

BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

December 2014

# The Newsletter



**In this issue:** • Tytherton Hall Update • Broadband  
• Friends Cheese and Wine • Private AJ Besant,  
• Bremhill Hall Purchase • Disaster to Victory  
• Doorway • Future of NHS • Game Pie Recipe



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> December Bowood Extravaganza
- 13<sup>th</sup> December Carol service - Christian Malford
- 13 December Christmas Quiz, Young Farmers
- 13<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service - Calne
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Mince pies in Tytherton Village Hall.
- 19<sup>th</sup> December Carols in Bremhill, Young Farmers

*Season's Greetings*

Best wishes to all our readers from the newsletter team

*Cover photo by Steve Harris, Ratford*



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## **EDITORIAL**

I thought I would keep you up to date with Newsletter issues.

**Distribution.** We are aware that some households may not be getting the Newsletter so if you know anyone not getting one, please let the editors know. We are looking for someone to liaise with the hard working people who deliver the Newsletter. If you want to volunteer and join our Committee, contact the editors.

**Advertising.** This is the lifeblood of our magazine. We are always looking for more adverts and we are grateful to our regular contributors. In order to pay for the number of Newsletters printed each month and in its current form, we need over 12 pages of adverts!

**Donations.** We currently have to rely on your generous donations to fill the gap in funding. If you would like to give a donation, please use the envelope we provided last month. Let us know if you need another one.

**Constitution.** We have almost completed a Constitution for the Newsletter. This covers diverse issues such as who qualifies to have a Newsletter, the makeup and rules governing the Committee, AGMs etc. We have decided to have future AGMs in September as our financial year is between July and June. We will need to have the accounts audited.

**Content.** We are always looking for articles on any subject. We would like you to restrict your article to about 300 to 400 words. Pictures are always welcome. Have a go and send them to the editors!

May I take this opportunity to thank those of you who have already donated using the envelopes. We could not continue without you.

Editors: David Stevens 01249 815337 or [editor@bremhill.com](mailto:editor@bremhill.com)  
Ewen Bird 01249 821879 or [editor@bremhill.com](mailto:editor@bremhill.com)

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Advertising: Sarah Jones 760183 [xsarahjones@gmail.com](mailto:xsarahjones@gmail.com)

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### EVENING OF TRADITIONAL AND NEW CAROLS IN CHRISTIAN MALFORD

The Village Singers will be performing an evening of traditional and new carols at All Saints Church, Christian Malford on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm. The bar will open at 7.00 pm. Tickets £8.00 including mince pies available from Christian Malford Village Shop.



### CALNE CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm. in St. Mary's Church, Calne  
Come and support the parish contingent who sing in our local choral society by attending the annual Christmas Concert. £10 for adults and £2 for children. The choir will be singing the first (Christmas) part of Handel's Messiah, accompanied by four outstanding young soloists and full orchestra, followed by carols, readings and audience participation in the second half of the programme. There will be mince pies and mulled wine (free!) for everyone in the interval.



### BREMHILL BONFIRE NIGHT

We hope many of you enjoyed the evening with its wonderful display and fun atmosphere on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

All this was only possible with the sterling help of many locals - there is a lot of preparation that goes on from collecting wood for the fire, making the guy, organising the raffle and pre-cooking the food and wine. The Village Hall Committee would like to thank everyone involved and encourage anyone who would like to be involved in our events to let us know on:

*Roger - [hall.chair@bremhill.com](mailto:hall.chair@bremhill.com)*

*Jan - [hall.secretary@bremhill.com](mailto:hall.secretary@bremhill.com)*

*Linda - [hall.treasurer@bremhill.com](mailto:hall.treasurer@bremhill.com)*



## **CALNE YOUNG FARMERS**

Are you bored? Do you want to make new friends? Then young Farmers is for you.

We are Calne Young Farmers, not all farmers, we are aged between 10-26, and if you want to come and have a taster then we meet every other Tuesday in East Tytherton Village Hall or if you are over 16 then you can come and see what the seniors are like. We meet in a local pub every Thursday but subject to change.

If you are interested then come along, we have a few things coming up  
Ice skating at Whitehall: - TBC.

Carol singing: - 7 pm Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December in Bremhill

Christmas quiz – 13<sup>th</sup> December at East Tytherton Village Hall.

Contact details:

*Rachel Bailey – Junior Leader: - 07586 793 853*

*Club Chairman: - Harriet Fry: - 07772 317 900*



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## **TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL UPDATE**

The next Village Hall event will be mince pies and mulled wine after the Christingle Evening in the Moravian Church on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm. Children's practice is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 5.30 in the Hall.

