January 2017

The Newsletter

The Newsletter team
would like to wish
all readers
a very
Happy New Year



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

• 4 th Jan 2017	Community Lunch - Moravian Church
• 9 th Jan	Closing date for Parish Plan responses
• 15 th Jan	St Martins Sunday Lunch - Bremhill
• 17 th Jan	Newsletter AGM - Foxham
• 28 th Jan	Supper night - Tytherton
• 24 th Feb	Auction Of Promises - Bremhill
• 25 th Feb	Race Night - Tytherton
• 25 th Feb	Soup and Puds
3rd March	Thisbe - Rural Arts - Bremhill Village Hall
• 25 March	Mothers' Day Tea, Bremhill

THE FRIENDS OF SAINT MARTIN ANNUAL AUCTION OF PROMISES

24th Feb 2017 AT 7.30 pm - Bremhill Village Hall

For many years we have been fortunate enough to be offered the use of rooms in the lovely homes of many good people in which to hold the auction and the buffet meal that goes with it. We are very grateful for this privilege and (beware!) will no doubt be hoping for such kindness again.

However, for this year we thought we would make use of the facility that stands in the middle of the village - THE VILLAGE HALL. We do hope that people will feel that this is a good venue and support us as they have done in the past, bearing in mind that all profits go to local village charities.

More details from myself or any member of the Friends Committee

*Rev Jim Scott

CHAIRMAN

EDITORIAL

Happy New Year! Let's hope that it is. The world is facing so many uncertainties at the moment, it is difficult to see how they will be all resolved. Of course, you may be a follower of Mr Trump and also feel that Brexit is the way forward, so forgive me! Perhaps you are also worried about the care of the elderly, the NHS in general or a hundred other issues. You must admit we are in for a very different future. There may be more shocks to come this year with the French Presidential and German elections, let alone the troubles in the Middle East and elsewhere. However, when I think about it objectively, we always have a certain concern about the year ahead. Maybe this is no different.

Whatever you think of the state of the world, our community remains strong with all that is planned for the year and the enthusiasm that everyone will bring to make these events successful. May that be an antidote to our feelings about the world's problems! Do support everything you can, whether in your own village or elsewhere. My New Year resolution is to go to more events outside Bremhill village.

We are always looking for articles or other contributions for the Newsletter. We have very little from our younger readers and it would be great to have their items. I am not very imaginative about what they would like, so please give it some thought and send us your ideas.

When you do send us a contribution, could you restrict it to 300 to 400 words. Sadly, we have to cut so many items down as we do not have the space. This can be disappointing when you have spent much time and effort on producing them.

Our Newsletter AGM is on Tuesday 17th January at 7.30 pm at the Foxham Reading Room. Please come and air your views!

David Stevens

All contributions for the February edition by 13 January to avoid disappointment, please. Send them to editor@bremhill.com Thank you.

Printing: Best at Print Ltd 01373 800300 sean@bestatprinting.co.uk

SPECIAL NOTICES

ST MARTIN'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Bremhill Village Hall was buzzing with people very soon after doors opened for the Fayre. We had lots of stalls, eats and goodies. The Fayre raised a wonderful £814 after expenses and the St Martin's Raffle raised a wonderful £815. Thank you so much to all those who came, ran stalls and helped in every way.

BRITISH LEGION THANKS

The British Legion has been in touch that the Bremhill Parish raised £1050.25. They have offered their sincere thanks to those that gave and those who collected.

FOXHAM SKITTLES

Now that the festivities are over, the decorations put away and the mince pies all eaten, a skittles knockout completion will help banish the post- Christmas winter blues. Teams of 4 people to compete. Entrance money to include a Ploughmans' supper. Bring your own alcohol drinks but soft drinks will be available. Fees are £25 per team. Venue: The Reading Room, Foxham. These evenings have been popular in the past so, as the Reading Room can only hold 12 teams, please get your team's name to me quickly. Profits made will go to the church.

Elizabeth Hannah 740616

NEWSLETTER AGM

The postponed Newsletter AGM will be held at Foxham Reading Room on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 7.30 pm.

All Bremhill Civic Parish residents welcome.

Have your say about YOUR Newsletter

TOWN HALL MOVIOLA

We have had a 6 week break but we will be showing our films again in January, This will be 'Learning to Drive' (15), starring Ben Kingsley and Patricia Clarkson. She has a successful writing career but suffers a sense of loss when her husband leaves her for a younger woman. He is a Sikh driving instructor about to engage in an arranged marriage to a much younger girl. Both are looking for a different meaning to their life and so he teaches her to drive....

Showing in Calne Town Hall on Wednesday 18 January at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00. Refreshments avail-able. Tickets £6.00 available from the information centre or on the door.

We look forward to seeing you

FOXHAM CHRISTMAS BINGO

What a great evening yet again Thank you to everyone who came. It was great to see some new faces. Well done to everyone that won. Sorry to everyone that didn't - better luck next time!

Thank you also to everyone that donated a prize and helped. Greatly appreciated as always. Together we raised £400 and half of this has been donated to Cancer Research. We hope to see you again at our next Bingo!

Cathy Hourihane

FOXHAM AUCTION OF PROMISES

Chris and Val Minty and David and Jenny Wilton would like to thank all those who donated promises and those who came to the evening on Nov 25th. The amazing sum of £3600 was raised for St. John the Baptist Church at Foxham. A special mention for all the "Village People" - you know who you are! You made the "Christmas in a hamper" so exceptional.

Finally, our grateful thanks to Mr Paul Viner, our Auctioneer, who set the evening alight with his enthusi-asm.

RURAL ARTS

"Thisbe" Door Ajar Theatre Company, Friday 3 March 2017, Bremhill Village Hall This is going to be a mixture of drama, comedy and live music. You will know of Puck the prankster in A Midsummer Night's Dream. Well, he features, meddling with the mortal world. Thisbe is the daughter of Helena and Demetrius, and this drama is set 14 years after they were lost in the woods. Do not worry if you are not familiar with Shakespeare's story. Come and enjoy the music (all original) and comedy. There are 6 actor-musicians who will be performing.

Doors open 7 pm. Performance 7.30 pm. Bar and tasty morsels. Tickets £8 adults £5 children

Marilyn or Rosie 661369 or 813642



TYTHERTON VILLAGE HALL

"WISHIING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR"

Tytherton Christmas Gift & Craft Fair

We were delighted that so many attended the Fair, with its wide range of stalls and very popular Café. A big 'Thank you' to all who helped in many different ways beforehand and on the day, especially to Sheila for organising and running the excellent Cafe. Almost £300 was raised for Hall funds.

Brenda and Viv

The January Supper 2017 Saturday 28th January 7.00pm

A delicious 3-course dinner, with coffee and mints. This popular event was sold out last year so be sure to book early. Tickets are now on sale:

Adults £12, children up to 16 £6, Family ticket 2 adults & 2 children £25

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'It's Race Night' on Saturday February 25th . Full details next month

The Bar is open each Friday at 8.00pm, for all members to enjoy a drink and chat.

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

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COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

Farms across Wiltshire have been targeted recently for agricultural machinery thefts. ATV's and telehandlers were targeted in the Malmesbury, Royal Wootton Bassett and Warminster areas.

Security advice for vehicles and Machinery.

- Try to secure or immobilise vehicles or equipment when not in use.
- If possible remove farm machinery from fields, especially if near roads.
- Keep a record of serial numbers and model details, take photos of equipment if possible.
- Use metal engravers to mark tools, vehicles and equipment with your postcode followed by the first two letters of your farms name.
- Take part in the 'CESAR' scheme (tractors / quads).
- Fit trackers to tractors, 4x4 and quads.
- Keep keys to vehicles locked away in a secure cabinet or cupboard.
- Consider using products such as Datatag "DNA" / Smart water to mark your property with a unique invisible serial number.

Revisit the security for your farm, by checking the CCTV, alarms and security lights are working order. Make your boundaries secure. On a regular basis check that there are no holes, damage to hedges, fences and gates. Field gate hinges should be capped or inverted to prevent removal.



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CHRISTIAN MALFORD & FOXHAM WI

We had a busy celebratory month with our ladies carolling at the group church service, our main Christmas party, the Marshfield Bakeries visit, the Gardening Club mince pies morning and the 'Ladies who Lunch'. The Christmas Art Club session displayed some of their years' work.



The Art of de-Cluttering. Thursday 17th Jan 7.30 pm in Christian Malford Village Hall. Come and join us to find out how our homes could efficiently support our own way of life.

Table Top Sale. Saturday 4th Feb 10 to 12 in Christian Malford Village Hall. Contact Helen on 01249 654611 to book a table at £7. Non WI members welcome. Admission 50p. Donated items and cakes etc to Tina at the shop.

New members are always welcome. All our information can be found outside the Christian Malford village shop and also on the village website. Contact Tina: 01249 720956





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NEW YEAR RAMBLINGS

- of a retired potential neo-luddite

Fact and fiction in the Bremhill Parish

When I departed from the Council Offices in Monkton Park, I recalled the lovely person who said that at my advancing age I should be getting smarter. I had heard this before when my wife of 47 years left me to go and live with the milk man as "he was tech savvy with his green tops". I thought that he lived on sausages from the chip shop. It was when I was explaining this that I was told to be smarter. I had already asked Santa to fix this so the timing was perfect. They even asked me if I needed aid. I declined but said next time I was at the docs I would ask about hearing aids.

Well, Christmas Day came and what a fantastic day I had. At the docs, when testing my hearing, he said I needed a fit bird, so my granddaughter (the one with the bike) said she would get me one. I will show that tech savvy postman. I had hoped to show off the bike to the other residents. Apparently my granddaughter's finger must have slipped when ordering because I got a thingy to put around my wrist called a Fitbit. Bit of a disappointment there, but my day was made with the new TV remote. It overrides all the other remotes in the room so I could watch Top Gear on Dave all day, apart from when our dear Queen comes on with the Corgis at 3 pm.

I must see if they will let me out in the New Year when they get the new door lock mended. It seems to lock every time I press the button for TV channel 666. The matron's son has taken out a subscription. I need to get out to get a few things sorted. The new wireless charger for my phone is fantastic. No more finding the hole to put the plug in. This should be easier when my cataracts are sorted but until then I have been using it to charge the radio as well but now all my calls in the afternoon seem to go to Steve Wright.

THE SKY AT NIGHT

We ended 2016 on an astronomic high, with meteors, planets and a super moon all on display. You would therefore be forgiven to think that such celestial delights could not be matched.

So I am pleased to report that we kick off 2017 with equal wonderment and awe of what is on display in the night sky.

The Quadrantids Meteor Shower will start us off on the 5th January. This is an annual meteor shower which is believed to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1, which was discovered in 2003. The first quarter moon will set shortly after midnight leaving the dark skies around our villages. The Quadrantids meteors shower is a very short - sharp - peak of very bright and often colourful shooting stars. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Bootes, which is one of the largest constellations in the northern hemisphere.

On the 12th January we have a full Moon. The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be will be fully illuminated. Across the Atlantic, this is also known as the "Wolf Moon" because this is the time of year when hungry wolf packs howl. Let us hope we don't hear any such howling around our villages!

Next to put on a show are 3 of the planets in our solar system, namely Venus on the 12th January and Mercury and Jupiter on the 19th. This is the best time to view Venus since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the bright planet in the western sky after sunset. Mercury will also be visible in the morning sky. To observe this tiny yet brilliant planet, look for a round solid blue light low in the eastern sky just before sunrise. Last but not least, Jupiter rises around midnight on the 19th and shines brightly into the morning sky, steadily heading eastwards and gradually brightening as Earth moves nearer to it.

And finally, on the 28th January we will have a new moon. The Moon will located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. As there is no moonlight to interfere this is a great time of the month to take a few moments to look up and admire the night sky.

Angela Protheroe



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MORE ON TANKS

The Newsletter published a photo of a Second World War tank some time ago, which caused some debate but, was identified eventually.

If you have any other photos of military equipment that you need identifying, why not contact the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) at MoD Lyneham where there is a large and extensive museum and the curator Roger, would be pleased to assist.

Bob Ashlin



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BREMHILL PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Neighbourhood Plan. The final Plan has been submitted to Wiltshire Council who have published it for fur-ther public consultation. You can read it on line at http://tiny.cc/bremhillplan and make comment there or give comments to the Parish Clerk elsbethnorman@btinternet.com . Comments must be made be-fore Monday 9th January 2017. Paper copies of the Plan can be viewed at the two pubs and Village halls in the Parish. Once the plan is accepted by the Inspector, it will form the basis for decision making by the Parish Council, particularly in terms of planning applications and preserving the rural nature of the Parish.

Parish Steward. We have the use of the Parish Steward one day a month. He will be used to clean the culverts, cut the vegetation at Stanley Bridge and at road junctions to improve visibility for road users.

Parish Clean Up. After a very successful clean-up in 2016 for which many thanks to those who took part. The next clean-up will be held on the weekend of the 11/12 March 2017. The Parish Council is buying hi-viz road safety jackets and litter pick-ups to supplement those provided by Wiltshire Council to ensure we have enough for everyone.

Speed Watch. East Tytherton speed watch took part in the national road safety week 21-27th November 2016 when a local traffic policeman joined the team on its speed watch. Foxham is investigating the feasibility of setting up a speed watch in the village with a view to reduce the speed limit.

Road Closure. 50 metres of the road from Stanley to Tytherton Lucas will be closed from the 24th January 2017 for three days for Wessex Water to install wash outs. The part affected will be immediately after the junction with Bencroft Hill. Diversions will be in place which will take traffic up Bencroft Hill and down Wick Hill.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 6th February 2017 (no meeting in January) at The Moravian Room East Tytherton at 7.30 pm.

Elsbeth Norman Clerk to Bremhill Parish Council

BOOK REVIEW

Sweet Caress

by William Boyd

If you have never read a William Boyd novel, you are in for a treat. I have read several, and enjoyed them all but, for me, Sweet Caress is the best. It's quite a chunky read - over 400 pages - but it is January, it's dark, and it's cold outside, so curl up by the fire, and enjoy this hugely readable story.

Sweet Caress is a sweeping panorama of the 20th century as seen through the eyes of photographer Amory Clay, a woman whose slightly bohemian upbringing leads to an unconventional life and career spent in Great Britain, and around the world. Boyd paints a particularly vivid picture of her time spent in Berlin between the wars, when life was lived to the full in all senses of the word, and it's easy to imagine the exotic and bizarre existence lived by many against the backdrop developing Nazism.

But it is her work as one the first women war photographers which has made a lasting impression. Travelling to Germany, France and latterly Vietnam, and often alone, it seems that Amory needed the obvious dangers of working in a war zone to bring some meaning to her life.

Amory Clay's bravery, both in her work, sometimes considered shocking, and in her personal life, make a compelling story of one woman's life in a century which witnessed such dramatic worldwide upheaval, and unprecedented change in the fabric of our society. It's all there in Sweet Caress, so give yourself a treat, and read it!

Jill Church

Are you a reader? Why not write a book review? Otherwise you will have mine inflicted on you! Ed



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ST MARTIN'S CHURCH FABRIC REPORT

There is a lot of work either being done or being planned for St Martin's Church. The ventilation is finally being sorted out. We have a faculty from the Diocese so once the legal issues are resolved we will press ahead. This will make a great difference to the dampness.

The Hatchment (large picture on the north wall) is being repaired at this moment and once the roof has been given the all clear and the wall can be redecorated, it will be put back on the wall.

A new sign and noticeboard is being planned to face the square. We have never had a proper sign in our memory.

Water is at last coming to the church. As a first step, it is being brought from the churchyard and then to the other side of the west door. Once we have a stand pipe, we can plan an outside toilet and eventually water into the church itself. It is all go.

David Stevens



SMALL THOUGHTS OF A LARGE CLERGYMAN

It's good to be optimistic at the beginning of a New Year but the events of the year past have given rise to some questions about the future.

Because 2016 was a year of turmoil, not just the terrible wars that raged, and continue to rage throughout the Middle East, but much closer to home and across the Atlantic. Strangely enough it is in these two most democratic of countries that the democratic process has resulted in the apprehension - almost a fear of the unknown -that we live with now.

A New Year is always a good time to take stock for a little sober Christian theology. We may have worries about the future, but times of doubt are good times to reflect upon the way we should live out our faith in times of uncertainty. So what does our faith tell us?

- 1. Giving and receiving forgiveness is not optional for Christians.
- 2. Revenge is absolutely forbidden for Christians.
- 3. Holding on to anger is a grave sin against God and ourselves.
- 4. "Me first" or "We first" is never a Christian approach to anything.
- 5. The various human characteristics of race, tribe, gender, sexual orientation (and so forth) matter for Christians only when they become occasions of sin. Otherwise our differences don't matter at all. God doesn't see them.
- 6. God commands us to keep our hearts and minds clean of all malice, hatred and evil it is our privilege to love, and to strive for spiritual gifts.
- 7. For others, God commands us to relieve their sufferings, to love them as we love ourselves, and to avoid judgement.
- 8. Finally, we Christians are not commanded to solve all the world's problems, but God always expects that we will do what we can for the sake of healing and peace.

9.

Now is the time for reconciliation, for respect, for generosity, for kindness, for selflessness, for healing. Not easy, but we owe it to our country, we owe it to our God, we owe it to ourselves.

God Bless all of you, now and in the year to come.

Jim Scott

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, FOXHAM

Sunday 1 Jan NO SERVICE E. Hannah New Year Service (10 am Holy Communion St. Marys Calne)

Sunday 8 Jan 9.30 am M. Kellond

Epiphany Family Service Matthew 2: 1-12

Sunday 15 Jan 9.30 am R. Pegler

Epiphany 2 Holy Communion 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Sunday 22 Jan 6 pm D. Scott

Epiphany 3 Evensong Isaiah 9: 1-4

Sunday 29 Jan NO SERVICE D. Wilton

Candlemas UNITED HOLY COMMUNION

11 am Derry Hill

Sunday 5 Feb 9.30 am E. Hannah

4th before Lent Holy Communion 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

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

	Foxham	Bremhill	
Church Wardens	Elizabeth Hannah 740619 Mary Kellond 740633	William Wyldbore- Smith 814969 David Stevens 815337	
Treasurer	Robert Pegler 740253	David Stevens 815337	
Secretary	To be appointed	Paula Godwin	

CHURCH NEWS

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

	Service	Sidesmen	Readers
Sunday 1 Jan White	10 am Holy Communion	St Mary's, Calne	
Sunday 8 Jan Epiphany White	11 am Holy Communion	Judy Scott David Stevens	Ephesians 3: 1-12 Diana Rodwell
Sunday 15 Jan Epiphany 2 White	4pm Evensong	Ann Jones June Hughes	Isaiah 49: 1-7 Mark Kyte John 1: 29-42 Michael Parlett
Sunday 22 Jan Epiphany 3 White	9.30 Family Service	Jane Jordan Nicol Jordan	Matthew 4: 12-23 Rachel Bailey
Sunday 29 Jan Presentation of Christ White	United Benefice Holy Communion Derry Hill		

ST MARTIN'S NOTICES

The Christmas Fayre raised £814 after expenses and the Raffle raised £815. Thank you to all who helped make the evening such a success, both those who worked so hard and those that came and spent their money!

Auction of Promises. There will be an Auction of Promises in aid of the Friends of St Martin is being held on In Bremhill Village Hall.

Afternoon tea china for hire. Very reasonable rates. Contact Philippa on 815337.

Cleaning Rota. In Church you will see a 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. This month on Monday 23 January at 9.30-10.00 am. Please note the time – we are only get one visit each month and after January, it will be on the third Monday of each month ie 20^{th} of February.

St Martin's 100 Club. The winners of the November draw were Sandra Pocock and in December they were Richard Dutton and Judy Scott.

We are down on the number of contributors for 2017, so the prize money will be less but thank you for all those who have joined or rejoined this year. It really does make a difference to ability to improve the fabric of the church - see elsewhere in the Newsletter.

St Martin's Fund Raising. The PCC wishes to thank the enthusiastic Bremhill ladies who have put on so many events over the past 18 months. You know who you are! You have raised over £6000. The fund has supported the heating improvements and, we are sure, will support the projects mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter. Our precious Grade I building that dominates the village is there for the benefit of everyone, whether you attend church services or not. Without it, our village could be very much diminished. The PCC is very gateful.

If you have any items of news for the January edition of this Newsletter, please give them to Jane Jordan (812083) in time for the 8th Jan 2017 deadline.



ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, TYTHERTON LUCAS

Sunday 1 Jan NO SERVICE

Sunday 8 Jan **Eucharist** 8.30 am Jim Scott

Mattins Sunday 15 Jan Margaret Gubbins 10 am

Sunday 22 Jan Eucharist 8.30 am Rod Key

Sunday 29 Jan Rod Key Evensong 3pm

Sunday 5 Feb Peter Tremelling Morning Service 10 am

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

CATHOLIC SERVICES

St Mary's, Chippenham Saturdays 6 pm Sundays 9.30 am and 6.30 pm Station Hill, Chippenham

Canon Desmond Millett

St Edmund's, Calne Saturdays 6 pm Sundays 10 am Oxford Road,

Father Vincent Curtis 01249 813131

www.stmaryschippenham.co.uk www.saintedmundsparish.org.uk

POEM:

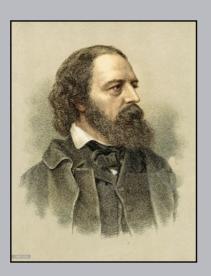
Alfred Tennyson, 1st Baron Tennyson, FRS was Poet Laureate of Great Britain and Ireland during much of Queen Victoria's reign and remains one of the most popular British poets. Perhaps when we consider all the events in the world of the past year, some of the words in this poem may echo our hopes!

In Memoriam - Lord Alfred Tennyson, 1809 - 1892

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light: The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind For those that here we see no more; Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind.



Ring out a slowly dying cause, And ancient forms of party strife; Ring in the nobler modes of life, With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin, The faithless coldness of the times; Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Rng out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrowing lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand; Ring out the darkness of the land, Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Ewen

Hand Made In The Parish



Judging by the amount of beautiful work seen at the village shows and exhibitions throughout 2016 the Parish has some amazing talent.

We will be showcasing the creative talent of artists, crafters, makers, photographers, in fact anyone living in Bremhill Parish who would like to share their creativity with Newsletter readers.

An example of their work could find its way on to the front cover in colour along with an interesting article on the originator, their inspiration and methods.

So, come on, share it with us. You could be an amateur, professional or create your work as a hobby.

Simply contact the editorial teameditor@bremhill.com or David Stevens on 01249 815337 or Ewen Bird on 01249 821879.

Don't worry, we can arrange to take a complimentary photograph of your work if you don't have a suitable image for publication.