

NOVEMBER 2019

Semington Parish Magazine

We Will Remember Them



Minister for Semington:
Revd. John Rees
The Rectory
22 Warren Road
Staverton
BA14 8UZ
01225 764365

Village Hall

Mondays	7.30pm	Bingo
Mondays & Thursdays	9.30am – 12.30pm	Post Office
Tuesdays & Fridays	9.00am – 1.00pm	Bridge Club
Tuesdays	8.00pm	Semington Ladies Skittles
Thursday	10.00am – 12.00pm	Coffee Morning
Fridays	6.00pm – 7.30pm	Semingtones
Fridays	8.00pm	Mens Skittles

Thursday 7 th	7.30pm	Defibrillator Training
Wednesday 13 th	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sunday 17 th	7.30pm	Village Hall Quiz
Wednesday 20 th	8.00pm	Armstrong Angels Skittles
Sunday 24 th	3.00pm	Semingtones In Concert
Wednesday 27 th	7.30pm	Armstrong Angels Skittles

Somerset Arms

Thursday 7 th	8.00pm	Book Club
Tuesday 12 th	7.30pm	Quiz Night

St George's School

Wednesdays	6.30pm	Zumba Fitness
Saturday 23 rd	11.00am	Messy Church
Wednesday 4 th Dec	7.30pm	Christmas Wreath Workshop

In and Around The Village

Wednesday 6 th	10.30am	Mobile library Littlemarsh
Saturday 9 th	10.00am	Village Litter Pick
		Meet at Village Hall
Wednesday 20 th	10.10am	Mobile Library Village Hall
Saturday 23 rd	10.00am	Decorating the Christmas Tree
Wednesday 27 th	2.00pm	Crafternoon - Highfield Close

Further Afield

Saturday 16 th	7.00pm	Steeple Ashton Films
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Christians in Semington

Bev Woodward

Housegroup - join us to drink tea/coffee & chat. This month we're meeting on **Tuesdays 12th and 26th November** at 7.45pm. We're starting to look at prayer. However much you know or don't know, believe or don't believe, everyone is welcome. For more information, including venues, phone Bev/Jack 870784, Pam/David 870030 or Victoria 871936.

Christians in Semington - Wednesday 6th November, 7.45pm - 9.00pm, 9 Somerset Way. Join us to pray for our community.

Messy Church - Saturday 23rd November 11.00am – 1.00pm in the school hall. There will be more activities, suitable for all ages, and lunch is included so that you can forget about cooking for the day. (Suggested donation £1.) Please let us know as soon as possible if you can come, so that we have enough food! Phone Bev/Jack on 870784 or text 07922 105084. Please note that Messy Church is for all ages, but children must bring an adult.

Editor's Note

Gillian Airey

And before you know it we've put the clocks back and winter is truly upon us, never mind cheer yourself up with a damn good read of the Parish Mag! Spread lots of Christmas cheer by contributing to the December/January edition, the deadline for which is **Thursday 21st November**. Email me at **semparmag@icloud.com** Please note notices must be presented in portrait format.

We have had number of people join the waiting list for advertising space so at the moment we're not able to offer permanent advertising slots, but remember if you wish to have small one-off advert, then for a donation to the magazine we'll look to accommodate you. Email address for adverts is **semparmagads@icloud.com**

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This Month I've been time travelling

Gilly Airey

Before you get all excited I have not, I regret to say, been selected to be the next Dr Who assistant... apparently I'm not 'what they're looking for'. No, gorgeous hubby has been sorting out the loft (this is what days of rainy weather does to him). The direct result of this sorting out? Twenty three shoe boxes detailing our life together. Twenty three perfectly preserved time capsules, pretty much one for every year we have lived together.

I'm amazed at some of the stuff we thought was important enough to keep at the time, there were receipts for irons and toasters that had long shuffled off this mortal coil – but oh were there some absolute crackers along the way. It appears that I have been playing skittles badly for over ten years after I unearthed the averages for the 2009/10 season. I am, however, consistently bad as I was bottom of the averages then just as I am now! Goodness knows why Captain Rose even keeps asking me to play... possibly entertainment value!