A date for your 2015 diary is Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January for the January Supper and grand draw at 7 pm.

Keep up to date with all our events on our website, [www.tythertonhall.co.uk](http://www.tythertonhall.co.uk), by following the 'Tytherton Village Hall' Facebook page, or by coming along when the bar is open: Fridays from 8 pm. We would also love to hear your comments and ideas about future events or the planned new hall.

Sheila Laurence has taken over the post of booking secretary for Tytherton Village Hall. The number to call to make a booking is now 07719 176753. Please leave your name and contact number and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We would like to thank Carol Lewis very much for taking bookings over the past ten years or so.

When talking about our need to build a new village hall - when the lease for the current site expires in little more than a year - we are often asked why we can't just use an existing building such as the Guiding Centre (former school) in East Tytherton. The simple answer is that no building is suitable. The Guiding Centre doesn't have a hall, only smaller rooms; even if the Guides were interested in sharing their long-term lease we would still need to build a very substantial extension. The churches in East Tytherton and Tytherton Lucas have the largest rooms but one could hardly imagine installing a skittle alley and a bar! At our AGM last year we concluded that there was no choice but to build a new hall.

Of course building a new hall requires a new location. Our update in the August newsletter showed the site that had been provisionally offered by the Baker Trust. We had gone on to start designing a plan for this site but it was proving difficult to mitigate the concerns of all the immediate neighbours. As a consequence, the Baker Trust last month kindly extended their (provisional) offer to a few other possible sites. We will now conduct a formal consultation of residents to determine which of these sites is most appropriate.

*Nic Pillow, Tytherton Village Hall Committtee*



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## **ACORNS NEWS**

The start of a new school year and term always brings with it lots of activity and excitement. We were lucky enough to have numerous joiners, taking us to near maximum occupancy and we also took on a new apprentice, Hannah Bright, who is a wonderful addition to our team.

The children have been busy focusing on Autumnal projects, talking part in some fabulous walks in the meadow, making mud pies in the woods, collecting leaves and using play dough to create prints and shapes. We are also working on the children being good listeners and to help them understand the principle, we have been busy decorating 'listening ears'. Hopefully the parents will enjoy the end product as much as the children!

In order to support our church we are planning a week of activities all about Ducks. Not only will the children have plenty of splashy fun but we hope to raise lots of money, helping them to provide 300 ducks to villages in Nepal.

The toddler group continues to run on a Friday morning In Christian Malford Village Hall, from 9.45 am to 11.45 am, all welcome.

## **BROADBAND UPDATE**

As we explained in November, locations around Foxham and East Tytherton are to get a much needed upgrade to the broadband infrastructure serving homes and businesses in this area. It cannot be stressed enough that the quality of the phone wiring in your property could be the main cause of current poor broadband performance so we would encourage you to re-read the previous article and try its suggestions first.

So what is happening now? The government has been running a scheme known as BDUK for several years, each council has been given funds to spend on updating broadband connections in its area. Wiltshire Council has joined with South Gloucestershire Council and contracted BT Openreach to install a new improved broadband infrastructure. The target is to provide as many people as possible with connections which can download at 24Mb/s or better. Previous ADSL broadband speeds were limited to a maximum of 8Mb/s in our area. Achieving speeds of 24Mb/s would be a good improvement for all of us although it is highly likely that many will get speeds greater than 40Mb/s. A small number of people will only see modest speed improvements due to the very long phone lines, some greater than 6km, connecting them to their telephone exchange. Another round of government funding known as BDUK2 is just starting and this should see the remainder of properties getting an update in a few years' time.

BT Openreach has installed new cabinets in East Tytherton and at Teal Farm in Foxham. Although the work to enable these cabinets was officially scheduled to be completed at the end of December, BT Openreach was, in fact, looking to complete ahead of schedule in October. Unfortunately, BT Openreach discovered that an underground duct needs to be unblocked so that fibre cables can be laid. The work to clear the blockage will happen in early December and will require closing a part of the road between East Tytherton and Langley Burrell near the Avon River. Assuming this work allows the cabinets to be enabled shortly thereafter and no new problem is found, it should be possible to place orders for Fibre Broadband with a number of Internet Service Providers from the end of December.

*Scott Walsh and Jerome Semichon*



PS. I believe that Bremhill village has now had fibre connected phone cabinets to all lines, I am trying to find exact details for an article next month. *Bob H*



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## **BREMHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

At the last meeting, it was mentioned that the average speed down the hill at Ratford is excessive. The police have been monitoring the situation. A Community Speed Watch Officer gave a presentation.

