

OCTOBER 2019

SEMINGTON  
PARISH



MAGAZINE

**Minister for Semington:**

**Rev. John Rees**

**22 Warren Road**

**Staverton**

**BA14 8UZ**

**Tel. 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
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00pm	Armstrong Angels Skittles
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Semington WI
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Armstrong Angel Skittles
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Steeple Ashton Mens Skittles
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Village Quiz
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> to	All Day	Village Green Public Enquiry
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>		
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Semington Sports Club
		Race Night
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.00pm	Steeple Ashton Mens Skittles

**Somerset Arms**

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Gourmet Night
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Book Club
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Children's Halloween Party
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov.	8.00pm	Adults Fancy Dress Party

**St George's School**

Wednesdays	6.30pm	Zumba Fitness
------------	--------	---------------

**In and Around The Village**

Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mobile Library Littlemarsh
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Mobile Library Village Hall

**Further Afield**

Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Steeple Ashton Films
---------------------------	--------	----------------------

## Christians in Semington

---

*Bev Woodward*

Housegroup - join us to drink tea and coffee, chat, and this month we're looking at prayer. We're meeting on **Tuesdays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October** at 7.45pm. As venues change, please phone Bev 870784 or Pam 870030 for up to date information.

Christians in Semington - **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 7.45pm – 9.00pm**, 9 Somerset Way. Join us to pray for our community.

The Church was beautifully decorated for harvest! Thank you to all who helped in any way.

Thank you too to all the villagers who have produced stunning floral displays in their gardens and around the village this summer.

You're all blooming marvellous!



## Editor's Note

---

*Gillian Airey*

Welcome to the October edition of the mag. Did you find any Semington stones last month? Deadline for November is **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** which is a tad earlier than usual. New contributors are always welcome. 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**

*Cleeve Cats  
Boarding Cattery  
...Send Cleeve*

**We only board cats**



[www.cleevecats.co.uk](http://www.cleevecats.co.uk)

# HALL FOR HIRE

Semington Village

Capacity 100

Phone 07519393668

or

Gerald 01380  
870530



For all your  
**Painting and**

**Decorating**

needs call

**Pete Milburn**

Church Street, Semington

**07841 384599**

Get a free quote today

No commitment

Competitive rates



**ZUMBA** With Patty & Maria

Melksham Baptist Church Hall

**Mondays 6:15pm**, Old Broughton Rd, SN12 8BX

Forest and Sandridge COE Primary School

**Tuesdays 6pm**, Cranesbill Road,  
Melksham, SN12 7GN

St George's School, Semington

**Wednesdays 6:30pm** Zumba fitness  
Semington, BA14 6LP

**ZUMBA** Gold 50+ & Beginners

United Methodist Church Hall, BoA

**Tuesdays 11am**, St Margaret's St, BA15 1DD

Paxcroft Mead Community Centre,

Hilperton, BA14 7GW

**Thursdays 10am**

Call Patty: 07791 129593 [patperry@yahoo.com](mailto:patperry@yahoo.com)

[www.patriciaperry.zumba.com](http://www.patriciaperry.zumba.com)

## This Month I've Been Proper Country

---

*Gilly Airey*

I'm not going to lie but when I lived in the South East I was what could be best described as a 'Sissy Southerner'. All the more galling as a girl who grew up in Derby, I had eschewed all the gritty Northerner in me and succumbed to South East living. I did on one occasion demand that gorgeous hubby drive home from Banbury (he was on his way to Manchester at the time) to remove a dead mouse he had caught in a mouse trap in the garage. As gorgeous hubby rightly pointed out – 'its dead – it's not going anywhere.....'

Then of course we got the Mighty Dibs, a cat with the attention span of a goldfish, a mixed metaphor if ever there was one and it was time for me to 'woman up'. I have lost count of the times I've come down in the morning to find out he has brought me a 'present' which, happily for the mouse, is still alive and at the sight of me the Mighty Dibs switches from 'mummy's present' to it must be time for breakfast and wanders off in the direction of his food. I am proud to say I have perfected the art of catching live mice, shoe box and flat cardboard lid seeing as you ask, and freeing the poor soul back into the wild. I've even managed to get over the dead mouse thing too (dustpan and brush works for me...).

This year it's been the year of the spider. The lovely Jenny, gorgeous George's mum, can't cope with spiders and we thought that conkers would help keep the numbers down – they didn't and we've been playing hosts to a multitude of them. We've adopted a very organic approach to spiders (not dusting quite so often.....) and allowed them to spin their webs freely – amazingly this is the cheapest and most durable fly screen you can ever want, until you walk into one by accident, not such a great feeling! However, even I draw the line at sharing my space with the big fat hairy brutes of spiders, but as I said I have 'womaned up' so I catch and liberate spiders outside without so much a squeal or shudder.

