



BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

August 2015

The Newsletter

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 - Road Safety
 - Final (?) Ramblings
 - Police News





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 9th Aug Charity Breakfast for Meningitis Research, Bremhill
- 5th Sept Village Show, Bremhill Hall
- 5th Sept Skittles - East Tytherton Hall
- 15th Sept Newsletter AGM, Tytherton Village Hall
- 19th Sept Foxham Horse and Dog Show
- 26th Sept MacMillan Coffee Morning - Bremhill
- 8th Oct Dracula - Bremhill
- 17th Oct Autumn Ball, Chippenham Town Hall
- 22nd Nov Tytherton Hall Breakfast



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EDITORIAL

I enjoy singing with Calne Choral, but always wished that I had been granted a really beautiful voice, the one instrument we all carry around with us. In my fantasies, I imagine myself strutting the boards at Covent Garden or La Scala, bowing deeply, hand on heart, acknowledging the applause of the adoring audience in recognition of the outstanding rendering of 'Nessun dorma'! Pavarotti had nothing on me! Then, of course, reality is not always like that and Covent Garden has not yet come knocking at my door!

Ah well ... but in truth, in the Choral Society I'm surrounded by many talented singers and although my abilities are limited, what I really enjoy is being part of a group of people who, through endeavour, do produce an end result of considerable quality. I realised the other day, following the successful summer concert, that what I enjoyed was the participation, irrespective of individual ability, and working together. This little magazine tries to emulate that - by a group of people working together to produce something that looks good and I hope we succeed. However, we do need help with a bit more participation. A really sterling job is done by one person in setting out the magazine so that it looks good, but even he needs the odd break now and then, and he's even allowed the odd holiday! We need someone with good computer skills who would be able to help by doing the lay-out occasionally. In addition, we may soon need a co-editor to help me every other month. You would be given a careful introduction to what is needed and plenty of support. If anyone within the Parish is interested in taking on either of these roles, we would be grateful if you could contact us at editor@bremhill.com or contact David Stevens or myself directly. Please read also the notice inside about the AGM on the 15th September.

I hope you have a good August. If you are going on holiday I hope you enjoy it and that we all have lots of sun. I'm going to spend some time singing with the grandchildren on the beach. At least, they think it's good fun, too!

Ewen

Newsletter Contact Details

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Ewen Bird 01249 821879 or editor@bremhill.com*





SPECIAL NOTICES

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CAKES TASTE BETTER WITH FRIENDS.



RURAL ARTS - DRACULA

Thursday 8th October 2015, Bremhill Village Hall

Dracula - "Be warned: this monstrous, disturbing (and completely batty) tale of dark deeds and the UnDead, will thrill and seduce you."

Be prepared to come suitably attired!

Doors and bar open: 7pm; Performance starts: 7.30pm

Tickets: Adults £7; Children £4.50

Tickets from: Rosie 01249 813642 or Marilyn 01249 661369

Or from The Pound 01249 701628 e mail box.office@poundarts.org.uk



BREMFFEST

30th August at the Dumb Post

Come to the Dumb Post Bremffest for this family event in aid of the Bobby Van Trust and Wiltshire Air Ambulance.





Bands playing will be Limited Edition, Strictly Dan, The Stableyard Jazz Band, The Blues Breakout, McMahon, Benji & Hibbz, Terry Franks and Nathan Jones & his All Stars Jazz Band.

Hog roast and BBQ starts at 12.00. Tickets: Adults £10, Children £5 - available at the Dumb Post bar or from terryfranks.com

Please note: this is a ticket only event



BREMHILL PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 5th September

I expect your plans are well underway for the show. The forms that you need to enter the show and the checklist for entering are being sent out by e mail. They will also be on the website nearer the date: www.bremhill.com/village-hall/village-show

There will be paper copies in the porch of the village hall. If you have problems getting either a schedule or entry form contact Marilyn 01249 661369 or Rosie 01249 813642.



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BREMHILL PARISH NEWSLETTER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM for the Bremhill Parish Newsletter will take place on Tuesday 15th September at 7.30. East Tytherton Village Hall
This is *your* Newsletter, so please take the opportunity to attend and let us hear your views.

Information needed!

Does anyone have information?

As part of an ongoing research project on those from the Parish who served in the First World War, information on any of the names above is being requested.

In addition, a handwritten paper name has been added to the bottom of the plaque in St. Martin's, but is illegible. Who might this be?



If you have any information, please contact editor@bremhill.com

Many thanks for any help.