Parish Councillors were tasked with ensuring that the supplies of salt within roadside bins was adequate throughout the Parish with winter approaching.

An update was given on the Neighbourhood Plan, much discussion ensued around this vitally important topic, please check [www.bremhillparish.org](http://www.bremhillparish.org) for more details.

Mr Tucker reporting from the Operational Flood Group stated that ground water level is higher this year compared to last which is surprising after such a dry summer. A new drainage team has been engaged.

At the next meeting on Monday December 1st at The Moravian Room East Tytherton at 7.30 pm a talk will be given on "Housing for the older person in rural areas".

*Elsbeth Norman*



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## **Bremhill Village Hall Purchase**

When my ancestor built Bremhill Church School in 1846, the 3rd Marquis wisely included a clause that if the building was not being used for the purpose for which it was constructed, it would revert as an asset of the estate. When the school closed, the village enjoyed the use of the premises for nineteen years at a peppercorn rent on the full repairing basis, until it fell into disrepair.

It was about this time that I had to make some difficult decisions to rationalise the future of Bowood as a whole. We were in the process of building the golf course and decided to concentrate our resources on creating a business which, with a fair wind, would secure the Estate for the future. This meant re-trenching from the outlying areas, such as Bremhill. So there was no easy way we could afford to enter into an extended lease on a peppercorn basis. We had to make better use of our assets. This meant offering the hall for sale. The meeting I requested in 1991 was to explore this possibility. It was suggested there were no concrete proposals. However, there were. We were no longer able to afford the luxury of allowing valuable assets to lie fallow. So I arranged for a formal valuation to be carried out. It was valued at £30,000.

Once the decision was made by the Village Hall Committee to purchase the building and fund raising had commenced, I was happy to discuss a discounted price of £20,000, and extend a completion date. Those were the facts from Bowood's perspective.

So looking back, I believe there were winners all round. The community for having a facility for 19 years at a peppercorn rent and then purchasing the building at a 33% discount. Overall, an honourable outcome for both the community and Bowood.

The Marquis of Lansdowne



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## CHRISTIAN MALFORD & FOXHAM WI



The lively Frances Benton entertained us at our November meeting with her passion for pearls. For 5000 years pearls have been associated with wisdom, power, wealth and beauty. We handled all colours, shapes and sizes and had fascinating glimpses into the world's most secretive and only living gemstone.

Our Bring and Buy Coffee morning in November finalised our achievement of the wonderful target of £1000 for Naomi House Hospice, a Wiltshire charity for children. We were also able to give a donation to Great House Cheshire Home in Kington Langley. Well done to all.

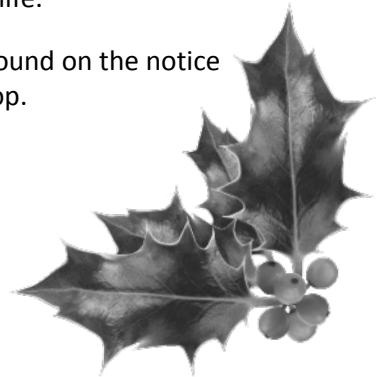
How can we thank all those in the WI who contributed to the firework night success? Serving, cooking, preparing our stall, clearing up etc. A wonderful weekend which could not have been achieved without all your help. A special thanks to Vilma who co-ordinated and 'managed' us all!

Monday 1st December, our Group Carol Service will be in Sutton Benger Church at 7.30pm

Do not miss the Christmas Party on Thursday 18th December. It is always fun with surprises. Please bring a plate of 'finger food' and a fiver! Your money will give you one raffle ticket and a chance to win 10 wonderful prizes, and at the same time, charitably support a local group at Christmas. This year we hope to give funding to three vulnerable youngsters between the ages of 9-16 in Chippenham on a project organised by 'Splash'. This charity is supported by the Wiltshire Police and is a very worthy cause, providing positive activities for young people who are facing challenges in life.

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

Contact Jenny 01249 740950



## **PRIVATE ARTHUR JOHN BESANT, SERVICE NUMBER 8027**

Born 1885 - Died 28<sup>th</sup> November 1914. 29 years of age

The end of November 1914 was a terrible time for Britain. As well as the retreat from Mons, HMS Bulwark blew up in Sheerness Water with the loss of 736 crew members. This was also when the 29 year old Arthur Besant lost his life. Arthur is remembered at Rue-Petillion Military cemetery, Fleurbaix N.France, which is a village 5 km south-west of Armentieres on the D22.

