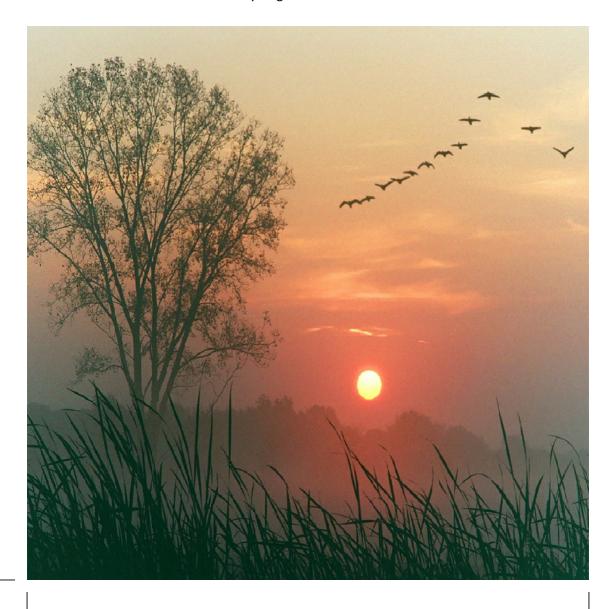
BREMHILL, FOXHAM, THE TYTHERTONS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

November 2014 The Newsletter

In this issue: • Small Thoughts • Wedding Disaster • Futility

- Heritage Project Alfred Tuck Mons Le Cateau
- Honorary Degree Bremhill Timeline Fibre Internet



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

• 1st November Pumpkin Ball - Foxham 5th November Bremhill fireworks • 6th November Ladies Lunch at Bowood • 10th November The Friends of St Martin AGM • 13th November Foxham bridge afternoon 18th November Bremhill hall AGM - all invited • 21st November St Martins - French Evening • 28th November A Victorian Christmas • 29th November St Martins Church Bazaar • 29th November Family Bingo at Foxham • 3rd - 5 December **Bowood Extravaganza** • 13th December Carol service - Christian Malford

DONATIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

- Envelopes have been inserted into the Newsletter this month and donations may be placed into them and the envelopes sealed.
- Each envelope has Jessica Pillow's address and may be posted into her letter-box.
- Donations may also be handed in to the Dumb Post and the Foxham Inn.
- Cheques should be made payable to 'Bremhill Newsletter'.
- Payment by BACS: Bank Lloyds; Sort code 30-91-99; a/c number -48359368; a/c name - Bremhill Newsletter
- In addition, envelopes may be handed in to either of the co-editors, David Stevens or Ewen Bird or any committee member.

EDITORIAL

Oscar Wilde once said rather bitterly that a critic knows the price of everything and the value of nothing! I rather hope that the case of the Newsletter has contradicted that view and everyone can see that the publication has a real value for our whole community. Our aim is to develop a magazine, delivered free to each household, that is well set out, looks professional and carries interesting content. However, this means there is still a price attached to its production. While advertising does cover a large percentage of the printing costs, it unfortunately does not cover all the outgoings - and bills still have to be paid! Last year we inserted envelopes into the Newsletter for voluntary donations and people across the Parish were generous in their response. We have decided, therefore, that we do need to repeat this request for support and help this year to maintain the standard of our publication and so an envelope has been inserted into this month's issue for voluntary donations and details are given in the adjoining box. Contributions will be most welcome and accepted with grateful thanks.

The clocks have gone back and November has arrived again, the harbinger of dark evenings, cold weather and mulled wine! Autumn, however, is a beautiful season and allows us to see nature at its most vibrant. But at this time of year we must also not forget the sacrifices that were made a hundred years and seventy-five years ago in the two world wars. We are reminded of these sacrifices and of the men who suffered the horrors of war in some of the items in this edition and we will commemorate over the coming months some of the local men who fell a century ago.

A short while ago, driving home through Bremhill, I noticed a large police vehicle parked near the Church. On approaching our house I saw a police officer walking towards my car. "Oh lord, what have I done now" went through my mind! And "it wasn't me - honest!" Then I saw that it was WPC Sonya Stockhill, our Community Beat Manager. She assured me of my innocence and said she was just casting her eye around all the corners of our Parish. How good it was to see this commitment to protecting our Parish and to know that good links are maintained, even if we are not always aware of them. I felt very looked after.

Enjoy this Newsletter.

Ewen Bird Co-editor

SPECIAL NOTICES

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARTIN AGM

The Friends of St Martin AGM will take place in The Dumb Post Inn on 10th November at 8.30 pm. Any local organization wishing to be considered for a donation, please contact Heather Mowlem by letter before Tuesday 28th Oct.

FOXHAM AUTUMN BRIDGE AFTERNOON WITH TEA

Thursday, Nov 13th from 1.30pm to 5pm at the Foxham Reading Room. Tickets £8 per person. Apply early to avoid disappointment to Val Minty, 01249 740219 or Jenny Wilton on 01249 740279.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

November 5th will herald another Bremhill Fireworks Display. Gates open at 6.30pm.