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EAST TYTHERTON WI

Our June meeting was a visit to Sevington Victorian School. Many of us have had children or grandchildren tell us about their school visits there, dressed in 'Victorian' costume, but this year, thanks to a Lottery Grant it is open to visitors every Sunday afternoon until September, admission free. It was a fascinating visit to times past, and brought back some memories to those of us 'of a certain age' !!!



We also went to Sevington Church, now deconsecrated, but open to visitors most days. Built in the 19th century, its decoration is greatly influenced by the Pre-Raphaelites, and we were delighted by the evening sun shining through the beautiful, glowing colours of the West window.

We were also treated to a home-made tea in the schoolhouse parlour, and inspected the kitchen, with its cast-iron range. It was an evening we will long remember.



EAST TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL



Anyone in Foxham and Tytherton Lucas who enjoys playing skittles is invited to join those from East Tytherton for a friendly inter village skittles game on Saturday 5th September at 7.30 pm. Ploughman's Supper. Bar open. No entry fee, donations welcome



"Save the Date" - Saturday 17th October 2015

Following the success of our Spring Ball in April 2014, we are holding an Autumn Ball in The Town Hall, Chippenham. Tickets are £40 each which includes a welcome drink, three course meal, close up magic and dancing. We are raising money for a new village hall in Tytherton, so do please support us in this venture and have a great night.

Looking ahead - another of the popular 'Tytherton Hall Breakfasts' will take place on Sunday 22nd November from 9.00 am -11.00 am.

For Hall bookings and Event enquiries please contact Sheila Laurence on 07719 176753
Tytherton Village Hall is a registered charity, number 1154150





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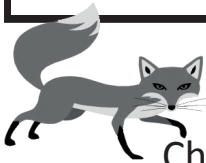
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Christmas Fayre stallholders wanted

We are holding a Christmas Fayre on 27th/28th November 10.30 - 3.30 and are looking for people who make and sell different arts and crafts, foods etc. We have 12 stalls each day free of charge. If you are interested, call or e-mail Neil on 01249 740665 or info@thefoxhaminn.co.uk

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POLICE REPORT

Rural Crime

During the daytime on 12th June, a rear UPVC window at a residential property at Derry Hill was forced and entry gained into the house. An untidy search was made within and although, fortunately, nothing was stolen, it was, none the less, distressing for the owners.

Two vehicles have been broken into at rural locations this month where bags and purses have been stolen after having been left inside vehicles. One victim was parked in Norley Lane and the other at Cherhill White Horse. On 14th June between 1530 and 1700 hrs offender/s stole two original Saddlestone tops from a property in Bremhill. A burglary occurred at Foxham overnight on 21st June, where a Honda 440 Foreman Quad has been stolen from a secured barn. At Charlcutt a resident had two front entrance gates, a rear wooden gate and a doormat stolen during June.

Reduce the chance of being a victim of crime by making life as difficult as possible for would be thieves, never leave anything of value inside your car.

Scams

People looking for cheap flights are being targeted by fraudsters. New websites are continuously being created with slight changes to the Company names with the intention to deceive the public. They offer tickets at bargain prices and usually request payment via bank transfer. These tickets do not then materialize but the funds are retained by the fraudsters.

Protect yourself. Where possible, use well-known company names. If you have never heard of a company, show some due diligence. Use the internet, type the name of the Company/site you are buying from and look for reviews of what other customers are saying about the company. Bad customer service feedback usually finds its way online quite quickly. Use companies that are ATOL or ABTA Registered. You can check: abta.com/go-travel/before-you-travel/findamember

*WPC 319 Sonya Stockhill
Community Beat Manager - Rural Calne NPT*



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Bremhill Village Hall Produce Show

Saturday 5th September 2015

Schedules are available on www.tinyurl.com/2015-produce-show, use the QR code below or collect a paper copy from the porch of the village hall.

So, during August keep watering your vegetable plot to get beans and tomatoes growing and if your children or teenagers are looking for an activity during the holidays, then see if they can make something for the show. They can even enter the “adult” classes. In this Newsletter there is a recipe for savoury biscuits and you could make some farthing biscuits for the show or use your own favourite recipe.

Entry forms and notes have been sent out by email. If you have not had one then they are available either in the porch of the village hall or by contacting me on 01249 661369 or email at marilyn.adcock@gmail.com

On the day of the show:

8 am to 10 am bring your entries to the village hall.

10 am the doors close for the judging.

2.30 pm Everyone is welcome to see the entries and the prize winners.

There will be tea and cakes. And a bar. You can “Guess the weight of the cake” or participate in other activities.

4.30 pm approx Prizegiving

5 pm approx The grand auction of entries. Always great fun.

See you at Bremhill village hall on 5th September 2015

Any surplus to the village hall, a registered charity (No: 305473)





A prestigious music award

Christopher Kent is an eminent musician, living in Tytherton Lucas and has recently been the recipient of an important music award. We interviewed Christopher for the Newsletter to find out more.

Christopher, you are retired now. Are you still actively involved with music?

After a decade of 'retirement' I am fortunate to find that the word is a euphemism! I continue to enjoy research, writing, performing, teaching and examining.

How did you hear that you had won this award? One afternoon in March, we returned from London, where I had given an organ recital at The Temple Church, to find a message telling me I had been awarded the Prize for the most outstanding music reference book of the past year. You could have knocked me over with a feather! The award was for the second edition of my book: 'Edward Elgar: A Thematic Catalogue and Guide to Research.'

How did your interest in music and Elgar start? At an early age I had learned to operate my parent's radiogram and play old 78's of music by Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Gluck, Rossini and....Elgar. The names of performers such as Kathleen Ferrier, Malcolm Sargent and Henry Wood became as familiar to me as the titles of the pieces they had recorded.

What made Elgar special for you? A decade later I was working for my 'O' level music and an independently researched essay was required; I seized the chance: Elgar would be my subject. A friend and mentor who had already encouraged me showed me a page from a dismembered Elgar manuscript: I was grasped by an irresistible surge of interest.

And later? How did this work continue? After 'A' levels, the Elgar performances by John Barbirolli and the Hallé orchestra were my magnet to Manchester University. Then to King's College London to do a Master's course. Far from at ease alongside seemingly confident public-school educated fellow students, I was astounded to be awarded the year prize, and a recommendation for a one-year appointment as an assistant Lecturer at St. Andrew's University. All very tempting, but this prize also meant that I stood a good chance of a D.E.S. grant to follow my Elgarian interests amongst his manuscripts in the British Museum. Elgar won. My quest: what lay behind the magic of that most sensitive of composers?

What is your aim for this book? I hope that my recent publication will help others to swell the tide of future Elgarian research and understanding..





HORSE RIDING AND ROAD SAFETY

Did you know there are over 400 horses that live in Bremhill and the surrounding villages? No, neither did I. Imagine if they all took to the roads at once? I am one of those riders. I have ridden around the lanes for over a decade; in recent years Mr Basil B is my trusted companion, half a tonne of much loved thoroughbred; we thoroughly enjoy our frequent riding together.

Over the years the use of the narrow, winding roads has increased dramatically. We are all out enjoying the country side; it is a wonderful sight to see families cycling, horse riders, walkers, runners and motorist's alike taking advantage of what we have to offer around the picturesque villages.

However, to the driver in a hurry, the cyclist, runner and especially the horse rider, are all just a nuisance. The motorists are desperate to get from A to B and anything on the road simply gets in the way. Meeting large farm machinery can cause extensive delay; a cyclist that won't get out of the way, or even worse, a horse and rider sticking out into the middle of the road take an age to overtake. For cyclists, the cars are a real drag and the horse riders really get in their way. Yet why should they slow down when whizzing down the hills on the same winding roads enjoying the sun shine and fresh air?



Horses are huge and unpredictable. 90% of the time riders are able to foresee how their mount will react to various obstacles crossed on a regular ride, but the sound of a speeding car in the distance can send chills down the rider's spine and set the horse on edge. There are two lives to consider and thoughts immediately turn to where we can both get out of the way! An unannounced cyclist whizzing behind a horse can cause a 'spook' (jumping without warning at speed) or a random leg kick as the horse feels fear at what he cannot see. Why should the rider bother to thank the traffic? They are all the same.

What a sorry state of affairs! In truth, it is rare to meet arrogance on the roads. The majority will slow, announce they are there, or have a





conversation with the rider they are passing. There is a minority in all groups who refuse to be polite, but really all it takes is manners and politeness for us all to stay safe, with a wave from a horse rider (or a smile if you can't let go!). I have had my fair share of close shaves; all horse riders ask is simply to pass slowly and wide, let us know you are there. The horse can't move out of the way as fast as a runner or a cyclist. A little consideration is all that is needed to make everyone's experience a safe and happy one.

Angela Jones-Moore



CHRISTIAN MALFORD AND FOXHAM WI

All the contributions of cakes towards our stall at the Christian Malford July Fete Day were very gratefully received. So many of you helped on the day, but there has to be special mentions to Janet and Jenny who were the main 'tea ladies' all day, and also Mary Davies who organised the whole fete. A fun filled day and hopefully a substantial amount of money was raised for the village.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Many thanks to Zoe Foreman who gave us an interesting talk at our July meeting about scenes behind the Olympics. Pam Towse is our exciting speaker on 20th August in Christian Malford Village Hall at 7.30 with 'Travels on a Camel'. She yearned to ride a camel, so she took a desert survival course in Jordan and then ditched package holidays to go desert camel trekking many times. Her top 7 items on her desert trekking kit list includes a hip flask of whiskey, chewing gum and a wooden wedge! You only take an item into the desert if it has more than one use! Life in the desert is dictated by the sun and she had to pit her wits against adversity. An evening not to miss!

New members are always welcome. All our information and club activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.

Contact Jenny: 01249 740950





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TAPAS NIGHT

Being newcomers into East Tytherton, it has been great to have such a busy, vibrant & welcoming local village hall, providing the opportunity to meet & get to know some of our new neighbours.

Tapas night was well attended, although one or two laggards, (and newcomers at that!) held up the start of proceedings. We were all welcomed with a glass of delicious home-made sangria, just to get the party started. Head barman Chris had foregone his normal jacket and tie attire, in favour of a multi-coloured affaire, open to the navel. After a few minutes for hellos, nice to see you, and nice to meet you, it was time for the food and what a banquet was laid before us! Paella, chorizo sausage in red wine, home-made meatballs in tomato sauce, mushrooms in white wine, plus a vast array of meat and cheese selections, which must have left the local supermarket deli devoid!! I'm sure I actually heard the table groan. The stuffed chilli peppers had been helpfully marked "mild" and "hot", but in a fiendish game of Russian roulette (or should that be Spanish Bingo?) someone had mixed them up, so each one was an adventure! After one, two and in some cases three visits to the table, little impression had been made on what could have passed for a 1970's EEC surplus meat mountain.

As the evening drew to an end, one or two people had to be restrained from demonstrating the art of flamenco on the tables, after knocking back an extra one or two of Chris' Sangria Especial. All that was left to say was "muchas gracias y buenas noches a todo el mundo" (thank you very much and good night to everyone)

Trevor Ford

P.S. some of these details are a little fuzzy and might have been mis-remembered.





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THE (POSSIBLY FINAL...) RAMBLINGS OF A RETIRED POTENTIAL NEO-LUDDITE

Existing BT side-street cabinets had been mentioned by the lady in the library. Where they are and in which side-streets in Chippenham, Foxham or Bremhill, she just did not know. I did not want to get sidetracked so soon in my quest for broader broadband, so I had to move on, when gathering the facts. So how many green boxes and where and then I thought, why? This time I needed to find out who was responsible and what is going to go in these Green boxes. My granddaughter has a tandem and offered to take me to a local British Telecom office to find out. She is a nice girl but I always have to sit at the front and I am a little suspicious that I do most of the pedalling.

We stopped off on the way at a local medical centre in Pewsham, since I discovered, after going down Bencroft Hill without working brakes, that I had got some soft tissue injury. But, bit of a rub down and a couple of plasters and I was as right as rain and soon on the way to BT's office. A really nice young lady came to answer my questions. She offered me a seat, but I preferred to stand, explaining the soft tissue injury in some detail as she initially seemed very concerned, although I wrongly assumed she was interested in medical matters. When the policeman arrived, she was standing on the other side of the room. I explained again it was soft tissue injury and that I was not yet deaf, as she explained in a loud voice that the underlying network is fibre-to-the-cabinet (FTTC), which uses optical fibre for all except the final few hundred metres to the consumer, and delivers claimed download speeds of "up to 76 Mbit/s" and upload speeds of "up to 19 Mbit/s" depending on package selected. The fibre terminates in a new roadside cabinet containing a DSLAM, from where the final connection to the customer uses VDSL2 technology.



I requested, in my usual polite manner, if they had a version in English, and the policeman kindly suggested that I go with him to the rear of the council offices where he would find me a nice secure room for the night near his office. When we arrived, I asked if I could make just one phone call before the evening meal to my granddaughter waiting with the tandem.



The lovely policeman carefully gave me a large lump of plastic and told me to take care as it was on Lollipop and he had only just moved from Kit Kat. I told him I had diabetes and he would soon, if he carried on like that. I licked it like mad, but did not manage to speak to my granddaughter. I think that I would have preferred Kit Kat as well as the policeman clearly did. Some people are just so kind in Chippenham as well as Bremhill. The noise from the mating Toads was somewhat subdued due to the padding around the walls but I could still make out the distinctive notes of the calls...

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Farthing Biscuits

These are made with lard and come from Scotland

Equipment: 9cm (3 to 3.5 in) cutter, one or two baking trays, baking mesh or baking rack, cling film, rolling pin, fork.

Ingredients:

225g/8oz plain flour (and extra for dusting)
225/8oz self-raising flour
1 tbs table salt
1 tbs castor sugar
85g/3oz lightly salted butter, chilled and diced
85g/3oz lard
Little icy cold water

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180C/fan160C/gas 4.
2. Sift both flours, the salt and sugar into a large mixing bowl.
3. Add the pieces of cold butter and lard. Rub into the flour with the tips of your fingers until the mixture looks like fine breadcrumbs.
4. Use a palette knife to stir in enough icy cold water to bind the ingredients to a dough (about 5 -6 tablespoons).
5. Work the dough into a ball, wrap it in cling film, and leave in the fridge to relax for 15 minutes (but not too cold or for too long as it may then be difficult to roll out).
6. Unwrap the dough and roll it out on a very lightly floured surface to slightly thinner than a £1 coin.
7. Using the cutter, stamp out biscuits from the dough. Gather up the trimmings into a ball, then re-roll and stamp out more rounds.
8. Prick the tops of the biscuits all over to decorate, leaving a 5mm border around to the edge.
9. Put onto a wire rack or baking mesh. Place the rack or mesh on a baking tray. (No need to grease a mesh baking sheet).
10. Bake for about 15 minutes until the biscuits are firm and cooked through but are not browned.
11. Put on a wire rack to cool.

These can be served with chilled butter and cheese if wanted.

This should make 16 to 22 biscuits.





Dear All,

Dave decided to broaden my education recently and took me to see a cricket match at Trent Bridge. England versus New Zealand - a One Day International, the fourth between the two teams in a set of five. Up to that day New Zealand was leading 2-1. To lose this match meant that England would have lost the series, so a lot was riding on the outcome. I went along rather apprehensively, never having been to a cricket match before. Somehow, I'm not sure why, I didn't think there would be lots of people around me - possibly thoughts of cricket scenes in films where people sit on the grass enjoying a picnic whilst watching the cricket?! As it happened the stands were huge and - packed!

The first half was interesting - for a while - but I found myself wanting to reorganise the fielders - three stood almost shoulder to shoulder behind the stumps on the off chance that the batsman would not hit the ball cleanly and chip it into their hands. I believe these players are called 'slips'. Anyway, New Zealand batted first and after 50 overs had lost 7 wickets (Score: 349 for 7). 5.40 pm - Time for tea!

The weather was threatening and England came out at 6.15 only to return almost immediately to the comfort of the pavilion for 20 minutes. Then, after a couple of overs things started to look up as 4s and 6s were rapidly scored! I hadn't expected the razzmatazz that went with 4s and 6s! As it got closer to 9.45 pm the crowd became more animated and cheered every time the opposition couldn't hold onto a catch or stop a ball hitting the boundary! Just before 9.45 relief came with another 4 - England had gained 350 runs and lost just 3 wickets! England had won - all equal in the series, the final showdown in a few days' time! The crowds departed, merry and happy as they wandered via the hostelrys on the route back to the train station and car parks.

It just goes to show that you should really not trust your perceptions! You don't want to miss out on something just because of the image formed in your head! The reality can be very different! For those who don't expect to enjoy church in any shape or form maybe now is a good time to give it a try! With love and best wishes always.

Ann





ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH. Foxham

2 nd August	9.30 am	M. Kellond
9 th after Trinity	Holy Communion	Ephesians 4: 1-16
9 th August	9.30 am	D. Milligan
10 th after Trinity	Family Service	Ephesians 4:25-5:2
16 th August	9.30 am	R. Pegler
11 th after Trinity	Holy Communion	Ephesians 5: 15-20
23 rd August	6 pm	D. Scott
12 th after Trinity	Evensong	I Kings 8: 1,6, 10-11,22-30,41-43 John 6: 56-69
30 th August	9.30 am	D. Wilton
13 th after Trinity	UNITED SERVICE at Foxham (all welcome)	James 1: 17-end
6 th September	9.30 am	A. Glass
14 th after Trinity	Holy Communion	James 2: 1-17



CHURCH OFFICERS	FOXHAM	BREMHILL
Church Wardens	Elizabeth Hannah 740619	William Wyldbore-Smith 814969
	Mary Kellond 740633	Nancy Kyte 815073
Treasurer	Robert Pegler 740253	David Stevens 815337
Secretary	To be appointed	To be appointed

For any information (Weddings, Funerals, Christenings and Special services)
 Contact: Rev. Ann Massey 01249 817926 ea.massey@btinternet.com
 Rev. Jim Scott 01249 813114 jim@bremhill.com





ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, TYTHERTON LUCAS

2 nd August	Morning Service	10 am	Margaret Gubbins
9 th August	Eucharist	8.30 am	Jim Scott
16 th August	Mattins	10 am	Eryl Spencer
23 rd August	Eucharist	8.30 am	Bryan Pettifer
30 th August	Evening Prayer	6.30 pm	Rod Key
2 nd August	Morning Service	10 am	Margaret Gubbins



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

2 nd Aug Trinity 9	8 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evensong	M Kyte K Webb & K Blackmore	2 Samuel 11; 26-end & Chap 12: 1-13a Mark Kyte John 6: 24-35 ~ June Hughes
9 th Aug Trinity 10	11 am Holy Communion	A Jones & L Jones	Ephesians 4: 1-16 Mr Francis Pearson
16 th Aug Trinity 11	6 pm Evensong	P Rawlings & B Rawlings	1 Kings 2: 10-12 & 3:3-14 Mervyn Wells John 6: 51-58 Beryl Wells
23 rd Aug Trinity 12	9.30 am Family Service	Children	Ephesians 6: 10-20 A Young Person
30 th Aug Trinity 13	11 am United Benefice Service at Foxham		James 1 : 17 – end A Reader from Foxham
6 th Sept Trinity 14	8 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evensong	N Jordan A Woods & M Wells	Provbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Jane Jordan Mark 7: 24-end Nicol Jordan

**Please note when the Reading is given as, say : 13a, please read to the first full stop in the verse. Thank you.*





ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, NOTICES

The next PCC Meeting: date to be announced later.

The Great **Ride & Stride** Event is on 12th September 2015. Time to get fit and either ride a bike or a horse or pony, or walk (Shanks's pony)] and persuade people to sponsor you to visit as many churches as possible! Any money raised goes to Repair Historic Churches and half-and-half with the Church who raised the money. We in St Martin's Church have a lot of repairs needing money for restoration – just look at the North Wall! So we do hope you will be able to help. Sponsor Forms from Nancy Kyte.

Many thanks to those who mow the Churchyard. It is hard work and we all appreciate your efforts. Volunteers still wanted to strim and share the work!

Church Cleaning Rota 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. Please bring your own cleaning materials, but there is a fine vacuum cleaner at the back of the Church

Devizes Mobile Library calls at Naish House Farm, Spirthill, on every other Monday afternoon at 2 pm - 2.30 pm — August 10th and 24th. There is also a LIBRARY in Church, of course - just put 20p in the Fabric Collection Box and the book is yours. The books are all in two bookcases and in alphabetical order!

If you have any items of local Church or Village News for the September 2015 edition of this Newsletter, please give them to me, Jane Jordan (812083), in time for the 8th August 2015 deadline.

Thank you.



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





R.S. Thomas (1913 – 2000) was an important, modern Welsh poet and clergyman in the Church in Wales who wrote bleak but beautiful poems about his native Wales. He wrote about religion and often attacked modern life and technology. As a major lyric poet, he was nominated for the Nobel Prize in 1995. His one recreation was bird-watching, which often features in his poetry.

We have several resident blackbirds in our garden which, I think, they consider as their's and us the interlopers! I find it a delight to sit or stand and just listen to their song. This lovely short poem encapsulates this friendly bird's captivating song.

A Blackbird Singing

It seems wrong that out of this bird,
Black, bold, a suggestion of dark
Places about it, there yet should come
Such rich music, as though the notes'
Ore were changed to a rare metal
At one touch of that bright bill.

You have heard it often, alone at your desk
In a green April, your mind drawn
Away from its work by sweet disturbance
Of the mild evening outside your room.

A slow singer, but loading each phrase
With history's overtones, love, joy
And grief learned by his dark tribe
In other orchards and passed on
Instinctively as they are now,
But fresh always with new tears.

Ewen





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