He is not remembered on the Bremhill war memorial as both of his parents were deceased. Arthur was born and lived in Turf Lane. He was the Son of Simon Besant and Emma Simpkins, who had married at St Martins in 1870. His father Simon (or Simeon in some records) died aged 41 years, when Arthur was only 3 years old in 1888. Brought up by his mother, Emma, who in 1901 was living in Charlcutt. She describes herself as a Charwoman whilst Arthur, now 16 years old, was an agricultural Labourer, living at home with his sisters.

By 1911 Arthur was a full time soldier in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, stationed in Bloemfontein in South African Orange Free State. On peacekeeping duties after the Boer war he transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and served in Dublin based at the Curragh race track.

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry were at the Curragh in Ireland serving with 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 5<sup>th</sup> Division when war was declared in August 1914. They proceeded to France, landing at Le Havre on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They were then in action in The Battle of Mons and the subsequent retreat.

After the war, Arthur was awarded, posthumously, the Victory, British and 1914 Star medals these were often called the Pip, Squeak and Wilfred medals.

The Mons Star (Pip) bronze medal award was authorized by King George V in April 1917 for those who had served in France or Belgium, between 5<sup>th</sup> August 1914 to midnight on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1914 inclusive. The award was open to officers and men of the British and Indian Expeditionary Forces, doctors and nurses as well as Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Royal Navy Reserve and Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve who served ashore with the Royal Naval Division in France or Belgium.





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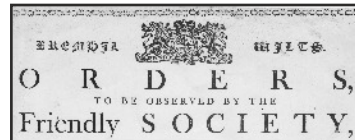
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## **FRIENDS SINCE 1770!**

The Friends of St Martin has always been a community focused organisation run by volunteers stemming from a Friendly Society formed in 1770 when 75 members paid one shilling a week into a fund. If a member became sick they received six shillings a week in benefit for up to three months. The fund was also used for burials and a wakes at the Dumb Post Inn. Members also celebrated Festival Day on Whit Wednesday with a dinner after which they had to walk to the Bell and Organ, an ale house in Bremhill, now a private home. The field path they walked was known as Parade Walk and still exists today. As they approached the village square they were obliged to walk twice around the village cross and drink a short pot of ale, a ceremony which along with the Society lapsed over time.



In 1979 Friends of St. Martin was formed , re-awakening the spirit of the original Friendly Society holding local events to raise money in order to help support the fabric of the local church, and later, to support worthwhile projects and groups in the community. The amount of money raised in the last few years is now vastly different from earlier accounts. According to audited reports since 2001 over £50,000 has been raised and dispersed to many local organisations. Recipients have included Maude Heaths School, the Over 60's Club, the Sunday School, Bremhill Village Hall, the Youth Club and more recently, Young Farmers, North Wilts Children's Holiday Club and young people with special needs, as well as the PCC.

One of the mainstay fundraising events is the annual Auction of Promises where as much fun is had bidding for a few hours of gardening, a home made cake, right up to dinner parties, and to holiday homes rental. The Friends also manage the village marquee helped by other volunteers who erect the marquee many times a year for local events and raise funds in the process.

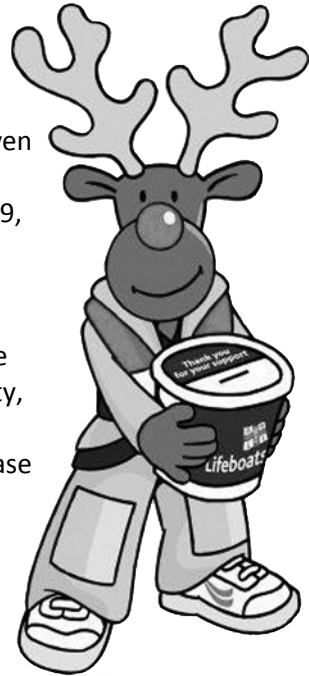
This year the Auction of Promises will be on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January with entry only £5 at The Long Barn in Bremhill. If you haven't attended before it is a fun evening with a buffet and bar, so come along!... and please do contribute with a promise or two so the good work of the volunteers can continue. Details are on page 19. Notes from this years AGM are on page 25.

## RNLI COLLECTION

Chippenham Branch of the RNLI (in Calne) would like to record its thanks for the generous support from the house to house & Flag Day Collections given this year. The branch raised a total of £5525.03 of which Bremhill was £57.28, East Tytherton, £253.39, Foxham £123.64 and Foxham West End £37.20.

