

SEPTEMBER 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 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Armstrong Angels Skittles
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Semington WI
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Harvest Supper
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Village Quiz
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Crafternoon
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Mens Skittles Steeple Ashton
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Semington Reunion

## Somerset Arms

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00pm	Book Club
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## St George's School

Wednesdays	6.30pm	Zumba Fitness
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Messy Church

## In and Around The Village

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>		Village Litter Pick
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Memorial Bench Dedication
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 – 10.50am	Mobile Library Little Marsh
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 - 10.50am	Mobile Library at Village Hall

There are 83 Semington Stones to find around the village, if you find one, hide it somewhere different, ready for someone else to find it on another day.

## Further Afield

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	1.15pm	Trio Paradis Trowbridge Town Hall
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## Christians in Semington

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*Bev Woodward*

**Christians in Semington** - **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September**, 7.45pm - 9.00pm, 9 Somerset Way. Join us to pray for our community.

**Housegroup** - join us to drink tea/coffee, chat and have a laugh, and look at things in the Bible. You're very welcome. We meet at 7.45pm on 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September. Contact Bev/Jack 870784 for further dates and venues.

**Harvest Supper** - **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**, 7.30pm in the Village Hall - cold meat salad with a vegetarian option, scrumptious puds, and all for £5.00 adults, £2.50 under 18's. This year, we have a presentation on behalf of MAF - Mission Aviation Fellowship - [www.maf-uk.org](http://www.maf-uk.org) For over 70 years they have been flying light aircraft over jungles, mountains, swamps and deserts, enabling over 2,000 aid organisations bring care and Christian hope to thousands of communities. Tickets are available to buy at Village Hall coffee morning or Bev Woodward - 870784. The following evening there will be further harvest celebrations, 6pm, in the Church.

**Messy Church** - **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September**, 11.00am - 1.00pm in the school hall. There will be more activities, suitable for all ages, and lunch included so that you can forget about cooking for the day. (Suggested donation £1.00) 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

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*Gillian Airey*

And before we knew it, it was all 'Back to School' adverts and shoe fitting appointments at Clarks! Welcome to the September edition of the mag. Deadline for October is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September. New contributors are always welcome. Email me at **[semparmag@icloud.com](mailto: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](mailto:semparmagads@icloud.com)**

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## This Month I've Been Practising

Gilly Airey

Over the school holidays gorgeous hubby and I had the three grandchildren to stay for a few days without their parents. I really don't know who was more nervous, me or their very trusting mums! The little people, of course, had no such fears, they knew how to handle us oldies – trembly bottom lips, cries of “I want my mum” and the steadfast belief that of course they were allowed crisps and chocolate for breakfast..... This was in fact a dry run for when we go on ‘holiday proper’ later on in the year. How hard can it be to corral three little people through Bristol Airport onto a plane and out of Palma Airport without losing them? In fairness gorgeous hubby has drawn the short straw and he is in charge of little George. George has two speeds - running and running even faster and quite frankly my knees aren't up to it!

In the pursuit of some semblance of control we gave them the opportunity to earn pocket money to take on holiday with them. They soon caught on and decided that everything down to I-Spy and counting red cars on the motorway deserved some form of contribution to their pocket money. I'm not going to lie I really did pay them for counting red cars..... When asked what they were going to spend their holiday pocket money on they really didn't seem to have worked out any form of strategic spending plan, we'll forgive Gorgeous George as he is only nearly 3 years old and unless it's a lion that roars he's really not interested.

But when I was 8 (same age as Miss A) I had a very clear plan for my holiday pocket money. When I was 8, Summer Special comics reigned supreme and, best of all, my parents allowed us to buy as many comics as we liked. Each morning we would walk down the promenade of whichever seaside town we were staying in and buy a comic. Personally I was a Whizzer and Chips kind of girl, Bunty and Mandy passed me by. It was the best 25p anyone could have ever spend, except of course when you spent it on a plastic windmill, a stick of rock or any number of truly forgettable souvenirs!

Nowadays it's all Disney Princesses and Paw Patrol - but for me the sheer delight of 80 pages of hand-drawn cartoons still makes me smile – it's what my childhood holiday memories were made of. Well that and a Fab lolly !





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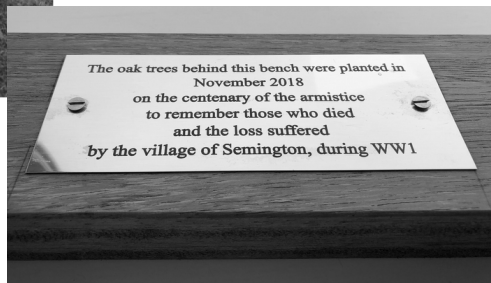
## Semington Oaks

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*Steve Rimmer*

Last year in October, we planted ten oak trees on the land opposite the crematorium in order to remember the losses sustained by the village during World War 1. The Parish Council resolved to identify the trees by installing a bench adjacent to the bus stop and the base for the bench was kindly provided by Patrick Ward and his family.

On **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm** we will dedicate the memorial bench adjacent to the bus stop opposite the Crematorium. The bench is positioned in front of the ten oak trees which were planted last October on the centenary of the 1918 Armistice. All are welcome to attend.



Next year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II and I am hoping to be able to plant a few more trees to remember the names on our war memorial from the 1939 to 1945 conflict and also William Adair who lost his life in the Korean war in 1951.

Westerleigh who own the crematorium have agreed to fund a second bench to be situated adjacent to the bus stop for the Trowbridge bus and Patrick Ward and his family have agreed to fund the base for this second bench.

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## Book Club

*Angela Grodzicka – 870756*

Eleven members of the club met on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to discuss *The Burgess Boys* by Elizabeth Strout. Pam had suggested the book and she gave some information on the American writer and a brief synopsis of the story.

The book divided the group as some had found it a really good read and others had found it depressing. All, however, agreed that it was well written and every word earned its place on the page. The themes of loss, fear and dysfunctional families were discussed within the context of the book and the evolution of the characters as the story progressed. Not everyone's style of book but a good choice to provoke a discussion. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 8.00pm** in the pub to discuss *Dark Sacred Night* by Michael Connolly. All welcome.

It was noted that bookclubs are often all female - our club has one gentleman member who says he finds the books and discussions challenging and reads books he would otherwise not have picked up. Other gentlemen would be very welcome!

## Trio Paradis – Free Concert Series

*Jacquelyn Bevan*

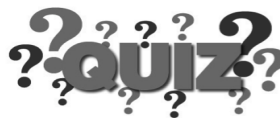
Trio Paradis have been the trio in residence at Midsomer Norton Town Hall since 2012 and now bring their popular Palm Court concerts to Trowbridge Town Hall on the first Thursday lunchtime of every month with September's performance being on **5<sup>th</sup> September 1.15pm**.

This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of musical styles, brought together in a themed programme, with informal cafe-style seating. Free entry with a retiring collection. Refreshments are available. September's theme is 'Pastoral Scenes', with music by Vaughan Williams, J S Bach, Madeleine Dring, Poulenc and more.

Trio Paradis are Jacquelyn Bevan (piano), Tim Robb/Lisa Betteridge (violin) & Linda Stocks (cello). For more information, including programme, visit [musicians southwest.com/trioparadis](http://musicians southwest.com/trioparadis)

## Semington – Quiz Central

*Julia Wade*



July's quiz was set by Colin and myself. We were a bit last minute – which never happens normally(!) - so had to hurriedly do a straightforward Marathon of Colin's favourite – the Dingbats – plus identifying bridges and their locations. The Dingbats theme was music and movies and included the questions: cam cam cam cam cam & Oz Zo Oz. The key with any Dingbat is that you should groan at the answer when you hear it, as you realise what was a puzzle is now very obvious!

All the teams did well but 'Now we are Five' scored the highest, with 24 out of 28. The main quiz rounds were on: 50 years ago, in the news, kids' TV & film, a connection round and 2 pot lucks rounds. At the half way stage the leaders were Team H and H, with just 2 players, which was very impressive. However, they did not score so well in the second half, and were overtaken by other teams. The winners were Team 'Jubilant' David, Pam, Barbara, Sue & Geoff, so well done to them. Questions included: The traditional English exclamation, "strewth" is an 1800s abbreviated form of which older expression? Who lives in a pineapple under the sea? Captain Flack gave a roll call of the firemen in Trumpton in each episode, bar one. Name them. Answers as always below.

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 15<sup>th</sup> September**, 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.

**Answers: Camelot; Return to Oz; God's truth; Spongebob Squarepants; Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble, Grubb.**

## Crafternoons

*Barbara Johns*



Crafternoons has a new home, which is the lounge of the village hall. Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake will be available at a small charge. Our first meeting is **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm** and from then on it will take place on the last Wednesday of the month. All crafters welcome.

It would be lovely to see new faces come along and enjoy being crafty!

## A Summer Day in a Semington Garden

The blackbirds are eating the cherries,  
Two robins strut scoffing red ants  
The blackfly are munching our broad beans  
And pigeons keep ripping up plants.

The finches are feeding on knapweed  
Young rabbits sit chewing long grass  
The martins are wheeling and dealing  
And the moths just bang on the glass.

The back lawn is browning quite nicely,  
Old Bramley has got little fruit  
The starlings are raiding the rowans  
And magpies have all become mute.

The foxgloves are all going over  
Our roses are just looking sad  
The orchids have flowered and withered  
But Laurel's still growing like mad!



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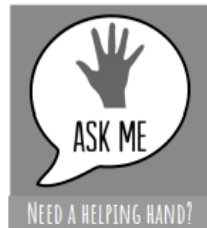
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## **Your Wiltshire Councillor News**

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*Jonathon Seed 07770 774463*

The press has seemed dominated by a leadership contest in recent weeks. However many readers may not be aware that we have had a similar contest in Wiltshire - without any of the fuss or razmatazz of the national contest for a new Conservative leader. By the time that you read this the results of both contests will be clear and both our Country and County will have new political Leaders.

After many years of dedicated service to the council, Baroness Jane Scott has stepped down both as the leader of her Conservative Group and of Wiltshire Council. Jane has given her life to the service of Wiltshire for over two decades and she will be sorely missed. Whether you liked her or not she gave sound and strong leadership ably supported throughout by her loyal deputy John Thomson. They were a formidable team, both internally and externally and will both be greatly missed.

The Conservative Group of the council ran a very clear and straightforward contest where the final four candidates went before the Group in a well run and good humoured hustings contest. Unlike the national circus, the Wiltshire contest was run internally with only those voting for the Leader taking part. There was none of the acrimony that we witnessed in the very public national contest and there was universal acceptance of the new Leader, Councillor Philip Whitehead. Interestingly this acceptance also spread to the Council chamber where there was no opposition to his appointment.

We are lucky in Wiltshire that we have such a mature democracy with a depth of available talent. Philip Whitehead has been a Cabinet Member for several years and has achieved much in a long career in business. He hails from the north but is a long standing Moonraker (Wiltshireman) and he represents the Council Division of Urchfont and the Cannings, near Devizes. He has overseen the council finances in very trying times for several years. He has also made a great start by appointing a revamped new Cabinet of whom half are women; now there's another lesson from Wiltshire to Westminster!

## Parish Council Minutes

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*Abridged minutes from meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019*

Present: Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), M Kasasian, R Oglesby, P Smith, C Wade and the Clerk, Roger Coleman.

In the light of the recent resignation of Cllr. R Robinson, the Chairman made the following statement thanking Ron for all of his work on the council and wishing him and June well for the future.

**Apologies.** Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors P Bowyer, S Rimmer and W Scott, Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed and PCSO Maggie Ledbury.

**Community Policing.** PCSO Ledbury of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the June monthly report that he had subsequently sent to all councillors. The clerk noted that a number of crimes had been reported in the village including criminal damage on four occasions, two road traffic collisions with a total of ten crimes recorded, for a detailed breakdown visit <https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/>

The Chairman stated that he had met up with PCSO Ledbury prior to this meeting and reviewed the various incidents recorded above for Semington but there was nothing significant to add to the reports stated. He added that he also discussed the future pattern of PCSO work in Beat Area ED13 but it was evident that there was a general lack of Community Policing resources in the Melksham Community Area compared to previous years.

The Clerk confirmed that he had written again to the Police & Crime Commissioner (P&CC) to seek an answer to the original letter that had focused on the lack of visibility of, or engagement with, the Community Policing Team and that he had received a reply from the P&CC. The Clerk read out the reply from the P&CC to the meeting. Councillors commented that the reply indicated that there was a serious lack of resources to support an improved community policing policy and that the current situation is unlikely to change in the short-term.

**Planning.** The Council noted the status of the following planning application: 19/02147/OUT Land north of St Georges Road. Residential development of up to 26 dwellings Cllr. Oglesby stated that it was obvious that Wiltshire Council would exceed the 'Target Date for Decision' of 12 July 2019 promulgated with Planning application 19/02147/OUT because it wished to resolve queries with the applicant and he questioned the validity of such a 'Decision Date'.

**Finance. Total balance as at 17th July 2019 is £24,979.61**

**Highways/Environment.** There were no highways/environmental issues that had been reported to Wiltshire Council for the attention of the Parish Steward. The Chairman stated that now that Cllr. Robinson had resigned, it would be necessary for another councillor to be the link with the Parish Steward and to complete the monthly Excel Spreadsheet that identified necessary tasks for the Parish Steward. Cllr. Smith commented that there were weeds in the roadways, gutters and pavements throughout the village and the Parish Steward should be asked to clear them from those locations.

Cllr. Smith suggested that there could be a Litter Pick in the village. The Council agreed to hold a **'Village Litter Pick' on 7th September 2019** – meeting at the Village Hall. Cllr. Smith indicated that, meanwhile, he would engage in an 'independent' Litter Pick.

The Chairman stated that the subject of the sponsorship of the Semington roundabout would be deferred until Cllr. Rimmer was present. The recently installed CCTV at the Bus Gate was discussed and the Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Seed for a report on 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'.

The Parish Council **resolved** that it supported the new signage proposed by the Air Ambulance Station.

**Footpaths.** The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, thanked Mr D Vooght and Cllr. Scott for their respective reports detailing the condition of the rights of way in Semington Parish and whether or not there was clear signage showing the rights of way for those members of the public using them. The Council **resolved** that the following action be taken:

**Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas.** In the absence of a confirmed figure from the contractor, the Council **resolved** that a Tennis Fund total of £15,000 should be accumulated/allocated over the next ten years or so to allow for the refurbishment cost likely to be incurred for the Tennis Court. The Council **resolved** to allocate £1000 forthwith and thereafter £1000 annually until the sum of £15,000 is reached. This sum and those following annually are to be retained in Lloyds A/C 7754288.

Date of Next Meeting: **16<sup>th</sup> September** – Ordinary PC Meeting.

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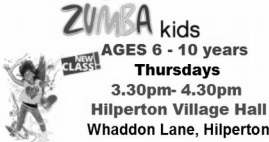
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**TUESDAYS**  
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Fitzmaurice Primary School  
Frome Road, Bradford-on-Avon, BA15 1LE

**WEDNESDAY**  
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Longfield Community Hall  
Weavers Drive, Trowbridge, BA14 7DZ

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## **Thanks a Million!**

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### *The Fete Committee*

A BIG Semington “thank you” to everyone who made this year's event such a wonderful day. There was magic (for the first time), there was music, hilarious tug of war, lots of food and drink and plenty of fun...

We raised a magnificent £3500 on the day to be split between the village school, church and village hall and the Life Education Bus. Life Education Wiltshire was chosen as the local charity to receive 10% of the profit. We hope you all had a wonderful time in the sunshine, and perhaps spotted our fabulous new gazebos, easy on the eye and a doddle to put up!!

### **Life Education Wiltshire asked us to pass on this message of thanks:**

Life Education Wiltshire is a charity that works visits over 10,000 children across Wiltshire (including St George's and other local schools in the Trowbridge area). As part of their work children meet Harold the Giraffe puppet in their mobile classroom. They have discussions and watch short films about healthy eating, legal and illegal drugs and their effects, the body and how it works, friendships and their influence, and how choices and behaviours can affect dreams and aspirations. Life Education's interventions include challenging social norms – misperceptions of peers' engagement with risky behaviour – to engender more positive behaviours.

Life Education is a charity and run purely on voluntary contributions so your very kind donation will go directly to help local children have access to our health and well being education which we believe is so important for primary school children in Wiltshire.

If anyone would like more information about what we do or would like to come and see us in action please feel free to contact me at:

[alexcoomber.lec@gmail.com](mailto:alexcoomber.lec@gmail.com)

Once again, on behalf of all of the committee of dedicated volunteers - a great big THANK YOU!

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## Update from Michelle Donelan MP

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I am organising coach tours to Parliament which cost £15 and include refreshments. The trip is run at cost so obviously no profit is made. These are available to constituents only. Parliament is one of our national treasures and it is only right that everyone has the opportunity to visit and see how it works. I will do a Q and A session as well. Do get in touch for more information.

A number of Semington residents have contacted me about anti-social behaviour and concerns around not having enough police on the beat locally. Recently I volunteered with our local police for a day and it was such an eye opener. The dedication and professionalism of the officers stood out as did the challenges they face and the sheer breadth of crimes they tackle. They welcomed the government's new policy to increase our police force by 20,000 over the next three years. I have been campaigning for more police officers since I entered Parliament and believe that these extra officers will make a real difference in areas like Semington. There is no denying that having more police will act as a deterrent and also makes people feel safe in their communities - which is essential. I shall be working hard to ensure Wiltshire gets its fair share of the 20,000 officers. Areas like ours need more police more than ever, especially because in the UK we have seen an increase in 'county lines' i.e. trafficking drugs into rural areas.

I hold a number of surgeries and rotate them around the constituency for access. If you would like to book an appointment to discuss a problem or local or national issues please call 01249 704465 or email: [michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:michelle.donelan.mp@parliament.uk)

To stay up to date with the work I am doing around the constituency and my views on a number of issues, please subscribe to my e-news by using the following link: <https://michelledonelan.co.uk/subscribe//>

### Paws for Thought



*People curse someone who hoards grain, waiting for a higher price, but they praise the one who puts it up for sale.*

It's in the bible; Proverbs 11 v. 26

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## Semington Village Green Public Enquiry

*Friends of Great Lees Field*

Wiltshire Council has announced that the non-statutory public inquiry into whether Great Lees Field should be designated a village green will be held from **Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>**. It will take place in the Village Hall.

The group of villagers that is asking Wiltshire Council to do this – 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 in the 20 year period before the field was ploughed on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

The independent inspector who is chairing the inquiry will make a recommendation to Wiltshire Council about whether the field should have village green status. The Council's Western Area Planning Committee will then make the final decision.

The inquiry is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please email [friendsofgreatleesfield@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofgreatleesfield@gmail.com)

## Semington Reunion

*Marilyn Newman 01380 870580*

Did you live in Semington between 1955-1965? A reunion has been planned for **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019** in Semington Village Hall 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. If you are interested please contact Marilyn on 01380 870580 as soon as possible. Numbers are limited so it will be on a first come first serve basis.

There will be a small charge of £5.00 to cover the hire of the hall and refreshments. If you have any old photographs please bring them along.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Lost and Found

*Jane Duke*

Ford car key found in field near the Semington canal on Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact Jane and David on 01380 870341 to be re-united with it.



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## Semington WI Summer Meetings

*Deb Hurn*

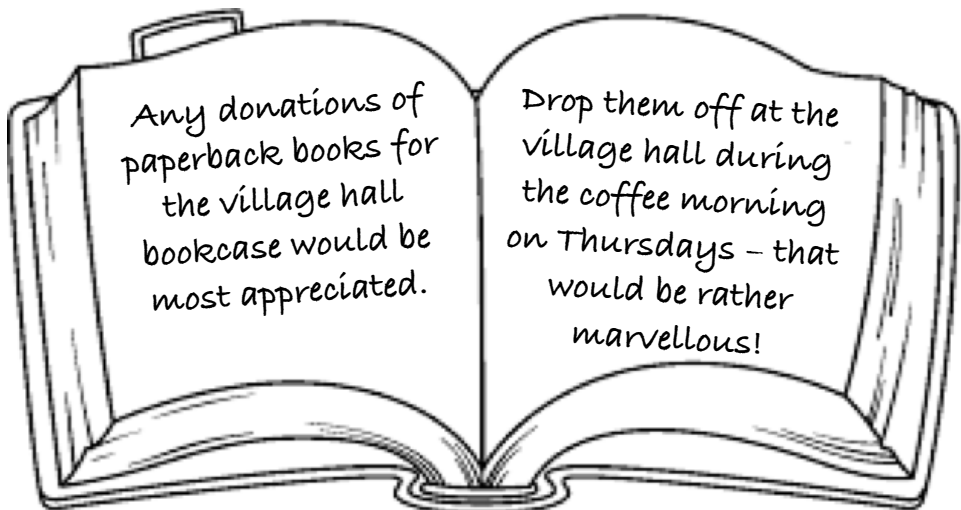
theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

July saw us going for an afternoon tea in The Lansdowne Derry Hill. There were plenty of sandwiches, rather large scones and cakes. It was very good value for money and everyone enjoyed it. Seems a long time ago now.

August we were shown how to do glass work by Alex. We made glass hanging decorations. They were fiddly things to do using tiny bits of glass to make the petals of flowers and very thin strands of glass to make the stems. They all looked different and we are waiting for Alex to put them in her kiln to finish them off. It will be interesting to see what they look like when they're returned. Alex does a workshop in the Court Street Gallery in Court Street Trowbridge. They offer a range of arts and crafts suitable for all ages.

Next month we will be learning different ways of scarf tying. Everyone needs to bring a couple of scarves with them. We will be in the capable hands of Cindy & Rose. Start time is 7.30pm in Semington Village Hall on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September**.

## Village Hall Book Appeal



## Down the Local

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*John, the landlord, John*

Well, well, well here we are again after the summer break. And what a great summer it has been. There has certainly been varied weather but come rain or shine its always fine at the Somerset Arms. The Pub Elite took on the Semington Badgers and Saints in a pre-season rematch - The Elite stayed consistent and once again ONLY lost 6-2 against the pros. The weather wasn't so kind this time but nevertheless the game, pitch-side sales and bbq at the pub afterwards raised just over £300 for much needed club funds.

Mid-August saw the departure of local man Tony Pethy (AKA Sun Uppers) who retired from Semington Dock where he has had a mooring for the last 7 years to take to the high sea (well canals) with girlfriend Bev. The party at the pub was well attended both by locals and family and friends from afar all wishing them the best. The Somerset Smoker was in full action knocking out some delicious slow cooked pulled pork, ribs and chicken – look out for details of its return.

At time of press we are busy prepping for a bumper bank holiday weekend with no less than 7 acts in a packed lineup. The quiz took a break for the summer but after last week's bank holiday quiz the next date for the diaries is 1<sup>st</sup> October.

September should see a new menu and much as it hurts me to be thinking about it the Christmas Party menu will be launched in September too. Drop in for details. It's always nice to see the locals down the local – so until next time - see you down the pub!

## Parish Council Matters

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*Brian Smyth*

**Parish Councillor Vacancy:** Cllr Ron Robinson has now moved out of the village. As many of you will know, Ron made a significant contribution to the Parish and we will miss his enthusiasm and good humour. Looking to the future there is now a vacancy on the Parish Council and we are inviting parishioners to put themselves forward for this interesting and rewarding role. Anyone interested in getting involved in community issues is invited to contact the Clerk to the Parish Council on [Roger.P.Coleman@btinternet.com](mailto:Roger.P.Coleman@btinternet.com) or by telephoning 01225 862770.

**Defibrillator Awareness Training Session:** This is just a “heads up” to let you know that the annual Semington defibrillator training will take place in the Village Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> November starting at 7.30pm. Everyone is encouraged to come along including those who have been before - a refresher is always helpful.



## Catholic News

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*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

**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.

**PARISH SPONSORED WALK:** Return of St John's & St Bernadette's Parish Sponsored Walk (7.5km circular route) Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 2.00pm. Steeple Ashton – Rood Ashton – West Ashton – East Town – Steeple Ashton. Sponsor forms available in church or from 01380 871083. Everybody most welcome to join us with or without sponsorship.

**PARISH AGM:** All parishioners are invited to the Parish AGM on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 3.00pm in the Parish Centre with Cream Teas.

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

**SCRIPTURE WEEKEND:** St. John's and St. Bernadette's are having a Scripture Weekend. Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September. We will welcome David and Sarah Berrisford (formerly of the Sion Community) They will lead us in many activities, reflections, workshops during their time with us.

### **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

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*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

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*Reverend John Rees*

This month we are celebrating our Harvest Festival with a Harvest Supper in the Village Hall on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and a Harvest Songs of Praise Service in St George's at 6.00pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to suggest a favourite hymn or song do email me – and do come and join us.

Harvest is a time when we thank God for the many good things we have and think of all those who work so hard to produce our food and others who ensure we can buy it. It is also a time when we particularly think of those who don't have many of the things we regard as necessities. For example 10% of the world's population don't have access to clean water and 25% don't have adequate toilet facilities.

Jesus told parables or stories using illustrations from everyday life that would have been familiar to the people of his time. The topics are still relevant today. In the parable of the rich farmer, he taught about the importance of paying attention to the needs of others and of not being greedy.

He told the tale of a rich and successful farmer, who grew so many crops that he did not have enough space to store them. He decided that he would rip down his existing barns and build bigger ones in order to store all his grain and goods. He thought he would have plenty of good things for many years by doing this. He would be able to take life easy; to eat, drink and be merry. But God called him a fool, for he would die that very night – and would not benefit from his greed.

God calls us to be generous towards each other. In the parable it is not the success the farmer had that is criticised, it is the desire to possess at the expense of others. God, who is so generous to us, calls us to respond to his generosity in thankfulness to him and in generosity to other people.

We already make a difference. For example, this month children at St George's School will be raising money for the Air Ambulance by having a non uniform day and money from our harvest supper will go to the Missionary Aviation Fellowship. This provides support to communities living in remote areas which are inaccessible by road. For example, following a deadly measles outbreak in Madagascar essential vaccines were delivered by MAF aircraft. If you have ideas about other things that we might do, as a village community, to show care for others who need support do let me know.

With best wishes, John

# ***St George's Church Semington***



## **September 2019**

**1st September - 9.30am**  
**Holy Communion**  
*Rev Hugh Hoskins*

**8th September - 9.30 am**  
**Methodist Service**  
*Eric Clifford*

**15th September - 6.00 pm**  
**Harvest Songs of Praise**  
*Rev John Rees*



**22nd September - 10.00am**  
**Patronal & Benefice Service**  
**Rev John Rees**



**Saturday 28th September**  
**11.00 am - Messy Church**  
**St George's School**

**Morning Prayer 9.45 am on Thursday 5th, 12th,  
19th, 26th September**

### 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**

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