Come to think of it, I think I am proper country now. I don't run screaming at woodlice, slugs, snails or worms; quite possibly because the last time I ran I was ten years old! We have two green woodpeckers who visit our garden, Sissy Southerners could only dream of that. It's these moments when you kick back and reflect on the beauty of where we live, my friend Ms H, commits to walking the canal every evening and documents her walk through nature with the most amazing photographs including kingfishers. Ms H uses the hashtag #lovewhereyoulive and I couldn't agree more. Till next month hope you're loving where you live too!



## The Somerset Arms Free House

**Breakfast** served from 9am

**Sunday Lunch** served 12.00pm -  
4.00pm

**Dinner** served 6.00pm to 9.00pm  
Monday to Saturday

High Street, Semington  
01380 870067



Find us on Facebook

**Keep a look out for upcoming  
events and special nights**

[www.somersetarmssemington.co.uk](http://www.somersetarmssemington.co.uk)

## WILLIAMS HOME TECH

**Need help with your computer?  
Call Dave for user-friendly help**

For anything to do with home computers, laptops or entertainment equipment... I can set up your wireless broadband, networking, iPad, iPhone and other smart phones. If your computer has ground to a halt, or you want 1 to 1 instruction on how to use your PC... internet security... download pictures from your camera... how to use software and much more... **call Dave.**

**If I can't help I won't charge.  
01380 870767 or 07799 337807**

e-mail: [help@williamshometech.com](mailto:help@williamshometech.com)  
[www.williamshometech.com](http://www.williamshometech.com)

## Kieren Bourne



### Garden Maintenance

Regular or one-off service

Lawn mowing, pruning, weeding, hedge  
trimming, planting, edging, digging.

May also help with interior, and some,  
exterior household painting

## Bourne Gardening



**01225 705782**

Email: [kowhai45@hotmail.com](mailto:kowhai45@hotmail.com)

## Keeping it Local - Wessex and West Ground Investigation

---

*Welcome to another in our occasional series where we spotlight truly local businesses. Ian and his beautiful family live in the village and you can't get more local than that! If you have a business you'd like to feature get in touch – Ed (details on page 3)*

**What is Ground Investigation?** Ground investigations are a way to find out the condition of the ground, ideally before beginning construction work. They help to show a variety of ground conditions such as the water table level, detailed information about soil, the ground layer thickness and any contamination that may be present from previous site uses.

**How can we help you?** Anyone who is planning to build a new house will need to satisfy planners, warranty companies and building control officers that they have investigated potentially contaminated land in the building plot. We offer a range of different ground investigations from a simple Phase 1 Desktop Study through to Contaminated Land Assessment Reports and Coal Mining Risk Assessments. A more detailed Geotechnical Interpretive Report will help with designing foundations and retaining walls, assessing soil and rock slope stability and potential landslide assessments – depending upon your need.

**Why choose us?** At Wessex and West we love ground investigation! During many years in the industry we have completed all types of ground investigations across the length and breadth of the UK and our experience will ensure that we choose the correct one for your project – whether you want to build a single house or are planning a much larger project.

We make the process as smooth as possible for our clients and will only recommend the investigations that you really need. All of our work is, of course, fully insured and we offer high-quality reports at very competitive prices.

### **Want to find out more?**

You can call, email or send us a message via our website – whether you just need some more information or want to discuss your project in detail, we'll be happy to help:

T: Ian Parsons: 07837 134941

E: [info@wwgi.co.uk](mailto:info@wwgi.co.uk)

W: [www.wwgi.co.uk](http://www.wwgi.co.uk)

# CAROL'S CABS LTD

PRIVATE HIRE & TAXI'S

**Airport & Party Runs**

**8 & 6 Seats Available**

**N.V.Q. Qualified**

**M: 0789 4873129**

E: [carolscabs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carolscabs@hotmail.co.uk)

# J.D. PRICE BUILDING SERVICES EST. 1987

- Extensions
- Garages
- Renovations
- Patios, Drives, etc.
- General Building Works

Phone for expert advice  
and a free quotation  
Tel. 01225 344624  
Mob. 07970 737321

*City & Guilds Accredited*



Wedding flowers  
Hand-tied bouquets  
Arrangements  
Funeral tributes

Beautiful, stylish flowers  
for every occasion

**01225 700020**

[www.stemsfloristwiltshire.co.uk](http://www.stemsfloristwiltshire.co.uk)

**Local delivery available**

Canal Bridge, Semington,  
Trowbridge, BA14 6JT

# Chris Walker

*Plumbing services & Home  
Improvements*

For a Friendly, reliable & local  
service

Bathroom & Kitchen Installations •  
Showers • Toilet repairs • Tiling •  
Radiators • Burst Pipes • Leaking Taps  
& Ball Valves • Cold water tanks  
replacement • Fascias & Guttering

For a free quotation please call

Chris on: 07837 589919 or  
01380 870537

Based in Semington, Trowbridge



## Book Club

---

*Angela Grodzicka – 870756*

The group met in the pub on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to discuss *Dark Sacred Night* by Michael Connolly. For several of the group this was the first book they had read by this author.