Our volunteer crews who go out in all winds and weathers rely on your support for the best possible equipment to ensure their and those rescued safety, and if you feel able to support with these annual collections especially in areas not yet covered, please email [workmanlandj@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:workmanlandj@hotmail.co.uk) or ring me on 01249720686.

*Lance Workman*



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## **DISASTER INTO VICTORY IN ONE DAY**

Nery 1<sup>st</sup> September 1914

My wife, Jophy, and I were able to go to Nery, 48 miles from Paris, to represent The Queen's Bays, my old regiment, on the centenary of the battle, which took place on 1 Sept 1914. The 1st Cavalry Brigade consisted of The Bays, 5th Dragoon Guards and 11th Hussars, supported by 13 field guns of L Battery, similar to the ones used by the King's Troop today.

They had pulled into the village of Nery for the night on their retreat from Mons. This is an ancient village with well built farmhouses and with a Roman road running through it.

The Dragoon Guards and the Hussars got there first and found shelter. The Bays and the L Battery had to make do in the surrounding fields. Road blocks and patrols were set up at first light. The order to move out at 5 am was postponed because of thick fog. A horseman in his saddle could hardly see the horse's head!

A patrol reported seeing German Lancers near the village on high ground and were able to sound the alarm. Soon the village was heavily shelled by the Germans causing considerable damage to the field guns and the Bays in the fields. Only one field gun was kept in action until it ran out of ammunition. The three remaining men were awarded the VC, one posthumously. The Bays and the rest of the Brigade engaged the enemy with machine guns and rifles, overcoming the German Cavalry Division. This action halted the German advance on Paris and paved the way to the forthcoming victory at the Battle of the Marne.

The inhabitants of Nery have kept this action alive over the last 100 years by their unerring friendship and hospitality. This year the Kings Troop were present at the commemoration with their field guns and the Ghurka band, with relatives and representatives of the Cavalry Brigade. We were proud to be there and lay a wreath on the VCs' Memorial.

A strange thing happened on the morning of the 1st Sept 2014, exactly 100 years on. We opened the shutters of our accommodation early that morning to find a thick fog hanging over the landscape!

*George Powell*

A narrow horizontal bronze clasp sewn onto the ribbon, bearing the dates '5<sup>th</sup> AUG. - 22<sup>nd</sup> NOV. 1914' shows that the recipient had actually served under fire of the enemy during that period. For every seven medals issued without a clasp there were approximately five issued with the clasp.

Recipients who received the medal with the clasp were also entitled to attach a silver heraldic rose to the ribbon when just the ribbon was being worn.

The reverse is plain with the recipient's service number, rank, name and unit impressed on it. It should be remembered that those awarded this medal were responsible for assisting the French to hold back the German army while new recruits could be trained and equipped. Collectively, they fully deserve a great deal of honour for their part in the first sixteen weeks of the Great War. This included the battle of Mons, the retreat to the Seine, the battles of Le Cateau, the Marne, the Aisne and the 1<sup>st</sup> battle of Ypres. There were approximately 378,000 Stars issued.



Everybody welcome Everybody welcome

Friends Of St Martins Cheese and Wine and Auction of Promises

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**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 - 7:30 pm**

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by kind invitation of Richard and Carolyn Dutton

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Contacts: Sue Webb 01249 740620, [suew@bremhill.com](mailto:suew@bremhill.com)  
Heather Mowlem 07764 949471 [heatherjmowlem@gmail.com](mailto:heatherjmowlem@gmail.com)

Everybody welcome Everybody welcome

## **WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR NHS SERVICES IN WILTSHIRE?**

Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is led by local GPs. We plan and pay for the majority of NHS services that you use across the county. Over the next five years, we know that demand for NHS services in Wiltshire will continue to increase, but the money we have available to spend on these services will not increase at the same rate.

Modern advances in healthcare are helping people to live for longer than ever before which is a cause for celebration. However, this does mean that the demand for NHS services from the over-65s is expected to increase significantly over the coming years. As a result, the CCG needs to adapt the way we provide NHS services so that they better meet the needs of our ageing population.

How will we meet this challenge?

The CCG has developed a Five Year Plan to enable us to respond to this challenge. Our key partners like Wiltshire Council, GP surgeries, local hospitals and other NHS providers are vital to the success of the plan.

Our model for the future of health care in Wiltshire is based on three key principles:

1. Encourage and support Wiltshire residents to take on more responsibility for their own health and wellbeing
2. Provide fair access to a high quality and affordable system of care for the greatest number of people
3. Provide less care in hospitals and more care at home or in the community

To achieve these aims we will:

1. Spend more money on health education and prevention to help people take more personal responsibility for their health and wellbeing
2. Spend more money to improve community care and increase the range of services provided in a local setting
3. As a result, we would need to spend proportionately less money on providing bed-based care in hospital



We are going to split Wiltshire up into 20 clusters of approximately 20,000 people. Each cluster will have an integrated team of GP surgeries, community nurses and therapists together with social worker support which will work together to ensure that we have a more joined up system of health and social care.

How can you get more involved?

Each Area Board is planning a health fair in the next few months with different stalls for you to visit followed by presentations from the CCG and Wiltshire Council about our plans for improving health and social care. To find out the date of the Health Fair in your area please visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboard/healthfairs](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboard/healthfairs)

We hope you can join us for your local Area Board Health Fair but if you are not able to attend then you can find out more about the CCG's plans at [www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk](http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk)

If you'd like to talk to someone at the CCG then you can email [WCCG.info@nhs.net](mailto:WCCG.info@nhs.net) or call 01380 728899

CCG information from  
Bremhill Parish Council



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Physical fitness is the first requisite of happiness - Joseph Pilates

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Wed 9:30 am

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Wed 1:15 pm

## **Contact Susie to enrol**

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For details and to reserve your place contact Susie 07932 249871  
or see website [www.wildgeesepilates.co.uk](http://www.wildgeesepilates.co.uk) - Booking Essential



[susie@wildgeesepilates.co.uk](mailto:susie@wildgeesepilates.co.uk)



## **DOORWAY.**

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, I took non-perishable items from our Harvest Festival to Doorway, the charity which helps homeless and needy people in Chippenham and the surrounding area by providing meals, showering facilities and also clothing. It is staffed by helpers and is based in a premises in Frogwell. It helps everyone who comes to them and consequently is very grateful for donations from the public.

It was raining when I arrived. It was early for me, it was only 9 am, but I was not the first, two other cars were unloading their produce before me. It looked like Harvest Festival produce too.

As I carried a bag of goodies up the stairs I had to pass a group of eight or nine people all standing silently in the rain, waiting for the doors to open for them to go inside in the warm for their breakfast, a wash and a shower.

These people knew they would be welcomed and helped no matter what their circumstances. I tried not to stare but could not help noticing a young man, who I guessed was in his early twenties, who stood with what appeared to be all his belongings in two plastic bags. I saw a sleeping bag in one. I wondered where he had spent the previous night.

I felt very humbled by what I saw. Seeing these people with so little, I was glad to be taking in a few things to help improve their quality of life.

We have received a letter of thanks, addressed to the church, for our offering. It states how grateful the staff are for offerings and how welcome the gifts were. The letter, which was addressed to all members of the congregation who had contributed, assured us that the produce will be well used. I am delighted to pass on these comments to all those who have generously contributed this year.



*Elizabeth Hannah  
Church Warden.*

## RECIPE - RAISED PIE - SERVES 8 TO 10.

Hot Water Crust Pastry (don't be put off by this, it is very straight forward)

265 g plain flour.	55g white bread flour.
55 butter (cubed).	65 g lard.
1 tspn salt.	135 ml boiling water.
1 beaten egg for glazing .	

### Filling

4 pheasant breasts chopped finely. 2 cloves garlic crushed.  
Mixed together and marinated for 30mins

2 chicken breasts chopped.	2 tspns dried thyme.
100 g smoked bacon finely chopped.	1/2 jar of cranberry jelly.
400 g sausage meat - I used pork and apple	

1 x 8" spring release cake tin.

### Method

Heat oven to 220°C / gas 7

1. Prepare all meats first as the pastry needs to be hot when handling it or it will become too dry to use.
2. Place flour in bowl, add butter rub in well.
3. Heat lard in a pan with the water, pour this liquid on to the flour - mix with a wooden spoon until all liquid absorbed and dough is formed.
4. Working quickly, take  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the dough, roll out and line tin covering the base and sides with overlapped pastry hanging over the lip of the tin. Leave remaining dough in a warm place.
5. Taking half the pheasant, bacon, garlic, thyme mix to form the first layer.
6. Form a second layer with the sausage meat.
7. The third layer will be the cranberry jelly, spread over the sausagemeat.
8. Chopped chicken is the fourth layer.
9. The remaining pheasant mixture forms the final layer.
10. Press firmly down.



11. Roll out remaining 1/3rd pastry into a circle to form the top of the pie, dampen the edges and place over the tin. Pierce the lid to let out the steam.
12. Crimp pastry edges together with finger and thumb, brush with beaten egg.
13. Place in oven on a baking tray, turning the temperature down to 160°C / gas 3 for 1 hour 20 mins. Continue glazing with egg every 20 mins throughout cooking.

N.B. to prevent the pie becoming too dark a baking tray can be placed on the rack above it if necessary.

Once cooled, place it in the refrigerator, it is best eaten cold with pickles and good friends!

*Hillary Harding*



## **FRIENDS OF ST. MARTIN, AGM REPORT**

10<sup>th</sup> November 2014

The AGM was held in the Village Hall due to The Dumb Post Inn not being available. The president Nicol Jordan welcomed everybody but was disappointed at the turnout (9 committee and 1 member of the public.) for a society that raises the most money in the village for the community.

After discussions it was agreed that £600 would be given to North Wilts Children's Holiday Club and Young People with Special Needs, applied for by Carol Kyte. The PCC put in a request for £2700 due to increased insurance but due to expenses for the new marquee canvas it was felt that we should maintain a reserve and £2000 was allocated.

The new marquee was erected 8 times so is already earning its keep. This only happened due to the efforts of our voluntary helpers to whom we offer heartfelt thanks. The committee remains the same.

The next event will be the Auction of promises to be held at Long Barn by kind invitation of Richard and Carolyn Dutton on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

*Terry Satchell*  
*Chairman*

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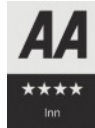


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*A warm welcome awaits*



## THE FOXHAM INN NEWS

On behalf of The Foxham Inn, we would like to wish all our customers Past, Present and Future a very Happy Christmas and we are looking forward to welcoming you over this happy and festive time of the year.

We are now taking bookings for Christmas Parties, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. Check out the Menus on our Website [www.thefoxhaminn.co.uk](http://www.thefoxhaminn.co.uk) The Game Season is in full swing now with Pheasant, Partridge and Wild Duck appearing on our Menus.

Follow us on Twitter or Like us Facebook to get our Weekly Wednesday Night Special with Wine. Why not sign up to our Newsletter on our contact us page on our Website [www.thefoxhaminn.co.uk](http://www.thefoxhaminn.co.uk)

Thank you for your custom over past the year and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Neil and Sarah Cooper*

DIANA RODWELL MCSP  
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Dear All,

Is Christmas really just round the corner? I think with all the commemorations regarding the centenary of the commencement of WW1 that Christmas has just crept up behind us and surprised us!

As I write this piece, it is only mid-November and we have finished the Remembrance Services for this year. It is a difficult time as we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. Many do not really feel like joining in all the hype and manic busyness that seems to precede Christmas these days. Many people are time starved, myself included, as we seem to have more to do than time allows. Fire-fighting is a way of life more than it ever used to be! Christmas means stepping even harder on the accelerator.

God though wants us to enjoy our lives. There are instructions right at the beginning of the Bible in Genesis to take one rest day per week to renew our batteries! But so much has now crept into Sunday that it has become yet another action packed day – little different from any other. However, it doesn't have to be Sunday that we rest, but we should rest on one day each week regularly!

It is only by switching off and relaxing that we can hear wisdom! It is in stopping and noticing those around us, reflecting on what Christmas is really about that we start to feel the Christmas spirit. It is about showing that we value each other for who we are deep within ourselves. How can we do this with integrity if we are too busy to notice the little things about each other most of the time? A small gift that shows we know someone really well is worth a thousand words. Take time out this year to reflect before stepping on the accelerator again. Take time to remember that Jesus brought wisdom into the world and that when we are rushing around we tend not to see God among us, and we don't get the most enjoyment out of life.

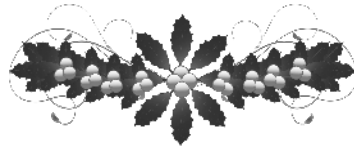
Take time and look out for God this Christmas. You will meet him - and your Christmas will be transformed!

With every blessing for a transforming Christmas Season

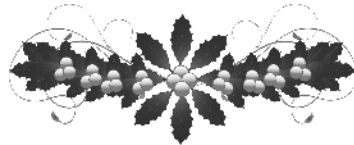
*Ann*

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH. Foxham

7 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	9.30 am Holy Communion	A. Glass 2 Peter 3: 8-15a
14 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	9.30 am Family Service	E. Hannah Mark 1: 1-8
21 <sup>st</sup> December Advent 4	6 pm CAROL AND CRIB SERVICE	
25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	9.30 am Family Communion	Churchwardens Titus 2: 11-14
28 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas 1	10 am Holy Communion UNITED BENEFICE St. Marys Calne (All Welcome)	



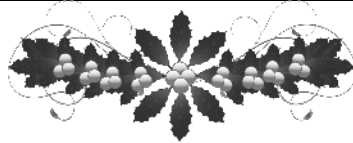
After the Carol Service, Alec and Daphne invite the congregation and anyone who cannot attend the service to join them for a pre Christmas drink and nibbles at Foxham Farm



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 MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

	Service	Sidesmen	Readers
7 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	8 am Holy Communion 4 pm Evensong	N Jordan A Woods & D Kyte	Isaiah 40: 1-11 Mrs Nancy Kyte Mark 1: 1-8 Mrs Judy Scott
14 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	6 pm Carols by Candlelight	P Rawlings & B Rawlings	Readers T B A
21 <sup>st</sup> December Advent 4	9.30 The Nativity & Crib Service	P Rawlings & B Rawlings	Readers T B A
24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	11.15 pm – Midnight Mass – Holy Communion	A Jones & L Jones	Hebrews 1: 1 – 12 Mr. Derek Kyte
Christmas Day	9.30 am – Christmas Family Communion	K Webb & K Blackmore	Readers T B A
28 <sup>th</sup> December	10 am - United Benefice Service At St Mary's Church, Calne		Isaiah 60: 1-6 Nicol Jordan Matthew 2: 1-12 K Blackmore



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	Vacant Post	Vacant Post

## **ST MARTIN'S NOTICES**

### **St Martin's 100 Club**

Thank you to all those who have joined or re-joined the 100 Club this year. We have a total which is approaching £1900 so the prize money this year will again be over £900.

We have not drawn November's prizes yet as we wanted those who have not yet joined a chance of all the monthly prizes. However, we will have to close the 100 Club by mid - December and then draw both months. So if you want to join in, please contact David on 01249 815337 or [dandpstevens@gmail.com](mailto:dandpstevens@gmail.com)

*David Stevens*

### **St Martin's Church Donations**

The Harvest Festival Service raised £255.50, which was given to Doorway, (see page 23). The Remembrance Sunday Service raised £340, which was given to the Royal British Legion. For your information, we take reasonable expenses from these collections and then give the rest to the charities.

*David Stevens*

*St Martin's Treasurer*

The next PCC Meeting – To be arranged

**CHURCH CLEANING ROTA** In Church you will see a Church Cleaning Rota. If you can find an hour of 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014. 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 January 2015 edition of this Newsletter, please give them to either Derek Kyte (815073) or to me Jane Jordan (812083) in time for the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 deadline. Thank you.





## **ST NICHOLAS, TYTHERTON LUCAS**

Sunday 7 December	Morning Service 10am (MG)
Sunday 14 December	Eucharist 8.30am (JS)
Sunday 21 December	Carol Service 10am (RK)
Christmas Eve	Midnight Mass 11.30pm (JB)
Sunday 28 December	Eucharist 8.30am (RK)
Sunday 4 January	Eucharist 8.30am (MG)

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## **MORAVIAN CHURCH, EAST TYTHERTON**

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

---

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Saturdays 6 pm  
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## THE BURNING OF THE LEAVES

Laurence Binyon (1869 - 1943)

Now is the time for the burning of the leaves,  
They go to the fire; the nostrils prick with smoke  
    Wandering slowly into the weeping mist.  
Brittle and blotched, ragged and rotten sheaves!  
    A flame seizes the smoldering ruin, and bites  
On stubborn stalks that crackle as they resist.

    The last hollyhock's fallen tower is dust:  
    All the spices of June are a bitter reek,  
    All the extravagant riches spent and mean.  
    All burns! the reddest rose is a ghost.  
Spark whirl up, to expire in the mist: the wild  
    Fingers of fire are making corruption clean.  
Now is the time for stripping the spirit bare,  
Time for the burning of days ended and done,  
    Idle solace of things that have gone before,  
    Rootless hope and fruitless desire are there:

    Let them go to the fire with never a look behind.  
That world that was ours is a world that is ours no more.  
They will come again, the leaf and the flower, to arise  
    From squalor of rottenness into the old splendor,  
And magical scents to a wondering memory bring;  
    The same glory, to shine upon different eyes.  
Earth cares for her own ruins, naught for ours.  
    Nothing is certain, only the certain spring.

Binyon is most often considered a poet of the First World War, but his poem, "The Burning of the Leaves" was written in 1942, shortly before his death. He speaks about how fire can be cleansing and prepare for re-birth and re-growth and it is easy to see how the description of autumn to spring can apply also to a world caught in conflict, giving hope for the future.

*Ewen Bird*

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