard, kept chickens and ducks, and, occasionally, even a pig, to be sold to the local factory of C&T Harris in Calne. Her garden, too, produced vegetables that would win prizes in any produce show. So, thanks to Gran's efforts and in spite of little in the way of income, there was always food on the table. And Gran never failed to "count her blessings". It was a lesson that I learned from this much-loved lady - but nevertheless I suppose that it's true to say that we all enjoy a good moan.

People complain about the condition of society - and how much better things used to be. Complain that the seasons of the year are not as settled as they used to be and how everything seems to be a muddle. "Change and decay in all around I see" seems to be on so many lips. We forget to be grateful for the food on our tables and the roof over our heads. However, is life really that bad? We do tend to take the good things for granted. Do we remember to look up at the night sky and wonder at the marvel of the moon and stars? All too often we forget to be amazed at the beauty of flowers and trees and in the song of the birds. There is so much to be thankful for. And things that really are wrong, in our lives and in the world as it is today, perhaps we could try to make better if we all tried hard to improve them? God has given us so much and has put so much at our disposal, including the free will to change things. It's never too late to learn and try to do better.

God is very patient and never gives up on us. So, whenever we feel the urge to complain coming on, why not remember to look up and around and give thanks for the many things we take for granted. We live in a wonderful world but often we are blind to what's around us. So - "Count your blessings, one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done !"

*God Bless You.  
Jim Scott*



## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

	Service	Sidesmen	Readers
Sunday 6 Aug Transfiguration White	8 Holy Communion 6 Evensong	Prisca W-S Tamsin Castle William Bailey Mark Kite	2 Peter 1: 16-19 William Wyldbore-Smith Daniel 7: 9-10,13-14 Judy Scott Luke 9: 28-36 June Hughes
Saturday 12 August	11 Marriage Lloyd Everson to Florence Millington		
Sunday 13 Aug Trinity 9 Green	11 Holy Communion	Nicol Jordan Jane Jordan	Romans 10: 5-15 Michael Kitching
Sunday 20 Aug Trinity 10 Green	6 Evensong	Mervyn Wells Beryl Wells	Genesis 45: 1-15 Elizabeth Parlett Matthew 15: 21-28 Sue Tumber
Sunday 27 Aug Trinity 11 Green	9.30 Family	Arnold & Gwen Woods	Matthew 16: 13-20 Mark Kite
Sunday 3 Sept Trinity 12 Green	8 Holy Communion 6 Evensong	David Stevens William W-S June Hughes Sue Tumber	Romans 12: 9-end Philippa Stevens Exodus 3: 1-15 Marilyn Adcock Matthew 16: 21-end William Bailey

## ST MARTIN'S NOTICES

The work on improving the ventilation of the church is being carried out in August. The north part of the roof is being repaired very soon! The Church Wardens will be looking at a new sign and notice board for the church.

**Cleaning Rota.** The Church Cleaning and Flower Rotas are in the church. If you can find an hour or two to help clean the Church or polish the Brass, please put your name down as a volunteer. It will be much appreciated.

**Afternoon tea china** for hire. Very reasonable rates. Contact Philippa on 815337. If you have any items of local Church news for the next edition of the Newsletter, please send to [editor@bremhill.com](mailto:editor@bremhill.com) by 13<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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## **MORAVIAN CHURCH, EAST TYTHERTON**

Morning worship is every Sunday at 10.30 am with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month. All welcome

---

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Team Rector: Rev Bob Kenway:812340

[frbob@parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk](mailto:frbob@parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk)

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH. FOXHAM

Sunday 6 Aug Trans. of our Lord	9.30 am Holy Communion	M. Kellond 2 Peter 1: 16-19
Sunday 13 Aug Trinity 9	9.30 am Family Service	R. Pegler Matthew 14: 22-33
Sunday 20 Aug Trinity 10	9.30 am Holy Communion	D. Scott Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32
Sunday 27 Aug Trinity 11	6 pm Evensong	D. Wilton Exodus 1: 8-2:10

Ride and Stride is approaching again. This year it will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> Sept. Start thinking about getting your selves fit for the ride. I have the sponsorship forms. If you are interested there will be more details in the next copy of the magazine.

*Elizabeth Hannah - 01249 740 619*

## ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, TYTHERTON LUCAS

Sunday 6 Aug	Morning Service	10 am	Margaret Gubbins
Sunday 13 Aug	Eucharist	8.30 am	Peter Tremelling
Sunday 20 Aug	Mattins	10 am	Derek Copeland
Sunday 27 Aug	Eucharist	8.30 am	Rod Key
Sunday 3 Sept	Morning Service	10 am	Margaret Gubbins

Here lies BENJAMIN TREMBLIN  
Aged 92 Years  
who died December 1 1822

**Epitaph on an Old Soldier**, written by W.L. Bowles and carved on a stone, placed on the outside of the Chancel of Bremhill Church.

Here lies Benjamin Tremblin - Aged ninety-two years  
who died December 1 1822

A poor Old Soldier shall not lie unknown  
Without a verse on this recording stone.  
Twas his, in youth o'er distant lands to stray  
Danger and death, companions of his way.  
Clos'd the lone evening of his pilgrimage.

Speak of the past with names of high renown,  
Or brave commanders long to dust gone down  
His look with instant animation glow'd,  
Tho' ninety winters on his head had snow'd.  
His country, whilst he liv'd, a boon supplied  
And Faith, her shield held o'er him when he died  
Think, Christian, that his spirit lives with God,  
And pluck the wild weeds from the lowly sod,  
Where, dust to dust, beneath the chancel's shade,  
Till the last trump, a brave man's bones are laid.

This is a transcription of the stone on the Church. There are slight differences from the original pencil notes recently sold at auction. Various contemporary newspapers reporting on the poem have also made slight alterations. The name of the old soldier according to a transcription of the burial register is Benjamin Trembling rather than Tremblin as inscribed, who was buried in the churchyard on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1822. If anybody can find the headstone, please contact the history group. A "boon" is an old fashioned word equivalent to a pension today.

*Some of the evidence in support of this article will be available to view on the [www.bremhill.com](http://www.bremhill.com) website under the history section. [history@bremhill.com](mailto:history@bremhill.com)*