Most enjoyed it and would read more but agreed it was entertainment rather than great literature and the 'Americanisms' were a hurdle to be overcome at the beginning of the book. One member felt that as a story it was formulaic and one was underwhelmed by the plot. All agreed it would make a good series on the television.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 8.00pm** in the pub to discuss 'How to Stop Time' by Matt Haig - a time travelling romance.

All welcome!

## At The School Gates

---

*Pip Hunt – Head of School*

We have had an amazing start back to the school year and now have the grand total of 97 children at St George's, which is a huge milestone for us to reach considering two years ago that numbers had dropped to below 70.

We have already been very busy raising money for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and we had a special visit from Wilber the mascot which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Children in Swans and Kingfishers Class have had a morning exploring the church with Reverend John and Reverend Joy and we are very much looking forward to attending the Thursday Village Coffee Morning again soon.

The children are also making the most of the second phase of our new play equipment that runs alongside the field and our first social event of the year – the School BBQ was great fun. It was lovely to see families enjoying time together on the field and watching the St George's School community grow and welcome new members. It brought back lots of happy memories of similar events from my childhood and time at the school.



16 teams of quizzing maestros enjoyed pitting their wits at our brace of Village quizzes.

The village quiz was attended by 4 teams, ranging in size from 3 to 6 people. Well done to the 3-woman team for a fine effort. The quiz was set by Neil and Jackie from Terry's Turnips team, so many thanks to them for an excellent quiz. The marathon was very Welsh! There was a sheet of Welsh place names in the style of Pictionary, with some nifty drawings of things like a pianist playing 'Mandy' and an island (Barry Island), which were great fun. The other sheet was a list of Welsh place names and we had to supply the English translation.

Unfortunately for the rest of us, Howard and Helen from team 'Newly Moved' had lived in Wales, so did very well and their team won the marathon. That team led the main quiz by half a point at half time and went on to win by 1½ points from team 'Blast from the Past'. So well done to Howard, Helen, Esme, Philip, Sue and Steve.

The music round was interesting. You had to name the artist, the connection between them and which one was the odd one out. The connection was that the performers were all, bar one, at the Woodstock Festival of 1969. The performer who wasn't there was Bob Dylan. (Which is why The Band were there in their own right). 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 two Village Quizzes are on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.**

Down at the Somerset Arms, quizmaster Simon Tyler took full advantage of the sunshine by moving the Bank Holiday quiz al fresco into the garden. Based around the end of summer; rounds consisted of August, Ashes Alive (cricket based) summer holidays, back to school, the dog days of summer (dog themed ..!!). The music round was a trip down memory lane taxing the teams as they struggled to recognize children's tv show themes such as the Clangers and Mr Benn

At the point that bad light nearly stopped play the eventual winners were 'I Can't Find my Glasses' who took home a bumper cash pot.

Next pub quiz is **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**

If you've heard about or read only one English poem about the Autumn it's likely to be John Keats' *Ode to Autumn* which he wrote in 1819 and which begins with that most memorable of lines "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness".

But there are many such poems, and this is one written in 1783 by William Blake. It is one of four inter-linked seasonal poems and there's a suggestion in it that Blake is writing about the human experience as much as he is about nature.

*To Autumn*

*O Autumn, laden with fruit, and stain'd  
With the blood of the grape, pass not, but sit  
Beneath my shady roof; there thou may'st rest,  
And tune thy jolly voice to my fresh pipe,  
And all the daughters of the year shall dance!  
Sing now the lusty song of fruits and flowers.*

*'The narrow bud opens her beauties to  
The sun, and love runs in her thrilling veins;  
Blossoms hang round the brows of Morning, and  
Flourish down the bright cheek of modest Eve,  
Till clust'ring Summer breaks forth into singing,  
And feather'd clouds strew flowers round her head.*

*'The spirits of the air live in the smells  
Of fruit; and Joy, with pinions light, roves round  
The gardens, or sits singing in the trees.'  
Thus sang the jolly Autumn as he sat,  
Then rose, girded himself, and o'er the bleak  
Hills fled from our sight; but left his golden load.*



# Steve Natt Decorating Services

**Interior & Exterior Decorator**

**General handyman services**

**Decking planned and laid**

**Wooden gates made to order**

**Clean & professional service guaranteed**

For Your Free Estimate

Master Tradesman  
PLI Covered

Tel: 01225 703612

Mobile: 07960 652447

## Newhouse Farm Bed & Breakfast



Comfortable, country style farmhouse accommodation. Two double rooms:

One on ground floor, plus twin room, all en-suite

Littleton, Semington, Trowbridge, Wilts  
BA14 6LF

Carole & Derek Ball on 01380 870349

Email: [stay@newhousefarmwilts.co.uk](mailto:stay@newhousefarmwilts.co.uk)  
[www.newhousefarmwilts.co.uk](http://www.newhousefarmwilts.co.uk)

Can't tune in your new TV?