I have found impossibly romantic birthday cards from gorgeous hubby, he has always been much better than me at buying cards, although the best one to date has been a picture of a cartoon cat with the strap line 'I will find you and I will lick you'. That just about sums it up!

There was a potted history of my career in them there boxes, including a business card declaring that I was 'Venue Guarantee Manager' at The Randolph Hotel in Oxford – to this day I still don't know what that meant.... There was a CV written when I was young enough to declare all of my 9 'O' levels individually and the fact that I was indeed a prefect at school!

We found a multitude of manuals for gadgets that really were once cutting edge, so if you need a user manual for a Blackberry, Palm Pilot, Nokia 3310, Betamax video recorder, Sony Discman or any number of 'personal mobile speaker systems' (yes really) you know where to find us!

Then there were some real life defining moments, like the train ticket from the first time the boys came down from Stockport solo to stay aged just 12 and 10, they were armed with a pay as you go mobile and instructions to call us and their grandad as they stopped at each station.

We thought we'd get through each box in no time, but the fun is in slowing down and saying 'do you remember when?'



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Down the Local

John, the Landlord, John

Yum, yum, yum sums it up pretty well. Gourmet night has to be the tale of the month. Fine food complimented by some fine wine. Seven scrumptious courses prepared by Semington's own Mr Furby. This time round we also had our new wine supplier on hand to talk us through the wine that Jon and he had matched to the food. The next Gourmet Evening is planned for the New Year so keep a look out for details for this and also our new 'mini' Gourmet evenings.

Gourmet night was planned to coincide with our super-duper new menu and wine list being launched - come down with your parish magazine, try the food and enjoy 10% off though November. Also take a look at our Christmas menu and get your party meal booked while we still have space.

As you may know one of my many roles includes sitting on the committee of the Friends of St Georges and for some time we have been thinking its high time we jumped on the scarecrow trail bandwagon and organised a Semington Trail. This will not happen by itself and if you would like to be part of the organisational group for the event planned to take place in September/October 2020 please get in touch with me at the pub. The committee think it will be great for the village as well as raising funds for the school.

That's it for now but please remember your local as November is always quiet and I do tend to get a bit lonely sometimes! Until next time - See you down the pub!

Electric Train Drivers Needed!

Nev Boulton – Great Bulkington Railway

Due to family commitments we have lost our lady train driver and need to recruit a new volunteer driver. We use our ride on miniature railway (located in Bulkington, near Seend) to raise funds for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance by offering our village hall for children's birthday parties together with a couple of hours of train rides. Normally we run the passenger carrying trains on about 15 occasions between 2.00pm and 4.00pm at weekends in the summer months when most parties are booked.

Male or female drivers need to be over 21 and of sensible disposition. Full training will be given - it's good fun and very satisfying!

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Angela Grodzicka – 870756

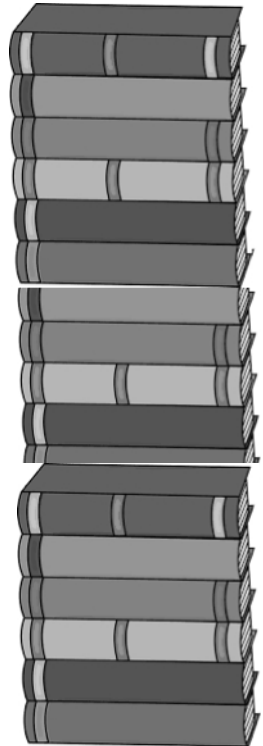
The members met on Thursday 10th October to discuss *How To Stop Time* by Matt Haig. One member had listened to it as a talking book and had found it easy listening. The majority had enjoyed the book although everyone thought the ending was rather predictable. We also thought that at times the author was showing off his knowledge of historical events and we felt we were being 'taught'. It was also felt that the *Twilight* series by Stephanie Meyer had been an influence on the book with its exploration of loneliness for those who are different and for their need to be protected.

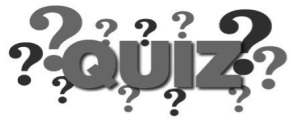
The next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th November** at 8.00pm in the pub to discuss *One Woman's War* by Eileen Youngusband. Hugh Turnbull, an ex journalist who knew Eileen, will come to the meeting to talk to the group about the author.

Now that almost everyone in the group has had the opportunity to nominate a book to be read we reviewed the list and felt we had covered a good spread.

The books we have read and discussed are:

Hotel du Lac by Anita Brookner
Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman
The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul by Deborah Rodriguez
Uprooted by Naomi Novik
The Dry by Jane Harper
Passenger 13 by Scott Mariani
The Man with No Face by Peter May
Wilding by Isabella Tree
The Burgess boys by Elizabeth Strout
Dark Sacred Night by Michael Connolly
How To Stop Time by Matt Haig
And finally,
One Woman's War by Eileen Youngusband





Both quizzes were well supported as always.

The October quiz at the Somerset Arms was world themed with rounds based on the continents as well as what happened where in October and a cunning music round having to seek out a country relevant to the music.

The seemingly unstoppable Orchard Pigs were eventual winners but only by a narrow margin. Congratulations to Brian G, Sally T, Doug C, Sally R, Lyn C and Neil S who picked out the cash but very nobly put it back into the pot. So the next quiz on 12th November is a rollover. Have you got what it takes to beat the Orchard Pigs or even the often failing Somerset Army, if so book your quiz table today.

The Village Quiz for October was set by Pam, David, Sue and Geoff, plus a friend of theirs set a round, having attended and enjoyed the quiz with them. Many thanks to all of them.

There were a good range of rounds, on, for example, October, sporting achievements in 2019, Kenya and Doctors! Pam and David had recently visited Kenya so used that to inspire that round. Questions included: What does the word Simba mean? Which comedian and TV presenter is also still registered to practice as a GP? Which radio broadcast in 1938 created panic in listeners? Answers below.

The marathon round was also Africa related, the object being to label all the countries in that continent on a map from a list. With 38 out of 52 correct, Team 'Tea for Three' (Gaye, Angela and Bill), came first, and that team also came 2nd in the main quiz, having been 3rd at half time. However, the runaway winners, by a margin of 6½ points, were 'Terry's Turnips'. Well done to Neil and Jackie for another fantastic performance.

If you want to have a go at the quiz, then why not come and join in? If you come alone, we can easily put you in a team, so please do give it a try. The next Village Quiz is on **SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER**, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.

Answers: Lion, Harry Hill and War of the Worlds.

Robert Devereux, the 2nd Earl of Essex (1566–1601) was a favourite of Queen Elizabeth before a spectacular fall from grace after a military campaign led to what was seen as a humiliating truce. He was deprived of his offices of State and then compounded his problems by trying to seize power. He was executed for treason in the Tower of London.

This is his second lute song, written with understandable wistful melancholy.

Happy were he could finish forth his fate
In some unhaunted desert, where, obscure
From all society, from love and hate
Of worldly folk; then might he sleep secure;
Then wake again, and ever give God praise,
Content with hip, with haws, and bramble-berry;
In contemplation passing all his days,
And change of holy thoughts to make him merry;
Who, when he dies, his tomb might be a bush,
Where harmless Robin dwells with gentle thrush.
- Happy were he!

Semington Reunion

Vicki Hallam

Myra and Marilyn would like to thank everyone who helped to make the reunion on the 28th September such a success, especially the villagers who generously donated raffle prizes and then bought raffle tickets!

Together we raised £190 and with thanks to the generosity of a certain gentleman from Pound Close, it was topped up to £200. This was donated to Wiltshire Air Ambulance and they have asked us to pass on their gratitude.

Trisha has made a CD of photos, if you would like a copy please contact Marilyn on 01380-870580.

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Your Wiltshire Councillor News

Jonathon Seed 07770 774463

Often local residents express concern at speeding in their communities. The first check that needs to be done is whether this concern is reflected by the evidence of speeding. A device called a metro count is installed at the request of the local town or parish council and this measures speeds at a specific and agreed point over a set period of days. If the results produce evidence of genuine speeding then addressing the issue can be achieved using a range of measures including Community Speed Watch, Speed Indicator Devices or police enforcement. Which of these is employed will depend on the evidence produced by the count. So if you have concerns about speeding in a particular area of your community you should contact your local parish council and they will assess the problem and address the issue with Wiltshire Council.

Locally, here in Semington we have the other traffic issues and one of these is illegal use of the bus gate to and from Melksham. The village set up a group to monitor the traffic crossing the bridge and it was interesting that many cars turned around when they saw fluorescent clad monitors doing their job. There is also likely to be a police enforcement presence on the road which will lead to transgressors being prosecuted. As part of the process of addressing local concerns Wiltshire Council mounted a technical monitoring camera for several days in July which gave clear evidence of small but regular illegal traffic. It is now for the Parish Council to decide how to proceed.

Another success for Wiltshire Council is the declaration by Friends of the Earth that Wiltshire tops the league of Councils in Climate Friendly credentials. This is being driven by a passion by the new leader and his administration to genuinely address climate change and move to reduce carbon emissions in the county. In addition the cabinet of Wiltshire Council recently approved a detailed and effective air quality strategy. All this is a measured determination to make the environment that we live in both greener and safer.

Cantamus Choir

Cantamus Chamber Choir are hosting a gala concert at Wiltshire Music Centre, Bradford on Avon on **Sunday 10th November**. Tickets are £20.00 with concessions available.

Tickets are available from Wiltshire Music Centre and online at wiltshiremusic.org.uk

Parish Council Minutes

Abridged minutes from meeting held on 9th October 2019

Present: Councillors P Smith (Vice-Chairman and Acting Chairman), P Bowyer, M Kasasian, P Bowyer, S Rimmer, C Wade and the Clerk Roger Coleman. _PCSO Maggie Ledbury attended part-time.

Apologies: Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors R Oglesby, W Scott and B Smyth and from Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed.

Community Policing. PCSO Ledbury of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the October monthly report that he had subsequently sent to all councillors. PCSO Ledbury gave a verbal report to the meeting, summarising the main points in her written report relating to Semington. (Full details available in Parish Council minutes). PCSO Ledbury commented that police officers had recently patrolled the No Entry Gate/Bus Gate to assist in its enforcement and two persons had been stopped and advice given. In response to a comment by councillors she agreed to request additional patrols by officers. The Chairman commented that this enforcement action required greater publicity, such as an article in the Melksham News. He added that Cllr. Seed had informed him that around fifty vehicles a day are flouting the No Entry Gate restriction.

Planning: There were no planning applications received after 1st October 2019. Councillors commented that there were no significant implications identified in the published 'Local Plan Review' issued by the Wiltshire Council Strategic Planning Department. The Council noted that the Boundary Commission Local Boundary Review had proposed that the Electoral Division of Summerham and Seend be replaced by a boundary change that placed Semington in a new Melksham Without Rural Electoral Division. Cllr. Wade commented that this change continues to recognize Semington as a rural village and that the new division will comprise similar villages and would not include a large urban area. He added that he was pleased to note that Semington would remain in the Melksham Area Board.

Finance: Total balance in hand at 9th October 2019 £28,053.98

The Council noted that the Clerk had written thanking the Semington Slog Committee for its generous donation of £300 to the village and that it had agreed that it would be spent on the Village Christmas Tree and associated Christmas Tree lights. The Council **resolved** that the sum of £250 would be allocated to the tree and a further £250 towards the lights and related paraphernalia. Cllr. Wade noted this resolution and offered to obtain the Christmas Tree and Cllr. Rimmer agreed to assist Cllr. Wade in investigating and obtaining suitable lights. Cllrs. Rimmer and Wade also agreed to investigate how best to erect the tree on the Village Green – an activity planned for Saturday 23rd November at 10.00am

Highways: The Chairman stated that in his telephone conversation with Cllr. Seed in which the enforcement of the No Entry Gate/Bus Gate was discussed and the results of the recently installed CCTV at the gate reviewed it was clear that Wiltshire Council would not install enforcement cameras because of the low offending rate and if the Parish Council wished such cameras to be installed the cost of installing the cameras and the subsequent data analysis would fall entirely on the Parish Council. The Chairman requested that this subject is reviewed at three-monthly intervals. The Chairman stated that the subject of a Community Speed Watch Scheme and discussion on whether or not to request lower speed limits for some roads in Semington would be deferred until the next meeting.

Environment: The Council **resolved** that a Village 'Litter Pick' would take place on **Saturday 9th November** – Village Hall at 10.00am. Cllr. Rimmer gave a brief explanation of his understanding of the Wiltshire Council initiative to promote Wiltshire Council scheme to promote 'Wildflower Meadows/Areas' in the County. He commented that a possible site in Semington could be where the commemorative oaks have been planted and councillors suggested that the verge area south of the High Street commemorative bench was another possible site. Cllr. Rimmer agreed to take the lead on this topic and stated that he would contact the Melksham Area Community Engagement Officer. The Chairman stated that discussion on the grass-cutting in the village will be deferred until the subject of the 'Wildflower Meadow/Areas' had been discussed and any proposals for their implementation in Semington agreed. Cllr. Rimmer stated that he wished to highlight to parishioners that when a Grit Bin is empty, or very depleted, a telephone call to Wiltshire Council or a message on the Wiltshire Council website will result in it being replenished and that it was not a Parish Council responsibility. He recommended that a note in the Newsletter to this effect is added. He stated that he was not seeking additional Grit Bins in the village.

Footpaths: Cllr. Rimmer reported that in the company of Cllr. Smyth and Brian Micklam (Ramblers Association) he had surveyed a number of public paths in the village – many of which were overgrown with vegetation and had stiles and finger posts damaged or partly missing. Cllr. Rimmer stated that it was the intention to develop a work programme for these paths that would be presented to the Parish Council at its next meeting and that it might prove viable to allocate one Saturday a month to undertake the work – assisted by interested members of the public.

Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas: The Clerk reported that a parishioner had written to the Parish Council lamenting the state of the Wessex Close Play Area. The Clerk stated that he had advised the parishioner that this Play Area was owned and managed by Wiltshire Council and not the Parish Council. He added that he had sent him contact details to enable him to make further enquiries.

Next Meeting **Wednesday 13th November, 7.45pm**

ZUMBA with anisha
MONDAYS 07823881945
 7.45pm—8.45pm
 Hilperton Primary School
 Newleaze, Hilperton BA14 7SB

TUESDAYS
 6.45pm-7.45pm
 Fitzmaurice Primary School
 Frome Road, Bradford-on-Avon, BA15 1LE

WEDNESDAY
 7.00pm—8.00pm
 Longfield Community Hall
 Weavers Drive, Trowbridge, BA14 7DZ

THURSDAYS
 6.45pm-7.45pm
 Walwayne Court School
 Brook Road, Trowbridge, BA14 9DU

SATURDAYS
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Michelle Donelan MP

The majority of the news that I have read and heard in person from residents over the last couple of months has been overwhelmingly positive, from a new memorial bench dedicated to those from Semington who died during the First World War, to new play equipment unveiled at St George's School. I have been particularly encouraged at the boost in excitement about the nearby Wiltshire Air Ambulance having led a number of fundraising events in aid of the service. I know that the team will be delighted with the news that the Duchess of Cornwall has committed to extending her patronage to the service, which combined with my continued fundraising campaign will help to safeguard one of the most important emergency response units in Wiltshire. The Semington base also provides local jobs and useful infrastructure to residents, so protecting its future is a big priority for me locally. I was delighted to see that pupils St George's School also did their bit by raising over £100 for the Air Ambulance, which just goes to show how treasured the service is both locally and across the county.

So there is lots to be positive about locally with regard to the Air Ambulance, but I know that residents have also been concerned at the news that a driver avoided jail despite being involved in a 90pmh car chase through Semington. To me, the behaviour of the driver was unacceptable and I have heard from local police that it was a miracle that no one else was hurt after the driver went the wrong way around a roundabout and narrowly missed at least one cyclist. Beautiful villages like Semington are often relatively crime-free, but speeding both through and around the village continues to be an issue. I want to see offending drivers face much tougher penalties before an innocent driver or pedestrian is seriously hurt by a driver like this.

To put the minds of residents at ease, this is something that I took to the Prime Minister before the Queen's Speech and I made the point that incidents like the one that took place in Semington should end in a custodial sentence. I was very pleased to see that the Queen's Speech subsequently included a commitment to strengthening powers to sentence offenders so that we start deterring potential speeding offenders before they commit crimes like this one. This is reinforced by the new recruits to the Wiltshire Police force, who will be able to engage in new operations locally that target speeding zones. If you would like to contact me about any issues raised here or any other issue that may be concerning you, please do not hesitate to send me an email at michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk or call 01249 704465.

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Melksham Remembers

Ray Heard

I was asked by the Parish Council to represent Semington on the group that was working on the project 'Melksham Remembers' which was going to produce an exhibition showing the effects of World War 1 in Melksham and the surrounding villages including Semington. This resulted in the touring exhibition last year including at St Georges Semington. Following the exhibition the group met to wind up the project, but I felt along with others in the group that the mass of information we had should not be just stuck in a cupboard somewhere.

We resolved to produce a book which would show life for those at home during 1914-1918. Rob Cumming and I are collating and editing the book, and the intention is to place copies at the Swindon & Wiltshire history centre, Melksham Library, Melksham Oak School and it will be available for purchase. Further details are to be released after publication in November.

To raise funds for the project and the Spirit of Normandy Trust Darren Crook, a member of the group, is running a 'Run of Remembrance' on **10th November 2019**. Darren is a serving REME soldier, with almost 33 years of service. Darren will be raising money by running between the memorials of Beanacre, Whitley, Shaw, Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Semington, Seend and Melksham on the morning of Remembrance Sunday. The route will be in the region of 25 to 30km in distance and will cover a range of terrain depending on weather and accessibility.

Please visit Darren's Just Giving page to donate to this fantastic cause:
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/darren-crookror>

Paws for Thought



You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

It's in the Bible; Matthew 5, Verse 9

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Parish Council Matters

Brian Smyth – Chair of the Parish Council

Litter Pick – This autumn’s litter pick will be on **Saturday 9th November**. It will start outside the **Village Hall at 10.00am**. We welcome all the help we can get! We can supply you with litter picking equipment, so please come along and join in. It’s always a good spirited community event and ensures our village looks clean as we head towards winter.

Grit Bins – Once the cold winter weather hits us, parishioners may need to use the grit bins on frosty days. These bins are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council. If you find a bin which is low or empty and needs filling, you can report this to Wiltshire Council either through the ‘Mywiltshire App’ or by ‘phoning 0300 4560105.

Christmas Tree – The village Christmas tree will be erected and decorated on **Saturday 23rd November** starting at **10.00am**. The working party will be meeting on the small green opposite the Village Hall. It would be great to welcome some additional helpers this year; like the litter pick, it’s a community event which is always fun.

Defibrillator Training – Just a final reminder that this year’s training session will be on **Thursday 7th November at 7.30pm**. Whether it’s for first time training or just a refresher, please come along and familiarise yourselves with this very easy to use equipment.

Hello and Welcome!

A belated, but nevertheless, very warm welcome to all of those very smart people who have chosen Semington as their new home. We hope you love living here just as much as we do. There’s loads to get involved in and just a couple of great ideas are mentioned by Brian in the article above.

So whether quizzing is your thing – there’s two great ones to go to, singing with our very own Semingtones or crafting at the Crafternoon in Highfield Close, we’re sure you’ll soon feel like you’ve lived here forever.

Oh and if either of the Mr Ws stop and chat we promise they are totally harmless!



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Semington WI Meeting

Deb Hurn



We had an excellent evening of First Aid with very clear instruction from Ian Potheary. Things have changed in First Aid just as other things have changed. I would like to think that having listened and watched it would give some of us the confidence to help in a medical situation before the appropriate help arrives. I for one was amazed just how hard you have to press when doing chest compressions etc. Many thanks to Ian for an enjoyable & really Informative evening.

At our November meeting (7.30pm in the Village Hall) we will be making gift bags, appropriate being the month before Christmas. Where are the months going?!! November will also see us joining with the Semingtones and Village Hall for a Concert and a Cream Tea on **Sunday 24th November** at 3.00pm. Tickets will be available from the Village Hall, Lorraine (Semingtones) and the WI at a cost of £6.00. A donation from the proceeds will go to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

At The School Gates

Pip Hunt – Head of School

Our recent Harvest celebration in the Church was a vibrant worship filled with song, poetry, art and prayer and focused on the need to think of others at this time of year who are not as fortunate as us. The parents, children and staff gave generously towards our collection of food items for the Melksham Foodbank. The compassion and willingness to help others from such a small school like ours never ceases to amaze me.

We have also recently restarted attending the Thursday Village Coffee Mornings with some of our older children for some cross-generation chat and board game playing! It is great for the children to be a true part of this village community and meet people who they would not usually cross paths with.

Secretary Needed!

Gerald Taylor

The village hall is looking for a secretary/booking agent to join the Hall Committee. For more details contact Gerald Taylor Chairman on 01380 870530, mobile 0773 2169387 or e-mail Gerald_taylor@btinternet.com

Steeple Ashton Films

Alison Wilson 01380 871345

YESTERDAY (12A)

Saturday 16th November 2019

Steeple Ashton Village Hall

7.30pm Doors 7.00pm



Directed by Danny Boyle with Screenplay by Richard Curtis, this is a film not to be missed! If you love the music of The Beatles, then you will love this film! Starring Himesh Patel as Jack Malik and Lily James as Ellie Appleton, there are many other faces you will recognise including Meera Syal and Sanjeev Bhaskar. Loosely described as a romantic comedy – it is recognisable as Richard Curtis’s style and mastery of wit, but is so much more!

Without giving too much away, Jack Malik (Himesh Patel) is a struggling singer-songwriter working in the seaside town of Lowestoft. His dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie (Lily James) who becomes his manager. After a freak bus accident, during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed. Performing songs by the greatest band in history, to a world that has never heard them, Jack becomes an overnight sensation. With Beatles music throughout the film, you are in for a treat!

Tickets - £6 are available at Steeple Ashton Village Shop, or can be reserved by ringing Alison Wilson on 01380 871345.

Crafternoon

Pam Wildsmith

Crafternoon has a new home in November. Christine White, a newcomer to Semington, has kindly offered to host Crafternoon at her home, 29 Highfield Close. Our next meeting is **Wednesday 27th November** 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Come along, regardless of how crafty you are - knitting, tapestry, crocheting or sewing – all crafts, levels and ages welcome. If you’re stuck there’s sure to be someone to help or give advice!

Call 871979 or email whites1966@btinternet.com

Catholic News

St. John The Baptist Trowbridge & St Bernadette's Westbury (inc villages)

Weekly Timings: Check newsletter for changes

St John the Baptist - Trowbridge

Sunday Masses: Saturday: (Vigil) 6.00pm; Sunday: 10.30am & 6.00pm

Holy Day of Obligation: See newsletter online at www.stjohnthebaptist.co.uk

Weekday Masses Monday: 9.00am, Tuesday: 6.00pm, Wednesday: 12.10pm, Friday: 6.00pm, Saturday: 6.00pm (Vigil);

Rosary: Weekdays before Mass.

Confessions: Sat: 10.30 - 11.00am; 5.00 - 5.45pm and anytime on request.

St Bernadette's - Westbury

Sunday Mass: 9.00am

Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Weekday Mass: Thursday 10.00am

Confessions: Before Masses and any time on request.

ALL SAINTS PARTY NIGHT 1ST NOVEMBER: In celebration of All Saints, we will be having a Parish Party. Please bring to share a dish of your choice that represents your nationality. For example, if you are English, maybe bring Sausage and Mash? Irish, an Irish Stew? Scottish, maybe some Haggis? Welsh, maybe some Welshcakes? Polish, maybe some Bigos Stew? French, crepes? 7.15-11.30pm in St. John's Parish Centre. There will be a bar and Stan the Man will be doing the disco.

ROTARY CLUB DINNER DANCE: Trowbridge Wessex Mead Rotary Club are once again organising a Black Tie Charity Dinner Dance on **Friday 15th November** at the Trowbridge Civic Centre with funds being raised for both Children in Need and local children's charities. Tickets for the event are £35 per head. If any Parishioners would like to put on their gladrags and support this event by getting a few friends together, could they please contact Andy Barlow at andy@barlowfm.co.uk

SCRIPTURE WEEKEND: Wiltshire Council's Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme is looking for volunteers to support refugee families in Trowbridge from the end of October. If this is something you are interested in finding out more please contact refugees@wiltshire.gov.uk or call Laura Salter on 01225 756197 (Mon-Wed). Further information from: Jenny Sturrock 07974 713 768 or Mary Martin 01373 8301 70

Mass Times At Nearby Catholic Churches

Immaculate Conception, Devizes (01380 723572) Mass on Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 10.30am and 5.00pm.

St Anthony Melksham (01225 702128) Mass on Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 9.30am.

Bradford on Avon (01225 862739) Mass on Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 10.30am.



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CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

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Thought From The Rectory

John Rees

As you enter Westminster Abbey, the first monument you see is the tomb of the unknown warrior. The British soldier is buried there as a memorial to the dead of World War 1, particularly those who have no grave. The body of an unknown British soldier was exhumed from the WW1 battlefields and brought with great dignity and ceremony to Westminster Abbey to be buried on 11th November 1920. The words on the tombstone are poignant, commemorating the near 1 million British Empire soldiers who died in WW1. There are sentences of Scripture around the edge of the stone, including 'Greater love has no man than this' and 'In Christ shall all be made alive'.

War is terrible - there is no getting away from that fact. The unknown warrior represents all those who lost their lives fighting for freedom. The words from Scripture on the tomb remind us of the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross, giving his life that we might be free.

Let us pause on Remembrance Sunday to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice, in WW1 and in other conflicts since, that we might be free. We may feel that our nation is more unstable and more divided than for many years, but we can be thankful that, because of the sacrifice of so many, we live in a democracy and are able to express our views.

In our Remembrance services we also remember the sacrifice of Jesus who died on the cross and rose again for us all. People through the ages have discovered "peace that passes all understanding" through following him; peace that gives a new sense of self-worth and new hope through awareness of God's loving presence even in the most difficult of situations. Jesus offers ultimate hope – for he has promised all who choose to follow him that death is not the end but a pathway to the loving presence of God – where there will be no more pain or suffering. If you would like to discuss this or know more please get in touch.

Best wishes,

John

St George's Church Semington

Services November 2019



3rd November 9.30am

Holy Communion - Rev Hugh Hoskins

10th November 10.00am

Remembrance Day Service

Joy Albone

11.00am at the War Memorial



17th November 9.30am

Holy Communion - Rev John Rees



Saturday 23rd November

St George's School

Messy Church 11.00am—1.00pm

No Sunday Service

Thursday 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

Morning prayer 9.00am

Contact Details for The Canalside Parishes

Administrator – Michael Gamble, please contact Michael for initial enquiries about baptisms, weddings and general matters on **07795 400262**

E-mail: canalsideoffice@gmail.com

PCC Secretary/Treasurer - Jack Woodward **01380 870784**

Church Warden – Mr David Wildsmith

Lay Pastoral Assistants are co-ordinated by Marilyn Stubbs. Please contact Marilyn on **01225 753118** or John if you would like a visit.

Curate: Revd. Joy Albone **07931 638524** email canalsidecurate@gmail.com

Rev John Rees, Rector, Canalside Benefice **01225 764365**

Email: canalsiderector@gmail.com www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk