

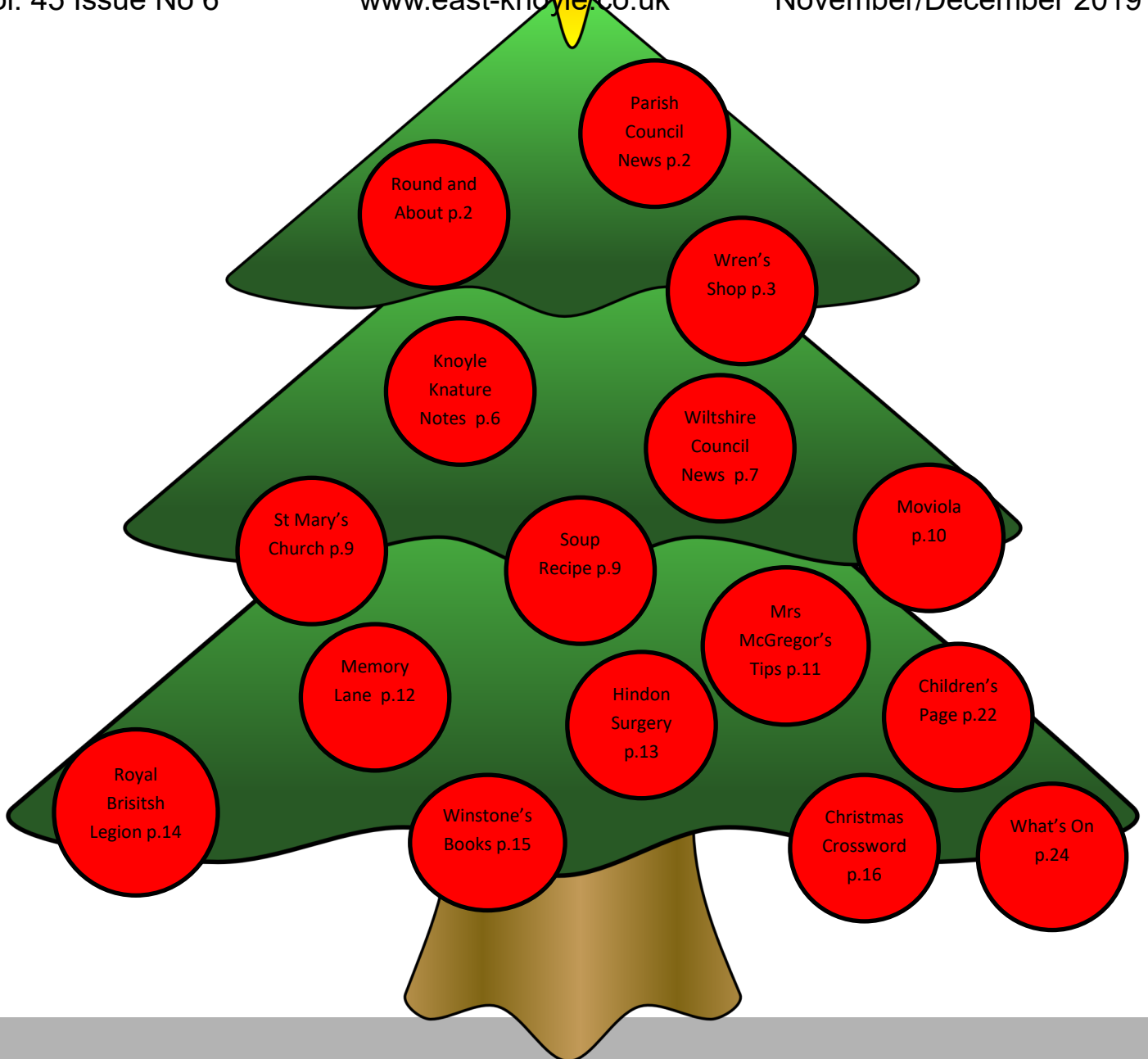


The East Knoyle Newsletter

Vol: 45 Issue No 6

www.east-knoyle.co.uk

November/December 2019



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Editors: Tracie, Deb and Emma
eastknoylenewsletter@gmail.com

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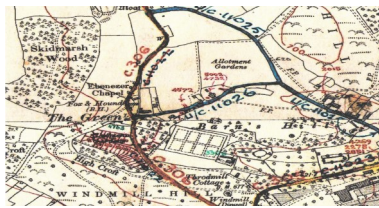
You will have noticed that the Wessex Water mains replacement is well under way. Work started at the South end of the village in October and before it reaches the main part of the Village you will have another chance to address questions to Richard Mullins. Richard, The Wessex Water project manager will be attending the PC meeting on December 10th, doors open 7.30pm.

It is the time of year when the PC considers its Precept request for the next financial year and at the November meeting the PC members agreed to increase the precept by 2.5%, a real increase of £250.

Estimates are being sought for the rebuilding of a section of the wall around Knoyle House Grounds. A specification has been paid for and the PC will be going out to tender during November and December.

The PC has been approached by Highways England to ask if we would be interested in hearing the current plans for the upgrading of the A303. A section of the work will affect us when the single lane section either side of Chicklade is made into a dual carriageway. More news on the date for this meeting in 2020.

The PC still has one vacancy to fill and if you think you could contribute to the running of the Parish we would love to hear from you.



Round and About

Bennetts Cottage, The Street is now home to Denise and John Hiller, and we hope they will be very happy here in East Knoyle. Saskia and Daniel Cosgrove, and their four sons, have moved into Beacon Hill House nearby, so it is good to have new families at the village end of Leigh Lane.

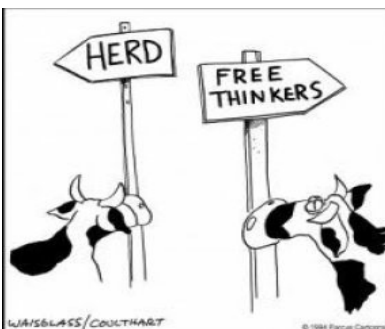
Talking of new families, there are a couple of babies in the village – another cause for celebration – and we send congratulations to their parents.

It can't be very often that a newsletter like this has the sad duty of recording the death of two very senior officers in the British Army who not only lived successively in the same house but died within a month of each other.

Sir Hugh Cunningham lived with his native East Knoylian wife, Jill, at Lower Lye and then moved to Brickyard Farm. As well as being Constable of the Tower, and incidentally giving a talk about the Tower of London to kick-start of the Church Roof Appeal, he was a much-respected Chairman of Governors at Port Regis school. Both he and Jill were great supporters of the work of Clouds House, and indeed one of the houses at Clouds has been named after them. He moved to Fontmell Magna after Jill's death, and it was there that his funeral service – complete with piper – was held.

General Sir John and Lady Wilsey bought Brickyard Farm from Sir Hugh, and renamed it Windmill Farm, since that purchase included the windmill. Sir John repaired the Windmill in order to use it as a study to write his books, and while in the Wilseys' ownership the windmill, to everyone's delight, was opened to the village for the Millennium and other celebrations. The Wilseys were amongst the first people in the area to have alpacas, a trend which quickly caught on in the village. Sir John had a very distinguished career in the army, both here and abroad, and we send our condolences to Lizzie and their children.

Sadly, we have to report the death of another long-time resident of the village, Mrs Joan Jesse. Joan was the widow of John Jesse, and they farmed at Chapel Farm in Upton for very many years. Joan's many interests centred on helping others and to this end she was a founding member of the Red Cross Committee here. She helped with the teas at Salisbury Hospital and with the Mother and Baby Clinic which used to run in the village hall. Joan was a loyal and regular member of the congregation at St Mary's and of St Mary's Guild. Many people will remember the Thursday 'Handicapped Teas' in the village hall, and Joan was instrumental in setting up that successful, useful service too.



The East Knoyle Free Thinkers Group

At the September meeting we discussed the Charities sector.

Often in the news for the wrong reasons we took an in depth look at where this perception came from, was it justified and how the work of Charities has changed over the years. The discussion was proposed by Roger Hague and Jan Knight who researched the content for the meeting and facilitated the discussion. Many thanks to Roger and Jan.

At the November meeting the Group will discuss the "Fermi Paradox" If there are hundreds of billions of planets in the Universe how come we haven't heard from any other intelligent life forms, where are they? We will take a close look at the Drake Equation, the best solution to this question so far proposed.

To contact EK Free Thinkers e mail Kevin Stow at kandbstow@hotmail.com



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Sundays & Bank Holidays 9 am to 12 noon

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Tel: 01747 830735

Email: wrenshop@btconnect.com



[facebook.com/wrenscommunityshop](https://www.facebook.com/wrenscommunityshop)

The shop opening hours over the festive season are shown below. As usual we're open every day except Christmas Day

Christmas Eve	8.00am to 1.00pm
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day (Thurs 26th)	9.00am to 12noon
Friday 27th December	8.00am to 5.00pm
Saturday 28th December	8.00am to 5.00pm
Sunday 29th December	9.00am to 12noon
Monday 30th December	8.00am to 5.00pm
New Year's Eve	8.00am to 1.00pm
New Year's Day	9.00am to 12noon
Thursday 2nd January	8.00am to 6.00pm

NB: Timings are subject to our volunteers being available

Welcome to your Wren's Shop Xmas Launch on 30 November at 4:30 pm

We'll be serving mulled wine and a non-alcoholic options as well as mince pies, cheese and biscuits and hot savouries. The village choir will lead the carol singing.



Santa will switch on the Christmas Tree lights and will be in his grotto with gifts for all the children.

The 'pre-orders' book, for all your Christmas meal requirements, will be open on 30 November and it will remain open until just before Christmas. You'll be able to order the complete range of festive meats from Prime Cuts in Shaftesbury up until 22 December for delivery by 24 December. We can provide fruit and vegetables on a next day basis as we submit orders every day except Saturday.

Remember we can supply all your dairy and cheeses along with fresh fruit and we also offer whole case discounts and a range of wines, beers and spirits for the season. If you need a bottle in a hurry, the shop is just around the corner.

The Christmas door wreaths and card will be on sale again as well as chocolates and biscuit tins for presents. All our jams, honey, marmalade and preservatives as well as the full range of Wilton Foods dry goods are in the shop.

Don't forget our comprehensive range of pet foods and wild bird sustenance to keep them going over the season with discounts for bulk purchases.

This year we're offering a chance to purchase a selection of Wren's Shop Xmas Festive Bags as gifts or for your own use. There will be three options, Celebration, Teatime and Festive with a selection of items in each bag for your choice.



On behalf of the shop's Management Committee we want to thank you for your continuing support of our fantastic village community shop and wish everyone a very happy Xmas and a prosperous 2020. Ian Tait



East Knoyle Post Office

Wren's Shop, Church Road
East Knoyle SP3 6AE
Tel: (01747) 830 928

Email: wrenshop@btconnect.com

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

0920 – 1300 & 1400 – 1700
(Closed for lunch 1300-1400)

Offering an amazing range of

- Banking (cash withdrawals, cheque & cash deposits, balances)
- Bill Payments
- Card Account for Pensions & Benefits
- Euros on Demand
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& of course stamps !

**Note: Closed Monday, Friday, Weekends
& Bank Holidays**





Cranborne Chase AONB becomes an International Dark Sky Reserve

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that [Cranborne Chase](#) has become the first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to be formally designated an International Dark Sky Reserve

The award of International Dark-Sky Reserve status to the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, was born from a vision that Director, Linda Nunn and the AONB team, had ten years ago, when the application was first considered and has benefited throughout from the enthusiastic support of the Wessex Astronomical Society. Thanks to the expert guidance and dedication of Amanda Scott, who some readers will have had the pleasure of meeting at stargazing events, the stringent qualification and compliance parameters of the application were met; leading to this most prestigious award.

Covering 380 square miles, the Cranborne Chase AONB is the sixth largest in the country and the first AONB to be awarded this status by the International Dark Sky Association, see: <https://www.darksky.org/our-work/conservation/idspr/reserves/> When you look at the list which our AONB has now joined, it is quite simply amazing to think that we share this status with the skies above some of the most spectacularly beautiful landscapes in the world!

It is difficult to imagine the achievement of a more significant milestone at a time when we're experiencing unprecedented global levels of pollution, be it noise, air, water or light generated. It is now vital that the dark sky quality on which this award was made, is maintained in order to preserve it's status.

Consultation between the AONB, local planning authorities, parish councils and communities is essential in being able to achieve the levels of non-polluting lighting required to maintain our hard earned Dark-Sky Reserve status. So, keep your eyes open for AONB organised events via <http://www.chasingstars.org.uk>.

Next time you're atop Windmill hill gazing heavenward at the glory of The Milky Way, spare a wish that future generations will equally be able to appreciate that same wonderous sight of the night sky above our iconic landscape.



CRISIS !

Please come and join in a

Bring and Buy, Mince Pie and Coffee Morning

on Thursday 5th December

10.30 am to 12.30 pm

There will be several table top opportunities to raise money for this very important charity

Entrance £1

CRISIS ! endeavours to aid the homeless; offering help with everyday needs and especially at Christmas, plus warm clothing and dinner.

Venue: Ruth Gregg (830304) at Erins, 2 Shaftesbury Road, East Knoyle.

There is ample parking.

A donation would be very welcome.



Harvest Festival



**Save the date: Carol Service at St Marys Church
Sunday 15th December 6.30pm**

.....
Meadowsweet Flowers, for those who don't know, is East Knoyle's very own village florist and is based in The Old Forge down The Street in the village and opens Weds-Sat, 10-1pm usually, but as we approach the festive season, Veronica's hours will extend and if the fairy lights are on then she is open.

On the run up to Christmas, there will be wreath making workshops alongside the range of Veronica's handmade wreaths, table decorations, candle decorations, locally grown Nordmann Christmas trees to order (which she will deliver to your home free of charge), as well as her signature range of bulb planters and gifts. The Forge is also a great outlet for local village artists and entrepreneurs who sell their cards and occasionally original works of art. All year round Meadowsweet Flowers offers fresh cut flowers for posies or bouquets and party celebration flowers; Veronica can also guide you through the process of funeral flowers or wedding flowers with sensitivity. Meadowsweet Flowers is an integral part of village life, with people calling in for a chat or popping in to find out the latest goings on in the village and has been known to have the occasional gathering where people can celebrate village life together with a glass of something and a nibble. Veronica really appreciates the support of the village over the past three years and really looks forward to seeing you soon.



Knogle's Knature Notes from *The Yaffle*

The combination of the fabulous news of the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's award of International Dark-Sky Reserve status and a visit to a friend with who I once shared the experience of watching October's meteor showers in the inky black silence of the Northern Sahara, have combined to inspire a very different set of Knature Notes for this edition!

Notes to home from the Northern Sahara, an edited extract from an article by The Yaffle in the Tripoli Post, 28th February 2002

Hassan Rahil, his wife and 11 children live as Bedouin on the eastern flank of the Haruj El Aswad, a volcanic massif in Libya's central northern Sahara, where daytime temperatures can rise to well over 50 degrees C and fall to below freezing at night. Here they tend their camels, sheep and goats over an area of several thousand square kilometres. Hassan told us that right now his older sons were 150 kilometres away with their stock. He told us that in the current drought, not a drop of rain had fallen since 1998 and that it was the worst he'd experienced since 1958-1963, which had then been followed with regular annual rainfall until 1970, when there had been much flash flooding.



We discussed wildlife and he told us that although rarely fatal, his goats and sheep got bitten from time to time by the Horned viper and scorpions. I asked about the story I'd heard that there was a lethally venomous scorpion which he



confirmed, though he said they were not common in this particular area. As a result of this we later had the species identified and then had a serum produced as an antidote in England, which was then provided to the Libyan Government for distribution in the areas where this species was prevalent. He also told the story of the Camel Spider, which in Bedouin folklore is said to move from place to place by attaching itself to camels. Neither a spider, nor a scorpion they are also known as Wind Scorpions, Sun Spiders or Solifuges from their Latin family name. They may grow to five or six inches, including their legs, so look formidable but pose little threat to humans and are not as quick across the ground as folklore would have you believe.

The highlight of the discussion then focused on Hassan's memory of his time in the area with his father. He said that 20 to 30 years ago there were still scattered but plentiful herds of gazelles. The smaller species known as 'Gazal' occurred in larger numbers and favoured sandy ground, the larger 'Rhim' or Dorcas gazelle favoured rocky ground and was usually found in smaller groups. When enquiring of the 'Nimr' (Leopard) he had no knowledge of them, nor the Barbary Lion, which inhabited the 'Mahgreb' (North Africa) and reportedly became extinct in the wild in the 1940's. Then came a gem of information, as Hassan told us that as a boy, when out shepherding with his father, he'd watched 'Farhad' (Cheetah) hunting Gazal herds in the sandy valley bottoms and of how they'd 'swat' these small gazelle to trip them before the kill. With the increase of vehicular access and widespread use of automatic weapons, the herds of Gazal dwindled, what chance one wonders that any Cheetahs still survive in the Mahgreb north of the Tropic of Cancer? The Rhim gazelle was better equipped to survive on rocky ground, we saw several single animals and a pair in the vicinity.

We drank fresh camel milk, sipped mint tea and chewed dried dates in the patchwork lined cool of Hassan's open tent. Two privileged hours of Bedouin hospitality and story telling had melted into the Saharan sand. The world will be a poorer place should we ever lose those that take no more from the earth than they return, was it not they that it was prophesied, who would inherit the earth?

Wiltshire Council Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Temporary Closure of: A350 (Part), East Knoyle, Sedgehill and Semley,
Donhead St Mary and North Dorest (Ref: TTRO 6291)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:

A350 (Part), East Knoyle, Sedgehill and Semley, Donhead St Mary and North Dorest; from its junction with A303 to its junction with A30, North Dorest.

To enable: Carriageway Resurfacing, Ironwork Adjustments and Road Markings

Alternative route: via A30 - B3081 – B3095 – A303 and vice versa.

The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation **on 03 December 2019** and the closure will be **required between the hours of 19:00 and 06:00 until 12 December 2019**. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information please contact Simon Price (Atkins) on 01225 730381.



Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collection changes

There will be no waste or recycling collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day and garden waste collections will be suspended from Monday 23 December for two weeks.

Collection days will change over the festive period, with catch up collections taking place on Saturday 28 December, 4 January and 11 January. All collections, including garden waste, will return to normal from Monday 13 January.

Please can you help us to inform residents in your area about these changes to their collections by including the attached revised collection table in the December edition of your resident's magazine.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Waste Management Direct dial: 01225 7138421 Email: events@wiltshire.gov.uk

Web: www.wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council

Bridget Wayman, Wiltshire Councillor, writes....

Winter approaches and I am very pleased to report that Wiltshire Council has taken delivery of 24 brand new gritters ready for the winter season. On average, the council uses about 5-6,000 tonnes of salt each winter, although in the bad winter of 17/18 we used 12,000 tonnes. We have 11,000 tonnes in stock just in case!

The Council also has 6 tractors which can assist with winter maintenance and we are also grateful to have farmers and other specialist contractors on standby to help their communities with snow ploughing.

Please remember that not all roads are gritted – drive to the conditions of the road and take care.

There is a competition to name the new gritters. All suggestions are welcome, especially from schools. If a school is successful in naming a gritter, I hope a visit by their gritter can be arranged. The competition closes on 29th November. Entries can be made on Twitter or Facebook using #WiltsGritterComp or you can email events@wiltshire.gov.uk.

The Council has also launched a We're Targeting Flytipping campaign, offering voucher rewards for information leading to a successful Fixed Penalty Notice or a prosecution. The rewards are £100, or £200 if a successful prosecution requires a witness to attend court.

If you witness anyone flytipping, please do not put yourself in any danger, but if you can capture the event on camera (still or moving), make a note of a description of the flytipper, make, model, colour and registration of any vehicle and report it online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk. Help us rid the county of the scourge of flytipping which can be a danger to us, animals and our beautiful environment.

The numbers of flytipping reports is going down, but it is still too many and it costs us, the taxpayers, about £180,000 a year, money that could be far better spent on more important services.

Japanese Knotweed

Japanese Knotweed is an invasive and unwelcome species that can dominate the natural environment if not checked. So, on 21st September a team of concerned residents started the process of killing the weed. Patches exist in the woods around Wise Lane and the first steps were taken to remove existing growth and poison the route system.



While the main patches were treated if you see any further growth then please cut down or pull out any growth we missed.

Many thanks to the "eradicators" Julyan Gordon, David Pickering, David Hockham, Sue Dawson, John Scattergood and Paul Naish

A Musical Evening

Saturday 26 October



Once again the village was treated to a wonderful evening of musical entertainment in St Mary's Church. A great turnout enjoyed performances from the very young, some performing in public for the very first time - to the not so very young! And everyone from East Knoyle.

One of the features of this evening was the truly eclectic selection of music the performers gave us – ranging from instrumental solos and songs, from classics to modern pop, and from a wide range of experience. And as promised in the last Newsletter and adverts we were treated to a few surprise turns! It was a highly entertaining evening, thoroughly enjoyed by a very appreciative and supportive audience.

To all those performers and helpers on the evening – a big thank you. Special thanks must go to Louise Brown who organises and arranges the event, to David Webster for compering, and to Rachel Naish for her piano accompaniment.

And of course, we must not forget the generous audience! Your kind donations ensure that both Jessie's Fund and St Mary's benefit. Everyone is a winner.

East Knoyle Rainfall Robin Egerton



September 117.25mm (4.62")

October 136mm (5.35")

No surprise to find that September had the highest rainfall this year, only to be beaten quickly by October.

In September though, I only recorded rain on 12 different days, and there was one 8-day spell without rain in the middle of the month.

The September average rainfall for the last 25 years is 59.23mm (2.33"), so this September is well above average, indeed it was the 3rd wettest September in the last 25 years.

In October I recorded rain on 23 different days, although some days it was only light drizzle with only a small amount of rain recorded. There was one period of 4 consecutive days without rain.

The October average rainfall is 102.65mm (4.04"), I know this October's rainfall seemed a lot, but it was only the 8th wettest October over the last 25 years.

St Mary's Church

Thanks to a talented team and some very generous donations, the church looked wonderful for the Harvest Festival, and the congregation stayed in the church afterwards for some delicious refreshments and a glass or two of wine, kindly provided by a number of parishioners. It was a good chance to catch up with people from all hamlets of the village. The 'All Souls' service, held this year a little before All Souls, was a well attended, moving occasion much valued by those who wish to remember a loved one in a dedicated time and place. This is a relatively new addition to the church calendar here in Knoyle but is definitely appreciated. If you missed it this year, and might like to have someone remembered in prayer, there is a list in church in the weeks preceding the service and it is a simple matter to enter a name on it.



By the time you read this, Stir Up Sunday may be upon us, and thoughts will be turning to Christmas. The Benefice Council is ahead of you, and has already arranged a pattern of services with something to appeal to everyone. Many people will want to note the time of the Carol Service here in the village – Sunday 15th December at 18.30 – but if you can't make that then perhaps Advent Carols in Semley (Sunday 1st at 1800) or Advent Praise (here in East Knoyle on Sunday 8th at 1800) might be a good substitute. The Midnight Service for the Benefice is in Donhead St Mary at 23.30 on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day there are 0930 services in Sedgemoor and Semley, and 1100 sung eucharists here and in Donhead St Andrew. We do hope to see you at sometime over the festive period.

From plot to pot—Leftover Soup

The real message of this soup is that anything goes! The soup is ideal as a post-Christmas soup. It will come out differently every time and will taste fabulous each time. It's an ideal soup to use up all the bits of veg that are lurking around the pantry or fridge (use it or lose it!!!) or you could pop over to Wren's Shop and get some inspiration from the lovely vegetables they stock. If you can, make the stock from the turkey carcass (ordered and bought from Wren's Shop of course) and adjust everything to match what's in the fridge. To make it vegetarian use a lovely homemade vegetable stock from carrots, celery, herbs etc.

Serves 4

Cooking Time: 50 minutes

*25g (1oz) butter
1 small onion, finely chopped
2 medium potatoes, diced
1 clove garlic, crushed
½ small swede, diced
725 ml (1 ¼ pt) turkey, chicken or vegetable stock
1 tsp fresh thyme, finely chopped
1 bay leaf
100g (3 ½ oz) Brussel sprouts, whole
8 shallots, whole
2 tbsp olive oil
2 parsnips, cut into eighths
2 carrots, cut into eighths
1 tsp fresh rosemary, finely chopped
Salt and freshly ground pepper*

Method

Preheat the oven to 190°C/ gas mark 5,

Melt the butter in a pan, then add the onion, potato, garlic and swede cook gently without colouring for 10 minutes;

Add the stock, thyme and bay leaf, then cover and simmer for 15 minutes;

Add the sprouts and continue to cook until they are tender - if you use leftover cooked sprouts shorten the cooking time to about 5 minutes;

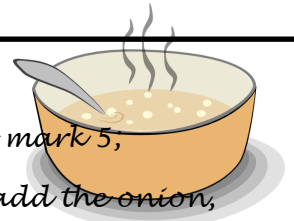
Blend until smooth;

Plunge the shallots in to boiling water for 2-3 minutes, then soak in cold water (this allows the skins to slip off easily);

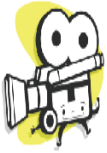
Heat the olive oil in the roasting pan, add the parsnips, carrots and whole shallots, toss around the olive oil and sprinkle with the chopped rosemary;

Roast for 20 minutes until cooked and lightly caramelised;

Return the blended soup to the pan, added the roasted vegetables, season to taste and re-heat for 5 minutes.



East Knoyle Village Hall



MOVIOLA Sara Southerden

Our **November** film in the Village Hall is on **Wednesday 27th** and is **RED JOAN (12A)**. Directed by Trevor Nunn (RSC, *Les Misérables*) and based loosely on true events, it stars Judi Dench playing Joan Stanley, a very ordinary retired civil servant living quietly in the suburbs. One day she opens her front door to be confronted by the police and agents of the British Secret Service. She is being arrested for having been recruited decades earlier as a spy for the KGB. Can this be true? Sophie Cookson plays the younger Joan being drawn into working for the Soviet Union at the time of the development of the atomic bomb.

Our Christmas film on **Wednesday December 11th** is the hugely popular and successful **ROCKETMAN (15)**. It's a musical of the fantastic story of Elton John, the highs and lows of his breakthrough years leading to his rise to international stardom. Taron Egerton gives a terrific performance as 'our hero' singing all the songs himself and transforming from shy piano prodigy Reginald Dwight to the fluorescent bird in a gilded cage Elton John, struggling to make sense of his increasingly crazy life. Jamie Bell acts as a great foil as his long-term collaborator and lyricist, Bernie Taupin. It should be fun, and all the music is by Elton John!

For both films we will be doing baked potatoes as usual, and for **Rocketman**, as by then it will be Christmas, we will also be offering you, our loyal audience, a free glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. There will of course also be the usual bar with wine, soft drinks and snacks.

Tickets remain at £5. They are on sale in Wren's Shop and on the door. If you would like a baked potato, please write your order on your ticket stub.

We start serving at about 6.50 and the film starts at 7.30

As we had a successful season last year, Moviola has been able to contribute to the cost of the improvements to the Knoyle House playground. We are very pleased to be able to do something to benefit the village from our very enjoyable evenings in the Village Hall.

Menopause Matters

By popular demand!

A talk by Ms Liz Earle MBE Author of the No. 1 bestseller *The Good Menopause Guide*

Save the date: Friday 6th March 2020 Contact: Deb (07713321530)

Following Liz's sell-out talk in Shaftesbury earlier this year, we are delighted our local author has agreed to give two further talks on how to make the most of mid-life and beyond.

Liz will be dispelling many menopause myths and discussing the merits of HRT and more, with the aim of making the second half of life better than ever. She shares essential, evidence-based information for all women aged 40+. Healthcare professionals, including GPs and Practise Nurses are very welcome to attend (and so are men!).

Bring your girlfriends, mothers, aunts, sisters and colleagues for this fascinating talk, which will be followed by refreshments and book signing.

"After reading (Liz's book) you will feel empowered and ready to take on the world" Lorraine Kelly OBE

"Liz Earle's practical, honest and uplifting advice helps women become stronger as they navigate the menopause" Kirsty Wark, BBC

"This talk has quite literally transformed my life for the better – I am so very thankful I came along. I cannot recommend it highly enough." P D, Shaftesbury



For Village Hall Bookings & Availability

Please contact Nicki Sturrock eastknoylevh@btinternet.com
or telephone 01747 830143

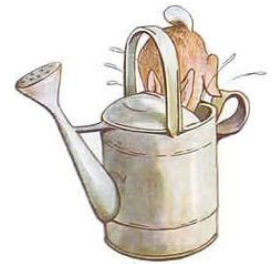


GARDENING TIPS

from Mrs McGregor

It is certainly the season of mists, if not of mellow fruitfulness, and here at McGregor Towers we have been taking full advantage of the damp weather to get some important indoor jobs done and make sure both the potting shed and the greenhouse are spick and span and ready for Christmas and the new year:

- Clean all machinery like lawn-mowers and hedge-trimmers before putting them away for the winter, and book them in for an annual service if necessary.
- Clean and oil garden tools before storing.
- Check boxes of seed, and other vulnerable items, for mouse damage and if necessary put away in rodent-proof boxes.
- In the greenhouse, if you have permanent beds, remove the top couple of inches of the soil and replace with enriched compost ready for next year's greenhouse crops.
- Bring in the last of the flower-pots and planters from outside, even if they say they are frost-proof, wash thoroughly and discard tired and depleted compost.
- Out of doors, now is the time to plant garlic, which needs a chilling period to develop properly.
- Net winter crops such as brassicas to prevent pigeon damage.
- Fruited canes of blackberries, tayberries and loganberries can be pruned to ground level now. Remember that autumn fruiting raspberries should not be pruned till February.
- Lack of food in winter can lead rabbits to eat the bark from the base of trees and shrubs, as my Mr. McG knows all too well! Protect trunks with chicken-wire or rabbit guards.
- Plant tulip bulbs this month (at a depth of approximately three times the height of the bulb).



DECEMBER

- Keep checking stored apples, potatoes, squash, etc. for rot and discard all that are damaged. Make sure remaining fruit and/or veg are completely dry before putting away again.
- This is the season for bonfires but before you light them, always check for hibernating hedgehogs or toads. Try not to disturb them, but move the bonfire instead.
- Check that the greenhouse heater is working correctly.
- Dig over empty flower-beds and if you haven't already done this, add compost around the base of over-wintering herbaceous plants.
- Check greenhouse gutters for leaves and debris, and clear out water-butts if necessary.
- Remove decaying leaves and plants from ponds.
- Plant bare-root hedging in dug-over and enriched soil.
- Keep an eye on larger trees and shrubs after storms and act quickly to remove damaged or broken branches. Cut back to healthy wood to prevent further damage.
- If you are over-wintering tender plants in the greenhouse, water them sparingly – preferably early in the day – and ventilate on mild days to help keep the atmosphere dry.

A question from a reader:

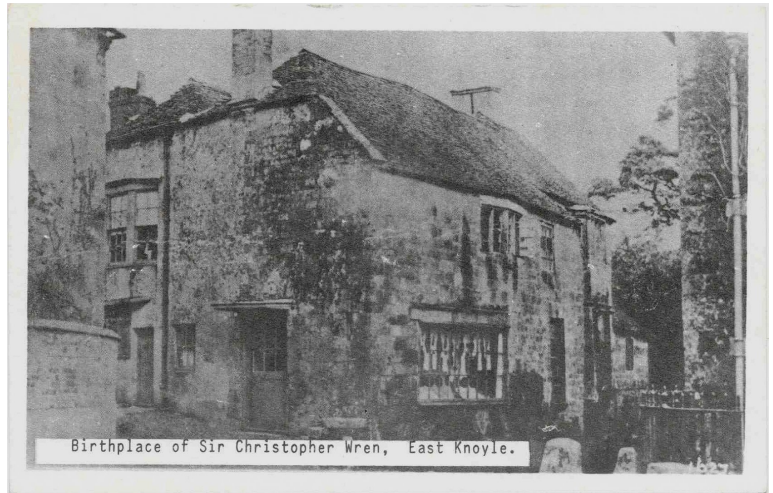
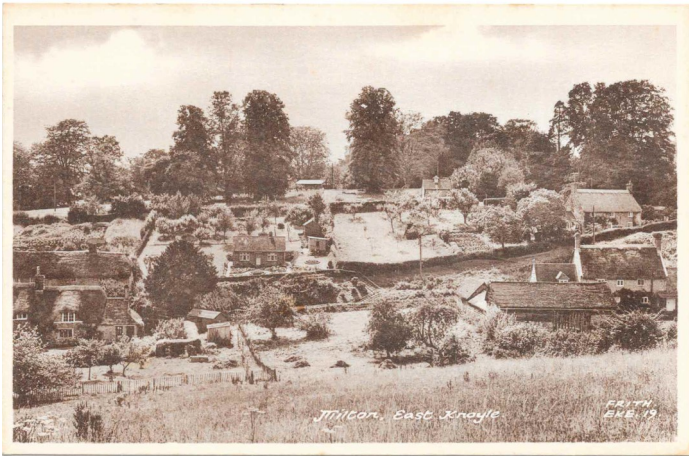
Dear Mrs McGregor, my daughter was given a bird-box for her birthday but after very excitedly putting it up in our apple tree, unfortunately it looks as though a squirrel has taken up residence. The little beggar has chewed round the pop hole to make it large enough for him to fit through, and consequently we have not had any nesting birds this year. Yours, Mr B

Dear Mr B, please tell your daughter not to despair. Take down the bird box, clean it out carefully, then nail a piece of tin over the squirrel-enlarged hole, making sure the hole in the piece of tin is too small for the squirrel. Replace the box in the tree (also worth checking that it is on the opposite side of the tree from the prevailing wind) and I'm sure your daughter will be the proud parent of a clutch of chicks next year.

Taking a trip down memory lane

Photos by kind permission of Sally McLaren-Webster

Milton, East Knoyle



Birthplace of Sir Christopher Wren, East Knoyle.

Birthplace of Sir Christopher Wren, East Knoyle

EAST KNOYLE VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

The Village Hall 200 Club has held its sixth draw of the year, in a wet morning by Wren's Shop Counter. The nights may be drawing in and the clocks may have gone back, but as compensation these contestants in the 200 Club have their winnings to celebrate:

RON and SUSIE CLARK

£50

Thanks to all subscribers. New supporters are cordially welcome to join at any time for only £12 a year; the fee goes to help maintaining and improving the Village Hall. Just ring Sara and Neil Southerden on 830594 or leave a message in the Shop. **The next draw is on January 1st.**



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Those of you who frequent the Knoyle House Ground play area will have noticed the new baby swing recently installed by Playdale, the Company who built the new play area a few years ago. The swings replaced the old baby swings and the PC is very grateful to the Flower Show organisers and to The Moviola Team who generously donated the majority of the money needed for the project. The Parish Council topped up the funds to enable the work to proceed and would like to thank the following for their contribution to the project:

Bob Bourne has been the driving force behind this upgrade and Ian Hamilton of Valley Forge removed the old swings and disposed of the materials. Laura Hoar assisted with the spreading of new bark chips. A great village team effort.





Hindon Surgery News

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www.hindonsurgery.co.uk/

A therapeutic environment

At Hindon Surgery we want every contact to make you, our patients and colleagues, feel better, and we want you to find the surgery a positive and therapeutic environment. To do this we train our staff to be happy in their work and do all we can to make sure they enjoy coming to the surgery to help you.

We ask our staff not to use certain words that can get your backs up or make us work less effectively. We don't use 'Emergency' and 'urgent' (as in "is your request urgent?"). We don't need to ask any patient how soon they would like to be seen as we offer 'never-full' appointments at the end of every surgery and leave you, the patient, to decide if you want to be seen quickly that day by the duty doctor for that one problem or would rather wait and book to see the doctor of your choice, accepting this may involve waiting a few days. We also don't use the word "busy". At times the amount of work exceeds the capacity of one member of staff, but as soon as we start feeling or saying we are very busy the ability to cope goes down. Often we have just one GP dealing with over 70 separate patient contacts a day and to manage this we delegate. That means you may want to speak to a GP but will be asked to give a receptionist enough information for the GP to make a quick assessment that the receptionist can pass on to you, or the GP can decide your concerns can be managed by another member of our extending and highly trained multi-professional team.

Almost all our patients understand that we work as a team and do not insist on only their GP dealing with the problem – if we can and it is appropriate we will do this but often other team members are the right people to help you. Our patients also help by creating a therapeutic environment in the surgery. However awful they may be feeling when they come to see us they are cheerful and lighten the mood of the waiting room – they know how their mood can affect the whole atmosphere and that Hindon Surgery is a happy and safe place that hopes you feel better just by being there. We would like all our patients to do the same. To put it in the words of our new Prime Minister – let's have less of the "gloomsters". That would be a great Christmas present for yourself and those around you.

Recent research shows optimists live far longer (over ten years). So being happy really is the healthy option.

Preparing for Winter

In Winter there is an increase in hospital admissions from "care sensitive conditions" - illnesses that could be prevented by medical care like vaccination or good control of a long-term condition like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma.

We review our admissions for care sensitive conditions, and here are some things we have learnt over the years and what we have in place to help you reduce your risk and increase your well-being and happiness this winter.

How to stay well during the winter? Stay warm and have a 'flu jab. We have plenty of vaccinations for patients aged 65 and over (all of whom should have one) and younger adults with a condition putting them at increased risk or who are carers or work in the NHS. Please book to see a nurse whenever we are open or drop in and ask at reception and we can fit you in between other patients. The jab is a dead vaccine and cannot give you 'flu. We have some of the nasal drops for the 65 children who need vaccination by us but supplies are trickled to us from central NHS supplies and we cannot give these to children who missed out at the school (aged 4 – 10) which has its own catch-up system.

Reduce risk by not going out in bad weather. We can consult by telephone or email and also issue prescriptions early for predicted poor conditions or over Christmas. We also help the CCG by doing emergency home visits out of hours in the snow if their staff cannot get through. The surgery keeps going in normal hours as many staff live in Hindon and we have a car able to tackle snowy roads and amazing patients who clear the car park of snow.

Reduce risk of falls in the house with adequate lighting and removing trip hazards.

Use community pharmacies early in acute illnesses – they have lots of expertise and can provide medicines over the counter and know when you should see a GP. All the local small practices provide book on the day appointments so you will be seen quickly.

Come to your regular check-ups (it saves us huge amounts of time if you act on the advice on your repeat prescriptions and book these without needing to be reminded, with a blood test first if appropriate) and follow our advice.

Look out for your neighbours. Each year we have one or two admissions of elderly patients who have fallen and become hypothermic.

This part of Wiltshire sees no seasonal increase in care sensitive conditions that suggests everyone is doing all of the above already. Many thanks for this and we wish everyone all the very best over the festive season and for next year.

Dr Patrick Craig-McFeely

RBL Branch News Ron Clarke Poppy Appeal 2018/19

We are very pleased to announce that, according to pre-audit figures, the 2018/19 Appeal, which came to an end on the 30th September, raised an amazing total of £15,007.43.

Last November, in just a matter of weeks, donations reached an astonishing £12,000 surpassing by far our previous best ever total raised during the whole of 2014/15.

Therefore, with 50 weeks of the appeal to go, we had the most solid of foundations on which to build an even bigger total and during the summer months Roy Halsall did just that by selling 'Poppy' merchandise at various re-enactment and revival events he attended with his 'Chevvy', raising £2,961.43 in the process – a significant individual effort that merited an appearance on an ITV regional television news programme just a few weeks ago.

The significant overall sum raised not only recognises a massive community achievement but also demonstrates the strong support there is locally of the RBL's work in caring for the Armed Forces Community and being the custodians of Remembrance on behalf of the nation. For that we give our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed in some way – however large or small.

Poppy Appeal 2019/20

This year's appeal was launched on the 24th October and our volunteers have, once again, been out in all weathers collecting in East Knoyle, West Knoyle, parts of Sedgemoor and also up at the Willoughby Hedge service area. Preliminary figures indicate a figure in excess of £8,000 has been collected to date.

Poppy Appeal 'Thank You Event'

We are pleased that General Sir Jack Deverell, President of Wiltshire County RBL has once again agreed to be the guest of honour at our annual Poppy Appeal 'Thank You Event' to be held in the Medieval Room of the EKVH on the 29th November, between 5.30-7.00pm. Drinks and light refreshments will be provided and we hope that as many of our volunteer 'House to House', Willoughby Hedge collectors and other supporters as possible are able to attend.

Remembrance Sunday/Armistice Day

Once again St. Mary's was full to capacity for the annual Remembrance Sunday service, led this year by the Reverend Kevin Martin. The lessons were read by Diana Magill and Tony Thresh; the Roll of Honour by Ian Gurney. Seth Lake read the poem 'We Shall Keep The Faith'. Thanks are also due to organist, Roger Brown and participating for his twelfth consecutive year, trumpeter, Kent Selby.

At 1100am the following morning a short service led by the Rector Richard Warhurst was held at the war memorial to mark Armistice Day.



Diary Dates

AGM (preceded by lunch): 20th November, 1200, Fox and Hounds.

Poppy Appeal 'Thank You Event': 29th November, 1730, EKVH

Branch Meeting: 2nd December, 1930, Fox and Hounds



At the R.B.L. Women's section meeting today, 5th November, several forthcoming events were organised:

Christmas tea party and quiz - Monday, 9th December at the home of Venetia Wright.

Easter Egg Treasure Hunt - Tuesday 7th April at the home of Diana Makgill (weather permitting).

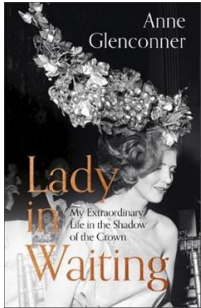
An outing to Fussels Fine Foods at Rode is planned for the end of April/ beginning of May when the oilseed rape is in flower. More on this in the next edition of the newsletter and other information can be obtained from their website. www.fusselsfinefoods.co.uk

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I am really looking forward to the new series of The Crown starting this month and thought to build appetite we should highlight the two most interesting books on the monarchy this autumn.

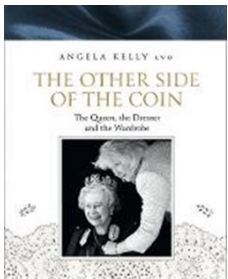


Lady in Waiting: My Extraordinary Life in the Shadow of the Crown by Anne Glenconner

The remarkable life of Lady in Waiting to Princess Margaret who was also a Maid of Honour at the Queen's Coronation - and is a character in The Crown this autumn. Anne Glenconner reveals the real events behind The Crown as well as her own life of drama, tragedy and courage, with the wonderful wit and extraordinary resilience which define her. Anne Glenconner has been close to the Royal Family since childhood. Eldest child of the 5th Earl of Leicester, she was, as a daughter, described as 'the greatest disappointment' by her family as she was unable to inherit. Anne Glenconner writes with extraordinary wit, generosity and courage and she exposes what life was like in her gilded cage, revealing the role of her great friendship with Princess Margaret, and the freedom she can now finally enjoy in later life. She will appear as a character in the new series of The Crown this autumn.

This is a remarkable memoir - containing, at last, a genuine portrait of Princess Margaret from one who knew her well. But this book is poignant too, and through the pages shine her courage and good-humoured acceptance of her demons and tragedies

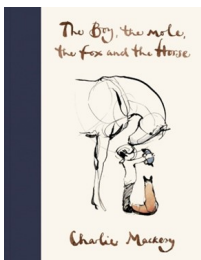
THE SUNDAY TIMES 'Remarkable . . . If your jaw doesn't drop at least three times every chapter, you've not been paying proper attention'



The Other Side of the Coin: The Queen, the Dresser and the Wardrobe by Angela Kelly

When Angela Kelly and The Queen are together, laughter echoes through the corridors of Buckingham Palace. Angela has worked with The Queen and walked the corridors of the Royal Household for twenty-five years, initially as Her Majesty's Senior Dresser and then latterly as Her Majesty's Personal Advisor, Curator, Wardrobe and In-house Designer. As the first person in history to hold this title, she shares a uniquely close working relationship with the Queen 'The book documents the unique working relationship between Her Majesty The Queen and the woman who has been her Personal Assistant and Senior Dresser for more than two decades'

And now something completely different...

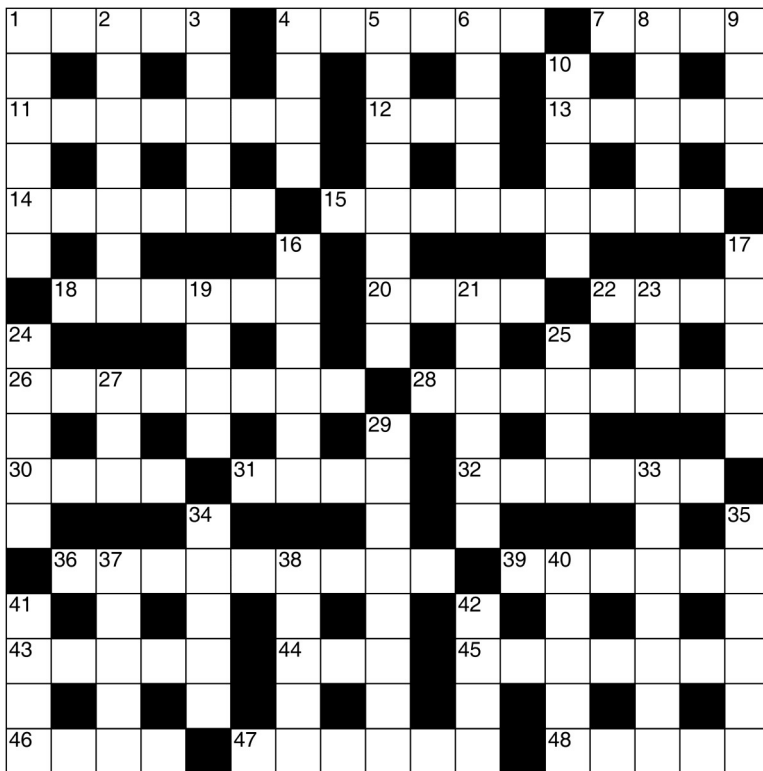


The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy

A book of hope for uncertain times. Soothing balm for the soul in these turbulent, polarised times, former Spectator cartoonist Charlie Mackesy's tender illustrations have already become an online phenomenon. Now, his finest artwork has been gathered together in this beautifully produced volume, a book to treasure forever and a permanent reminder of the need for compassion and love in a world suffused with ignorance and hatred.

The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse are four friends who share a deep, unshakable bond. Through a series of brief but profound conversations, Mackesy teases universal truths and rich wisdom from the mouths of his characters, celebrating warmth and empathy in all its myriad forms. Exploring kindness through exquisite, sensitive artwork and delicate calligraphy, The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse is a moving study in friendship and the perfect gift for those people that you hold closest to your heart.

East Knoyle Christmas Crossword



Across

- 1 Cranberry ___; condiment traditionally served with Christmas lunch or dinner (5)
- 4 Fairy ___; Christmas tree illuminations (6)
- 7 Sir Christopher ___; architect born in East Knoyle (4)
- 11 Daniel ___; *Bridget Jones's Diary* character (7)
- 12 Acorn-bearing tree, *Quercus* (3)
- 13 Trick-taking card game (5)
- 14 Francis of ___; patron saint of animals (6)
- 15 Word meaning "scintillating" (9)
- 18 Mode of transport used by Father Christmas (6)
- 20 ___ *Christmas*; song by Wham! (4)
- 22 Fair ___; traditional knitwear (4)
- 26 ___ Eve; December 31 (3,5)
- 28 Christmas comedy with Martin Freeman (8)
- 30 Drink served with Stilton (4)
- 31 *Jane* ___; novel by Charlotte Brontë (4)
- 32 Fruit sometimes studded with cloves (6)
- 36 Description of a painting such as Claude Monet's *The Magpie* (9)
- 39 Word meaning "aim" or "purpose" (6)
- 43 Pipe ___; instrument found in a church (5)
- 44 Mince ___; festive baked treat (3)
- 45 Festive table decoration (7)
- 46 Midnight ___; carol singing celebration on Christmas Eve (4)
- 47 Season leading up to Christmas (6)
- 48 ___ cane; sugary Christmas tree decoration (5)

Down

- 1 Informal word for a gathering, jolly or celebration (6)
- 2 General word for a kitchen implement used on stir-up-Sunday, for example (7)
- 3 Father Christmas's helpers at the North Pole (5)
- 4 *The ___ Ascending*; musical work by Ralph Vaughan Williams (4)
- 5 Benevolence or kindness (8)
- 6 Book ___; traditional Christmas gift for a bibliophile (5)
- 8 Bird depicted on Christmas cards (5)
- 9 *Bûche de ___*; Yule log cake (4)
- 10 Red-berried plant used for wreaths (5)
- 16 Beverage used to flavour trifle (6)
- 17 Samuel ___; English diarist (5)
- 19 Latin name of holly (4)
- 21 Compliments of the ___; (6)
- 23 Runner for gliding over snow (3)
- 24 Brandy ___; curls of gingerbread filled with cream (5)
- 25 ___ *Lisa*; Leonardo da Vinci's *La Gioconda* (4)
- 27 ___ *Horse*; children's novel by Michael Morpurgo (3)
- 29 Variety of Italian cheese (3,5)
- 33 Pickled cucumber (7)
- 34 Water birds; seven of which swimming in *The Twelve Days of Christmas* (5)
- 35 *The ___ Night*; Vincent van Gogh painting (6)
- 37 Mulled wine-like drink (5)
- 38 A friend of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (5)
- 40 French description of white wine (5)
- 41 Form of verse such as *A Visit from St Nicholas* (4)
- 42 Short tail of a deer or rabbit (4)

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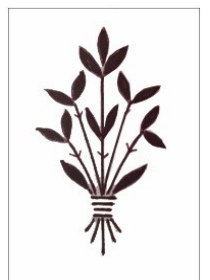
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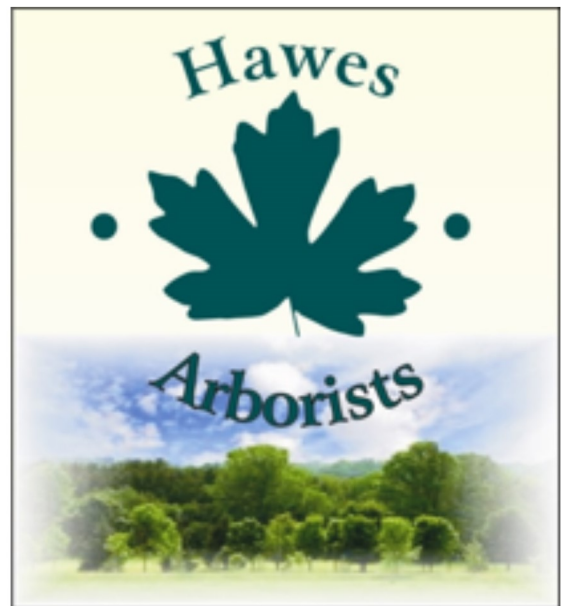
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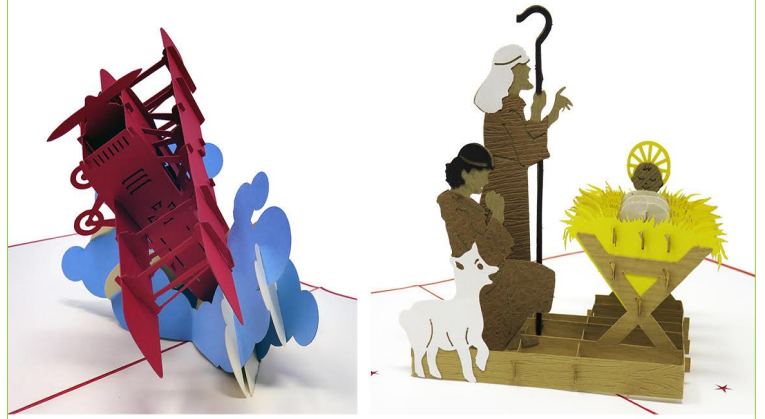
We wish you all a happy festive
season and look forward to all
that 2020 has to bring.

Your newsletter editors xxx



NEEEEOOWWW!

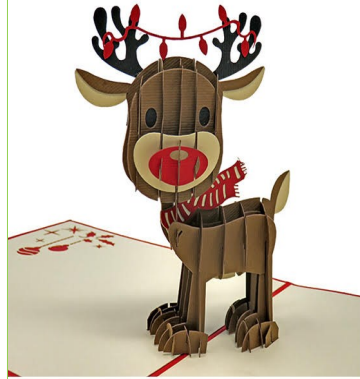
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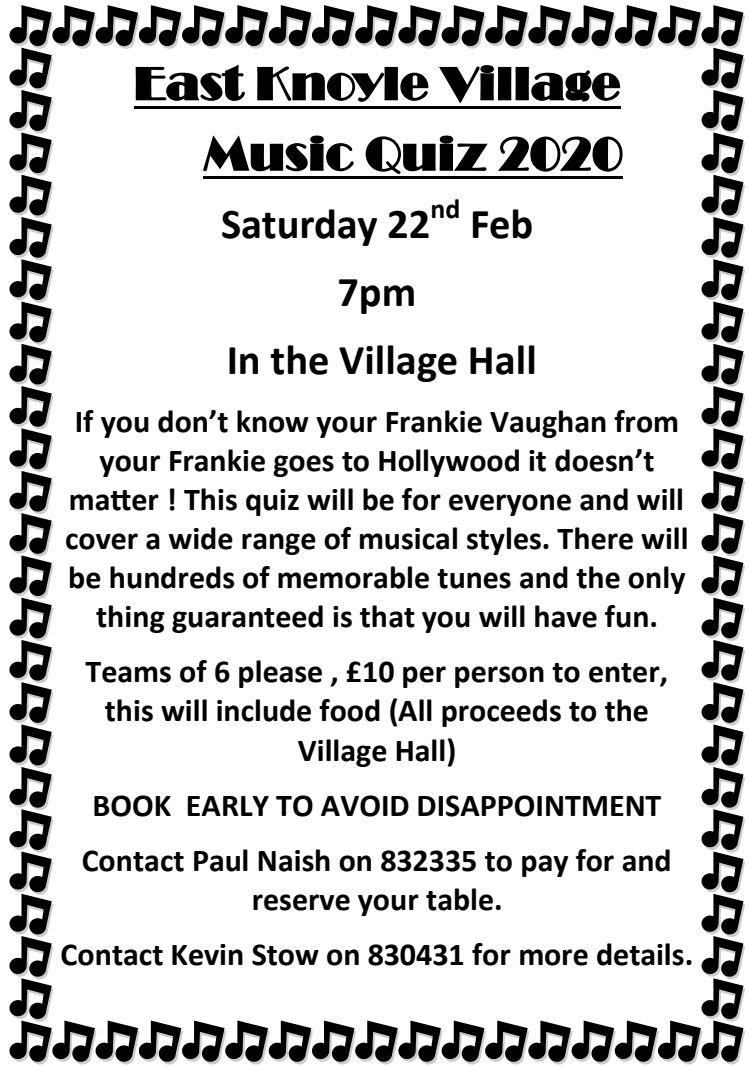
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7pm

In the Village Hall

If you don't know your Frankie Vaughan from your Frankie goes to Hollywood it doesn't matter ! This quiz will be for everyone and will cover a wide range of musical styles. There will be hundreds of memorable tunes and the only thing guaranteed is that you will have fun.

Teams of 6 please , £10 per person to enter, this will include food (All proceeds to the Village Hall)

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Contact Paul Naish on 832335 to pay for and reserve your table.

Contact Kevin Stow on 830431 for more details.

More Wins for our Village Taekwon-Do champion.

Nikki Thompson-Phillips

August 2019 TAGB - Scottish Championship, Glasgow:

1 Gold, 2 Silver

September 2019 BTC British Championship, Worcester: 1 Silver

October 2019 TAGB - Southern Championship, Paignton: 1 gold, 1 Bronze

This girl is unstoppable and we are very proud of her.

Keep them coming Nikki, East Knoyle is behind you!!



East Knoyle Christmas Crossword answers

Across: 1 Sauce, 4 Lights, 7 Wren, 11 Cleaver, 12 Oak, 13 Ombre, 14 Assisi, 15 Twinkling, 18 Sleigh, 20 Last, 22 Isle, 26 New Year's, 28 Nativity, 30 Port, 31 Eyre, 32 Orange, 36 Snowscape, 39 Ob-ject, 43 Organ, 44 Pie, 45 Cracker, 46 Mass, 47 Advent, 48 Candy. Down: 1 Social, 2 Utensil, 3 Elves, 4 Lark, 5 Goodwill, 6 Token, 8 Robin, 9 Noel, 10 Holly, 16 Sherry, 17 Pepsy, 19 Ilex, 21 Season, 23 Ski, 24 Snaps, 25 Lisa, 27 War, 29 Bel Paese, 33 Gherkin, 34 Swans, 35 Starry, 37 Negus, 38 Cupid, 40 Blanc, 41 Poem, 42 Scut.

What's On? Forthcoming Events in and around East Knoyle

Check out the Village Diary on the website

<http://east-knoyle.co.uk/news-and-events/village-diary/>



T@3

Held every second Thursday of each month in the, Village Hall 3-4pm. (except this December!!) Delicious savouries and cakes with tea and coffee, plus a raffle. Donations if you wish. Taxi service available, kindly funded by the

Parish Council. Call Sandra 830471, or Jennie 830460 for further information. See you there!

Future dates: 14th November, 19th December is the T@3 Christmas Party 2.30pm—4pm, 9th January
Thank you to all those who support T@3 throughout the year, we wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year!



Coffee in the Church Cafe, St. Mary's, 10.30am -12.00pm

Freshly brewed coffee and tea with biscuits in our lovely church
A warm welcome awaits you!

Future dates: 26th November, 17th December for Christmas nibbles! Wishing you a peaceful Christmas.



St. Mary's Games Evening 7.30 to 9.30 pm

Billiard Room, Village Hall
Bring your own refreshments, no admission fee, but a box for donations is available if you wish.

We have a pool table, darts, chess, cards etc.
Everyone welcome! For more information, call Alan on 830471

Future dates: 26th November. We will be taking a winter break, but will resume in February 2020.

New distributor needed

Many thanks to Jo Green for distributing the newsletter in the Turnpike area. Jo has stepped down and we are looking for someone who is willing to pick up this round. Please contact us: eastknoylenewsletter@gmail.com

CLOSE TO THE MARK PRODUCTIONS

presents

BEDROOM FARCE

ALAN AYCKBOURN

SHAFTESBURY ARTS CENTRE

Sun November 17th 7.30
01747 854321

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Shaftesbury
Sat November 23rd 7.30
thelittleboxoffice.com/cmp

THE EXCHANGE

Sturminster Newton
Thurs November 28th 7.30
01258 475137

THE BLACKLEDGE THEATRE

Godolphin School, Salisbury
Fri December 13th 7.30
thelittleboxoffice.com/cmp

in aid of Ataxia UK & the Stars Appeal



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**DEADLINE FOR
January/February 2020
Newsletter
Friday 10th January**

(Newsletters are normally distributed around 10 days after the copy deadline)