## P.F. HARRIS & SON

**T.V. Video & Audio  
Services**

**Repairs, Sales & Tuneins**

Call 01225 752197

Mobile 07925 474711

[www.tvrepairstrowbridge.co.uk](http://www.tvrepairstrowbridge.co.uk)

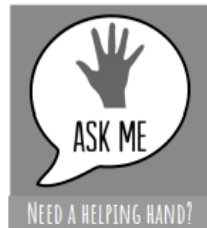
Unit 24 Meadows Works  
Court St  
Trowbridge BA14 8BR

**SHOP LOCAL**

Let us help you with your TV  
requirements

## EMMA PUTNAM

- ✓ Friendly & reliable service
- ✓ Competitive hourly rate
- ✓ Eco-friendly



For those jobs around your home  
and garden that you haven't got  
time to do or need help with...

Whatever the task, whatever the time  
of year... **ASK ME**



POP BY FOR A CHAT FROM 11.15  
EVERY THURSDAY  
SEMINGTON VILLAGE HALL



@ASKMELOCAL



07895 455673



EMMA@ASKMELOCAL.CO.UK

## Your Wiltshire Councillor News

*Jonathon Seed 07770 774463*

Wiltshire Council does not shut down for August but there is a pause in political activity for the month. Committees tend not to sit and it gives members and officers a chance to take a break. The Executive of the Council continues to govern and we manage to achieve this without any great scenes of anguish from our members or challenges in the courts! Perhaps if our members of Parliament faced the same challenges as our councillors in delivering daily services to the people that elected them they would face reality a little more readily!

Another interesting comparison between Wiltshire and Westminster is that we both elected a new leader at a similar time. In Wiltshire our new leader, Philip Whitehead, has quietly and firmly taken up the reins of local government without fuss and with a new cabinet drawn from across the county. Philip has held two cabinet appointments (Highways and Finance) and is well prepared for his new role. His predecessor has gracefully held back from involvement in County Hall and the transition of power has been pretty seamless and without fuss. Again there is a lesson here for Westminster.

Many residents are expressing increasing 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.

## Parish Council Minutes

---

*Abridged minutes from meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019*

**Present:** Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), M Kasasian, R Oglesby, P Bowyer, S Rimmer and the Clerk, Roger Coleman. Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed attended part-time. There were seven members of the public present that included three representatives from Hannick Homes.

**Apologies:** Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors P Smith and C Wade and from PCSO Maggie Ledbury.

**Declaration of Interests:** Cllr. Scott declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9b (Friends of Great Lees Field). There were no other interests declared by councillors.

**Community Policing:** Cllr. Bowyer stated that he had identified eight Neighbourhood Watch signs in the village that required replacing. The Chairman commented that he had ordered and had received possible replacement signs that he passed to councillors to examine. Cllrs. Rimmer, Bowyer and Smyth agreed to investigate a possible way of mounting these signs at suitable locations in the village.

**Wiltshire Council Report:** Cllr. Seed stated that he has yet to have a conversation with the relevant officer at Wiltshire Council regarding the recently installed CCTV at the Bus Gate and its utility in assisting in deterring vehicles from abusing the 'No Entry' sign at the Bus Gate and/or in gaining evidence to support the installation of an 'Enforcement camera'.

**Planning:** The Council noted the status of the following planning applications: 19/02147, land north of St Georges Road, residential development of 26 dwellings etc; refused. 19/05278/FUL, 29 High Street, re-roofing of garden summerhouse; approved. 19/05875/FUL, 5 Manor Close, single storey extension and stove flue; approved. 19/06364?FUL, 12 Semington Turnpike, replace up and over door, UPVC Personnel door and window; approved. The following planning application was examined by the Parish Council and the Council **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics): 19/07938/REM, land at St Georges Road, reserved matters application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, pursuant to outline permission 16/01678/OUT for the erection of 24 dwellings and associated works: *The Parish Council supports this planning application and would encourage Wiltshire Council to insist that a requirement to provide motor vehicle electrical charging points is a condition of any approval.*

The Chairman requested that all members, including the Clerk, read the published documents in relation to the recently advertised 'Local Plan Review' issued by the Wiltshire Council Strategic Planning Department and to comment on any adverse effects on Semington.