Fabulous display plus hotdogs, burgers, mulled wine, soup and more....

A highlight of the year for our many visitors.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS BINGO

AT FOXHAM READING ROOM/ VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 29th November, 5 pm Start! Come along and have some family fun-you may even be a winner! Half the proceeds will be donated to a Charity to be drawn on the night, so have their details ready! Your chosen Charity might be in for a Christmas surprise.

Refreshments and light snacks available, oh - and a raffle too, of course!! Reserve your table now to avoid going home before it's even started! Email: foxhamvillagehall@btinternet.com or ring Cathy 740413 / 07795595878

21ST ANNIVERSARY THANK YOU

What a fantastic and positive event for the 21st Bremhill Hall Anniversary! The event was attended by over 70 people who took time to look through the photographs and documents mapping the village hall timeline. It should be noted that the documentation provided was only a very brief

snapshot of the details that are in the village hall archives

and discussions are taking place on the best way of providing an accessible format for anyone

interested in the history of the village.

The event's success was due to the concerted effort of a few people, so a big thank you to Bob Harding, Rosie Stevens and Martin Searle for the presentation and Hillary Harding for all the hard work preparing and providing the refreshments with the support of Alison, June, Judy, Sue, Marilyn and Jophy.





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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 13th 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.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, BREMHILL

Saturday 29th November 10 am-12 pm

Stalls - Raffle - Home Produce - Mulled Wine Gifts for Christmas - Christingle making

Grand Autumn Raffle will be drawn at Midday. Any offers of help would be gratefully received!

BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL AGM

Tuesday, Nov. 18th at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Everyone very welcome.

MOVIOLA FILMS IN CALNE TOWN HALL.

'BELLE' (12a) starring Tom Wilkinson, Emily Watson, Miranda Richardson, Penelope Wilton and Matthew Goode.

This film was inspired by a true story. The illegitimate mixed race daughter of a Royal Navy Admiral is raised by her aristocratic great uncle, Lord Mansfield. Her lineage affords her certain privileges, but the colour of her skin prevents her from participating in the traditions of her social standing. She falls in love with an idealistic young vicar's son bent on change, who, with her help, shapes Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in Britain.

Showing in The Town Hall on Weds Nov 26^{th} at 7.30 pm. Doors open at 7.00 pm. Tickets £6.00 available from the Information Office or on the door. Refreshments available.

FOXHAM HORSE & FUN DOG SHOW 2014

The Show this year was held on Saturday 20th September with kind permission & thanks to John & Jane Philip - and what a vintage year it has turned out to be. We are very fortunate to have such generous Sponsors and a hardworking team of Stewards, Helpers & Judges, all of whom put in a huge effort to make sure the day ran smoothly. We are enormously grateful to all of them and also for the wonderful support from Foxham village, as without their help, there would be no Show! The weather was kind and there were bumper entries for both the Horse and Dog Show classes. The new layout was approved by everyone as more "user-friendly" and opened up the Showground for better viewing and access. The annual star prize of 4 tickets to the London Olympia Horse Show in December ensured everyone dug deep into their pockets for the ever-popular Raffle. Next year's Foxham Show will be held on Saturday 19th September 2015. Look forward to seeing you there!

The final net figure raised is £6,350 and the Beneficiaries will be Foxham Church, Foxham Reading Room, Greatwood Charity, Wiltshire Air Ambulance, Practical Action, The Dogs' Trust, Dorothy House, RABI (The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution) and the Tytherton Village Hall Fund.

Jane & Spike Milligan



Devizes Mobile Library calls at Naish House Farm, Spirthill, on every other Monday afternoon at 2 pm - 2.30 pm - 3^{rd} and 17^{th} November.



Churchyard Clear –up was on Saturday 4th October (at St Martins, Bremhill) – in pouring rain! Somehow some stalwart people managed to cut down a tree and the nettles and generally make the churchyard look much better. Many thanks to all who helped, and to Hillary and Bob for providing much needed refreshment. We must keep up the good work.



Come and see our school



Christian Malford C.of E. Primary School on Friday 14 November 2014 at 9am-12noon.

We look forward to welcoming all our community, prospective pupils and their families and current parents

- See our teaching in action by dropping into the classrooms
- Take a tour of our school buildings and outdoor learning areas with our pupils
- Speak to our headteacher to find out about her plans for the school
- Join our celebration assembly at 9am to find out about the pupils' achievements
- Taste our popular school dinners cooked fresh on-site
- Meet our Local Board members and hear about the vision and strategy for the school

We are also holding a School Information Evening at 6pm on 20 November 2014.

For more information please call 01249 720496 or email admin@christianmalford.wilts.sch.uk

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A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Rural Arts Touring Friday 28th November 2014

Actors/musicians: A Blast from the Past

Doors open 7 pm. Performance 7.30 pm Tickets £7 adult £4.50 children

Tickets from: Marilyn 01249 661369 or Rosie 01249 813642 Bar, raffle and light refreshments.

This show should really get you in the mood for Christmas. A traditional Christmas with festive songs from the past. If you want - do come dressed up in Victorian costume. Or at least a little something reminiscent of the era!

You can find out more about the show at www.avictorianchristmas.co.uk. But come along to the Village Hall to see the show live.

Marilyn Adcock



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WEDDING DISASTER!

While undertaking research into the Great War, the Bremhill History Group came across this article, taken from The Dundee Evening Telegraph on Monday, August 29, 1921. Does anyone know of the Reeves family in Foxham and the outcome of this sorry tale?

BANNS BAN VICAR REFUSES TO PROCEED WITH WEDDING GROOM'S OVERSIGHT

Though both bride and bridegroom were at the church at the appointed hour with all their friends, no wedding bells rang out for a young Wiltshire couple, whose strange experience affords a lesson by which all those about to be married should profit.

The unlucky couple (writes a Bath correspondent) are Henry John Hunt of Purton and Miss (still Miss) Caroline Reeves of Foxham, Bremhill. They were to have been married at the Bremhill Church, and while the bridgegroom and friends were waiting for the bride, the Rev. A. E. G. Peters, made the disconcerting discovery that Hunt had not had the banns published in his own parish of Wootton Bassett.

Hunt agreed that this was so, but he contended that it was unnecessary, as he had slept every week-end for months in Bremhill parish, where the banns had been duly called.

The vicar, however, pointed out that the bridegroom had made a slip in the banns by describing himself as of Wootton Bassett parish, and therefore banns should have been published in both his own and his bride's parish. He firmly declined to proceed with the ceremony till the legal preliminaries had been complied with, though the bride had in the meantime arrived, attended by her bridesmaids.

Ultimately the bridal party therefore departed disconsolately. The young couple, still in a state of single blessedness, are now arranging to be married elsewhere.

Seems a bit cruel! What would you have done, Jim?! (Ed)



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CHRISTIAN MALFORD & FOXHAM WI

We chose a superb, calm September day for our canoe and paddle boarding experience. No capsizing and the entire Cotswold Lake to ourselves!



Please venture into Christian Malford Church and you will be amazed by the wonderful altar cloth and lectern fall that textile designer, Ellie Hutton, has spent many months creating - a true work of art. We are very proud to have such a talented member within our WI. Military life from a wife's point of view was Claire MacNaughton's entertaining October talk. She poignantly and funnily told us how she juggled life as a mother and wife to a serving pilot, with her own career to think of as well. Her blog, which she later turned into a book, caused a stir in the military circles.

We are so grateful for all the anticipated help we will be receiving on fireworks night, Saturday 8th, and all the gingerbread men, toffee apple and flapjack baking. Don't forget the community clean up the next morning starting at 8.30.

Frances Benton, a lively and entertaining speaker, will be with us on 20th November with her passion for pearls. We will be handling all colours, shapes and sizes, so do not miss this fascinating glimpse into the world's most secretive and only living gemstone. All our information and club activities can be found on the notice board outside the Christian Malford village shop.

Contact Jenny 01249 740950



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THE EAST TYTHERTON HERITAGE PROJECT

By Nigel Pocock

Visitors from Jamaica and Trinidad remember the Antiguan slave, Leonora Casey Carr





Corinne excavates a headstone in the Moravian burial ground. While Terry digs a trench, Andy and Fiona sieve out finds in the Quaker burial-ground!







East Tytherton Heritage Project (founded 2007) is built around four main pillars: community, identity, research, and stories. The project has excavated in East Tytherton Quaker and Moravian burial grounds, and is currently doing so in the former Moravian Girls' School garden. Conferences have been held on local, family and Black history. Out of this has grown extensive research and education, linking in with local schools, Chippenham Museum and other bodies. But what finally encapsulates all this work are the stories contained in this history.

In the whole of Wiltshire, there is only one gravestone of a slave from the Caribbean. She lies in the Moravian burial-ground in East Tytherton and came from the tiny island of Antigua-together with another slave family. This is Leonora Casey Carr, and the others were the Creole-Scottish sisters, Ann,

Sarah, Eliza, and Alicia Briggs. They were all educated at a remarkable institution for women: The Moravian Girls' School, in East Tytherton. As can be imagined, teaching geography, languages, medicine and many other subjects to girls was not a priority for women when the school was founded in 1792. Yet here we have a completely unexpected history of not only women, but Black women, all tucked away in East Tytherton!

And what of Bishop George Hanna, who served for over forty years in Jamaica, survived yellow fever, and lost his wife and four of his ten children there? Or of Ann Zippel, helping the flood victims in St. Kitt's, also ex-slaves? And Harriet Maynard, born in Paramaribo, Surinam, and became a student at the Girls' School? The Revd. Charles Schwartz (also born in Paramaribo), with his Dutch wife Cornelia, who doubtless brought Harriet over? All are buried here except Harriet who rests in Cornwall. What violence had these people seen? For in Surinam (Dutch Guyana) slaves outnumbered whites by a staggering 94:1, making revolts and bloody repression a continuous occurrence.

In the Quaker burial ground (1659) are interred members of the Fry family, closely related to the famous prison reformer and abolitionist, Elizabeth Fry (née Gurney), as well as the Quaker martyr, David Hale, who died for his faith in the Fleet prison. In the Moravian burial-ground (1748), there is an embarrassment of riches.

Closer to home, Walter Pocock (d.1939) and Walter Long (d.1936), founders of Wiltshire United Dairy (now part of Dairy Crest), are both buried here, together with Walter Pocock's brother-in-law, Lt. Alfred Pocock Long, RFC. Alfred is the only person in the older part of the burial ground with any kind of military affiliation, although he didn't make it into combat for he was killed in an air accident at Upavon, while practising manoeuvres in his Sopwith Pup in 1917.

Contrary to the saying, this is a rolling stone that has gathered moss! If any local people are interested in this project, or would like to get involved in any way, do please contact us!

Nigel Pocock, Project Leader East Tytherton Heritage Project, Pococks@rockuk.net

STOKER 1ST CLASS ALFRED TUCK NO 308496 25 JULY 1886 - 1 NOVEMBER 1914 AGED 28 YEARS

Alfred was born in Spirthill in 1886 the son of Charles and Jane Tuck. His father Charles was a shepherd in Spirthill at the time of Alfred's birth. Alfred served in the Royal Navy before becoming a rural postman in his home area. In 1910 Alfred married a local girl from All Cannings, Bertha Lee, and on the 14 November 1911 they had a daughter Dorothy Margaret Tuck. At the outbreak of war in 1914 Alfred, although a postman, was still a serving naval reservist and was training aboard HMS Goodhope. This ship, an armoured cruiser of 1901 vintage and 14100 tons, had been mothballed but was quickly put back into service after the test mobilisation of March 1914. On 16th August after the declaration of war, HMS Good Hope, manned mainly by reservists such as Alfred, was ordered to sail to the South Atlantic and later joined by HMS Monmouth, a lighter cruiser of 9800 tons. The ships were under the command of Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock. After visiting the Falklands, the ships continued in a search for the ships of the German East Asian Squadron who had been tasked with disrupting allied shipping trading with the colonies in the southern hemisphere. On the late afternoon of 1st November 1914 the two fleets met each other.

By early evening it was estimated that HMS Goodhope had received 30 hits and as darkness descended, the ship received a direct hit which must have detonated the magazine. HMS Goodhope and her entire crew of 900 souls were never seen again. This sea action later became known as the Battle of Coronel. Although his name does not appear on any of the Bremhill parish memorials, Alfred is a Bremhill lad and his name appears on the Hillmarton and Portsmouth navel memorials. There is also another memorial to the entire crew at Stanley in the Falkland Islands. Alfred is Bremhill parish's first recorded death in the Great War.

Postscript:-

Bertha remarried to James Moore in Devizes 1919

GREAT SOMERFORD GUIDES

A coachful of Guides headed to Wembley Arena at the beginning of October for the Big Gig - a pop concert exclusively for Guides. With bands like Little Mix, Kingsland Road, Neon Jungle and Union J and dance group Diversity, the Guides were wild with excitement! We had seats near the front and even managed to get a 'shout out' for two of our group who had recently completed their Baden Powell Challenge and to whom we presented their certificates at the event. 21,000 Guides across two performances had the most amazing experience, if only to show them that they are part of a huge organisation that is truly modern!

In the run up to Christmas we are doing reindeer themed activities for a lovely reindeer badge! We will be carol singing in the village on Monday 15th December, so if you know any elderly ladies that would appreciate a visit from the Guides please let me know. Remember to look out for the new Guide uniform on Remembrance Sunday!

Gill Shaw

FOXHAM STANDING ITEMS

Foxham sub-Post Office

Foxham sub-post office is open each Thursday from 9am-12 noon. If you wish to contact the postmaster, please phone 07973 251633.

Foxham Reading Room bookings

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

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.

Tablecloths for hire in Foxham

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

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Come to an evening of French gastronomie on Friday 21 November 7.30pm at Bremhill Village Hall! It is 70 years since the Battle of Normandy, leading to the liberation of Paris in August 1944. There will be a 3 course French menu with decorations, music and stories from the Battle of Normandy.

The evening will cost only £12 each and any profit will go towards the fabric repairs for St Martin's Church. Any offers of help, French raffle prizes and suggestions will be gratefully received.

Merci beaucoup!

FIBRE INTERNET AVAILABILITY

Many have raised the issue of broadband Internet speeds in the recent questionnaires and some of us have been keeping an eager eye on BT Openreach's status checker tool. For Foxham, East Tytherton and Tytherton Lucas, the tool has, for a while, indicated the rather positive news that the Kellaways telephone exchange will be fibre-enabled before the end of 2014. The tool reports "December 2014" as the target date. Residents in West End and Foxham also spotted the new cabinet outside Teal Farm as a sign of progress.

Some of us who either work from home or operate a business from home, wanted to find out more and ensure that we would be able to benefit from fibre connectivity. Scott Walsh has been researching the issues extensively and contacted Wiltshire Council on several occasions to ask clarification questions to which the council has replied. In summary:

- BT Openreach are on target to enable the Kellaways exchange in December 2014.
- Those in the Parish who are not connecting to the Kellaways exchange (Bremhill in particular) are probably served by the Calne exchange and the PC are investigating this further.
- Not every house connects to a telephone exchange via a street cabinet; some premises are connected directly to the Exchange over "Exchange Only" (EO) lines which are typically long cable runs and cannot carry high speed Internet connections. Wiltshire Council is working with BT Openreach and looking into technical options to provide high speed Internet to these premises.

Fibre Internet will not be a panacea, however. With Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC), the fibre optic cables terminate in the street cabinets. From the street cabinets, existing telephone wires are used to connect homes and business premises. The further these are from the street cabinet, the slower the connections will be - albeit starting from a much higher speed than the "old" ADSL broadband.

For those who are struggling with ADSL broadband at the moment, there are some simple things you could do.

- Your modem (BT Home Hub, router, etc.) should be connected to the Master Socket (i.e. the socket where the telephone wires enter your premises), preferably using a master ADSL filter. Extension wiring is typically made of poor quality cable that affects broadband performance.
- Do not turn your router on/off regularly (especially at night). The
 broadband network needs the connection to be on all the time in order
 to "train" itself. Once the equipment on BT Openreach's end of the line
 establishes that a line is stable, it will gradually (over a period of several
 days and weeks) try to increase the speed of the line until it reaches the
 maximum speed the line can carry reliably.
- There is better equipment available than Internet Service Provider (ISP)issued hubs/routers that will maintain broadband connections in poor or
 very poor conditions. This equipment is a little costly, however, and
 requires a degree of technical knowledge to operate correctly.

Jérôme Semichon (jerome@semichon.com), Scott Walsh (scottwalsh72@googlemail.com) and Richard Tucker Bremhill Parish Councillor for the Foxham Ward (richard@rsjtucker.com).



Mons - Le Cateau 23-26 August 2014

On August 23rd, 10th Chippenham Air Scouts and Endeavour Explorer Scout Unit joined with scouts and explorer scouts from Aston Clinton (Buckinghamshire) and Belgian scouts to walk from Mons (Belgium) to Le Cateau (France) following the line of retreat of the 1st Wiltshire Regiment 100 years ago to the day.

On August 22nd, we took part in a service with E Battery, Royal Horse Artillery as they fired a field gun at the spot near Bray (Belgium) where the first British gun was fired, signalling the beginning of the war for the British Expeditionary Force. On August 23rd, we planted a tree of remembrance in the centre of Mons with the Belgian Prime Minister and the British and German Ambassadors to Belgium. We then set out on our 65km hike to retrace the route the Wiltshire regiment fought at the very beginning of the First World War as they retreated towards Le Cateau (France). The walk was a little long for our legs! Conditions were very different from those 100 years ago, with mixed and rather cold weather instead of the blistering sunshine and heat the Wiltshire Regiment experienced in 1914, but we all made it to Le Cateau.

On August 26th, we took part in ceremonies commemorating the 7812 British casualties and missing of the Battle of Le Cateau on 26th August 1914 before joining the town's mayor, dignitaries and guests at a garden party.

That evening an army re-enactor from 10th Essex Regiment WW1 Living History Group talked to us about the army during the First World War. It was fascinating to hear about how the army worked then and hearing about the small details was very interesting. One of the things that I remember well is why British soldiers did not wear big leather boots like the Germans, since boots full of water were a lot heavier than boots that did not have space for water. We must have listened to him for 3 or 4 hours and we learnt a lot.

One thing that really surprised me was how clean and peaceful the countryside was when we went there. It seemed as if it had always been like that - but then you think that many thousand brave men were engaging in fierce combat exactly one hundred years ago. When you visit the many cemeteries, you get a feeling for how many people died here. The trip also introduced us to Wilfred Owen's poetry in the places it was written. After having read a few pages of a book of his poems, you realise how it was real people fighting this war.

We learnt a lot about how the soldiers, and the civilian populations of Belgium and France were affected and the difficulties they faced during the war. When there, you really get to appreciate how hard it would have been to fight there, how brave the soldiers were and how hard life was for the local populations during the war.

Pierre-Marie Semichon Endeavour Explorer Scouts Unit

RIDE AND STRIDE

September 14th was a lovely fine day for the one person we had for the ride and stride this year. David Glass had been sponsored again this year to take part, as he participated last year and decided to do it once again. Ride and Stride requires people to walk or ride and visit as many churches as possible in the time from 9 am to 6 pm on the given day, the churches being opened for the event and David managed to visit 35 churches this year. His sponsorship money will be sent to Salisbury, half of which we will then receive back to use for our church.

I spent the day sitting in the church to welcome the riders who visited us and sign their forms. We had 18 riders visit through the day, starting with David and ending with Rev Bob Kenway who arrived at 5.30 pm looking exhausted. He had still not finished with us, as he had determined to visit all the churches in the Calne Deanery in the allotted time. As he left us to cycle up the hill, he had 2 remaining, making 18 in all, before returning to his base in Calne. During the week we learned he had failed by 1 church, as time had beaten him. Even so, it was quite an achievement and he had the aches and pains to remind him of what he had done.

A well-done goes to David for taking the challenge for the second year. He has really done his bit for the church. It would be lovely if someone else would take up the challenge next year. All that is needed is a cycle or horse, the ability to walk, and stamina, of course!!

All in all, it was a good day. I met some lovely people and they enjoyed seeing inside our church. One group of 3 even stayed to eat their sandwiches, sitting in the sun in the churchyard.

Elizabeth Hannah

AN HONORARY DEGREE CONFERRED ON NICOL JORDAN

Readers may be interested in the following announcement:-

"Prior to the Royal Veterinary College becoming part of the University of London in 1949, students successfully completing their studies at the college were awarded a diploma of Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The first Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree was not awarded until 1957. Today we are delighted to welcome 45 alumni who successfully completed their studies at the College and were awarded a diploma, and it gives us great pleasure to recognise them with an Honorary Degree in Veterinary Studies."

The graduation ceremony took place at the Great Hall, Westminster on 16th July of this year when 40 surviving vets received this award - four from Nicol's year 1953!.

Not bad considering Nicol is now 84 years old. This ceremony will never happen again so they gave them the gown they wore on the day - mauve and silver. Nicol threatens to wear it with his choir robe at Christmas time!



CONTACT DETAILS OF NEWSLETTER OFFICERS

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All contributions and suggestions to the Editors, please.

TYTHERTON WI

There were gasps of admiration for some examples of the craft work brought along by members to the September meeting. These included the most exquisite tapestry work designed and executed by Jane, wire and



bead sculptures and jewellery by Rachel, delicate lace tatting by Daphne, beautiful cushions and aprons by Brenda, and lovely knitting by Rhona . Glenn showed us how she spins the wool gathered from her own sheep and turns it into girls' handbags, phone covers and other things which she sells for charity. Lynda brought along her hand bells and attempted to teach us how to play them. I thought we managed a passable version of 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'.

In our October meeting, Rita Pearce will be demonstrating 'Making Items From Natural Sources', and we are looking forward to the White Horse Group meeting in Calne when Rosemary Hawthorne, the well-known 'knickers lady', will be entertaining us on how 'Fashion is a Funny Thing'.

At the end of the month, some of us are going to the Annual Council Meeting in Salisbury where, among other things, we will be entertained by the well-known wild-life presenter Mike Dilger.

In November, Richard Broadhead is giving us a talk on World War One Graves in the local area.

Guests are welcome at this talk, so if anyone, male or female, is interested, please join us on November 19th, in East Tytherton Village Hall.

BREMHILL PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Please take a look at the website http://www.bremhillparish.org/ further results of our Parish questionnaire are now posted and make interesting reading. Announcements of public consultation meetings in local village halls will be made in the next few days.

BREMHILL VILLAGE HALL TIMELINE

(The Facts as we understand them)

From 1815 - children received education -probably held in the Old Vicarage.

1846 school was constructed - land was donated to the Vicar and Church Wardens of Bremhill by the Marquis of Lansdowne for provision of a school under the Old School Sites Act.

1846 - Bremhill Church School opens. Records exist until closure (1969)

1969 - Bremhill Church School closed (with only 2 months notice and opposition from parents)

December 1969 - negotiations between Salisbury Diocesan Council of Education and Bremhill PCC to buy the former Church School and House.

1970 - Letter from Salisbury Diocesan Council of Education stating building had reverted to former landowner, the Marquis of Lansdowne.

Bremhill Village Hall leased from the Marquis of Lansdowne, paying a peppercorn rent, but responsible for all maintenance of the hall.

January 1989 - At a Village Hall Committee meeting, concerns were raised about the condition of the roof. Decision taken to seek professional advice about repairs to the roof. It was agreed by several different contractors that the roof was beyond economical repair and needed to be replaced.

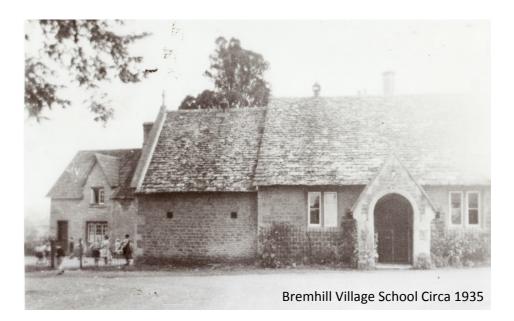
May 1989 - Lord Shelburne approached about extending the lease (due to expire 1998), but this was rejected. Therefore grant aid would not be available towards the significant costs of renewing the roof.

November 1990 - Sub-Committee formed (Dennis Jarmey, Martin Searle, David Stevens, Pob Stevens) to investigate all possibilities open to the village including the possibility of building a new village hall.

March 1991 - Meeting with Lord Shelburne in which he requested a public meeting in the village to discuss his proposals. This was rejected by the Village Hall Committee as there were no concrete proposals.

May 1991 - Further meeting of the Sub-Committee with Lord Shelburne. He had now set a figure of £30,000 for the Village to purchase the hall. This, in addition to an estimated figure of £12,000 for renewal of roof, would mean £42,000 would have to be raised.

June 1991 - Extraordinary General Meeting held in the village hall. It was unanimously agreed to pursue the option to buy the hall and to ask the current sub-committee to proceed with negotiations.



FUNDRAISING STARTED

June 1991 - Hall had to be closed for safety reasons following part of the plaster ceiling falling through the suspended ceiling.

August 1991 - Meeting held at Bowood House. Selling price of £20,000 negotiated and agreed, with a completion date no later than May 1992.

September 1991 - Devastating blow - no grant monies available this year. Negotiations followed with Lord Shelburne which led to an agreement for an extension of the completion date to April 1993, by which time the Village Hall will hopefully have secured some grant monies and will have had a further 12 months to raise funds.

November 1991 - Agreed work would start on re-roofing the hall. This was aided hugely by support from local craftsman (notably Brian Meadows and Phil Charlesworth - and many others) and offers of help with provision of materials.

19th December 1991 - Re-opening of the Village Hall for the Christmas Draw.

October 1992 - Trustees approached. These were named as Jill Church, Barrie Giffard-Taylor, Jean Pocock and William Wyldbore-Smith.

November 1992 - £1,750 grant received towards the re-roofing costs.

March 1993 - Wiltshire Grants Panel have awarded £10,000 grant - £5,000 to be paid in April 1993 and a further £5,000 in April 1994.

31st March 1993 - COMPLETION OF PURCHASE

17th April 1993 - CELEBRATION PARTY

After the hall was purchased in 1993, efforts were made to refurbish the toilet block. This took many years of meetings and correspondence with the planning department and the Listed Buildings authorities. In 2010, the toilet block was rebuilt and the village hall attained the high standard you see now.

Huge efforts have been made by many residents over many years and you see before you a

fabulous village amenity.

Please support our Chairman, Roger Griffin, and his committee, to continue to use and value our Village Hall.



Bremhill School - the term before closure in 1969



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THE FOXHAM INN NEWS

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 The Game Season is in full swing now with Pheasant, Partridge and Wild Duck appearing on our Menus. We have also now started doing a Five Course Tasting Dinner Menu for all those people that find it hard to make a decision from our menu.

On November 26th, we are holding our Annual Wild Food and Game Dinner with Wine to match each course with our wine expert, John O'Keefe, telling you about his selections: advanced bookings only.

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

Look forward to seeing you all soon

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SMALL THOUGHTS OF A LARGE CLERGYMAN

The "Season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness" is with us again! November! A word derived from the Latin word "novem", number nine. In the ancient Roman Calendar, November was the ninth month after March.

It's misty and miserable outside as I write this and, ignorant as I am about the subject, I would have thought that gardening was the last thing on anyone's mind. WRONG! I am told by my resident gardener that one of the greatest pleasures in gardening lies in looking forward. Planning of next year's beds and borders is one of the most agreeable occupations in the gardener's calendar. So this makes October and November particularly pleasant for them. Time too, to clear the borders, to cut down those sodden and untidy stalks and to move plants to other positions where next year they will show up to greater effect.

People who are not gardeners always say that the bare beds of winter are uninteresting, but gardeners know better. They even take pleasure in the neatness of the newly dug bare brown earth. Sustained of course by the prospect of Spring when the whole cycle begins again. However, most people, early in November, take last looks at their garden (which has given them so much pleasure) and are prepared to ignore them until the Spring. How sad, because in the garden Autumn is indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. At no other season do we get such superb colour effects as we do in Autumn.

I sometimes feel, that for some, our religion can be a bit like this....Christmas, Easter, Harvest Festival - great Festivals of the Church, we all love them. We love the familiar hymns and stories from the Bible, the ritual, the beauty of the season itself. And part of our pleasure at these times can be put down to nostalgia. Memories of festivals past. Loved ones, friends, neighbours, family perhaps no longer with us. And for a time God, and his son Jesus Christ become a living, relevant part of our lives...And then the season passes and we get on with whatever is important to us until the season comes round again. It shouldn't be like that, but so often it seems to be. We perhaps forget "God isn't just for Christmas (or Easter or Harvest) but for ever!"

Jim Scott

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, Foxham

2nd November9.30amE. HannahAll Saints DayHoly Communion1 John 3: 1-3

9th November 9.30am M. Kellond

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Wisdom 3: 1-8

Family Service

16th November 9.30am R. Pegler

2nd before Advent Holy Communion 1 Thessalonians

5: v.1-11

23rd November 6pm D. Scott

Sunday bf. Advent Evensong Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Matthew 25: 31-end

30th November 11am

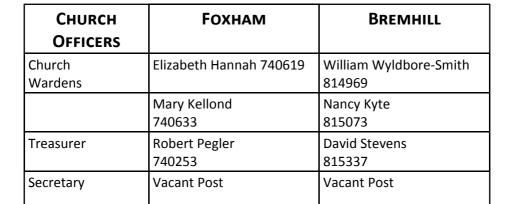
UNITED BENEFICE

BREMHILL (All Welcome)

~

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
2 nd Nov. 4 th before Advent	8 am Holy Communion (AM) 4 pm Evensong (JS)	N Jordan A Heath & P Rawlings	Revelation 7: 9-end Nicol Jordan Matthew 5: 1-12 ~ Nancy Kyte
9 th Nov. 3 rd before Advent	10.50 am Remembrance Sunday (JS)	L Jones & A Jones	Isaiah: 2-5 ~ Brig. George Powell Matthew 5: 1-12 ~ Dr. David Stevens
16 th Nov. 2 nd before Advent	4 pm Evensong (AM)	K Webb & B Rawlings	Zephaniah 1: v 7 & 12-end ~ Mrs June Hughes Matthew 25: 14-30 ~ Mr Mark Kyte
23 rd Nov. 1 st before Advent	9.30 am Family Service (am)	Children	Matthew 25: 31- end ~ A Young Person
30 th Nov. First Sunday in Advent	1 am Advent Christingle Service for all ~ United Benefice Service (AM)	M Wells & K Blackmore	Readings TBA ~ Judy Scott ~ Jane Jordan

ST MARTIN'S NOTICES

The next PCC Meeting – 19 November, Thimble Hall, Hazeland, Bremhill

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.

HARVEST FESTIVAL was on Sunday 5th October at 6 pm. The Church looked wonderful thanks to all the flowers and vegetables beautifully arranged by

many kind people - thank you all. The Auction at the Dumb Post raised some £255.50, which will be given to the Chippenham based charity for the homeless, Doorway.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE is on 9th November this year at 10.50 am. This will follow the usual format with the two Minutes Silence and well-known hymns. Do come along if you can. "And in the morning, we will remember them."

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 8th December 2014 deadline. Thank you.

ST NICHOLAS, TYTHERTON LUCAS

Sunday 2 November Morning Service 10am
Sunday 9 November Eucharist 8.30am
Sunday 16 November Mattins 10am
Sunday 23 November Eucharist 8.30am
Sunday 30 November Evensong 3pm

MORAVIAN CHURCH, EAST TYTHERTON

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Saturdays 6 pm Sundays 10 am Oxford Road, Calne Father Michael d'Arcy Walsh www.saintedmundsparish.org.uk

FUTILITY BY WILFRED OWEN (1893-1918)

Move him into the sun Gently its touch awoke him once,
At home, whispering of fields unsown.
Always it woke him, even in France,
Until this morning and this snow.
If anything might rouse him now
The kind old sun will know.

Think how it wakes the seeds, Woke, once, the clays of a cold star.
Are limbs, so dear-achieved, are sides,
Full-nerved - still warm - too hard to stir?
Was it for this the clay grew tall?
- O what made fatuous sunbeams toil
To break earth's sleep at all?

Wilfred Owen is one of the most famous English poets to emerge from the First World War. He joined the army aged 18, but before long he had to return to England to get treatment for shell-shock (or Post-traumatic Stress Disorder). He returned to the trenches a year later and was decorated for his courage in battle, before being killed on 4th November 1918, aged 25, just a week before peace was declared.

This is a deeply-felt poem, expressing the poet's anger at the futility of a friend's death in battle. I find it very moving.

In comparison, here is a memory of a German soldier, taken from a sound archive of the Imperial War Museum in London. It shows that even in times of great hardship and sacrifice, humanity can shine through. It reminds us of the well-documented Christmas event when soldiers on both sides met in noman's land, played football and exchanged presents.

Sergeant Stefan Westmann - 29th Division, German Army. (November, 1914 - first Battle of Ypres)

All of a sudden the enemy fire ceased. Complete silence came over the battlefield. Then one of the chaps in my shell-hole said, 'I wonder what they are up to?' and another answered 'Perhaps they are getting tea.' A third one said 'Don't be a fool, do you see what I see?' And we looked over the brim of our shell-hole and there, between the brick heaps, out had come a British soldier with a Red Cross flag that he waved at us. And he was followed by other soldiers, stretcher-bearers who came slowly towards us and collected our wounded. We got up, still completely dumb from fear of death and helped them to bring our wounded into our trenches.

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