

December 2013

The Newsletter

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 - All your Christmas News
 - Tytherton Hall
 - Bremhill Home Guard
 - Feathered Friends
 - Parish News
 - Important Dates





*Extending hearty
Christmas Greetings
and wishing you every success
in the coming year from the Newsletter team*

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Cover artwork by Holli from Ratford.
aged 7

EDITORIAL

20 years ago Bremhill bought the former village School from the Shelbourne Estate and transformed it into the Village Hall we have today. It is a wonderful facility which has given great pleasure to many over the years. East Tytherton are facing a similar cross roads as the lease on their present hall expires in 2016. It must seem a daunting task to find a piece of land and build a new Hall in the time available. They have a meeting to discuss the way forward on Tuesday 3rd December 8pm in their Village Hall.

It would seem reasonable for all our villages to support East Tytherton in their endeavours whether practically or financially in some way. This Newsletter is an example of how the whole community can come together so it is our intention to support East Tytherton in any way we can. I hope you will feel similarly.

The Newsletter Committee have been trying to fine tune how we balance the often conflicting demands on our space so we can keep our costs down and yet give you the service you wish. We have decided that if there is an event which is raising money for local charities, we would like to offer the equivalent of a page of formal advertising over a 3 month period plus one article of up to 300 words, in addition to the usual short editorial entries which are, of course, free.

Please do not forget to give us your items for the January edition by the 13th of December.

Your village coordinators are:

Foxham - Jerome Semichon (740469) jerome@semichon.com
East Tytherton - Jessica Bateman (07739799851) green7sals@aol.com
Bremhill - David Stevens (815337) or
Ewen Bird (821879) - editor@bremhill.com

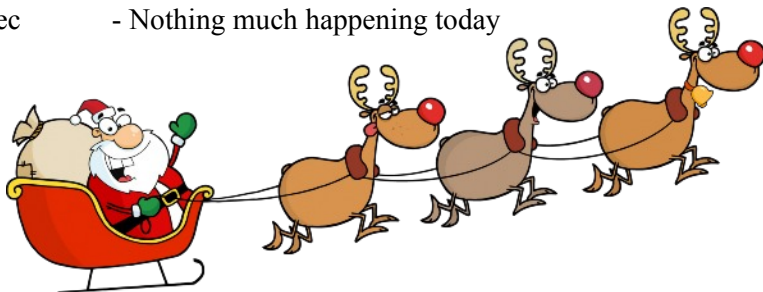
We hope you enjoy the December edition of the Newsletter.

David

*David Stevens - Co-editor
editor@bremhill.com*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2nd Dec - Parish Council Meeting
- 3rd Dec - East Tytherton Village Hall meeting
- 4th - 6th Dec - Bobby Van Christmas Extravaganza
- 7th Dec - Church Bazaar St Martin's Church
- 8th Dec - Christingle, Foxham
- 9th Dec - WI at Little Somerford Church
- 11th Dec - Acorns nativity play
- 13th Dec. - Coffee Morning and Christmas workshop
- 14th Dec - Calne Choral
- 14th Dec - Foxham children's party
- 15th Dec - Bremhill Christmas Draw
- 16th Dec - Christingles, Moravial Church, East Tytherton
- 18th Dec - Christmas Carol Service, Foxham
- 19th Dec - Carol Singing around Bremhill
- 19th Dec - WI Ladies Cocktail Party (Christian Malford)
- 23rd Dec - Carol Singing around Foxham.
- 25th Dec - Nothing much happening today



COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

A list of local non-profit organisations



Contacts

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Bremhill Village Hall | Marilyn Adcock | 661369 |
| Friends of St Martin | Heather Mowlem | |
| St Martins Church, Bremhill | Nancy Kyte | 815073 |
| St Martins Library | David Stevens | 815337 |
| Bremhill History Society | Jim Scott | 813114 |
| Bremhill Plant Stall | Philippa Stevens | 815337 |
| Bremhill Neighbourhood Watch | Bob Quayle | |
| St John the Baptist Church, Foxham | Elizabeth Hannah | 740619 |
| Foxham Reading Room | Cathy Hourihane | 740413 |
| Foxham Free Library | Cathy Hourihane | 740413 |
| Foxham Sub Post Office | Postmaster | 07973 252633 |
| Tytherton Village Hall | Carol Lewis | 740411 |
| Foxham Neighbourhood Watch | Elizabeth Hannah | 740619 |
| Tytherton WI | Shelah Franklin | 659237 |
| Christian Malford & Foxham WI | Jenny | 740950 |
| Moravian Church, East Tytherton | Peter Gubi | 740321 |
| St Nicholas Church, Tytherton Lucas | Christopher Kent | 740294 |
| Dauntsey Vale Link Scheme | - Coordinator | 891746 |
| | - Recruitment | 721278 |
| Bremhill Parish Council | Elsbeth Norman | 740310 |
| Wiltshire Good Neighbours | Emma Dowie | 07557 922029 |

Any omissions or corrections,
please contact editor@bremhill.com or 815337



THE FOXHAM INN CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

| | Lunchtime | Evening |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday 23 rd Dec | Closed | Closed |
| Tuesday 24 th Dec | 12-3pm | 7-10.30pm |
| Christmas Day | 12-1pm Bar | 1-4pm Food (Bookings only) |
| Boxing Day | 12-3pm | Closed |
| Friday 27 th Dec | 12-2.30pm | 7-11pm |
| Saturday 28 th Dec | 12-3pm | 7-11pm |
| Sunday 29 th Dec | 12-3pm | 7-10.30pm |
| Monday 30 th Dec | Closed | Closed |
| New Year's Eve | 12-2.30pm | 7pm-1am |
| New Year's Day | 12-3pm | Closed |
| Jan 2 nd (2014) - 13 th | Closed for Annual Holiday | |
| Jan 14 th | Open as Normal | |



We Wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to welcoming you over The Festive Season.



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CHRISTIAN MALFORD AND FOXHAM WI



Our chocolate November evening was 'naughty' but ever so nice! We tasted and learnt, watching Dennis Offer expertly make us fancy chocolates.

What a successful fireworks night. Janet Harvey, the 'boss' of our WI stall, planned a smooth, busy and happy night. Thank you to everyone for their help in baking, working at the stall and clearing up the mess the next morning! A great community spirit.

This year the WI group Carol Service will be at Little Somerford Church on Monday December 9th at 7.30.

Thursday 12th December we will be in the Soho at Derry Hill for a lunchtime Christmas meal. Phone Gloria 01249 721716 to make sure you have reserved your place.

We will all be gathering at the Christian Malford Village Hall on Thursday 19th December at 7.30 for our Xmas Ladies Cocktail Party. Please bring a plate of 'finger food' and your own drink. A small monetary donation please, if you will be drinking more cocktails than others! Come in your 'glad rags' as it will be a great evening with some very pleasant live musical entertainment.

New ladies come and join our friendly group.

All our information and activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.

*Contact Jenny
01249 740950*





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BREMILL PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A synopsis of Bremhill Parish Council's recent meeting

We are still waiting for the Operational Noise Management Plan for the Defence College of Technical Training at Lyneham. Mr Tucker is working hard to contact Simon Smith at Wiltshire Council.

There has been no further communication from TGC Renewables regarding the Proposed Solar Panel site at Foxham¹.

The Neighbourhood Plan has received some good correspondence to look at and to work on. The Plan takes approximately two years to produce as the 1st year is the information process and the 2nd is for consultation. It is recommended to let every household to have a draft copy and if agreed will be put to the Parish to vote on.

Wiltshire Council has sought an order to close Turf House Lane to carry out drainage surveying maintenance and resurfacing. This is to take place from 25th November to 20th December 2013 between the hours of 8am to 4.30pm. The order will further recommence for a day on the 13th January 2014 for re-surfacing. The closures will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

The date of the next meeting will be 2nd December 2013 at The Moravian Room East Tytherton at 7.30pm. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

*David Wilton - Chairman
Elsbeth Norman - Clerk*

¹ *Since this meeting there has been communication with TGC stating that they have withdrawn from the project*



SPECIAL NOTICES.

CHURCH BAZAAR

Saturday 7th December 10am to 1pm at St Martin's Church
Tea and coffee until 12 and Soup from 12. Bottle Stall, Christmas produce, Christmas decorations, Bulbs, Decorating Cushions, Book Stall, Children's Tombola, Mulled Wine and more.

100 CLUB

At the time of writing, over 100 people have signed up to the 100 Club. This is a super response and I hope we will have over 110 by the time we hold our first prize giving on Sunday 3 November 7.30pm at the Dumb Post Inn. There will be a guaranteed first prize of over £25 and a second prize of at least £15.

The annual prize will be over £120. The winners will be announced in the Newsletter each month. If you want to join or increase your share after 3 November. Please be in touch with David Stevens on 815337 or pdosc@yahoo.co.uk Best of luck!

ACORNS FOXHAM NEWS

The beginning of this term has been extremely busy and we have happily welcomed 11 new children to our Acorns community.

The Dog Show raised an incredible £700 and with some of this money we have been able to replace our climbing frame in the garden. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. We are very grateful.

The children continue to enjoy forest days and have begun to learn how to keep safe in our woods and about boundaries. We have talked about harvest and made bread using flour the children ground from wheat. We have enjoyed activities themed around autumn and the various festivals happening at this time of year.

We look forward to Christmas and our Nativity play on the 11th December.

Our toddler group continues to meet every Friday in Christian Malford Village Hall at 9.30am. Please see our website www.acorns-preschool.org.uk for further details on the pre-school, toddler group and events we are holding.

FOXHAM AUTUMN SUPPER

The supper held on 19th October was a huge success and everyone had a most enjoyable evening. We raised £2718.00 which will be equally divided between the following charities:

- The Wiltshire Air Ambulance
- Johns Church, Foxham
- The Foxham Reading Room.
-

Very many thanks to all who supported the evening and to those who generously donated to the auction.

Fay Wardall



BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL

If you want to book the Village Hall, please use the Bremhill website: www.bremhill.com or speak to any committee member.



CALNE CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Come and support your local Parish residents who sing in Calne Choral at the Christmas Concert in St Mary's Church, Calne on Saturday, 14th December at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £10, available at the door.

The programme includes Bach's Magnificat and Vaughan Williams 'Fantasia on Christmas Carols', plus many other carols, with lots of opportunity for audience participation.

Come and enjoy some Christmas music, together with the good cheer of mince pies and mulled wine in the interval. If you like singing, why not come and join us for our next concert in April, we always welcome new faces.

If you can, become a Friend of Calne Choral for £25 a year and come to all our concerts for free of charge with a £2 reduction for a friend at each concert.



METAL DETECTING WEEKEND 2013

The Foxham Metal Detecting Weekend in late September was a great success. Although we had a lower attendance than last year, all those who took part had a good time and were very complimentary about the village and the hospitality they receive from the locals. There were a few good finds during the weekend including a Roman brooch and several very old coins.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to arrange the event and to all those who gave their time to help over the weekend. Especial thanks to Bill and Elsbeth Norman for organising all the main meals, to Robert Pegler for running the bar, to Elizabeth Hannah for providing refreshments during the day and Alec Glass as treasurer.

The event raised £3823.00 after all expenses were paid out. The committee decided the funds should be split four ways giving £500.00 to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance; £320.00 to a "starting fund" for a Foxham defibrillator; £1,500.00 to the church and £1,500.00 to the Reading rooms.

Many thanks to everyone again

Jenny Johnson



TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL WINTER BAR OPENING TIMES

Every Friday night 8-10ish (until 20 December)



BANGERS AND BOOZE WEEKEND

We had a very enjoyable evening on Saturday 9th November at the Tytherton Village Hall "Bangers and Booze" Evening. About thirty people attended and they were able to choose from seven different flavours of sausages, six varieties of bottled beers and four varieties of ciders. You could say we were spoilt for choice! Sheila Laurence and her daughter-in-law cooked the sausages and members of the Hall Committee baked the potatoes. Chris Laurence ran the bar tending to all the differing requests. A profit of £150 was made on the evening.



POPPY THANKS

A huge thank you to all the people who purchased my poppies. This year the total raised was £330, an amazing amount far exceeding our expectations. All this money goes to the Royal British Legion, Calne Branch.

If anyone has any black buttons and medium-size safety- pins, please contact me so I can start making next year's poppies.

Denise Quayle

CALNE YOUNG FARMERS

Who are we?? We are Calne Young Farmers and are a group of non-farming and farming people ranging from the age of 10-26.

We all have different skills and strengths form cookery to fence erecting. There are Juniors and Seniors. We have joint meetings every other Tuesday at East Tytherton Village Hall, and the Seniors meet on a Wednesday at various pubs.

If you are keen and interested to get involved then don't hesitate to contact the Chairman, Rachel Bailey on: 07788 722 661

FOXHAM CHILDREN'S PARTY

Saturday 14th December 3-5pm in Foxham Reading Room / Village Hall. Party entertainer this year will be Dave Hickory, followed by afternoon Tea and a visit from Father Christmas.

Party price is £3.50 per child (birth to primary age only and must live in the village)

Bookings this year will be taken by phone or Email please ring Cathy on 740413 or Email cathilyn@btinternet.com for more information and to reserve your place and join the food donation list!

Raffle tickets will be on sale at The Foxham Inn & Foxham Post Office and also on the day...

All proceeds to Foxham Childrens Party, any donations would be fantastic.





BOOKINGS FOR FOXHAM READING ROOM

Cathy Hourihane is the caretaker of the Reading Room. She will take bookings on 01249 740413.



RNLI ANNUAL COLLECTION

I would like to record our sincere thanks for the support given by the residents of Bremhill, East Tytherton & Foxham for your generous support to the recent house to house collections for the RNLI.

The RNLI is entirely dependent on the voluntary contributions such as yours. Our local collectors, who battled all winds and weathers this year, collected the following sums:-

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Bremhill £76.23, | East Tytherton £165.51, |
| Foxham £91.61, | Westend Foxham £18.10. |

I still have areas that need covering so if you feel able to support the RNLI in this way on an annual basis, please ring Lance on 720686.



TYHERTON VILLAGE HALL JANUARY SUPPER

The January Supper will be held at Tytherton Village Hall on Saturday 25th January at 7.00pm. Price: £15.00 (under 12s £10). There is limited seating so prebooking is required.

*Phone Mary Anne 740208 or
Denise 07900 581164*



TABLECLOTHS FOR HIRE

The Foxham PCC has a set of floral tablecloths (approximately 44"/112cm sq.) for hire at a fee of £2 for the set part set. To book please contact Daphne Glass on 01249 740288.



FOXHAM FREE LIBRARY

We have books from cookery, classics, sci-fi, autobiographies, gardening, romance to crafts and children books. Something for everyone! So come to the Foxham Reading Room and borrow a book (all we ask from you is to return or replace it).

Book donations can be left in the Free Library, which will now be open all day Thursday 9am to 5pm. Any questions, contact Cathy on 01249 740413.



BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee & Cake - Bremhill Village Hall - Friday mornings(10 am - 11.30 ish)

A lovely group of 'regulars' and a super mix of occasional customers gather each week to pay £1 for their coffee (and £1 for their cake), enjoy the papers and meet friends for a chat. Monument Farm supplies an enticing variety of meat, meat products, jams, eggs, honey and vegetables each week for purchase. The 'donation' table, where surplus fruit, plants etc are placed seems well received too.

Recently, a 'Christmas Meat Draw' has been started, raffle tickets are sold each week up to and including the 13th Dec. (£1 per ticket). All money collected will be spent at Monument Farm on a variety of meat & meat products with the draw taking place at the coffee & cake session on the 20th Dec.

We are always looking for ways to make this even better, ideas from local businesses or individuals would be made most welcome.

On Friday 13th Dec come and learn to make fresh Christmas decorations and make a small donation. Please bring some fresh foliage.



FOXHAM SUB-POST OFFICE

Foxham sub-post office is open each Thursday from 9am-12 noon. If you wish to contact the Postmaster telephone 07973 251633.



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BREMILL HOME GUARD - 1942 FIELD FARM, BREMHILL

Back Row: A. Summers; R. Vines; S. Fell; E. Freeguard; A. Henly; C. Gale; C. Diccox; F. Hobbs; A. Hillier; C. Clarke
 Middle Row: J. Hillier; F. Hand; S. Ayres; S. Pocock; P. Cutting; J. Cullis; W. Gale; G. Bull; J. Townsend
 Front Row: A. Rose; E. Fry; J. Eatwell; C. Hillier; P. Way; W. Clark; H. Summers

Last months photo that we thought was from 1925 we now think was actually from 1948 and starred a very young Christobel with her mother and father

OUR VALIANT PURSUIT

TO PRESERVE TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL

As residents within the Tytherton area will be aware, the Village Hall was established as a community facility in 1924. It had a ninety-nine year lease, which was decreased to ninety-two years after the death of all the primary Trustees.

With this in mind, it is crucial that a new site is found before the lease expires in January 2016 and enough revenue is accumulated for it to be reborn before the closure of a much beloved pinnacle of the community.

The continuation of the Village Hall is vital for a variety of reasons. It serves as the centre point of the village where local people can meet; it is instrumental in preserving economic trade activities; it provides positive recreational facilities (for children and adults alike) in their spare time; it also raises money for charitable organizations and helps deliver inspiring projects within the village and beyond.

Committed members of the hall have gone to an extraordinary effort to highlight the matter, intending to raise a minimum of fifty thousand pounds to reach some kind of resolution. Help to reach this sum might include generous grants. The main goal would be the construction of another hall on a more suitable site nearby, accessible to everyone.

Many suggestions have been made about how to move forward by raising awareness and organising fund-raising events, but concerted action is now required to rectify the situation.

A general meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd December 8pm in the Village Hall, to which everybody is invited. The topic will be "To close the existing hall, release the assets and transfer to a new charitable status". A website has been created where you can read the Constitution which has been prepared. You can access this website at www.tythertonhall.co.uk. Please do get involved and share your ideas.

Jessica Alexandra Alice Bateman

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WINTER FEEDING FOR OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

In a hard winter, birds may have difficulty finding food so an extra meal from either your kitchen or some commercial bird food will help keep them going. Feed them until the end of April, when they should usually be able to find food for themselves.

Food you can put out for birds include:

- *Peanuts in shells threaded together on string*
- *Unsalted peanuts in feeders (peanuts can be naturally contaminated with an invisible toxin so make sure you buy nuts that are of guaranteed quality)*
- *Wild bird seed.*
- *Net-free suet or fat balls- netting can trap and kill wildlife so always remove it.*
- *Crumbled or grated cheese.*
- *Pastry, stale cake, biscuits and breadcrumbs (moisten the bread if it's very dry)*
- *Cooked rice, potato and pasta.*
- *Uncooked and unsalted bacon rind.*
- *Raisins and other dried fruit (soaked in water first) **
- *Bruised fruit such as apples and pears.*
- *Fresh coconut in the shell is a great favourite with tits. Drill two holes in one end and drain off the milk. Saw the coconut in half and hang it outside. Never put out desiccated coconut, as it swells up inside a bird's stomach.*

Try not to put food too close to bushes, as cats may lie in wait to pounce. Birds also need plenty of water to drink and to bathe in. Change the water and clean the bowl daily. Also remember to keep the water free of ice during very cold weather.

Bread tends to fill birds up with little nutritional benefit but should be part of the varied assortment of food on your bird table. Brown is preferable, and all bread should be soaked first.

* Beware: Grapes, sultanas, raisins and some artificial sweeteners can be extremely toxic to dogs. They should be placed on a raised bird table and never scattered on the ground.



EVEREST MARATHON 2013

This is not a double glazing promotional event, it is a marathon (26.2 miles) starting at Everest base camp - the highest marathon in the world. A plan to enter this event was conceived in Stockholm July 2012, when our friend Malc told us of his intention to run this event to celebrate his 50th birthday. Trin, also turning 50 in 2013, was sold on the idea. I needed little persuading. Once there, we will have a few days in the Nepalese capital before flying on to Lukla, from where we will begin a 16 day trek into the Khumbu valley and up to Gorak Shep, the old Everest base camp.

The race starts here at 5184m on Thursday 28th November and the course follows the trekking trail back to Namche Bazaar at 3446m. The terrain, the altitude and the weather, mean that times do not compare to sea level races and completion is the only goal for most competitors. The course record of 3.50.23 was set by a Nepalese runner in 2000. At this moment the prospects are both exciting and daunting. Both Trin and I have been preparing as best we can, making full use of the Top2Toe studio and pounding the lanes around the village.

One of the principal reasons for organising the Everest Marathon is to raise money for local charities and the Everest Marathon Fund exists to promote health and education in rural Nepal, and was registered as a charity in September 1991. The fund uses money raised to support charities in the region, such as Nepal Schools Project, Nepal Leprosy Trust, Britain-Nepal Medical Trust, and many more. The fourteen races held so far have raised nearly £600,000.

Nepal remains one of the poorest countries in the world and we are hoping to raise money for the Fund, so we would welcome any donations, which can be made directly with Trin or me, or by going online at www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/trinandpaul.

We return home on 4th December!

*Paul and Trin
(of Brook Farm, Bremhill)*



More information regarding the event can be found on www.everestmarathon.org

THE DUMB POST NEWS

Brrrrrrrr! Things are certainly cooling down! So what's new? Well we have been doing loads of research as we want to compile a historical record for the Dumb Post Inn so would be really interested in speaking to anyone who has any snippets of information/old pics of the pub through the ages.

We are new to the village but would be happy to arrange a weekly shopping collection to anyone who may be in need of help. If we have shopping lists by a Monday we can arrange a delivery on the Wednesday to be paid & collected from the Dumb Post or if necessary we are happy to deliver.

Every Tuesday - Variety of Fresh Fish served with Chips & mushy peas for £7.95

Alternate Thursdays - Curry/Gourmet Burger Night £6.95

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SO JUST WHAT IS IT WORTH?

This was the question put to me by a friend who had just inherited a stamp collection from his uncle.

As this friend lives many miles away we corresponded by email and I could see from the very first photos that he sent that this was a collection well beyond the ordinary. One of the prize stamps in the collection was from 1882 and cost £5 then, so there are not many of those around for sure. A quick check in my Stanley Gibbons catalogue gave the value at £70,000 for this one stamp alone!



Stanley Gibbons is amongst the most expensive places to buy stamps and this is their selling price. Their buying price would be very different for example if I buy stamps I hope to get them for around 10% of the SG price but none the less I could not imagine spending £7,000 on a single STAMP! (It's more than my car is worth!)

Not many people collect stamps these days so finding a specialist buyer is a big problem for many hence the need for stamp dealers (like Stanley Gibbons). Of course the dealer is only really thinking about what they can sell for, they then have to factor in their overheads and profit margin so the price you'll be quoted for your collection has to reflect this. All modern, decimal stamps are still valid for postage but even then a dealer may only give 50-60% of the 'face' value for decimal stamps in mint condition.

Stamps are printed in massive quantities (around 70 million penny blacks for example) so most are not particularly rare or valuable but finding them in good condition or special varieties IS a challenge and increases value markedly.

Many people have stamps in their attic that will be deteriorating daily as the damp air accelerates 'foxing' – rust like patches that collectors hate. If this is you then maybe it's time to get the collection back into the dry again?



So what happened to my friend? Well, to cut a long story very short we managed to find a local collector for him and one sunny day back in May the entire collection was set out in Bremhill Village Hall and sold for an amazing £37,000 (are you thinking again about the trip to the attic?)

bob@bremhill.com

SMALL ADS

1. Baby Sitting. Olivia King (16yrs) has experience with children at local school. Available during holidays & weekends. 07890 002 043 or 01249 740 200

2. Cleaner Required. Pillow May needs a cleaner for their offices at Bremhill Grove Farm, East Tytherton – 2 hours every other week in the evening or at week-ends. Pay is £8 per hour. It would suit school children too. Contact Pillow May Office on 864001.

3. Help needed with distribution of 7bn Christmas presents across the globe. All applicants must be registered with the National Elf Service and have suitable experience with antlered quadrupeds (with endorsements for cerise proboscis). Contact Fr Nick Claws

NB

If you want to place a small-ad, please contact Ewen Bird at editor@bremhill.com



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BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL

RURAL ARTS TOURING

Thank you to everyone who helped in the organisation of 'Twelve Miles from Nowhere' on 1st November. This event was different from some of the ones we have had at the Village Hall in the past. Most agreed that the acting was really good and the stage set original, which, although it was quite large, worked well in the Hall. Many people also liked the opportunity to have a short discussion at the end of the performance.

On Thursday 27th March 2014, we have something completely different: Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston - "A rare fusion of mandolin and double bass" This makes for one of the most exciting pairings on the acoustic roots scene. Miranda & Rex interweave timeless, well-chosen covers with one or two Preston originals. Their backgrounds, as well as skilful instrumentation and warm engaging vocals, have shaped their engaging sound. Below there is a link to listen to Miranda and Rex's music. I hope that you all like it.
<http://www.sykespreston.com/#music>

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAW AND SKITTLES MATCH

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM

Once again this year we will be holding the popular Christmas Draw and Skittles Match in Bremhill Village Hall. Please come along and enjoy a hot supper and a game of skittles with friends and maybe even a game of Killer afterwards for only £7 each.

If anyone wishes to donate a draw prize then please leave any donations with Jennifer, 32 Bremhill. Any help to raise much needed funds is greatly appreciated. See you there!

21ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Next year will mark the 21st anniversary of our purchase of the former village school and it then being transformed into the Village Hall we all enjoy today. We hope to celebrate it in some way. Do you have any memorabilia of the fund raising time? Or events that have been held in the hall over the years. If so, please dig them out and let someone on the committee know what you have tucked away. Thank you.

Marilyn Adcock

REVEREND ANN WRITES.....

Dear All,

I wonder how many people are saying ‘I can’t believe it’s nearly Christmas again. Time seems to have gone even faster this year’.

So it seems to be as we get older – time just disappears. Where does it come from? Where does it go?

Thank goodness for markers in the year so that we can remain in some sort of rhythm with time. In January we sit back and relax after Christmas; the year starts to build from spring when activity in the garden restarts. Life gains a momentum through the summer and in the autumn the harvest is gathered and stored; a well-earned rest is around the corner, but no - Christmas is here! Or that is how it seems – and there is so much to do!

We pump ourselves up for the task of preparations for the festive season. Each year we seem to try to do better than the year before. But is this what people really want? Lots of presents, activities, games, parties over the Christmas period? Or is it a time for refuelling the batteries? Is a different sort of Christmas needed?

This Christmas I urge you to take a deep look into what is a race against the clock for many. Do you need to race or take this time for reflection? Reflection on how to have a peaceful Christmas with loved ones and friends. Are expensive presents, entertainment and so on necessary? Could you be the one to say to your guests – your presence is a sufficient gift in itself. Each of us is a gift from God – just like his Son was to us and whose birth we celebrate on the 25th December; a birth that brought definition and clarity to what is meant by following in the ways of God. Jesus - a light from God to spread goodness through us to the world. That is, in itself, what we celebrate.

This Christmas let us absorb the light of Christ into our lives and bring God’s goodness to all our neighbours. Let us remember Christ is at the centre of our celebrations and honour him. May the peace of the Christ Child be with you throughout Christmas and 2014.

Rev Ann

ST NICHOLAS, TYTHERTON LUCAS

The services will follow the usual monthly pattern in August:

Weeks 1 & 3 Morning Service at 10.00am

Weeks 2 & 4 Holy Communion at 8.30am

MORAVIAN CHURCH SERVICES, EAST TYTHERTON

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

ST MARY'S

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Sundays 9.30am and 6.30pm

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ST EDMUND'S

Saturdays 6pm and Sundays 10am

Oxford Road, Calne

Father Michael d'Arcy Walsh

www.saintedmundsparish.org.uk

Details of the Church Services for Derry Hill and Foxham are displayed on the notice board in the Church Porch.

If you want your own copy, please let us know and we can deliver them to you with your Newsletter.

Also available on: www.mardenvale.org.uk

CHURCH NEWS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH FOXHAM

Christmas will be with us soon so - Dates for your Diary:

Christingle 8th Dec. will be joined with Family Service at 9.30am

Christmas Carol Service. Wed. 18th Dec. 7pm. Please join us at Foxham Farm after the service (even if you haven't been to the service).

Carol Singing around Foxham. Mon. 23rd Dec.
(meet at Foxham Inn at 6.45pm) - EVERYONE WELCOME

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH Foxham

| | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 st Dec 1 st Sunday of Advent | 09:30 Holy Communion | D. Wilton Romans 13 11-14 |
| 8 th Dec Advent 2 | Family Service with Christingle Service | TBA |
| 15 th Dec Advent 3 | 09:30 | E. Hannah James 5 7-10 |
| 18 th Dec Advent 4 | 6:00 pm Carol service | |
| 22 nd Dec Advent 4 | No Service | |
| 25 th Dec Christmas Day | 09:30 Family Communion | Churchwardens Titus 2 11-14 |
| 29 th Dec | NO SERVICE (United Benefice at St. Mary's Calne 10 am) | |
| 5th Jan 2014 Epiphany | 09:30 Holy Communion. | A. Glass Ephesians 3. 1-12 |

For any information contact: Rev. Ann Massey
ea.massey@btinternet.com 01249 817926

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Churchwardens. | Elizabeth Hannah. | 01249 740619 |
| | Mary Kellond. | 01249 740633 |
| Treasurer. | Robert Pegler. | 01249 740253 |
| Secretary. | Jenny Wilton. | 01249 740279 |
| | Rev. Jim Scott. | 01249 813112 |

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

| | SERVICE | SIDESMEN | READERS |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1 st Dec 1st Sunday of Advent | 8am Holy Communion (AM) 4pm Evensong (AM) | M Kyte L Jones & K Blackmore | Isaiah 2: 1-5 Mrs Judy Scott Matthew 24: 36-44 Mrs Nancy Kyte |
| 8 th Dec Advent 2 | Christingle Service 4pm (AM) | A Jones & J Hughes | Readings and Readers to be advised |
| 15 th Dec Advent 3 | 6pm Carols by Candlelight (AM) | S Tumber & A Heath | Readings and Readers to be advised |
| 22 nd Dec Advent 4 | 9.30am All age Crib & Nativity Service (AM) | Children | Readings and Readers to be advised |
| 24 th Dec Christmas Eve | 11.15pm Midnight Mass (JS) | D Kyte & Other | Hebrews 1:1-12 Derek Kyte John 1:1-14 read by Minister |
| 25 th Dec Christmas Day | 9.30 am Christmas Day Holy Communion (AM) | A Woods & K Blackmore | Titus 2: 11-14 Keith Blackmore Luke 2: 1-20 Read by Minister |
| 29 th Dec No Service | 6pm Holy Communion at St Mary's, Calne | | |
| 5 th Jan 2014 | 8am Holy Communion 4pm Evensong | N Jordan P Rawlings & B Rawlings | Deuteronomy 30:15- end; Matthew 5:21-37 |

Vicar: Reverend Ann Massey (817926)
 Church Wardens: William Wyldbore-Smith (814969)
 Nancy Kyte (815073)

Jim Scott jim@bremhill.com 813112

CHURCH BAZAAR

Saturday 7th December 10am to 1pm at St Martin's Church

Tea and coffee until 12 and Soup from 12. Bottle Stall, Christmas produce, Christmas decorations, Bulbs, Decorating Cushions, Book Stall, Children's Tombola, Mulled Wine and more. Christingle Oranges will be made too. There will be mulled wine, coffee, tea and The Little Boy's Biscuit Stall which was a great success last year.

Reverend Ann will be helping the children to make the Christingles for the Christingle Service the next day. Raffle tickets will be on sale and the grand Draw will held at the end of the morning. Any contributions for the various stalls would be gratefully received, as will help to set up the afternoon before the Bazaar.

BREMHILL CAROL SINGING

There will be carol singing around the village on Thursday 19th December starting at 7pm near the Village Hall. We will stop at various places around the village to serenade you! We will be ending up at the Dumb Post for refreshments!

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

You will find a Church Cleaning Rota in the Church. If you can find an hour or two to help clean the Church or the brass, please put your name down on the list. Please bring your own cleaning materials, but there is a new vacuum cleaner at the back of the church.



CAROL CONCERT WITH CHRISTINGLES AT MORAVIAN CHURCH

There will be a Carol Concert with Christingles at the Moravian Church on Monday 16th December at 6.30pm Followed by Mulled Wine & Minced Pies in the Village Hall. All children are welcome & also are invited to a short practice on Monday 9th @ 5:30pm

Other services: Christmas Eve 11:30pm; Lessons & Carols 29th Dec 10:30am



DEVIZES MOBILE LIBRARY

The library calls at Naish Farm, Spirthill on Mondays 16th and 30th December between 2 and 2.30pm. At the time of printing the 30th is not confirmed yet.

Don't forget the library in St Martin's Church!

50:50 AUCTION

There will be a 50:50 Auction at Bremhill Village Hall in aid of St Martin's Church, Bremhill on 21 & 22 February 2014. More news next month!

If you have any items of Church or Village news for the December issue of the Newsletter, please give them to Derek Kyte (815073) or Jane Jordan (812083) by 8th November. Thank you.

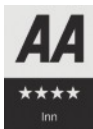
**PLEASE NOTE THAT EVENSONGS WILL BE AT 4PM,
NOT AT 6PM DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.**



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CHRISTMAS BELLS

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807- 1882)

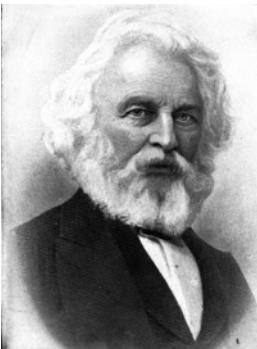
I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play
And mild and sweet the words repeat,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had roll'd along th' unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bow'd my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men.

'Til ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men!"



Longfellow was an American poet and educator.

He wrote mainly lyric poems, known for their musicality and he became the most popular American poet of his day.

E. Bird

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