**Finance: Total balance in hand as at 16 September £22,224.15**

The Council **resolved** to make a donation of £1250 to the 'Friends of Great Lees Field'. Cllr. Scott did not take part in the discussion or in the voting, The Council **resolved** to make a donation of £550 to St Georges PCC towards the cost of the Village Newsletter and the maintenance of the churchyard. The Council **resolved** to make a donation of £180 to procure four additional gazebos for village use. The Council **resolved** to make a donation of £50 towards the Village Memorial Book, The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including a payment of £137.87 to Cllr. Smyth in respect of the Litter Pick equipment (£124.75) and the Neighbourhood Watch signs (£13.12). The Council expressed its appreciation to the Semington Slog Committee for its generous donation of £300 to the village and **resolved** that it would be allocated to the annual Village Christmas Tree.

**Highways:** The Chairman commented that a parishioner from Littlemarsh had written to the Council regarding a number of issues at Littlemarsh including fly-tipping and various activities associated with parked vehicles on the (old) disused section of the A350 road. There ensued a brief discussion and the Chairman stated that in view of the issues raised it required detailed discussion and that it would be an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting. Meanwhile, he commented that it would be helpful to receive more details of the various issues and that it would be helpful if the Littlemarsh residents were able to keep a diary of events.

**Environment:** Cllr. Rimmer confirmed that the Commemorative Bench and the associated Commemorative Tree Memorial Plaque were now installed and that the ceremony to inaugurate the memorial had been well-attended and very successful. Cllr. Rimmer agreed to organise the working party to clear vegetation encroaching on to the Tennis Court. The Chairman stated that due to operational reasons the planned Litter Pick had been postponed and that he would arrange a new date.

**Footpaths:** The Chairman reported that Cllr. Smith was taking the lead on this matter, especially in respect of contacting Wiltshire Council. Cllr. Smyth added that West Wiltshire Ramblers Association wished to know the public paths requiring attention and that, in accordance with normal practice, they would establish a 'clearance party'. Following a comment by Cllr. Oglesby, Cllr. Scott stated that there was a possibility that each year a combined party of West Wiltshire Ramblers and parishioners could survey each path in the Parish and thereafter inform Wiltshire Council of the work necessary to restore them to a serviceable condition. The Chairman stated that he would ask Cllr. Smith to investigate this possibility.

Next Meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – Ordinary PC Meeting

# ZUMBA® with anisha

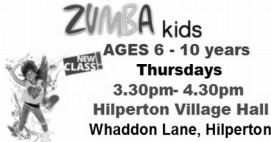
**MONDAYS** 07823881945  
7.45pm—8.45pm  
Hilperton Primary School  
Newleaze, Hilperton BA14 7SB

**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**  
10.15am—11.15am  
St Laurence School  
Ashley Cl, Bradford-on-Avon, BA15 1DZ



WWW.ZUMBATROWBRIDGE.COM

## AEH Services

Home & Garden Services

No Job Too Small

Arbours, Planters & Arches  
Erected

Leaky Taps to Faulty Gutters

Fully Insured and CRB Checked

Call Andy, 07952 357791

Free Quotes & Estimates

## ***Peace of Mind Funeral Plans***

Buy at today's prices

With a *Peace of Mind Funeral Plan*  
you benefit from

- ✓ Protection against rising funeral costs
- ✓ Your choice of funeral director
- ✓ Complete flexibility to choose the funeral you want
- ✓ Guaranteed acceptance.

To discuss your choices contact

**Jack Woodward**  
**01380 870784**

[www.peacefuneralplans.co.uk](http://www.peacefuneralplans.co.uk)

All plans registered with the Funeral Planning Authority

# The Semingtones! Ladies Choir



**For further details**

**Tel: 07730 254122**

*An integral part of West Wiltshire School for  
Performing Arts*

[www.WWSPA.co.uk](http://www.WWSPA.co.uk)



[lorraine@theatresense.co.uk](mailto:lorraine@theatresense.co.uk)



## Update From Michelle Donelan MP

---

I recently noticed that among the list of flytipping hotspots in Wiltshire was the Semington Bypass – a road that local residents drive along very regularly and rely upon day-to-day. Not only is illegally-dumped rubbish like this a horrible eyesore but it also has an environmental and financial impact on the local area, so this is something that I know many residents are concerned about. We are all becoming more aware of environmental issues and the need to protect our beautiful countryside but sadly there is still a small minority of people who mindlessly undo the good work of conscientious residents by dumping their rubbish around the village.

In my previous meetings with the Environment Agency I raised the issue of fly-tipping in the area and then took their recommendations to the Secretary of State for Environment to see what more the Department could do to help the Agency tackle this issue in and around Semington. I am very glad to say that there will now be new regulations to give the Environment Agency and local councils more effective tools to use in investigating and prosecuting waste crimes, including seizing vehicles for a wider range of suspected offences. It is also very good news that the on the spot fines for fly-tipping have been raised even higher to deter individuals from even thinking about doing it.

So with these changes I hope that we will see a total end to the awful sight of illegally dumped rubbish around Semington. However, to make sure this happens I will be following the work of the Environment Agency and local councillors very closely and offering them all of my support.

If you would like to stay up to date with what I am doing around the Chippenham Constituency and my views on a number of issues, please subscribe to my e-news by visiting:

<https://michelledonelan.co.uk/subscribe/>

**Kavanaghs**

**SOLD**

01225 706 860  
www.kavanaghs.co.uk



**LET**

01225 790 529  
www.kavanaghs.co.uk



# On the move?

## For Sales or Lettings Residential or Commercial

Dealing with all types of property in the Melksham and Trowbridge area, Kavanaghs Chartered Surveyors are leading professional estate agents for all your property needs.

Call Melksham 01225 706860  
Trowbridge 01225 341504

Email [info@kavanaghs.co.uk](mailto:info@kavanaghs.co.uk) or go to [www.kavanaghs.co.uk](http://www.kavanaghs.co.uk)



## Nathan Keegan Plastering



Re-skimming  
Skimming over artex  
Plasterboarding  
Patch repairs

*Specialising in  
domestic plastering*

*Every effort made to cause  
minimum home disturbance*

Call for free quote

Mobile: 07534 129011  
Home: 01225 287138  
(Melksham based)



Donna  
**WILLIAMS**

ADI 318571

*Registered Approved Driving Instructor*

**STRUCTURED TRAINING**  
**PATIENT FRIENDLY INSTRUCTOR**  
**COMPETITIVE RATES**  
**ASK ABOUT DISCOUNTS**

Tel: 01380 870767  
Mob: 07855 708045

## 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 **10<sup>th</sup> 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

---



When you talk, do not say harmful things, but say what people need—words that will help others become stronger. Then what you say will do good to those who listen to you.

It's in the bible; Ephesians 4 verse 29.

## **Elliots Home Improvements**

*A small family business which prides itself in quality workmanship*



*Maintenance, Carpentry, Painting, Plumbing, UPVC fitting, Fencing, Plastering, Drywall, Landscaping, etc.*

**Call for free estimate today**

**07936 706614**

*elliotshomeimprovements@hotmail.com*

## **Anthony Lovatt**

Furniture  
Restoration

Tables, chairs, bureaux  
Chests, long case clocks  
Mirrors, etc.  
Veneer repair  
Polishing and Waxing

Tel. 01225 764 206  
Mob. 07709 687 137

**Collection &  
Delivery service**

Your local acupuncturist  
Ghislaine Ingman  
at  
Roundstone Surgery,  
Trowbridge.

Please call  
**07818 517785**  
with any questions or  
to book an  
appointment



Andil House, Court Street,  
Trowbridge, Wiltshire. BA14 8BR

Digital Printing & Copying

Business Stationery

Carbonless Invoice Printing

**Tel: 01225 776678**

Email: [sales@amprintcopy.co.uk](mailto:sales@amprintcopy.co.uk)  
[www.amprintcopy.co.uk](http://www.amprintcopy.co.uk)

BACc Member  
[www.acupuncture.org.uk](http://www.acupuncture.org.uk)



## Parish Council Matters

---

*Brian Smyth – Chair of the Parish Council*

**Thanks to the Semington Sloggers** - The Semington Slog Committee have very kindly offered to make a donation to be used for the benefit of the villagers of Semington and have suggested it could be used for acquiring and decorating the village Christmas tree. The Parish Council is very pleased to accept this generous offer and our thanks go to the committee and indeed those who took part in the run.

**Parish Councillor Vacancy** - We still have a vacancy on the Parish Council which we need to fill. If anyone is interested in getting involved in parish activities that help to keep Semington an attractive place to live then please get in touch with the Clerk to the Council on **01225 862770**, or email [Roger.P.Coleman@btinternet.com](mailto:Roger.P.Coleman@btinternet.com) by **1<sup>st</sup> November 2019**.

**Semington Village Green Public Enquiry** - the public enquiry into whether Great Lees Field should be designated a village green will take place on **Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>** in Semington Village Hall. The Friends of Great Lees Field will present their case and call witnesses from the village to give evidence about their use of the field over the last 20+ years. The enquiry is open to the public so please do come along to show your support/interest, if only for a brief period.

**Defibrillator Training** - This year's training session will be on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> 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. [You could save a life.](#)

**Fly-tipping** - Like other villages Semington suffers from periodic fly-tipping. Typical locations within the Parish for this irresponsible behaviour are the various lay-bys along the A361, Littlemarsh lay-by and end of the cul-de-sac and along Gypsy Lane. Everyone is encouraged to report these instances as soon as they happen to Wiltshire Council. This can be done on-line via the "My Wiltshire App" or by telephoning County Hall on **0300 456 0100**.

**Maintenance of Public Rights of Way** - Many of our public footpaths are becoming overgrown and many stiles are in need of repair or even replacement. The Parish Council is about to conduct a survey of these rights of way around Semington to establish what maintenance needs to be done and who is best placed to do it. Initially we are seeking any Parishioners who are willing to walk some of these paths and record what state they in. Anyone who would like to be involved and at the same time get some fresh air and exercise is invited to contact the Parish Clerk, [roger.p.coleman@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.p.coleman@btinternet.com) We will then draw up a plan of action to restore these rights of way so they can safely be used for the benefit of everyone.



mot@kingautoservices.co.uk

# MOT £39.99 FOR ALL SEMINGTON RESIDENTS

GIVE US A CALL OR BOOK ONLINE  
USING OUR NEW INTERACTIVE WEBSITE

Unit 14 Turnpike Ind. Est, Semington  
TEL: **01380 870999** [KINGSAUTOSERVICES.CO.UK](http://KINGSAUTOSERVICES.CO.UK)

## LAWN HOUSE CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Lawn House, 29 High Street  
Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire BA14 6EU  
Tel.01380 871555  
[www.lawnhouse.co.uk](http://www.lawnhouse.co.uk)

*Treatment of Back & Neck Pain,  
Shoulder, Arm, Hand, Hip, Leg & Foot Pain,  
Arthritis, Spondylitis, Tennis Elbow, Slipped  
Disc, Pins & Needles,  
Headache & Migraine, Sports Injuries.  
Children Treated*

**S. J. PRIOR, B.Sc., D.C.**  
DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC

Registered Member of the  
British Chiropractic Association

GOOD  
QUALITY

HARDWOOD  
LOGS

FOR SALE

CALL JOHN  
ON  
01380 870264

## Semington WI Meetings

*Deb Hurn*



At this month's meeting we welcomed two new members and were treated to some knowledge about the history of scarves and what they've been worn for over the years by Cindy Wyllie. Cindy then proceeded to show us the many ways of wearing and tying them. Who knew there were so many? Many thanks to Cindy for a fun evening with everyone joining in and having a go with the scarves they brought along. Our next meeting will be on **Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm** when we will be shown how to do first aid by our local Paramedic.

## Semington Sports Club Race Night

*Kevin Lockwood*

Semington Sports Club football teams are holding a race night on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October**, at the Village Hall the fun starts at 8.00pm. Tickets are £5.00 per person and includes food. Please contact Kevin Lockwood on 07860 541474 or Martin Bray on 07767 850659 for tickets or if you would like more information.

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible to enjoy our fun night!

## Neighbourhood Watch

*Paul Bowyer – 01380 870512*

A recent article in the local press reminds us that nasty people are around who wish to separate you and your neighbours from your money. Apart from scammers, these are known as rogue traders. Amongst other things they pretend to be legitimate traders and if they come to your door (and you didn't ask them to) just shut the door. Don't get into conversation with them as they are very cunning and smooth talking. They may say a tree needs pruning, or a gutter is falling off, or your driveway needs relaying. Don't fall for it! You will end up spending a lot of money with nothing to show for it. If you get trapped by them, go and see a neighbour to help you get rid of them, but don't forget to lock your doors and windows before leaving the house. If they get threatening, don't hesitate to ring the police.

I've been Neighbourhood Watch coordinator for the village for 14 years, and it's time to hand over to someone else. The job is as arduous as you want to make it, and indeed could be shared with a friend. If you are interested or you want more information give me a ring.

## Down the Local

---

*John, the landlord, John*

Hello again! I can't believe its October already. We had a great time over the August Bank Holiday with some great acts entertaining us in the garden. Sound Affects opened the show on Saturday with their entertaining blend of Ska, Folk and Irish ballads. Next up Relish, our very own bar staff Rob and Ellie. Having never played together before the pair were terrific with Ellie providing beautiful vocals accompanied by Rob on the keyboard. Somerset Arms favourites Peaky Blinders upped the tempo next with their foot tapping Rockabilly themed tunes getting everyone on their feet for a boogie. Local Heroes Inc closed the show as the sun set. A few power issues meant Indied's Sunday set ran on a little and apologies to the village as I know the sound travels from the garden.

The annual Chilli Off once again provided much entertainment with 12 chillies entered to be judged on appearance, taste and heat. The Chilli Off began a number of years ago as a bit of bar banter and a few locals brought their home grown chillis down to the pub to show them off - over the years this has evolved into the village event it is today. In the last couple of years a tasting/judging panel has been in place and the competition is stiff. This year a number of the growers also tasted acting as a 4th judge. There were a few hot fellas on the table and quite a few tears around the pub. So the important bit - the winners. Best looking chilli was grown by Doug Convery and Sally Tyler; hottest chilli and source of most pain by Martin Costello, the tastiest chilli was also grown by Martin making him the overall winner. Big thanks to all the growers and here's to next year's event - keep an eye out early spring for details of next year and how to get involved (mainly get a seed and stick it in a pot!) Check out our Facebook page for photos of all the chilli action!

The pub pool team took an outing to the Liberal Club for the end of season presentation. We brought home a huge trophy as Division 2 winners which is proudly displayed in the pub - Jon Wickens also picked up best average award with a run of 17 games unbeaten.

A few bits and pieces are lined up for October - next week will see many of the villagers attending the ever popular gourmet night and as mid month approaches its the party of the year as I celebrate my half century. Our new menu is set to launch very soon and head to the website or pop into the pub if you want to peruse our Christmas party menu.

Thanks as always for supporting your local pub and don't forget we are open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Bring your parish mag down the pub in October and enjoy 10% off your food bill. Until next time - see you down the pub!



## 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](http://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.

### **THE NEW 300 CLUB 2019**

Subscriptions: £50 annually - £13 quarterly - £4.33 monthly. New members are most welcome to join at any time. Prizes are: £200-£70-£50-£10. For information and application form contact Francis Geraghty 01380 871083 email:

[f.geraghty303@btinternet.com](mailto:f.geraghty303@btinternet.com)

### **SHARING OUR FAITH**

The Group meets in the Parish Centre, Trowbridge on Wednesdays from 8.00 – 9.00pm. This is open to anyone wishing to learn more about the Catholic Church.

### **SICK AND/OR HOUSEBOUND**

Any catholic who is sick or housebound should let Fr. Tom Finnegan (01225 752152) know as he would be pleased to arrange a visit and bring Holy Communion, if desired.

### **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.

## STEEPLE ASHTON FILMS

---

*Alison Wilson – 01380 871345*

### RED JOAN (12A)

SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019 – 7.30pm  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STEEPLE ASHTON  
(DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM FOR REFRESHMENTS)

Directed by Trevor Nunn, **Red Joan** is based on the novel of the same name written by Jennie Rooney, which was inspired by the life of Melita Norwood. The novel is a fictionalized account of Melita Norwood's life. As a young woman, she worked at the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association as a secretary and supplied the Soviet Union with nuclear secrets, undetected for decades.

The central character, Joan Stanley (Dame Judi Dench), a widow, is living in contented retirement in a picturesque village in England when her tranquil existence is shattered when she is arrested by MI5. She is charged with providing classified scientific information to the Soviet government. As her interrogation progresses, Joan relives the dramatic events that shaped her life and her beliefs.

In the 1930s, the young Joan (Sophie Cookson), is a physics student at Cambridge University. She becomes involved with Communists and radical politics through her friend Sonya (Tereza Srbova) and Leo, a Russian saboteur (Tom Hughes). Her story is revealed in flashbacks as Joan is questioned. Joan has been hiding an incredible past.

**Tickets £6.00 from Steeple Ashton Village Shop.**

**Reservations can be made;** please ring Alison Wilson on 01380 871345



## Thought From The Rectory

---

*Anne Rees*

Would you rather be in a crowd of people or spend time quietly on your own? Or perhaps you prefer to spend time with family or a few close friends. Probably, like me, you need all these options at different times. We had the privilege of going to a Proms concert at the Royal Albert Hall in August. A venue holding over 5,000 people is very busy as the audience arrives. People settle into their seats – or stand at the front if they've been lucky enough to get a Promming ticket. As the music starts, the talking stops, and everyone listens quietly, only bursting into applause at the end of each piece. Excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake were part of the programme, and as I listened to the beautiful sound created by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, the haunting melodies made me feel as if I was alone in the Hall, engrossed in the music. A week earlier, we hired the day boat from Hilperton Marina and spent a lovely day cruising along the canal to Avoncliff and back with family and friends. Much of the time we were able to enjoy the peace of the canal, the wildlife and the conversations.

We read in the Bible that Jesus also spent time with crowds of people, time with friends and time alone with God. He taught 5,000 men plus women and children and then fed them with loaves and fish - but afterwards he went on his own to a quiet place to pray. We read that on other occasions he got up early to go to a solitary place to spend quiet time with God. He chose twelve disciples to be his special companions and spent a lot of time with them. Jesus lived on earth as Son of God but was also human, experiencing human emotions; he knew the need for company and the need for solitude. If you are feeling lonely with too much solitude, you will always find a warm welcome at St George's Church, for services and other events. You will find details in this magazine. But if you feel that you are too busy and need more solitude, it might help to follow Jesus' example and set time apart to be alone and talk to God.

With best wishes,

Anne

# *St George's Church Semington*



## **Services October 2019**

**6th October - 9.30am**

**Holy Communion - Rev Hugh Hoskins**



**13th October - 9.30am**

**Morning Worship - Stuart Raymond**

**17th October - 2.00pm**

**St George's School Harvest**

**20th October - 9.30am**

**Holy Communion - Rev John Rees**

**27th October - 9.30am**

**Morning Worship - Joy Albone**

**Thursday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st  
Morning prayer 9.45 am**



### 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 - [canalsidebenefice@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidebenefice@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.

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

Email: [canalsidebeneficerector@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidebeneficerector@gmail.com) [www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk](http://www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk)